



MOVING the NEEDLE

SEATTLE'S ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS REPORT

— 2014 —



SEATTLE OFFICE OF
Sustainability & Environment

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Why *Moving the Needle*



Buildings
& Energy



Transportation
& Land Use



Food



Waste



Water



Trees &
Green Space



Climate
Change

- All key environmental goals in one place.
- Transparency, accountability and accessible information.
- Springboard for conversations about future.



- Seattle City Light: meet all new electricity demand with conservation and renewables.
- 38% increase in solar since 2008.
- 179% increase in LEED buildings in 4 years.
- In 2013, SCL saved enough electricity to power 14,000 homes.



- Less than 50% commuters are driving alone to work—a 4% decrease!
- 12% increase in transit ridership in 2 years.
- 42% of homes and 84% of jobs are in urban centers and villages.
- Our streets are safer – 20% reduction in crashes.



- 70% increase in use of Fresh Bucks by low income residents at Seattle farmers markets.
- Seattle has 104% more land for urban gardening since 1990 -- two parks parcels slated for urban food production.
- \$1M increase in Seattle farmers markets sales in 2012.



- 27% decrease in waste going to landfill since 2006.
- 70% recycling rate for single family homes.
- Measuring waste prevention is a challenge -- hard to measure what you don't generate.
- 1M fewer phone books delivered after opt-out.



- Since 1990, 24% decrease water use while population has increased 22%.
- Aiming to manage 7 times more runoff with green stormwater infrastructure.
- Sewage overflow prevention: backups are within target, overflows still need work.



- 83% of residents live within $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of a park.
- 17% increase in volunteers caring for trees and natural areas.
- 1,000 acres of forested parkland being restored through Green Seattle Partnership – 40% of way to goal.



- Most of goals directly support our goal of carbon neutrality by 2050.
- 1% increase in core GHG emissions; 6% decrease in emissions per person from 2008-2012.
- Seattle's per person emissions are 1/2 the national average and 1/3 lower than the average King County resident.
- Citywide climate preparedness strategy in 2015.

What's Next?



- 2015 Environmental Action Agenda.
- *Moving the Needle* will be updated every two years.

Questions?



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