Office of Sustainability & Environment

2014 Proposed Budget Overview

BASIC MISSION

- The Office of Sustainability & Environment promotes smart policies and practices to address pressing environmental challenges. OSE promotes green initiatives through three functional areas:
  - **PLAN:** Lead development and monitoring of action plans to achieve Seattle's environmental goals.
  - **INNOVATE:** Research, develop, and pilot next generation of environmental programs and policies.
  - **COORDINATE:** Coordinate activities across City departments to advance Seattle's environmental goals.

KEY OUTCOMES AND REMAINING CHALLENGES

- How will you know whether you have accomplished your mission?
  - Seattle is looked to as a leader and innovator in environmental and sustainability policies and practices, which demonstrate on-the-ground results.
    - Greenhouse gas emissions are lower and Seattle is less vulnerable to the impacts of climate change;
    - Buildings are more efficient and use more clean energy;
    - All residents have access to healthy food choices; and
    - City's urban forest is thriving.

- In what area(s) are you furthest from your desired outcomes and what barriers do you face to closing this gap?
  - Achieving the City's climate change goals remains a challenge because solutions span multiple sectors, require public will for action, and demand significant lifts from all levels of the community: government, institutions, residents, and businesses.

ALIGNING MISSION AND BUDGET

- How do your budget changes address the barriers you face in fulfilling your outcomes, and/or mission?
  - The 2014 Proposed Budget provides resources to continue a strong City role in programs to help residents save energy and access healthy foods. It also provides resources to continue the City's leadership in developing innovative energy policy and programs, and investing in energy efficiency.

- More generally, how do your proposed budget changes align with your Department's mission?
  - Strengthens leading energy programs, including district energy and building energy benchmarking.
  - Solidifies City investment and partnership in Seattle's innovative Fresh Bucks and Community Power Works programs.
  - Demonstrates the City's leadership and commitment to energy efficiency by providing dedicated resources for energy conservation in municipal buildings.