



# **STRATEGIC PLAN 2019 – 2024** Communications Plan & Strategy Farrah Paul, Communications Director | April 2017

### **MEETING AGENDA**

- Strategic Plan 2019-2024 Communication Plan & Strategy
- Resolution 31463, Section 3: Ratepayer Engagement Process Requirements





### COMMUNICATIONS PLAN & STRATEGY – OVERALL STRATEGY

- Start with the "why" and what people value
- Focus on three targeted groups
  - Customers
  - o Employees
  - Elected
    Officials/Stakeholders
- Three stages of outreach





### COMMUNICATIONS PLAN & STRATEGY – CUSTOMER MESSAGING

- Your electric bill is more predictable and rates are consistent
  - Why = Plan provides rate stabilization
- The plan shows where the utility is headed, how it is keeping up with customer demands
  - Why = Plan is future focused
- The investments will improve customer experience and prevent outages
  - Why = Plan initiatives include customer service enhancements and electrical reliability





### COMMUNICATIONS PLAN & STRATEGY – EMPLOYEE MESSAGING

- Seattle City Light needs its employees to be involved in shaping its power future
  - **Why** = Plan provides a roadmap for the utility
- The utility is investing in its employees through recruitment, training and long-term investments
  - Why = Plan initiatives include investments and projects that will help employees become more efficient and effective with their work







### COMMUNICATIONS PLAN & STRATEGY – ELECTED OFFICIAL/STAKEHOLDER MESSAGING

- Customer and community groups will have their voices heard and will fit in with the utility's goals
  - Why = Plan seeks input from customers, community groups and stakeholders
- The Strategic Plan's roadmap toward the future will only be fulfilled with support from the Review Panel, Seattle Mayor and the Seattle City Council
  - Why = Plan relies on the support of its governing bodies





#### Stage I – Develop and Introduce:

- April 3, 2017 Strategic Plan Team: Communications plan and strategy discussion
- April 25, 2017 **Review Panel:** Communications plan and strategy presentation

#### April 26, 2017 – Strategic Plan Team: Communications plan final review

- April 27, 2017 Leadership Forum: Communications plan and strategy presentation
- May 18, 2017 Director's Meeting:
  Communications plan and strategy presentation



#### • Stage II – Educate, Raise Awareness and Seek Input:

- June 2017 Employee Rollout: Inform employees about the Strategic Plan
- July 2017 Customer Rollout: Inform customers about the Strategic Plan
- August 2017 Customer/Stakeholder Forum: Phase I efforts begin
- Jan 2018 Customer/Stakeholder Forum: Phase II efforts begin



#### • Stage III – Implement and Evaluate:

- Jan./Feb. 2018 Strategic Plan Draft:
  Finalize Strategic Plan draft and send to Review Panel
- March/April 2018 Review Panel Receives Final Plan: Review Panel will review plan before transmitting to the Seattle Mayor and Seattle City Council
- May 2018 Seattle Mayor / Seattle City Council Review: Seattle Mayor and Seattle City Council receive and review the 2019-2024 Strategic Plan



# COMMUNICATIONS TACTICAL PLAN -PUBLIC OUTREACH METHODS

#### **Customers**

- Website
- Collateral material
- Digital marketing
- Media outreach
- Customer survey
- Social media
- Informational videos
- Public forums and meetings





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# COMMUNICATIONS TACTICAL PLAN – PUBLIC OUTREACH METHODS

#### Employees

- Internal online methods
- Collateral material
- Employee survey
- Bulletin boards
- Briefing updates at employee meetings
- Lunch & Learn opportunities
- Informational videos
- Public forums and meetings







# Seattle City Light





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# COMMUNICATIONS TACTICAL PLAN – PUBLIC OUTREACH METHODS

#### • Elected Officials/Stakeholders

- Briefings
- Informational letters
- Outreach summary reports
- Survey analysis
- Collateral material
- Videos



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### **LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS – RESOLUTION 31463**

#### Section 3. Use of Industry Best Practices

- **1**. Begin process at least 6 months in advance
- 2. Engage key customer and stakeholder groups
- Incorporate large customer input through regular channels of communications
- 4. Include outreach to non-English and historically-underrepresented communities
- 5. Incorporate City Light employee engagement
- Deploy "best practice" tools such as online surveys, targeted outreach, informative website, social media, etc. ▼
- 7. Develop a media relations component to inform media and reach ratepayers



### **REVIEW PANEL INVOLVEMENT**

#### We Need Your Help

- You represent the customer groups
- Help identify and reach out to stakeholder groups
- Participate in public forums
- Review and provide input into the Strategic Plan process and plan documents







#### **OUR VISION**

To set the standard—to deliver the best customer service experience of any utility in the nation.

#### **OUR MISSION**

Seattle City Light is dedicated to exceeding our customers' expectations in producing and delivering environmentally responsible, safe, low-cost and reliable power.

#### **OUR VALUES**

Excellence, Accountability, Trust and Stewardship.



