



SEATTLE OFFICE OF
Sustainability & Environment

2013 Accomplishments Report



OSE OVERVIEW

VISION + PLAN
for a vibrant city

INNOVATE + REFINE
next generation solutions

ASSESS + REPORT
progress toward key goals



PARTNER + COORDINATE
across organizational boundaries

DESIGN + DELIVER
strategic policies and programs

INSPIRE + ENGAGE
others to create a green Seattle

VISION:

Seattle leads the nation in innovative solutions to environmental challenges.

MISSION:

Deliver cutting-edge policies and effective programs to address Seattle's environmental challenges while creating vibrant communities and building shared prosperity.

LEVERAGE + RESOURCES:

Over the last three years, OSE has secured over \$25 million in public & private funding to pilot new policies & programs.

In 2013, OSE secured nearly \$400,000 for its energy efficiency and food programs from partners such as the Chase Foundation, Puget Sound Energy, the Institute for Market Transformation, and the Urban Sustainability Directors Network.

COMMUNITY, REGIONAL, + NATIONAL CONNECTIONS:

Regional Food Policy Council:

Represents the City of Seattle on this four-county Council

Puget Sound Clean Air Agency:

Represents the Mayor on the Board of Directors

Capitol Hill EcoDistrict:

Member of the Steering Committee

Seattle 2030 District:

Co-founder and board member

C-40 Cities Climate Leadership Group:

'Innovator City' member of this international action network

Green Seattle Partnership:

Executive Council Chair of this public-private partnership

Urban Sustainability Directors Network:

Co-Chair of Innovation Fund;

Co-Chair of the Climate Adaptation Working Group

CURRENT FOCUS AREAS:

Climate Protection + Resilience
High Performance Buildings
Green Stormwater Infrastructure
Electric Vehicle Readiness
District Energy Systems

Green Workforce Development
Food Systems
Urban Forestry
Performance Monitoring

BREAK NEW GROUND



Developing and testing forward-looking approaches

HIGH PERFORMANCE BUILDINGS

OSE hosted a green building design charrette with the design team for the (proposed) Seattle arena. As a result, the design team is now exploring a potential collaboration with King County to use sewer heat recovery as the arena's primary heating source.

GREEN WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

OSE partnered with the grassroots community organization, Got Green, to produce Environmental Justice, Jobs, and Education: Seattle's Young Adults Speak Out. The report provides the perspectives of young people of color on challenges and opportunities related to the economy and the environmental movement.

FOOD SYSTEMS

OSE, coordinating with the Department of Neighborhoods, partnered with King County Public Health to make two parcels of City-owned land available for lease to local farmers for food production.

DISTRICT ENERGY

Following three years of focused effort by OSE, Seattle is poised to be one of the first cities in the United States to develop a district energy system that uses waste heat from sewer lines and data centers to heat buildings. In the last year, OSE successfully laid the groundwork for securing two of the three most critical nodes for building out a green district energy system in South lake Union.

ELECTRIC VEHICLE READINESS

OSE convenes six City departments to make Seattle "plug-in ready" for electric vehicles. Through these efforts, the City has streamlined permitting processes and identified code changes to make it easier to install charging stations, piloted public charging approaches, and participated in a regional electric vehicle strategy. The City's work has helped the Seattle area become the second largest electric vehicle market in the nation.





HIGH PERFORMANCE BUILDINGS

Seattle is leading the nation with its Energy Benchmarking & Reporting program, which requires commercial and multifamily buildings over 20,000 square feet to measure and report energy use to the City. Last year, OSE helped more than 3,000 commercial and multifamily building owners, representing 260 million square feet, measure and report building energy performance. The program's compliance rate is the best in the country, with 93% of required buildings reporting.

OSE's energy efficiency program, Community Power Works, helps Seattleites upgrade their homes and businesses to save energy and money. To date, the program has helped upgrade 2,107 single-family homes, 883 multi-family units, 46 small businesses, 16 municipal buildings, and more than 1.5 million square feet of large commercial space. In the single-family sector, homeowners are saving an average of 30% in energy costs, with more than 200 homeowners saving at least 50%.

Through the 2030 District, a public-private partnership to create a high-performance buildings district in the heart of Seattle, OSE worked with commercial building owners to facilitate energy improvements to 7 million square feet—reducing energy use by almost 20% and saving roughly \$2,400,000 annually.

GREEN WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

In addition to delivering energy and financial savings to building owners, Community Power Works is stimulating Seattle's green economy. To date, through nearly \$54 million of public and private investment in energy upgrades, Community Power Works created 222,600 work hours for 1,242 people in the energy efficiency sector, such as energy auditors and general contractors. Community Power Works has also partnered with Home Performance Washington, a trade ally representing Seattle's residential energy efficiency contractors, to help build capacity and create a plan to increase women- and minority-owned business representation.

FOOD SYSTEMS

OSE worked with its partners to launch the second year of Fresh Bucks, a program that doubles the purchasing power of low-income residents at Seattle farmers markets. In its second year, Fresh Bucks helped more than 2,500 low-income residents buy healthy produce at Seattle farmers markets. OSE is now working with regional and state partners to expand the Fresh Bucks model statewide.

PERFORMANCE MONITORING

OSE coordinated across eight City departments to develop the first Municipal Buildings Energy Performance Report, which reported energy use for 6.2 million square feet of City-owned buildings and provided the baseline for developing the City's first Resource Conservation Management Plan.

CLIMATE PROTECTION + RESILIENCE

OSE engaged historically under-served residents in local climate action through Community Climate Action Projects. 2013 climate projects supported community-led efforts to increase bicycling, encourage walking in Southeast Seattle, and promote increased awareness about the connection between climate change and food choices among young people in Yesler Terrace and High Point.



CLIMATE PROTECTION + RESILIENCE

OSE led the development and adoption of the second Seattle Climate Action Plan, which puts Seattle on a path to carbon neutrality by 2050. The Plan's actions will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and help Seattle prepare for a changing climate while furthering community goals such as vibrant neighborhoods, economic prosperity, and social equity. The Climate Action Plan details short- and long-term actions for reducing emissions and increasing climate preparedness and resilience.

HIGH PERFORMANCE BUILDINGS

OSE led an interdepartmental effort to develop the City's first Resource Conservation Management Plan, which outlines a concrete and actionable strategy to reduce energy use in City buildings 20% by 2020.

FOOD SYSTEMS

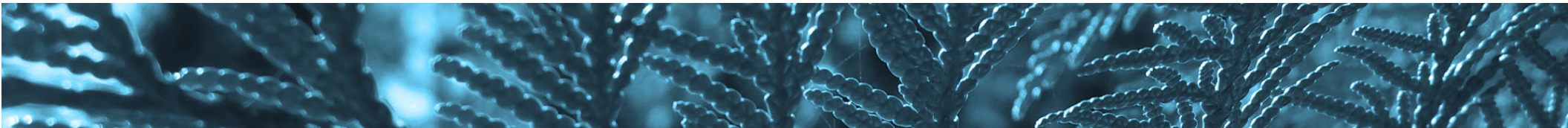
OSE led the development and adoption of the first Seattle Food Action Plan, which outlines a strategy for increasing access to healthy food for all while also promoting health, supporting the local economy, and expanding agriculture in the region.

URBAN FORESTRY

OSE led the development and adoption of the Urban Forest Stewardship Plan to foster community engagement, improve the health of Seattle's urban forest, and meet the City goal of 30% tree canopy cover by 2037.

GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE

OSE worked closely with Seattle Public Utilities to develop and adopt Seattle's first community-wide implementation goal for green stormwater infrastructure: managing 700 million gallons of stormwater runoff annually with green infrastructure by the year 2025. The goal and associated efforts position Seattle to continue its national leadership in using natural systems to manage stormwater, and to explore how natural systems can help Seattle prepare for the likely impacts of climate change.





CLIMATE PROTECTION + RESILIENCE

- Develop a citywide strategy for enhancing Seattle's resilience to climate change.
- Evaluate the impact of sea level rise on flood-prone areas and shoreline development.
- Increase community engagement in taking climate action through social media, community projects, outreach, and partnerships.

DISTRICT ENERGY SYSTEMS

- Conduct two investment-grade feasibility studies to develop district energy systems from waste heat in First Hill and South Lake Union. And, pending results, move forward to begin expanding district energy systems in both neighborhoods.

GREEN WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

- Monitor and expand the High Road Workforce Agreement to continue to ensure the Community Power Works program delivers high quality jobs and work.
- Continue to support Got Green to create green economic opportunities for young people in Seattle.

HIGH PERFORMANCE BUILDINGS

- Shepherd the transition of Community Power Works from a pilot program to an ongoing public-private partnership that continues to help 1,000 residents annually improve the comfort & energy efficiency of their homes.
- Pilot an advanced green building standard, such as the Living Building Challenge, on a City facility to promote higher green performance in the private sector.
- Develop and pilot an approach to implementing a home energy disclosure policy.

URBAN FORESTRY

- Coordinate efforts to strengthen community engagement and stewardship of Seattle's urban forest through Seattle reLeaf programs, including Trees for Neighborhoods and Tree Ambassador.
- Support interdepartmental efforts to develop tools and refine policies regarding tree removal and replacement where conflicts arise around other priorities such as development, solar access, or views.

FOOD SYSTEMS

- Complete a funding plan to expand and sustain Fresh Bucks in its third year and beyond.
- Implement recommendations for expanding the regional supply and demand for local and healthy foods.

PERFORMANCE MONITORING

- Release Seattle's first citywide environmental progress report, which will pull together key environmental goals, report on our progress in achieving them, and identify opportunities for further action.
- Complete a comprehensive sustainability assessment using the national STAR Communities framework, which evaluates and rates cities' progress in building a sustainable community.
- Working with capital departments, centralize tracking and reporting of City building energy and water use, conduct audits of priority City facilities, and implement retrofits to improve performance.
- Develop a monitoring framework and indicators for tracking progress of the Urban Forest Stewardship Plan.

GREEN STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE

- Work with departments and the public to develop the 2025 Green Stormwater Infrastructure Strategy.
- Integrate green stormwater infrastructure strategies into City policies and investments.

ELECTRIC VEHICLE READINESS

- Develop recommendations to facilitate equitable access to charging infrastructure for all Seattle residents.



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