

Re+ Fast Start Action Overview

City County Collaboration

City and County Collaboration

Full implementation of Re+ will require a multi-year, multi-layered effort that will include state, county, and city legislation to achieve the program goals by 2030. To be successful coordination and collaboration between King County and its cities will be needed to ensure streamlining of efforts and ensuring standardized waste and recycling guidelines. Solid Waste Division staff will be convening a group of elected officials and a staff working group to both identify challenges and opportunities of Re+ policy implementation. In addition, to bolster the efforts and sense of urgency and unity on moving towards a zero-waste, circular economy, cities and other government entities have been asked to sign on to a pledge of shared commitments that are aligned with the goals of Re+.

Impacts

Impacts of collaboration will be seen throughout the county and cities through joint policy development, technical assistance, and information sharing. These efforts will provide the opportunity for collaboration, countywide policy development, shared community understanding of recycling and composting guidelines and a reduction of waste going to the landfill. The cities that sign on to the pledge will be expressing their support of the goals of Re+ and it will help them define areas in which collectively we can increase the rate of waste diversion and help accelerate the changes necessary to successfully develop a regional, circular economy.

Benefits

The City County Collaboration is an opportunity for the cities and King County to work together to accelerate the implementation of Re+, ensure consistent policy across both the County and cities and reduce the amount of recycling and waste that ends up in the landfill. It also is an excellent opportunity to improve and develop relationships with key policy makers that are committed to reducing greenhouse gases and landfill waste.

Timeline and next steps

- Early communications with cities began in May 2022
- County presentations to City Councils and SCA July 2022 – June 2023
- Request for signing the Re+ Pledge – July 2022 –June 2023
- Quarterly Email Updates
- Discussion on City policy options for adoption – September 2023 – December 2023
- Call for Elected Officials for workgroup, estimate meetings every other month – October/November

Status

- Since July 2022, SWD staff have presented the Re+ program and plan to more than 30 King County Cities
- The first Re+ City Pledge was approved by the City of Shoreline in October 2022.
- As of July 2023, 22 of 37 cities that are a part of the King County Solid Waste system have approved the Pledge.