



V-MCC: *Many Voices. Collective Action. Stronger Together.*

Vashon-Maury Community Council Special Meeting Minutes, Wednesday September 3, 2025

20250903 V-MCC Council Special Meeting version date 20250906 (v2)

Location: Land Trust Building, 10014 SW Bank Rd, and on Zoom

At the Council Member Meeting of August 21, 2025, this special meeting was called to continue the Council's consideration of the motion making recommendations for certain amendments to the King County 2025 Strategic Climate Action Plan (SCAP).

[The Motion before the Council](#)

[Summary of the Motion details](#)

[Close-up of the included Figure](#)

(GHG Reduction Wedge - Pathways to Achieve Countywide Emissions Targets)

*Doors open at 6:30 pm. **Networking** (30 min.) before the meeting. Please arrive by 6:55 pm.*

6:59 President: Confirm that Zoom Recording, AI Summarization, and Close Captioning all have been initiated.

7:00 Call to Order, determination of quorum (*twenty-five Council members minimum*)

Board members present

- JC Graham, President
- Nicole Aine, Vice President
- Jennifer Hrachovec, Secretary
- Ann Thorn, Treasurer
- Jessica Anikar, Corresponding Secretary
- Doug Ostrom

Minutes of the Council Meeting were taken by Secretary Jen Hrachovec.

7:05 Brief Technical Overview (for Zoom and In-Person Meeting Attendees):

- If you are participating remotely, sign on with phone OR computer, not both.
- If you are on Zoom, stay muted unless you are speaking.
- If you have signed on with anything other than your first and last name, please change it on Zoom so we can know who you are.
- For Zoom attendees: Please be advised that questions on chat may not be answered. (If someone wishes to take on the task of speaking for the person chatting, they are welcome to do that.)
- Democratic Rules of Order can be found here: <https://www.democraticrules.com/>
(A flow chart and downloadable summary of the rules can be found in the right margin.)
- Please raise your hand to speak to a motion or participate in open discussion, **and lower** your hand after you have been recognized (or no longer wish to speak). When you raise your hand, it may also help if you state in the chat that your hand is raised.

- If you are speaking in person, please identify yourself the first time you are recognized to speak.

7:06 **Welcome and Reading of Land Acknowledgment** – *Michael Laurie*

7:09 **Rules of Conduct** - *read by President JC Graham*

The Council is committed to conducting its meetings in a civil, respectful, and courteous manner. We expect all participants to demonstrate common courtesy and respect toward fellow Islanders and guests.

As we build our new Council, we are dedicated to creating a safe and healing space to address our shared interests. Rudeness, personal criticism, and ridicule—including in online chat contributions—are not acceptable and will not be tolerated.

Please keep your remarks focused on the *issues*, not on *individuals*.

We are here because we are stronger together.

- *Hands were shown to demonstrate intent to honor the Rules of Conduct.*

7:12 **Finalize agenda for *this* Special Council Meeting:** September 3, 2025

29 for, 0 opposed, passed

7:13 **Introduction to Rules of Procedure** (President JC Graham)

- Only members can vote. If you have recently joined, you will know your membership has been processed if you have received a welcome e-mail from Debby Jackson.
- *Show of hands for Good Faith Voting.*
- Brief explanation of making motions and amendments.
- Mover's privilege.
- Explanation of Points of Order.

7:15 **Business of the Special Meeting of the Council Members**

- Continuing consideration of [Motion to urge King County to adopt certain Vashon-Maury-related components of the Climate Action Plan.](#)

Kevin Jones introduced the other Vashon-Maury Climate Action Planning group members: Steve Bergman, Rob Briggs, Eric Walker, James Rickard

The resilience hub at the Methodist Church has made Vashon a model location in the King County Strategic Climate Action Plan.

Community Input and Questions

(the floor will be open for input, questions, and discussion as time allows)

Action numbers correspond with the final motion listed on [page 5](#).

- Action 1
 - For: 40% of ferries are from King County so changes here will have a positive impact on WA state. The county has a robust process to assure equity of any solution before implementation.

- Against: Reducing ferry rates for more expensive cars is elitist and exacerbates inequality.
- Action 2
 - For: Costs of electric motors and batteries are plummeting. Diesel ferries put out a lot of emissions.
 - Against: King County subsidies of the water taxi contributes to gentrification for people who live on Vashon-Maury Island (V-M) and commute to Seattle
- Action 3
 - For: Solar generates 6% of V-M Island power. It has doubled in the last 10 years. If we were a large city, we would be in the top 10 US cities, on par with Hawaii. Community solar expands access to solar to more households, however there are policy barriers to community solar. this is requesting for KC to help change WA state law.
- Action 4
 - For: Puget Sound Energy will shut off power to prevent sparks from starting fires. Based on an analysis by Puget Sound Energy, south Vashon and Maury Islands are rated the highest risk communities in the PSE service area for power line sparked wildfires. More people on Vashon and Maury islands will lose power and water when electricity is shut off. 41% of PSE's lines are already underground.
 - Against:
 - Opportunity: if wires are run underground, there will be room for bike lanes. These are already included in the climate action plan.
- Action 5
 - For: On-demand public transportation exists, just not on V-M Island. These would provide more coverage than current busses and is more affordable than pay for service rides.
 - Against: Cost, a taxi service is already available.
 - Opportunity: Public transit and school bus routes could be combined.
 - Please contact the council if you have an interest in leading or joining a transportation advisory committee.
- Action 6
 - For: Biochar helps water retention, sequesters carbon, decreases transportation of green waste off island, 5-10% biochar composition improves soil quality. KC has already approved \$5 million for green waste.
 - Against: It may change soil pH. Quality control of combustion, emissions, and product are important.
 - This item was amended
- Action 7
 - For: Buildings are the #2 source of carbon emissions. More efficient heat pumps reduce fossil fuel use.
- Action 8
 - For: There are few incentives to convert to heat pumps for nonprofit organizations.
 - Opportunity: Make up for federal incentives that are expiring after 2025, the plan already includes this so language about this was not added.
- Action 9
 - For: Battery integration planning operates at a macro level, however there is no language to support integration at a micro level. PSE currently has a flex battery program to use your stored power for a \$1k incentive to sign up, described [here](#).
- Action 10

- For: KC has already dedicated \$5mil for composting. This is to add that we don't ship green waste off the island and compost back to the island.
- Action 11 - deleted because of the complexity around land use
- Action 12
 - For: Encourage water conservation
- Action 13
 - For: The current transfer station has a lot of land that could generate a lot of power. The scale of power production relative to the demands of the island were estimated and discussed.
- Additional amendments were proposed related to energy, population control, and water runoff but did not advance to the final motion (see table below). Other edits were made by Kevin Jones through mover's privilege (see [page 5](#)).

Motion: Remove #1	1st: Bill Novak 2nd: Jeff Schnelz	4 For 26 Opposed	Not passed ▾
Motion: Add water retention	1st: Rocky Hrachovec 2nd: Jen Hrachovec	–	Withdrawn ▾
Motion: Stop population growth in KC	1st: Jeff Schnelz 2nd: Doug Ostrom	2 For 30 Opposed	Not passed ▾
Motion: Extend meeting 15 minutes	1st: Diane Emerson 2nd: Kevin Jones	25 For 1 Opposed	Passed ▾
Motion: Add wireless power transmission systems	1st: Nicole Aine 2nd: None	–	Not advanced ▾
Motion: Climate action plan (page 5)	(see August 21, 2025 Minutes)	29 For 1 Opposed	Passed ▾

[A motion to the Vashon-Maury Community Council regarding the DRAFT King County Strategic Climate Action Plan](#)

Addressing the climate crisis is an important priority for Vashon-Maury Islanders. The Vashon-Maury Community Council therefore asks that the King County Strategic Climate Action Plan (KC SCAP) include these actions in the final KC SCAP:

~~Finally, the~~ The KC SCAP must include a clearly defined list of actions and their individual greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction objectives which, together, fully achieve the SCAP goal of a 95% reduction in GHG emissions by 2050.

- 1) Work with state agencies to incentivize Washington State Ferry commuters to use more climate friendly transportation options through fares and priority loading procedures.
- 2) Electrify the Seattle/Vashon route water taxis.
- 3) Advocate for policies that support development of private community solar installations, extend net-metering of rooftop solar, expedite rooftop solar building permits and limit property tax increases due to solar system installation.
- 4) Reduce wildfire risk by encouraging electric utilities to expedite under-grounding or on-grounding of electric power lines.
- 5) Implement the Metro Flex on-demand transit service on Vashon-Maury islands.
- 6) Include programs to research the state of the art of biochar technology and advance those that are safe and appropriate for King County. ~~that advance the production and use of biochar.~~
- 7) Expand energy audit programs to improve building weatherization and programs that incentivize installation of electric heat pumps for space and water heating.
- 8) Extend programs that incentivize switching to electric appliances to community-based and faith-based organizations.
- 9) Develop programs that integrate home and vehicle electric batteries with the power grid.
- 10) Build local organic recycling facilities throughout the county.
- ~~11) Incentivize reforestation all land deemed not suitable for large-scale community solar installations.~~
- 12) Include water management programs like water conservation rebates, low water use laundry and dishwasher incentives, and soil amendment programs to increase groundwater retention.
- 13) Include virtual power plants (collections of small power resources, such as solar collectors, batteries, backup generators, and interruptible loads, that can be managed to provide reliable grid power at lower cost) as a “future-ready infrastructure” option, conduct a Vashon-Maury Battery Energy Storage Systems siting analysis, and assess installation of a 1 MW solar array at the Vashon Transfer Station.

Announcements

- Council members expressed appreciation to Kevin and the V-M Climate Action Planning group for reviewing the 800+ page KC plan and making recommendations
- Kevin Jones expressed that as the King County Strategic Climate Action Plan is approved by KC, the Vashon-Maury Climate Action Planning group wants to continue to talk about how we will implement the KC SCAP actions for V-M Islands. Everyone in the council has a seat at the table and substantial participation will be invited in the future.

9:15 Adjourn

1st: Diane Emerson, 2nd: multiple unknown, passed by acclamation

Next Regular Council Meeting: Thursday, September 18, 2025, 6:30 pm (Networking);
7:00 pm (Meeting).

Board of Directors Meetings are regularly held on first Thursdays, at the Land Trust Building.

- Guests are welcome to observe (either in person or via Zoom at the above link.)
- The next V-MCC Board meeting will be held on September 4, 2025.

General questions may be sent to info@v-mcc.org

V-MCC Secretary Jen Hrachovec can be reached directly at Secretary.V-MCC@proton.me.

V-MCC President JC Graham can be reached directly at President.V-MCC@proton.me

2025 Vashon-Maury Community Council Motions

Motion	Requestors	Date Opened	Date Closed	Status	Action
<i>Current Meeting</i>					
Addressing the climate crisis is an important priority for Vashon-Maury Islanders. The Vashon-Maury Community Council therefore moves that the King County Strategic Climate Action Plan include these actions in the final KC SCAP (see 8/21/2025 minutes for list of 13 recommendations)	1-Kevin Jones 2-Kathleen Fitch	Aug 21, 2025	Sep 3, 2025	Passed ▾	Send motion to King County Council member Teresa Mosqueda and staff Pending ▾
<i>Passed or Pending Resolutions from Prior Meetings</i>					