

# CITY OF SHORELINE SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2022





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This report highlights the progress we have made toward our goals in five areas of sustainability:



**CLIMATE, ENERGY, & WATER**



**TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY**



**MATERIALS, FOOD, & WASTE**



**TREES, PARKS, & ECOSYSTEMS**



**RESILIENT COMMUNITIES**

In 2022, the City committed to accelerating action to address the climate crisis while continuing to advance the community's vision of a sustainable and resilient Shoreline. Building on the community's desire for bold climate action, we adopted a climate emergency declaration and updated our Climate Action Plan to swiftly and equitably reduce emissions from Shoreline, support healthy ecosystems, and increase resilience to climate change impacts.

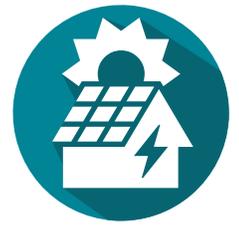
We also made progress in other key areas of sustainability. We provided programs to help residents, businesses, and apartment properties increase recycling and composting. We built and planned infrastructure improvements to support the shift toward decarbonized, shared, and active forms of transportation. We restored and protected healthy forest and aquatic habitats. We also continued to be a regional leader in driving sustainable building practices, ensuring that new buildings in Shoreline meet high environmental standards.

For more information about these programs and the City's environmental commitments, we invite you to visit our website at [shorelinewa.gov/sustainability](https://shorelinewa.gov/sustainability) or contact Environmental Sustainability staff:

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# CLIMATE, ENERGY, & WATER



## OUR GOAL:

Reduce community-wide greenhouse gas emissions by 60% by 2030

In August 2022, Shoreline City Council adopted **Resolution 494** to formally recognize climate change as an emergency threatening our community's health and well-being. The resolution directs all City departments to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase resilience to climate change impacts – like hotter temperatures, wildfire smoke, and flooding – projected to worsen over the next ten years.

We updated our **Climate Action Plan** (CAP) to address the climate emergency. The CAP outlines a pathway to reduce climate pollution in Shoreline by 60% by 2030 to help avoid the worst impacts of climate change. Achieving this ambitious goal will require all of us in Shoreline to do our part. Learn how you can help by reading the **What You Can Do** section of the CAP.

The CAP also includes strategies to reduce waste, support healthy ecosystems, and increase community resilience. Community input was essential to ensure the plan reflects your priorities and benefits those most impacted by climate change in Shoreline. Over 570 community members provided feedback to help shape the CAP throughout the year.

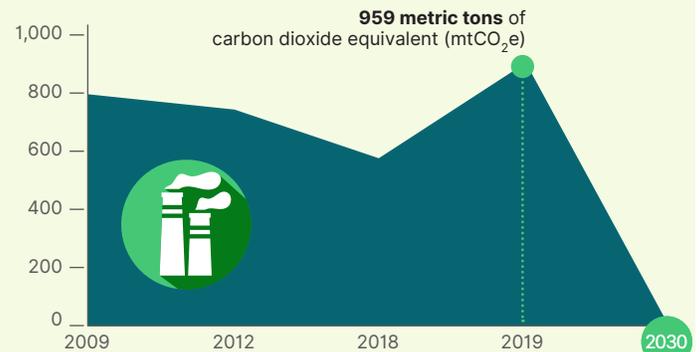
## Priority strategies from the 2022 CAP include:

- Replace oil and gas heating systems in existing buildings with electric heat pumps
- Accelerate widespread adoption of electric vehicles
- Reduce driving through land use, infrastructure, transit, and shared-use mobility
- Increase urban tree canopy and forest health
- Ensure new buildings and infrastructure increase resilience to climate change
- Strengthen preparedness for extreme heat, flooding, and wildfire smoke
- Reduce solid waste, especially wasted food

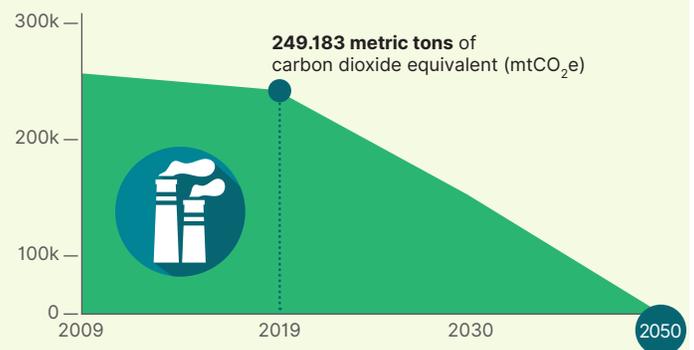
## OUR TARGETS:

To reach our Climate, Energy & Water goal, we have made progress toward a set of six targets.

### Achieve zero net municipal greenhouse gas emissions by 2030



### Reduce community greenhouse gas emissions by 60% by 2030, and reach net-zero by 2050





To support the CAP goal of achieving carbon-neutral City operations by 2030, we completed a Fleet Electrification Plan with help from Seattle City Light and purchased our first electric truck and an electric riding lawn mower. These vehicles are not only zero-emission but also more cost-effective for the City to operate.

We continued to work to reduce emissions from new buildings in Shoreline. Our **2021 ban on natural gas in new, large buildings** went into effect in July. In the fall, we supported **State Energy Code updates limiting fossil fuel heating in new homes** statewide. Together these measures will ensure that new buildings in Shoreline are highly-energy efficient and meet their heating needs using only carbon-neutral, renewable electricity from Seattle City Light. We also continued to be a regional leader in driving sustainable building practices and saw record participation in our **Deep Green Incentive Program**.



**Top and left:** The City purchased a zero-emission electric truck and electric lawn riding mower.

**Achieve 10.2 miles per gallon average for City vehicle fleet by 2030**



**OUR TARGETS (continued):**

Increase number of green residential units in community to over 700 by 2030



Increase square feet of certified green commercial space by 33% by 2030



Install solar panels to produce 200 kW of electricity by 2030



2016-2021  
2022  
Target met

0 100% 500% 1,000% 1,500% 2,000%  
Progress made toward targets

# TRANSPORTATION & MOBILITY



## OUR GOAL:

Develop low-carbon, safe, and convenient transportation options

We continued to support safe and convenient low-carbon transportation options in 2022. We improved a **shared-use path** connection to the **I-5 pedestrian bridge along 195th Street** and gathered community input on the design for several 2023 projects, including **new sidewalks, ramp and walk rehabilitation**, and **pedestrian access for the future 145th light rail station**.

To encourage walkable development close to public transit, we updated the Development Code to encourage residents of new apartment buildings to drive less. We partnered with King County Metro to allow for a **future multi-use project at the 195th Park and Ride**.

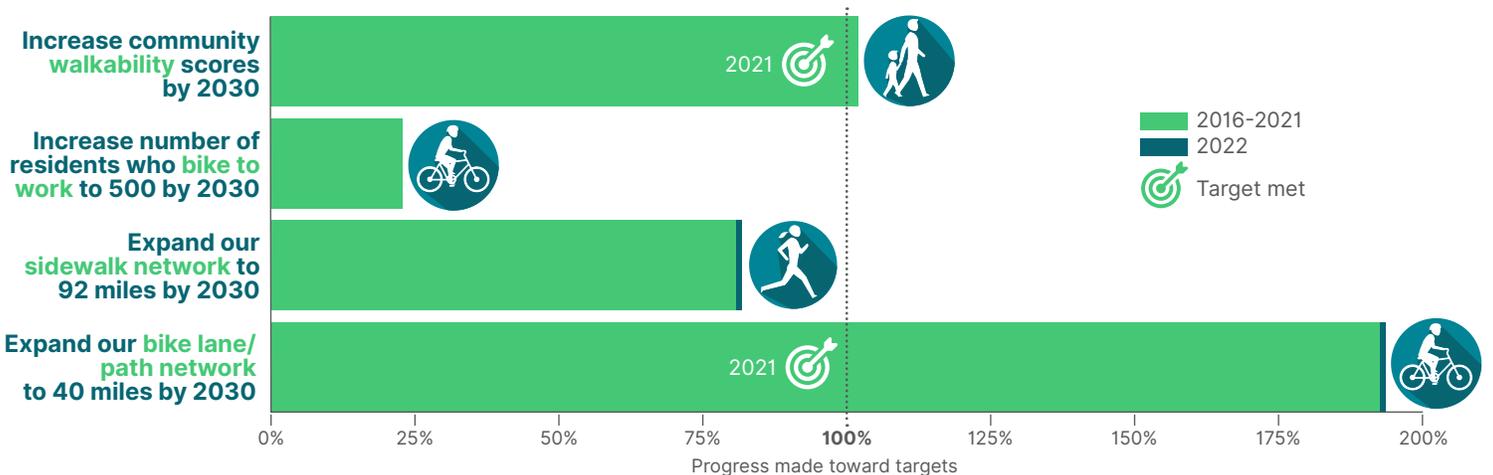
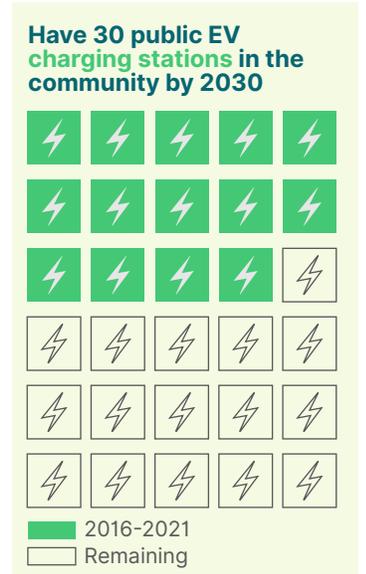
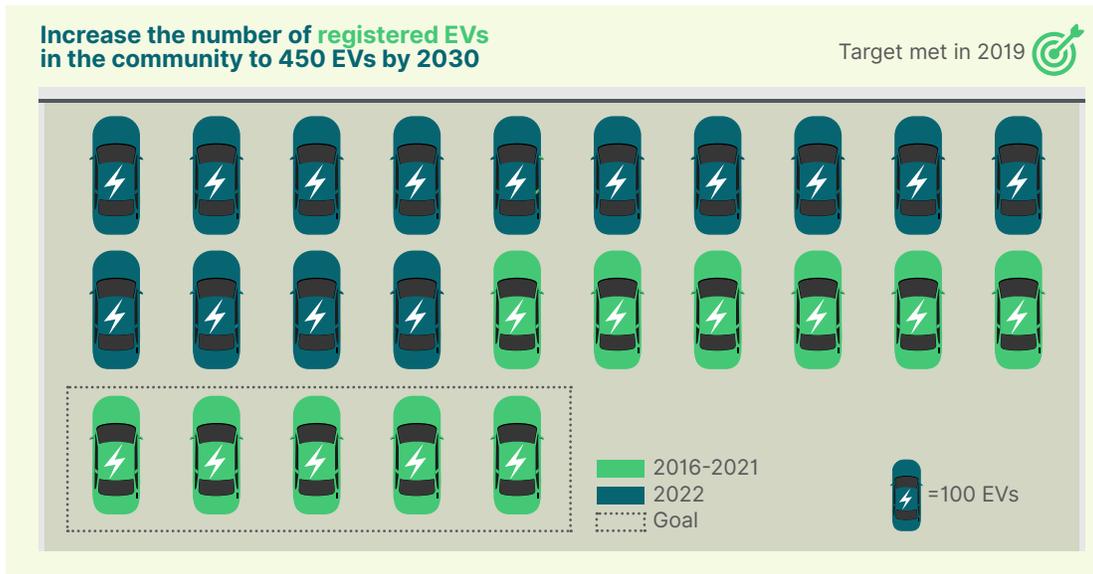
Lastly, we updated our **Transportation Master Plan** to guide the City's capital investments over the next 10-15 years and create a transportation network that is safe and convenient for all users. Guided by community feedback, the new plan prioritizes safety, equity, multi-modality, connectivity, climate resiliency, and community vibrancy when planning transportation projects.



We improved a shared-use path in the Echo Lake neighborhood by installing a new crosswalk and ramps.

## OUR TARGETS:

To reach our Transportation & Mobility goal, we have made progress toward a set of six targets.



# MATERIALS, FOOD, & WASTE



## OUR GOAL:

Reduce solid waste and promote sustainable consumption

Over 70% of materials that are sent to King County's landfill could have been recycled or composted instead. In support of **King County's Re+ program**, City Council adopted **Resolution 497** to express Shoreline's dedication to keeping valuable materials out of the landfill to keep garbage rates low, create local jobs, and reduce climate emissions.

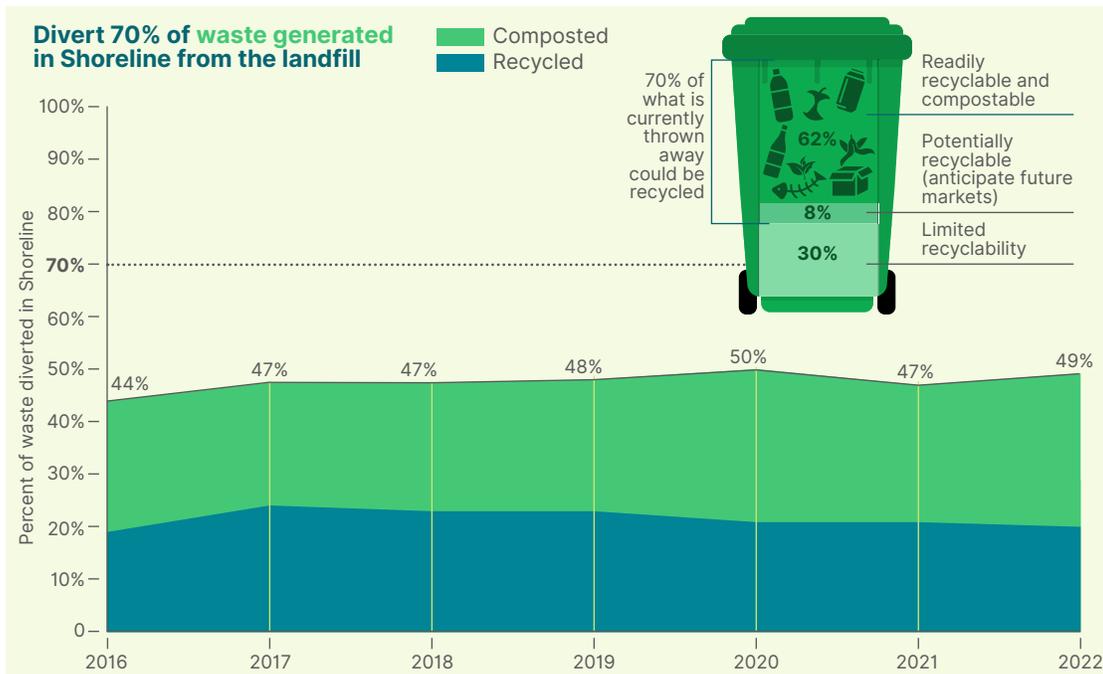
We launched several programs to increase recycling and composting and reduce the total amount of waste created in Shoreline. Through our **business compost incentive pilot program**, we helped seven restaurants start composting their food waste. We also distributed over 1,200 kitchen compost kits to residents, complete with a multilingual compost guide, a small compost container, and a starter supply of compostable bags.

In collaboration with Recology, we worked with apartment property managers to **help renters recycle better and compost more**. We installed special lids on recycling dumpsters to filter out nonrecyclable items and provided free compost service. Since June, we have reduced recycling contamination from an average of 26% to 2% and saved 7.6 tons of food scraps from landfills to turn them into nutrient-rich compost.

Another phase of the statewide **2021 plastics law** went into effect last year. As of January 1, 2022, Washington's restaurants and food service businesses cannot automatically provide single-use items like straws or utensils with orders but may do so if a customer requests. This law will help reduce waste and pollution from these plastic items that can't be recycled and often end up in waterways where they harm aquatic life.

## OUR TARGETS:

To reach our Materials, Food & Waste goal, we have made progress toward a single, overarching target.



**Top:** We distributed over 1,200 free compost kits to Shoreline residents. Kits contained a kitchen food scrap collection bin, a multilingual compost guide, and a starter supply of compostable bags.

**Center:** After setting up compost collection stations at Ballinger Commons Apartments, residents now compost 2,000 lbs of food scraps per month!

**Bottom:** Property managers throughout the city have made great strides in greater access to recycling and composting.

# TREES, PARKS, & ECOSYSTEMS



## OUR GOAL:

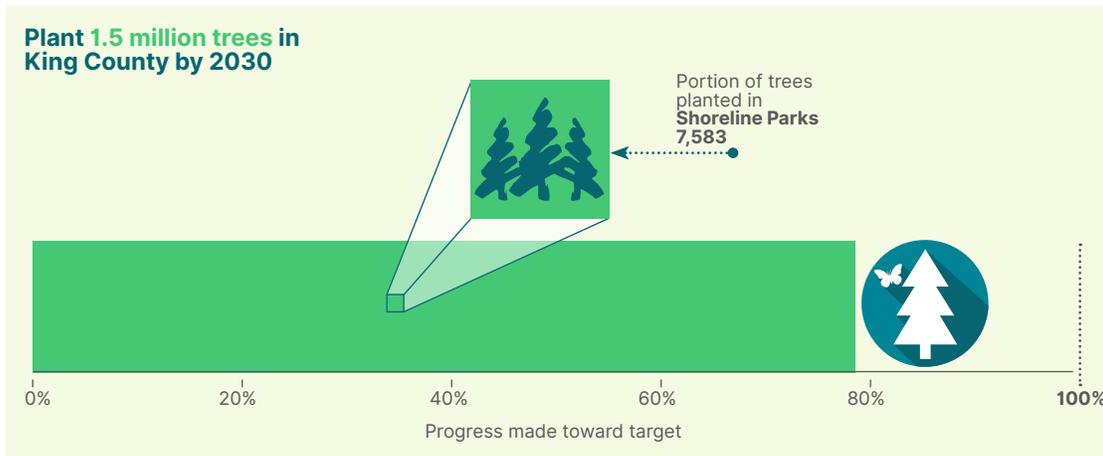
Protect local and regional natural resources and restore ecosystem health

Recognizing that Shoreline's trees, forests, and other ecosystems are some of our community's greatest assets, we worked to protect and increase our existing urban tree canopy. City Council adopted **Ordinance No. 955**, making several community-suggested changes to strengthen the City's tree regulations. We also launched **a pilot program to give free trees** to 119 Shoreline residents to plant at their homes, along with planting supplies and hands-on training. And on October 29, in celebration of the annual Green Shoreline Day, **Green Shoreline Partnership** volunteers hosted restoration work parties and planted 83 native conifers in five parks throughout Shoreline.

To support our **Salmon-Safe certification**, Grounds Maintenance crews **introduced a Foamstream** to their operations, a leading herbicide-free weed control solution. Surface Water Utility managed rainwater runoff to help prevent flooding and reduce pollution in our waterways. We constructed **infiltration facilities along NE 148th Street** to direct and treat water flowing off the roadway and help protect nearby urban creeks.

## OUR TARGETS:

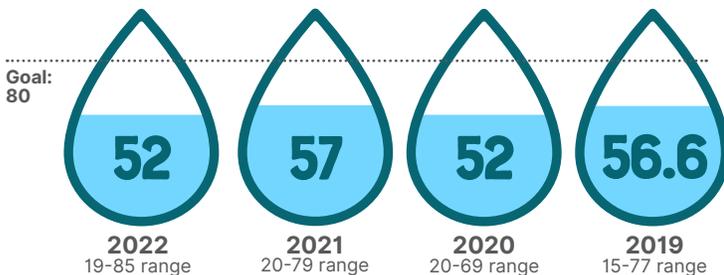
To reach our Trees, Parks, & Ecosystems goal, we have made progress toward a set of six targets.



**Above:** A resident planted a Cascara tree received through our pilot program to give free trees for planting on private property. Toddler approved!

**Below:** City staff using a Foamstream to control hard to reach weeds.

Achieve a water quality index score of 80 or better for all streams by 2030



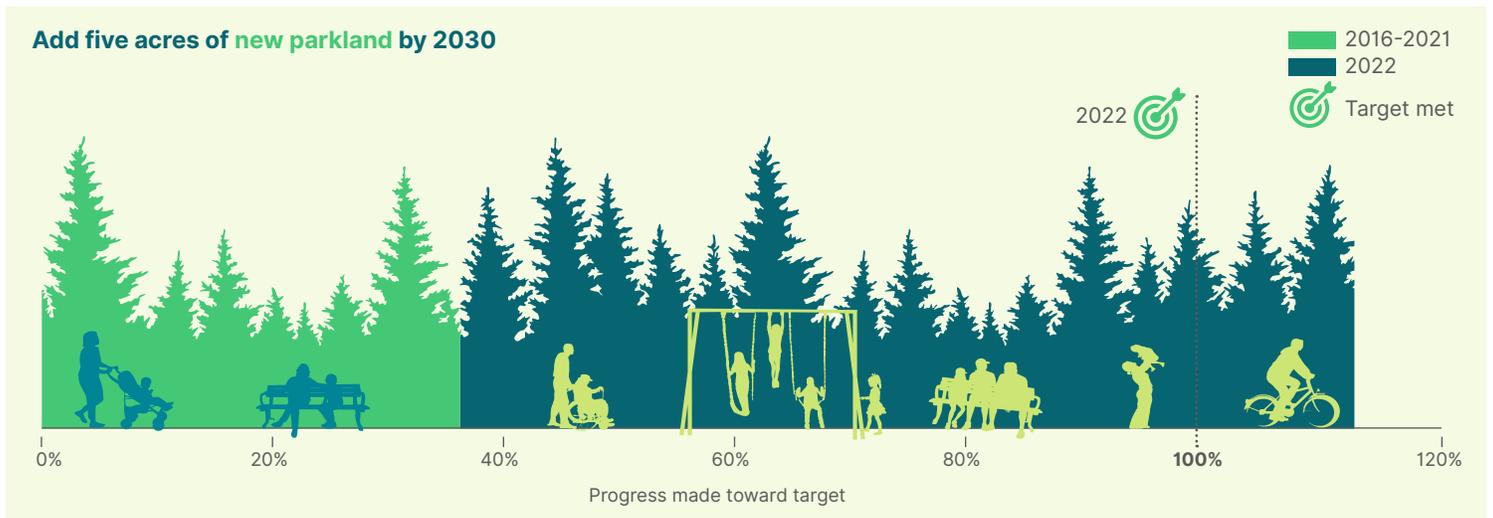


We worked to restore ecosystem health and expand our community's parks and natural areas. We **removed the Hidden Lake Dam** and reestablished the Boeing Creek stream channel to minimize flood and erosion risk, improve water quality, remove barriers to fish passage, and improve habitat for native species. We also **acquired two properties** to preserve habitat and add to the City's Park system.

*Top left: The Hidden Lake Dam before removal.*

*Top right: The restored Boeing Creek stream channel after the dam was removed.*

**OUR TARGETS (continued):**



*Left and above: Community volunteers planted 83 trees across five City parks on Green Shoreline Day.*



# COMMUNITY SUPPORT



1



2



3

**Through our Environmental Mini-Grant program, we awarded over \$15,000 across six projects to support community-driven efforts that restored local ecosystems and provided environmental education for elementary school students and the general public.**



4



5



6

**1** Nearly 240 students from Echo Lake, Meridian Park, and Highland Terrace Elementary Schools participated in an environmental education unit on climate change and ecosystem health. Experienced naturalists took the students on field trips to local waterways to engage in hands-on learning about water quality and ways individuals can help the environment.

**2** Ella-Bella Bee & the Pollinators educated the community on pollinator health and ways we can protect them through song and dance! They performed for more than 100 people at Celebrate Shoreline.

**3** Friends of Echo Lake volunteers hosted eight work parties throughout the summer to restore the riparian zone at Echo Lake. Volunteers spent more than 212 hours improving wetland habitat.

**4** Residents participated in a beach cleanup hosted by On Sacred Ground Land Trust. The Blue Heron Canoe Family of the Snohomish Tribe paddled for three hours to share songs, prayer, and answer questions.

**5** The Hillwood Neighborhood Association enhanced habitat and created a safe trail leading to transit. They hosted several work parties to remove invasive plants and plant native ones, offering volunteers a rewarding way to improve their neighborhood.

**6** Kaleidoscope Landscape Inc. engaged our community in habitat restoration at Darnell Park to increase awareness of and involvement in stewardship activities that create healthy nature spaces for people. Volunteers gave more than 110 hours to remove invasive species and install native plants

# RESILIENT COMMUNITIES



## OUR GOAL:

Increase community resilience to climate change impacts and promote health and prosperity for all

While the immediate COVID-19 public health emergency ended, affordability and housing continued to pose challenges. Climate change added to these challenges, with the July heatwave breaking several local records and **wildfire smoke conditions extending into October** for the first time. Poor air quality and hotter temperatures were particularly harmful to some community members, including those working or living outside and those with underlying health conditions.

We worked to increase housing supply, variety, and affordability by developing regulations for **cottage housing**, a type of missing **middle housing** that is well-suited to seniors and small families. We also partnered with King County and Catholic Housing Services on the **198th Affordable Housing Project** to develop 80-100 units of permanent supportive housing for people that are homeless or experiencing housing instability, scheduled to open in 2023.

**Construction starts Summer 2023**

**BUILDING A CLIMATE-READY SHORELINE**

- 1 Modified the design for the **20th Ave NW Sidewalk Project** to increase climate resilience by adding permeable pavement, including features to slow and filter rainwater, and saving additional trees compared to a standard design.
- 2 Increased stormwater system capacity in the **5th Avenue Sidewalk Project** and **Pump Station 26 Project** to handle increasing flood risk with climate change.
- 3 Designed the **148th Infiltration Project** to increase climate resilience by soaking up a block's worth of rainwater into the ground.

We used our Climate Impacts Tool to design capital improvement projects that are more resilient to summer heat and flooding events, include features to soak up rainwater, and preserve or plant more trees. Through the **Soak It Up program**, we provided \$12,388 in rebates to help seven residents install rain gardens at their homes. We also updated the City's **Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan** to ensure the City can respond effectively to disasters and emergencies, including severe weather events heightened by climate change.

We hosted a **series of workshops** with Shoreline Library to help residents choose **safer cleaning products for their households and the environment** and provided 53 attendees with kits to make non-toxic cleaning products at home.

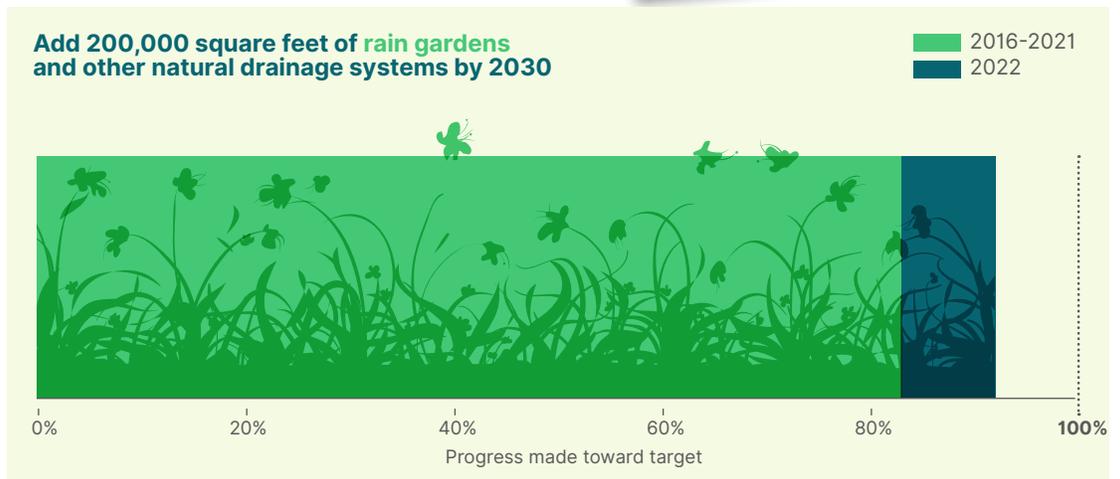
**Below left:** A resident's rain garden installed through Soak It Up.

**Below center:** We provided all residents who attended a safer cleaning workshop with a free kit that included shopper cards, recipes, and ingredients to make safer cleaning products at home.

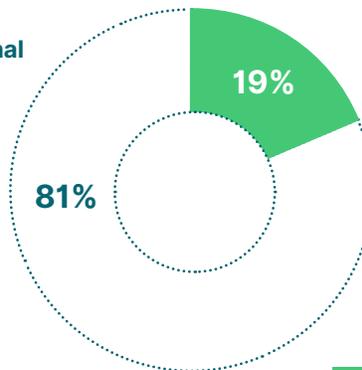
**Below right:** Residents learning how to choose safer cleaning products at a workshop hosted at the Recology Store.



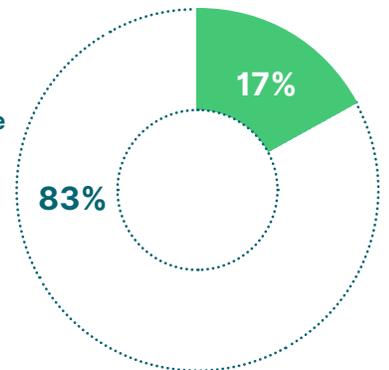
**OUR TARGETS:**  
To reach our Community Resilience goal, we have made progress toward a set of three targets.



**Add nearly 2,000 additional affordable housing units in Shoreline by 2030**



**Create an estimated 7,200 new jobs in Shoreline by 2030**



■ Progress made  
⋯ Remaining



[Shorelinewa.gov/sustainability](http://Shorelinewa.gov/sustainability)

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