

**PUGET SOUND SAGE COMMUNITY SURVEY
FOR THE 100% RENEWABLE AND EQUITABLE CITIES RESEARCH PROJECT**

Puget Sound Sage is a community-based organization that advocates for racial and economic equity in regional policy. We are doing this research to understand how you, our community members, use energy and how you would like to see resources prioritized to address climate change, pollution, and the roll-out of renewable energy. Your responses to this survey will be used to identify community priorities, which Puget Sound Sage will advocate for at the city, county, and state level; will be published in a report; and will be used to identify community members and organizations who would like to build power together to advocate for affordable, renewable, and resilient energy systems that center the needs of frontline communities.

If you have any questions about this survey, don't hesitate to reach out to Debolina Banerjee, our Climate Justice Policy Analyst, at debolina@pugetsoundsage.org or (206) 568-5000 ext. 18.

This survey is about how you use energy, where your energy comes from, and ideas to make energy use better for everyone. In the U.S.A., 2/3rd of all our energy comes from fossil fuels like oil, coal, and fracked gas. Fossil fuels create both pollution and climate change. Some people say that if we stop using fossil fuels and use renewable sources, like solar, wind and tidal, we can reduce pollution and slow down climate change.

Keeping in mind what you've just read about energy use in the U.S, we will start with a few questions to understand how important these issues and strategies are to you.

1. Scientists predict that climate change will have a huge effect in Washington State over the next 30 years. Below is a list of potential climate change effects. For each one, please choose your level of concern:

a. Heavier rainfall and increased flooding in the region

<input type="checkbox"/>				
Not Concerned	A Little Concerned	Concerned	Very Concerned	No Opinion

b. Rising sea level

<input type="checkbox"/>				
Not Concerned	A Little Concerned	Concerned	Very Concerned	No Opinion

c. Heat waves and increased temperature in the region

<input type="checkbox"/>				
Not Concerned	A Little Concerned	Concerned	Very Concerned	No Opinion

d. Droughts

<input type="checkbox"/>				
<i>Not</i>	<i>A Little</i>	<i>Concerned</i>	<i>Very</i>	<i>No Opinion</i>
<i>Concerned</i>	<i>Concerned</i>		<i>Concerned</i>	

e. Wildfires

<input type="checkbox"/>				
<i>Not</i>	<i>A Little</i>	<i>Concerned</i>	<i>Very</i>	<i>No Opinion</i>
<i>Concerned</i>	<i>Concerned</i>		<i>Concerned</i>	

f. Increased diseases

<input type="checkbox"/>				
<i>Not</i>	<i>A Little</i>	<i>Concerned</i>	<i>Very</i>	<i>No Opinion</i>
<i>Concerned</i>	<i>Concerned</i>		<i>Concerned</i>	

g. Rising food costs

<input type="checkbox"/>				
<i>Not</i>	<i>A Little</i>	<i>Concerned</i>	<i>Very</i>	<i>No Opinion</i>
<i>Concerned</i>	<i>Concerned</i>		<i>Concerned</i>	

h. Other climate change effects (please add) _____

<input type="checkbox"/>				
<i>Not</i>	<i>A Little</i>	<i>Concerned</i>	<i>Very</i>	<i>No Opinion</i>
<i>Concerned</i>	<i>Concerned</i>		<i>Concerned</i>	

Other comments _____

2. Climate change can also affect us in our neighborhoods, adding new stresses to ones we already have.

*Please choose **three** of the following that concern you the most.*

- Reduced access to healthy, nutritious and affordable food.
- Reduced access to affordable and stable housing.
- Reduced access to and variety of public transportation options.
- Living near polluting industries or near major highways.
- Reduced access to living wage jobs.
- Reduced access to affordable healthcare.
- Poor indoor air quality and exposure to mold.
- Poor outdoor air quality, due to air pollution and wildfire smoke.
- Increased costs to heat, cool or light your home.
- Personal and community safety (incarceration, deportation, homophobia, domestic violence, etc.).

- Our ability to accommodate refugees who are moving in from other disaster-stricken areas.
- I don't know

Would you like to add anything else? _____

The use of fossil fuels is the biggest single source of pollution in the US. It has led to a changing climate and reduced health for many, especially people of color. The overwhelming majority of scientists say that we have to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels to stop climate change, clean up our air and water, and be healthier people.

3. How important is it to you that we reduce the pollution and toxins that enter our air, water and our bodies?

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Not
Important | Somewhat
Important | Important | Very
Important | No Opinion |

4. How do you think we should reduce our use of polluting energy sources like oil, coal, and fracked gas? In the list below, please tell us how much of a priority you think each strategy should be:

a. Switch to renewable energy for all home, business, and building use.

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Not a Priority | Low Priority | Medium
Priority | High Priority | No Opinion |

b. Switch to renewable energy options, like electricity from solar or wind, for all transportation.

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Not a Priority | Low Priority | Medium
Priority | High Priority | No Opinion |

c. Improve public transportation so that people drive less and have more choices for how to get around, such as riding public transit, biking, or walking.

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Not a Priority | Low Priority | Medium
Priority | High Priority | No Opinion |

d. Charge wealthy individuals and corporations for their use of polluting energy.

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Not a Priority | Low Priority | Medium
Priority | High Priority | No Opinion |

e. Would you like to add anything else? _____

5. Did you know that Seattle elected officials have made it a priority to reduce all use of energy from fossil fuels in the city by 2050?
- No
 - Yes, I heard about it from a city person.
 - Yes, I heard about it from a community person.
 - Yes, I heard about it from the news.
 - Yes, I heard about it from somewhere else.
 - Would you like to add anything else? _____

6. If Seattle’s public agencies had money to spend on programs that reduce pollution, which programs and strategies do you think they should prioritize?

*Please choose your top **three** priorities from the list below.*

- Build more affordable housing that also uses less energy.
- Provide financial and technical support to our community, school, and businesses to reduce energy use in buildings.
- Make public transportation more reliable, efficient and go more places.
- Replace diesel busses with electric ones.
- Fund solar, wind, or other forms of renewable energy production.
- Fund locally controlled renewable energy production.
- Connect people to living wage jobs that are created as we make more renewable energy.
- Make electric vehicles, which don’t use fossil fuels, more affordable to low-income households through financial support, such as rebates and tax incentives, and/or non-predatory financing.
- Make using electric vehicles easier for everyone by putting car charging stations around the city.
- Build more green spaces and public parks.
- No opinion.
- Other programs and strategies that you don’t see? _____

7. As the City of Seattle spends money on programs we have been talking about, how should they slow down the negative effects of climate change and make sure those hurt the most can stay healthy?

*Please choose your top **two** priorities from the list below.*

- Require big corporations that use a lot of energy to stop using fossil fuels altogether and switch to only renewable energy.
- Provide public funding to big corporations who use a lot of energy to help them use more renewable energy.
- Invest public money in buildings and transportation systems that use less energy, starting with targeted investments in communities hurt the most.
- Fund communities hurt the most by fossil fuel-related pollution to make their own investments in a clean and healthy environment.

- Are there other ways this money should be used that aren't mentioned here?
- No opinion.
- Other programs and strategies that you don't see? _____

8. Which of the following fits your housing situation the best? *Select all that apply*

- I live on my own.
- I live with family.
- I live with roommates unrelated to me.
- I live with both family and with roommates.
- I live in a home that is owned by myself or someone I live with.
- I live in a home that is rented from someone else who owns it, like a landlord or a family member who I don't live with.
- I receive some kind of assistance in paying for housing, such as section 8 vouchers or living in a rent-reduced apartment.
- Other _____

9. What kind of a housing do you live in?

- Single-family housing, like a house or townhome
- Multifamily housing, like apartment or condo
- Transitional housing, like a shelter or motel
- Other _____

10. What is the **main way** that you travel every day to meet your needs, like a job, school, or accessing public services?

- By driving in a vehicle alone.
- By driving with others, like a carpool or ride-share.
- By public transit, like bus or light rail.
- By walking or biking.
- By using a mix of public transit, driving, walking or biking, but none really the most.
- By disability assist services, like King County Access.
- Other _____
- Would you like to add anything else? _____

We are now going to ask questions about your personal priorities and interests related to use of energy. Just to refresh your memory, renewable energy is from sources we don't need to burn and so don't create huge amounts of pollution. These include solar power, wind mills, tidal waves, and heat from the earth.

11. In the next 5 years, how important is it to you that people and businesses in your community switch to renewable energy? For this question, assume that there will be no increase in energy costs to you, such as the cost of gasoline, electricity bills, oil, or cost of public transit.

- Not Important
 Somewhat Important
 Important
 Very Important
 No Opinion

12. Let's take the same question above (#11) about switching to renewable energy, but this time assume there is a 10% increase in cost for your combined energy uses, such as heating your home and getting around. How important is it to you that people and businesses in your community to switch to using renewable energy?

- Not Important
 Somewhat Important
 Important
 Very Important
 No Opinion

13. If your total energy costs went up by \$50 a month, which of the following are you most likely to do?

Please pick your top **two** most likely responses.

- I would pay the higher cost using my income left over at the end of the month.
- I would pay the higher costs by cutting other necessities, like rent/mortgage payments, food, medicines, clothes, or childcare/eldercare.
- I would lower my energy use by paying to insulate my home, which would lower my energy bill.
- I would lower my energy use by paying for a vehicle with better gas mileage, or a vehicle that uses no gas at all.
- I would lower my energy use by driving less, and using other ways of getting around.
- I would lower my energy use by living in a colder home.
- I would move to place with a lower cost of living.
- I would lower my energy use by unplugging appliances.
- I would do something to make more money.
- I would do something else, such as _____

14. How have your energy costs changed over the past 5 years? By energy cost, we mean electricity bills for heating and lighting your home, and transportation costs like paying for fuel at the gas station or the cost of public transit.

Please pick **one** response.

- Increased a lot
- Increased a little
- Stayed the same
- Decreased a little
- Decreased a lot
- I have not lived here for that long
- Not sure

15. How concerned are you about increasing energy costs over the next five years?

- Not Concerned
- A Little Concerned
- Concerned
- Very Concerned
- No Opinion

16. Do you receive low-income energy assistance offered by the city, county or your utility? Examples of assistance programs are Federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Emergency Low Income Assistance (ELIA), HomeWise Weatherization Program, Utility Discount Program (UDP) offered by the City of Seattle, and the Home Energy Lifeline Program (HELP) offered by Puget Sound Energy.

- Yes
Which ones? _____
- No
If no, why not?
 - Did not hear about it.
 - Do not qualify.
 - Too much of a hassle to go through the process.
 - I won't take assistance.
 - Other _____

17. How do you pay your home energy bills, including electricity, natural gas or heating oil?

Please pick **one** response.

- The people in my home pay for all the energy use.
- The people in my home pay for some of the energy use, and our landlord pays the rest.
- All costs for energy use are paid for by our landlord. We don't get any bills in addition to our rent.

18. If your landlord pays for some of the energy costs in your home or building, which of the following do they pay for? *Select **all** that apply.*

- Heating
- Cooling
- Electricity and lighting
- My landlord doesn't pay the energy costs in my home.

19. What form of energy do you use to heat your home? *Select **all** that apply.*

- Fracked/Natural Gas
- Propane
- Oil
- Electricity
- Wood-burning stove
- Other _____

20. If you pay energy or fuel bills, which utilities or companies do you pay? *Select **all** that apply.*

- Seattle City Light
- Puget Sound Energy
- Sound Oil
- Genesse Oil
- Don't know
- Other _____

Of the utility companies identified above, only Seattle City Light is publicly owned. (It is an agency of the City of Seattle).

21. If you had a choice, what kind of a provider would you prefer to get your energy from?

*Select **one**.*

- A publicly owned utility, like City Light, that is answerable to Seattle voters.
- A community owned or cooperatively owned energy provider that is answerable to local members.
- A for-profit corporation like Puget Sound Energy that is answerable to investors.
- No preference
- Other

Would you like to add additional comments? _____

We are now going to ask you some questions about changing where we get energy from and how we use it.

22. Putting solar energy panels on the roofs of buildings can help lower electricity bills and provide back-up energy when there are power outages. These savings can pay for the up-front costs of installing them over a long period of time. How interested are you in the following?

a. If you own your home, having solar panels on your roof to generate power?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Not Interested</i>	<i>Somewhat Interested</i>	<i>Interested</i>	<i>Very Interested</i>	<i>No Opinion</i>

b. If you rent your home, your landlord putting solar panels on the roof?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Not Interested</i>	<i>Somewhat Interested</i>	<i>Interested</i>	<i>Very Interested</i>	<i>No Opinion</i>

c. Having many of your neighbors put solar panels on their roofs?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Not Interested</i>	<i>Somewhat Interested</i>	<i>Interested</i>	<i>Very Interested</i>	<i>No Opinion</i>

d. Solar panels on all the public buildings in your neighborhood (community center, library, school)?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Not Interested</i>	<i>Somewhat Interested</i>	<i>Interested</i>	<i>Very Interested</i>	<i>No Opinion</i>

e. Buying into a solar cooperative to put solar panels on a community-owned space, like a church, community service building, or community garden?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Not Interested</i>	<i>Somewhat Interested</i>	<i>Interested</i>	<i>Very Interested</i>	<i>No Opinion</i>

f. A government program that covers a portion of the cost of solar panels and their installation?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Not Interested</i>	<i>Somewhat Interested</i>	<i>Interested</i>	<i>Very Interested</i>	<i>No Opinion</i>

g. Would you like to add any comments? _____

23. As an alternative to paying large utilities for our energy, there are new ways to generate, store, and provide energy in our own communities. Please tell us your interest in these.

a. How interested would you be in having a community-owned energy project in your neighborhood?

- Not Interested* *Somewhat Interested* *Interested* *Very Interested* *No Opinion*

b. How interested would you be in working to make a community-owned energy project happen in your neighborhood?

- Not Interested* *Somewhat Interested* *Interested* *Very Interested* *No Opinion*

c. How interested are you in being a part owner of a community energy project?

- Not Interested* *Somewhat Interested* *Interested* *Very Interested* *No Opinion*

d. Would you like to add any comments? _____

24. If the city has funds to invest in transportation, where should they invest?

*Please pick your top **three** priorities.*

- Increasing public transit options.
- Electrifying public transit.
- Reducing public transit fares.
- Installing electric vehicle charging infrastructure for passenger vehicles.
- Providing income-based support for people to access electric vehicles.
- Improving roads in under-invested neighborhoods.
- Incentivizing people to carpool.
- Other _____

25. Electric vehicles that run only on batteries can help reduce pollution in our neighborhoods and region. *If electric vehicles were affordable:*

a. How interested would you be in owning or using an electric vehicle?

- Not Interested* *Somewhat Interested* *Interested* *Very Interested* *No Opinion*

b. How interested would you be in sharing an electric vehicle with your neighbors to help you make short trips?

- Not Interested* *Somewhat Interested* *Interested* *Very Interested* *No Opinion*

c. How interested would you be in a community-run ride-share service, like Uber, that came with an electric vehicle and a paid driver?

- Not Interested* *Somewhat Interested* *Interested* *Very Interested* *No Opinion*

It's unrealistic that I, or my community, would own electric vehicles.

Would you like to add any additional comments? _____

26. If our Puget Sound region can switch our energy sources from fossil fuels to renewable sources, there would also be a big switch in energy jobs.

a. Do you work in, or know anyone in your community who works for companies that make money from gas, oil, coal or other fossil fuels?

- Yes* *No*

b. Do you work in, or know anyone in your community who works in solar, hydro, wind energy?

- Yes* *No*

c. Do you work in, or know anyone in your community who has a job related to transportation such as driver, mechanic, or airport worker?

- Yes* *No*

d. Do you work in, or know anyone in your community who has a job related to construction such as laborer, electrician, carpenter, metal worker or insulator?

- Yes* *No*

e. Would you personally be interested in a job created by a switch to renewable energy?

- Yes* *No*

27. Do you use an assistive, mobility, medical device, or medicine that relies on energy (for example: a CPAP machine, powerchair, screen reader, ventilator, or medications that need to be refrigerated)?

- Yes* *No*

28. Do you have emergency preparedness and evacuation plans for:

a. Your house or the building you live in?

Yes No

b. Your neighborhood?

Yes No

If no to either (a) or (b) above, why not?

I didn't know that I needed an emergency or evacuation plan

I haven't had time to make a plan

Another reason: _____

GENERIC DEMOGRAPHIC QUESTIONS:

A. Do you identify with a gender type? If yes, please select **one or more** that apply:

- Male
- Female
- Transgender
- Gender nonconforming
- Other _____
- Prefer not to say

B. What is your Age?

- Under 12 years old
- 12-17 years old
- 18-24 years old
- 25-34 years old
- 35-44 years old
- 45-54 years old
- 55-64 years old
- 65-74 years old
- 75 years or older

C. How do you identify racially or ethnically? Check **all** that apply:

- White
- Hispanic or Latino
- Black or African American
- Native American or American Indian
- African
- Middle Eastern
- Asian or Pacific Islander
- Other _____
- Prefer not to say

D. What language(s) do you speak at home? Check **all** that apply:

- English
- Spanish
- Mandarin
- Cantonese
- Toisanese
- Vietnamese
- Russian
- Tagalog
- Somali
- Amharic
- Korean

- Punjabi
- Hindi
- Other language _____

E. Do you identify as disabled? If yes, check **any** that apply to you:

- Autistic, neuro diverse, intellectual disability, Traumatic Brain Injury
- Blind, low vision
- Deaf, hard of hearing
- Invisible, chronic illness
- Mental illness
- Physical disability
- Other _____

F. Type of education:

- U.S. formal education
- Informal, traditional, culturally appropriate learning
- Non-U.S. formal education
- Other _____

G. What is your employment status?

- Employed or working full-time
- Employed or working part-time
- Not employed or working

H. What is your annual household income (all income for everyone you live with)?

- Less than \$10,000
- \$10,000 to \$29,999
- \$30,000 to \$49,999
- \$50,000 to \$69,999
- \$70,000 to \$89,999
- \$90,000 to \$149,999
- \$150,000 or more

I. Which neighborhood do you live in?

Name of neighborhood _____

Zip Code _____

J. Please tell us about your Household Size:

How many children live in your household? _____

How many adults live in your household? _____

K. Is there anything else you would like to share with us about the survey?

L. Would you like to share your contact information with us? *If yes,*

Name _____

Email _____

Home phone/Cell phone _____

Are you okay being quoted in the report?

- Yes No

M. Which organization directed you to this survey?

- Entre Hermanos
- Mother Africa
- Rooted in Rights/Disability Rights Washington
- Tenants Union
- Somali Health Board
- Na'ah Illahee Fund
- InterIm CDA
- Other: _____

----- **THANK YOU** -----