



*The wastewater system
collects and cleans the water
the people send down the drain.*

Strategies in the Clean Water Plan

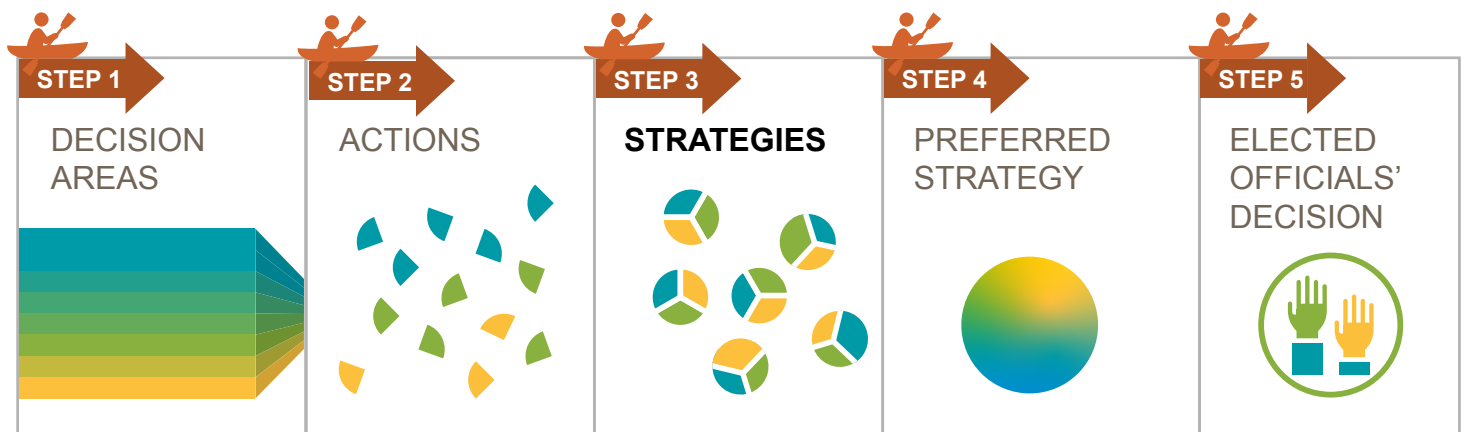
Welcome to the Clean Water Plan

The wastewater system is vital to our community because it protects public health and our rivers, lakes, and Puget Sound. King County has tough decisions to make about how we invest in the future of our wastewater system, so we are working on a Clean Water Plan. The process of making the Plan will allow us to do a thoughtful and transparent evaluation, so we make the right investments at the right time for the best water quality outcomes.

The Clean Water Plan will:

- Guide King County investments that protect our local waterways, the environment, and public health for decades to come
- Consider how to distribute the benefits and burdens of these investments equitably
- Determine how to use money from your sewer bills for the best water quality outcomes

Here's how the Clean Water Plan planning process works:



Learn more with the [planning process video](#), [planning process fact sheet](#), and [Actions fact sheet](#).

What are “Strategies” in the Clean Water Plan?

A Strategy is a complete investment approach the County could take for water quality and the regional wastewater system. King County is using technical analyses and community input to develop a suite of Strategies made up of a combination of Actions that address the Decision Areas. Each Strategy reflects the timing, sequencing, and inter-relationships of those Actions. The set of Strategies allows the region to see big-picture financial, water quality, and social outcomes from different perspectives.



The Strategies explore different timelines for large investments in new facilities.

Strategy exploration: a two step process

1. Strategy evaluation and comparison

King County analyzes and compares the potential **outcomes** of each Strategy, so the region can understand how they perform. The outcomes explored relate to water quality, cost and finance, equity and community, wastewater system health and operations, and sustainability. These areas reflect input and regional priorities shared by regional partners, community organizations, and ratepayers.

2. Strategy exploration

King County shares what we have learned about each of the Strategies, and invites everyone to explore the choices, challenges, and outcomes represented by each Strategy. Local governments, community organizations, ratepayers, and other interested parties provide their input and preferences on the Strategies as part of the regional conversation. By exploring different Strategies before proposing one preferred Strategy, King County gives everyone a chance to say what approaches they prefer, and why. This regional conversation involves many outreach activities, including a formal public comment period on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS).

**PREFERRED
STRATEGY**

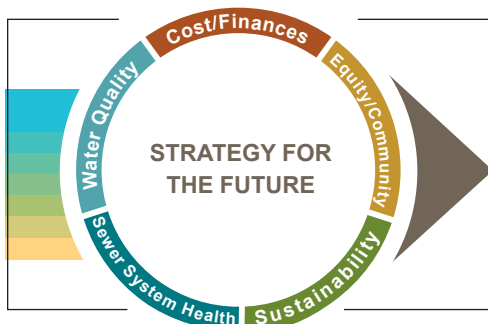
Several distinct approaches

The Strategies reflect public input, regional priorities shared by community and partner organizations, and factors the Plan should take into account. For example, we need to consider things like population growth, regulations, social equity, climate change, and our aging system of pipes, pumps and tanks.

The Strategies are designed to highlight distinctions and allow the region to explore the varied choices and opportunities we face.

For example, the Strategies explore:

- different timelines and sequencing of water quality investments
- more conventional or more innovative infrastructure solutions
- different approaches to meeting regulatory requirements
- various opportunities for partnerships with other utilities and organizations



WHAT DO WE MEAN BY OUTCOMES?

Each Strategy has the potential to lead to different outcomes that may affect the community, such as positive or negative changes to water quality and aquatic life, changes to sewer rates, varying risk of overflows, how choices affect different communities, and more. King County invites the community to compare the outcomes of different investment approaches as part of the Strategy Exploration.

Then what? Developing a Preferred Strategy

After Strategy Exploration, King County uses what we learn from technical analysis and from the community to blend elements from multiple Strategies into a single Preferred Strategy for the King County Executive and Council to consider. Then, the King County Executive proposes a plan (which includes an implementation plan and finance plan) to the King County Council. The Council holds public meetings with time for public comment before making a decision about whether to adopt the plan.



PREFERRED STRATEGY

The Preferred Strategy is a complete water quality and wastewater system investment approach for the next 40 years. It may draw primarily from one Strategy, or it may blend elements from multiple Strategies.



The Strategies explore investments that offer both water quality and community benefits - like green stormwater infrastructure.



Your voice matters

We will continue to inform and consult with the community to shape the Plan, and to hear from new and diverse perspectives. Here's how to stay up-to-date on the Clean Water Plan:

- Visit our website for more information at www.kingcounty.gov/CleanWaterPlan
- [Sign up for our newsletter here](#). You will get all the latest, detailed information on engagement opportunities here.
- Email cleanwaterplan@kingcounty.gov
- Share this topic sheet with others in your community; visit our website for an electronic or print version to share. It's available in many languages.

Alternate formats available upon request
206-477-5525 or TTY:711

