

2020 Sustainability Progress Report and Sustainability Plan Update

Executive Committee Meeting

10/7/2021



Why we are here

Annual Progress Report

- Operational performance and efficiency
- Progress on annual sustainability targets and KPIs

Strategic Planning

- Strategic direction and goal setting
- Progress on Sustainability Plan goals



Defining sustainability

Agency Mission

Moving more people to more places

Sustainability Mission

Moving more people to more places,
*efficiently, affordably, reliably,
environmentally*



Sustainability



People – Planet - Prosperity

Sustainability Focus: Long-term goals (2050)

PEOPLE	PLANET	PROSPERITY
Social equity addressed and implemented as an agency value	Achieve carbon free operations <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Electricity (facilities & light rail by 2030)• All fleets by 2050	Build resilience to climate change and natural disasters
All staff champion sustainability	Enhance ecosystem functions	Maximize operational efficiency

Sustainability Plan - Implementation



Sustainability Plan Implementation

Short-term goals (2024)

45 total goals

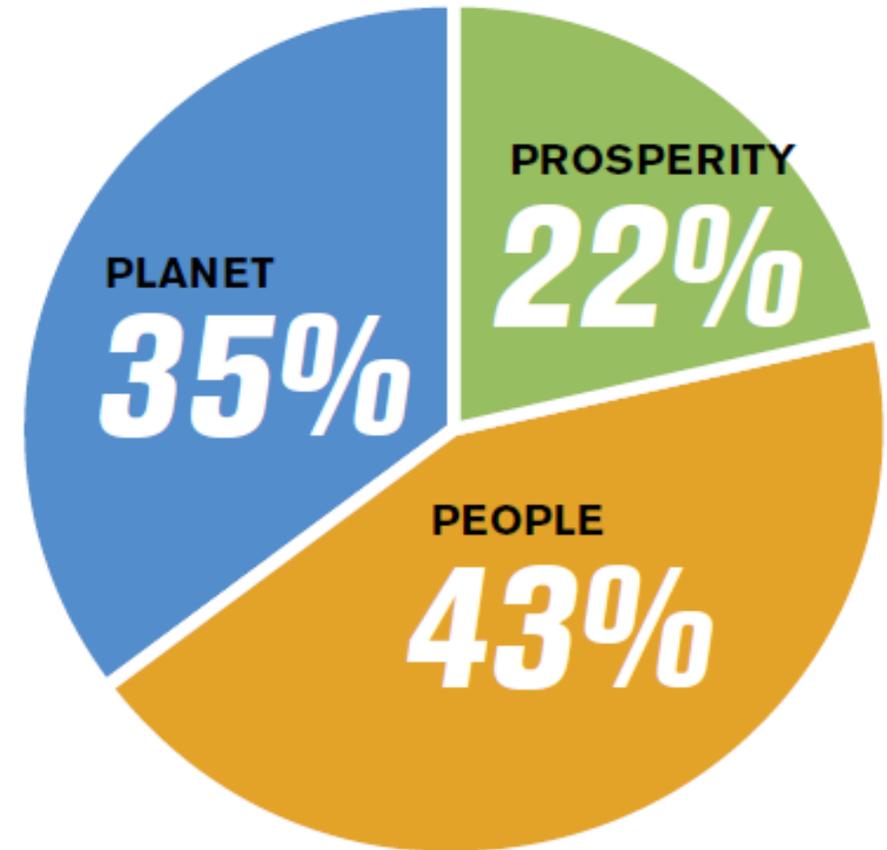
- ✓ 6 Completed
- 37 in progress
- 2 not yet initiated



2020 Annual Targets

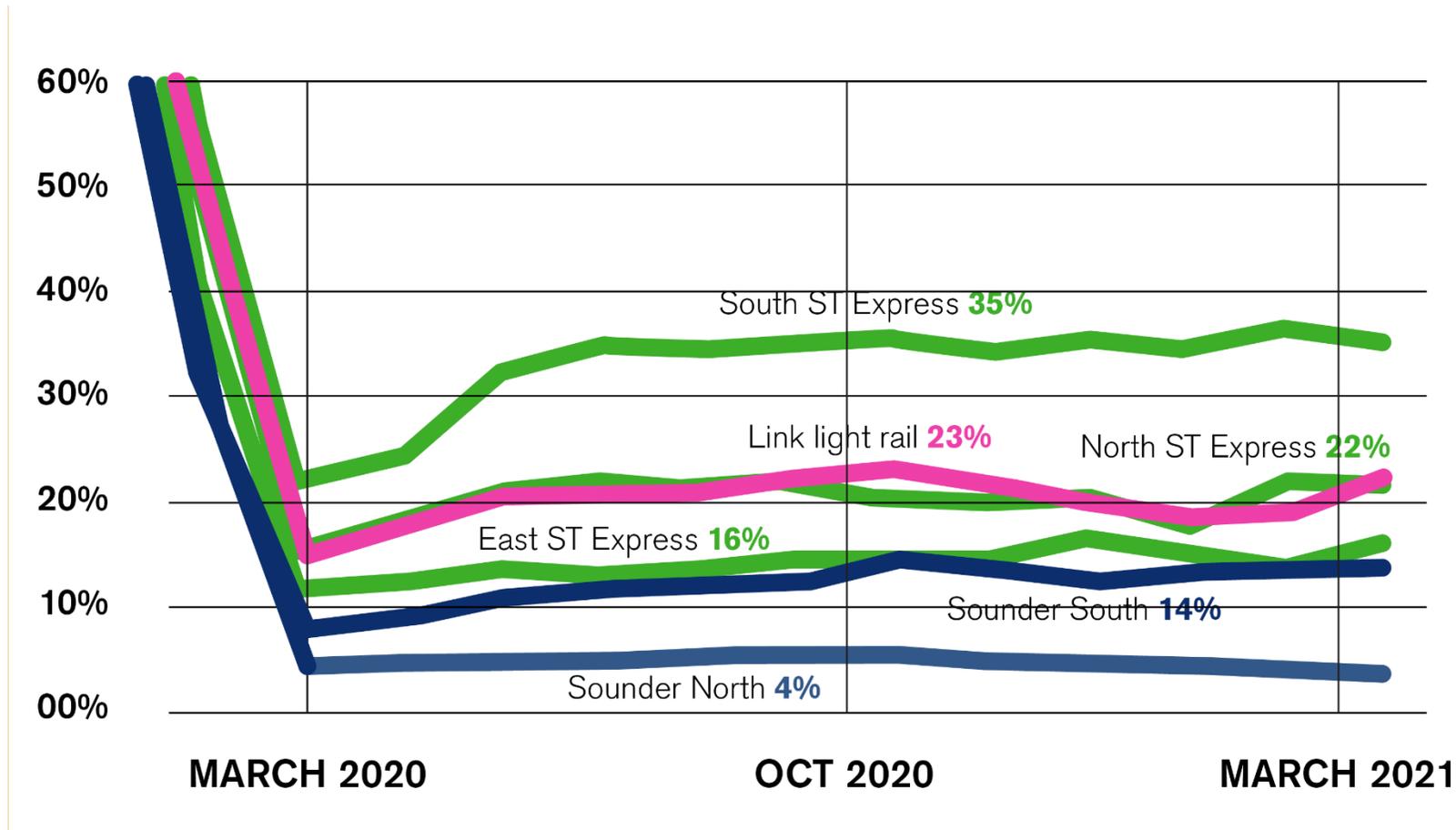
- People, planet and prosperity form the framework for annual targets
- Completed 91% of 22 targets
- All remaining targets will be completed in 2021

Progress toward short-term goals per priority



2020 Highlight – People

Continued to serve essential transit riders throughout the pandemic



- Riders in 2020 more likely to be:
 - Not eligible to work from home
 - From areas with high proportion of low income and communities of color

2020 Highlight – People Committed to equity



Image from Federal Way Link Extension Mural by Lauren Ida

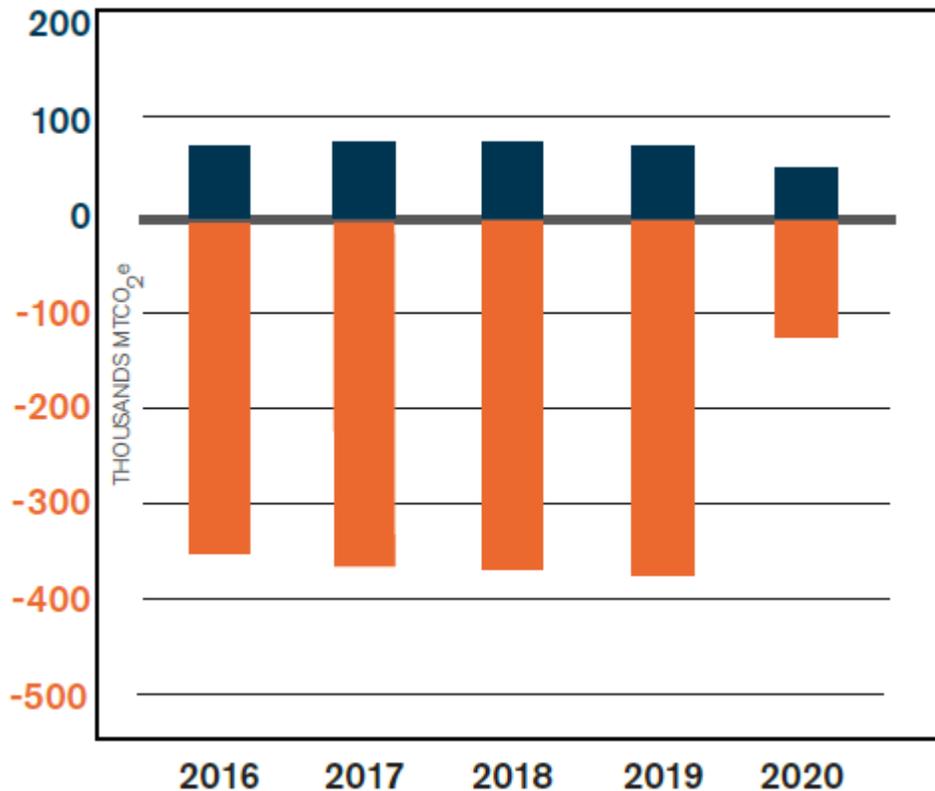
- Committed to becoming an anti-racist organization
- Drafted agency's first Racial Equity Toolkit
- Launched All Aboard Campaign
- Provided COVID relief funding for pre-apprenticeship programs

2020 Highlight - Planet

Maintained significant environmental benefits from transit

2020

- 1 ton of ST GHG emissions averts nearly 2.5 tons of GHG in region
- Offset significantly more GHG than emitted despite low COVID-19 ridership



■ Agency emissions from operations
■ Regional emissions avoided when riders take Sound Transit

Regional environmental benefits

Sound Transit services avoid GHG emissions equivalent to:



Powering more than 21,000 homes for a year

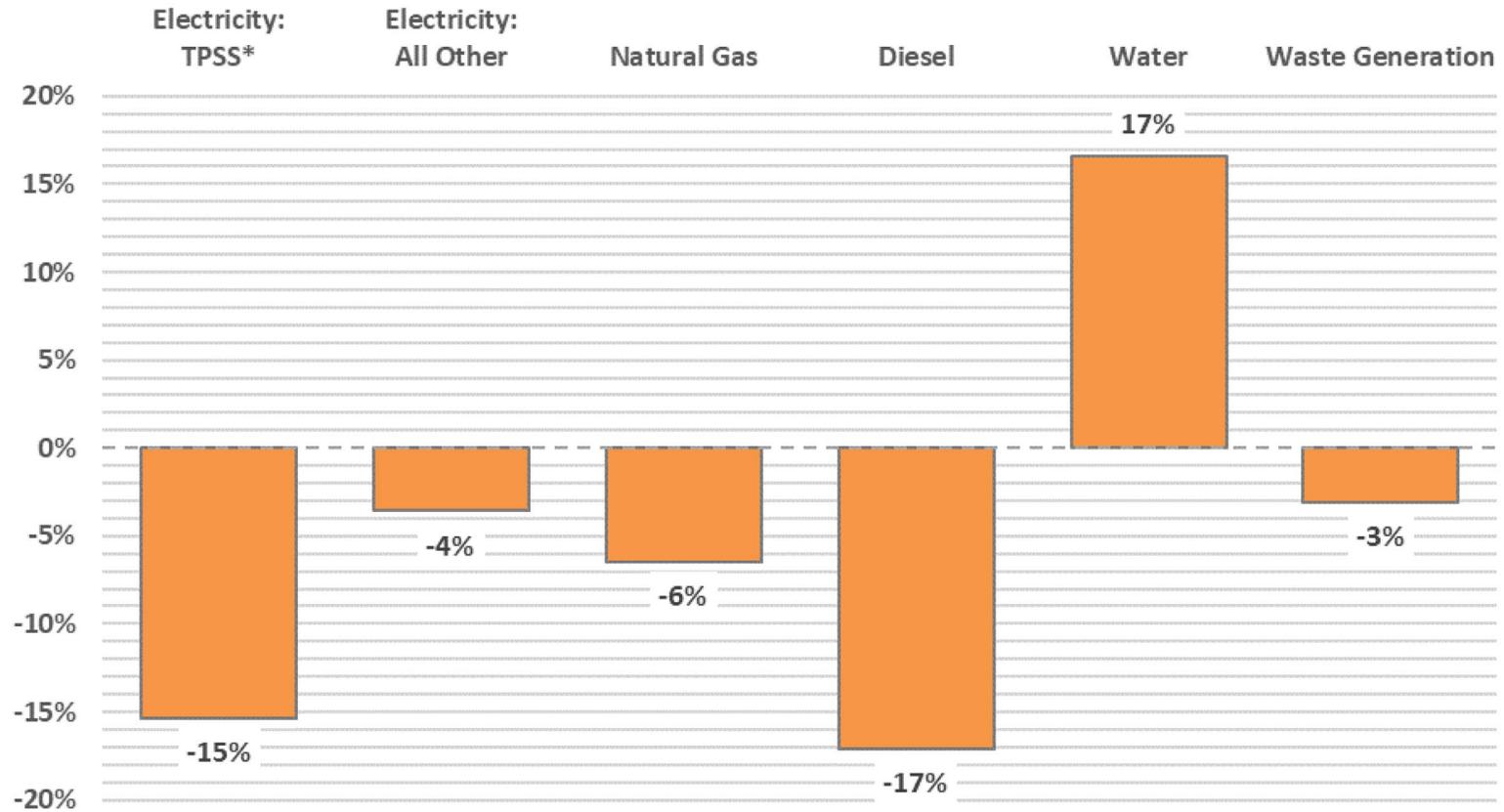


Burning 13 million gallons of gasoline

2020 KPI Trends

- Significant reduction in resource use, except water

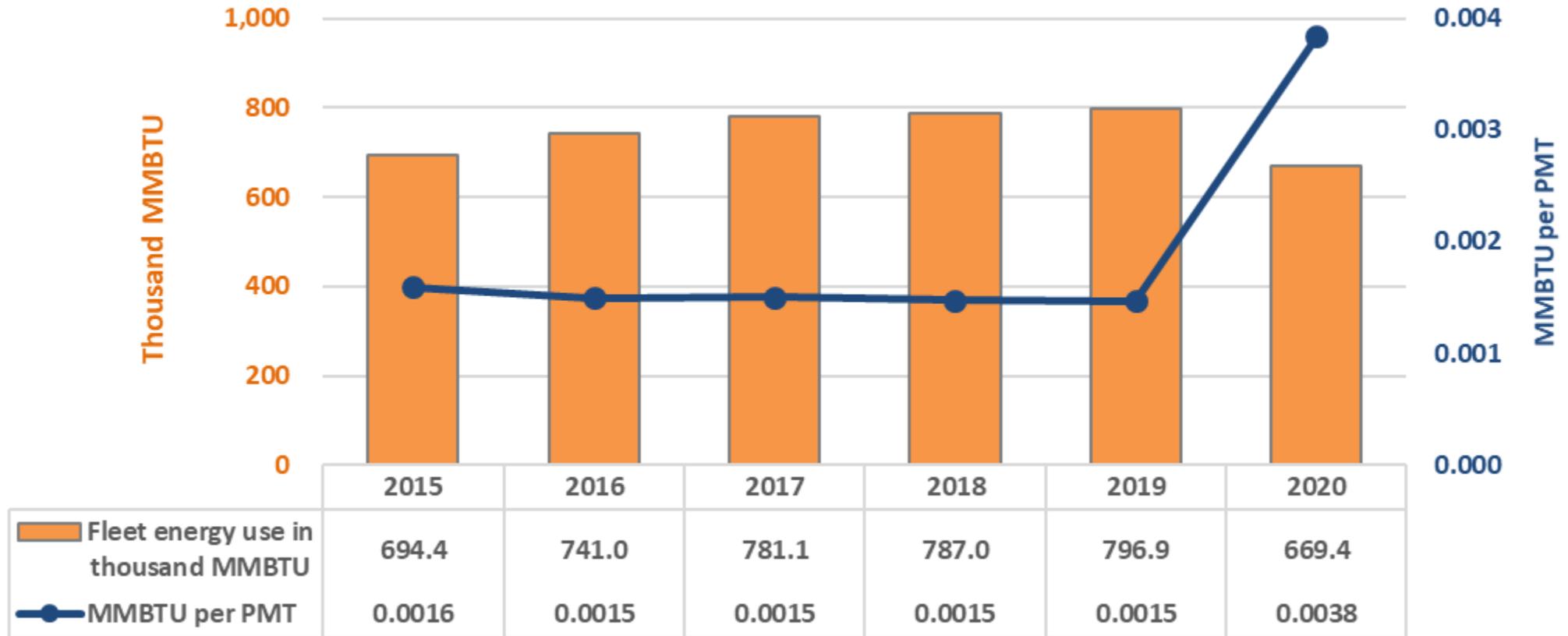
Figure 3. Change in Absolute Resource Use, 2019-2020



2020 KPI Trends

In 2020 normalizing data by passenger miles traveled (PMT) not indicative of efficiency because of ridership drop

Figure 4. Change in Fleet Energy Use, 2015 – 2020



2020 Highlight – Planet

Carbon free light rail

Sound Transit became the first major light rail system in the country to run on 100% carbon-free electricity.



2020 Highlight – Planet **Electrifying ST Bus Services**

- Plan for 522 BRT to launch with 75% of fleet as BEB buses
- Collaborating on regional BEB infrastructure strategy with partner agencies.



Enhancing Ecosystem Functions

- Mitigation and restoration: Revegetation of Mullen Slough

2020 Highlight – Prosperity

Building sustainably



LEED green building certification

- ✓ 4 stations under construction DRLE, FWLE, LTC, 130th
- ✓ OMFE

ENVISION green infrastructure certification

- ✓ FWLE and DRLE corridors piloting certification
- ✓ Social impact analyses support agency's racial equity work

2020 Highlight – Prosperity

Resilience and efficiency

- Security launched STPrepared to support employee emergency readiness
- Established Efficiency and Sustainability Program - to fund resource conservation and sustainability research and pilot projects. Current projects include:
 - Studying energy efficiency for Link light rail system
 - Evaluating solar power for emergency power
 - Final lighting retrofit projects > ST 100% efficient lighting

2020 Highlight – Prosperity

Efficiency and resource savings

A sample of resource conservation projects at the agency saved over \$500K in 2020 and more than \$5.6M over project lifetimes



\$238K

Fleet projects



\$43K

Irrigation projects



\$25K

Facilities projects



\$3K

Solar installation



\$198K

LED Lighting Projects

Recognition



2021 and beyond



- Deliver a cost-effective Sustainability Program for capital projects.
- Implement sustainability strategies to support Sound Transit's Anti-Racist Strategy.
- Plan regional fleet electrification strategies for infrastructure with partner agencies.
- Engage in rulemaking for WA state climate legislation and federal climate policy via USDOT.

Thank you.



 [soundtransit.org](https://www.soundtransit.org)

