350 Seattle works toward climate justice by organizing people to make deep system change: resisting fossil fuels; building momentum for healthy alternatives; and fostering resilient, just, and welcoming communities.
Dear Community,

Well, 2020 wasn’t the year we thought it would be. But 350 Seattle has always been nimble, and we were able to not just weather but rise above the challenges and uncertainty: by strengthening our relationships, building new ones, and staying focused on winning the future that we all need. How are we getting there? By resisting fossil fuels, working for equitable climate policy, and holding polluters accountable.

This report details how we did that, with your support. As the wildfire smoke rolled in worse than ever and for longer, our collective resolve got stronger. As police and white supremacists targeted Black people across the country and our president egged them on, we deepened our part in the fight for racial justice and defended democracy. Our work weaves a vision of a future that values everyone; our shared well-being starts with the communities that have paid the price for our extractive economy.

As we forge ahead knowing that we’re fighting for our very survival, we also know that a climate justice future is filled not just with the beauty of possibility, but also with beautiful possibilities. In the work of resistance, building, care, and repair, we make a new world.
Resisting the Fossil Fuel Industry

We countered Puget Sound Energy’s (PSE) greenwashing - this time they targeted children with their coloring book promoting “natural” gas. We came up with our own (see below).

Despite more comments against the LNG (liquified natural gas) facility than for it, the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency issued the final permit to PSE for its fracked gas facility in Tacoma, on ancestral Puyallup lands. Our LNG Resistance Team continues to educate and organize resistance to the facility and fracked gas expansion regionally.

We successfully pressured King County Metro to drop fossil fuel advertising on buses.

We participated in Environmental Impact Statement processes around NWIW’s Kalama Methanol refinery, slowing down the project (till it died in 2021).

The King County Council voted unanimously to make the 2019 moratorium on all major fossil fuel development in the county permanent. This was a major victory for our Fossil Free KC campaign!
Fossil Fuels At The Port

COVID-19 brought the cruise industry to a halt, and the Terminal 46 cruise ship terminal expansion RFP was canceled by the Port.

We plan to see that it doesn’t start up again: climate catastrophe has no vaccine.

We joined the Global Cruise Activist Network.

Did you know? Cruise ships & associated flight pollution added to about 1/3 of Seattle’s climate pollution in 2019.
Seattle for a Green New Deal

We helped launch the Tax Amazon campaign in early 2020, gathering signatures for a ballot initiative to fund affordable housing and Green New Deal solutions.

Tax Amazon catalyzed Council champions and an even broader coalition came together to pass JumpStart Seattle - a tax on big business that raises $212 million/year for emergency COVID-19 relief, affordable housing, and Green New Deal solutions like transitioning low-income homes off fossil fuels.

In fall 2020, 350Seattle and Sunrise Seattle partnered to activate the climate community for the Solidarity Budget — a community-driven vision with six key demands for Seattle’s 2021 City Budget that confronts the overlapping crises of systemic racism, economic injustice, COVID-19, and climate chaos.
Solidarity Budget

The Solidarity Budget coalition held dozens of community events, teach-ins, and press conferences. We collectively mobilized thousands of Seattle residents.

We met with Councilmembers to advocate for our demands, and used tactics like a community endorsement letter signed by 195 organizations and businesses.

This built a powerful foundation for future Green New Deal work in Seattle, deepening our relationships across movements and growing our collective power at the intersections of environmental, economic and racial justice.

Together, we won.

For the first year ever, Seattle didn’t grow its police budget.

Instead, we cut that budget by 18% and reinvested funds in our communities: housing, healthy environments, COVID relief and community-led solutions.
Raising our Voices on Climate Policy

Civic Action Team

Over 165 volunteers from 29 districts across the state made nearly 6,000 legislative contacts.

House Bill 2311 passed, amending state greenhouse gas emission limits for consistency with the most recent assessment of climate change science.

The 350 Washington Network formally came together after a retreat in August 2020. Twelve 350.org local groups in WA state have united — giving us more leverage to act in the years ahead.
Kicked off in January with actions at Chase branches in Seattle and DC, Stop the Money Pipeline (STMP) quickly grew to more than 150 organizations nationally.

350 Seattle staff help coordinate the coalition, and even in this tough year we held 4 in-person, safely distanced & masked actions to keep up the pressure.

In February, Chase (the world’s largest funder of fossil fuels) released a policy that restricted funding to some coal companies and Arctic drilling projects.

In April, STMP ran a hard-hitting campaign to get former Exxon CEO Lee Raymond removed from the Chase Board of Directors. By the end of the year, Chase had announced that he was leaving.

In October, Chase announced that it intends to align its business model with the Paris Agreement.

We need actions, not empty promises. Still, this is all a testament to the power we’ve helped build. Expect to see much more this year!
Racial Justice is Climate Justice

Our Solidarity Team evolved with two nodes, Immigration Justice and Indigenous Solidarity (primarily working on the Tacoma LNG campaign).

In the racial justice uprisings of the summer we doubled down on our support for the Movement for Black Lives: providing logistics, people, and resources.

We also ran a 4-part Racial Justice is Climate Justice Learning Series, attended by 347 people, to make sure we were bringing our supporters along with us.

We also deepened our community roots by seeding 43 neighborhood mutual aid pods.

We showed up in support of Amazon warehouse workers fighting for safer pandemic working conditions and paid time off to vote.

*Image Credit: Nikkita Oliver*
Art and Music Power the Movement

We found ways to create powerful, beautiful art in new (socially distant) ways, including banners and window paint for car actions, outdoor builds and photo opportunities, relay art creation at homes, virtual banners, art how-to videos, and Zoom song teach-ins.

The People’s Echo kept on making music (lyrics to one song on the right).
YEAR IN REVIEW

We’re Growing!

We trained 1,397 people in De-Escalation and Peacekeeping, Security Culture, Digital Security, Keeping yourself Healthy and Safe at a Protest, Take to the Streets, How Movements Can and Do Win, Demystifying Jail, and Legal Support.

We made at least 62,344 contacts with elected officials and powerholders (those are just the ones we were able to track)!

Our social media following grew to over 16,000 across Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.
2020 threw us for a loop — so we came full circle and threw it back. Difficult to gather safely in person? We’ll teach each other online. Health and economic woes? We’ll take care of each other in mutual aid pods and come together as never before behind the shared values of a Solidarity Budget. Major threats to democracy? We’ll prepare for that too.

We did all of this while never forgetting the overarching crisis helping to drive the more immediate ones, and *not* waiting for us as we attend to those. We know that climate change will bring more pandemics, economic crises, and other woes—and that they won’t be evenly distributed.

So we spent the year building relationships and building power. As the pandemic starts to fade, we’re better situated than ever before to fight for the world we need.

Even this year, our work was covered broadly, with scores of mentions: the New York Times, the Seattle Times, KUOW, Crosscut, the Guardian, and many more.
FINANCES

Revenue & Expense
Preliminary and Unaudited

Total Revenue: $1,145,852.44

Total Expenses: $700,836.25

Net: $445,016.19
THANK YOU!

All of this was only possible thanks to you!

We especially want to thank:

Leadership Team: Ahlay, Alice, Amanda, Andrew E., Andrew K., Anna, Ariadne, Austin, Barbara, Becca, Bee, Bob, Cody, David, Eliza, Grace, Hillary, Hogan, Jess, Katherine, Lucas, Margo, Michael, Neal, Paul, Rachel, Scott, Stacy, Sulakshana

Our other most active members, too many to name, but you know who you are!

Staff: Alec, Becca, Eliza, Emily, Grace, Jess, Lisa, Meg, Shemona, Val

Board: Barbara, Patrick, Peter, Rachel, Shemona

Donors: 931 donors, 365 monthly donors, 32 foundations, organizations, faith communities, and businesses that supported us

Our Supporters: 9,712 people on our email list who support this work by making calls, sending emails, showing up to hearings, joining actions, making art, and being the engine of everything that we do.

We’re grateful to every one of you!