



CloudNativeCon

**India 2024** 



# Fantastic KEPs & Where to Find them — A Guide to Kubernetes Enhancements!

### Who We Are



Mario Jason Braganza @jasonbraganza



Priyanka Saggu @psaggu

# Agenda

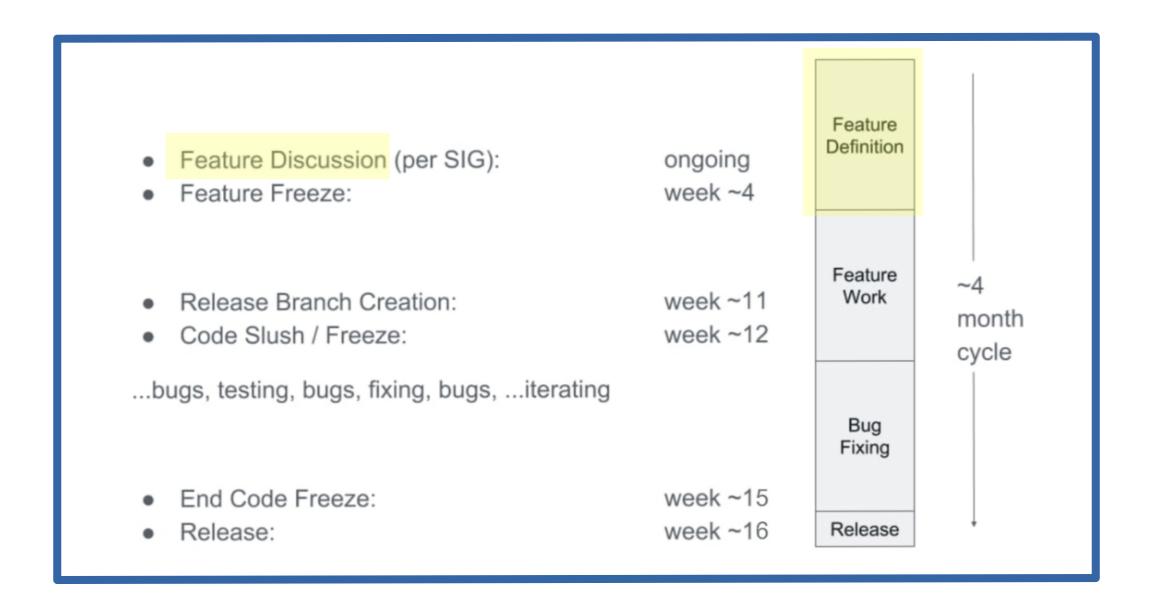
# Agenda

- Introduction: what is a KEP?
- KEPs come into being!
- Demo



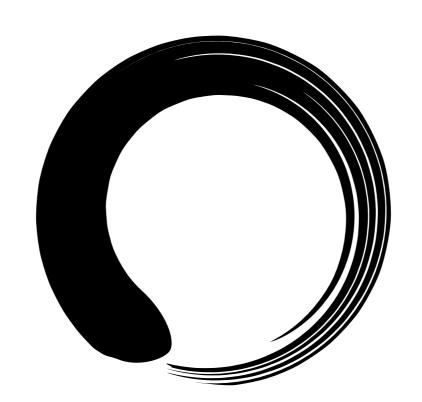


- We, Priyanka and Jason, have been involved in Kubernetes release cycles for years, taking on roles from shadow to Release Lead and Emeritus Advisor. While we've worked with Kubernetes Enhancement Proposals (KEPs) throughout this time, it wasn't until the 1.29 release, while prepping for press interviews, that we really dug into them—and wow, did we learn a lot!
- KEPs aren't just feature proposals; they give you a peek into the entire lifecycle of a feature—designs, alternatives, testing, and final code. They're a treasure trove for understanding Kubernetes, whether you're new or a seasoned contributor.
- We'll walk you through some real KEPs and share our approach to reading and making sense of them.
- If you're curious about Kubernetes and want to explore its features more deeply, join us. There's so much to discover, and we're excited to share what we've learned with you!



### Not Just Feature Proposals

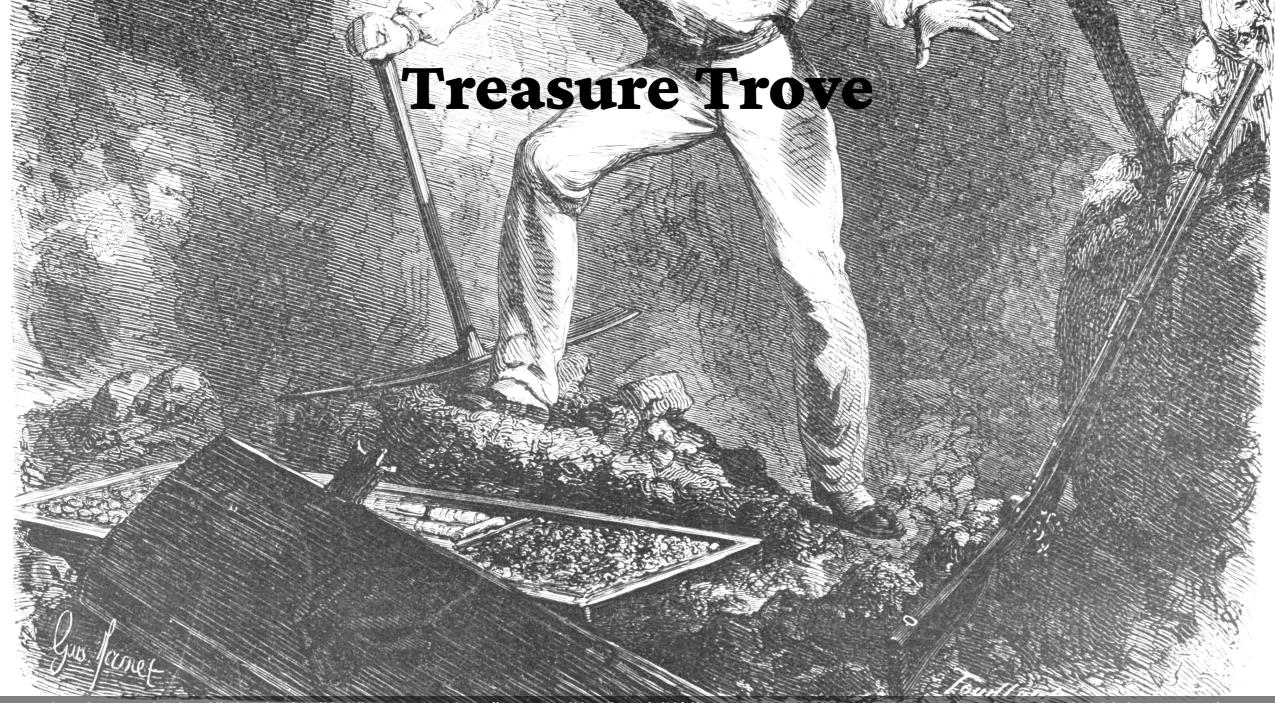
Designs

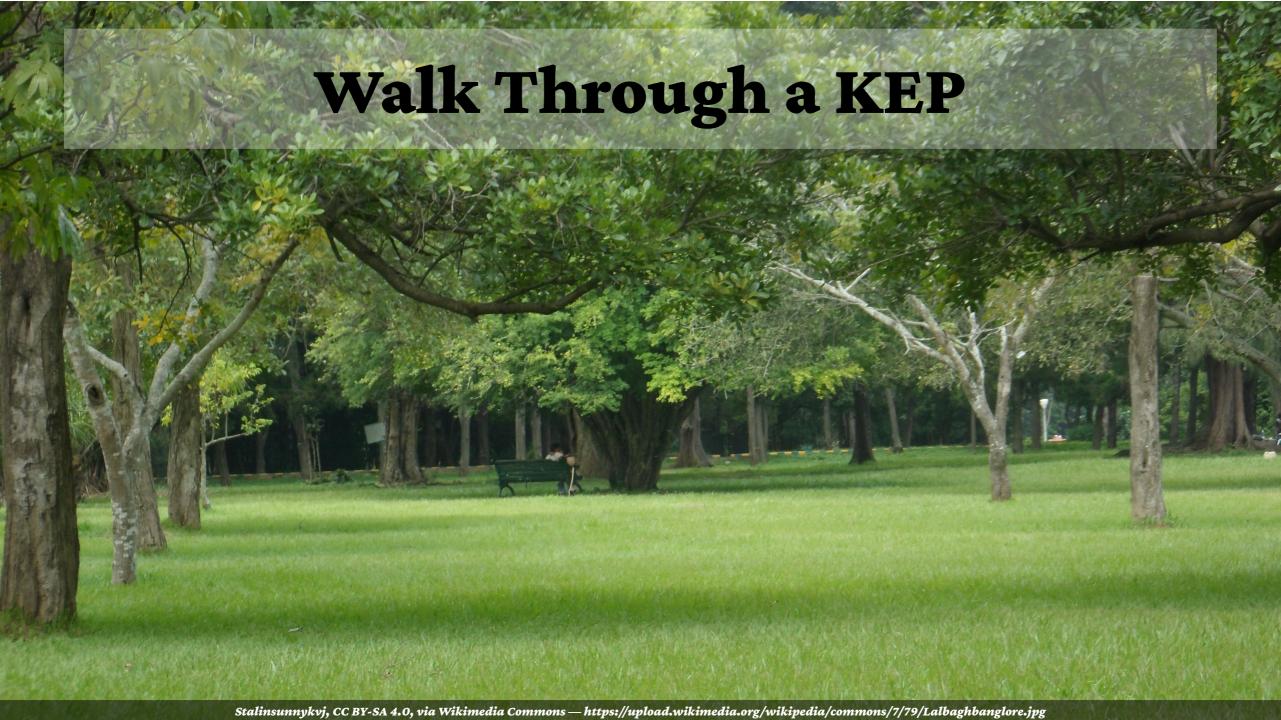


Alternatives

Final Code

Testing









# Benefits to the Eco-system!

- One of the biggest benefits of understanding Kubernetes Enhancement Proposals (KEPs) is that you get to see the entire lifecycle of a major change in the Kubernetes project.
- Whether it's a new feature, a deprecation, or a significant update, every impactful change in Kubernetes starts with a KEP. These documents track the progress of the enhancement across multiple releases, so you can follow along, understand the rationale behind decisions, and see how it all comes together in the code.
- This process isn't just for Kubernetes; it's a model that many other projects follow too. For example, Python has PEPs (Python Enhancement Proposals), and Go has its Design Proposals. By getting comfortable with KEPs, you're also building a skill set that's transferable to other major open-source projects, especially those under CNCF.
- Plus, by diving into KEPs, you can contribute more effectively. You'll know how to provide valuable feedback, suggest improvements, or even become an active part of the implementation. It's a fantastic way to get more involved in the community and make a real impact.

### See the Lifecycle of a Major Change

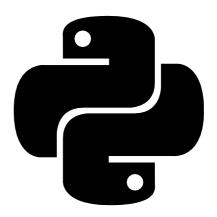


# KEP Process

**Feature** Deprecation Update Any impactful change

### Not just Kubernetes









# Dive into Keps!

Contribute More Effectively Provide Feedback Suggest Improvements Active Part of the Implementation



## Let's Start at the Very Beginning

#### Note to Handout Readers:

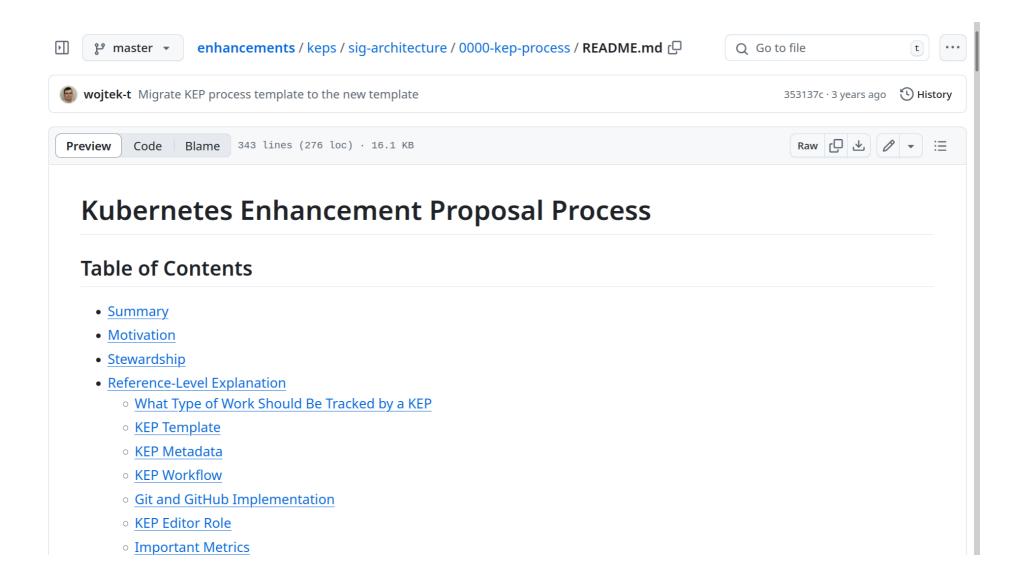
From here onwards, the video explains the text in the screenshots below. Or please find detailed links to the source at the bottom of most slides

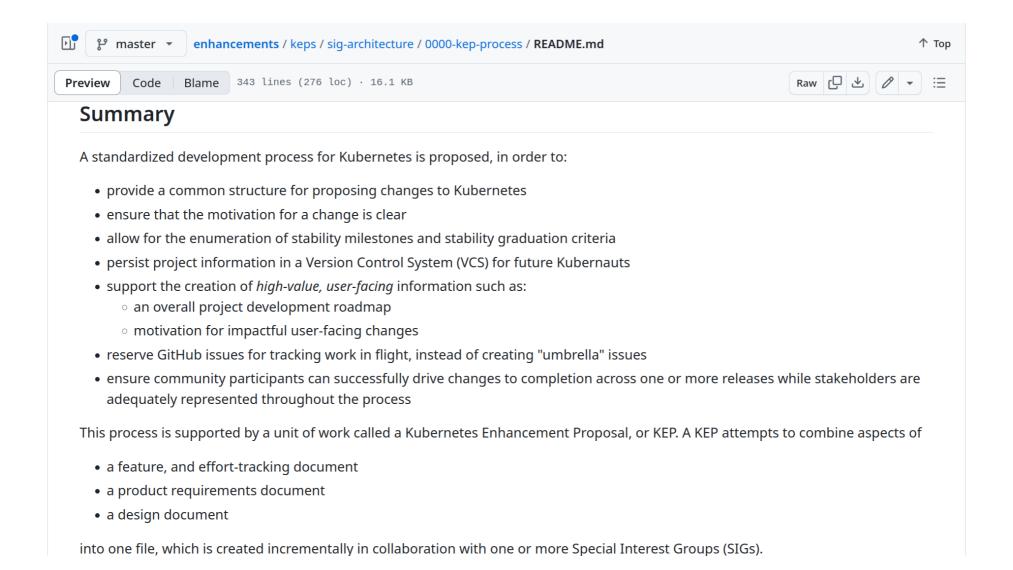
# Just WHAT is a KEP?

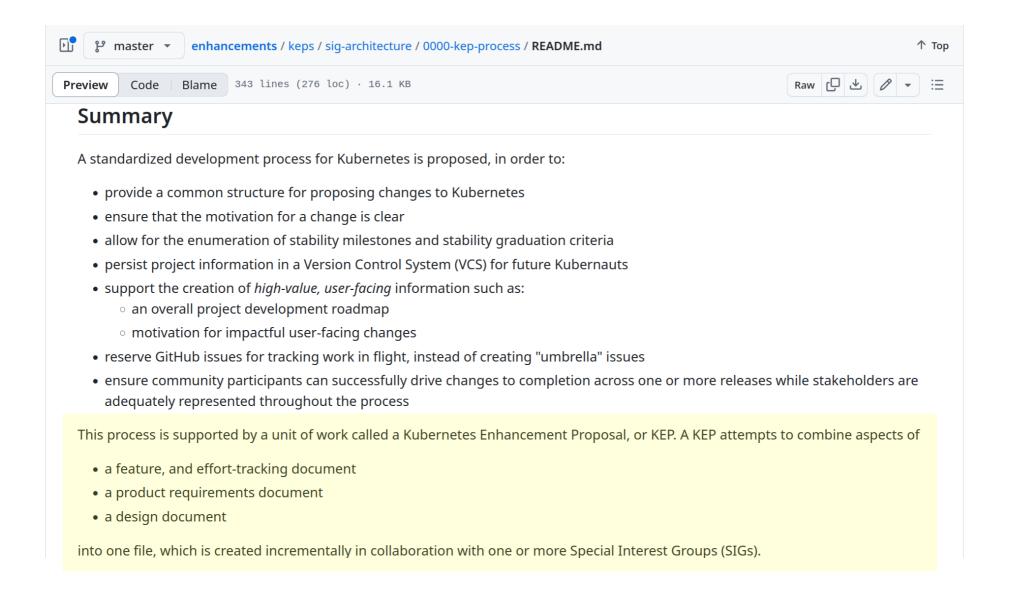
### Guess What?

#### **KEP-000**

That's documented in a KEP too!







This process is supported by a unit of work called a Kubernetes Enhancement Proposal, or KEP. A KEP attempts to combine aspects of

- a feature, and effort-tracking document
- a product requirements document
- a design document

into one file, which is created incrementally in collaboration with one or more Special Interest Groups (SIGs).

The purpose of the KEP process is to reduce the amount of "tribal knowledge" in our community. By moving decisions from a smattering of mailing lists, video calls and hallway conversations into a well tracked artifact, this process aims to enhance communication and discoverability.

A KEP is broken into sections which can be merged into source control incrementally in order to support an iterative development process. An important goal of the KEP process is ensuring that the process for submitting the content contained in <u>design proposals</u> is both clear and efficient. The KEP process is intended to create high-quality, uniform design and implementation documents for SIGs to deliberate.

Workstream	Driver	Approver	Contributor	Informed
KEP Process Stewardship			SIG Leadership	Community
Enhancement Delivery	Enhancement Owner	SIG leadership (SIG Chairs + TLs)	Enhancement Implementer(s) (may overlap with Driver)	Community

Workstream	Driver	Approver	Contributor	Informed
KEP Process Stewardship			SIG Leadership	Community
Enhancement Delivery	Enhancement Owner	SIG leadership (SIG Chairs + TLs)	Enhancement Implementer(s) (may overlap with Driver)	Community

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# Stewardship

The following DACI model identifies the responsible parties for KEPs.

Workstream	Driver	Approver	Contributor	Informed
KEP Process Stewardship			SIG Leadership	Community
Enhancement Delivery	Enhancement Owner	SIG leadership (SIG Chairs + TLs)	Enhancement Implementer(s) (may overlap with Driver)	Community



The definition of what constitutes an "enhancement" is a foundational concern for the Kubernetes project. Roughly any Kubernetes user or operator facing enhancement should follow the KEP process. If an enhancement would be described in either written or verbal communication to anyone besides the KEP author or developer, then consider creating a KEP.

Similarly, any technical effort (refactoring, major architectural change) that will impact a large section of the development community should also be communicated widely. The KEP process is suited for this even if it will have zero impact on the typical user or operator.

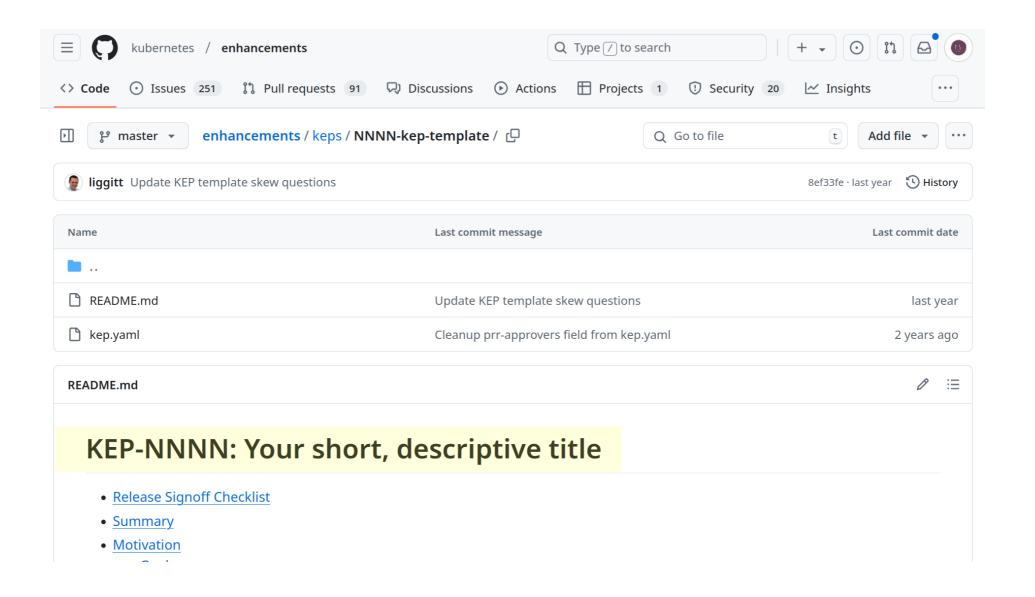
KEPs will also be used to drive large changes that will cut across all parts of the project. These KEPs will be owned by SIG-architecture and should be seen as a way to communicate the most fundamental aspects of what Kubernetes is.

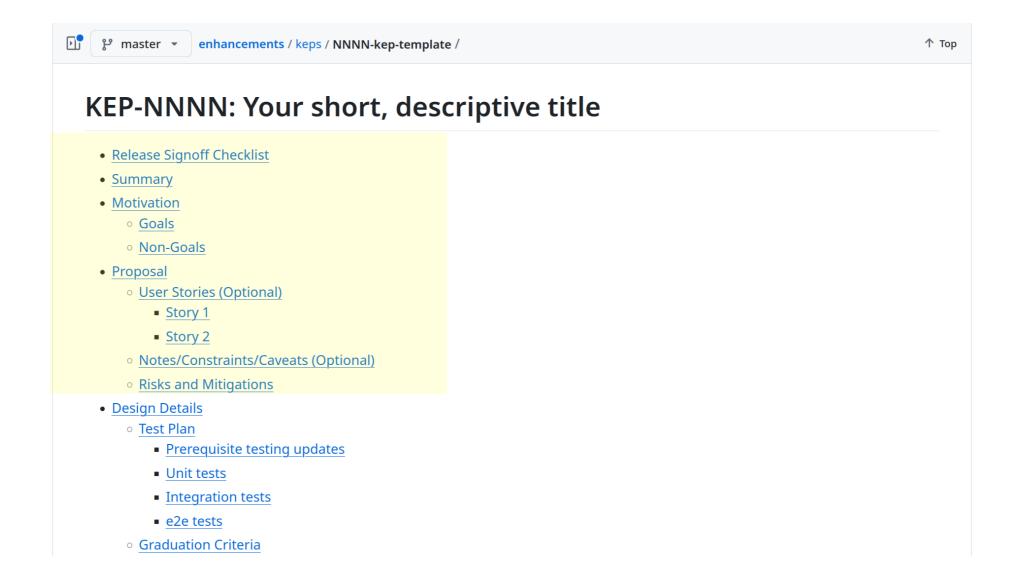
As the local bodies of governance, SIGs should have broad latitude in describing what constitutes an enhancement that should be tracked through the KEP process. SIGs may find it more helpful to enumerate what *does not* require a KEP, than what does. SIGs also have the freedom to customize the KEP template according to their SIG-specific concerns. For example, the KEP template used to track API changes will likely have different subsections than the template for proposing governance changes. However, as changes start impacting other SIGs or the larger developer community outside of a SIG, the KEP process should be used to coordinate and communicate.

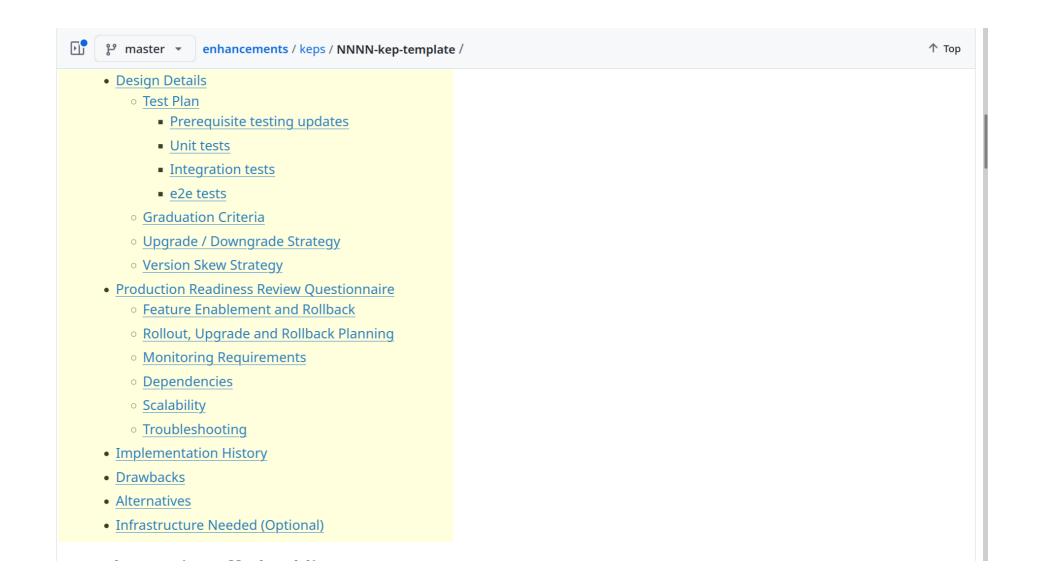
# **KEP Template**

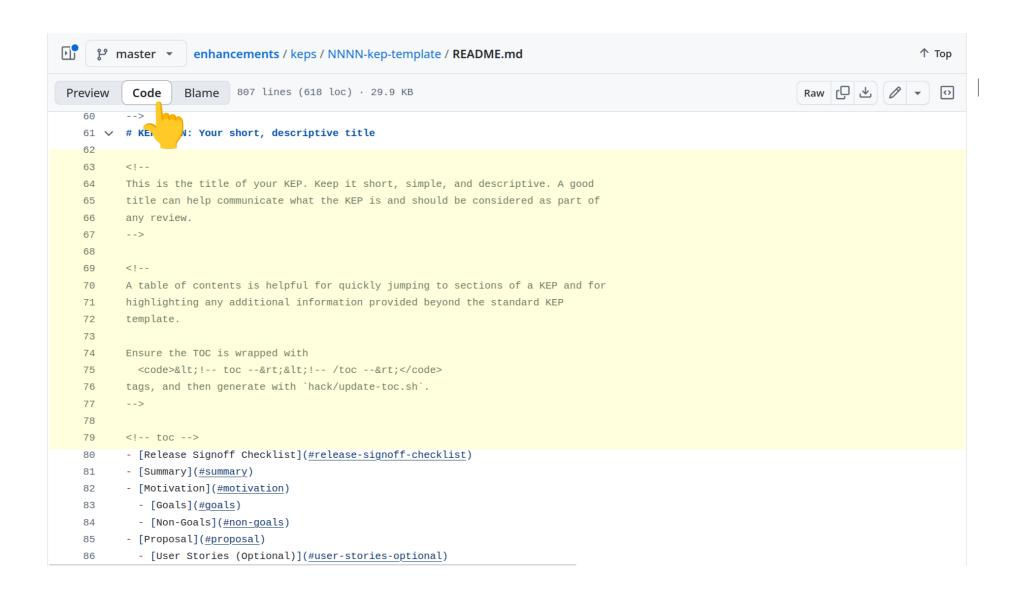
The template for a KEP is precisely defined <u>here</u>.

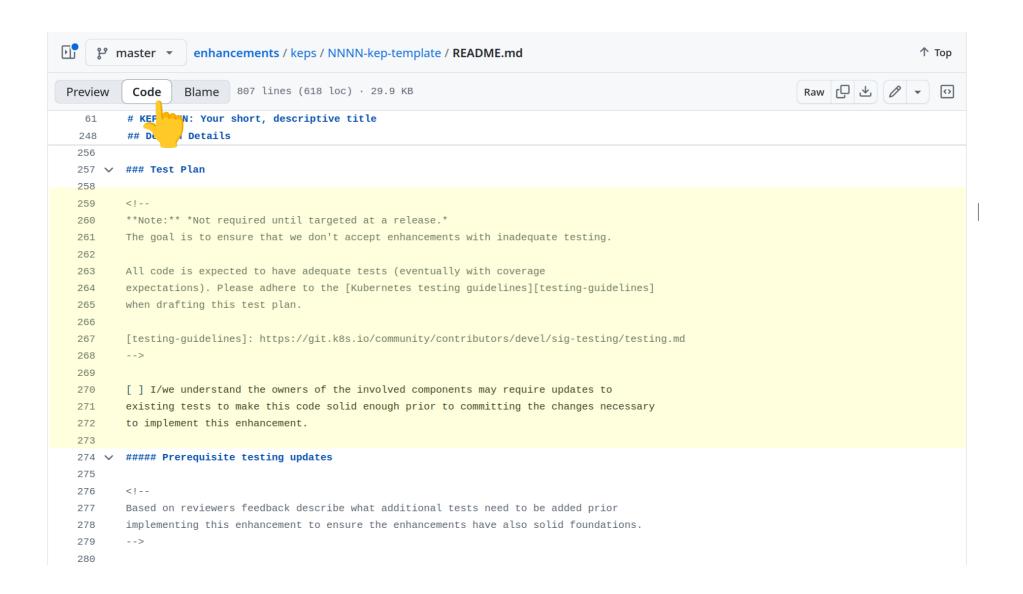






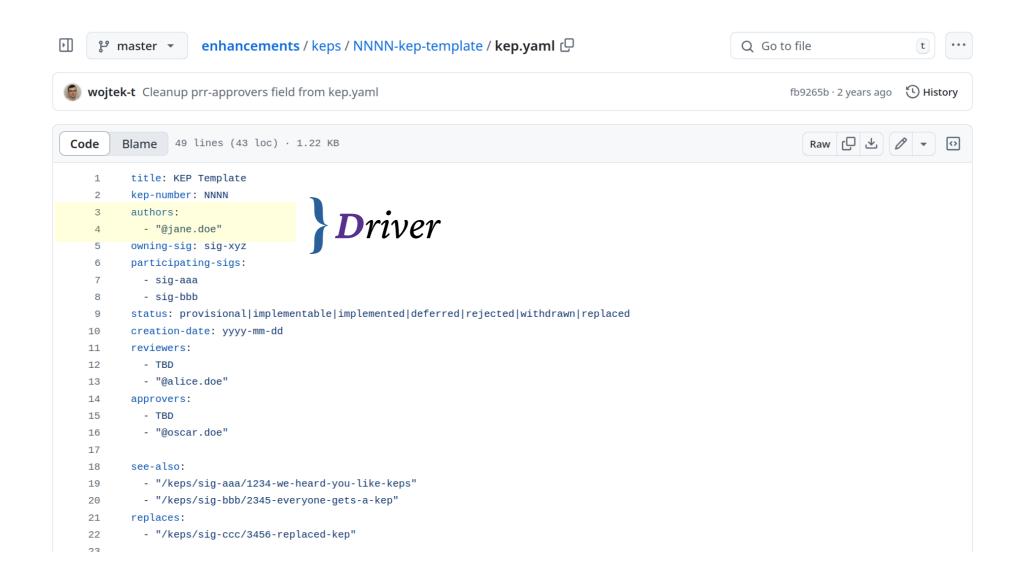


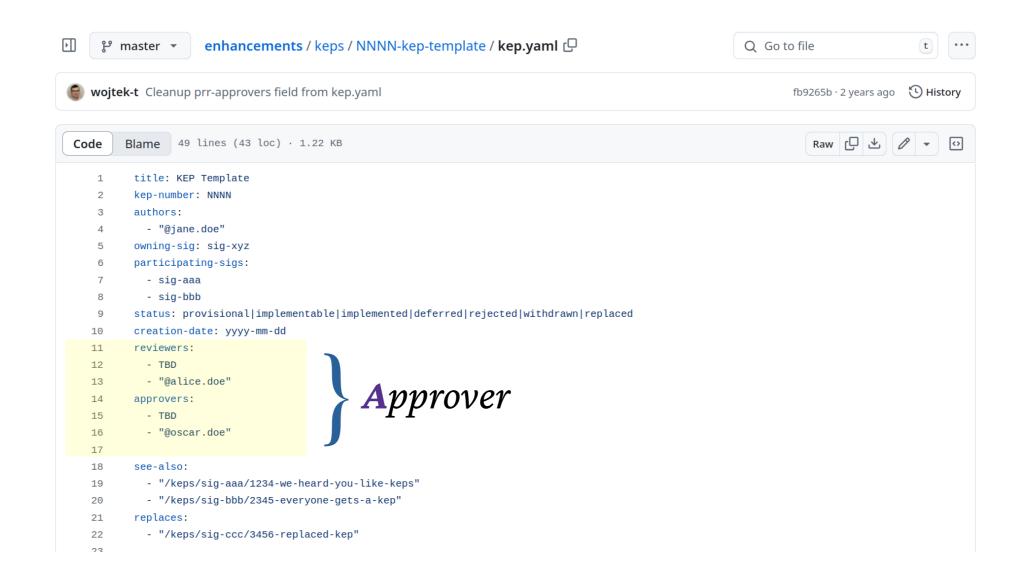


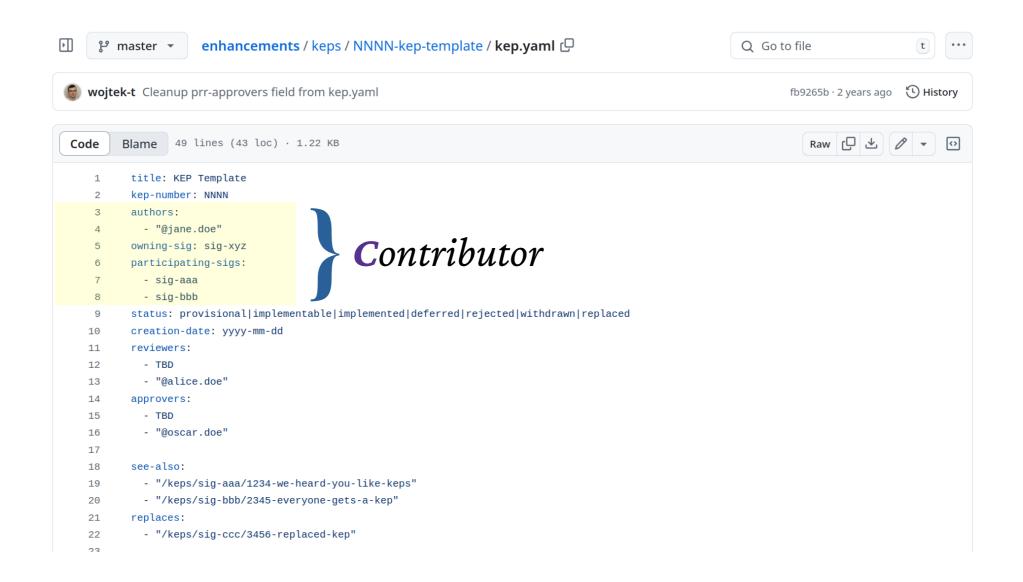


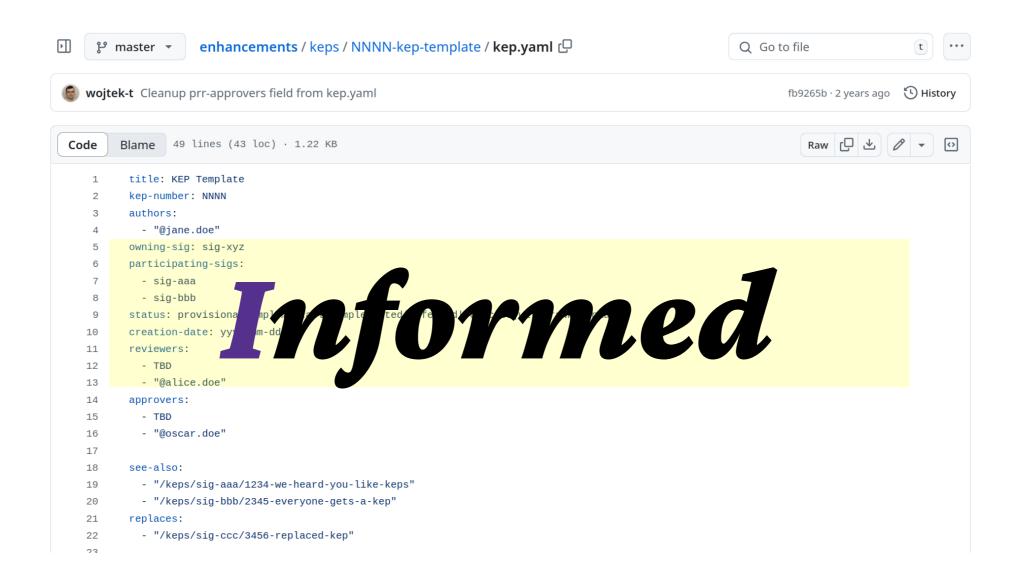
## **KEP Metadata**

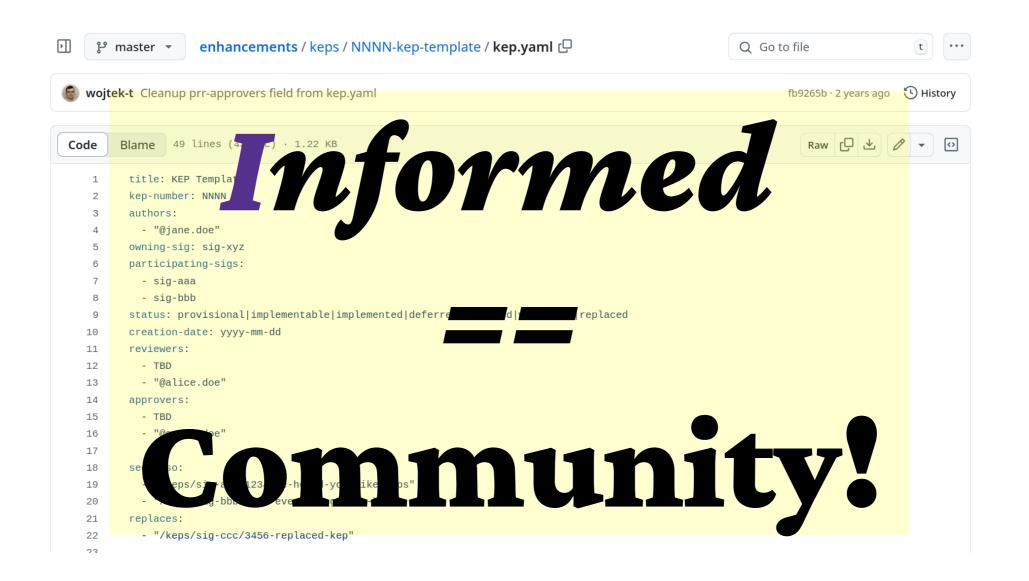
There is a place in each KEP for a YAML document that has standard metadata. This will be used to support tooling around filtering and display. It is also critical to clearly communicate the status of a KEP.

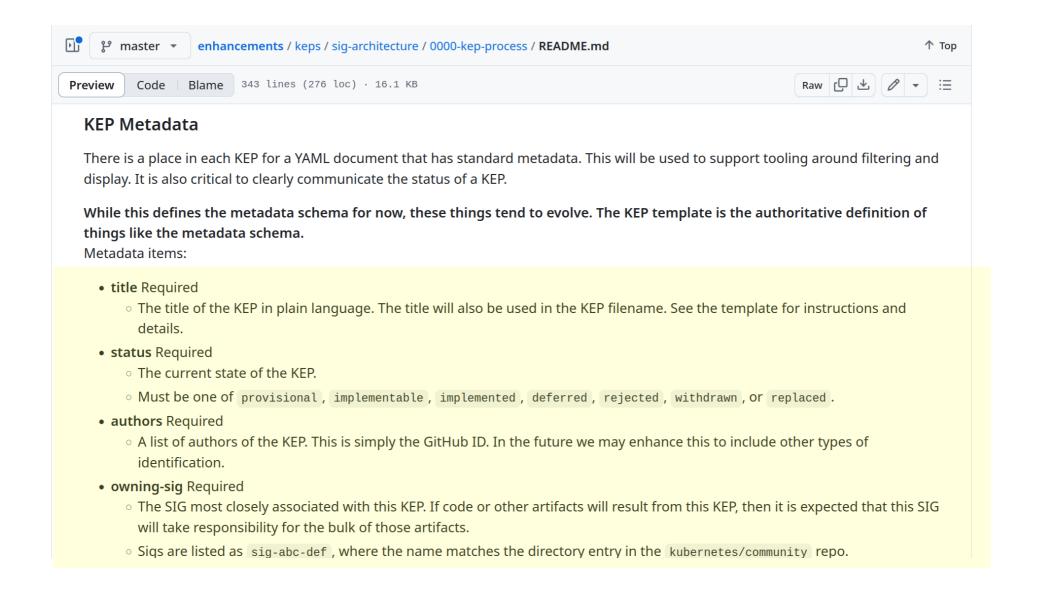


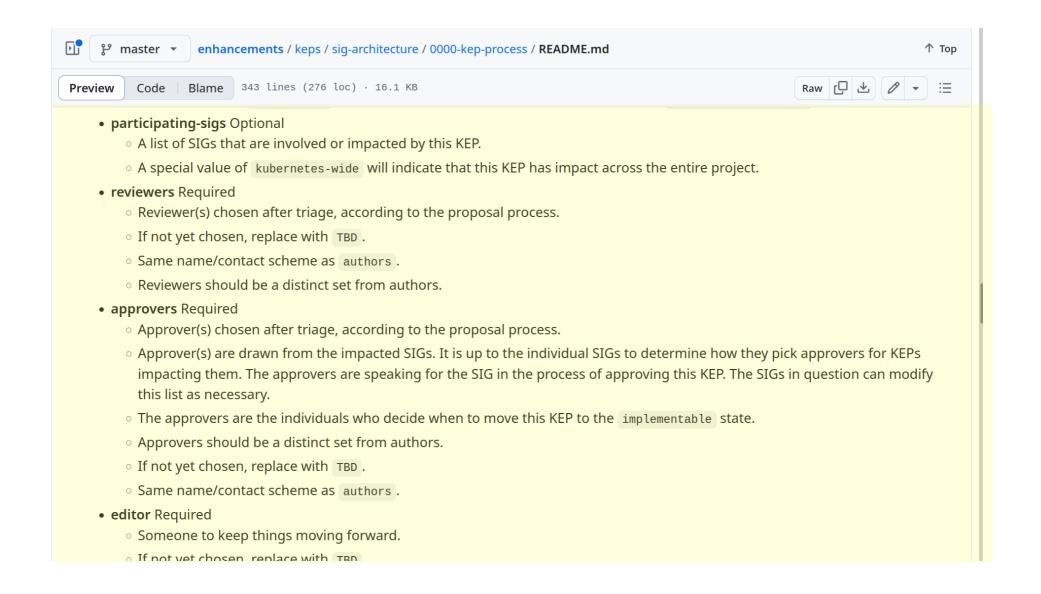


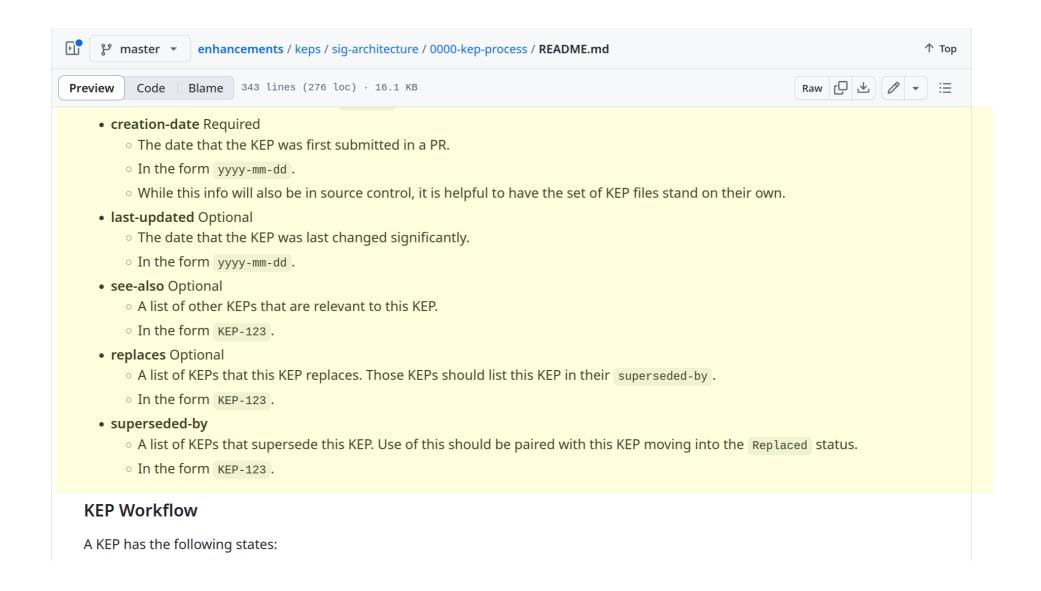












# Where to Find them!

## **Git and GitHub Implementation**

KEPs are checked into the Enhancements repo under the <code>/keps directory.</code> KEPs in SIG specific subdirectories have limited impact outside of the SIG and can leverage SIG-specific OWNERS files.

New KEPs can be checked in with a file name in the form of <code>draft-YYYYMMDD-my-title.md</code>. As significant work is done on the KEP, the authors can assign a KEP number. No other changes should be put in that PR so that it can be approved quickly and minimize merge conflicts. The KEP number can also be done as part of the initial submission if the PR is likely to be uncontested and merged quickly.

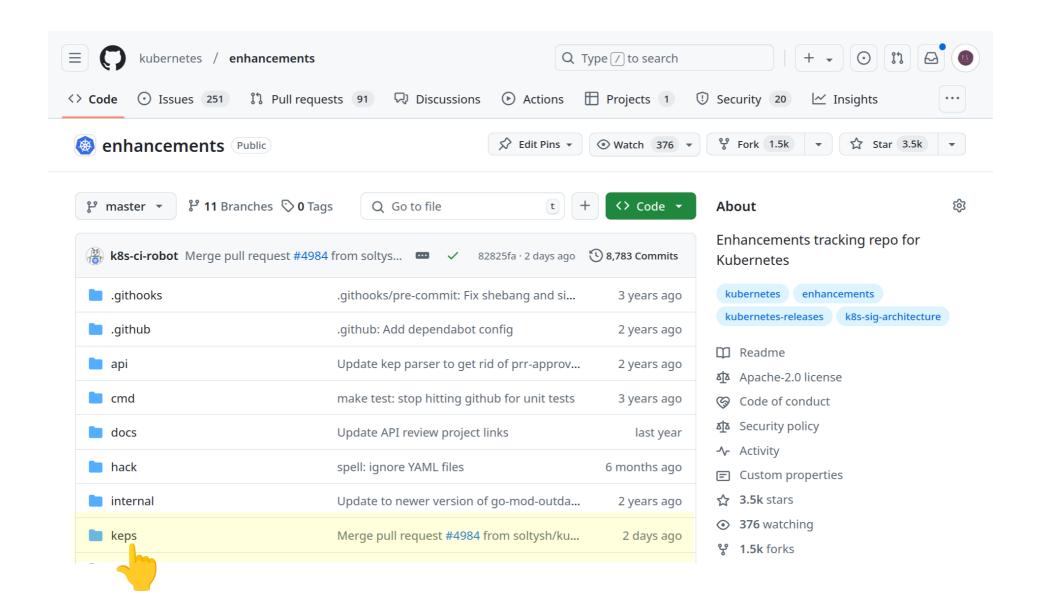
## **Git and GitHub Implementation**

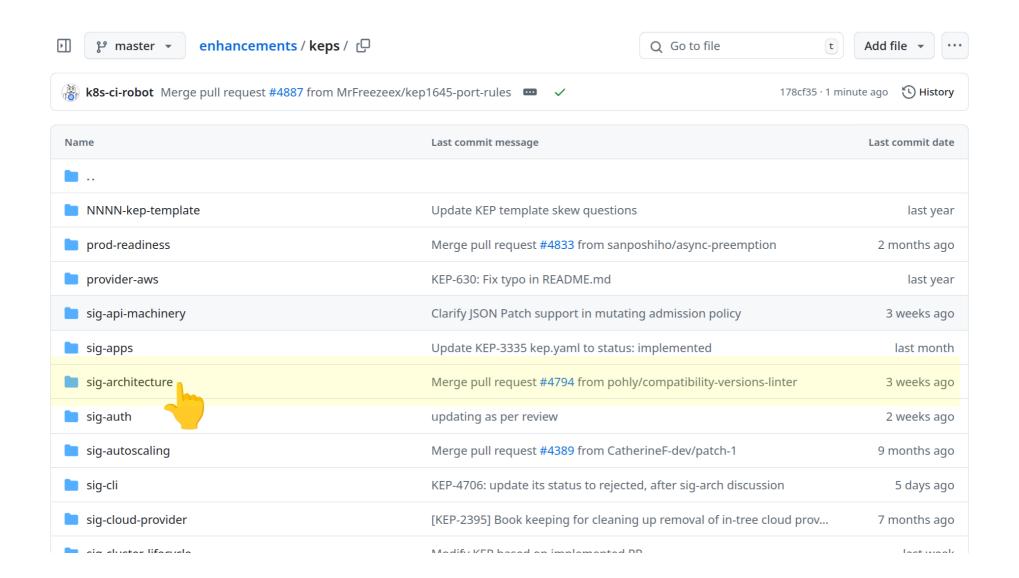
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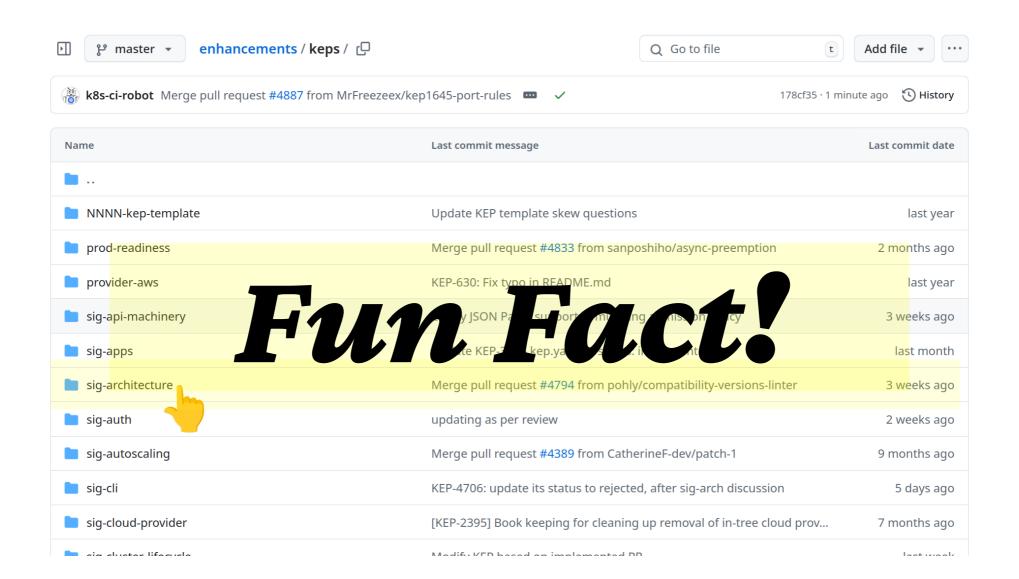
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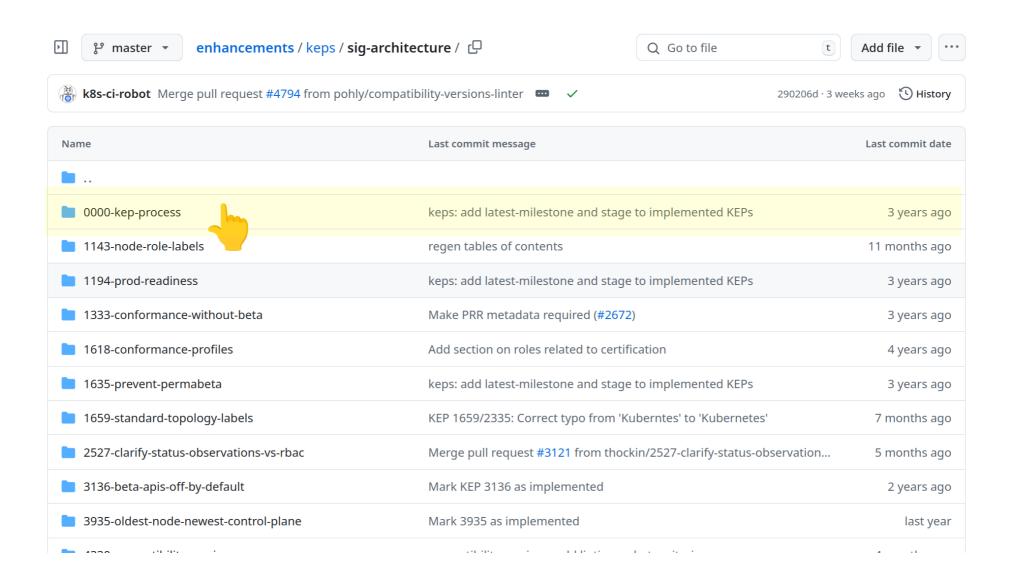
# House of the Kubernetes Enhancements:

git.k8s.io/enhancements/keps











Kubernetes 1.32 Release Information

Default Branch Migration

Services and Requests

**Enhancements** 

These data come from the kubernetes/enhancements repository on GitHub.

To see the original Enhancement issue, click on the KEP number. To see a summary of what the KEP does, click on the Title.

If you notice an empty cell in the table, the KEP may not have updated information. Please raise an issue in the kubernetes/enhancements repository.

# www.kubernetes.dev/resources/keps/

KEP Number	Title	SIG	Author	Created	Last Updated	Milestone *
95	Graduate CustomResourceDefinitions to GA	API Machinery	@jpbetz , @roycaihw , @sttts	2018-04-15	2018-04-24	
365	Paginated API Lists	API Machinery	@smarterclayton , @wojtek-t	2017-08-29		alpha:v1.8 beta:v1.9 stable:v1.29
492	Graduate Admission Webhooks to GA	API Machinery	@mbohlool	2019-01-27	2019-02-04	
555	Annly	ΔDΙ	Manelicce Miefftree	<b>フ</b> Ⴖ1㎏₋೧マ₋フ㎏	2021-09-21	alnhaw <b>1 1</b> 4

Events

Q Search this site...

#### Resources

Community Calendar Services and Requests Kubernetes 1.32 Release Information

Default Branch Migration

#### **Enhancements**

### **Kubernetes Enhancement Proposals (KEPs)**

Blog

List of Kubernetes enhancements

These data come from the kubernetes/enhancements repository on GitHub.

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If you notice an empty cell in the table, the KEP may not have updated information. Please raise an issue in the kubernetes/enhancements repository.

#### **KEP List**



# <end>0000-kep-process </end>

# Kubernetes Feature (enhancement) stages!

# or ...

# KEP stages!

# Feature stages

A feature can be in *Alpha, Beta* or *GA* stage.

### An *Alpha* feature means:

- Disabled by default.
- Might be buggy. Enabling the feature may expose bugs.
- Support for feature may be dropped at any time without notice.
- The API may change in incompatible ways in a later software release without notice.
- Recommended for use only in short-lived testing clusters, due to increased risk of bugs and lack of long-term support.

### An *Alpha* feature means:

- Disabled by default.
- Might be buggy. Enabling the feature may expose bugs.
- Support for feature may be dropped at any time without notice.
- The API may change in incompatible ways in a later software release without notice.
- --feature-gates = ..., YourAlphaFeatureGate=true

increased risk of bugs and lack of long-term support.

### A *Beta* feature means:

- Usually enabled by default. Beta API groups are disabled by default.
- The feature is well tested. Enabling the feature is considered safe.
- Support for the overall feature will not be dropped, though details may change.

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# https://kubernetes.io/docs/reference/using-api/ #enabling-or-disabling 👆

A *General Availability* (GA) feature is also referred to as a *stable* feature. It means:

- The feature is always enabled; you cannot disable it.
- The corresponding feature gate is no longer needed.
- Stable versions of features will appear in released software for many subsequent versions.

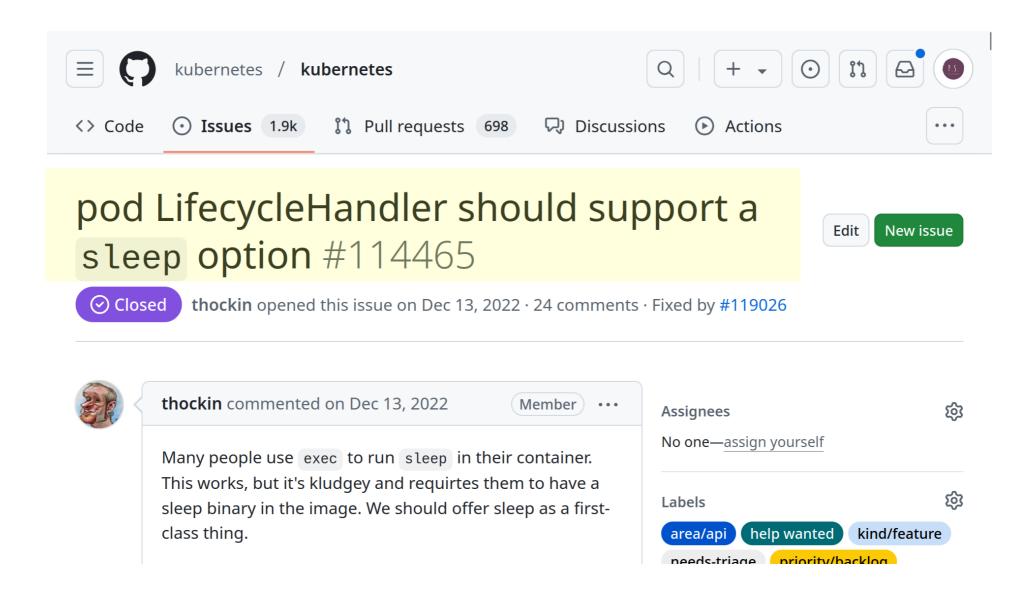
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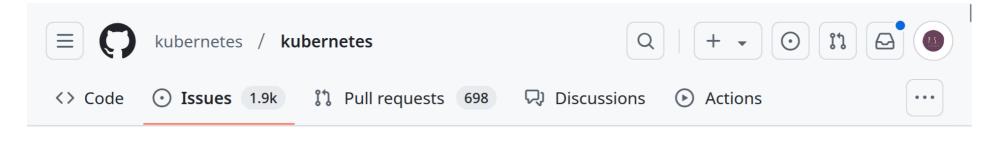
- The feature is always enabled; you cannot disable it.
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# THEORY ENDS!

# Let's see an actual Kubernetes Enhancement Proposal

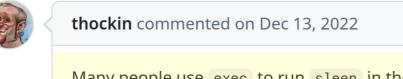
# from its inception ... to its fruition!



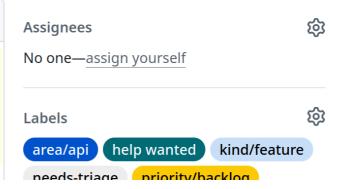








Many people use exec to run sleep in their container. This works, but it's kludgey and requirtes them to have a sleep binary in the image. We should offer sleep as a first-class thing.



Member · · ·

```
Pods-lifecycle-events-yaml-before-sleep-handler.yaml
apiVersion: v1
kind: Pod
metadata:
 name: lifecycle-demo
spec:
 containers:
  - name: lifecycle-demo-container
    image: myimage
    lifecycle:
     preStop:
         exec:
          command: ["/bin/sh", "-c", "while true; do sleep 10; done"]
```

```
Pods-lifecycle-events-yaml-with-sleep-handler.yaml
apiVersion: v1
kind: Pod
metadata:
 name: lifecycle-demo
spec:
  containers:
  - name: lifecycle-demo-container
    image: myimage
    lifecycle:
      preStop:
        sleep:
          seconds: 10
```



thockin opened this issue on Dec 13, 2022 · 24 comments · Fixed by #119026

aojea commented on Dec 16, 2022

Member

• • •

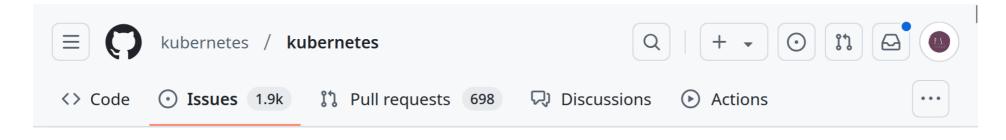
It's kind of a hack, but it's what people are doing today and it works.

this sounds like a house of bugs for sig-node and sig-network, is not only the impact on the pod lifecycle that is worrysome, because there still a lot more work to have it completely right:

#113606 #113717

regressions that went unnoticed during several releases

more user stories from the community ...

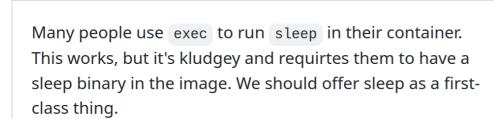




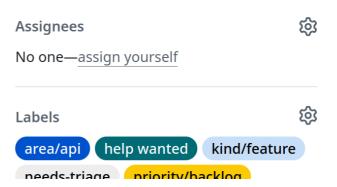


thockin opened this issue on Dec 13, 2022 · 24 comments · Fixed by #119026





thockin commented on Dec 13, 2022





Member · · ·



**thockin** opened this issue on Dec 13, 2022 · 24 comments · Fixed by #119026

#### AxeZhan commented on Mar 29, 2023

Member

• • •

I'd like to try to solve this issue.

This looks challenging, so I'm a little afraid, if I drop out, someone else is welcome to take over.

But I got some questions as I never wrote KEP before.

- 1. How to determine the 4 digits in front of kep
- 2. Does this need a feature gate ? I read the document and it says we can simply add a new field. Do you mean we should add a feature gate, and make this feature default false in alpha?
- 3. For which sig should I put the KEP? sig/node?



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- 1. How to determine the 4 digits in front of kep 😂
- 2. Does this need a feature gate ? I read the document and it says we can simply add

a new field.Do you mean we should add a feature gate, and make this feature

People with time, bandwidth, and expertise/willing to learn, to get the work going.



thockin opened this issue on Dec 13, 2022 · 24 comments · Fixed by #119026

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Member

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thockin opened this issue on Dec 13, 2022 · 24 comments · Fixed by #119026

How to determine the 4 digits in front of kep

Open an issue - whatever issue number you get is your KEP number.

Does this need a feature gate? I read the document and it says we can simply add a new field.Do you mean we should add a feature gate, and make this feature default false in alpha?

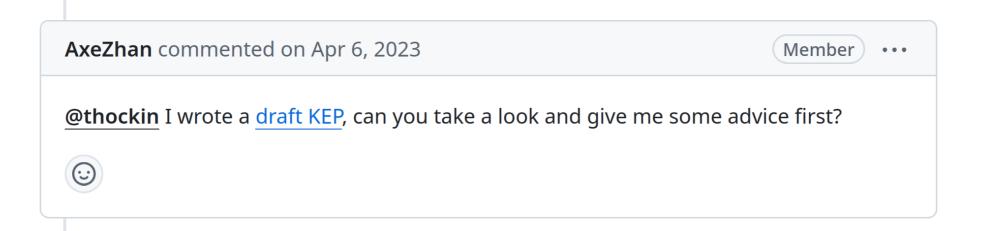
All new APIs need at least one alpha release. We can debate whether it needs a beta release, but alpha is a requirement.

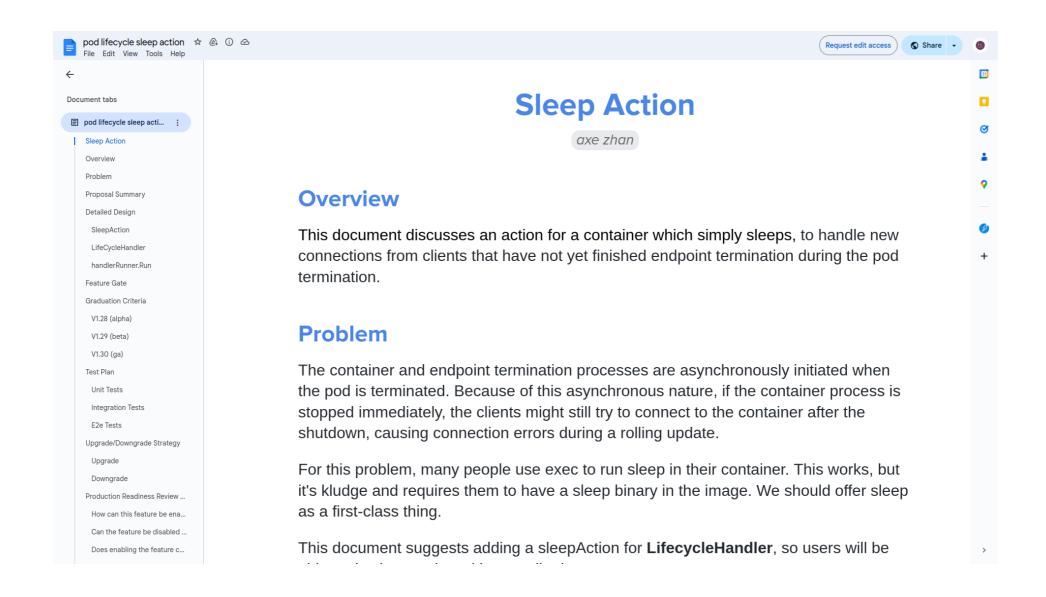
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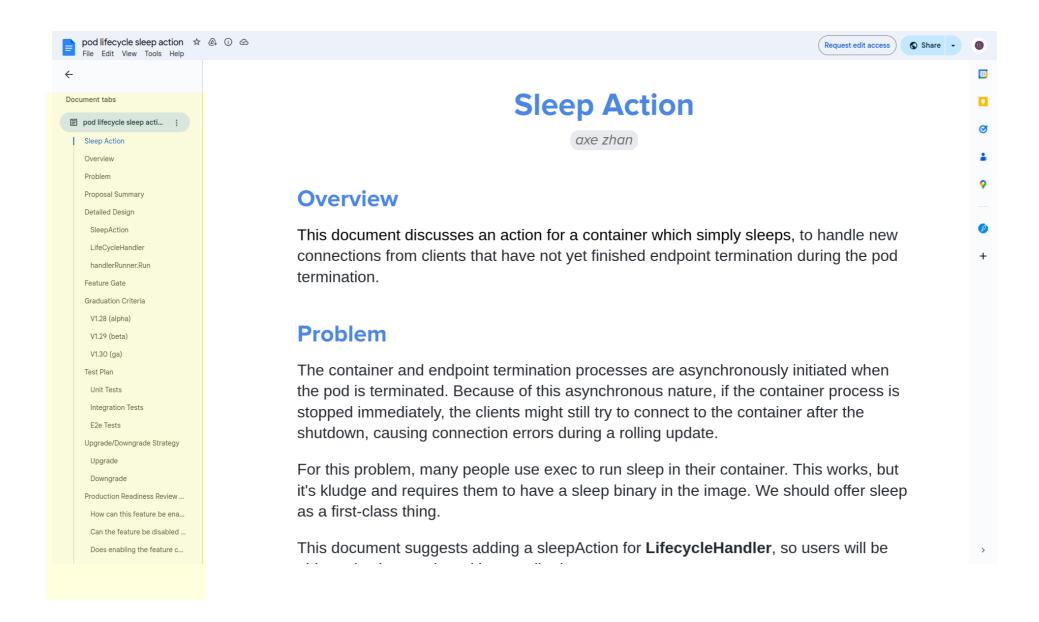
yes



thockin opened this issue on Dec 13, 2022 · 24 comments · Fixed by #119026









thockin opened this issue on Dec 13, 2022 · 24 comments · Fixed by #119026

<u>@thockin</u> I've updated the doc. Added some test plan and Production Readiness Review. PTAL. If it's ok I'll create a KEP based on this doc later some time.

https://docs.google.com/document/ d/1IOXSBlzXQwPddOgqF5LIX4F9TwyATSSUrjLCgU1-Zhs/edit#heading=h.51a06ysnxedv



thockin commented on Apr 21, 2023 via email ☑ Member Author · · ·

Go for KEP



thockin opened this issue on Dec 13, 2022 · 24 comments · Fixed by #119026



This was referenced on Apr 22, 2023

**Introducing Sleep Action for PreStop Hook** kubernetes/ enhancements#3960



**KEP-3960: Introducing Sleep Action for PreStop Hook** kubernetes/enhancements#3961





AxeZhan mentioned this issue on Jul 3, 2023





### **Introducing Sleep Action for PreStop Hook** #3960

**AxeZhan** opened this issue on Apr 22, 2023 · 81 comments

### **Enhancement Description**

- One-line enhancement description (can be used as a release note): Add Sleep Action for PreStop Hook
- Kubernetes Enhancement Proposal: <a href="https://github.com/kubernetes/">https://github.com/kubernetes/</a> enhancements/blob/master/keps/sig-node/3960-pod-lifecycle-sleep-action/
- Discussion Link:
  - related issue
  - google doc
- Primary contact (assignee): <a href="mailto:@AxeZhan">@AxeZhan</a> <a href="mailto:@AxeZhan">@charles-chenzz</a>
- Responsible SIGs: sig-node
- Enhancement target (which target equals to which milestone):
  - Alpha release target (x.y): 1.29



thockin opened this issue on Dec 13, 2022 · 24 comments · Fixed by #119026



This was referenced on Apr 22, 2023

Introducing Sleep Action for PreStop Hook kubernetes/ enhancements#3960



**KEP-3960: Introducing Sleep Action for PreStop Hook** kubernetes/enhancements#3961

**№** Merged



AxeZhan mentioned this issue on Jul 3, 2023



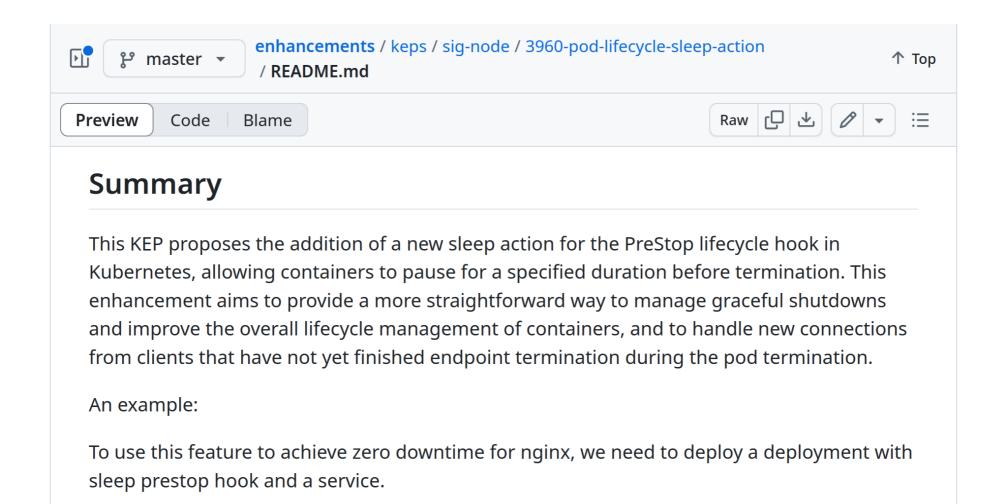


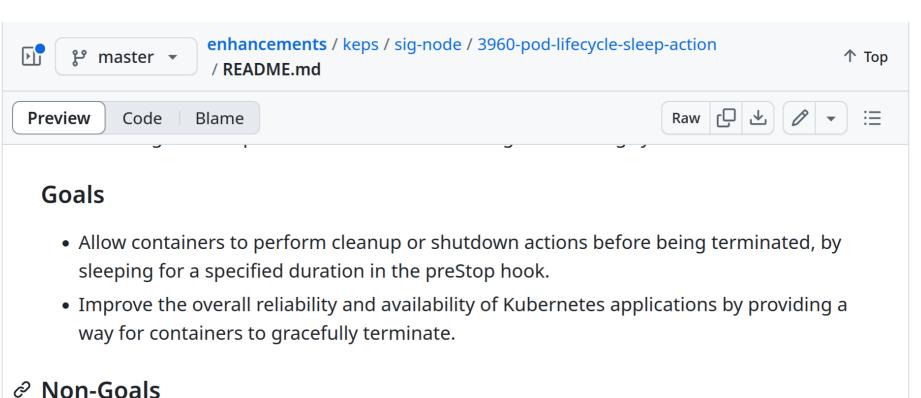
### **Introducing Sleep Action for PreStop Hook** #3960

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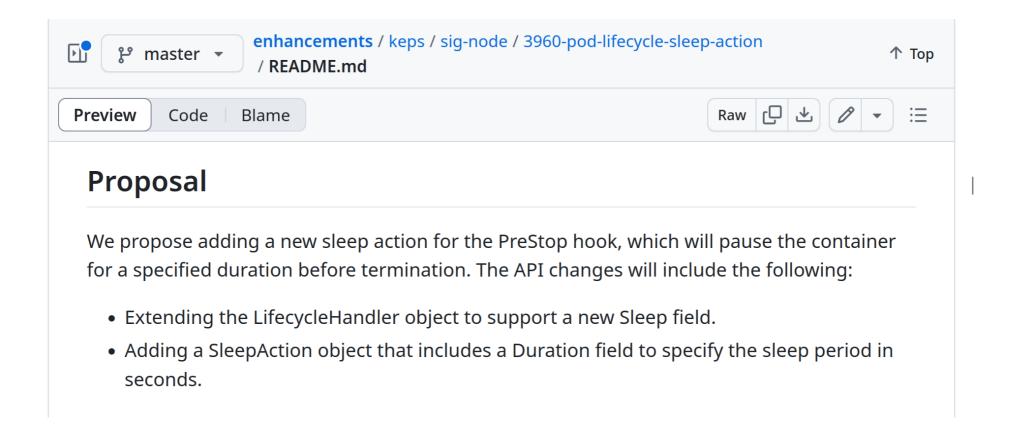
- Alpha

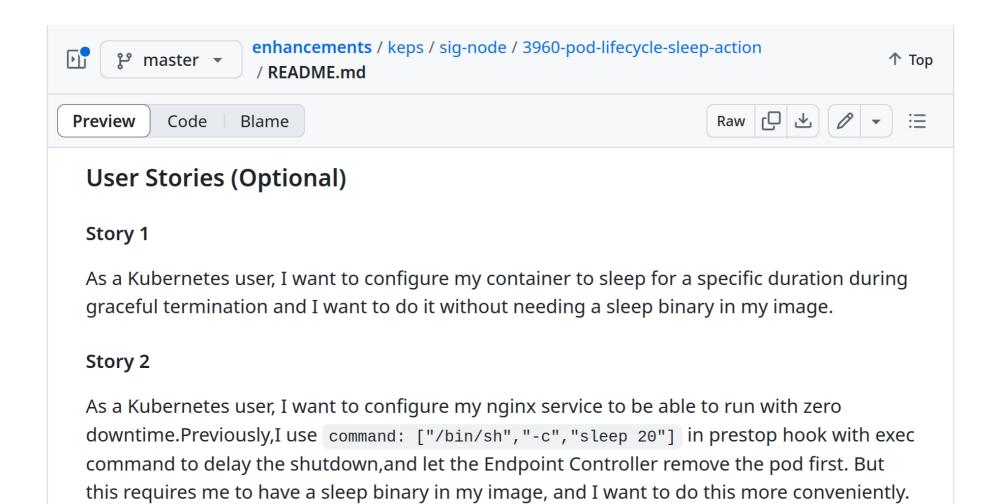
  - ✓ Docs (k/website) update PR(s): № Add information about PodLifecycleSleepAction (KEP3960) website#43428

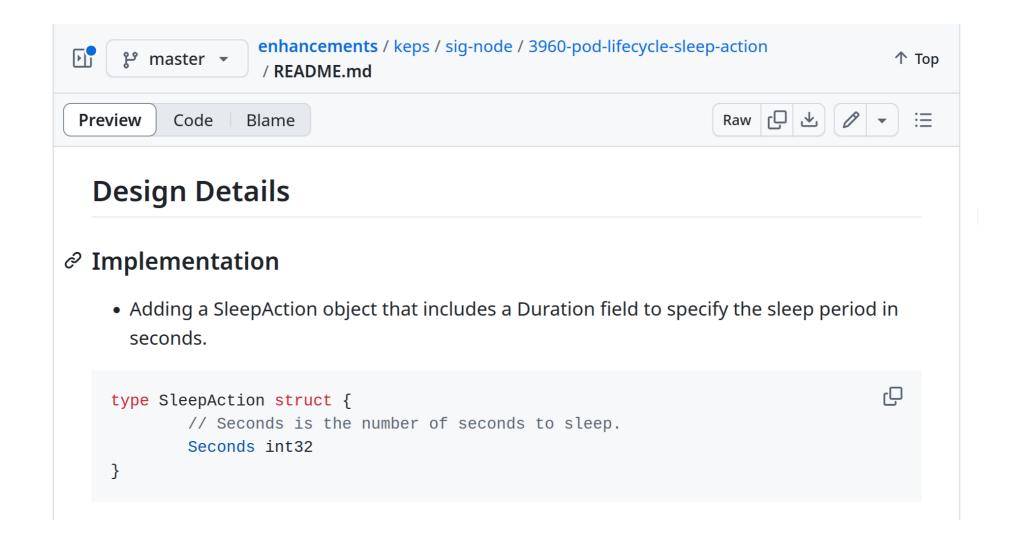


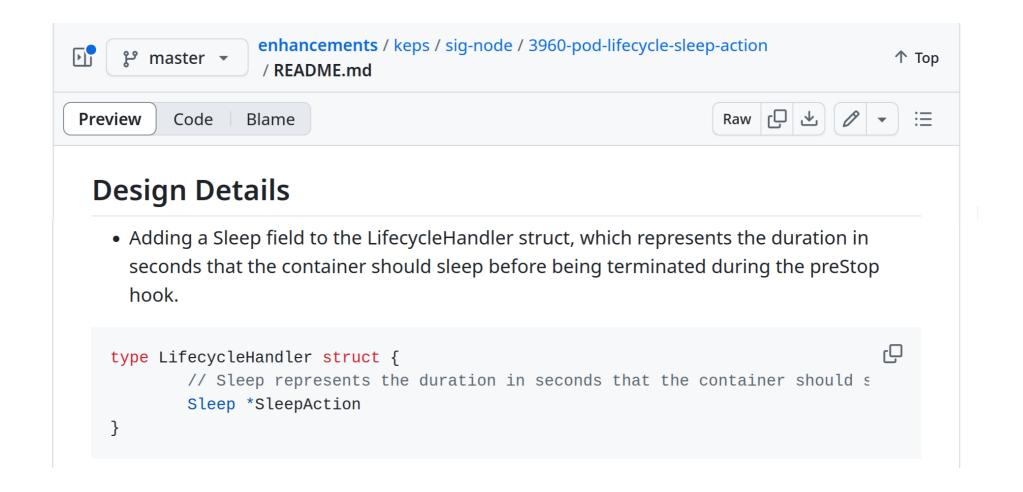


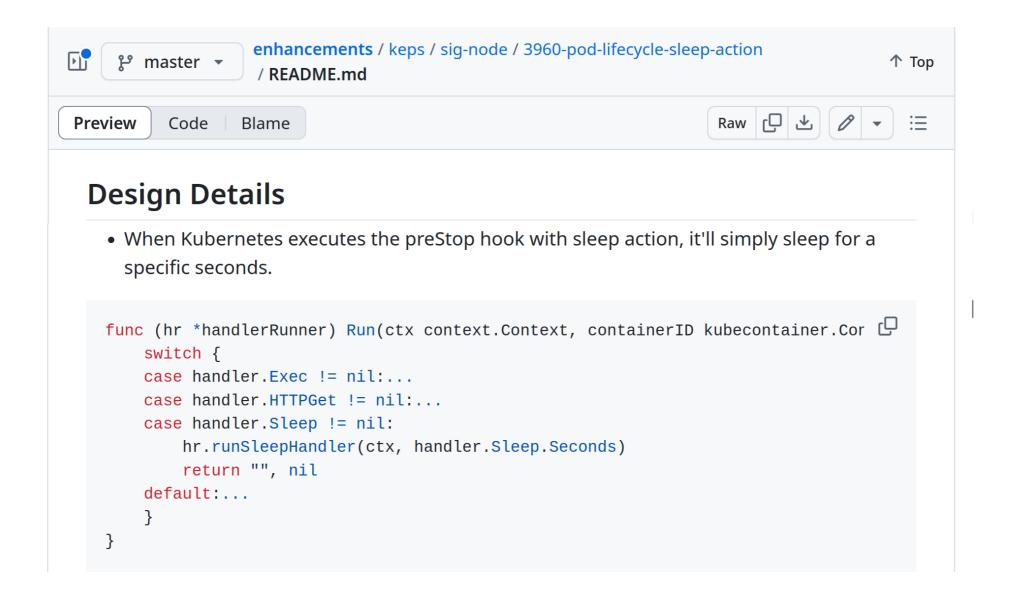
- - This KEP does not aim to replace other Kubernetes features that can be used to perform cleanup actions, such as init containers or sidecar containers.
  - This KEP does not aim to provide a way to pause or delay pod termination indefinitely.

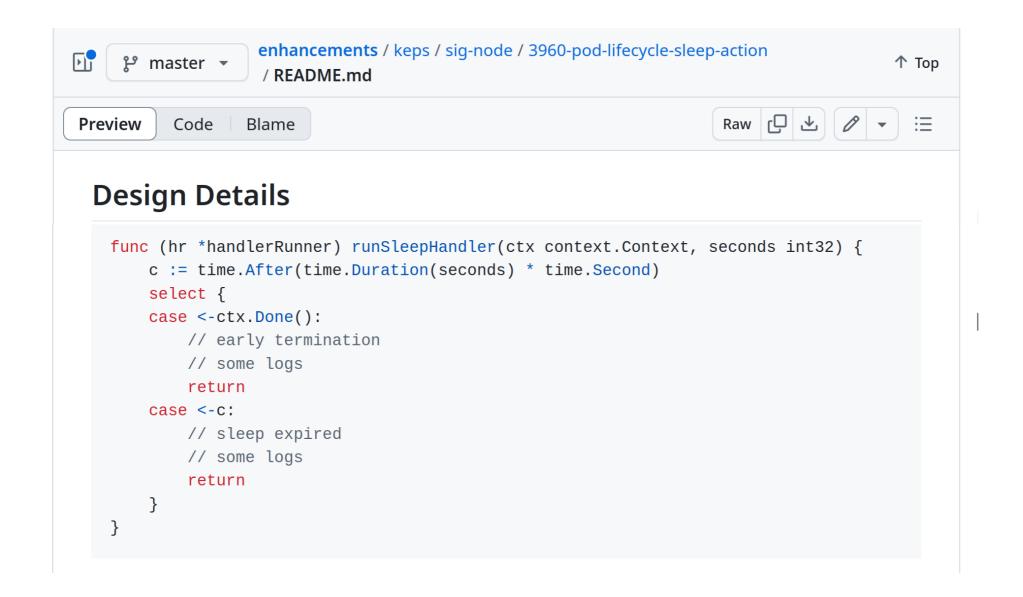


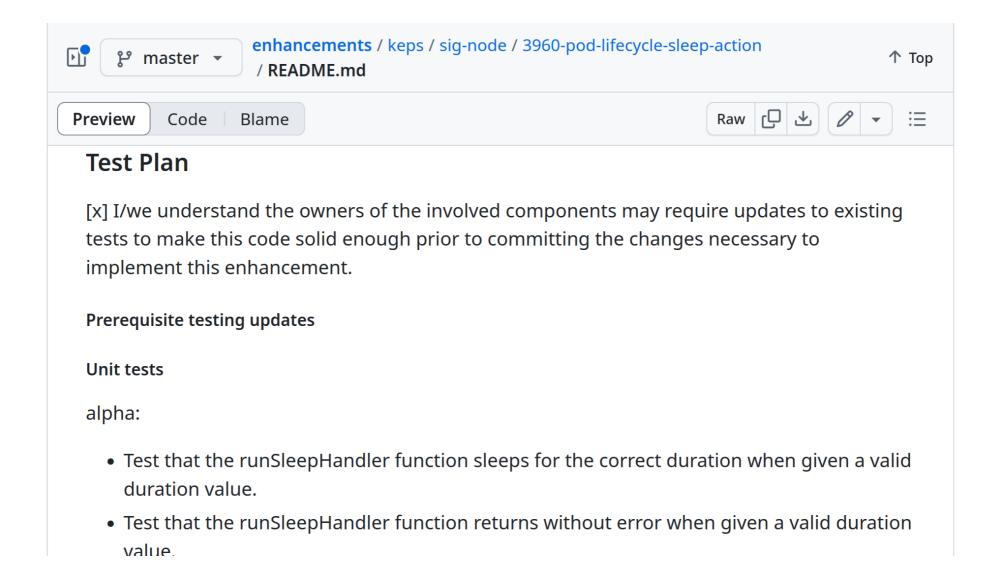


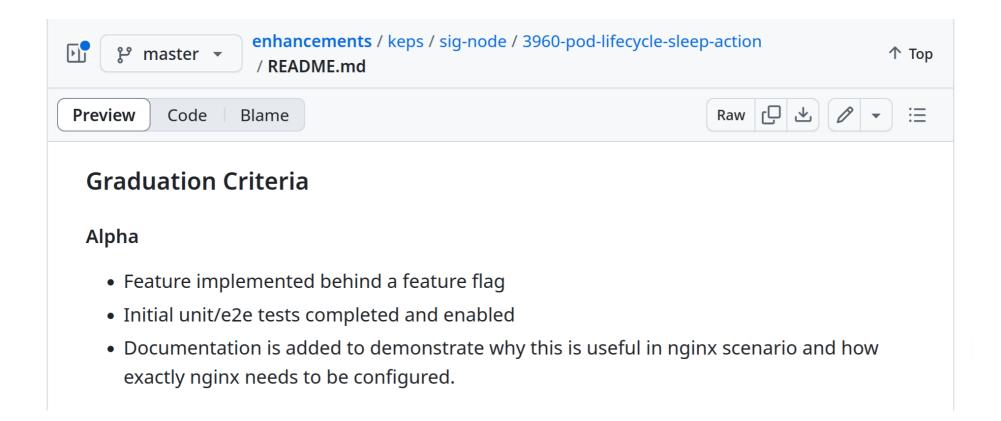


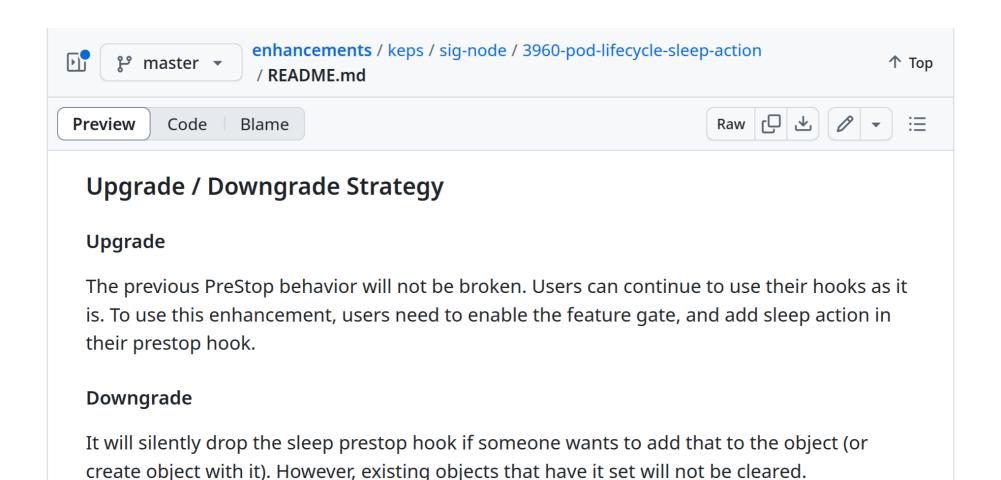


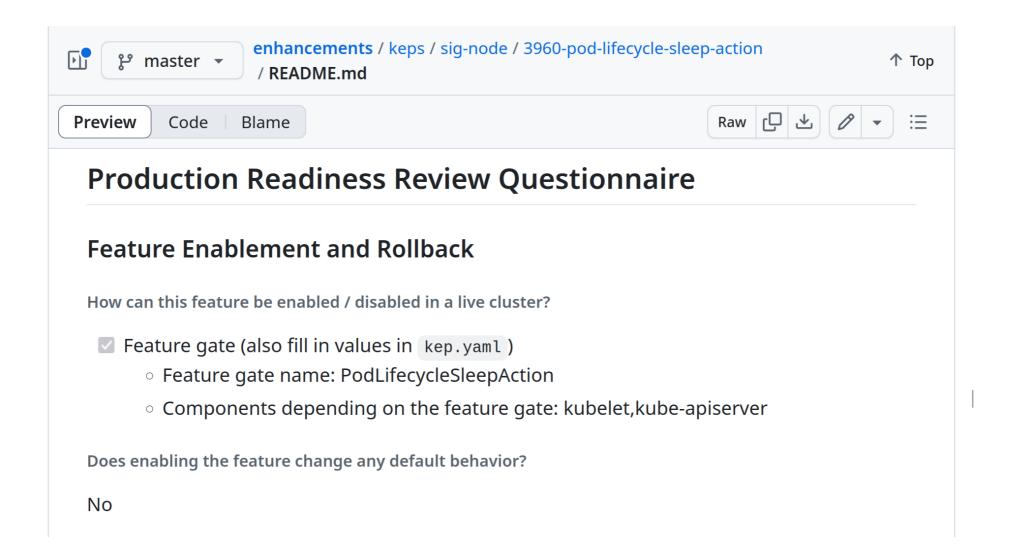


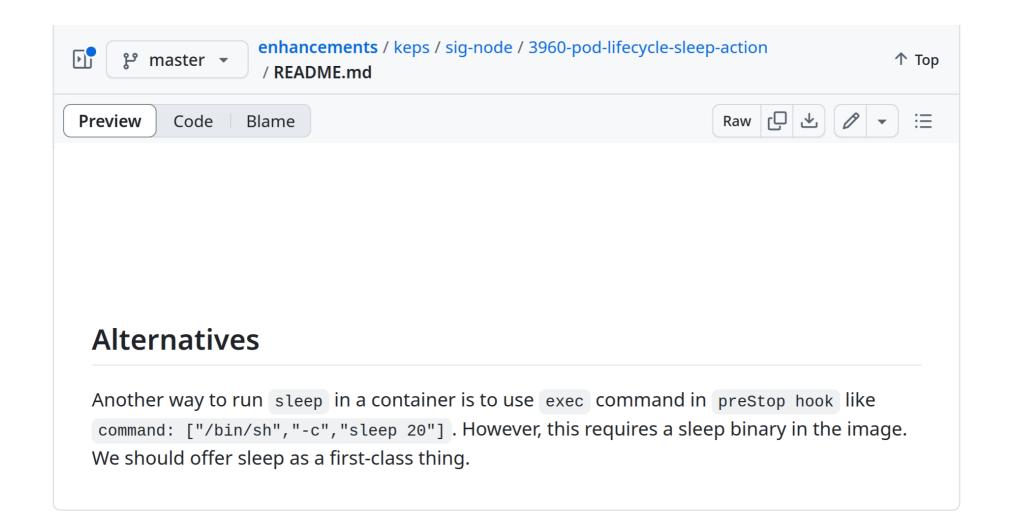






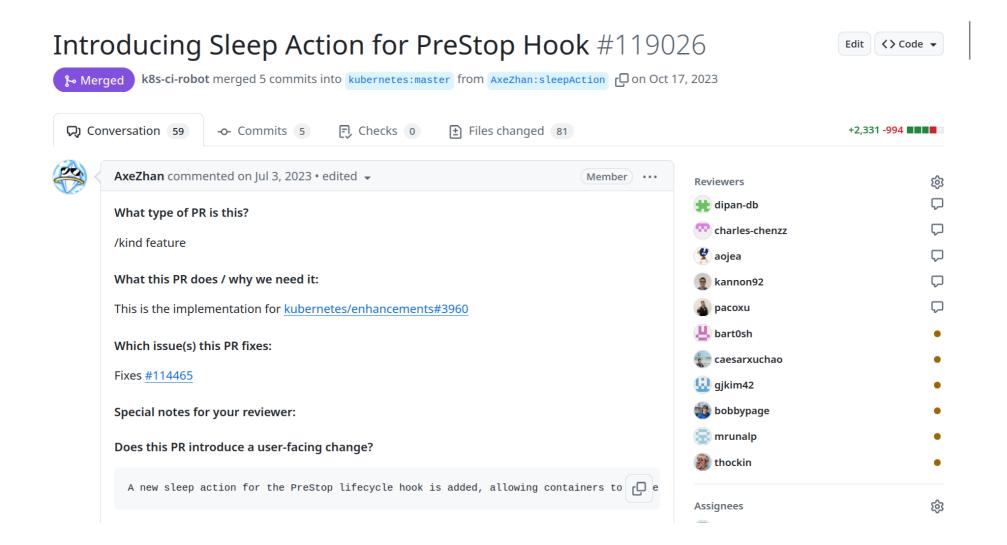


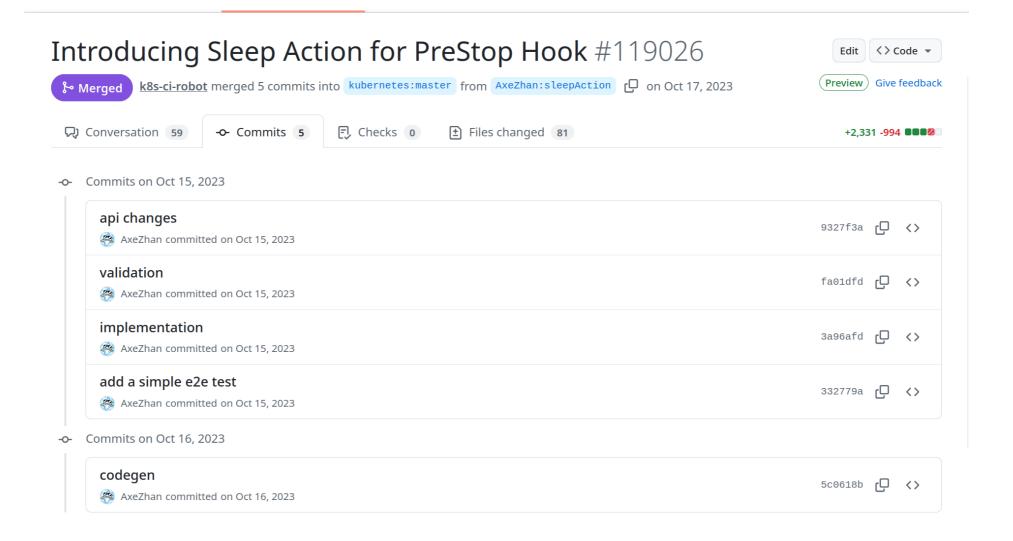


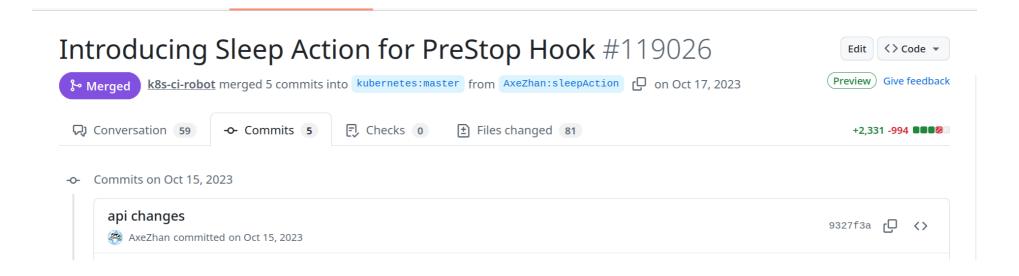


# KEP-3960 is merged ...

# ... now, to code implementation!







Review changes

```
∨ ♣ 10 ■■■■ pkg/apis/core/types.go [□
                                                                                                                  . . .
        // ExecAction describes a "run in container"
                                                                       // ExecAction describes a "run in container"
                                                              2143
        action.
                                                                       action.
        type ExecAction struct {
                                                                      type ExecAction struct {
2144
                                                              2144
                // Command is the command line to execute
                                                                              // Command is the command line to execute
2145
                                                              2145
        inside the container, the working directory for the
                                                                      inside the container, the working directory for the
               // command is root ('/') in the
                                                                              // command is root ('/') in the
2146
                                                              2146
        container's filesystem. The command is simply
                                                                       container's filesystem. The command is simply
        exec'd, it is
                                                                       exec'd, it is
               // not run inside a shell, so traditional
                                                                              // not run inside a shell, so traditional
2147
                                                              2147
        shell instructions ('|', etc) won't work. To use
                                                                      shell instructions ('|', etc) won't work. To use
2148
                // a shell, you need to explicitly call out
                                                              2148
                                                                              // a shell, you need to explicitly call out
        to that shell.
                                                                       to that shell.
2149
               // +optional
                                                              2149
                                                                              // +optional
                                                                              Command []string
2150
               Command []string
                                                              2150
        }
                                                                      }
2151
                                                              2151
2152
                                                              2152
                                                                    + // SleepAction describes a "sleep" action.
                                                              2153
                                                              2154
                                                                    + type SleepAction struct {
                                                              2155 +
                                                                              // Seconds is the number of seconds to
                                                                       sleep.
                                                              2156 +
                                                                               Seconds int64
```

2437

2438

2439

2440 2441 +

2442 +

2443 + 2444 +

as a LifecycleHandler and kept

when tcp handler is specified.

// +optional

// +optional

Sleep \*SleepAction

are no validation of this field and

TCPSocket \*TCPSocketAction

container should sleep before being terminated.

// for the backward compatibility. There

// lifecycle hooks will fail in runtime

// Sleep represents the duration that the

// +featureGate=PodLifecycleSleepAction

as a LifecycleHandler and kept

when tcp handler is specified.

// +optional

are no validation of this field and

TCPSocket \*TCPSocketAction

// for the backward compatibility. There

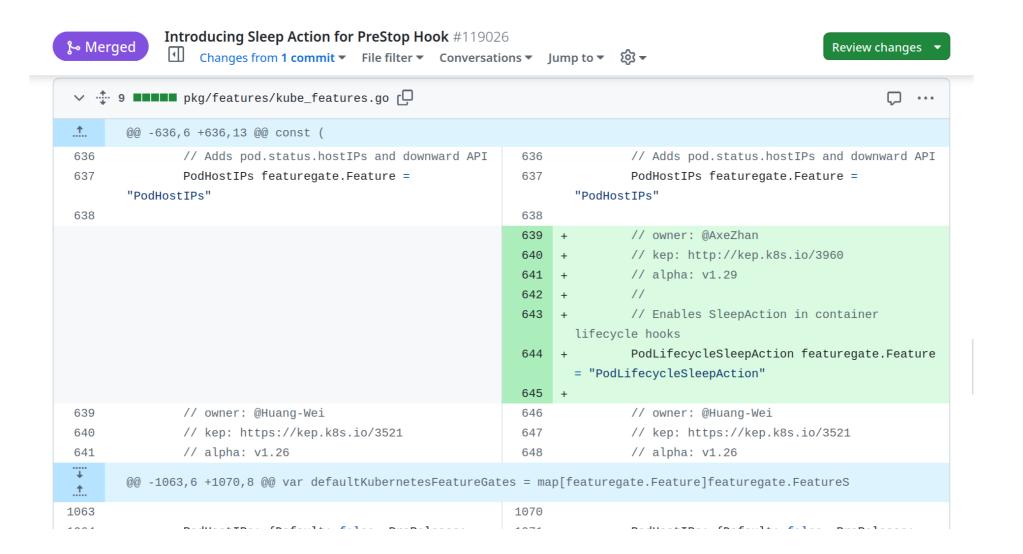
// lifecycle hooks will fail in runtime

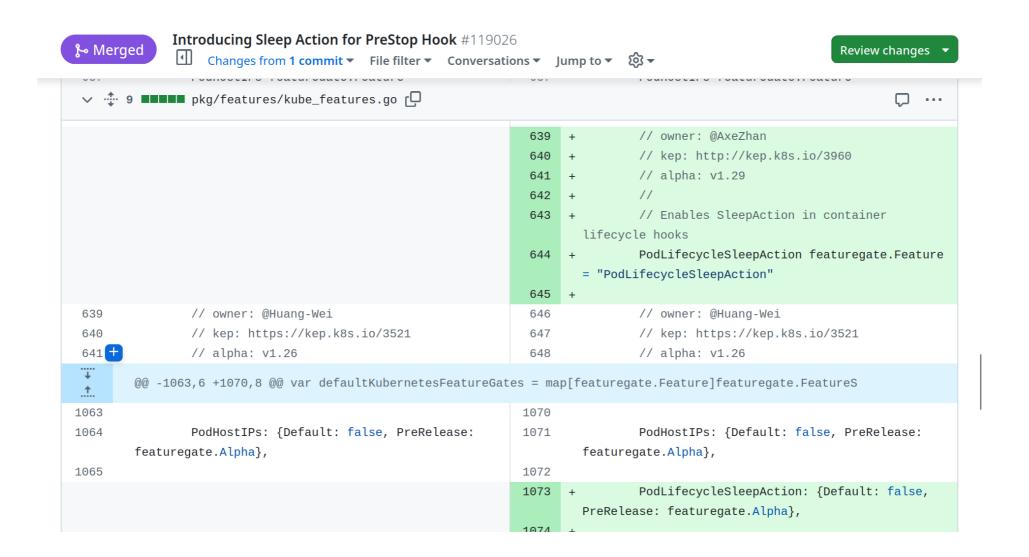
2431

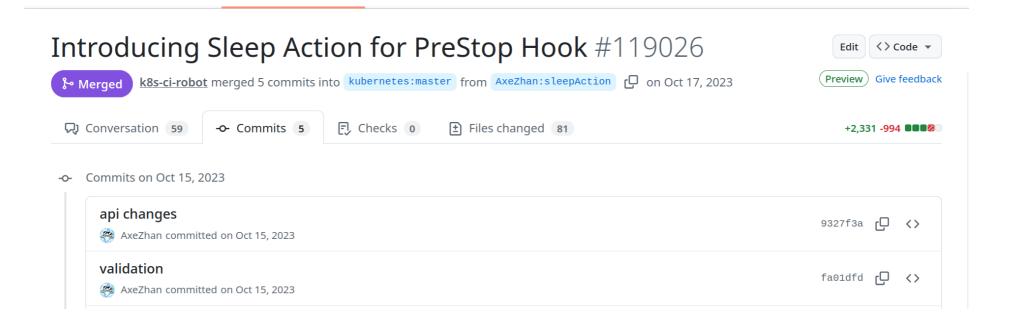
2432

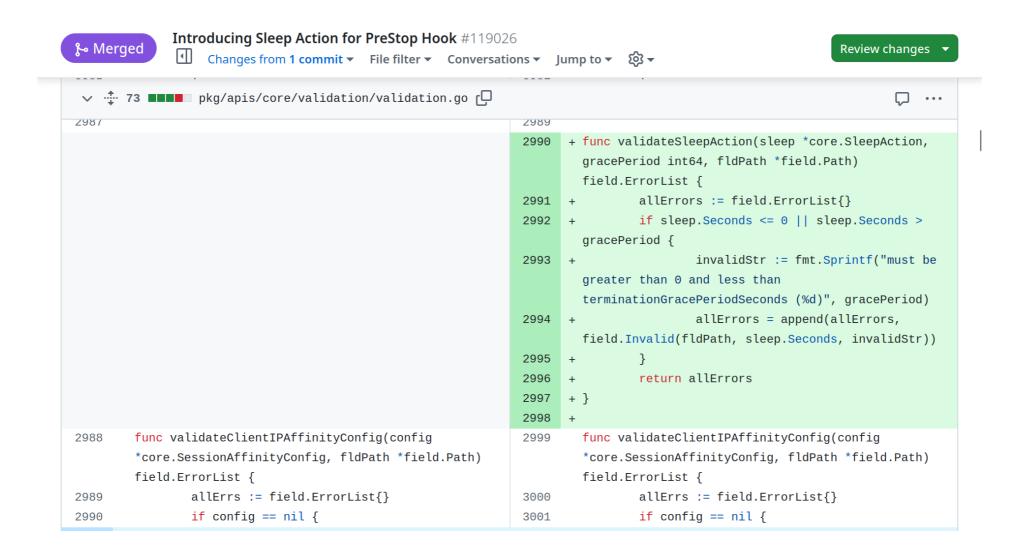
2433

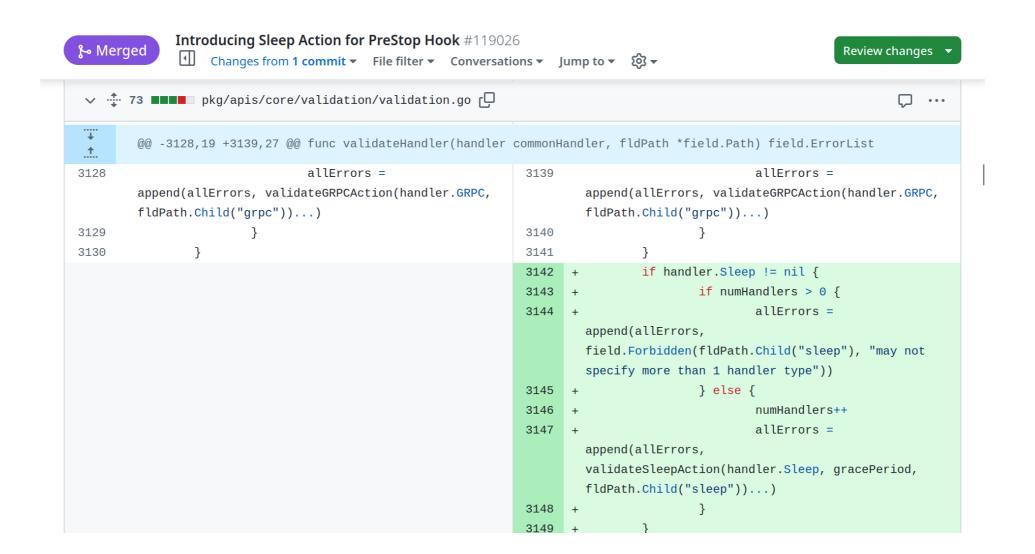
2434

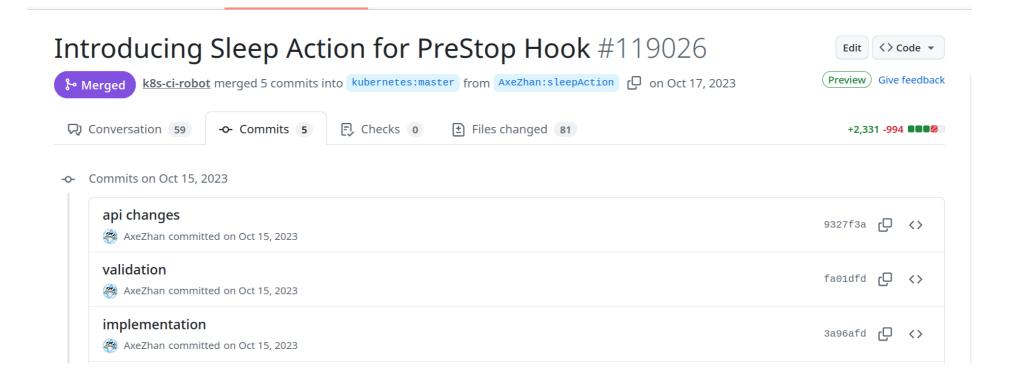




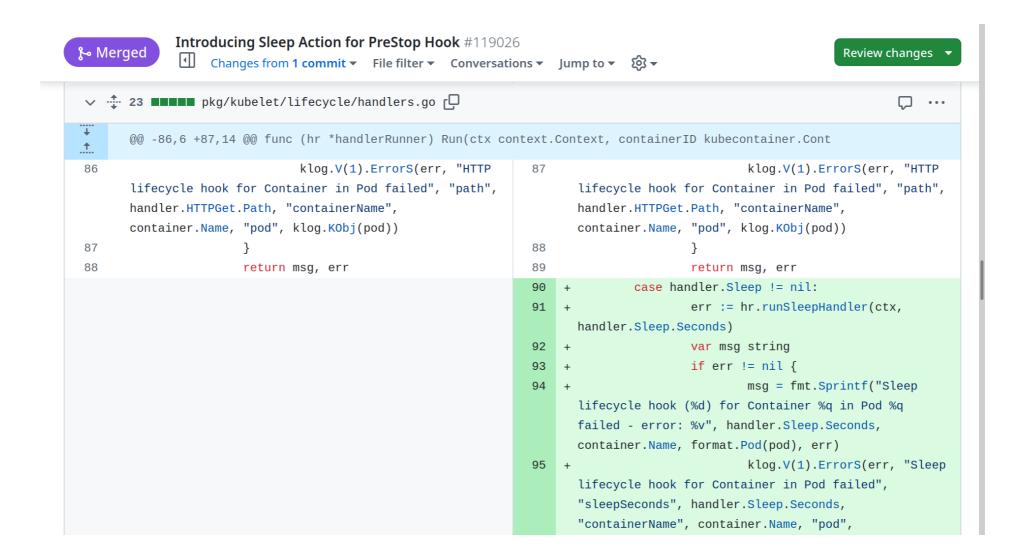


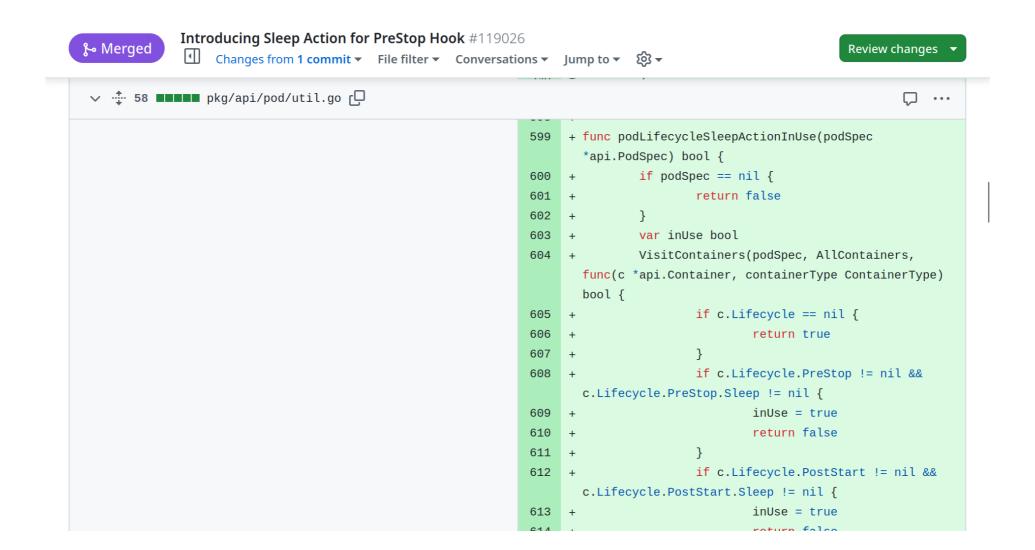


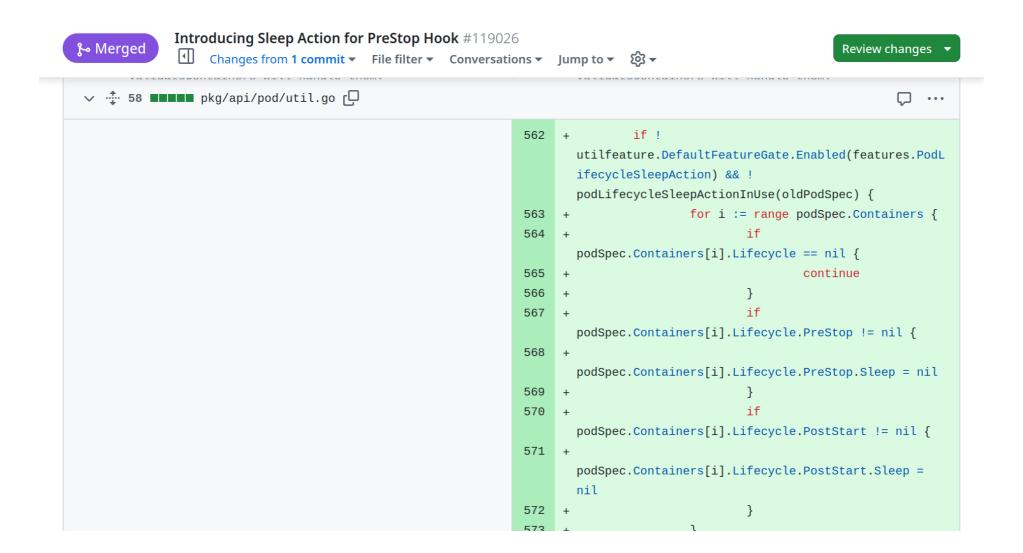


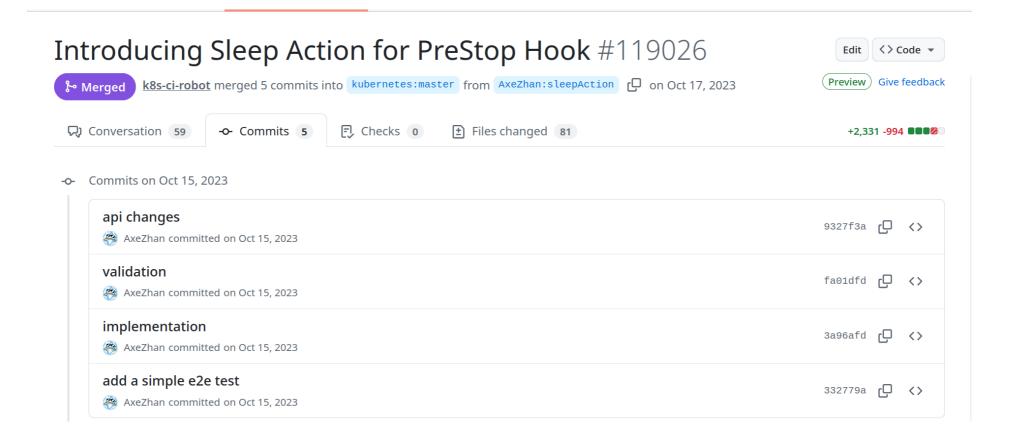


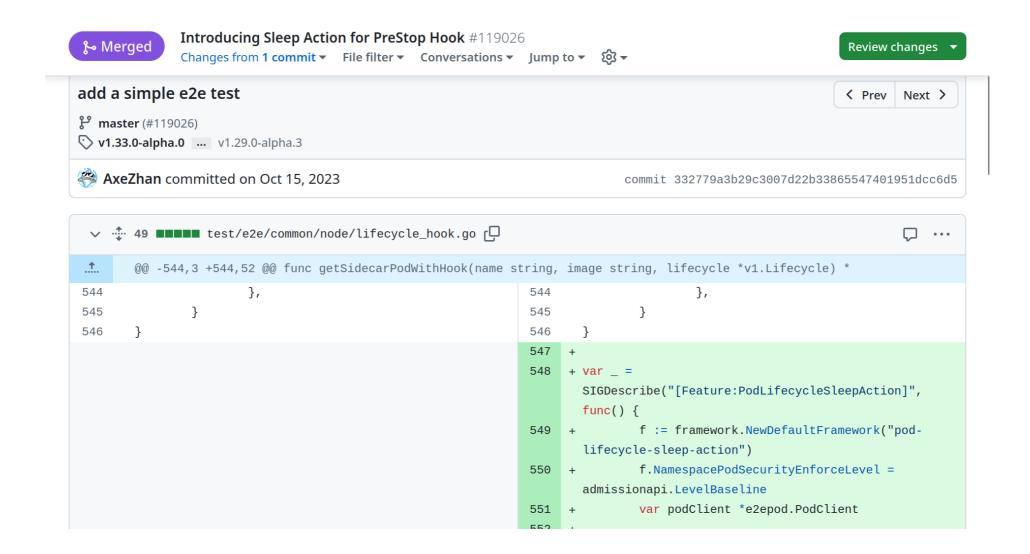


















#### The Hitchhiker's Guide to Testing Kubernetes - Sreeram Venkitesh, SIG Testing

Click here to add to My Schedule.

Tuesday December 10, 2024 10:00am - 10:35am IST

Oconvention Centre | Level 4 | Room 404

A vital part of contributing to Kubernetes is testing. Reading existing tests lets you understand how a particular component works. You're also expected to write tests when making changes to the code base. The K8s codebase has different kinds of tests like unit, end to end and conformance tests. Given the scale of K8s, all of these are important to make sure that a feature works as intended and no edge cases come up when all the components are deployed in a production environment.

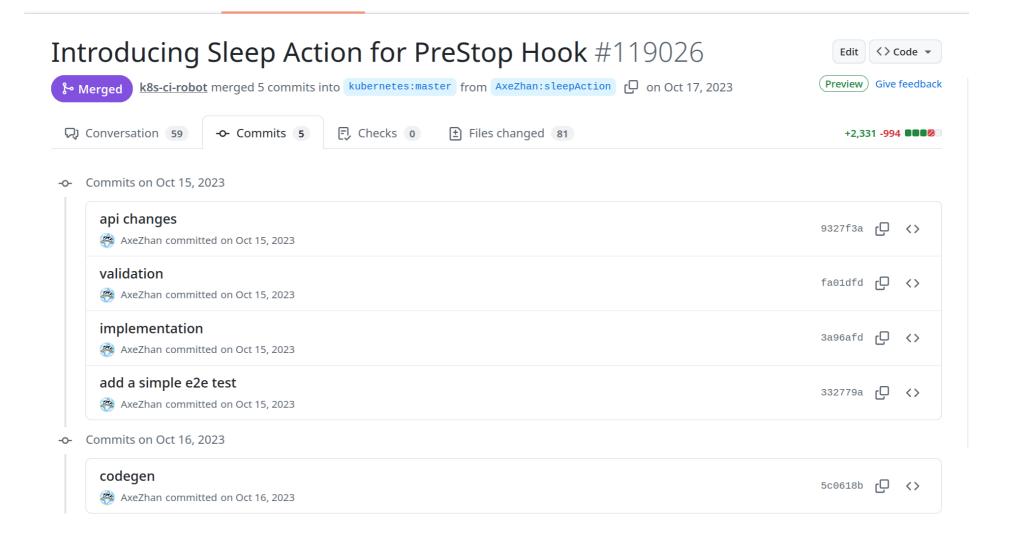
If you're getting started with contributing to K8s, learning the entire testing infrastructure can be overwhelming. This talk aims to give an introduction of the different types of tests in K8s and how you can setup your dev environment to run them locally. Along with unit tests, the talk also aims to give a demo of setting up tools like kubetest2 and hydrophone to run e2e and conformance tests with a kind cluster. After the talk you'll be ready to write your own tests for K8s and improve the test coverage.

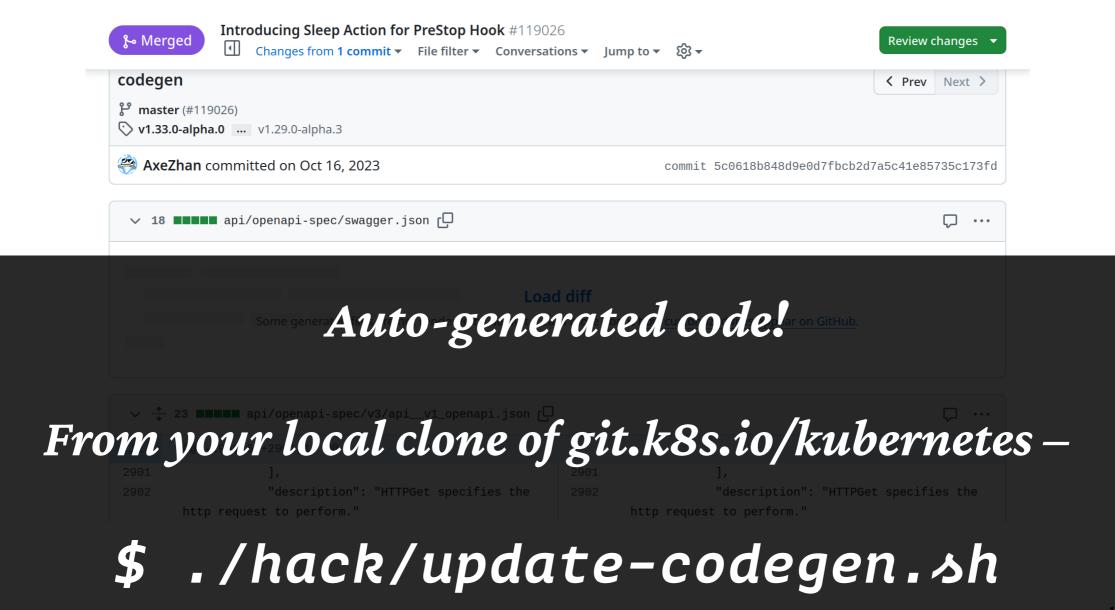
#### Speakers



Sreeram Venkitesh Software Engineer, BigBinary

Sreeram Venkitesh is a Software Engineer at BigBinary and is an active contributor to Kubernetes. He is part of the 1.29 release team.



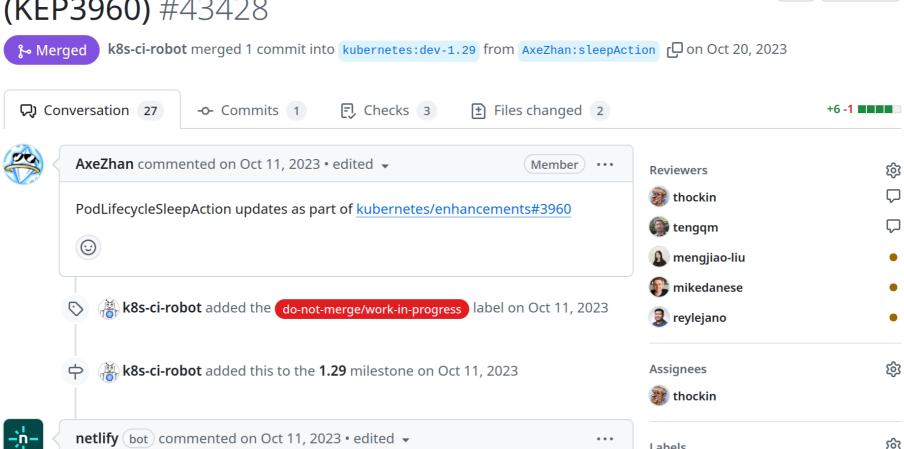


# Demo!

## KEP-3960 is implemeted ...

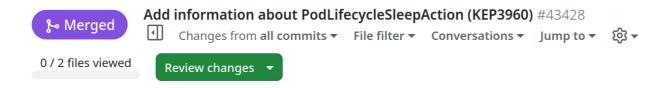
# next ... documenting new API!

## Add information about PodLifecycleSleepAction (KEP3960) #43428



<> Code ▼

Edit



```
<>
                                                                                                       ☐ Viewed ☐ ···
content/en/docs/reference/command-line-tools-reference/feature-gates.md
<u></u>
       @@ -170,6 +170,7 @@ For a reference to old feature gates that are removed, please refer to
          `PodDisruptionConditions` | `true` | Beta | 1.26 |
                                                                        `PodDisruptionConditions` | `true` | Beta | 1.26 |
170
                                                              170
171
          `PodHostIPs` | `false` | Alpha | 1.28 | |
                                                                        `PodHostIPs` | `false` | Alpha | 1.28 | |
                                                               171
          `PodIndexLabel` | `true` | Beta | 1.28 | |
                                                                      | `PodIndexLabel` | `true` | Beta | 1.28 | |
172
                                                               172
                                                                    + | `PodLifecycleSleepAction` | `false` | Alpha | 1.29
          `PodReadyToStartContainersCondition` | `false` |
                                                                      | `PodReadyToStartContainersCondition` | `false` |
173
                                                               174
       Alpha | 1.28 | |
                                                                      Alpha | 1.28 | |
        | `PodSchedulingReadiness` | `false` | Alpha | 1.26
174
                                                                      | `PodSchedulingReadiness` | `false` | Alpha | 1.26
                                                              175
        | 1.26 |
                                                                      1.26
          `PodSchedulingReadiness` | `true` | Beta | 1.27 |
                                                              176 | PodSchedulingReadiness | true | Beta | 1.27 |
175
+
       @@ -664,6 +665,7 @@ Each feature gate is designed for enabling/disabling a specific feature:
<u></u>
                                                                      - `PodHostIPs`: Enable the `status.hostIPs` field
664
        - `PodHostIPs`: Enable the `status.hostIPs` field
```

# Also ... look for post-release blogs for user-friendly docs!

# To Wrap Up

# Some things we learned ...

- The KEP Template README, when viewed in its raw/code form is very helpful
  - →https://git.k8s.io/enhancements/keps/NNNN-keptemplate/README.md

- API compatibility, both upward and downward is taken really seriously
  - https://git.k8s.io/community/contributors/devel/sig-architecture/api\_changes.md

- New API added behind feature gate
- Feature gate is off by default at alpha
- If someone uses the feature when gate is off -> default / fall back to safe settings / or drop fields automatically etc

#### How Feature Gates work in code

- Alpha gated code, off by default
- Beta gated code, on by default
- Stable gate removed, logic no longer wrapped in feature gate check

#### Things that came in handy

• The ability to work with Kind tooling. Lets us test changes quickly.

Like the ability to create Node Images etc ...)

- https://kind.sigs.k8s.io/docs/user/configuration/
- https://kind.sigs.k8s.io/docs/design/node-image/

- Contact Info!
  - https://git.k8s.io/enhancements/keps/README.md#faqs
  - If in doubt ask SIG Architecture and they can advise.
- Thank you!

## To Wrap It All Up ...



#### DON'T FORGET



#### Contact & Slides

#### slack.k8s.io:

#sig-architecture
#enhancements

#### Slack handles:

@psaggu,@jasonbraganza

#### Email:

priyankasaggu11929@gmail.com jason@janusworx.com

https://sched.co/1mVS3