



SCA Public Issues Committee

AGENDA

June 13, 2018 – 7:00 PM

Renton City Hall

1. **Welcome and Roll Call** – Ed Prince, Renton, Chair 2 minutes
2. **Public Comment** – Ed Prince, Renton, Chair 10 minutes
3. [Approval of Minutes – May 9, 2018 Meeting](#) 2 minutes
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4. **Chair’s Report** – Ed Prince, Renton, Chair 5 minutes
5. **Executive Director’s Report** – Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director 10 minutes
6. [King County Land Conservation Initiative](#) 15 minutes
DISCUSSION
Page 19
Brian Parry, Senior Policy Analyst
7. [Count Us In](#) 15 minutes
UPDATE
Page 27
Ellie Wilson-Jones, Senior Policy Analyst
8. [Regional Affordable Housing Task Force](#) 15 minutes
UPDATE
Page 49
Brian Parry, Senior Policy Analyst
9. [Medic One/Emergency Medical Services Levy](#) 10 minutes
UPDATE
Page 57
Brian Parry, Senior Policy Analyst
10. [Future Levies and Ballot Measures in King County](#) 5 minutes
UPDATE
Page 61
Brian Parry, Senior Policy Analyst

11. Potential Upcoming SCA Issues

UPDATE

5 minutes

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Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director

12. Upcoming Events

- a. SCA Public Issues Committee Meeting – Wednesday, July 11, 2018 – 7:00 PM (6:00 Pre-PIC Workshop) – Renton City Hall

13. For the Good of the Order

14. Adjourn

Did You Know?

In 2012, the Sound Cities Association (SCA) Board adopted Mission, Vision, and Values Statements:

Mission

To provide leadership through advocacy, education, mutual support and networking to cities in King County as they act locally and partner regionally to create livable vital communities.

Vision

The most influential advocate for cities, effectively collaborating to create regional solutions.

Values

SCA aspires to create an environment that fosters mutual support, respect, trust, fairness and integrity for the greater good of the association and its membership. SCA operates in a consistent, inclusive, and transparent manner that respects the diversity of our members and encourages open discussion and risk-taking.

Subsequently, during a January 2018 retreat, the SCA Board reviewed and revised the organization’s Vision Statement, which the Board felt was descriptive of the present state of the organization, rather than an envisioned future. The Board therefore crafted a new Vision Statement to reflect both the core purpose of the organization and the future we are working toward:

Capitalizing on the diversity of our cities to lead policy change to make the Puget Sound region the best in the world.

The Board looks forward to working with all our member cities to make this Vision a reality!

Sound Cities Association

Mission

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SCA Public Issues Committee MINUTES

May 9, 2018 – 7:00 PM
Renton City Hall
1055 S Grady Way, Renton WA 98057

1. Welcome and Roll Call

PIC Chair Council President Ed Prince, Renton, called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM. 25 cities had representation ([Attachment A](#)). Guests present included Colleen Kelly, Redmond staff; Lyman Howard, Sammamish City Manager; Alex Herzog, Woodinville staff; councilmember Matt Mahoney, Des Moines PIC alternate; council president Angela Birney, Redmond PIC alternate; councilmember Carol Simpson, Newcastle PIC alternate; Jenny Huston, King County Executive Office staff; Doug Levy, Renton consultant; Joyce Nichols, Bellevue staff; Michael Huddleston, King County Council staff; Kelly Rider, King County staff; councilmember Ryan McIrvine, Renton.

2. Public Comment

Chair Prince asked if any member of the public would like to provide any public comment. Seeing none, Chair Prince closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

3. Approval of the April 11, 2018 Minutes

Chair Prince asked if there were any edits to the April 11, 2018 PIC minutes.

Hank Margeson, Redmond, moved, seconded by Bill Boyce, Kent, to approve the April 11, 2018 PIC minutes. There was no discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Chair's Report

Chair Prince reported that he, Director Dawson, and SCA President and Kirkland Mayor Amy Walen recently met with King County Executive Dow Constantine and discussed One Table and that he would provide a report on that meeting under agenda item eight.

5. Executive Director's Report

Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director, discussed the SCA Partner Forum on Recycling that took place on March 27, 2018. She noted lessons learned from the forum, including the importance of recyclables being clean, dry, and empty, and the need to keep recycling bins and dumpsters closed to prevent moisture from contaminating the recyclables. She complimented the City of Kenmore for sharing this information in their quarterly newsletter. Dawson noted that SCA will be holding future Partner Forums throughout the year.

Dawson gave an update on a proposed fee increase for the Local Hazardous Waste Management Program and distributed a handout ([Attachment B](#)). The program, which serves all cities in King County with hazardous waste collection, disposal, and other services, is funded through fees on solid waste accounts and sewer services. Fees for the program were last changed in 2012, and the PIC was briefed on a preliminary fee proposal in February 2018.

Since February, the size of the proposed fee increase and the duration have been reduced substantially to a two-year fee period with an increase of 3.5 percent each year. This revised fee proposal was developed by the program's Management Coordination Committee, based on SCA member and other stakeholder feedback. The proposal will next be taken up by the Board of Health, which has fee-setting authority. Action is anticipated in June.

Dawson highlighted an opportunity for senior centers to apply for \$3.7 million in one-time funding available countywide through the new Veterans, Seniors, and Human Services Levy. A request for qualifications has been distributed to senior centers. Community centers that provide significant senior specific programming are also eligible. Award size will depend on the number of agencies that apply, but awards are anticipated to be \$55,000 or more. The RFQ closes on June 7. Another funding round is anticipated this fall for 2019 levy funding.

6. Domestic Violence Initiative Appointment

PIC Nominating Committee Chair Leanne Guier reported that the PIC Nominating Committee met prior to the PIC meeting on May 9, 2018, and recommended appointing current King County Domestic Violence Initiative Regional Task Force alternate Councilmember Traci Buxton, Des Moines, to fill the vacant member seat on the Task Force and Councilmember Anthony Wright, Enumclaw, to the alternate position.

Leanne Guier moved, seconded by Hank Margeson, to recommend to the SCA Board of Directors the appointment of Councilmember Traci Buxton, Des Moines, to the Member seat and Councilmember Anthony Wright, Enumclaw, to the Alternate seat on the King County Domestic Violence Initiative Task Force. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Medic One/Emergency Medical Services Levy

SCA Senior Policy Analyst Brian Parry reported on the Medic One/Emergency Medical Services levy (EMS levy) renewal planning process. The current EMS levy will expire at the end of 2019 and an EMS Advisory Task Force was convened in January to plan for reauthorization of the levy for 2020-2025. Placing the Medic One/EMS levy on the ballot for renewal will require approval by the legislative authority of at least 75% of cities in King County with populations exceeding 50,000 (or 9 of the 11 such cities in King County) and the King County Council. Approval of the levy requires an affirmative vote from a simple majority of voters. Per an interlocal agreement with King County, Seattle receives all Medic One/EMS levy funds raised within its boundaries. Funds raised outside of Seattle, approximately \$75 million annually under the current levy, are placed in the King County EMS fund and managed regionally by the King County EMS Division.

The EMS levy fully funds the 26 paramedic units in King County (Advanced Life Support, or ALS), allocates funding local fire departments for a portion of the first responder EMS services they provide (Basic Life Support, or BLS), and supports regional services to manage and improve the overall system.

Parry said subcommittees of the EMS Advisory Task Force have been meeting regularly and working to analyze trends in demand for service, system needs, and cost to develop the strategic plan and proposed levy. The initial recommendations from these subcommittees will

be presented to the full Task Force at its next meeting on May 30. Parry said that important factors that will influence the total cost of the levy plan include: the region's fast growing and aging population, both of which correlate strongly with increased need for service; increased costs for equipment, including rising medication costs; and any new services that may be added.

Parry said the EMS Task Force and its subcommittees are scheduled to continue meeting throughout 2018 to develop the strategic plan and levy for renewal proposal. More detailed information about potential service changes and cost estimates are being prepared by each subcommittee in preparation for the full Task Force meeting on May 30. Future discussion at PIC is anticipated as the preliminary recommendations from each subcommittee are further developed for consideration by the full Task Force at its July 31 meeting.

Mayor Sean Kelly, Maple Valley, asked whether any new programs were being discussed for inclusion in the next levy. Parry said that one of the most significant new services being considered by the Task Force is the expansion of Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) program coverage to the full county. During the current levy period, several fire agencies have initiated pilot programs dedicated to MIH. Parry said that MIH programs vary in scope, but are generally designed to provide agencies with tools to address patient needs that go beyond the immediate response to a call for service or delivery of a patient to the emergency room. This may include resources such as a point of contact EMT's can engage to coordinate with social service and medical providers to address the underlying causes leading to frequent calls for emergency service. The goal is to provide better overall care and reduce the number of service requests for non-life-threatening injury or illness. Parry said local fire agencies operating MIH units have expressed support for expanding access and further coordinating MIH services on a regional basis as part of the levy renewal. He said those agencies identified several benefits of MIH programs, including: improved patient care, diversion of non-emergency calls from the emergency response system, and better utilization EMT resources.

Councilmember Toby Nixon, Kirkland, said that he is interested in seeing what the proposed levy rate may be and that it would be good if rising property values would allow the rate to be reduced in order to get support from voters.

Councilmember Hank Margeson, Redmond, said that the region's Advanced Life Support and Basic Life Support services are world-renowned for their quality, and that he would like to see the Task Force highlight how well the system is working as part of its strategic plan. He encouraged members to speak with first responders in their communities, and that they would be able to share stories that highlight the benefits of MIH programs in addressing the healthcare needs of patients, and in particular those who may otherwise rely on frequent EMS system use.

8. One Table

Ellie Wilson-Jones, SCA Senior Policy Analyst, reported on One Table, the regional initiative launched in January by King County Executive Dow Constantine, Mayor Nancy Backus, Auburn, and Mayor Jenny Durkan, Seattle, to develop strategies to prevent homelessness. The initiative, which was also the subject of the March and April pre-PIC workshops, is focused on root causes

of homelessness within the behavioral health, criminal justice, and child welfare systems, and from the lack of affordable housing and employment opportunity. In addition to Mayor Backus, SCA cities are represented on One Table by Council President Ed Prince, Renton; Mayor John Chelminiak, Bellevue; Mayor Dana Ralph, Kent; and Mayor Amy Walen, Kirkland. Wilson-Jones noted that six draft recommendations have been developed through the One Table process, as listed on [page 22 of the May PIC Packet](#). The One Table process has been extended from its original timeline and is ongoing.

Wilson-Jones noted two other recent developments related to addressing the homelessness crisis. The King County Auditor's Office released a performance audit May 1, "[Homeless Crisis Demands Unified, Accountable, Dynamic Regional Response](#)," which included 12 recommendations addressing our regional homeless response system. Additionally, on May 3, King County Executive Dow Constantine and Mayor Durkan [announced](#) a [Memorandum of Understanding](#) that outlines immediate actions their jurisdictions will take to better coordinate, and steps they will taking with regional partners to review the current system governing homeless services.

Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director, reported on a meeting with King County Executive Dow Constantine held prior to the PIC meeting. The meeting included PIC Chair Ed Prince, and Mayor Amy Walen, Kirkland, both of whom serve as One Table members. The discussion focused on One Table and three ways in which the effort is distinguishable from other past and ongoing initiatives. First, government representatives are joined by representatives for business and philanthropy, who are being engaged in a unique way, and may bring new resources toward implementation. Second, One Table is a regionally focused initiative, not centered on Seattle. Third, One Table is focusing on the root causes of homelessness rather than the crisis response system, which serves those who are already homeless. At the same time, however, there's also recognition that more must be done to help people currently in crisis. Dawson noted that the timeline for the One Table process has been extended and is being influenced by a number of factors, including Seattle's consideration of head tax legislation, and the need to assess how resources are currently being spent. She noted that One Table Co-Chair Mayor Nancy Backus, Auburn, has advocated for ensuring that the process not be rushed to meet an artificial deadline. Dawson concluded by speaking to the difficulty of solving this challenge, and invited PIC member feedback on the draft recommendations of One Table and ideas for moving the needle on homelessness.

Chair Prince reported that the meeting with the Executive provided more clarity about the One Table effort and suggested a positive direction. There was recognition that contributions will be needed from business and philanthropy and that government and elected leaders will not be able to carry forward the work alone. Prince also spoke to the need to ensure current resources are being well spent, as suggested by the recent King County Auditor's Office report, which recommends steps be taken to better assess and coordinate ongoing efforts to address homelessness. Prince noted that there appears to be consensus that more needs to be done to show how current resources are being used, and how effectively. He said residents are asking for and deserve to have more transparency and accountability.

Council President Bill Boyce, Kent, spoke to the urgency of solving the problem of homelessness before it further impacts the region. Boyce spoke in support of the draft One Table recommendations and to the need to distinguish what is working well from what is less effective and to focus on what can be successful.

Council President Tola Marts, Issaquah, spoke to his city's ongoing work to address homelessness, including the city's historical openness to tent cities. Marts urged consideration of practical next steps, rather than setting, and getting roadblocked by, goals that are too expensive to be achievable. Marts encouraged review of successful work done in other regions, and particularly in other West Coast cities with high housing costs. Dawson noted that philanthropic leaders have been reviewing models for collective impact and governance from other jurisdictions.

Deputy Mayor Austin Bell, Burien, expressed support for taking a regional approach with the One Table effort. Referencing a draft list of strategies generated by One Table Community Action Workgroups beginning on [page 26 of the May PIC Packet](#), Bell noted that some are still downstream, rather than upstream approaches that will address the causes of homelessness.

Councilmember Susan Boundy-Sanders, Woodinville, spoke to the work being done by service providers currently and asked how they are being engaged. Dawson noted that service providers are participating in One Table's Community Action Workgroups (*Note: The full list of One Table members is available [here](#).*) Speaking to models to be considered for adoption locally, Boundy-Sanders noted that Los Angeles has been successful in reducing veterans' homelessness and also highlighted the Belgium-based model used by Plymouth Healing Communities, for which Boundy-Sanders is a board member.

Councilmember Anthony Wright, Enumclaw, suggested improving access to jobs in the building trades as a part of the solution. He encouraged partnering with shipyards and exploring apprenticeship opportunities. Wright spoke to the work underway to assist people experiencing homelessness in Enumclaw, including voucher programs for adults and school-based food programs for children. He said distributing food to children is more challenging over the summer, when kids are out of school, because people must have transportation to access services.

Councilmember Martin Moore, Federal Way, noted the work of Federal Way's task force on homelessness and spoke to work done in Albuquerque to link people experiencing homelessness with employment opportunities. Federal Way is studying work done by The REACH Center in Tacoma to serve young people and is teaming up with the Multi-Service Center to jumpstart local solutions. Moore spoke to the high number of children experiencing homelessness, the need to learn from people with lived experience, and the importance of transportation needs and employment opportunities. Moore concluded by expressing appreciation that Mayor Backus is serving as a One Table Co-Chair and that South King County is engaged in this work. Dawson noted that people who have experienced homelessness are also participating in One Table and the development of recommendations.

Councilmember Hank Margeson, Redmond, reported that the Redmond City Council received an update from the city's homeless outreach program staff on May 8. The program has been in place for roughly two years and has been successful in working with people experiencing

homelessness and connecting them with housing and services. Margeson noted the importance of early engagement, with efforts that reach people early being the most successful. Margeson welcomed the King County's Auditor's Office recommendation that the region assess ongoing investments, so that it can ensure further funding does not go toward something that will ultimately be unsuccessful. He noted support for the prevention-oriented focus of One Table, and for the refinements made to the draft recommendations.

9. Sewer Rate and Capacity Charge Proposal

SCA Policy Analyst Cynthia Foley reported that the King County Executive has transmitted [Proposed Ordinance 2018-0231](#) setting the sewer rate and capacity charge for 2019 and 2020. Foley reported that the sewer rate supports the operating and capital expenses of the King County Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) and is charged to customers through their local sewer agency. The proposed ordinance would set the 2019 monthly sewer rate at \$45.33 per residential customer per month, which is a 2.5 percent increase over the 2017-2018 rate.

Foley stated that the 2019 WTD expenses are projected to increase 7.9 percent over the 2018 adopted budget. Major drivers include staffing to support new construction and facilities, capacity improvements, system planning, upgrading asset management capabilities, and earthquake resiliency.

Foley reported that the capacity charge covers the cost of new wastewater connections, and is billed to customers directly by King County. The Proposed 2019 rate is \$64.50, which is a three percent increase over the 2018 rate.

Foley stated that the King County Council is authorized to set the county sewer rate and the capacity charge. Legislation setting the rate and capacity charge will be reviewed by the King County Council Budget and Fiscal Management Committee before final adoption by the full Council.

Foley reported that this topic came to the County Budget and Fiscal management committee earlier in the day and action was deferred to a later date.

Councilmember Hank Margeson, Redmond, asked whether projects that increase sewer capacity were to be funded as part of the rate increase or capacity charge. Foley noted that [Attachment B on page 42 in the PIC Packet](#) highlights major projects in the capital budget.

Chair Prince asked whether the proposed increase would keep up with projected costs, or if a more substantial rate increase might be proposed in the future. Foley stated that projections show an average 3 percent increase per year for the next several years.

Councilmember Toby Nixon, Kirkland, said that a letter from the Metropolitan Water Pollution Abatement Advisory Committee (MWPAAC) expressed concern that the increase should be 3 percent in 2019 to provide enough funding to maintain a steady rate. Foley said that a follow-up letter from MWPAAC expressed support for maintaining rate stability and affordability over time. The letters, dated March 30, 2018 ([Attachment C](#)) and April 25, 2018 ([Attachment D](#)).

10. Future Levies and Ballot Measures in King County

SCA Senior Policy Analyst Brian Parry reported on upcoming levies and ballot measures in King County and results from the April 24, 2018 election. Kent Proposition A, a proposed increase in utility taxes to fund public safety, failed with 57 percent voting against; Tahoma School District operations levy was approved with 64 percent voting in favor; Duvall Fire Proposition 1, construction bonds, received more than 59 percent support but failed to reach the required 60 percent for passage; and Puget Sound Regional Fire (serving Kent, Covington, and SeaTac) Proposition 1 property tax levy failed with 57 percent voting against.

Councilmember James McNeal, Bothell, said that the city of Bothell is developing a police and fire levy and provided details on potential costs.

Councilmember Michelle Hogg, Duvall, noted that Duvall Fire Proposition 1 failed by just eleven votes.

11. Potential Upcoming SCA Issues

SCA Executive Director Deanna Dawson reported on workshops and trainings requested by PIC for 2018. Based on feedback from PIC, pre-PIC workshops and trainings for the remainder of the year will be: Jurassic Parliament in June; PSRC Vision 2050 in July; Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA) in September; Emergency Management in October; and Social Media in November. There will not be Pre-PIC workshops in August or December. Dawson noted that PIC generally does not meet in August.

12. Informational Item

Chair Prince noted an informational item in the PIC packet on the Medicaid Transformation Project.

13. Upcoming Events

Chair Prince reported that the next SCA Networking Dinner will be held on Wednesday, May 30, 2018, and will feature Washington State Attorney General Bob Ferguson. The dinner will be held at the Inglewood Golf & Country Club in Kenmore. The next PIC meeting and pre-PIC workshop will be held on Wednesday, June 13, at Renton City Hall.

14. For the Good of the Order

Chair Prince asked if PIC members had anything to report for Good of the Order.

Deputy Mayor Austin Bell, Burien, said that the Burien city council recently held a community meeting following the fatal shooting of two local teenagers. He said the meeting was organized to encourage dialogue among community members by breaking into small groups to share information and engage in mutual healing. He said it was a successful model, and that the city is likely to bring people together in similar ways in the future to address important issues.

Chair Prince highlighted the Did You Know item in the PIC packet on affordable housing.

15. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 PM.

**Public Issues Committee Meeting
May 9, 2018**

| City | Representative | Alternate |
|----------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Algona | Dave Hill | Bill Thomas |
| Auburn | Nancy Backus | John Holman |
| Beaux Arts Village | Tom Stowe | Aletha Howes |
| Bellevue | John Stokes | Janice Zahn |
| Black Diamond | Janie Edelman | Tamie Deady |
| Bothell | James McNeal | Davina Duerr |
| Burien | Austin Bell | Nancy Tosta |
| Carnation | Dustin Green | Kim Lisk |
| Clyde Hill | Barre Seibert | George Martin |
| Covington | Fran Hollums | Joseph Cimaomo, Jr. |
| Des Moines | Traci Buxton | Matt Mahoney |
| Duvall | Michelle Hogg | Jennifer Knaplund |
| Enumclaw | Anthony Wright | Mike Sando |
| Federal Way | Lydia Assefa-Dawson | Martin Moore |
| Hunts Point | Joseph Sabey | |
| Issaquah | Tola Marts | Chris Reh |
| Kenmore | David Baker | Nigel Herbig |
| Kent | Bill Boyce | Toni Troutner |
| Kirkland | Toby Nixon | Jay Arnold |
| Lake Forest Park | Catherine Stanford | Tom French |
| Maple Valley | Sean Kelly | Linda Johnson |
| Medina | Sheree Wen | Alex Morcos |
| Mercer Island | Benson Wong | Tom Acker |
| Milton | Shanna Styron Sherrell | Mary Tompkins |
| Newcastle | Allen Dauterman | Carol Simpson |
| Normandy Park | Sue-Ann Hohimer | Jonathan Chicquette |
| North Bend | Ross Loudenback | Jonathan Rosen |
| Pacific | Leanne Guier | David Storaasli |
| Redmond | Hank Margeson | Angela Birney |
| Renton | Ed Prince | Armondo Pavone |
| Sammamish | Christie Malchow | Pam Stuart |
| SeaTac | Erin Sitterley | Pam Fernald |
| Shoreline | Chris Roberts | Keith Scully |
| Skykomish | Henry Sladek | |
| Snoqualmie | Katherine Ross | Matt Larson |
| Tukwila | Kate Kruller | Zac Idan |
| Woodinville | Bernie Talmas | Susan Boundy-Sanders |
| Yarrow Point | Dicker Cahill | |
| SCA | Deanna Dawson Brian Parry Cynthia Foley | Ellie Wilson-Jones Caitlin Magee |

Voting members are highlighted in gray. Cities represented are **bolded**.



Local Hazardous Waste Management Program

Program Funding and Services April 20, 2018

About LHWMP

The Local Hazardous Waste Management Program (LHWMP) provides services to the 2.1 million residents and 60,000 businesses in King County.

The Program provides a range of residential and business services to reduce exposure to toxic materials. Services include collection and disposal, technical assistance, incentives, prevention programs and policy initiatives.

LHWMP is a regional partnership established to protect public health and the environment. The Program is guided by the multi-jurisdictional Management Coordination Committee (MCC) and is recognized as the governing entity by the Washington State Department of Ecology.



Protecting Public Health
and the Environment

7,576 Tons of Hazardous Materials was collected, over the past five years, from residents and small quantity businesses at collection facilities and traveling Wastemobile events.

Program Funding

LHWMP is funded through small surcharges on solid waste and wastewater services. Fees are set by the King County Board of Health. The fees were last increased in 2012, and have not been adjusted for inflation since then. The total cost for an average single-family residence is approximately \$1.10/mo.

Increased Demand for Services

As the number of people living in King County continues to grow in number and diversity, there is also an increased demand for services. With the constant influx of new chemicals and products and the cost of inflation, the cost of providing services continues to increase.

Proposed Rate Adjustment

A rate adjustment is proposed for 2019-20. This is needed for inflation-related cost increases, so that the Program can continue providing services at current levels. The rate proposal will be submitted to the King County Board of Health this spring. If the proposal is adopted by the Board of Health, changes would take effect in early 2019. The MCC revised the rate adjustment proposal in April, 2018. The proposal shown below differs from an earlier proposal in both size and duration.

LOCAL HAZARDOUS WASTE FEE SCHEDULE

| CURRENT AND PROPOSED FEES | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|--|---------------------------|----------------------------|-------|
| | Current Rate (dollars) | Proposed Rate (dollars) | |
| WASTEWATER FEE (per 1 million gallons) | 45.79 | 47.39 | 49.05 |
| TRANSFER STATION / LANDFILL FEE | | | |
| Private Vehicle (per trip) | 1.81 | 1.87 | 1.94 |
| Commercial Vehicle (per ton) | 4.73 | 4.90 | 5.07 |
| SOLID WASTE FEE | | | |
| Single-Family Residential (curbside/mo) | 0.84 | 0.87 | 0.90 |
| Commercial Cart (<0.48 cu. yds./mo) | 1.46 | 1.51 | 1.56 |
| Commercial Dumpster (>0.48 to <10 cu. yds./mo) | 12.01 | 12.43 | 12.87 |
| Commercial Roll-Off (>10 cu. yds/mo) | 46.15 | 47.77 | 49.44 |
| Percent Annual Increase | 0.00% | 3.50% | 3.50% |

LHWMP Program Partners

King County Solid Waste Division, King County Water and Land Resources Division, Public Health – Seattle & King County, Seattle Public Utilities, the Sound Cities Association, and the following cities, towns and tribes: Algona, Auburn, Beaux Arts Village, Bellevue, Black Diamond, Bothell, Burien, Carnation, Clyde Hill, Covington, Des Moines, Duvall, Enumclaw, Federal Way, Hunts Point, Issaquah, Kenmore, Kent, Kirkland, Lake Forest Park, Maple Valley, Medina, Mercer Island, Muckleshoot Tribe, Newcastle, Normandy Park, North Bend, Pacific, Redmond, Renton, Sammamish, SeaTac, Shoreline, Skykomish, Snoqualmie, Snoqualmie Tribe, Tukwila, Woodinville, Yarrow Point

Prevention

Technical Assistance

On-site evaluations help businesses meet regulatory requirements and manage hazardous materials properly. Businesses receive information on using less toxic chemicals and changes in practices or equipment that can reduce the use and environmental impacts of more toxic products and materials.

Reducing Risks at Home

Education and outreach to residents increases awareness of the hazardous materials often found in the home. To help keep families safe and protect the environment, residents receive information on how to know what chemicals are in the products they use, how to choose less toxic products and safe storage and disposal.

Customer Service Center

Residents and businesses can talk directly to a hazardous waste specialist to ask questions about hazardous materials, how to dispose of what is no longer needed and information on less toxic alternatives. The call center maintains three customer service lines and can respond in multiple languages to provide information.

357,676 Families Reached

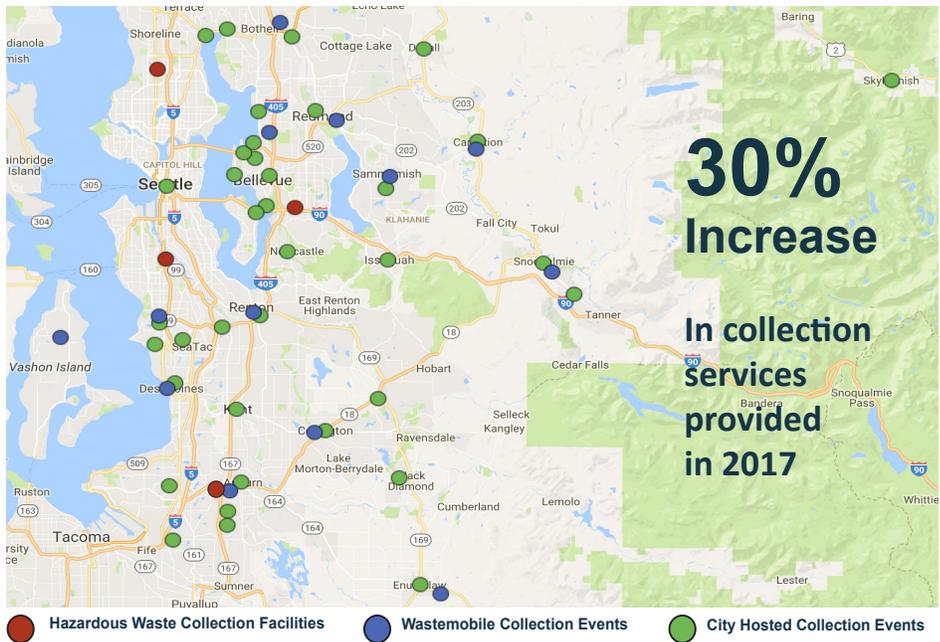
Education and outreach to reduce exposure risks to hazardous materials over the past five years.

275,966 Residents

Visited a collection facility or Wastemobile to dispose of hazardous materials over the past five years.

Collection and Disposal

Disposal services at collection facilities, a traveling Wastemobile and city and tribal collection events provide convenient, safe disposal of unwanted hazardous materials and hazardous wastes for all residents and for businesses that generate small quantities of hazardous waste.

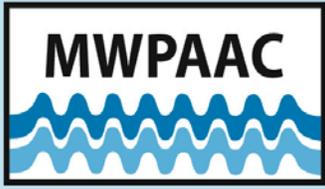


Policy

LHWMP collaborates with state and local agencies, non-governmental organizations, communities and industry to affect change in the production, use and disposal of hazardous materials to help ensure chemicals and products are safe for people and the environment. Current areas of focus include safer alternatives and project stewardship.

LHWMP Policy Initiatives

- * Safer Alternative Strategies
- * Secure Medicine Return
- * Mercury-Containing Lights
- * Mercury Thermostats
- * Dental Mercury Waste Disposal
- * WA Occupational Lead Standards



Metropolitan Water Pollution Abatement Advisory Committee

King Street Center, 201 South Jackson Street, MS KSC-NR-0508
Seattle, WA 98104 206-477-4435

MEMBERS:

- Alderwood Water and Wastewater District*
- City of Algona*
- City of Auburn*
- City of Bellevue*
- City of Black Diamond*
- City of Bothell*
- City of Brier*
- City of Carnation*
- Cedar River Water and Sewer District*
- Coal Creek Utility District*
- Cross Valley Water District*
- Highlands Sewer District*
- City of Issaquah*
- City of Kent*
- City of Kirkland*
- City of Lake Forest Park*
- Lakehaven Water and Sewer District*
- City of Mercer Island*
- Midway Sewer District*
- Northeast Sammamish Sewer District*
- Northshore Utility District*
- Olympic View Water and Sewer District*
- City of Pacific*
- City of Redmond*
- City of Renton*
- Ronald Wastewater District*
- Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District*
- City of Seattle*
- Skyway Water and Sewer District*
- Soos Creek Water and Sewer District*
- Southwest Suburban Sewer District*
- City of Tukwila*
- Valley View Sewer District*
- Vashon Sewer District*
- Woodinville Water District*

March 30, 2018

The Honorable Dow Constantine
King County Executive
401 5th Ave., Suite 800
Seattle, WA 98104

SUBJECT: Wastewater Treatment Division Rate Recommendation

Dear Executive Constantine:

The Metropolitan Water Pollution Abatement Advisory Committee (MWWPAAC) has reviewed the Wastewater Treatment Division’s (WTD) rate proposal for 2019, and its projected rate forecast for 2020-2024. Based on that review, we do not support the proposed 2019-2020 rate of \$45.33, a 2.5 percent increase. We have concerns that an increase lower than an average annual rate of 3 percent discussed by the MWWPAAC Debt Review Committee will result in the need for larger than projected rate increases in the future. Future rate stability and maintaining affordable rates are always a concern of this committee. We also wish to highlight several topics that will require ongoing review by MWWPAAC, and which could affect our recommendation regarding WTD rates in 2020 and beyond. These are discussed below.

- **Brightwater Tunneling Contractor Settlement**
 - WTD received a settlement of approximately \$144 million as the result of a contract dispute with contractors drilling an outfall tunnel during the final phases of Brightwater construction. This money had previously been held in trust until conclusion of the litigation, in which WTD prevailed. The original expenditures related to this settlement were made from WTD’s Capital Improvement Fund and were likely debt funded. As such, MWWPAAC respectfully requests that WTD use the money, in total, for future capital needs, avoiding any diversion to cover operating or other expenses not directly related to system improvement.
- **Debt Management**
 - MWWPAAC anticipates continued commitment to the plan to reduce outstanding debt through 2030 via increased cash financing. This plan, presented in the 2017 Rate Recommendation, was in line with the MWWPAAC debt review recommendation. Given the many capital-intensive projects in WTD’s near-term future, fiscal prudence will help maintain strong credit ratings, low interest rates, and provide flexibility for managing the future capital program. Indeed, WTD’s 2017 credit rating was increased by Moody’s, citing “strengthened financial position, including higher debt service coverage.”

The Honorable Dow Constantine
March 30, 2018
Page 2

- **WTD Systemwide Plan**
 - As the County continues to develop its Systemwide Plan, MWPAAC remains concerned that current rate projections do not include sufficient funding to address these future needs. This may result in artificially low rates in the current rate setting cycle and much larger rate increases in the future as WTD is forced to catch-up with the actual costs of the plan. MWPAAC members prefer steady, manageable rate increases compared to the double-digit increases incurred during the days of Brightwater construction.
 - MWPAAC requests that its members have a voice in prioritizing recommendations for the Systemwide Plan. MWPAAC members have intimate knowledge of their local systems and are thus able to provide critical insight to assist WTD with identifying needs that should be included in the plan. The knowledge members bring may help to narrow the recommendations, which in turn can help keep the plan more affordable.
 - MWPAAC suggests that WTD consider developing an infrastructure investment strategy based on the Systemwide Plan that is realistic and affordable within the current rate environment as opposed to a lengthy list of projects that will place an unreasonable additional burden on MWPAAC ratepayers.
- **Succession Planning**
 - MWPAAC would also like to note its support of WTD's approach towards succession planning. Proactively addressing an aging workforce will help prevent interruptions to service and assist in maintaining the regional infrastructure.

Reflecting over the past year, MWPAAC makes these recommendations with a continued commitment to a partnership with WTD and the County for effective wastewater management. We remain appreciative of WTD's efforts to give MWPAAC a meaningful role and look forward to a continued collaborative relationship based on the recommendations in this letter.

Sincerely,



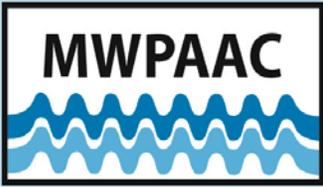
Pamela Carter
MWPAAC Chair

cc: MWPAAC Members
Christie True, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)
Mark Isaacson, Division Director, Wastewater Treatment Division, DNRP

Metropolitan Water Pollution Abatement Advisory Committee

Attachment D to the May 9, 2018 PIC Minutes

King Street Center, 201 South Jackson Street, MS KSC-NR-0508
Seattle, WA 98104 206-477-4435



MEMBERS:

*Alderwood Water and
Wastewater District*

City of Algona

City of Auburn

City of Bellevue

City of Black Diamond

City of Bothell

City of Brier

City of Carnation

Cedar River Water and Sewer District

Coal Creek Utility District

Cross Valley Water District

Highlands Sewer District

City of Issaquah

City of Kent

City of Kirkland

City of Lake Forest Park

Lakehaven Water and Sewer District

City of Mercer Island

Midway Sewer District

Northeast Sammamish Sewer District

Northshore Utility District

Olympic View Water and Sewer District

City of Pacific

City of Redmond

City of Renton

Ronald Wastewater District

*Sammamish Plateau Water and
Sewer District*

City of Seattle

Skyway Water and Sewer District

Soos Creek Water and Sewer District

Southwest Suburban Sewer District

City of Tukwila

Valley View Sewer District

Vashon Sewer District

Woodinville Water District

1704_8106L_MWPAAC_Minutes
June 13, 2018

April 25, 2018

The Honorable Joe McDermott
Chair, King County Council
Room 1200
C O U R T H O U S E

SUBJECT: King County Executive Rate Proposal

Dear Councilmember McDermott:

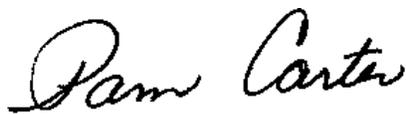
The Metropolitan Water Pollution Abatement Advisory Committee (MWWPAAC) has reviewed Executive Constantine's rate proposal for 2019, and its projected rate forecast for 2020-2024. MWWPAAC continues to track the work of the Debt Review Committee and is supportive of current and future rate increases that are in line with those recommendations. While this rate proposal generally reflects that guidance, future rate stability and maintenance of affordable rates remain a concern of this committee. Highlighted below are several topics that will require ongoing review by MWWPAAC. These could affect our recommendation regarding the Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) rates in 2020 and beyond.

- **Brightwater Tunneling Contractor Settlement**
 - WTD received a settlement of approximately \$144 million as the result of a contract dispute with contractors drilling an outfall tunnel during the final phases of Brightwater construction. This money had previously been held in trust until conclusion of the litigation, in which WTD prevailed. The original expenditures related to this settlement were made from WTD's Capital Improvement Fund and were likely debt funded. As such, MWWPAAC respectfully requests that WTD use the money, in total, for future capital needs, avoiding any diversion to cover operating or other expenses not directly related to system improvement.
- **Debt Management**
 - MWWPAAC anticipates continued commitment to the plan to reduce outstanding debt through 2030 via increased cash financing. This plan, presented in the 2017 Rate Recommendation, was in line with the MWWPAAC debt review recommendation. Given the many capital-intensive projects in WTD's near-term future, fiscal prudence will help maintain strong credit ratings, low interest rates, and provide flexibility for managing the future capital program. Indeed, WTD's 2017 credit rating was increased by Moody's, citing "strengthened financial position, including higher debt service coverage."

- **WTD Systemwide Plan**
 - As the County continues to develop its Systemwide Plan, MWPAAC remains concerned that current rate projections do not include sufficient funding to address these future needs. This may result in artificially low rates in the current rate setting cycle and much larger rate increases in the future as WTD is forced to catch-up with the actual costs of the plan. MWPAAC members prefer steady, manageable rate increases compared to the double-digit increases incurred during the days of Brightwater construction.
 - MWPAAC requests that its members have a voice in prioritizing recommendations for the Systemwide Plan. MWPAAC members have intimate knowledge of their local systems and are thus able to provide critical insight to assist WTD with identifying needs that should be included in the plan. The knowledge members bring may help to narrow the recommendations, which in turn can help keep the plan more affordable.
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- **Succession Planning**
 - MWPAAC would also like to note its support of WTD's approach towards succession planning. Proactively addressing an aging workforce will help prevent interruptions to service and assist in maintaining the regional infrastructure.

Reflecting over the past year, MWPAAC makes these recommendations with a continued commitment to a partnership with WTD and the County for effective wastewater management. We remain appreciative of WTD's efforts to give MWPAAC a meaningful role and look forward to a continued collaborative relationship based on the recommendations in this letter.

Sincerely,



Pamela Carter
MWPAAC Chair

cc: King County Councilmembers
Regional Water Quality Committee members
MWPAAC Members
Christie True, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)
Mark Isaacson, Division Director, Wastewater Treatment Division, DNRP



June 13, 2018
SCA PIC Meeting

Item 06:
King County Land Conservation Initiative
DISCUSSION ITEM

SCA Staff Contact

Brian Parry, SCA Senior Policy Analyst, brian@soundcities.org, 206-499-4159

SCA Appointee to the Land Conservation Advisory Group

Councilmember Hank Margeson, Redmond

Other SCA City Elected Officials on the Land Conservation Advisory Group

Councilmember De'Sean Quinn, Tukwila (co-chair); Mayor Ken Hearing, North Bend; Mayor Matt Larson, Snoqualmie; Councilmember James McNeal, Bothell; and Councilmember John Stokes, Bellevue

Discussion

The King County Land Conservation Initiative was launched by County Executive Constantine in March 2016 to “protect the remaining high conservation-value lands in King County” within a generation. A Land Conservation Advisory Group was convened to provide recommendations on the Executive’s proposal, and produced a [Final Report](#) on December 29, 2017. The final report identified goals and strategies to protect and maintain approximately 65,000 acres of high conservation value lands over the next 30 years.

On June 4, 2018, Executive Constantine transmitted [Ordinance 2018-0268](#), which would implement two of the recommendations of the Advisory Group. The first would change county financial policies to allow bonding against a greater portion of existing Conservation Futures Tax funds to allow acquisitions to be made sooner. The second would remove the requirement for matching funds for land conservation acquisitions in areas that lack access to green space and also have lower incomes and health metrics.

The proposed ordinance does not recommend increasing the Conservation Futures Tax levy in 2018 as proposed by the Advisory Group. A revised financial strategy released by the County in May recommends instead adding up to 2-cents to the King County Parks Levy that is dedicated to open space acquisitions to fund a first phase of the Initiative, while potentially funding later phases through an increase to the Conservation Futures Tax levy.

PIC members are encouraged to provide feedback on the current proposal to implement the Land Conservation Initiative and input on the renewal of the King County Parks Levy in 2019.

Background

The Land Conservation Initiative is an effort launched by King County Executive Dow Constantine to develop a strategy to “protect the remaining high conservation-value lands in King County” within a generation. A Land Conservation Advisory Group (Advisory Group) was formed in September 2016 to review and propose refinements to the Executive’s proposed Land Conservation Initiative.

Over a two-year process, the County worked with stakeholders and cities to identify high priority lands for conservation, and a means for acquiring those properties. In total, the Initiative identifies 65,000 acres of natural areas, farms, forests, river land, urban green space, and trail connections that are considered of the highest ecological value and most at risk of loss to development. In addition, the Advisory Group identified “open space equity” areas within the county where households simultaneously lack access to open spaces, are lower income, and have higher incidences of poor health outcomes as priorities for investment.

The total land acquisition costs over a 30-year period to implement the Initiative as recommended by the Advisory Group are estimated by the County at \$4.14 billion. After accounting for existing funding sources and 30-years of real estate appreciation, the remaining funding gap to fully fund property acquisition envisioned by the Initiative is projected to be \$1.9 billion. In addition, \$530 million was identified as needed for operations and maintenance and recommends raising these funds as part of future renewals of the King County Parks Levy.

In its [Final Report](#), the Advisory Group made a series of recommendations related to fully funding the Initiative, including recommendations targeted to accelerate the pace of acquiring properties to address climbing land prices and ensure priority lands are not lost to development. All Advisory Group materials can be found on the [project website](#), and additional background, including details on the Final Report of the Advisory Group, can be found in the [February 14, 2018 PIC Packet](#).

Advisory Group Recommendations

To fund and accelerate the pace of the Initiative, the Advisory Group made the following recommendations:

- Close the gap in funding for the initiative by asking voters to approve increasing the Conservation Futures Tax levy from its current rate of approximately 4-cents per \$1,000 of assessed value to the statutory maximum of 6.25-cents per \$1,000.
- Accelerate acquisition pace by changing county financial policy that currently limits the amount of Conservation Futures Tax funds that may be spent to repay bonds on an annual basis to 50%. The proposal would set a new limit of 80% of funds per year that may be used to repay bonds.

- Remove the funding match requirement for funds allocated through the Conservation Futures program for areas identified as “open space equity” areas within the county¹.
- Evaluate options to fund the estimated \$530 million in future maintenance and operations needs to support the proposed acquisition properties through the King County Parks Levy (adding up to one cent to the levy).
- Aggressively pursue private funding. King County estimates between \$277 and \$292 million in private funding over 30 years to support the Initiative from Transfer of Development Rights purchases, mitigation credits, carbon credits, and private philanthropy.

Implementation Plan and Financial Strategy

In May, King County Executive Dow Constantine announced a multi-step strategy to pursue implementation of the Land Conservation Initiative ([Attachment A](#)). The proposed strategy is consistent with the recommendations of the Advisory Group with the exception of the near-term financial strategy, which calls for funding the first phase of the Initiative through the six-year King County Parks Levy rather than through an immediate increase to the Conservation Futures Tax levy.

As a first step toward implementation, on June 4th, Executive Constantine transmitted [Ordinance 2018-0268](#), which would implement two of the recommendations of the Advisory Group. The first would change county financial policies to allow bonding against a greater portion of existing Conservation Futures Tax funds, and the second would remove the funding match requirement for “open space equity” areas.

The second phase of implementation is to pursue additional funding to support the Initiative. The Advisory Group recommended seeking voter approval to reset the Conservation Futures Tax to its statutory maximum of 6.25-cents per \$1,000 of assessed value, an increase over the current rate of approximately 2.25-cents per \$1,000.

In response to concerns about voter tax-fatigue and the volume of ballot measures under consideration, Executive Constantine indicated he would not be proposing putting forward a ballot measure in 2018 to increase the Conservation Futures Tax. Instead, the financial strategy proposed in May calls for a potential 2-cent increase to the King County Parks Levy to fund a first phase of the Initiative. Under the proposed strategy, increasing the Conservation Futures Tax would be considered sometime in the 2020-2025 period to fully fund the acquisition priorities identified in the Initiative.

¹ Priority areas are defined as having the following characteristics: not within ¼ mile of publicly owned and accessible park, greenspace, or trail; in the lowest 1/3 of all King County census tracts for household income; and, in the highest 1/3 of all King County census tracts for rates of chronic disease that can be, in part, mitigated by physical activity (current analysis uses data on the rate of hospitalizations from chronic diseases of asthma, diabetes, and heart disease.) See a map of priority areas [here](#).

Land Conservation and the King County Parks Levy

The King County Parks Levy is currently collected at a rate of 13.9-cents per \$1,000 of assessed value. It is a six-year levy, approved in 2013, that provides an average of nearly \$70 million per year to support King County Parks, local parks and trails in cities, and the Woodland Park Zoo. The levy currently funds approximately \$6-\$7 million per year in open space and natural lands acquisition, and \$1 million for stewardship of acquired lands. Cities in King County receive approximately \$5 million per year for local parks system projects, with funding allocated via formula based 50% on population and 50% on assessed value. In addition, the levy funds approximately 80% of the King County Parks operating budget and provides approximately \$5 million per year to support the Woodland Park Zoo.

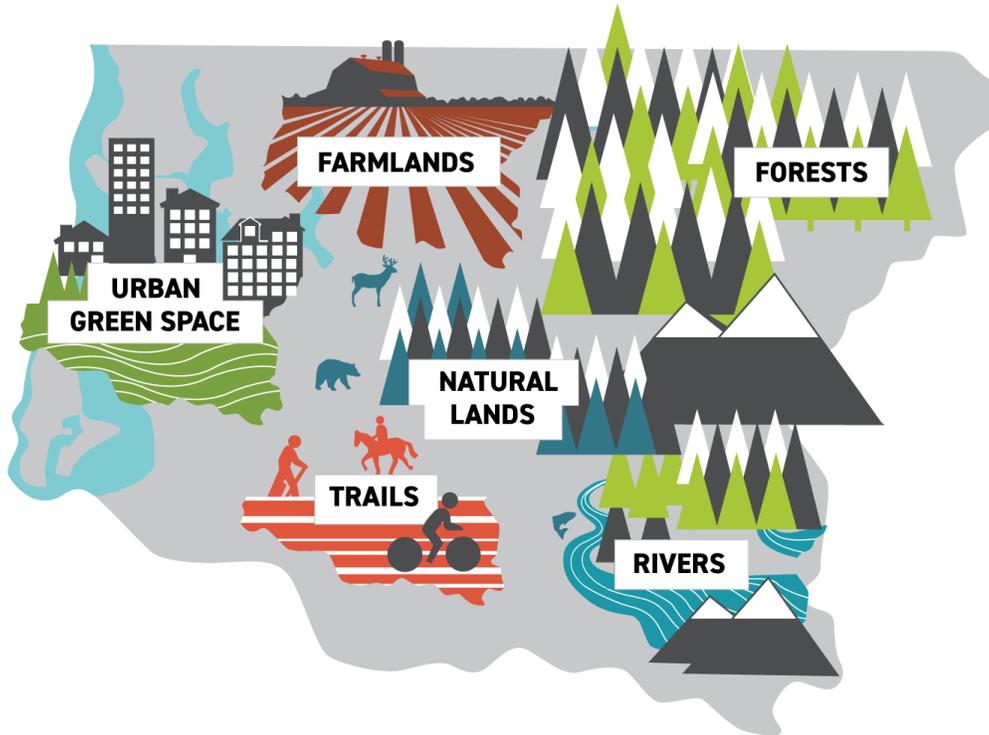
Cities have expressed that they highly value the funds that are made available through the Parks Levy, in particular because of the flexibility these funds to support a range of activities including property acquisition, adding amenities to existing parks, and major maintenance.

Any proposed increase or change in distribution of the Parks Levy to increase funding for conservation acquisition should be weighed against the other important services funded by the levy. To date, the plan for preparing the Parks Levy renewal has not been announced. In a briefing to SCA staff, King County staff indicated the county may pursue a less formal levy development process than in prior years. This could include engagement with various organizations, cities, and stakeholders without convening a formal levy development task force as was done in 2012. It is expected the county will develop a plan for levy renewal over the next several months, providing an opportunity now for SCA cities to provide input on that process. Regardless of the format, cities have a significant interest in the final composition of the levy and should play an active role in its development.

Next Steps

Proposed Ordinance 2018-0268 has been transmitted to the County Council, and SCA staff will continue to monitor its progress. In addition, SCA staff will report to PIC members as more information is made available about the process for developing the renewal of the King County Parks Levy. Questions or feedback can be provided to SCA Senior Policy Analyst Brian Parry at brian@soundcities.org or 206-499-4159.

Land Conservation Initiative



The Vision

Protect the region's remaining and most vital greenspaces & trails – for everyone – *within a generation (i.e. 30 years)*

The Numbers

The Initiative strives to sustain the livability and ecological integrity of our region, both urban and rural. Together we will achieve this by protecting 65,000 acres that has been mapped, priced, and prioritized across six land categories shown above.

- 2,500 urban acres identified by cities
- 60,600 acres identified by the County
- 55 new urban green spaces needed to eliminate disparities in open space access
- 125 miles of added trails for recreation & access to transit

Costs:

The 30 year cost = \$4.5 B

- Cost figure includes inflation, real estate app, & transaction costs
- Approximately 50% of costs are for land inside cities & 50% of costs are for land in County areas (*rural county acquisition priorities cost less on a per acre basis than more expensive urban city priorities*)

Revenues:

County + Cities' existing 30 year funding sources = \$2.25 B

Funding Gap:

Initiative seeks to bridge a \$2.25 B funding gap over the next 30 years

Savings:

70 year Status Quo Cost = \$20 Billion

Savings = \$15 Billion by accelerating the pace of acquisition to 30 years

The Path Forward

The Land Conservation Vision will require a series of steps and actions over the next three decades – this is a long-term, multi-step, multi-year effort. As such, we will be working with you to build a coalition of city partners, non-profit partners, and corporate partners who together stand in support of this work now and into the future.

The initial steps to begin this work are as follows:

STEP 1: 2018

- The King County Executive will propose legislation to the King County Council in spring 2018 to initiate the Land Conservation Initiative. This legislation will accomplish two specific things:
 1. Building upon the success of decades of progress using the conservation futures tax (CFT) the legislation proposes to increase the use of bond financing with CFT (raising the cap from 50 to 80 %). This will allow King County to increase funding for land conservation inside cities, and across the County, by about \$148 million over the next 2-4 years. The CFT Citizen Oversight Committee will continue to make funding allocation recommendations to KC Executive & Council
 2. The legislation will also address open space equity by removing a significant barrier to increase urban green space in communities with the greatest and most acute needs. Specifically, the legislation proposes to remove the 50% local funding match requirement for CFT when funding is applied to projects in priority open space equity areas (i.e. open space projects in communities that simultaneously have low income and poor health metrics, and do not live within easy access to an existing park, trail, or greenspace).
- In addition to the legislation, in 2018 the County will:

- This summer work with the CFT Citizen’s Oversight Committee and cities to establish a funding allocation process that will enable us to accelerate the pace of acquisitions using new CFT bond funds.
- This summer work with cities to develop solutions to the match requirement to access the increased amount of CFT funds in areas outside the priority equity communities.
- Establish an Open Space Equity Cabinet to be the region’s “Voice” on the issue of open space equity to guide policy and investments for meaningful equity outcomes.
- Begin open space equity work in 2018 in two initial priority area cities.
- Strengthen existing and develop new nonprofit and private sector funding partnerships.

STEP 2: 2019

- Fund Operations & Maintenance of newly acquired open spaces in both cities and the county via small increase (up to one cent) in the KC Parks Levy renewal
- Consider adding up to two cents to the King County Parks Levy that is dedicated to open space acquisitions in cities and the county (approximately \$80M)

STEP 3: 2020 - 2025

- Bond against new CFT debt capacity in 2024/25 (approximately \$120M)
- Consider restoration of CFT levy rate from its current rate of 3.8 cents/\$1000 AV back to its original levy rate and state-authorized cap of 6.25 cents/\$1000 AV. The CFT levy rate has eroded 40% since 2003 due to the 1% cap on revenue growth.



June 13, 2018
SCA PIC Meeting

Item 7:
Count Us In
UPDATE

SCA Staff Contact

Ellie Wilson-Jones, Senior Policy Analyst, ellie@soundcities.org, (206) 495-5238

SCA All Home Coordinating Board Members

Mayor Nancy Backus, Auburn; Mayor John Chelminiak, Bellevue

SCA All Home Funder Alignment Committee Members

Brooke Buckingham, Redmond (Co-Chair); Rob Beem, Shoreline; Merina Hanson, Kent

All Home Funder Alignment Committee Members Representing SCA Cities with Own Seats

Alex O'Reilly, Bellevue; Arthur Sullivan, A Regional Coalition for Housing (ARCH)

Update

On January 26, 2018, there were 12,112 people experiencing homelessness countywide according to the annual point-in-time count, called "Count Us In" and previously known as the "One Night Count." Of the total, an estimated 5,792 people were sheltered in transitional housing or emergency shelters, and 6,320 people were outside, on the streets or in buildings, vehicles, or encampments (sanctioned or unsanctioned). Overall, the number of people identified as experiencing homelessness on January 26, 2018 increased by 4 percent from the 2017 count.

While the overall total increased from 2017, there were significant decreases for three sub-populations for which there has been substantial investment and coordination between federal, state, and local governments and non-profit agencies. Veteran homelessness decreased by 31 percent, homelessness among minors decreased by 22 percent, and family homelessness decreased by 7 percent.

The count, conducted each January, offers a rough snapshot of how many people were experiencing homelessness in King County on a given night, but is a far underrepresentation of the number of people who move in and out of homelessness in King County over the course of a year. Data captured through the region's Homelessness Management Information System shows that approximately 30,000 individuals (more than 20,000 households) enter the homeless system in King County annually.

Background

Each year, All Home—the lead agency for coordinating countywide efforts to address homelessness—conducts a point-in-time count of people experiencing homelessness in King County. In 2017, the point-in-time count was renamed “Count Us In,” a new methodology was adopted, and All Home began partnering with the national non-profit research firm Applied Survey Research (ASR) to conduct the count. Before 2017, the Seattle/King County Coalition on Homelessness had organized the effort in conjunction with All Home, and the point-in-time count was known as the “One Night Count”. Because of the significant shift in methodology between 2016 and 2017, data from 2016 and earlier is not considered comparable to the count data for 2017 onward.

2018 Count Us In

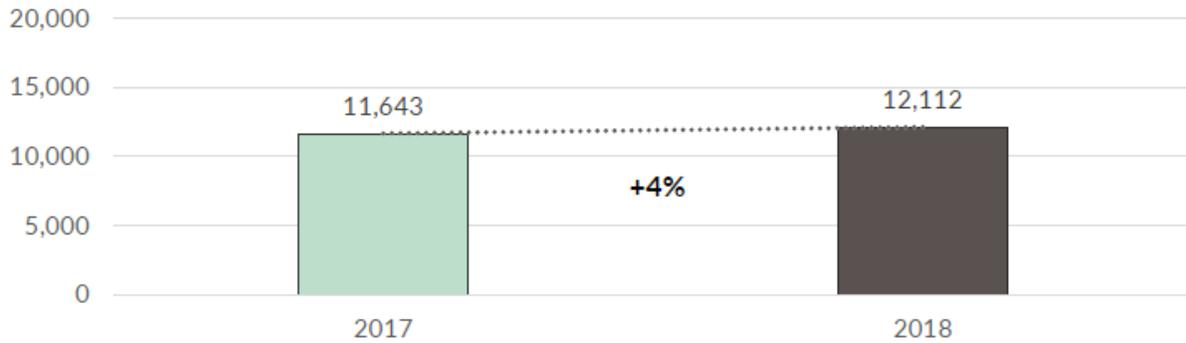
Continuing with the methodology utilized in 2017, the 2018 point-in-time count of people experiencing homelessness included four components: First, a street count that reached all 398 census tracts in King County was conducted the morning of January 26, 2018 by more than 200 paid guides with lived experience and more than 600 volunteers. Second, the point-in-time count also included a count of people residing in emergency shelter, transitional housing, and safe haven programs the night of January 25, 2018. Third, a person-to-person survey was completed by 1,056 people reflecting a representative sample of sheltered and unsheltered people across the county. Finally, a focused survey-based count of unsheltered, unaccompanied youth under the age of 18 and young adults between the ages of 18 and 24 was conducted throughout the day of January 25, 2018 at both site-based and street locations. Of the total survey sample, 158 of the responses came from this effort intended to improve data about local youth and young adult homelessness.

As in 2017, this year’s count results were released in a report on May 31. The time between the January street and shelter counts and May report release allowed for the analysis of survey data and the development of a more thorough understanding of who is experiencing homelessness in our region, where, and why. The [Count Us In 2018 Comprehensive Report is now available online](#), and the Executive Summary is included as [Attachment A](#). An infographic summarizing key count data and findings from the accompanying survey is available online [here](#).

Results

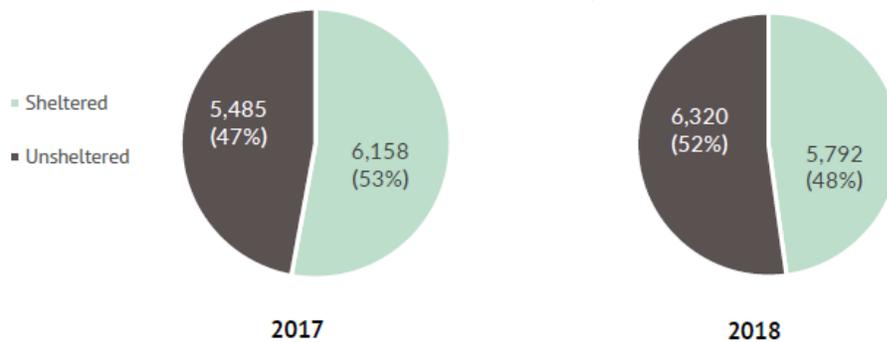
The 2018 count found 12,112 people experiencing homelessness countywide. The total number of people identified as experiencing homelessness increased by 4 percent (469 people) from 2017, and the unsheltered population increased by 15 percent (835 people). Fifty-two percent (6,320 people) were unsheltered, on the streets, sleeping in vehicles, in encampments (sanctioned or unsanctioned), or other places not meant for human habitation, and 48 percent (5,792 people) were sheltered in transitional housing, safe havens, or emergency shelters.

FIGURE 1. INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS, TOTAL COUNT POPULATION WITH TREND



Source: *Count Us In 2018, Comprehensive Report Produced by ASR, page 8.*

FIGURE 2. INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS, TOTAL COUNT POPULATION BY SHELTER STATUS

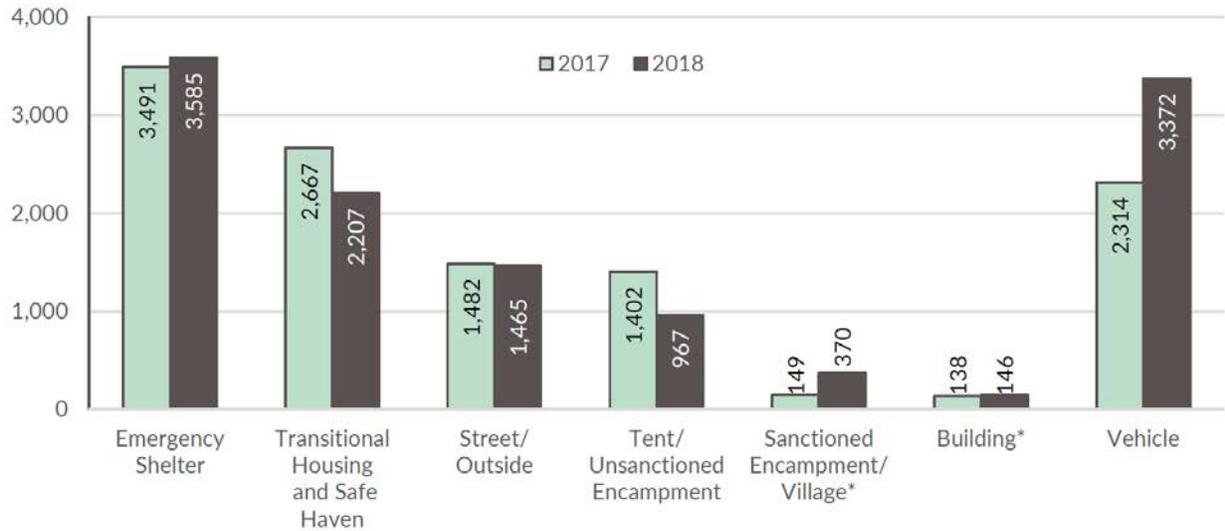


2017 n=11,643; 2018 n=12,112

Source: *Count Us In 2018, Comprehensive Report Produced by ASR, page 8.*

As illustrated in Figure 3, which follows, while the overall share of the unsheltered population grew to a majority of the total count, the number of people in emergency shelter did nonetheless also increase from 3,491 in 2017 to 3,585 in 2018. The number of people in safe havens and transitional housing (both of which are also counted within the sheltered total), however, decreased from 2,667 in 2017 to 2,207 in 2018. This decrease was driven by the conversion of transitional housing to permanent housing, a several-years effort that has been underway in response to learnings about which housing interventions perform best and to improve the region’s competitiveness in an annual federal funding competition.

FIGURE 3. INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS, TOTAL COUNT POPULATION BY LOCATION TYPE



Source: *Count Us In 2018, Comprehensive Report Produced by ASR, [page 9](#).*

Recognizing the regional nature of the homelessness crisis and mobility of people across jurisdictional boundaries, survey results are again being reported for six subregions. The subregions have been adjusted from 2017 to shift Issaquah and Sammamish from the Northeast County to the East County subregion, among other changes explained further on [page 132 of the full report](#). The six subregions are now being reported for both the 2017 and 2018 data included in this year’s report as follows:

- **East County:** Beaux Arts Village, Bellevue, Clyde Hill, Hunts Point, Issaquah, Kirkland, Medina, Mercer Island, Newcastle, Redmond, Sammamish, Yarrow Point, Unincorporated Areas
- **North County:** Bothell, Kenmore, Lake Forest Park, Shoreline, Woodinville, Unincorporated Areas
- **Northeast County:** Carnation, Duvall, North Bend, Skykomish, Snoqualmie, Unincorporated Areas
- **Seattle**
- **Southeast County:** Black Diamond, Covington, Enumclaw, Maple Valley, Unincorporated Areas
- **Southwest County:** Algona, Auburn, Burien, Des Moines, Federal Way, Kent, Milton, Normandy Park, Pacific, Renton, SeaTac, Tukwila, Vashon Island, Unincorporated Areas

Analysis by All Home is still ongoing to determine the number of people who were in shelter by subregion, and those subregional counts are expected to be shared soon. Unsheltered counts for each subregion are excerpted from the report as follows:

FIGURE 4. INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING UNSHELTERED HOMELESSNESS BY REGION

| REGION | UNSHELTERED | | | |
|------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| | 2017 | | 2018 | |
| | % | <i>n</i> | % | <i>n</i> |
| East County | 6% | 319 | 6% | 393 |
| North County | 1% | 58 | 4% | 251 |
| Northeast County | 2% | 84 | 2% | 137 |
| Seattle | 70% | 3,841 | 71% | 4,488 |
| Southwest County | 20% | 1,113 | 15% | 974 |
| Southeast County | 1% | 70 | 1% | 77 |
| TOTAL | 100% | 5,485 | 100% | 6,320 |

Source: *Count Us In 2018, Comprehensive Report Produced by ASR, page 10.*

Additional detail about the location of people surviving without shelter is excerpted as follows:

FIGURE 5. INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING UNSHELTERED HOMELESSNESS BY REGION AND LOCATION TYPE

| REGION | 2018 | | | | | | | TOTAL UNSHELTERED PERSONS | % OF TOTAL |
|------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|----------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|---------------------------|------------|
| | PERSONS ON STREETS/ OUTSIDE | PERSONS IN TENTS | PERSONS IN BUILDINGS | PERSONS IN CAR | PERSONS IN RV | PERSONS IN VAN | | | |
| East County | 30 | 36 | 25 | 167 | 63 | 72 | 393 | 6% | |
| North County | 26 | 33 | 8 | 55 | 97 | 32 | 251 | 4% | |
| Northeast County | 18 | 80 | 1 | 4 | 28 | 6 | 137 | 2% | |
| Seattle | 1,120 | 1,034 | 55 | 592 | 1,375 | 312 | 4,488 | 71% | |
| Southeast County | 12 | 25 | 15 | 12 | 13 | 0 | 77 | 1% | |
| Southwest County | 259 | 129 | 42 | 333 | 154 | 57 | 974 | 15% | |
| Total | 1,465 | 1,337 | 146 | 1,163 | 1,730 | 479 | 6,320 | 100% | |

Source: *Count Us In 2018, Comprehensive Report Produced by ASR, page 133.*

City-level counts for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness and their locations are included as [Attachment B](#). To protect the privacy of individuals experiencing homelessness where totals are low, all counts (both for total counts and counts by location) of less than 25 individuals have been redacted. Because of redactions, counts by location may appear not to tally to the total (for example, a total count of unsheltered people may be provided for a jurisdiction even when no location-specific counts have been provided, because there were fewer than 25 individuals per location type).

Key Findings

The survey conducted in conjunction with this year’s street count provided additional context beyond the broad totals noted above. Survey results, described in detail in the [full report](#) and summarized in the attached Executive Summary ([Attachment A](#)) and linked [infographic](#), showed the following:

- While the overall number of people experiencing homelessness increased, there was a significant reduction in veteran homelessness (31 percent decrease). Increased investment and collaboration between federal, state, county and local governments and non-profit agencies are reported to have spurred this progress.
- There were also decreases in homelessness among minors (22 percent decrease) and families (7 percent decrease). Collaboration and increased investment, including from businesses and philanthropy, are reported to have been instrumental in preventing children and families from becoming homeless and with connecting homeless children and families with diversion resources.
- Homelessness continues to disproportionately impact people of color. Fifty-two percent of people experiencing homelessness identified as people of color while people of color make up just 33 percent of King County’s general population. All Home has acknowledged that this year’s results also likely reflect an undercount of people of color, particularly those who identify as American Indian or Alaska Native, because [people accessing services at organizations such as the Chief Seattle Club that are focused on serving the Native homeless population were not surveyed this year.](#)
- There was a dramatic increase in the number of people counted in vehicles—3,372 people were in vehicles this year accounting for 28 percent of the overall count and a nearly 46 percent increase from the 2,314 people in vehicles in 2017.
- The number of people living in tents decreased, down 14 percent from 1,551 in 2017 to 1,337 in 2018. Given the increased visibility of homelessness in communities throughout King County, All Home acknowledges that this finding may be surprising but notes that people living in tents have been forced to shift their locations more frequently and are occupying more visible settings.

Survey data continued to reflect that the overwhelming majority of people experiencing homelessness here were living in King County (83 percent) immediately prior to their loss of housing. Ninety-five percent of survey respondents reported living in Washington at the time of their housing loss. Both findings show an increase in the number of people who were residing locally at their time of housing loss over 2017 survey data.

Asked what would help them to obtain permanent housing, 80 percent of survey respondents answered more affordable housing and rental assistance. If offered, 98 percent said they would move into safe and affordable housing. Both data points show increases from 2017 survey data.

Other Data and Analysis of Homelessness in King County

While the annual point-in-time count provides one of the region’s most cited data points regarding homelessness, it is just one source of information our region is using to understand the extent and nature of homelessness in King County. Examples of additional data and analysis include McKinsey & Company’s recent findings regarding the correlation between homelessness and lack of affordable housing, data from our countywide Homeless, Management Information System, and the statewide homeless students survey, each of which are discussed below.

McKinsey & Company Analysis

This year's point-in-time count findings regarding a linkage between housing affordability and homelessness are consistent with the key takeaways from a separate analysis of local housing conditions and the homelessness system conducted by McKinsey & Company. In analyzing a number of factors, [McKinsey found that the increase in King County rents were most strongly correlated with increasing homelessness](#). A fuller presentation summarizing McKinsey's analysis was also previously distributed to the PIC by email in May. City officials wishing to receive a copy of the analysis can contact SCA Senior Policy Analyst Ellie Wilson-Jones at ellie@soundcities.org to request a copy.

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Data

While the number of people identified as experiencing homelessness in King County continues to grow with each year's point-in-time count, the people comprising each year's count shift significantly as people move out of homelessness and others lose their housing. Over the course of a year, approximately 30,000 individuals (more than 20,000 households) enter the homeless system in King County. As tracked in our region's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), more and more people have been housed each year—averting even larger increases in each year's point-in-time count but still failing to keep pace with the rate at which people are becoming homeless here. [Attachment C](#) shows the number of households entering and exiting HMIS in King County between 2012 and 2017 and where, when recorded, people exited the homeless service system to. In 2017, nearly 19,000 households exited HMIS including nearly 7,000 households who were permanently housed. Between 2012 and 2017, the number of households who were permanently housed upon exiting from HMIS increased 132 percent up from 2,949 households.

Statewide Homeless Students Survey

Separate from the point-in-time count, data is collected each year on homeless children enrolled and served by school districts. This survey, conducted statewide through the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, found that there were nearly 41,000 homeless students statewide during the 2016-17 school year. The survey utilizes the [definition of homelessness found in the federal McKinney-Vento act](#), which is broader than the federally-developed definition used for the point-in-time count. Data for each school district for 2016-17 is downloadable [here](#), and prior years' data may be found [here](#).

Next Steps

PIC members are encouraged to review the Count Us In materials provided as attachments to this staff report and linked throughout for fuller analysis about the results of the 2018 point-in-time count. Additionally, cities may request briefings on the count results and more information about city-specific findings by contacting All Home Acting Director Kira Zylstra at kira.zylstra@allhomekc.org.

Attachments

- A. [Count Us In – Seattle/King County 2018 Point-In-Time Count of Persons Experiencing Homelessness Comprehensive Report \(Executive Summary\)](#)
- B. [Count Us In Unsheltered Data by Jurisdiction](#)
- C. [Number of Households Entering and Exiting HMIS in King County, 2012-2017](#)

Online Materials

- [Count Us In – Seattle/King County 2018 Point-In-Time Count of Persons Experiencing Homelessness Comprehensive Report \(Full Report\)](#)
- [2018 Count Us In Results Infographic](#)
- [McKinsey & Company Analysis: The Economic of Homelessness in Seattle and King County](#)
- [2016-17 Homeless Student Data](#)

Executive Summary

BACKGROUND

Point-in-Time Counts provide a “snapshot” of how many people are experiencing homelessness on a given night. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires all Continuums of Care to conduct a Point-in-Time Count during the last 10 days of January, allowing for nationwide analysis of major trends over time and tracking progress toward ending homelessness. While Continuums of Care are required to conduct a Point-in-Time Count of their unsheltered population on a biannual basis, Seattle/King County is among several communities that conducts an annual count. As the lead agency for the Seattle/King County Continuum of Care, All Home is responsible for conducting and reporting the findings of the local Point-in-Time Count.

Locally, Point-in-Time Count findings are used in tandem with data captured through the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to inform local strategic planning and investment, capacity building, and advocacy to address racial disparities and make homelessness a rare, brief, and one-time experience.

DEFINITION OF HOMELESSNESS

For the purposes of Count Us In, the HUD definition of homelessness for the Point-in-Time Count was used, and includes individuals and families who:

- Are living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter (including emergency shelter, transitional housing, and safe havens) designated to provide temporary living arrangements; or
- Have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a vehicle, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground (including any sanctioned or unsanctioned encampment location).

It should be noted that this definition is very specific and excludes persons and families who are “doubled up” with friends or other families in private homes, hotels or motels, or other arrangements. While the U.S. Department of Education’s definition of homelessness includes children who are living in such arrangements, these families are not included in the Point-in-Time Count.

METHODOLOGY

Count Us In was a comprehensive community effort, with the participation of over 200 individuals with a lived experience of homelessness, more than 600 community volunteers, staff from various city and county departments, and other community partners interested in ending homelessness. This effort resulted in completing the following core components of Count Us In:

- 1) General Street Count—a peer-informed visual count of unsheltered individuals, conducted on January 26, 2018 between the hours of 2:00 AM and 6:00 AM in most areas, with more rural or difficult to access locations covered at daybreak on the same day;
- 2) Youth and Young Adult Count—a focused, survey-based count of unsheltered, unaccompanied youth under the age of 18 and young adults between the ages of 18 and 24, conducted throughout the day of January 25, 2018 at both site-based and street locations;
- 3) Sheltered Count—a count of individuals residing in emergency shelter, transitional housing, and safe haven programs the night of January 25, 2018; and
- 4) Survey—an in-person representative survey of unsheltered and sheltered individuals conducted by peer surveyors and service providers in the weeks following the general street count.

Specialized outreach strategies were also implemented as part of general street count activities in order to achieve more accurate enumerations of vehicle and encampment residents, all-night bus riders, and unsheltered families.

Data presented in this report are sourced from the four components of the count, and frequently from a combination of components. Detailed information on the methodology, including how estimates were produced, can be found in *Appendix 1*.

POINT-IN-TIME COUNT CHALLENGES AND LIMITATIONS

While the methodology employed for Count Us In was the most comprehensive approach available, no methodology allows for a 100% accurate enumeration of all people experiencing homelessness. There are many challenges in any homeless count, especially when implemented in a community as large and diverse as Seattle/King County. For a variety of reasons, many individuals and families experiencing homelessness generally do not want to be located, and make concerted efforts to avoid detection. Regardless of how successful outreach efforts are, an undercount of those experiencing homelessness will persist. This is especially the case with hard-to-reach subpopulations such as unsheltered families and undocumented persons. The enumeration can also be complicated by differing definitions of homelessness or preconceived ideas about who experiences homelessness.

Additionally, the Point-in-Time Count does not calculate the number of unique persons who experience homelessness over a calendar year—which is much higher than those who are experiencing homelessness at any given time—and may not be representative of fluctuations

Executive Summary

and compositional changes in the population either seasonally or over time. This annual total can easily be two to three times the single point-in-time estimate. Instead, the Point-in Time Count provides a “snapshot” that quantifies the size of the population experiencing homelessness at a given point during the year. The Point-in-Time Count can also provide insight into people who may not be accessing services, and are therefore absent from other sources of information. Though particularly useful in tracking trends over time, it is only one of many different data sources communities should use to assess, understand, and address the needs of those without safe, stable, and affordable housing.

By counting the minimum number of individuals experiencing homelessness during a given point-in-time, the count methodology used for Count Us In was conservative and therefore most likely resulted in an undercount of certain unsheltered individuals. A margin of error on the final count is not available, though the data presented is to be considered a minimum estimate.

For more information on the challenges and limitations of this study, please see *Appendix 1*.

INTERPRETING DATA PRESENTED IN THE COUNT US IN REPORT

This report provides data regarding the number and characteristics of people experiencing homelessness in Seattle/King County on a single night in late January. Special attention is given to specific subpopulations, including persons experiencing chronic homelessness, veterans, families with children, unaccompanied youth under the age of 18 and young adults between the ages of 18 and 24, and persons living in vehicles.

Trend data from 2017 to 2018 are presented in order to aid in understanding overall changes in the population and assessing progress toward ending homelessness in the region. However, the Point-in-Time Count trend assessment is not designed to answer “why” certain changes may occur over time, as this requires data collection and analysis beyond the scope of the count.

While the overall Count Us In methodology was consistent between 2017 and 2018, several factors can contribute to fluctuation in overall Point-in-Time Count findings and prevent simple comparisons. These variations include the level of participation among service providers, people with lived experience of homelessness, community volunteers, and other stakeholders. In particular, special challenges presented in counting and surveying hard-to-reach populations rely on the knowledge and expertise of specialist guides, outreach workers, and service providers participating in count activities. As individual participants change and the community shifts over time, some fluctuation will naturally occur. Weather, code enforcement schedules, and local community relationships with people experiencing homelessness also contribute to changes over time.

Additionally, the Count Us In methodology relies heavily on self-reported survey data. Self-reporting allows individuals to represent their own experiences; however, such data can be more variable than clinically reported data. Further, while every effort was made to collect surveys from a random and diverse sample of sheltered and unsheltered individuals, the hard-to-reach nature of the population experiencing homelessness prevents true random sampling. For these reasons, survey data and data derived from survey responses may shift from year to year. While the demographics of survey respondents changed slightly between 2017 and 2018, many of the survey findings are similar or the same. Survey data presented focus on major findings among the overall population experiencing homelessness and key subpopulations of interest. Survey confidence intervals are presented in each report section featuring survey findings. More granular analyses are not presented because margins of error increase as sample sizes decrease.

COUNT US IN RESULTS

On the night of the 2018 Point-in-Time Count in Seattle/King County, there were 12,112 people experiencing homelessness

A total of 12,112 individuals were experiencing homelessness in Seattle/King County on January 26, 2018. Fifty-two percent (52%) of the population was unsheltered, living on the street, or in parks, tents, vehicles, or other places not meant for human habitation. Compared to 2017, the number of individuals experiencing homelessness in Seattle/King County increased by 4% (469 persons). The unsheltered population increased by 15% (835 persons).

FIGURE 1. INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS, TOTAL COUNT POPULATION WITH TREND

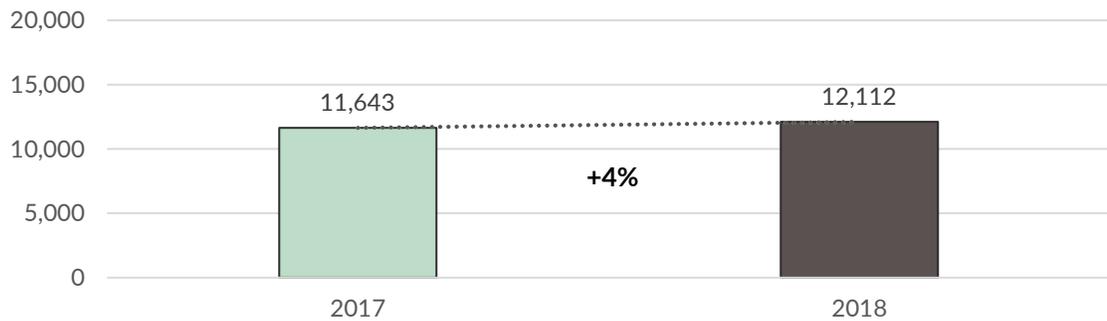
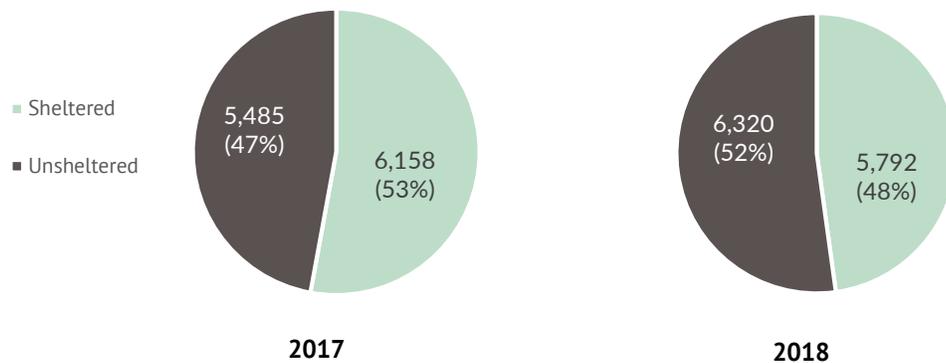


FIGURE 2. INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS, TOTAL COUNT POPULATION BY SHELTER STATUS



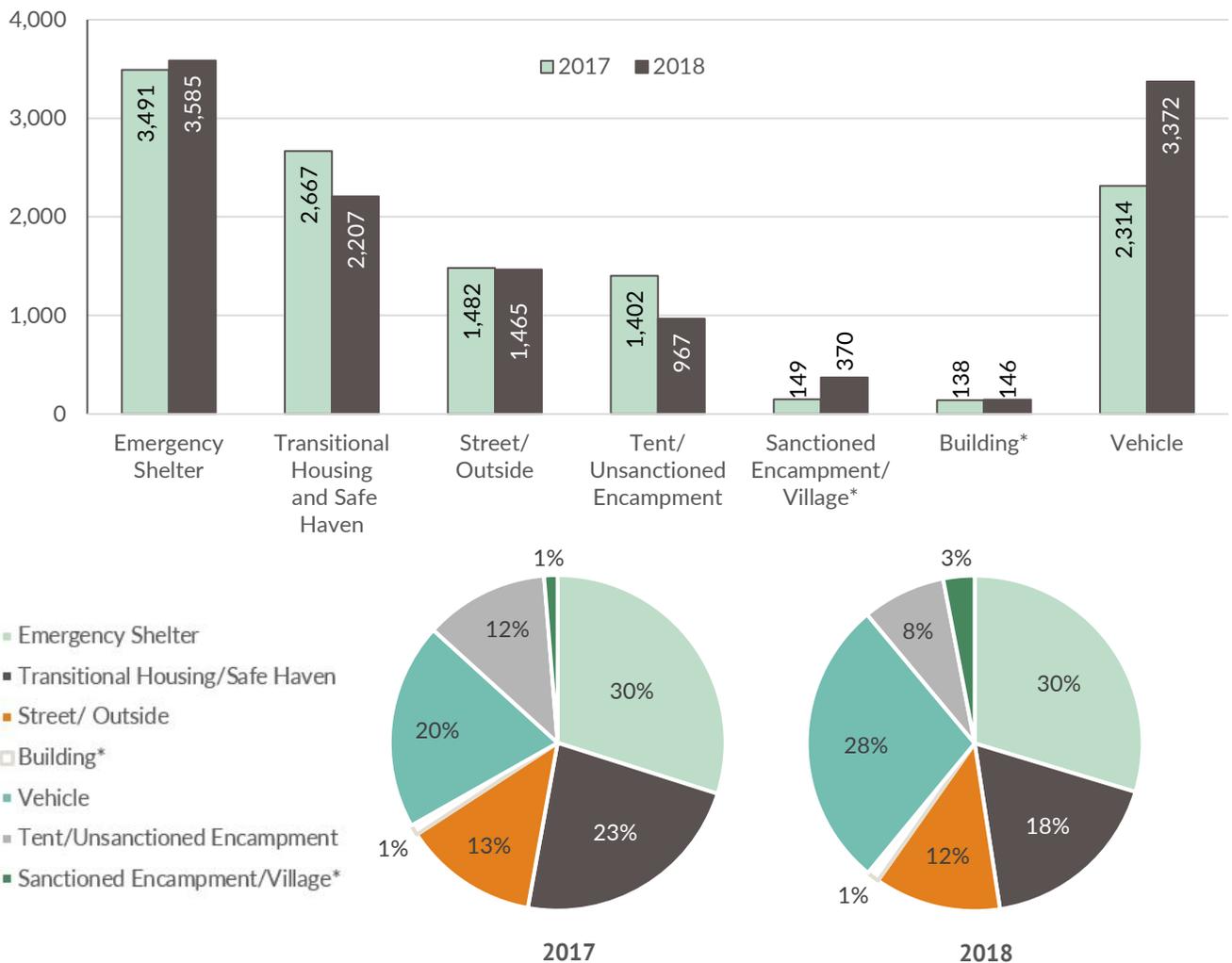
2017 n= 11,643; 2018 n= 12,112

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The largest increase was observed among individuals living in vehicles. In 2018, there were an estimated 3,372 persons living in cars, RVs, and vans. This represented a 46% increase compared to 2017, when there were an estimated 2,314 persons living in vehicles. Alternatively, the unsheltered population not residing in vehicles, i.e., on the streets, in buildings, or in tents, decreased by 7% (223 persons), indicating a shift within the unsheltered population.

Among the sheltered population, the number of persons residing in emergency shelter increased by 3% (94 persons) and the number of persons residing in transitional housing and safe havens decreased by 17% (460 persons). The decrease in the sheltered population was due in part to the successful conversion of transitional housing to permanent housing.

FIGURE 3. INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS, TOTAL COUNT POPULATION BY LOCATION TYPE



2017 n = 11,643; 2018 n = 12,112

Note: In 2018, category "Sanctioned Encampment/Village" was added and category "Tent" was updated to "Tent/Unsanctioned Encampment" for both 2017 and 2018. Category "Building" was also updated in 2018 to reflect 2017 and 2018 field reports, and includes individuals identified in abandoned buildings as well as public buildings and storefronts. Please see Appendix 6 for complete definitions of each location type.

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Seventy-one percent (71%) of the county's unsheltered population identified during the street count were residing in Seattle. Fifteen percent (15%) of unsheltered individuals were residing in the Southwest region. Lower percentages of unsheltered individuals experiencing homelessness were residing in East County, North County, Northeast County, and Southeast County. For regional definitions, see *Appendix 5*.

When compared to 2017, notable increases in the unsheltered population were observed in Seattle, North County, East County, and Northeast County. While the unsheltered population remained stable in Southeast County, the number of persons experiencing homelessness in Southwest County decreased.

FIGURE 4. INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING UNSHELTERED HOMELESSNESS, BY REGION

| REGION | UNSHELTERED | | | |
|------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| | 2017 | | 2018 | |
| | % | <i>n</i> | % | <i>n</i> |
| East County | 6% | 319 | 6% | 393 |
| North County | 1% | 58 | 4% | 251 |
| Northeast County | 2% | 84 | 2% | 137 |
| Seattle | 70% | 3,841 | 71% | 4,488 |
| Southwest County | 20% | 1,113 | 15% | 974 |
| Southeast County | 1% | 70 | 1% | 77 |
| TOTAL | 100% | 5,485 | 100% | 6,320 |

Note: The Seattle region is based on jurisdictional boundaries, while all other regions were defined by census tracts and include both incorporated and unincorporated areas. The Seattle region was updated in 2018 to reflect jurisdictional boundaries for the City of Seattle; unincorporated areas located within census tract areas of the Seattle region were removed and reassigned to adjacent regions as appropriate. The regional definitions for East County and Northeast County were also revised in 2018, and Issaquah and Sammamish were reassigned to the East County region. This shift in regional definitions resulted in the movement of data representing 35 persons. The 2017 unsheltered data have been updated in order to make consistent comparisons between count years. Please see Appendix 5 for more information on how regions were defined and for additional unsheltered detail.

About our neighbors experiencing homelessness

An estimated 2,624 individuals were in families with children

These individuals represented 782 family households, 96 of which were households headed by a young parent under 25 years old. Ninety-seven percent (97%) of persons in families were sheltered on the night of the count and 3% were unsheltered.

Compared to 2017, the number of persons in families experiencing homelessness decreased by 7% (209 persons).

Note: Identifying unsheltered families with children is extremely difficult in the Point-in-Time Count setting and the number of unsheltered families is likely an undercount. For more information on the methods used to enumerate unsheltered families, please see Appendix 1 (p. 101).

An estimated 1,518 individuals were unaccompanied youth and young adults
Young people represented 13% of the total count population, and included 172 youth under 18 years old and 1,346 young adults between 18 and 24 years old. Three-quarters (75%) of unaccompanied youth and young adults were unsheltered on the night of the count and 25% were sheltered.

Compared to 2017, the number of unaccompanied youth and young adults experiencing homelessness increased by 1% (20 persons). The number of unaccompanied youth under the age of 18 decreased by 22% (49 persons).

An estimated 921 individuals identified as veterans

On the night of the count, over half (57%) of veterans were unsheltered and 43% were sheltered. Approximately 35% of veterans were experiencing chronic homelessness. Twenty-three veterans were part of family households with children.

Compared to 2017, the number of veterans experiencing homelessness decreased by 31% (408 persons). The number of veterans experiencing chronic homelessness decreased by 23% (96 persons).

An estimated 3,552 individuals were experiencing chronic homelessness

Chronic homelessness is defined as sleeping in places not meant for human habitation or staying in emergency shelters for a year or longer—or experiencing at least four such episodes of homelessness in the last three years—and also living with a disabling condition such as a chronic health problem, psychiatric or emotional condition, or physical disability. On the night of the count, 71% of individuals experiencing chronic homelessness were unsheltered and 29% were residing in sheltered locations.

Compared to 2017, the number of individuals experiencing chronic homelessness increased by 28% (779 persons).

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An estimated 3,372 individuals were living in vehicles

Persons living in vehicles represented over half (53%) of the unsheltered population. Fifty-one percent (51%) of vehicle residents were living in RVs, 34% were living in cars, and 14% were living in vans.

Compared to 2017, the number of individuals living in vehicles increased by 46% (1,058 persons).

Homelessness disproportionately impacts people of color and people identifying as LGBTQ+

In 2018, the majority of individuals experiencing homelessness in Seattle/King County identified as people of color. When compared to the demographic racial profiles of the county's general population, the largest disparities were observed among those identifying as Black or African American (27% in the Point-in-Time Count compared to 6% in the general King County population), as Hispanic or Latino (15% compared to 9%), and with multiple races (16% compared to 6%).

Individuals in families identified as people of color at higher rates than individuals who were not in families, and family survey respondents reported encountering a language barrier when trying to access local services at a rate six times higher than survey respondents with no children.

The shelter status of individuals experiencing homelessness in Seattle/King County varied across race and ethnicity as well as by gender. Individuals identifying with multiple races, as American Indian or Alaska Native, and as transgender or with a gender other than male or female reported the highest rates of being unsheltered.

A 2015 Gallup U.S. Daily survey found that 4.8% of the general population living in the Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue region identifies as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender. The majority (82%) of 2018 Count Us In Survey respondents identified as straight, while 8% identified as bisexual, 6% identified as gay or lesbian, and 1% identified as queer. One-third (33%) of unaccompanied youth and young adults under 25 years old identified as LGBTQ+, compared to 16% of all other survey respondents.

Additionally, histories of domestic violence and partner abuse were most prevalent among LGBTQ+ survey respondents when compared to non-LGBTQ+ survey respondents. Individuals identifying as LGBTQ+ also indicated higher rates of foster care involvement compared to other survey respondents (25% compared to 15%).

Domestic violence

Thirty-six percent (36%) of Count Us In Survey respondents reported a history of domestic violence or partner abuse, and 7% reported that they were currently experiencing domestic violence. Histories of domestic violence or partner abuse were most prevalent among

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individuals identifying as LGBTQ+ (55%), unaccompanied youth and young adults under 25 years old (45%), and families with children (40%).

Foster care

Seventeen percent (17%) of Count Us In Survey respondents reported a history of foster care. Rates of foster care involvement were highest among unaccompanied youth and young adults under 25 years old (33%) and respondents of all ages identifying as LGBTQ+ (25%).

Health conditions

Approximately 70% of Count Us In Survey respondents reported living with at least one health condition. The most frequently reported health conditions were psychiatric or emotional conditions (44%), post-traumatic stress disorder (37%), and drug or alcohol abuse (35%). Twenty-seven percent (27%) of respondents reported chronic health problems and 26% reported a physical disability.

Over half (53%) of survey respondents indicated that they were living with at least one health condition that was disabling, i.e. preventing them from holding employment, living in stable housing, or taking care of themselves.

Housing needs

Ninety-eight percent (98%) of Count Us In Survey respondents said they would move into safe and affordable housing if it were offered.

Prior to losing their housing, 70% of Count Us In Survey respondents reported living either in a home owned or rented by themselves or their partner, or with friends or relatives. Approximately 21% of survey respondents indicated that issues related to housing affordability were the primary conditions leading to their homelessness, including eviction (11%), inability to afford a rent increase (6%), family or friend could no longer afford to let them stay (2%), and foreclosure (2%).

When asked what would help them to obtain permanent housing, 80% of Count Us In Survey respondents cited more affordable housing and rental assistance as key to ending their homelessness.

Employment

One-quarter (25%) of Count Us In Survey respondents cited job loss as the primary cause of their homelessness. The majority (80%) of survey respondents reported being unemployed. Forty-five percent (45%) of respondents reported they were looking for work. Sixteen percent (16%) reported they were unable to work due to disability or retirement.

2018 Count Us In Unsheltered Data by Jurisdiction Attachment B to the June 13, 2018 PIC Agenda Item 7

Note: Gray cells show redacted counts of less than 25. Due to redactions, location counts may not add to total.

| | Dwelling or Vehicle Type | | | | | | |
|------------------|--------------------------|-------|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Street/Outside-Street | Tent | Building | Car | RV | Van | Total |
| | Count | Count | Count | Count | Count | Count | Count |
| Algona | | | | | | | |
| Auburn | | | | 26 | | | 51 |
| Beaux Arts | | | | | | | |
| Bellevue | | | | 69 | 46 | 29 | 174 |
| Black Diamond | | | | | | | |
| Bothell | | | | | | | |
| Burien | | | | | | | 68 |
| Carnation | | | | | | | |
| Clyde Hill | | | | | | | |
| Covington | | | | | | | |
| Des Moines | 37 | | | 29 | | | 78 |
| Duvall | | | | | | | |
| Enumclaw | | | | | | | |
| Federal Way | | | | 103 | | | 176 |
| Hunts Point | | | | | | | |
| Issaquah | | | | | | | 30 |
| Kenmore | | | | | | | |
| Kent | 56 | 38 | | 37 | | | 177 |
| Kirkland | | | | 46 | | 36 | 99 |
| Lake Forest Park | | | | | | | |
| Maple Valley | | | | | | | |
| Medina | | | | | | | |
| Mercer Island | | | | | | | |
| Milton | | | | | | | |
| Newcastle | | | | | | | |
| Normandy Park | | | | | | | |
| North Bend | | 36 | | | | | 49 |
| Pacific | | | | | | | |
| Redmond | | | | 37 | | | 52 |
| Renton | 44 | 46 | | 52 | | | 169 |
| Sammamish | | | | | | | |
| SeaTac | 53 | | | | | | 70 |
| Seattle | 1120 | 1034 | 55 | 592 | 1375 | 312 | 4488 |
| Shoreline | | | | 33 | 84 | | 168 |
| Skykomish | | | | | | | |
| Snoqualmie | | | | | | | |
| Tukwila | | | | | | | 44 |
| Woodinville | | | | | | | |
| Yarrow Point | | | | | | | |
| Unincorporated | | 108 | 25 | 29 | 84 | | 278 |

2017 Count Us In Unsheltered Data by Jurisdiction Attachment B to the June 13, 2018 PIC Agenda Item 7

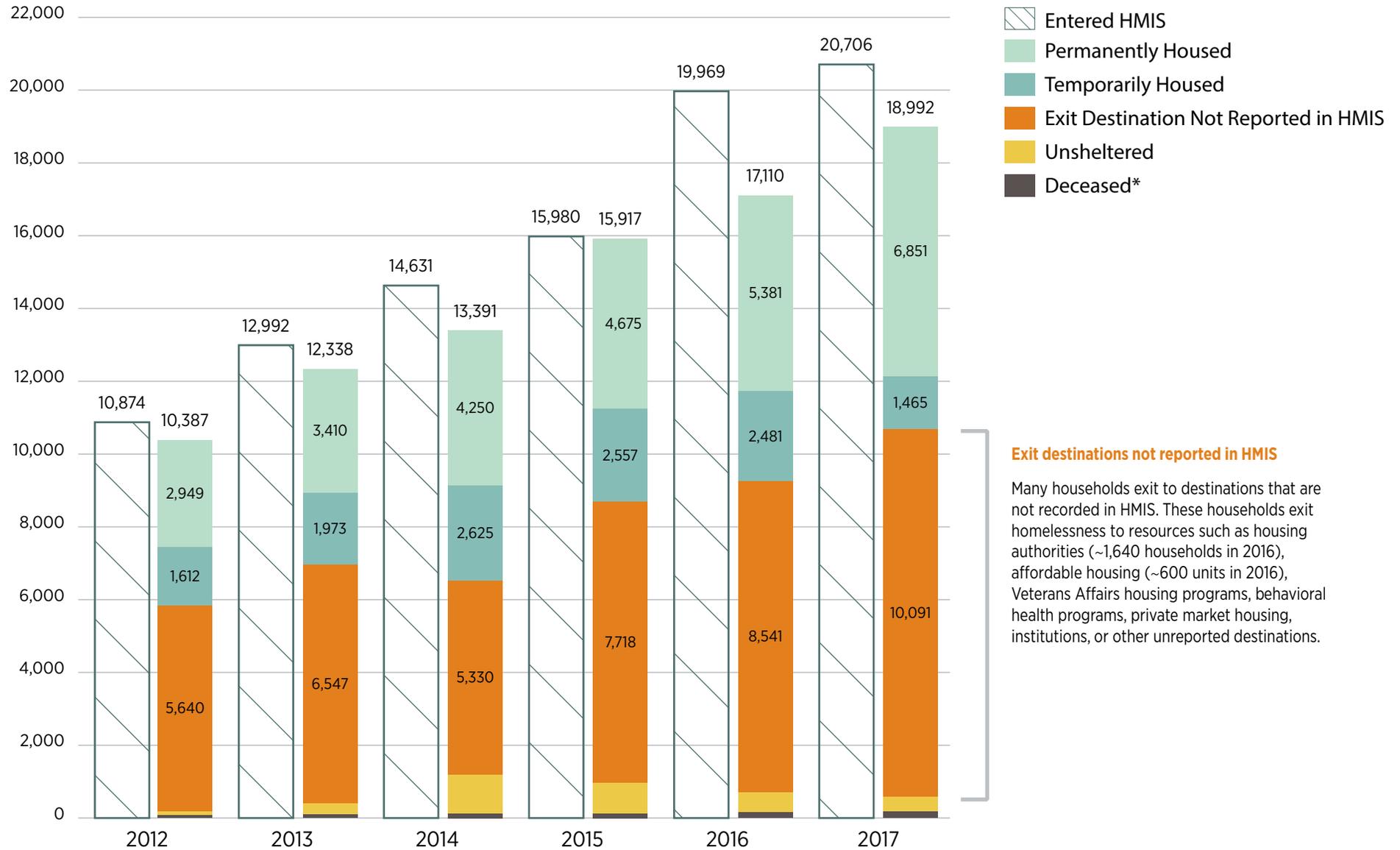
Note: Gray cells show redacted counts of less than 25. Due to redactions, location counts may not add to total.

| | Dwelling or Vehicle Type | | | | | | |
|------------------|--------------------------|-------|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Street/Outside-Street | Tent | Building | Car | RV | Van | Total |
| | Count | Count | Count | Count | Count | Count | Count |
| Algona | | | | | | | |
| Auburn | 47 | 74 | | 32 | 28 | | 194 |
| Beaux Arts | | | | | | | |
| Bellevue | | 38 | | 51 | 30 | 34 | 164 |
| Black Diamond | | | | | | | |
| Bothell | | | | | | | |
| Burien | 48 | | | 34 | | | 124 |
| Carnation | | | | | | | |
| Clyde Hill | | | | | | | |
| Covington | | | | | | | |
| Des Moines | | | | | | | |
| Duvall | | | | | | | |
| Enumclaw | | | | | | | 27 |
| Federal Way | | | | | | | 106 |
| Hunts Point | | | | | | | |
| Issaquah | | | | | | | |
| Kenmore | | | | | | | |
| Kent | 91 | 84 | | 85 | | | 286 |
| Kirkland | | | | 33 | | | 54 |
| Lake Forest Park | | | | | | | |
| Maple Valley | | | | | | | |
| Medina | | | | | | | |
| Mercer Island | | | | | | | |
| Milton | | | | | | | |
| Newcastle | | | | | | | 31 |
| Normandy Park | | | | | | | |
| North Bend | | | | | | | |
| Pacific | | | | | | | |
| Redmond | | | | | | | 31 |
| Renton | 27 | | | 40 | | | 84 |
| Sammamish | | | | | | | |
| SeaTac | | | | | | | 47 |
| Seattle | 1070 | 1152 | 79 | 412 | 666 | 462 | 3841 |
| Shoreline | | | | | | | |
| Skykomish | | | | | | | |
| Snoqualmie | | | | | | | |
| Tukwila | 42 | | | 29 | | | 111 |
| Woodinville | | | | | | | |
| Yarrow Point | | | | | | | |
| Unincorporated | 40 | 25 | | 32 | 38 | | 165 |



Number of Households Entering and Exiting HMIS in King County, 2012-2017

Note: HMIS tracks only agencies funded with homeless fund sources. Other systems such as housing authorities help people exit from homelessness but do not record those exits in HMIS.



Exit destinations not reported in HMIS

Many households exit to destinations that are not recorded in HMIS. These households exit homelessness to resources such as housing authorities (~1,640 households in 2016), affordable housing (~600 units in 2016), Veterans Affairs housing programs, behavioral health programs, private market housing, institutions, or other unreported destinations.

Notes

About 30% of clients do not consent to share their identifying information in HMIS. As these clients cannot be de-duplicated, these inflow estimates might be slightly higher than the actual inflow to the homeless system.

*"Deceased" indicates that the head of household was deceased.

** Coordinated Entry for All (CEA) launched in April 2016 and resulted in a large influx of households requesting homeless services (approximately 7,500 each in 2016 and in 2017 YTD).

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Item 08:

Regional Affordable Housing Task Force

UPDATE

SCA Staff Contact

Brian Parry, Senior Policy Analyst, brian@soundcities.org, (206) 499-4159

SCA Regional Affordable Housing Task Force Members

Mayor David Baker (Task Force Co-Chair), Kenmore; Councilmember John Stokes, Bellevue; Councilmember Ryan McIrvine, Renton; Mayor Ken Hearing, North Bend

Discussion

The King County Regional Affordable Housing Task Force, co-chaired by Kenmore Mayor David Baker and King County Councilmember Claudia Balducci, began meeting in July 2017 with the intent of establishing a regional planning effort with cities, nonprofit agencies, and private partners to develop a plan for affordable housing.

A list of potential policy ideas has been identified by individual members of the Task Force, Standing Advisory Panel, Staff Working Group, and community input over the course of their meetings, and are included with this report as [Attachment A](#). At its June 1 meeting, the Task Force reviewed this report, and began honing-in on policies that could form the future recommendations of the Task Force.

SCA representatives on the Task Force drafted discussion points to provide high-level guidance to the development of the Task Force recommendations based in part on previous input from PIC members and from the pre-PIC workshop held in May. PIC members are encouraged to provide feedback on the discussion points (or guiding principles) including areas of greatest priority to your city. This input will help SCA representatives as they engage with other members of the Task Force to develop final recommendations.

Background

The King County Council passed [Motion 14754](#) in November 2016 requesting the convening of a regional planning effort with cities, nonprofit agencies, and private partners to develop a plan for affordable housing. In response to Motion 14754, King County Executive Dow Constantine transmitted a [Regional Affordable Housing Strategy Status Report](#) to the King County Council in March 2017. This Status Report, together with [Motion 14873](#) approved by the Council in May 2017, formally established the [Regional Affordable Housing Task Force](#) (“Task Force”) to recommend a countywide affordable housing strategy to the County Executive and County Council by December 2018.

The Task Force is co-chaired by Mayor David Baker, Kenmore and King County Councilmember Claudia Balducci. The work of the Task Force is supported by a [Standing Advisory Panel](#) consisting of members representing local housing authorities, for-profit and non-profit housing developers, tenants and landlord organizations, homeowners, communities of color, unincorporated housing issues, and an affordable housing advocacy group. In addition, a Staff Working Group has been formed consisting of public sector housing land use and housing experts, including staff from numerous cities in King County.

To date, the Task Force has approved its work plan, reviewed [data describing the affordable housing need in King County](#) across all income levels; reviewed affordable housing policies within the [Countywide Planning Policies](#); reviewed efforts underway to address the crisis in cities; reviewed the basics of financing affordable housing development and existing funding sources in use in King County; adopted a [Statement of Intent](#); and began discussing potential policy recommendations that will be incorporated into a final report of the Task Force.

Task Force Policy Proposals

A list of potential policy ideas has been identified by individual members of the Task Force, Standing Advisory Panel, Staff Working Group, and community input over the course of their meetings, and are included with this report as [Attachment A](#). At its June 1 meeting, the Task Force reviewed this report, and began honing-in on policies that could form the future recommendations of the Task Force

The potential policy ideas are divided into categories of actions that could be taken regionally through collective action, by the county, by the state, or by cities individually, to promote the development of affordable housing. The Task Force could recommend a menu of policy options, or go further and recommend that specific policies be pursued jointly or at the appropriate level of government.

At its June 1 meeting, the Task Force was specifically asked to consider the potential policy ideas and what actions should be taken “as a region to support, encourage or require cities to implement their housing plans, housing elements [i.e. comprehensive plans], and best practices as a means to address the affordable housing gap” in King County. Significant discussion was held around proposals that would establish specific numerical targets for affordable housing by jurisdiction at the regional level. SCA representatives to the Task Force stressed the need for assistance implementing local housing strategies rather than mandates; the limits to the tools available to local jurisdictions when many development and funding decisions are outside of their control; the importance of identifying strategies that promote affordable housing within existing funding; and other feedback consistent with the guiding principles described below.

Based on discussion at the June 1 Task Force meeting, a co-chair proposal will be drafted for initial consideration by the full Task Force at its next meeting on June 29.

SCA Caucus Guiding Principles

SCA representatives on the Task Force drafted discussion points to provide high-level guidance to the development of the Task Force recommendations based in part on previous input from PIC members and from the pre-PIC workshop held in May. PIC members are encouraged to provide feedback on the discussion points (or guiding principles) included below to help shape the development of the co-chair proposal and final Task Force recommendations and ensure they reflect SCA city priorities. These guiding principles will help identify which of the specific policy proposals should be recommended, and in what form, by the Task Force.

SCA Caucus Guiding Principles

- Greater transparency is needed with regard to how existing funding is being used to support affordable housing development and preservation. This is especially critical prior to the Task Force making any recommendations to increase taxes at the local level.
- Cities need assistance to implement affordable housing strategies, not mandates.
- Preservation of existing affordable housing needs to be prioritized. The region should inventory current affordable housing stock and develop strategies to preserve those units.
- The region is investing in high-capacity transit at historic levels. We should capitalize on those investments to promote affordable housing, particularly around new light rail stations.
- The region should actively measure what is being achieved by adopted affordable housing policies and assign a body to track results over time as well as recommend corrective actions jurisdictions can consider to address areas of greatest need.
- Many cities are working to implement affordable housing strategies. The region should provide technical assistance to cities to help them develop and implement local strategies (e.g. housing toolkits, best practices, model ordinances).
- Preventing displacement is critical. The region should prioritize emergency assistance to prevent loss of housing.
- Existing public assets should be used to promote affordable housing. The region should work on a strategy to ensure publicly owned lands are utilized to the best extent possible to promote affordable housing (whether through sale proceeds, use of the land, or other strategies).
- Addressing the affordable housing needs of our growing senior population needs to be emphasized.

Next Steps

The next meeting of the Regional Affordable Housing Task force will take place on June 29, 2018 from 10:00 AM to noon at the Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center in Federal Way. The Task Force will review the co-chair proposal and may direct staff to develop a draft Task Force recommendation for public comment. A series of public meetings to provide input on the draft Task Force recommendations are being scheduled for July (dates and times are expected to be available on the [Task Force webpage](#)). For more information, contact SCA Senior Policy Analyst Brian Parry at brian@soundcities.org or 206-499-4159.

REGIONAL POLICY IDEAS

| | |
|------|---|
| R-1 | Set production goals to increase supply of housing, including goals at various income levels below 80% Area Median Income. |
| R-2 | Monitor, longitudinally, annual affordable housing creation/preservation against the annual production needed to achieve the 244,000 homes needed below 80% Area Median Income (AMI). |
| R-3 | Enforce existing Countywide Planning Policies (CPPs), Comprehensive Plan policies, and Housing Strategy Plan strategies. |
| R-4 | Use current CPPs for monitoring and accountability regarding policy goals and proportional need numbers. The CPPs state a countywide need for 12% of housing to be affordable 0-30% AMI, 12% of housing to be affordable at 30-50% AMI, and 16% of housing to be affordable at 50-80% AMI. |
| R-5 | Identify measures to track and evaluate progress against meeting housing goals. |
| R-6 | Establish city incentives to encourage new policies/zoning/funding for affordable housing development (ex: Establish a city incentive program for "gold star" cities that achieve certain criteria). |
| R-7 | Create a subcommittee of the Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC) , which meets regularly, to continue to monitor and implement the recommendations of the Regional Affordable Housing Task Force (RAH TF). |
| R-8 | Create a compact for cities to sign, committing to implementing best practices at the local level (ex: promoting more Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU/DADUs), zoning for more creative housing types, expanding incentive/inclusionary housing policies, and increasing permitting predictability). |
| R-9 | Form a South King County partnership to provide technical and funding capacity for cities in South King County. |
| R-10 | Track under-utilized, public and non-profit land and promote its use for affordable housing. |
| R-11 | Implement a public education campaign re: the needs and benefits of affordable housing. |
| R-12 | Create and adopt model ordinances re: local zoning, permitting, design processes, etc. to make development more uniform and predictable. |
| R-13 | Create and pre-approve model development plans for ADUs (or other low-cost housing) to reduce risk, cost, and time for development. |
| R-13 | Create a model process for developing incentive/inclusive housing ordinances to make programs more predictable and effective. |
| R-14 | Establish a low-interest loan fund for mission-driven investors to loan money at reduced interest rates to developers who commit to affordable and low-barrier housing. |
| R-15 | Establish a Regional Public Development Authority to guide development along transit corridors. |
| R-17 | Establish a regional housing fund and attract investments from philanthropy, employers, etc. |
| R-18 | Establish a State Legislative Strategy Work program item re: state legislative strategy for the GMPC. |

COUNTY POLICY IDEAS

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| C-1 | Develop and host a website dashboard to monitor data and policy outcomes on local comprehensive plans, Countywide Planning Policies, and the Regional Affordable Housing Task Force recommendations. |
| C-2 | Fund a South King County regional collaboration to support affordable housing policy development, implementation, and enforcement. |
| C-3 | Authorize cost discounts for developing affordable housing on surplus county property. Authority clarified in enacted HB 2382 . |
| | Adopt a policy that requires any funds acquired from sale of surplus county property be allocated to fund affordable housing. |
| C-4 | Create a loan fund for housing owners who need to make improvements to housing quality, if they commit to providing affordable rents. |
| C-5 | Provide technical assistance to cities on development of land use and other affordable housing policy development. |
| C-6 | Provide technical assistance to cities on implementation of land use policy and other affordable housing policy. |
| C-7 | Provide technical assistance to cities on enforcement of land use policy implementation and other affordable housing policy. |
| C-8 | Provide technical assistance grants for cities to hire consultants to support affordable housing policy development, implementation, and enforcement. |
| C-9 | Send a proposal for 1/10 of a percent sales tax to the ballot to fund affordable housing and behavioral health services. Restrictions on uses are stated in RCW 82.14.530 . |
| C-10 | Send a Regional Affordable Housing Property Tax Levy to the ballot. |
| C-11 | Fund a challenge/matching pool that rewards jurisdictions who invest their own dollars in affordable housing. |
| C-12 | Link transportation, land conservation, or other county fund sources for local projects to jurisdictions' efforts to increase affordable housing. |
| C-13 | Increase funding for emergency rental assistance. Example: Youth and Family Homelessness Prevention Initiative , funded through the Best Starts for Kids Levy. |
| C-14 | Expand funding for tenant and landlord education re: barriers to housing, tenant rights, etc. Currently many tenants and landlords are unaware of their rights and restrictions. |
| C-15 | Fund services for renters to clean up their tenant screening reports or address related barriers to housing. Currently, eviction, credit, and criminal histories can prevent potential tenants from gaining housing, even if the history reported is inaccurate. Services can support tenants in changing inaccuracies in their reports or addressing the underlying barrier. |
| C-16 | Fund capacity-building support for anti-displacement efforts led by communities of color, expanding on the work of Seattle's Equitable Development Initiative . |
| C-17 | Expand Shallow Rent Subsidies for cost-burdened households. Small subsidies may assist some populations in maintaining their housing during times of changing household costs like rent increases or increasing health care or child care needs. |
| C-18 | Reduce utility and sewer connection fees for affordable housing. This could save a few thousand dollars per housing development. |

STATE POLICY IDEAS

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|------|---|
| S-1 | Increase State Housing Trust Fund allocations. At its peak, the fund generated \$200 million per biennium for affordable housing statewide. Since the recession, the fund has generated approximately \$50-\$100 million per biennium. |
| S-2 | Authorize permanent flexibility to spend current local Real Estate Excise Tax (REET 1 & 2) resources for affordable housing if all other Capital Improvement Plan needs are fully funded. This is currently authorized but would expire June 30, 2019 if not extended. |
| S-3 | Expand authority for a .25% Real Estate Excise Tax (REET 4) to King County. Currently, authority is restricted to San Juan County. This was a HALA proposal. A Countywide .25% REET would create approximately \$95 million/year in additional affordable housing funds for King County (based on current annual REET collections). |
| S-4 | Clarify local authority for rental regulations re: notice for rent increases, code compliance, etc. Current state law restricts cities' ability to adopt rent regulations and related rules. This creates legal confusion for cities regarding their ability to adopt more limited regulations on rental property owners to help preserve existing housing stock or give tenants sufficient time to seek alternative housing choices. Example: HB 2583 (introduced in 2017) would have removed this restriction generally. HB 5377 / HB 2051 (introduced in 2015) would have clarified the ability for certain cities to require 90 notice for large rent increases and altered the standards for when relocation assistance can be required. |
| S-5 | Provide local authority for a preservation tax exemption which would exempt a portion of local property taxes if a building owner commits to providing affordability. Example: SB 5182 (introduced in 2017/18). |
| S-6 | Create and implement enforceable goals for affordability in comprehensive planning through the Growth Management Act. (Example: Allow exemptions from local zoning regulations when jurisdictions do not implement affordable housing policies identified in comprehensive plans and housing strategy plans) |
| S-7 | Address the need for changes to condominium homeowners warranties of quality and developer liability laws. Example: HB 2831 (introduced in 2018). |
| S-8 | Clarify local authority for a Conversion Fee when condos are converted to another use. Example: HB 2395 (introduced in 2016). |
| S-9 | Clarify local authority for a Demolition Fee on demolished housing. Example: HB 2397 (introduced in 2016). |
| S-10 | Approve councilmanic authority for 1/10 percent sales tax option for affordable housing and behavioral health. Example: HB 1797 |
| S-11 | Authorize a waiver on sales tax costs for rehabilitation of affordable housing. |
| S-12 | Authorize a state sales tax exemption for construction costs on new affordable housing. This is estimated to save approximately \$1-\$1.5 million per housing development. |
| S-13 | Authorize a state sales tax credit for county investments in affordable housing, up to .03% of sales tax. Example: HB 2437 (introduced in 2018); final version would have added approximately \$20 million/year for King County affordable housing funds or \$250 million in bonding authority. |
| S-14 | Establish minimum density requirements for zoning connected to a high capacity transit station. |

LOCAL POLICY IDEAS

| | |
|------|--|
| L-1 | Require or incentivize universal design housing |
| L-2 | Enforce ban on source of income discrimination |
| L-3 | Implement fair chance housing policies for people with criminal justice records |
| L-4 | Implement more aggressive code enforcement to maintain quality of affordable housing |
| L-5 | Implement rental licensing and inspection programs |
| L-6 | Waive city impact, permitting and other fees for rehabilitation of affordable housing |
| L-7 | Send a city property tax levy to the ballot to fund affordable housing |
| L-8 | Underwrite/credit enhance local non-profits to streamline funding so they can move faster |
| L-9 | Complete Housing Impact Assessments anytime an Environmental Impact Statement is required |
| L-10 | Implement multi-family property tax exemption |
| L-11 | Implement appropriate, effective incentive/inclusionary housing policies with all upzones |
| L-12 | Incorporate programmatic Environmental Impact Statement, fee exemptions, reduced parking requirements, and density increases as incentives within inclusionary housing policies. |
| L-13 | Require affordable housing development for any approved development agreement |
| L-14 | Authorize discounts for affordable housing on surplus property |
| L-15 | Use proceeds from public land sales for affordable housing |
| L-16 | Partner with faith-based organizations to develop their underutilized land |
| L-17 | Allow faith communities and non-profit organizations to utilize higher zoning densities if building affordable housing on under-utilized property |
| L-18 | Pair increased zoning and public property to promote flexible and affordable housing construction |
| L-19 | Expand allowed housing diversity in single-family zones- cottage housing, duplexes, Accessory Dwelling Units, etc. |
| L-20 | Standardize sets of policies/rules across jurisdictions to make process more predictable and uniform |
| L-21 | Streamline regulations for developers |
| L-22 | Adopt uniform plans and codes across jurisdictions |
| L-23 | Reduce restrictions on private developers |
| L-24 | Foster community advocacy for affordable housing |
| L-24 | Utilize community engagement techniques that promote more equitable engagement for zoning and housing policy discussions |
| L-25 | Create a community toolkit for affordable housing education, siting, messaging, awareness |

Item 09:
Medic One/Emergency Medical Services Levy
UPDATE

SCA Staff Contact

Brian Parry, SCA Senior Policy Analyst, brian@soundcities.org, 206-499-4159

SCA Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Advisory Task Force Members (representing cities with populations below 50,000)

Deputy Mayor Pam Fernald, SeaTac; Councilmember Vic Kave, Pacific; Councilmember Tom Agnew, Bothell

EMS Advisory Task Force Members from SCA Cities with Own Seats

Deputy Mayor Bob Baggett, Auburn; Councilmember Jennifer Robertson, Bellevue; Councilmember Krystal Marx, Burien; Councilmember Penny Sweet, Kirkland; Mayor John Marchione, Redmond; Mayor Denis Law, Renton; Deputy Mayor Karen Moran Sammamish; Councilmember Keith Scully, Shoreline

Discussion

The Medic One/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Advisory Task Force was convened in January 2018 to begin the planning process to reauthorize the Medic One/EMS levy for 2020-2025. The objective of the EMS Advisory Task Force is to review and propose Medic One/EMS program recommendations and the proposed levy rate to be put before the voters of King County in 2019. Draft recommendations for the upcoming levy period were provided to the Task Force at its meeting on May 30. At the May PIC meeting, SCA members will receive an update on the levy planning process and recommendations identified to date by the Task Force subcommittees.

Background

The King County Medic One/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system of King County is a regional, cross-jurisdictional system that provides essential life-saving services to King County residents and visitors. Medic One/EMS services rely on coordination between fire departments, paramedic agencies, EMS dispatch centers, and hospitals. The system is managed by the EMS division of Public Health – Seattle and King County, and funded through a property tax known as the Medic One/EMS levy.

The current Medic One/Emergency Medical Services levy will expire on December 31, 2019. The EMS Advisory Task Force was formed in January 2018 to undertake an extensive planning process to develop a strategic plan and financing plan to reauthorize the levy for 2020-2025. A

reauthorization levy will be placed on the ballot in 2019 (election to be determined by Task Force).

Placing the Medic One/EMS levy on the ballot for renewal will require approval by the legislative authority of at least 75% of cities in King County with populations exceeding 50,000¹ (or 9 of the 11 such cities in King County) and the King County Council. Approval of the levy requires an affirmative vote from a simple majority of voters.

Per an interlocal agreement with King County, Seattle receives all Medic One/EMS levy funds raised within its boundaries. Funds raised outside of Seattle are placed in the King County EMS fund and managed regionally by the King County EMS Division.

Detailed background on the Medic One/Emergency Medical Services Levy and the levy renewal development process can be found in the and the [March 14, 2018](#) and [May 9, 2018](#) PIC Packets.

EMS Task Force – Draft Recommendations

On May 30, 2018, the EMS Advisory Task Force was presented with draft proposals from each of the four Task Force subcommittees that have been meeting monthly to review system needs for the next levy period. The four subcommittees are the Advanced Life Support (ALS), Basic Life Support (BLS), Regional Services/Strategic Initiatives, and Finance subcommittees.

Highlights of the recommendations under consideration by the EMS Advisory Task Force include:

- *Continuing the current methodology for funding ALS units.* The ALS subcommittee recommends continuing the use of a unit-cost based model for allocating funding to agencies to support paramedic service costs. Under this formula, each agency is provided the same amount of funding per unit operated. The preliminary baseline unit allocation for 2020 is proposed at \$2.56 million and would be inflated over the span of the levy as necessary. There are currently 26 medic units operating throughout the regional system (19 in King County, and 7 in Seattle), and the ALS subcommittee has identified a need for at least one additional medic unit over the upcoming levy period. Upcoming work of the ALS subcommittee includes further refining the baseline unit allocation, system reserves, and projected system needs.
- *Continuing the current methodology of distributing funding to BLS agencies.* The BLS subcommittee recommends continuing to allocate BLS funding based on a formula that reflects a combination of assessed valuation and agency call volumes. Approximately 25% of levy funds are allocated to local fire agencies to cover a portion of the EMS

¹ There are currently 11 cities in King County with populations greater than 50,000: Auburn, Bellevue, Burien, Federal Way, Kent, Kirkland, Redmond, Renton, Sammamish, Seattle, and Shoreline.

services they provide under the current levy, and this level would continue during the upcoming levy period.

- *Expanding Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) programs countywide.* The BLS subcommittee recommends expanding the availability of Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) countywide. Expanding MIH would require an additional estimated \$4 million per year over the upcoming levy period. MIH personnel work with local healthcare and social service providers to direct 911 callers to the appropriate care. MIH provides EMS agencies and first responders with intervention strategies to provide improved patient care and potentially reduce overall system call volumes.
- *Safeguard the Medic One/EMS system by ensuring sufficient funding and including appropriate reserves.* Each of the subcommittees is tasked with reviewing projected service needs and costs over the upcoming levy period. Primary drivers for the total levy amount are increased calls for service, which are closely correlated to the region's growing population; increases to personnel, equipment, and medicine costs; and any additional or expanded services funded under the levy. In addition, the Task Force will establish sufficient reserves into the EMS financial plan to safeguard the system from unforeseen financial risk.

Initial draft financial plans for the 2020-2025 levy period project a total levy amount of approximately \$1.04 billion. As noted above, levy proceeds generated within the City of Seattle are retained by the City per an interlocal agreement with King County. Total projected levy proceeds under the draft recommendations would generate approximately \$424 million for EMS services within the City of Seattle, and \$618 million for the King County Medic One/EMS system.

The current levy was approved beginning in 2014 at a rate of \$0.335 per \$1,000 of assessed value and will be lowered to a rate of \$0.229 in 2019 due to increases in assessed values. Based on the total revenue included in the draft financial plans and current assessed values, SCA staff estimates the current proposals for the 2020-2025 levy period would require an initial levy rate of approximately \$0.245-\$0.265 per \$1,000 of assessed values.

Next Steps

The EMS Task Force and its four subcommittees are scheduled to continue meeting throughout 2018 to develop the strategic plan and levy for renewal proposal. The Task Force will review full draft recommendations at its meeting on August 31, 2018, and are expected to approve the final strategic plan and levy on October 16, 2018. Additional information about the Medic One/EMS system, the levy, and meeting schedule and materials can be found on the [project website](#). SCA members are also encouraged to contact SCA Senior Policy Analyst Brian Parry at brian@soundcities.org or 206-499-4159 for any additional information.

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Item 10:
Future Levies and Ballot Measures in King County
UPDATE

SCA Staff Contact

Brian Parry, SCA Senior Policy Analyst, brian@soundcities.org, (206) 499-4159

Discussion

This is a monthly item on the PIC agenda to share information on upcoming local levies and ballot measures in King County. Items identified as “potential future ballot measures” are under consideration or reflect potential renewal of an existing levy, but have not been approved to be placed on the ballot and may not ultimately move forward.

| Future Ballot Measures – Countywide | | | |
|--|--------------|---------------------|--|
| Year | Month | Jurisdiction | Measure |
| 2018 | August | King County | Automatic Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) Levy. Six-year levy beginning with a rate of 3.5 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2019; generating approximately \$21 million per year. |

| Future Ballot Measures – Schools and Special Purpose Districts | | | |
|---|--------------|----------------------------|---|
| Year | Month | Jurisdiction | Measure |
| 2018 | August | South King Fire and Rescue | Levy increase to \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation from the current rate of \$1.43 |
| 2019 | February | Seattle School District | Operations Levy |
| 2019 | February | Seattle School District | Capital Levy |

| Potential Future Ballot Measures – SCA Cities | | | |
|--|--------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| Year | Month | Jurisdiction | Measure |
| 2018 | | Bothell | Public Safety Operations Levy |
| 2018 | | Bothell | Fire Station Capital Bond |
| 2018 | | Kent | Public Safety Utility Tax |
| 2018 | November | Kirkland | Public Safety Sales Tax |
| 2018 | | Renton | Parks Levy |
| 2020 | | Kirkland | Fire Services and Capital Levy |

| Potential Future Ballot Measures – Other Cities | | | |
|--|--------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Year | Month | Jurisdiction | Measure |
| 2018 | | Seattle | Families and Education Levy (renewal) |

| | | | |
|------|--|---------|---|
| 2019 | | Seattle | Library Levy (renewal) |
| 2020 | | Seattle | Transportation Benefit District (renewal) |

| Potential Future Ballot Measures – Countywide | | | |
|--|--------------|---------------------|---|
| Year | Month | Jurisdiction | Measure |
| 2019 | | King County | Medic One/EMS Levy (renewal) |
| 2019 | | King County | Regional Parks Levy (renewal) |
| 2021 | | King County | Best Starts for Kids (renewal) |
| | | King County | Affordable Housing and Related Services Sales Tax |

Next Steps

Please share this information with your city and provide information on upcoming elections in your city to SCA Senior Policy Analyst Brian Parry at brian@soundcities.org or 206-499-4159.

Item 11:
Potential Upcoming SCA Issues
UPDATE

SCA Staff Contact

Deanna Dawson, Executive Director, deanna@soundcities.org, (206) 495-3265,

Update

This is an ongoing, monthly PIC item noting issues that SCA members have asked to be brought to the PIC.

Potential Issues

Throughout the year, issues brought forward by SCA members are tracked in this ongoing, monthly agenda item and may be taken up by the PIC through workshops, briefings and discussion items, and as action items.

Per direction of the PIC during the April 2018 meeting, staff are putting together workshops and trainings on the following topics for the remainder of 2018:

- Jurassic Parliament/Ann Macfarlane (June)
- PSRC VISION 2050 (July)
- Open Public Meetings Act with trainer Kinnon Williams, Inslee Best (September)
- Emergency Management (October)
- Social Media (November)

Regarding the Emergency Management training currently planned for October, SCA staff have received the following proposal from Jody Miller, Deputy Director of the King County Office of Emergency Management:

Purpose:

- *To provide an orientation to the Incident Command System (ICS) for Executives and Senior Officials*

Training Objectives:

- *Describe the Incident Command System (ICS)*
- *Define the roles of Executives/Senior officials*
- *Describe the major responsibilities of an Executive/Senior official*
- *Describe policy issues that influence incident complexity*
- *Describe the types of policies and guidelines that influence management of incident activities.*

Members are encouraged to provide feedback on the proposal, so that the training may be tailored to the needs and interests of SCA cities/PIC members.

If you or your city has additional items to be added to the list of potential upcoming SCA issues, or items to suggest for future trainings or workshops, please contact Deanna Dawson, deanna@soundcities.org.