1. Welcome and Roll Call – Ed Prince, Renton, Chair 2 minutes

2. Public Comment – Ed Prince, Renton, Chair 10 minutes

3. Approval of Minutes – July 11, 2018 Meeting 2 minutes
   Page 4

4. Chair’s Report – Ed Prince, Renton, Chair 5 minutes

5. Executive Director’s Report – Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director 10 minutes

6. 2019 SCA Legislative Agenda
   POTENTIAL FUTURE ACTION ITEM 10 minutes
   Page 14
   Scott MacColl, Policy Consultant

7. Homelessness Update
   UPDATE 15 minutes
   Page 20

8. Regional Affordable Housing Task Force
   DISCUSSION 15 minutes
   Page 31
   Brian Parry, Policy Director

9. Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan
   DISCUSSION 15 minutes
   Page 46
   Cynthia Foley, Policy Analyst

10. Future Levies and Ballot Measures in King County
    UPDATE 5 minutes
    Page 53
    Brian Parry, Policy Director
11. **Potential Upcoming SCA Issues**
   
   **UPDATE**
   
   Page 56
   
   Brian Parry, Policy Director

12. **Informational Item**
   
   a. **Recycling Communications Toolkit**
   
   Page 57

13. **Upcoming Events**
   
   a. SCA Public Issues Committee Meeting – Wednesday, October 10, 2018 – 7:00 PM (6:00 Pre-PIC Workshop) – Renton City Hall

14. **For the Good of the Order**

15. **Adjourn**
Sound Cities Association

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
To be 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.
1. **Welcome and Roll Call**

PIC Chair Council President Ed Prince, Renton, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. 28 cities had representation ([Attachment A](#)). Guests present included Councilmember Janice Zahn, Bellevue (PIC Alternate); Councilmember Davina Duerr, Bothell (PIC Alternate); Councilmember Nancy Tosta, Burien (PIC Alternate); Deputy Mayor Jay Arnold, Kirkland (PIC Alternate); Councilmember Paula Waters, Woodinville; Colleen Kelly, City of Redmond staff; Alex Herzog, City of Woodinville staff; Kelly Rider, King County staff; Alison Mendiola, King County Council staff; Jenny Huston, King County Executive Office staff.

Councilmember John Stokes, Bellevue (PIC Member), arrived at 7:09 PM. Councilmember Chris Roberts, Shoreline (PIC Member), arrived at 7:17 PM. Councilmember Kate Kruller, Tukwila (PIC Member) arrived later in the meeting.

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 June 13, 2018 Minutes**

Chair Prince asked if there were any edits to the June 13, 2018 PIC minutes.

**Hank Margeson, Redmond, moved, seconded by Christie Malchow, Sammamish, to approve the May 9, 2018 PIC minutes. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.**

4. **Chair’s Report**

Chair Prince reported that traditionally the August PIC meeting is canceled.

**Nancy Backus, Auburn, moved, seconded by Hank Margeson, Redmond, to cancel the August PIC meeting. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Chair Prince noted that the “Did You Know” item for this month recognized Kenmore’s 20th Anniversary. Chair Prince asked for a volunteer for the September “Did You Know” item. Mayor Nancy Backus, Auburn, volunteered.

Chair Prince reported that the process for regional board and committee appointments is coming up and asked members to start thinking about who they want to represent their cities on regional boards and committees. Chair Prince noted that it is important to try not to have two people from the same city apply for the same board or committee. He reported on
Renton’s process for making appointments. Director Dawson noted that the call for nominations will be sent as early as possible, potentially in August, and that applications will be due in October.

5. Executive Director’s Report
Executive Director Dawson reported that SCA will be hosting a Partner Forum with CenturyLink on cybersecurity and distributed a handout. Councilmember Hank Margeson, Redmond, asked if city staff are able to attend the Partner Forum. Director Dawson noted that the forum will be limited to SCA members, and confirmed that staff from member cities are invited to attend the Partner Forums.

Council President Tola Marts, Issaquah, asked when nominations for regional board and committee appointments will be due. Director Dawson stated that nominations will be due in October and an update on the exact due date will be provided with the call for nominations.

Director Dawson reported that the Finance Committee met on July 9, 2018 and heard a presentation from King County Budget Director Dwight Dively on the upcoming 2019-2020 biennial County budget. PIC members Hank Margeson, Redmond; Nancy Backus, Auburn; and Leanne Guier, Pacific, were at the Finance Committee meeting and heard the budget presentation. Dawson reported that the County noted structural challenges due to the State-imposed revenue growth limit on property taxes. Dawson reported that a majority of the general fund goes toward criminal justice and they are looking at potential cuts in that area of the budget. Dawson reported that SCA will be monitoring the County budget and will have a follow up meeting with Dwight Dively in September before the County Executive makes his recommendation on the County budget. Dawson offered to send the King County Budget presentation to PIC members upon request.

Director Dawson reported that SCA has started working on the 2019 budget and member dues. Per Board Policies, member assessments are calculated using population and CPI-W June to June with a cap of 3%. The Finance Committee directed staff to send estimated assessments to members as soon as the information is available so cities can plan ahead. The SCA budget and dues are formally adopted by the membership at the Annual Meeting later in the year.

Director Dawson reported that King 5 News recently did a feature on the City of Maple Valley. Mayor Sean Kelly, Maple Valley, noted that King 5 has also done a feature on the City of Issaquah and will be doing features of other local cities.

Director Dawson reported that there is a committee reviewing SCA’s Bylaws and Policies. PIC members Ed Prince, Renton; Hank Margeson, Redmond; and Catherine Stanford, Lake Forest Park, serve on this committee. The Bylaws provide that the PIC Chair may serve up to two consecutive one-year terms. Director Dawson asked PIC members for feedback on whether members preferred to limit this to one term. Council President, Tola Marts, Issaquah, said that he liked the idea of the Chair being able to serve for up to two years, as the first year is spent getting up to speed. Mayor Sean Kelly, Maple Valley, asked if the Vice Chair automatically moves to the Chair position. Director Dawson provided that while the Vice Chair does not always become the Chair, it is common practice. Council President Bill Boyce, Kent, agreed that
allowing a Chair to serve for two years is a good idea. He noted that two years is consistent with how many cities structure council president terms.

6. Regional Board and Committee Appointments
PIC Nominating Committee Chair Leanne Guier gave a report from the July 6, 2018 meeting of the PIC Nominating Committee.

Leanne Guier, Pacific, moved, seconded by Chris Roberts, Shoreline, to recommend that the Board appoint Redmond Council President Angela Birney, to the member seat on the Regional Policy Committee, and to appoint Bothell Councilmember James McNeal to the alternate seat on the Regional Policy Committee. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Director Dawson reported that King County gave SCA a member seat on the 4Culture Task Force. The Board appointed an interim staff member from Kent to fill this seat until the call for nominations process could be conducted. The PIC Nominating Committee viewed this as a staff committee and recommended that applicants for this Task Force be reviewed directly by the Board of Directors at their July 18, 2018 meeting for appointment. There was no objection to this proposed process. Dawson noted that the Executive’s Office has agreed with SCA’s request to also name an alternate to the Task Force.

7. Regional Affordable Housing Task Force
SCA Senior Policy Analyst Brian Parry reported on recommendations under consideration by the Regional Affordable Housing Task Force. At the most recent meeting of the Task Force, held on June 29, members reviewed discussion drafts of potential recommendations, including local and regional goals, strategies, potential new revenue, and governance. Parry noted that a series of public meetings to review the draft recommendations of the Task Force originally scheduled for mid-July have been postponed and will be rescheduled in September to allow the Task Force more time to work through its recommendations.

The PIC discussed the draft goals and strategies at the June meeting, and Parry said the SCA Caucus to the Task Force asked in particular that PIC members provide input on the potential Task Force recommendations related to funding and governance.

Parry said that affordable housing providers in the region have told the Task Force that increasing funding for preservation and rehabilitation, building new affordable units, and rent subsidies should be a priority recommendation from the Task Force as having the biggest impact to address the affordable housing crisis. Parry said that potential funding recommendations included in Task Force materials for its June 29 meeting identified several countywide sources for new funding for which the Task Force could recommend pursuing authority from the state to approve or propose to voters in King County. Parry said that these were listed as potential countywide sources of funding because of the Task Force’s focus on regional efforts, but that alternatively the Task Force could recommend that new authority be given to cities to determine which, if any, new funding options would work for their communities. Parry said that recommending the state legislature authorize more affordable housing funding options for cities would be consistent with the 2018 SCA legislative agenda.
Parry asked PIC members to provide feedback on whether the SCA Caucus to the Task Force should support a recommendation consistent with the SCA legislative agenda, and also if there were funding options included in the draft Task Force recommendations that should be prioritized or removed from the list of options under consideration.

Parry said that at the June 29 meeting the Task Force also discussed how the region could better govern development and implementation of affordable housing policies going forward. The Task Force discussed existing affordable housing policies and spending in King County, the bodies involved in those processes, and how the system could be improved. Parry said ideas discussed included adding a new regional committee to the King County Charter with authority to affect affordable housing policies and plans, expanding the role of existing regional committees, or creating a regional body in some other form with representation from cities and the county. Parry said that the Task Force would be considering options at its next meeting on July 26 based on the strategies recommended by the Task Force and how they can best be implemented.

Parry said the next meeting of the Task Force will take place on July 26 at 10:00 AM at the Mercer Island Community Center.

Councilmember Tola Marts, Issaquah, said that fundamentally it is a good idea to have a regional body working to create regional solutions to ensure efforts are coordinated. He said that the details of how such a committee is created would be very important, and that typically there is more value to a governing body when it has authority over both policy and funding decisions.

Councilmember Sheree Wen, Medina, asked whether the funding recommendations under consideration by the Task Force included funding from the federal government. Parry said the current list of options in Task Force materials for new revenue are primarily focused on local options, but that federal funding and low income tax credits are a significant source of affordable housing in the region.

Executive Director Deanna Dawson said that Mayor David Baker, Kenmore, could not be at the PIC meeting but provided feedback that he is stressing to the Task Force that their recommendations should prioritize efforts to address the affordable housing needs of seniors and those earning 30 percent of area median income and below.

Councilmember Toby Nixon, Kirkland, said that any new body to govern affordable housing policy and spending should be carefully organized to ensure there is equitable representation. He also noted that depending on the role and responsibilities of the body, consideration should be given to whether its members should be separately elected.

Mayor Christie Malchow, Sammamish, said that the Sammamish City Council discussed the potential revenue recommendations being considered by the Task Force and that there was some support for a sales tax exemption or other incentives to build affordable housing, but that there was not support for new taxes.
Councilmember John Stokes, Bellevue, said that he is a Task Force member on behalf of SCA. He noted the huge need for affordable housing in the region, and asked whether members supported the Task Force focusing its recommendations on those earning below 30 percent of area median income. He said that those earning the lowest incomes are at the greatest risk of becoming homeless. He said that he would like to see affordable housing policies overseen by a body that is more action-oriented than what he has experienced from serving on the King County Regional Policy Committee. He said Water Resource Inventory Area 8, established by interlocal agreement, may be a good model to follow. He said the Task Force was still considering what authority was needed to move affordable housing policies forward, and that SCA could have a really positive impact on how the region works together.

Mayor Ken Hearing, North Bend, said that he agrees with Mayor Baker that the region should focus its efforts on those earning 30 percent of area median income and below.

Councilmember Chris Roberts, Shoreline, said that it is difficult to provide input on a model that should govern regional housing policy without knowing exactly what authority such a body may have. Executive Director Deanna Dawson said that the roles and responsibilities of how regional affordable housing policy is governed moving forward is part of the Task Force discussion and that PIC members could provide input on what authority they think would benefit the region.

Councilmember Hank Margeson, Redmond, said that he shared the concerns expressed by Mayor Malchow about new revenue sources, but that pursuing an increase to the Housing Trust Fund or other state sources of funding for affordable housing may be worthwhile. He said that he likes the goals and strategies identified by the Task Force in general, and that any new committee or governing body overseeing affordable housing policy will need to show results and not just add costs to the system.

8. Responsible Recycling Task Force
SCA Policy Analyst Cynthia Foley provided a report on a set of recycling import restrictions from China called the “National Sword.” The policies require that imported recyclables arrive market-ready, with low contamination. The new standards essentially result in a ban on the import of unsorted paper and mixed number 3 through 7 plastics.

Foley reported that the Solid Waste Division convened the Responsible Recycling Taskforce. The role of the group is defined as identifying ways to strengthen recyclables markets, reduce contamination, and improve the quality and quantity of recyclable materials through more uniform city and county recycling approaches, education and outreach, and other means.

Foley noted that the Taskforce plans to share preliminary recommendations as they are developed. A draft recommendation advises removing shredded paper and plastic bags from recycling lists. These materials are can be challenging to separate from comingled recyclables, and are likely to become mixed with and therefore contaminate other recyclable commodities.

Foley said that an additional communications work group is developing messaging about new recycling rules to reduce public confusion about what is recyclable. These should be completed by August. Messages will advise that household recycling is “clean, dry and empty.” This is
intended to keep out moisture from paper goods, allowing them to make it to market with less contamination. Additionally, messaging is expected to include a list of commonly recycled items and the message: “when in doubt, find out.” This message will advise that referring to your city or hauler for more information regarding what is recyclable. The communications group would value the participation of communications staff from cities.

Foley summarized that the taskforce also reviewed models for incorporating recycling costs into solid waste rates and contracts. Currently, haulers have increased processing cost due to slowed sorting lines. Some cities may be asked to pay additional charges to cover rising costs incurred due the impacts of National Sword. Some cities do not contract directly with haulers, and use rates set by the Washington Utility and Transportation Commission (WUTC). In King County, this applies to eight cities. Two hauling companies have requested permission from the WUTC to increase rates using surcharges in these cities. A whitepaper on surcharges should be available next week. Foley said that the taskforce reviewed models where cities collect the recycled commodity revenue. She noted that the proposal by Epicenter Services, referenced in the memo on page 39, is being revised. Also, where it says fixed rate in the same section of the memo, it should say base rate, because this could fluctuate with inflation or other factors.

Foley reported that several cities have granted disposal waivers to a local hauler. The waivers allow disposal of some collected recyclable materials. She said that the Solid Waste Division recommended that if waivers are used, they should: establish clear start and end dates; limit disposed recyclable commodities to materials affected by overseas import restrictions; and require reporting of the type and quantity of materials disposed and where they are disposed. The Solid Waste Division put together a document on waivers.

Foley said that the Responsible Recycling Taskforce will meet on July 18. The recycling communications group will meet on July 19. She invited the PIC to discuss making the uniformity in recycling practices, developing recycling markets, and the impact of changing market conditions on rates.

Councilmember Hank Margeson, Redmond, commented that this group was initially described as developing a report to increase understanding of the topic, but is now making policy recommendations. This seems like a more appropriate role for SWAC and MSWMAC. He noted that more communication about the need for clean, empty, and dry recyclables would benefit the public.

Mayor Christie Malchow, Sammamish, agreed that communication to households on the issue of clean, empty, and dry recyclables is key.

Councilmember Benson Wong, Mercer Island, shared that a hauler will be providing education on the topic at a celebration on Mercer Island this weekend. He noted that Mercer Island will be in negotiations soon to renew their hauler contract and they are using the rate structure being developed by Epicenter Services. He said that he would update anyone interested in the progress of this effort.
9. **Homelessness Update**  
SCA Senior Policy Analyst Ellie Wilson-Jones provided an update on regional initiatives related to homelessness. In June, One Table Co-Chairs Auburn Mayor Nancy Backus, King County Executive Dow Constantine, and Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan released an update on the work of One Table including six action statements, listed on page 48 of the PIC Packet, that are intended to impact the root causes of homelessness. In releasing these action statements, the co-chairs also announced a series of steps they would be taking in their jurisdictions and regionally to address homelessness. Those steps, detailed in a press release, include a proposal by Executive Constantine to bond against future hotel-motel tax revenues to generate an additional $100 million for affordable housing units for people earning between 30 and 80 percent AMI. The co-chairs have scheduled the next One Table meeting for July 31, and the focus will be on next steps for implementing the One Table recommendations.

Wilson-Jones also reported on the work of a Homeless System Governance Workgroup, that has been formed to review the existing system governing homeless policy and investments and study alternative governance models. SCA Executive Director Deanna Dawson is participating in the workgroup, which also includes representatives for the county, City of Seattle, and All Home. Wilson-Jones highlighted the desired outcomes for the workgroup process, listed on page 42 of PIC Packet, and proposed system accountability measures, listed on page 43.

Wilson-Jones concluded by noting that the All Home Annual Conference was held July 11 prior to the PIC meeting. The conference brought together members serving on All Home’s Coordinating Board and advisory committees as well as other stakeholders and community members. The conference featured remarks on the state of homelessness in King County and discussion about the current system for governing homeless services and investments and governance models utilized by other communities throughout the country.

SCA Executive Director Deanna Dawson provided a further report on the work of the Homeless System Governance Workgroup. The workgroup has met twice and will be meeting every two weeks through the fall. Dawson noted that she will be seeking SCA member feedback throughout the process and encouraged members and city staff to provide her with input into current challenges and proposed changes. Members of the SCA Executive Committee met with Executive Constantine prior to the PIC meeting and discussed the need to involve business and philanthropy in discussion of future governance structures and how to better coordinate

10. **Healthy Housing Guideline and Recommendation**  
SCA Senior Policy Analyst Ellie Wilson-Jones reported on the Healthy Housing Guideline and Recommendation, included on page 57 of the PIC Packet, approved by the Board of Health in June. Development of the Guideline and Recommendation began in 2014, with several iterations having been reviewed by stakeholders including city staff, prior to adoption of the final document by the Board of Health. The adopted Guideline and Recommendation is advisory in nature and is intended to provide a menu of policy options for communities wishing to improve the quality of their housing stock and linked health outcomes. Wilson-Jones noted that the Guideline and Recommendation speaks to the significance that housing quality has for
health outcomes and references related health impacts, such as asthma, lead poisoning, falls, and fire. The Guideline and Recommendation also acknowledges the role that the lack of affordable housing options plays in health outcomes and the tension between housing quality and affordability. The adopted Guideline and Recommendation consists of two sections—Local Policy Actions and Cross Sector Partnership Opportunities. In each section, Board of Health guidelines related to housing quality and healthy communities are outlined and more specific Board of Health recommendations are then offered for each guideline.

Councilmember Chris Roberts, Shoreline, highlighted reporting by the LA Times regarding negative health impacts that people leaving near freeways experience due to air pollution. Roberts asked whether the Board of Health considered the impact of highways on air quality and health when developing the Guideline and Recommendation. Wilson-Jones noted that the Guideline and Recommendation does not specifically reference air quality impacts from proximity to freeways, but does speak at a high level to community planning.

Deputy Mayor Erin Sitterley, SeaTac, noted that air quality impacts are an area of interest for SCA Board of Health members and spoke to an ongoing study—the Mobile ObserVations of Ultrafine Particles (MOV-UP) Study—related to air quality impacts from SeaTac airport. Sitterley spoke to the value she sees in the Healthy Housing Guideline and Recommendation as a tool for her city as it looks for ways to respond to community requests that it address housing quality and health impacts.

11. Future Levies and Ballot Measures
SCA Senior Policy Analyst Brian Parry provided an update on future levies and ballot measures in King County. Parry noted that two measures will be on the ballot in August 2018: renewal of the King County Automated Fingerprint Identification System levy, and an operations levy to support South King Fire and Rescue.

Council President Bill Boyce, Kent said the City of Kent is not considering a utility tax measure and that reference to one should be removed from future updates.

Councilmember Sheree Wen, Medina, said that recent hacking of public data highlighted the importance of protecting this information and that she hoped this was considered as part of the proposed renewal to the Automatic Fingerprint Identification System levy.

12. Potential Upcoming SCA Issues
Executive Director Dawson reported that the pre-PIC workshops and trainings for the remainder of 2018 are on the following topics: Open Public Meetings Act (September); Emergency Management (October); and Social Media (November).

13. Informational Item
   a. Local Hazardous Waste Management Program Rate
Chair Prince noted that there is an informational item on the Local Hazardous Waste Management Program Rate.

14. Upcoming Events
In addition to items listed on the PIC agenda, Director Dawson reported that there will be Women’s Leadership Event hosted by Normandy Park Councilmember Sue-Ann Hohimer on September 15th in Normandy Park. A Save the Date for this event will be sent.

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

Councilmember Toby Nixon, Kirkland, reported that the County Council appointed the Charter Review Commission and invited members to send him ideas of things they think need to be changed. Director Dawson noted that SCA Senior Policy Analyst Brian Parry will be tracking the Charter Review Commission and will bring back formal information. Nixon said that the first meeting is scheduled for the end of July and they will begin developing a timeline and public outreach. Maple Valley Mayor Sean Kelly will also serve on the Charter Review Commission.

Councilmember Hank Margeson, Redmond, noted that this weekend is the Derby Days celebration in Redmond. There will be a barbeque on Friday and fireworks on Saturday.

Councilmember Kate Kruller, Tukwila, noted that the Seattle SeaWolves recently won the Rugby National Championship in their inaugural season. Kruller was present for the Championship.

16. Adjourn
The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 PM.
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Voting members are highlighted in gray. Cities represented are bolded.
Item 06:
SCA 2019 Legislative Agenda

POTENTIAL FUTURE ACTION ITEM

SCA Staff Contact
Scott MacColl, Consultant, scott@soundcities.org, 206-321-0626

2018-2019 SCA Legislative Committee Members
Mayor Leanne Guier, Pacific, Chair; Mayor David Baker, Kenmore; Mayor Dana Ralph, Kent;
Mayor Amy Ockerlander, Duvall; Deputy Mayor Catherine Stanford, Lake Forest Park

Potential Future Action
At the September 12, 2018 PIC meeting, the PIC will discuss the work of the SCA Legislative Committee. The Legislative Committee will develop recommendations and bring them to the October 10, 2018 PIC meeting for consideration, and to bring back to the December 12, 2018 PIC meeting for action. The recommendation would then be forwarded to the SCA Board of Directors for their review and final action at the December 18, 2018 Board meeting.

Background
The SCA Board of Directors developed a strategy in 2016 to “increase SCA influence in State and County government,” and adopted action items including identifying strategic legislative priorities and formed a Legislative Committee. The Board now appoints a Legislative Committee each year consisting of members from each geographic caucus, which develops a recommended SCA Legislative Agenda. The PIC reviews and recommends the proposed Legislative Agenda to the SCA Board, by which it is formally adopted. The SCA 2018 Legislative Agenda (developed in 2017) is included here as Attachment A.

SCA 2019 Legislative Agenda Timeline
On June 20, 2018, the SCA Board of Directors appointed the 2018-19 SCA Legislative Committee. This SCA Legislative Committee met September 7, 2018 to consider progress toward SCA’s 2019 legislative priorities, newly emerging issues, and the outlook for the 2019 legislative session.

The PIC will review the proposed legislative priorities initially at the October 10, 2018 PIC, and potentially act at the December 12, 2018 meeting. The Draft Legislative Priorities would then be forwarded to the SCA Board for review and final action at the December 18, 2018 Board meeting.

SCA Networking Dinner with Legislators
SCA held a panel discussion with Legislators at the SCA Networking Dinner on September 5, 2018 which asked Legislators to focus on the legislative priorities of member cities, which include:
- Addressing the affordable housing and homelessness crisis in King County, and addressing the need for behavioral health services;
- Giving cities the tools they need to provide critical services to their residents, including lifting the 1% property tax cap; and
- Addressing the transportation needs of the region.

Legislators were encouraged to work together to address our shared priorities as a region, rather than getting mired in partisanship. Legislators were asked their thoughts on how to accomplish this goal and what their legislative priorities will be in the coming session.

**2018 Legislative Session Review**

During the March 2018 PIC meeting, SCA staff provided a session recap of progress made during the 2018 Legislative Session on SCA’s 2018 Legislative Agenda: adjusting the property tax cap, investing in public health services, and addressing the housing and homelessness crisis (see the March 2018 PIC Packet and Meeting Minutes).

The Legislature provided a $33 million investment in Public Health – Seattle and King County to go toward core public health services that prevent and stop the spread of communicable diseases. There was also substantial investment this session in behavioral health services, including $669 million for the community behavioral health system, bringing an estimated $220 million to King County. A new mental health field responder pilot will also be established with $11 million in grant funding available statewide to help police departments hire mental health professionals to work in partnership with police. Legislation to create a statewide secure medicine take-back program also passed.

There was substantial movement on SCA’s housing and homelessness legislative priority beginning with the passage of the Capital Budget, which included a $107 million investment in the Housing Trust Fund. Additionally, the Legislature made the Document Recording Fee permanent and increased the fee to generate more funding for homelessness assistance and services. Legislation prohibiting source of income discrimination also passed, among other housing related bills.

**AWC and Member City Preparations for 2019**

Affordable housing, economic development, and infrastructure funding will be a focus for AWC in 2019. Late last month, the AWC Legislative Committee adopted five priorities to forward to the AWC Board for consideration for the 2019 session as follows:

- Continue to support new resources for subsidized affordable housing;
- Develop a value capture tool that can help fund public investments that support economic development;
- Advocate for critical infrastructure funding programs;
- Seek sufficient funding for at least 19 Basic Law Enforcement Academy and at least seven Corrections Officers Academy classes per year; and,
- Secure ongoing and significant funding for city culvert repair/replacement.
A fact sheet summarizing each of these issues is attached here as Attachment B. AWC will be holding Regional Meetings to share these 2019 priorities with members.

SCA member cities will also be developing 2019 legislative priorities in the coming months and members are encouraged to provide their legislative priorities to SCA staff to share with other member cities.

**Next Steps**
The Legislative Committee will develop recommendations and bring them to the October 10, 2018 PIC meeting for consideration, and to bring back to the December 12, 2018 PIC meeting for action. The recommendation would then be forwarded to the SCA Board of Directors for their review and final action at the December 18, 2018 Board meeting. For more information, contact SCA Consultant Scott MacColl at scott@soundcities.org or 206-321-0626

**Attachments**
A. [SCA 2018 Legislative Agenda](#)
B. [AWC 2019 Draft Legislative Priorities](#)
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.

**SCA 2018 Legislative Agenda**

**Adjust the Property Tax Cap**
Property taxes are the largest revenue source for Washington’s cities, supporting critical services like justice, health, and safety. However, property taxes are capped at a level that creates an ever-widening gap between the cost of serving a growing population and the revenue available to pay for those services. A new property tax limit should correspond to what it actually costs local governments to continue providing services and keep up with increased public demand.

➢ *The Sound Cities Association urges the Legislature to give local governments the option to replace the arbitrary annual 1% cap on property tax increases with a limit tied to inflation plus population growth.*

**Invest in Public Health Services**
The most basic services for keeping communities safe and healthy are at risk due to declining state investment in public health—down 40% per capita since 2000 when adjusted for inflation. The Legislature made an initial investment in 2017, but core public health needs remain unmet, jeopardizing the tracking, response, and prevention of disease outbreaks and other crucial services.

➢ *The Sound Cities Association urges the Legislature to fund the core public health services provided by local health jurisdictions.*

**Address the Housing and Homelessness Crisis**
Our communities face an affordable housing and homelessness crisis. More than 11,600 people experience homelessness on a given night in King County, and others, including older adults and moderate and low-wage workers of all ages, are struggling to find affordable, quality housing in our region. Partnerships between state and local governments are critical to create new units of affordable housing. To that end, a renewed state commitment to help Washingtonians transition out of homelessness is now needed, as are expanded investments to address behavioral health needs and other root causes of homelessness.

➢ *The Sound Cities Association urges the Legislature to partner with us to take actions address to homelessness and increase the supply of affordable housing, including:*
  - Expand and make permanent the Document Recording Fee
  - Invest at least $106 million in the Housing Trust Fund
  - Allow local governments to create and preserve affordable housing through optional local tools
  - Remove barriers to increasing the supply of a full range of housing types

➢ *The Sound Cities Association urges the Legislature to address other underlying causes of homelessness by making investments in our state’s behavioral health system and enacting legislation to prohibit Source of Income Discrimination.*
Welcome to View from the Hill!

Contact: Candice Bock

We are excited to announce that we’re changing things up just a bit with this new column titled View from the Hill. Many of you have been regular readers of “From the Director” for the past several years. We want to bring you more of the best information as it happens, and what it means for cities. View from the Hill is where your AWC Government Relations team will share our insights and insider views about the happenings on “the Hill,” Olympia’s Capitol Hill, that is. This section is where you can expect to learn the latest about AWC’s advocacy efforts and how you can be part of it, during legislative session and the interim.

As summer wraps up, AWC’s Legislative Priorities Committee has also been wrapping up its work to develop priority recommendations for 2019. The committee met on August 24 to consider and debate possible issues for inclusion as city legislative priorities for 2019. The members of the committee had a robust discussion and vote that resulted in the following priorities recommendations (along with a short synopsis about what cities need from the Legislature):

**Economic development** – Develop a value capture tool that can help fund public investment that supports economic development like the Building Business Ecosystems proposal.

**Criminal Justice Training Commission funding** – Cities need a responsive funding model to ensure newly-hired law enforcement officers and corrections officers have timely access to basic training. Seek sufficient funding for at least 19 Basic Law Enforcement Academy classes and at least seven Corrections Officers Academy classes per year.

**Infrastructure funding** – Advocate for critical infrastructure funding programs. Focus on retaining existing funding for the Public Works Assistance Account (PWAA) through repayments and the 2 percent of dedicated REET. Seek to reinstate the diverted PWAA funding to support infrastructure projects that are aligned with housing availability related development.
**Affordable housing** – Continue to support new resources for subsidized affordable housing. Provide greater flexibility and refinement of programs that support affordable housing. Develop and support proposals to encourage voluntary densification and infill development. Explore opportunities for shared housing programs and support efforts to address condominium liability.

**Culverts** – Secure ongoing and significant funding for city culvert repair/replacement in recognition of the state's obligation to address culverts that impede fish passage.

A huge thank you to the members of the committee who dedicated time and energy to this process. We very much appreciate your efforts. The AWC Board will consider these recommendations at the meetings in late September.

While these priorities are a key part of the AWC legislative agenda for 2019, it is important to remember that your AWC team works on many other issues throughout the year and into the legislative session. We still fully expect to work on a number of other issues in addition to our priorities in areas like behavioral health, transportation, public records, and annexation, among others. We will be developing and providing more in-depth information about the 2019 priorities that we will share with our members here in upcoming editions of the *Bulletin*.

To hear more about our 2019 agenda and to talk with our team in-person, please join us for one of the regional meetings we will be holding around the state this fall.

In the meantime, keep checking out *View from the Hill* for the latest info, insights, and insider scoop.
Item 07:
Homelessness Update

**UPDATE**

SCA Staff Contact
Deanna Dawson, deanna@soundcities.org, (206) 495-3265

**Update**
Addressing the homelessness crisis in the region has been identified as a top priority for SCA members. During the September 12, 2018 PIC meeting, members will be briefed on recent developments.

**Background**
Work to address the homelessness crisis was the subject of the March and April SCA Pre-PIC Workshops and a briefing during the May 9 PIC meeting, and the July 11 PIC meeting.

**Update**
One Table, Co-Chaired by Auburn Mayor Nancy Backus, King County Executive Dow Constantine, and Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan, met on August 3, 2018. Attachment A, lists six high-level action statements touching on the five root causes of homelessness that One Table has sought to impact: affordable housing, behavioral health, child welfare, criminal justice, and employment.

In a commitment to reaching our regional goals of making homelessness rare, brief and one-time, government, philanthropy, business, and people with lived experience are combining efforts to maximize and coordinate the currently dispersed efforts to address homelessness. Building on the work of One Table, the Regional Affordable Housing Task Force, the Continuum of Care/All Home, and other groups, coordination will require:

- A **critical assessment** of how we’re using existing funding so that we can maximize the impact and efficiency of our current resources;
- An **actionable agenda** with associated costs and measurable goals that drive meaningful progress toward the reduction of homelessness through both crisis response and prevention efforts; and
- A **governance structure** with clear authority and accountability for success.

SCA Executive Director Deanna Dawson is representing SCA in this process. She is joined by staff members Colleen Kelly of Redmond and Merina Hanson of Kent, who will be working with staff from cities throughout the county to inform the work of the staff working group.
Next Steps
A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Seattle and King County states that governance recommendations shall be made to the King County Executive and Mayor of Seattle by December 1, 2018 regarding potential system revisions to increase the effectiveness, reach, and efficiency of our countywide homelessness system. SCA staff will be briefing and seeking feedback from the PIC and SCA Board monthly throughout the process.

Attachment
   A. One Table Summary
The annual King County point-in-time count of people experiencing homelessness reflects the growing crisis in our region, with the recent census in January 2018 identifying 12,112 people without a stable home, up four percent from the previous years. This tells only part of the story. While more than 20,000 individuals exit homelessness annually in King County, more than 30,000 people lose housing. The need is outpacing the system’s ability to respond. We must adopt a different approach, and focus on upstream strategies and root causes.

Homelessness is a broad societal issue that results from the failure of many systems and disproportionately affects people of color. Many community efforts to address homelessness have been focused on helping people after they have become homeless. If we are truly going to address homelessness, we need to prevent people from becoming homeless in the first place.

### Systemic factors contributing to homelessness

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AFFORDABLE HOUSING</th>
<th>BEHAVIORAL HEALTH</th>
<th>CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM</th>
<th>CRIMINAL JUSTICE</th>
<th>EMPLOYMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rising housing costs make it difficult to find appropriate housing.</td>
<td>Individuals lack access to necessary mental health and substance use treatment.</td>
<td>One-third of homeless youth in King County have been in the child welfare system.</td>
<td>Interaction with this expensive system inhibits individuals’ ability to obtain housing and employment.</td>
<td>Inability to access employment and regional wage gaps make it difficult for some to afford housing costs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A comprehensive stakeholder group convened beginning January 2018 to participate in the One Table effort. This group included community and subject matter experts, civic leaders and elected officials.

**COMMUNITY ACTION WORKGROUP (CAW)**

**Participants**
Subject matter experts from the business, nonprofit, philanthropic, faith and community sectors who have expertise in workgroup issue areas. Members participated in the following workgroups: Affordable Housing, Behavioral Health, Child Welfare, Criminal Justice, Employment

**Charge**
Develop scalable strategies/solutions that address each root cause of homelessness centered in addressing racial disparities

**CIVIC LEADERSHIP GROUP (CLG)**

**Participants**
Civic leaders from business and philanthropy

**Charge**
Participate in the CAW process; advise on the ability to leverage and execute the recommended broad scalable solutions

**ELECTED LEADERSHIP GROUP (ELG)**

**Participants**
Elected officials from state, county and city governments across King County.

**Charge**
Participate in the CAW process; provide vision and guidance for process; commit to generating political will to implement scalable solutions

**LEADERS WITH LIVED EXPERIENCE (LLE)**

**Participants**
Leaders with lived experience with homelessness and the systems being addressed

**Charge**
Participate in the CAW process; review strategies separately to leverage their expertise and ensure strategies are poised to make measurable impact

**PROCESS**

**ONE TABLE KICKOFF, ALL**
Discussed need to focus on root causes

**CAW 1**
Developed factors

**CAW 2**
Developed strategies

**CAW 3**
Refined strategies

**LLE**
Reviewed strategies

**CLG 1**
Further refined recommended actions and discussed possible implementation steps

**LEADERS WITH LIVED EXPERIENCE (LLE)**
Reviewed recommended actions with co-chairs

**CITY OF SEATTLE & KING COUNTY**
Sign MOU for homeless services

**ONE TABLE, ALL**
Announcement of short-term implementation steps, transition to developing long-term implementation steps and governance agreements

**PUBLIC MEETING, ALL**
Reviewed recommended actions and suggested implementation steps


January  February  March  April  May  June  July

2/6 2/28 3/19 4/4 5/2 5/3  TBD
ONE TABLE  Addressing root causes of homelessness

Racial Justice & Equity Principles

Target services to populations and communities most at risk of homelessness, including:

- People of color
- Immigrants and refugees
- People with disabilities
- People exiting the criminal justice system
- People exiting behavioral health treatment
- Young people exiting foster care

![Figure 13: Individuals Experiencing Homelessness, Total Count Population by Race and Ethnicity](image)

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


Note: The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) gathers data on race and ethnicity through two separate questions, similar to the U.S. Census. For the purposes of this report, race and ethnicity are presented together. Multiple response question. Percentages may not add up to 100.

NOTE: These numbers are approximate, based on the results of the 2018 Count Us In effort. For multiple reasons, people of color are likely under-represented in the point-in-time count.

Support workforce training in:

- Institutional racism and bias
- Harm reduction models
- Trauma-informed care

Recruit and retain a workforce that represents people being served by:

- Funding programs that employ peers with homelessness and behavioral health lived experiences
- Funding programs providing culturally-relevant services
- Funding services provided by communities of color
## Action Statements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Creating a housing stabilization fund to achieve zero exits into homelessness (including zero inappropriate evictions), with a focus on preventing homelessness for those with the most acute need.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing on-demand behavioral health services that are racially, ethnically and culturally appropriate, flexible, person-centered, mobile, peer-focused, and trauma-informed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offering a comprehensive service package for all foster youth aging out of care to increase stability throughout their transition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Striving to achieve zero bookings for charges that are a direct result of homelessness and behavioral health crises, through diversion and compliance requirement reform done through a racial justice lens. Study cost offsets from reduced jail use and redistribute savings to fund diversion programs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensuring access to employment opportunities that can cover market rate housing costs in King County reduces the risk for homelessness. The community should scale employment programs across the county over two years to train and employ people who are disproportionately at-risk of homelessness and secure private and public sector commitments to hire program graduates. Employment programs to be scaled will include government, community-based and social enterprise programs and will be designed to accommodate the needs of all individuals at risk of homelessness and provide them with employment and wages that support them and their families.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# ONE TABLE

**Addressing root causes of homelessness**

## ROOT CAUSE: Affordable Housing

### CURRENT STATE

| 89,745 more affordable homes needed | for households earning less than or equal to 50% Area Median Income (or $40,460/year for a family of 4*) |

### FACTORS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rising rents</th>
<th>High and increasing housing production costs (land and construction)</th>
<th>Restrictive land use and zoning regulations</th>
<th>Lengthy permitting time</th>
<th>Limited housing types</th>
<th>Restricted access to affordable housing units</th>
<th>Lack of financial resources to support affordable housing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### HIGHLIGHTED STRATEGIES

#### IMMEDIATE

**IMPLEMENTATION WITHIN 3 YEARS**

- Actively promote transfer of public land to build more affordable homes.
- Expedite permitting and reduce fees to build more affordable homes.
- Endorse and enforce tenant protections.
- Increase financial resources at the local, state and federal level to build more affordable housing.

#### LONG-TERM

**IMPLEMENTATION IN 3-10 YEARS**

- Enact land use policies countywide that increase density and require affordable housing, especially at high capacity transit stations.
- Support alternative housing types that better serve the needs of diverse cultures and people exiting behavioral health or criminal justice systems.
- Expand non-traditional homeownership options that are more affordable and better address diverse cultural needs.
- Fund longer-term rent supports.
- Affirmatively market housing programs to communities of color and diverse cultural communities.
## ONE TABLE
### Addressing root causes of homelessness

**ROOT CAUSE: Behavioral Health**

### CURRENT STATE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FACTORS</th>
<th>HIGHLIGHTED STRATEGIES</th>
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<td>6-7 Days to intake and treatment in King County</td>
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<tr>
<td>Approximately 10% of Western State Hospital patients are discharged into homelessness</td>
<td><strong>LONG-TERM</strong></td>
</tr>
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</table>

**FACTORS**
- Inadequate on-demand access to treatment
- Lack of individualized care
- Lack of a stable workforce to meet demand and care needs
- Insufficient care coordination between systems
- Inadequate access to housing resources

### IMPLEMENTATION WITHIN 3 YEARS

- Develop and expand behavioral health approaches shaped to individuals' unique needs.
- Create a housing stabilization fund to preserve housing access for people in full-time or inpatient treatment.
- Expand the current incentive pool to bring same-day access to behavioral health treatment to more people in need.

### IMPLEMENTATION IN 3-10 YEARS

- Expand care options that connect individuals experiencing behavioral health crisis with peers who have similar lived experience, and create peer crisis respite houses, in all communities throughout King County.
- Expand and improve opportunities in the behavioral health workforce for people with lived experience, particularly for people of color.
- Provide incentives for inpatient treatment programs to find stable, long-term housing for people exiting treatment.

**Source:** King County Department of Community and Human Services, Behavioral Health and Recovery Division, 2018.

**Source:** Western State Hospital data for civil detention patients.

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**ONE TABLE**  Addressing root causes of homelessness

**ROOT CAUSE: Behavioral Health**

### CURRENT STATE

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**Source:** King County Department of Community and Human Services, Behavioral Health and Recovery Division, 2018.

**Source:** Western State Hospital data for civil detention patients.
## ONE TABLE

### ROOT CAUSE: Child Welfare

#### CURRENT STATE

| 34% of youth who age out of foster care in King County become homeless within one year |


#### FACTORS

- Key transition points compromise stability (i.e., moves, reunification, aging out, permanency placement)
- Implicit bias inherent in decision-making within the child welfare system
- Institutionalized racism creates and upholds barriers to stability

#### HIGHLIGHTED STRATEGIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMMEDIATE</th>
<th>LONG-TERM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>IMPLEMENTATION WITHIN 3 YEARS</strong></td>
<td><strong>IMPLEMENTATION IN 3-10 YEARS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide ongoing training in racial bias, racial disproportionality and institutional racism for everyone who influences the child welfare system.</td>
<td>Recruit, incentivize and support people of color and/or people with lived experience in the child welfare system to become social workers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase investments in family reunification.</td>
<td>Broaden the extended foster care program to provide youth up to age 25 with comprehensive, person-centered services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide counseling, training and behavioral health services for families at risk of child welfare system engagement.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implement a campaign to increase foster families of color and increase availability of foster placements for youth of color.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# ONE TABLE

## Addressing root causes of homelessness

### ROOT CAUSE: Criminal Justice

## CURRENT STATE

King County’s Department of Adult & Juvenile Detention has about **3,000 adult bookings into jail per month**

*Source: King County Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention, Detention and Alternatives Scorecard, 2017.*

Compliance charges (for failure to comply with expectations of parole, bail, etc.) represent about **40% of bookings** for those booked into a King County jail four+ times in a 12-month period

*Source: King County Department of Community and Human Services, Familiar Faces Population Analysis, 2016.*

## FACTORS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lack of early interventions</th>
<th>Shortage of diversion supports</th>
<th>Reentry system that sets individuals up for failure rather than success</th>
<th>Budgeting prioritizes criminal justice/corrections over services</th>
<th>Lack of housing for people with criminal justice system involvement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

## HIGHLIGHTED STRATEGIES

### IMMEDIATE

**IMPLEMENTATION WITHIN 3 YEARS**

- Work with the criminal justice system (judges, staff, and law enforcement) to increase understanding on homelessness and housing needs.
- Pass fair housing laws in King County and local municipalities that support housing choices for individuals with criminal records.

### LONG-TERM

**IMPLEMENTATION IN 3-10 YEARS**

- Conduct an analysis of current criminal justice investments to determine if any can be redirected to early intervention, diversion and behavioral health services.
- Divert low-level homelessness-related bookings to services rather than jail.
- Human-centered and racially explicit review and redesign of compliance requirements so that they do not penalize homelessness and poverty.
ONE TABLE  
**Addressing root causes of homelessness**

## ROOT CAUSE: Employment

### CURRENT STATE

Nearly **50%** of King County households* earn less than $75,000 per year, the income needed to afford the typical 2-bedroom apartment in King County**


### FACTORS

- Low wages
- Lack of job readiness, including supportive services
- Lack of social capital and networks
- Implicit bias inherent in employers’ hiring practices

### HIGHLIGHTED STRATEGIES

#### IMMEDIATE

- Scale *King County Jobs Initiative* and increase other dedicated funds for training pathways in high wage jobs for groups most at risk of homelessness.
- Change employment program policies to allow for more flexible funding to address needs of individuals and prevent homelessness.
- Train housing and homeless service providers on income/employment referral options.
- Create a system that encourages employers to adopt initiatives from a menu of actionable options (including training, internships, education, and hiring preferences) that address racial inequities in hiring.

#### LONG-TERM

- Create Summer Academies for at-risk youth in middle school.
- Place more high-quality teachers, counselors and community-based mentors in the highest poverty middle schools to support youth in need/at risk.
Item 08:
Regional Affordable Housing Task Force

UPDATE

SCA Staff Contact
Brian Parry, SCA Policy Director, 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 McIrvin, 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 countywide strategy for affordable housing.

In September, the Task Force released a draft Five-Year Action Plan for public comment (Attachment A). Highlights from the draft Action Plan include recommendations related to funding for affordable housing; establishing a new countywide affordable housing oversight body; and priority actions that may be approved at the city, county, and state level to both protect existing affordable housing stock and promote new development.

The Task Force will hold its next meeting on September 14. SCA members on the Task Force have asked that PIC members provide input on the draft Action Plan to guide their work on the Task Force and shape the next iteration of the plan. A revised draft of the plan is expected to be completed in time to be considered by the PIC in October, at which time the PIC will discuss whether to bring back to the following PIC meeting a policy position related to the Action Plan.

Background

The Regional Affordable Housing Task Force began meeting in July 2017 and is tasked with recommending a countywide affordable housing strategy to the County Executive and County Council by December 2018. Prior briefings to PIC on the work of the Task Force can be found in the June 13 and July 11, 2018 PIC packets.

In September, the Task Force released a draft Five-Year Action Plan for public comment, which is included here as Attachment A. The draft Action Plan includes seven high-level goals for addressing the region’s housing affordability crisis as well as recommended implementation
strategies for adoption at the city, county, and state level. The recommended goals were reviewed by the PIC in July, and the recommended strategies are highlighted below.

PIC members are encouraged to provide feedback on the draft recommendations at the PIC meeting on September 12 and to send detailed comments to SCA Policy Director Brian Parry at brian@soundcities.org.

**Recommended Strategies**

The draft Action Plan includes strategies to implement seven overarching goals relating to:

1. Improving countywide collaboration, implementation, and monitoring;
2. Increasing construction of affordable units for low-income households;
3. Prioritizing affordable housing near high-capacity transit;
4. Improving tenant protections;
5. Protecting Communities of Color and Low-Income Communities from Displacement;
6. Promoting overall housing growth and diversity; and,
7. Improving community engagement.

The Task Force has worked with the assistance of a technical advisory group to prioritize strategies that can be leveraged at the regional level for the greatest impact associated with these goals. Further, those strategies are supported by action steps for implementation. The full text of the draft strategies is included as Attachment A.

Many of the actions identified in the draft Action Plan are already being implemented to some degree by cities in King County. The intent of the Task Force is to learn from these programs and policies, identify priority actions, and collaborate to build capacity to expand successful programs to a regional scale.

The recommended strategies and action steps are expected to go through significant revision based on comments received and a new draft developed by the end of September.

*Improving Countywide Collaboration, Implementation, and Monitoring*

Recommended strategies include creating and supporting an ongoing structure for regional collaboration and supporting existing and new sub-regional efforts (such as ARCH). Sometimes referred to as a “governance organization,” the draft Action Plan envisions establishing a convening body of cities, the county, and stakeholders that is responsible for monitoring housing goals and supply on a regional scale and further develop strategies for collaboration. This effort is intended to support and build from the work of existing or new sub-regional collaborations rather than supplant them.

*Increasing Construction of Affordable Units for Low-Income Households*

Recommended strategies include continued work by the Task Force to develop an overall statement of affordable housing need in the region, particularly for those earning less than 50% of Area Median Income; working through the newly formed governance organization to develop a financial plan for regional affordable housing expenditures; expanding coordination to identify,
acquire, and develop properties for affordable housing; and creation of a short-term acquisition loan fund that could respond rapidly to opportunities to preserve affordable housing developments. The draft Action Plan describes several options for public funding that have been identified through the Task Force process as the most impactful, but does not commit to a specific recommendation. These options were described in more detail in the July 11, 2018 PIC packet.

Prioritizing Affordable Housing Near High-Capacity Transit
Recommendations include establishing regional targets for affordable housing that should be preserved and developed within a half-mile walkshed of high-capacity transit stations; implementing incentives for private development of affordable housing near existing and planned frequent transit routes; and investing Lodging Tax revenues to promote transit-oriented development, including setting aside a portion of this funding for city incentives. The draft Action Plan envisions that the governance organization would provide technical assistance to cities to implement best practices along transit corridors and monitor success regionally. At least one city has expressed concern that sufficient flexibility be incorporated into any transit-related target to account for differences in local housing markets.

Improving Tenant Protections
Recommended strategies include collaborating to implement more consistent tenant protections at the statewide and regional level to address source of income discrimination, just cause eviction, notice of rent increases, and tenant relocation assistance; seeking ways to expand support for low-income renters; and adopting local programs to improve the quality of existing affordable housing. The draft Action Plan envisions ongoing collaboration to more closely align regulations across jurisdictions. Cities and the county would work together to identify and implement best practices and share model programs.

Protecting Communities of Color and Low-Income Communities from Displacement
Recommended strategies include improving engagement with communities of color and low-income communities in the development of affordable housing plans and policies, and implementing programs and policies that serve those at risk of displacement. Actions to implement this goal include working collaboratively to develop a toolkit for community engagement to help engage communities in local policy-making decisions.

Promoting Overall Housing Growth and Diversity
Recommended strategies include updating zoning and land use regulations to encourage the development of a more diverse housing supply; exempting certain development fees for affordable housing; and incentivize affordable housing development by expanding tools for investments in local infrastructure tied to affordability. The draft Plan envisions these efforts being supported through sharing of model policies, consistent monitoring of countywide affordable housing supply, and jointly advocating for support from the state legislature for condominium liability reform and infrastructure financing tools connected to affordable housing outcomes.
**Improving Community Engagement**

Recommended strategies include improving engagement with neighborhoods and residents in planning for affordable housing and improved coordination with the philanthropic, business, and faith communities. The draft Action Plan envisions a collaborative effort to develop tools and strategies to engage local communities to assist with implementation of affordable housing plans and land use changes. In addition, the Action Plan recommends creating a stakeholder partnership with the private sector and faith community to encourage their investment in affordable housing and communicating the need for affordable housing to the broader public.

**Implementation**

As noted above, the draft Action Plan recommends that a new body be established to collaboratively implement many of the actions identified in the plan. The Task Force is expected to discuss the options presented in the draft Action Plan in detail at its next meeting on September 14.

Four governance options are provided for public comment in the draft Action Plan:

1. Single Purpose Government for Housing. A new regional authority that would have broad authority to oversee affordable housing policy and revenues, including taxing authority.
2. Regional Committee. Regional housing policy would be overseen by a new committee established in the County Charter.
3. Expanded role for the Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC) through a housing subcommittee. A subcommittee of the GMPC would be formed to monitor and support affordable housing policy development and implementation.
4. Voluntary Interlocal Agreement or Memorandum of Understanding. Cities and the county would establish a body to oversee affordable housing policy through a voluntary agreement.

The Task Force is continuing to review models for coordination among jurisdictions to improve development, implementation, and monitoring of affordable housing in the region. Of the proposals considered in the draft plan, some Task Force members have indicated support for building from existing policy bodies to avoid creating a new layer of bureaucracy. SCA members on the Task Force have expressed support for recommendations that support cities’ efforts to implement affordable housing strategies rather than creating new mandates or a top-down decision-making structure. Some stakeholders have suggested that establishing a regional authority – a body that could be compared to “a Sound Transit for affordable housing” – would be the most effective structure to promote broad regional action. The draft Action Plan notes that any recommendations of the Task Force related to “governance” will need to be integrated with similar discussions occurring as part of the “One Table” effort.

**Next Steps**

The next meeting of the Regional Affordable Housing Task force will take place on September 14, 2018 from 1:00 PM to 4:00 at the Renton Community Center. In addition, community meetings to provide feedback on the Task Force recommendations are scheduled for September
5 at Shoreline Community College; September 8 at South Bellevue Community College; and September 11 at Auburn Community and Event Center (full details are available on the Task Force webpage).

SCA members on the Task Force have asked that PIC members provide input on the draft Action Plan to guide their work on the Task Force and shape the next iteration of the plan. A revised draft plan is expected to be completed in time to be considered by the PIC in October, at which time the PIC will discuss whether to bring back to the following PIC meeting a policy position related to the Action Plan. For more information, or to provide comments on the draft plan, contact SCA Policy Director Brian Parry at brian@soundcities.org or 206-499-4159.
REGIONAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING TASK FORCE
FIVE-YEAR ACTION PLAN

PROBLEM STATEMENT:
Current estimates show a need for 244,000 additional, affordable homes in King County by 2040 so that no household earning 80% of Area Median Income (AMI) and below is cost burdened.¹ This includes 156,000 homes for households currently cost-burdened and an additional 88,000 homes for growth in cost-burdened households between now and 2040. When low-income families spend more than 30% of their income for housing they are cost burdened and struggle to afford other basic necessities like food, transportation, and child care.

The need for new affordable homes is greatest for households earning 30% or less of AMI.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>0 – 30% AMI</th>
<th>31 – 50% AMI</th>
<th>51 – 80% AMI</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EXISTING NEED</td>
<td>73,000</td>
<td>49,400</td>
<td>33,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GROWTH TO 2040</td>
<td>29,700</td>
<td>23,900</td>
<td>34,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUBTOTAL</td>
<td>102,700</td>
<td>73,300</td>
<td>68,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% TOTAL NEED IN 2040</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Over the last decade, King County has lost a net average of 5,500 homes per year that were affordable to households at or below 80% AMI. At the current pace, by 2040, the county is set to lose all unsubsidized homes at less than 50% AMI and nearly half of units affordable to households earning 50 to 80% AMI.

¹ An individual or family that pays more than 30% of its income for housing costs is considered cost burdened.
OVERALL GOAL: THE REGION SHOULD STRIVE TO ELIMINATE COST BURDEN FOR HOUSEHOLDS EARNING 80% AREA MEDIAN INCOME AND BELOW, WITH A PRIORITY FOR SERVING HOUSEHOLDS AT OR BELOW 50% AREA MEDIAN INCOME.

The region should adopt strategies to ensure an adequate housing supply countywide to meet the needs of low-income individuals and families who are cost burdened or at risk of becoming cost-burdened. This includes constructing new housing, preserving the quality and affordability of existing housing, and providing subsidies when needed. Public resources should be prioritized for serving households earning 50% AMI and below, while also leveraging private investments to support affordability from 50% to 80% AMI. However, private market participation alone will be insufficient to address the full need at 80% AMI and below. 2

GOAL 1: KING COUNTY AND CITIES SHOULD CREATE AND SUPPORT AN ONGOING STRUCTURE FOR REGIONAL COLLABORATION.

In recognition of the need for significantly more affordable housing, individual cities and the County have been working to address affordability within their jurisdictions. However, these efforts have been uncoordinated and have not collectively made sufficient progress to meet the full need of the community. The drivers and effects of the affordable housing challenge are regional and the solution should also be regional.

Strategy A: Create a governance structure that includes at least King County and cities and will, initially, accomplish the following:

- Establish parties, roles and responsibilities
- Create a measurement plan that will, at a minimum, track the percentage of housing supply at various levels of AMI and track the region’s progress to meeting the overall goal identified by the Regional Affordable Housing Task Force
- Develop a funding and spending plan to significantly address the affordable housing need in King County for adoption by jurisdictions and/or voters in 2020
- Develop a State legislative agenda to increase state funding for affordable housing, support the creation and preservation of affordable housing, and create uniform statewide laws for tenant protections
- Fund dedicated staffing to coordinate regular data monitoring and reporting, identification and sharing of best practices and model legislation, and provision of technical assistance to the cities and County on affordable housing policy
- Work with existing and new sub-regional collaboration

Options for a governance structure include (see matrix for details):

1. Single Purpose Government for Housing

2 With significant public support (reduced land costs and fees and significant density), some markets may be able to incorporate lower affordability into private market developments.
2. Regional Committee
3. Expanded role for the Growth Management Planning Council through a housing subcommittee
4. Voluntary Interlocal Agreement or Memorandum of Understanding

NOTE: The Regional Affordable Housing Task Force recognizes that the “One Table” effort to address the root causes of homelessness, which includes but is broader than affordability, is also engaged in discussions about governance. As One Table and the Task Force finalize their governance recommendations, they should work together to harmonize their recommendations.

Strategy B: Support the creation and operation of sub-regional collaborations to increase and preserve affordable housing

Action Plan:
- Support the creation of a South King County sub-regional collaboration
- Encourage the growth and success of existing sub-regional collaborations

GOAL 2: SECURE HOUSING STABILITY FOR THE LOWEST-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS BY INCREASING CONSTRUCTION AND PRESERVATION OF AFFORDABLE HOMES FOR HOUSEHOLDS EARNING LESS THAN 50% AREA MEDIAN INCOME.³

Currently, 236,000 King County households earn less than 50% AMI, and yet only 128,000 homes are affordable at this income level. Traditionally, the private housing market has not been positioned to address the housing needs at this income level. The region should increase housing supply and other supports for the lowest-income households. This will both secure housing stability for these households and also reduce pressure on all of the existing and future housing, improving housing access for all incomes across the region.

The Regional Affordable Housing Task Force’s review of housing needs and availability has clearly pointed to a need for significant new resources if the region is to meet the goal of reducing the number of cost-burdened households at 80% of AMI and below. Cities and the County should collaborate in the development of a regional funding plan.

Strategy A: Regional governance organization to detail needed funding and identify increased resources to meet funding needs.

Placeholder: Task Force staff is continuing work to develop a full estimate of the need.

³ “Low-income” is defined as a person or family earning at or below 80% of AMI ($82,700 for a family of four or $57,900 for an individual).
Action Plan:
- Cities and county identify and adopt revenue sources available to them (including any new state authorization) as part of the regional plan.
- County and cities will offer proposals to seek from State and Federal governments increases to affordable housing funding that can be expended at the County and/or local level. Revenue sources could include:
  - The State Housing Trust Fund up to $200 million/biennium ($100 million per year). Assuming typical King County allocations, estimated to increase King County funding by $10-$20 million/year
  - State sales tax credit (HB 2437). Would increase county resources up to $200 million.
  - Increase federal housing voucher program
  - Increase federal investments in affordable housing development, including expanding the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program

Strategy B: Prioritize and make available (for free or at deep discount) under-utilized property from State, County, cities, and non-profit/faith communities

Action Plan:
- State, County, and cities to expand coordination to identify, acquire and develop property for affordable housing. Track and report progress on REDI fund and Home & Hope.
- Jurisdictions identify one or more parcels in their boundaries to prioritize for affordable housing (for-profit or non-profit)
- County to develop policies for the sale of County-owned property at reduced or no cost when used for affordable housing, which may be used as a model ordinance by cities

Strategy C: Develop a short-term acquisition loan fund to enable rapid response to preserve affordable housing developments when they are put on the market for sale

Action Plan:
- Dedicate a portion of new funding streams to this strategy

GOAL 3: Prioritize affordability accessible within a half mile walkshed of existing and planned frequent transit service, with a particular priority for high-capacity transit stations, using the following metrics: 4

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4 Background: Between 2010-2015:
- 20% of population growth occurred in station areas
- 45% of population in station areas are people of color v. 34% in the region
- 1/3 of housing permits issued were in station areas
• 25% of existing housing remains affordable at 80% AMI and below
• 50% of new housing is affordable at 80% AMI and below
• 80% of available public land is prioritized for housing affordable at or below 50% AMI.

The region’s continuing expansion of high capacity transit, including light rail and bus rapid transit, provide one of the best opportunities to expand housing options available to a wide range of incomes. Such housing will be particularly valuable to low-income households, who are the most dependent on transit and yet often the least able to benefit from these neighborhood amenities due to increasing costs nearby. This recommendation recognizes that the region must promote or require affordable housing near high-capacity transit stations and along transit corridors, as well as in regional growth centers. Additionally, an emphasis should be placed on developing and preserving units that meet the needs of the lowest income households by promoting one, two, and three-bedroom units.

Strategy A: Implement comprehensive inclusionary/incentive housing policies accessible to all existing and planned frequent transit service to achieve the deepest affordability possible through land use incentives to be identified by local jurisdictions, which may include:

a. Increased density
b. Reduced parking requirements
c. Reduced permit fees
d. Exempted impact fees
e. Multi-family property tax exemptions
f. Programmatic EIS

Action Plan:

• County or governance organization to provide technical assistance in designing inclusionary/incentive housing programs
• County or governance organization to provide website of example ordinances
• All parties propose and apply for State planning dollars
• Evaluate and update zoning in transit areas in advance of stations being built
• Evaluate the impact of development fee reductions in transit areas and implement reductions if positive impact
• Regularly measure implementation against goal

Strategy B: Maximize resources available for Transit Oriented Development in the near term

Action Plan:

• King County to bond against future Lodging Tax revenues for Transit Oriented Development and use a portion of the funds to incentivize cities to support more affordable housing in their jurisdictions

• 34,000 homes were added in station areas
• Currently, approximately 25% of housing in station areas is affordable at less than 80% AMI (19% in SEA, 4% in EKC, 80% in SKC)
• King County to evaluate potential for the current Transfer of Development Rights program, which preserves rural and resource lands, to incentivize affordability outcomes if a receiving site is within a transit walkshed, among other places.

Strategy C: Create and implement regional land acquisition and development strategy
• Identify priority “pipeline” of property for acquisition and development
• Adopt and implement property value discount legislation/guidance as needed, including updated valuation guidance
• Fund land acquisition
• Adopt increased zoning to maximize affordable housing on acquired parcels
• Identity entity to purchase and hold land prior to construction
• Fund capital construction and preservation, including private sector investments

GOAL 4: PRESERVE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE HOMES FOR RENTERS BY SUPPORTING TENANT PROTECTIONS TO INCREASE HOUSING STABILITY AND REDUCE RISK OF HOMELESSNESS.

In 2017, approximately 4,000 renters were evicted from their housing. Evictions create barriers to future housing for those households, increase risk of homelessness, and are costly and time-consuming for property owners. In addition, particularly at a time of low vacancies, tenants have few opportunities to quickly secure housing stability when their incomes can’t keep up with rising rents. The region should support a comprehensive approach for increasing education, support and eviction prevention to increase stability for renters and predictability for property owners.

Strategy A: Propose and support legislation for statewide policies related to tenant protections to ease implementation and provide uniformity for landlords, including but not limited to:
   a. Just Cause Eviction
   b. Notice of rent increase
   c. Tenant relocation assistance

Strategy B: Strive to more widely adopt model, expanded tenant protection ordinances countywide and provide implementation support for:
   a. Source of Income discrimination
   b. Just Cause Eviction
   c. Notice of rent increase
   d. Tenant relocation assistance

Action Plan:
• County or governance organization to provide model ordinances
• County or governance organization to pursue a signed ILA for enforcement support
• County or governance organization to identify resources to conduct work
• County or governance organization to increase education for tenants and property owners regarding their respective rights and responsibilities
• Cities and County to adopt

Strategy C: Expand supports for low-income renters

Action Plan:
• Utilize funds from the Veterans, Seniors and Human Services Levy for shallow rent subsidies to help keep people in their homes
• Increase funding for emergency rental assistance
• Increase deep subsidies (in addition to shallow)
• Fund services to address barriers to housing, including tenant screening reports
• Expand civil legal aid support
• Expand education of tenant and property owner rights and responsibilities

Strategy D: Adopt programs and policies to improve the quality of housing in conjunction with necessary tenant protections

• Adopt and implement proactive rental inspection policies
• Implement robust, proactive code enforcement programs, in partnership with marginalized communities to avoid inequitable impacts
• Invest in community health workers to promote healthy housing education and housing maintenance for highest risk of adverse health outcomes

GOAL 5: PROTECT EXISTING COMMUNITIES OF COLOR AND LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES FROM DISPLACEMENT.

Communities throughout the region are experiencing dramatically increasing housing costs and a growing demand for housing within urban areas. This places communities with a high population of low-income renters and people of color at an increasing risk of displacement, further compounding the historic injustice of exclusion these communities have experienced as a result of laws and policies on the local and federal level. The same communities that were once limited by law to living in specific geographic areas are now being pushed out of those areas when the neighborhood is gentrified and becomes more desirable to higher-income households. The region should support community-led preservation strategies that enable existing residents to remain in their communities and allow them to benefit from the opportunities of growth of redevelopment.

Strategy A: Authentically engage communities of color and low-income communities in affordable housing development and policy decisions

Action Plan:
• County or governance organization to provide capacity grants to small organizations representing communities of color or low-income communities to support their engagement in affordable housing development
• County or governance organization to contract for a toolkit/checklist on community engagement in planning discussions
• All jurisdictions to utilize the toolkit and intentionally include and solicit engagement from members of communities of color in policy decision-making and committees

Strategy B: Increase investments in communities of color and low-income communities by developing programs and policies that serve individuals and families at risk of displacement

Action Plan:

• Use Seattle's Equitable Development Initiative as a model for how government can invest in under-represented communities to promote community-driven development
• Build upon the work of the Communities of Opportunity
• Increase educational efforts to ensure maximum use of property tax relief programs to help sustain homeownership for low-income individuals
• Cities and County to expand requirements to affirmatively market housing programs and enhance work to align affordable housing strategies with federal requirements to Affirmatively Further Fair Housing

GOAL 6: PROMOTE GREATER HOUSING GROWTH AND DIVERSITY TO ACHIEVE A VARIETY OF HOUSING TYPES AT A RANGE OF AFFORDABILITY AND IMPROVE JOBS/HOUSING CONNECTIONS THROUGHOUT KING COUNTY.

In 2017 in King County, almost 20,000 households were added, but only 15,000 new units were built, primarily by the private market. Despite a building boom, the private market is not keeping pace with population growth, which contributes to rapid increases in home purchase costs and rents. In addition, much of the new production is at the high end of the market and does not meet the needs of all household types. The region should adopt policies that streamline regulations and provide greater zoning flexibility in order to increase and diversify market-rate housing production to better keep pace with population growth. In addition, greater land use and regulatory support is needed to address the needs of older adults, larger households, and people with disabilities. Cities should intentionally plan for and promote affordable housing in the same locations where they are accommodating future growth and density.

Strategy A: Update zoning and land use regulations (including in single-family, low-rise zones) to increase and diversify housing choices, including but not limited to:
a. Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU)
b. Duplex, Triplex, Four-plex
c. Zero lot line town homes and row houses
d. Units with three or more bedrooms

**Action Plan:**
- County or governance organization to provide model ordinances
- County or governance organization to incentivize cities adopting and implementing strategies that will result in the highest impact towards addressing the affordable housing gap, specifically at the lowest income levels
- Cities to review and update zoning and land use code to encourage affordable housing development

**Strategy B: Decrease costs to provide affordable housing**

**Action Plan:**
- Maximize use of Multi-Family Tax Exemption
- County to reduce sewer connection fees
- Cities to reduce fees for ADUs, other
- Jurisdictions to streamline permitting process for affordable housing development
- Support condominium liability reform

**Strategy C: Incentivize growth and affordability goals by expanding tools for investments in local infrastructure.**

**Action Plan:**
- Advocate for a strong, equitable financing tool that captures value from development to fund infrastructure and affordable housing investments (aka: value-capture or tax-increment financing tools)
- Advocate for state public works trust fund investments—connect to local affordable housing outcomes

**GOAL 7: BETTER ENGAGE LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND OTHER PARTNERS IN ADDRESSING THE URGENT NEED FOR AND BENEFITS OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING.**

Most decisions regarding land use and planning for affordable housing happen at the city and neighborhood level. Therefore, the region should better support engagement of local communities and city governments to implement strategies to meet the full range of housing needs. This includes using new, creative strategies to better engage residents around the benefits of having affordable housing in all parts of the county and in their neighborhoods. It also includes providing greater transparency and accountability on actions taken and results delivered. Given the significant countywide need for affordable housing, the region needs more urgent and scalable action to be taken at the neighborhood, city, and regional level.
Strategy A: Support local engagement of neighborhoods and residents in planning for affordable housing

- County or governance organization to develop toolkits and strategies to better engage neighborhoods and residents in affordable housing development
- Use existing data and tools to greatest extent possible, i.e. PSRC Vision 2050 work
- Jurisdictions use community engagement techniques that promote more equitable engagement in zoning and siting decisions

Strategy B: Expand engagement of non-governmental partners (philanthropy, business, and faith communities) to support efforts to build and site more affordable housing

Action Plan:

- Create stakeholder partnerships with business, philanthropy, non-profits, faith-based organizations and others to encourage investments in affordable housing
  - Could include greater use of the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit
- Encourage business and philanthropy to support public dialogue on affordable housing
Item 09:
Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan and Proposed Fees

DISCUSSION

SCA Staff Contact
Cynthia Foley, Policy Analyst, cynthia@soundcities.org, (206) 495-3020

Regional Policy Committee Members
Councilmember John Stokes (Caucus Chair), Bellevue; Mayor Dave Hill (Caucus Vice Chair), Algona; Deputy Mayor Austin Bell, Burien; Council President Angela Birney, Redmond; Councilmember James McNeal, Bothell; Councilmember Bill Peloza, Auburn

Discussion

On August 22, the Regional Policy Committee (RPC) began review of the Executive proposed King County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan (Plan). The King County Council and RPC are likely to act on the Plan in October. In 2019, the cities in the King County Solid Waste System will be asked to act to approve or disapprove of the Plan. To become final, the plan must be approved by cities representing three-quarters of the population of cities that act on the plan.

The Plan outlines policies and recommended actions to manage King County’s solid waste system for the next six years. Several changes have been made since a draft version of the plan (Draft Plan) was presented to the PIC in February. The Draft Plan suggested several options for long-term disposal and adding transfer capacity in Northeast King County. The current version narrows these options, recommending capital investments to extend the life of the Cedar Hills Regional Landfill and the construction of new transfer station in Northeast King County. To allow for changing conditions and technological advances, this Plan does not specify the next disposal method after ultimate closure of Cedar Hills. Evaluation of future disposal methods will begin before the next plan update.

The King County Council is also reviewing proposed solid waste fees for 2019-2020. Under Proposed Ordinance 2018-0311, the per-ton solid waste fee known as the “tipping fee” or “basic rate” would increase from the current $134.59 to $140.82 per ton, an increase of 4.6 percent. Increased fees are projected to generate an estimated $28.9 million in additional revenue for the 2019-2020 biennium relative to the current fees. According to the proposal, fee increases would fund ongoing program costs, as well as capital investments in transfer in the Northeast and the Cedar Hills Regional Landfill. On average, the change would add an estimated $0.34 to the single-family monthly curbside bill. The King County Council is likely to act to approve the 2019-2020 fees in September 2018.

The PIC is invited to comment on the changes to the Plan and the proposed disposal fees.
The Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan

The Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan (Plan) proposes strategies for managing King County’s solid waste over the next 6 years, with consideration of the next 20 years. The plan establishes policies for setting rates, increasing recycling and waste diversion, managing system performance, and planning for future needs. Attachment A shows policy highlights from the Plan.

There are 37 cities (all King County cities excepting Seattle and Milton) that participate in the King County solid waste system. After the Plan is approved by the King County Council and RPC, it must be approved by cities representing at least three-quarters of the incorporated population of jurisdictions in the King County solid waste system that take formal action to approve or disapprove the plan. In mid-2019, it is anticipated the plan will be submitted to the Washington State Department of Ecology for final approval.

Plan Recommendation: Construct a New Transfer Station in Northeast King County

Currently, the Houghton Transfer Station operates Kirkland. The 2006 Solid Waste Transfer and Waste Management Plan recommended closing Houghton due to minimal recycling options, limited ability to store waste in case of an emergency, and inefficient operations. The proposed Plan also recommends closing Houghton, after constructing a new transfer station in Northeast King County. Page 5-20 of the Plan states that a new station would meet all service-level criteria, offering more recycling and operational efficiency.

The next stages of planning for a new Northeast station would begin in 2019, after approval of the Plan. Ordinance 18577 funded a process to review capacity needs in the Northeast. The King County Solid Waste Division (SWD) has stated that this process will include Northeast cities, and provide opportunities for input on siting criteria. Several cities have expressed interest in participating in this process. Some cities have expressed concern about the

Plan Recommendation: Extending the Life of Cedar Hills Regional Landfill

The Plan recommends further developing Cedar Hills Regional Landfill. This is estimated to require $241 million in capital investments. The landfill would be modified to develop new cells and the height would increase from approximately 800 feet up to 830 feet. Residents who live near Cedar Hills Regional Landfill have raised concerns that increasing the landfill height. The King County Council and RPC may review these concerns in executive sessions. SWD is meeting with the residents.

The Draft Plan presented the option of exporting waste to an out-of-county landfill by rail. According to estimates by SWD, this option requires the least capital investment but relies on higher operating costs. The Plan states that exporting waste by rail would require contingency planning in case of service disruptions, and competing for limited rail capacity.

The Draft Plan also presented the possibility of constructing a waste-to-energy facility. A study by Normandeau Associates, entitled Waste-to-Energy (WTE) Options and Solid Waste Export Considerations, developed a model for a facility that is projected to meet disposal needs in the County through 2048. This lead the researchers to estimate that a suitable facility would process 5,000 tons-per-day and require a forty acre site. Some of the operating costs would be
offset by the sale of energy. Their analysis also stated that this option would increase emissions of greenhouse gasses. Several SCA cities have expressed interest in continued consideration of this option, perhaps as a disposal method for after 2040.

The table below shows the estimated impact of each disposal option on the cost per ton. Estimated greenhouse gas emissions are also shown, according to two different models for calculation.

**Summary Table: Disposal Option Data Projection Comparison**, page 6-6

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<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Cedar Hills Expansion</th>
<th>Waste Export</th>
<th>Waste-To-Energy</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cost per Ton 1</td>
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<td>$55</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greenhouse Gas Emissions (WARM Model 2)</td>
<td>(134,000) Metric Tons CO₂/Year</td>
<td>(78,000) Metric Tons CO₂/Year</td>
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<td>Greenhouse Gas Emissions (MRR Model 3)</td>
<td>91,000 Metric Tons CO₂/Year</td>
<td>91,000 Metric Tons CO₂/Year</td>
<td>1.2 Million Metric Tons CO₂/Year</td>
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</table>

1 Figures for the year 2029
2 This was estimated using the EPA’s WARM methodology. This method uses a life-cycle method and evaluates materials from raw goods to end-of-life management. Negative emissions are a result of lifecycle efficiencies such as carbon offsets from capturing and repurposing landfill derived methane gas and the use of hydropower in Washington State.
3 The EPA’s MRR Model estimates emissions from a specific site in a given year.

The Plan states that there is no recommended disposal method for after landfill closure, to allow for changing conditions and technological advances.

**Proposed 2019/2020 Solid Waste Disposal Fees**

Under **Proposed Ordinance 2018-0311**, the per-ton solid waste fee known as the “tipping fee” or “basic rate” would increase from the current $134.59 to $140.82 per ton, an increase of 4.6 percent. This fee is charged based on tonnage at transfer stations. This fee increases residential bills indirectly. When the cost per ton increases, solid waste service providers charge more. On average, the change would add $0.34 cents to the single-family monthly curbside bill. It is estimated that fee increases would generate $28.9 million in additional revenue for the 2019-2020 biennium relative to the current fees.

The Solid Waste Advisory Committee and the Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee briefly reviewed preliminary rates in May 2018. The King County Budget and Fiscal Management Committee reviewed the fees in August 2018. These bodies raised questions about how changes in tonnage or possible changes in long-term disposal would impact rates. SWD division staff felt that the assumptions built into their calculations were conservative enough to provide incremental rate increases over the next six years.

Executive staff are seeking a King County Council decision on the proposed fees by the end of September 2018 to allow time for waste haulers to seek approval from the Washington Utilities
and Transportation Commission (UTC) for rate adjustments reflecting the County’s rates, and for cities and haulers to incorporate any changes into their billing systems.

A comparison of the fees projected for the 2017 increase, and current projections is shown in the table below. The proposed 2019/2020 fee is lower than projected in the previous fee process. However, projections for outyears are higher. According to the Executive fee proposal, this is due to planned investments in a Northeast transfer station and Cedar Hills Regional Landfill.

### Fee Projection Comparison

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Current Fee</th>
<th>Proposed 2019/2020 Fee</th>
<th>Percent Increase</th>
<th>Projected 2021/2022 Fee</th>
<th>Percent Increase</th>
<th>Projected 2023/2024 Fee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Projection from 2017/2018</td>
<td>$134.59</td>
<td>$141.66</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>$147.33</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
<td>$153.22</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed Fee Projection</td>
<td>$134.59</td>
<td>$140.82</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>$147.34</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>$154.66</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Uses of Increased Fees

According to the proposal submitted by the Executive, uses of the fee increases would be as follows:

- Increased cost of current services: 47 percent of the increase would fund general cost inflation, increases in central rate agencies’ charges, and regulatory requirements on diesel exhaust fluid and enforcement of stricter recycling requirements.
- Capacity projects: 28 percent of the proposed fee increase would be directed toward two major capital projects; further development of the Southeast Area of Cedar Hills and a new Northeast Recycling and Transfer Station.
- Investment in infrastructure: 23 percent would fund facility maintenance projects such as the Shoreline Recycling and Transfer Station dust control system and the Cedar Falls Drop Box leachate collection system rehabilitation, as well as new debt service issued for the South County Recycling and Transfer Station.
- Meeting increased demand and County goals: 2 percent of the proposed fee increase would provide resources to handle increasing tonnage in the system and to support some of the County’s strategic priorities and plans. This includes a low-income fee pilot program. The pilot is projected to cost $300,000. The program would provide a $12 reduction in disposal fees for self-haul customers at or below 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level.

### Next Steps

The RPC and King County Council will review the Plan through October. After the Plan is approved by both bodies, it will be submitted to the 37 cities that participate in the solid waste system for approval. Cities will then have 120 days to act to approve or disapprove the Plan. SWD has offered to present the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan to cities upon
request. Contact King County Solid Waste Division Government Relations Administrator Dorian Waller at Dorian.Waller@KingCounty.gov to schedule a presentation.

The King County Council may approve the proposed solid waste fees in September 2018.

Comments questions on the Plan can be sent to SCA Policy Analyst Cynthia Foley at cynthia@soundcities.org.

Attachments

A. Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan: Policy Highlights
**Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan: Policy Highlights**

Policies are intended to remain consistent throughout the life of the Plan. Recommended Actions are measures intended to implement policies and subject to change outside of the Plan update process.

### Chapter 3: Forecasting and Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FD – 4</td>
<td>Continue to monitor new and emerging technologies to identify opportunities for their use in managing solid waste and recyclables.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action 1-fd</td>
<td>Standardize the sampling methodology and frequency in tonnage reports submitted to the division and the cities by the collection companies to improve data accuracy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action 4-fd</td>
<td>Develop voluntary agreements with recycling companies that will improve data reporting and resolve data inconsistencies.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Chapter 4: Sustainable Materials Management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S-3</td>
<td>Advocate for product stewardship in the design and management of manufactured products and greater responsibility for manufacturers to divert these products from the waste stream.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-5</td>
<td>Work with regional partners to find the highest value end uses for recycled and composted materials, support market development, and develop circular supply loops to serve production needs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action 2-s</td>
<td>Form a regional responsible recycling forum to work with public and private partners to address production, use, and end-of-life management of goods. The forum will identify ways to strengthen recyclables markets, reduce contamination, and improve the quality and quantity of recyclable materials through more uniform city/county recycling approaches, education and outreach, and other means.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Chapter 5: Solid Waste Transfer and Processing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>T-2</td>
<td>Provide solid waste transfer services in the urban and rural areas of the county that may be tailored to local and facility conditions and interlocal agreements with King County cities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T-3</td>
<td>Engage cities and communities in the siting and development of facilities, and in developing mitigation measures for impacts related to the construction, operation, and maintenance of transfer facilities, as allowed by applicable local, state, and federal laws.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action 1-t</td>
<td>Except as noted in action 2-t, continue to implement transfer station modernization as set forth in the Solid Waste Transfer and Waste Management Plan and approved by the Metropolitan King County Council in 2007, including siting and building a new Northeast recycling and transfer station and closing the Houghton station when the new station is complete. Adapt the siting process included in the Solid Waste Transfer and Waste Management Plan to meet community needs in the Northeast service area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action 2-t</td>
<td>Although approved for closure under the Solid Waste Transfer and Waste Management Plan, reserve the option to retain the Renton station until the new urban transfer facilities have been completed and the impact of closure has been fully evaluated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action 9-t</td>
<td>In collaboration with stakeholders, pursue and identify new technologies and expanded processing capacity to serve the region, and more sustainably manage organic waste.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Chapter 6: Landfill Management and Solid Waste Disposal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy D-2</th>
<th>Maximize the capacity and lifespan of the Cedar Hills Regional Landfill.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Policy D-4</td>
<td>Plan for future disposal when Cedar Hills Regional Landfill closes to ensure no gap in service. Siting a replacement landfill located in King County will not be considered.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action 1-d</td>
<td>Further develop the Cedar Hills regional landfill to maximize disposal capacity. To account for technological advances, do not specify the next disposal method after ultimate Cedar Hills closure in this Plan. Conduct analysis of post Cedar Hills disposal options prior to the next Plan update to ensure adequate lead time for selecting, planning for, and implementing the next disposal method.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action 2-d</td>
<td>Continue to track, evaluate, and test other disposal and conversion technologies for their potential to handle all or a portion of the county’s future waste. Provide updates on findings to division advisory committees on a regular basis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action 3-d</td>
<td>To prepare for potential emergencies, work with state and regional authorities to coordinate an updated Debris Management Plan for King County.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action 4-d</td>
<td>Investigate beneficial reuse options for closed landfills, designing monitoring and environmental systems that will facilitate reuse of the properties, provide potential revenue, and provide continued benefit to the surrounding communities.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Chapter 7: Solid Waste System Finance

| Policy F-1 | Keep tipping fees as low as reasonable, while covering the costs of effectively managing the system, protecting the environment, encouraging recycling and providing service to customers. |
| Action 3-f | Subject to approval from the Metropolitan King County Council, define customer classes and establish equitable fees for each customer class based on services provided, benefits received, use of the system, and the costs, incurred or avoided, of providing those services. |
| 4-f | Consider alternatives to the current rate methodology, such as incorporating a transaction fee into the rate structure. |
| 5-f | Study the cost of providing services to self-haul customers, and to other customer classes if needed. |
| 11-f | When possible, manage solid waste rates through smaller, more frequent increases, which in combination with the rate stabilization reserve, smooths rate increases over time. |
Item 10:
Future Levies and Ballot Measures in King County

**UPDATE**

**SCA Staff Contact**
Brian Parry, SCA Policy Director, brian@soundcities.org, (206) 499-4159

**Discussion**

This is a monthly item on the PIC agenda to share information on recent and 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. Full results of the August 7, 2018 primary election in King County can be found [here](#).

**Results – August 7, 2018 Election**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>King County</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Approved: 54.95% Rejected: 45.05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South King Fire and Rescue</td>
<td>Levy increase to $1.50 per $1,000 of assessed valuation from the current rate of $1.43</td>
<td>Approved: 58.55% Rejected: 41.45%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Future Ballot Measures – SCA Cities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Measure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>November</td>
<td>Bothell</td>
<td>Public Safety Levy Lid Lift. Increase public safety funding for new fire, police and traffic officers, mental health professionals and support staff and other public safety expenses. Maximum 2019 rate of $1.96 per $1,000 of assessed value.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>November</td>
<td>Bothell</td>
<td>Fire Station Bonds. Issuance of $35.5 million of general obligation bonds to reconstruct or renovate and equip two fire stations and make related capital improvements.*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>November</td>
<td>Covington</td>
<td>Sales and Use Tax for Transportation Improvements. Authorize a sales and use tax at a rate of 0.2% for up to 10 years for transportation maintenance and improvement projects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>November</td>
<td>Kirkland</td>
<td>Sales and Use Tax for Enhanced Police Services and Community Safety. Increase the sales and use tax by</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
0.1% to provide ongoing funding for public safety purposes including additional police officers in middle schools, after school programs and expanded programs focusing on gun safety, homelessness, domestic violence, suicide prevention, and related public safety issues.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Measure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>November</td>
<td>Mercer Island</td>
<td>Levy Lid Lift for Public Safety, Youth, Family and Senior Services, and Parks and Recreation. Increase the city’s regular property tax levy by $0.238 per $1,000 of assessed value and set the limit factor for 2020-2024 at 103% of the prior year’s regular levy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>November</td>
<td>Shoreline</td>
<td>Sales and Use Tax for Sidewalk and Pedestrian Improvements. Authorize a sales and use tax at a rate of 0.2% for up to 20 years to construct, maintain, and rehabilitate sidewalks and pedestrian improvements.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Requires 60% for passage

| Future Ballot Measures – Other Cities, Schools and Special Purpose Districts |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| **Year** | **Month** | **Jurisdiction** | **Measure**                                                                                                                                 |
| 2018  | November | Seattle             | Families, Education, Preschool, and Promise Levy. Replace two expiring levies and initially fund expanded early learning and preschool, college and K-12 education support, K-12 student health, and job readiness opportunities through an increase to the regular property tax levy by up to $0.365 per $1,000 of assessed value. |
| 2018  | November | King County Fire Protection District No. 45 (Duvall Fire) | Bonds to Construct and Renovate Fire Stations. Issuance of $7.65 million of general obligation bonds to construct a new fire station as well as renovate, repair, and improve existing fire stations.* |
| 2018  | November | Snoqualmie Pass Fire Protection District No. 51 | Proposition No. 1. Increase the size of the District’s Board of Commissioners from three to five members. |
| 2018  | November | Si View Metropolitan Park District | Improvement Bonds to Connect and Protect Parks, Trails and Recreation Facilities. Issuance of $14.8 million in general obligation bonds to construct and improve multiuse trails, improve parks, and acquire and develop property for recreational use. |
| 2019  | February | Seattle School District | Operations Levy |
| 2019  | February | Seattle School District | Capital Levy |

*Requires 60% for passage
### Potential Future Ballot Measures – SCA Cities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Measure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td></td>
<td>Kirkland</td>
<td>Fire Services and Capital Levy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Potential Future Ballot Measures – Other Cities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Measure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td></td>
<td>Seattle</td>
<td>Library Levy (renewal)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td></td>
<td>Seattle</td>
<td>Transportation Benefit District (renewal)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Potential Future Ballot Measures – Countywide

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Jurisdiction</th>
<th>Measure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td></td>
<td>King County</td>
<td>Medic One/EMS Levy (renewal)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td></td>
<td>King County</td>
<td>Regional Parks Levy (renewal)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td></td>
<td>King County</td>
<td>Best Starts for Kids (renewal)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>King County</td>
<td>Affordable Housing and Related Services Sales Tax</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Next Steps

Please share this information with your city and provide information on upcoming elections in your city to SCA Policy Director Brian Parry at [brian@soundcities.org](mailto:brian@soundcities.org) or 206-499-4159.
**Item 11:**
Potential Upcoming SCA Issues

**UPDATE**

SCA Staff Contact
Brian Parry, SCA Policy Director, [brian@soundcities.org](mailto:brian@soundcities.org), (206) 499-4159

**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, staff are putting together workshops and trainings on the following topics for the remainder of 2018:
- Open Public Meetings Act with trainer Kinnon Williams, Inslee Best (September)
- Emergency Management (October)
- Social Media (November)

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 SCA Policy Director Brian Parry, [brian@soundcities.org](mailto:brian@soundcities.org) or 206-499-4159.
Item 12a:
Recycling Communications Toolkit

INFORMATIONAL ITEM

SCA Staff Contact
Cynthia Foley, SCA Policy Analyst, cynthia@soundcities.org, 206-495-3020

Informational Item
In fall of 2017, China implemented a set of import policies on recyclable materials called the “National Sword.” The policies require that imported recyclables arrive market-ready, with low contamination. The King County Solid Waste Division (SWD), cities, and haulers have developed a communications toolkit (Attachment A) to provide uniform messaging to their customers and constituents about how to recycle and reduce contamination.

Messaging emphasizes commonly recyclable items that all jurisdictions accept, and emphasizes that items should “empty, clean and dry.” The toolkit can be used voluntarily by cities in King County and solid waste collection companies. Pierce County has also begun to participate in meetings and use the toolkit.

Background
In fall of 2017, China implemented a set of import restrictions on recyclable materials called the “National Sword.” The policies require that imported recyclables arrive market-ready, with low contamination. Placing non-recyclable or wet items in the bin increases the cost of sorting and the likelihood the recycling will become too contaminated to be sold in commodities markets.

Shared Recycling Communications
The King County Solid Waste Division has been working with a group of communications staff from the City of Bellevue, City of Seattle, Sound Cities Association and solid waste collection companies, to develop shared messaging about practices that reduce contamination in curbside recycling. Communications staff from King County cities are invited to participate. Pierce County has also begun to participate in meetings and use the toolkit.

The Recycling Communications Toolkit
Messaging emphasizes common recyclable items that all jurisdictions accept, and states that items should be “empty, clean and dry.” This messaging could help reduce non-recyclable and wet items in curbside bins. Messages are designed for Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, as well as general talking points. Materials will soon be available in several languages.
There are many ways to share the communications developed by this group. City staff can post information to municipal newsletters, websites, and social media accounts. County staff can also assist cities by tailoring recycling communications to their platforms.

Information about recycling practices that reduce contamination can also be found on the King County ‘Recycle Right’ website. The site has a tool for contacting the city or hauler with questions about what is recyclable.

Next Steps
The recycling communications staff group is creating additional messaging as needed and developing a proposal for a broader media campaign. Cities and solid waste collection companies will also be able to use their own communications funding to purchase media buys in their areas.

Comments or questions regarding recycling communications can be shared with SCA Policy Analyst Cynthia Foley at cynthia@soundcities.org or 206-495-3020.

To receive materials or attend the communications staff group, contact Matt Manguso at matt.manguso@kingcounty.gov.

Attachments
  A. Recycle Right Social Media Tool Kit August-September
Purpose:
In fall 2017, the Chinese government implemented a ban on certain recyclables being imported, essentially eliminating China as a market for many recyclables. For years China has been the main importer of recyclable mixed paper and mixed plastics from King County, as well as internationally. New markets are being looked at for mixed paper and mixed plastics. Recyclables that are clean, not contaminated with food, liquids, garbage or anything that isn’t the same material as the main recyclable commodity, make the recyclables more valuable, more likely and able to be recycled.

This is an opportunity for the recycling industry to improve the overall system and look closely at how and what we are recycling. Recycling continues to be beneficial environmentally and economically. Residents in King County do a good job with recycling and should continue to recycle. They should recycle according to their city’s and waste companies’ guidelines, and ensure that all materials are empty, clean and dry.

The purpose of this social media tool kit is to help King County cities, partners, haulers, and stakeholders deliver consistent, uniform messaging to their customers and constituents on how to recycle right. This is a no-cost, no-obligation resource to help the region have uniformed messaging surrounding recent changes to international recycling markets.

The tool kit was developed was the Responsible Recycling Communications Consortium, which is working in partnership with the Responsible Recycling Task Force. The Consortium is made up of representatives from King County, the City of Seattle, the City of Bellevue, the Sound Cities Association, and recycling collection and processing companies. The tool kit will be available to all jurisdictions at no cost for use on their social media channels and when working with constituents/customers.

Strategy:
Beginning Aug. 15, 2018, King County will provide monthly updated toolkit components. The tool kit will contain key messages, talking points, and social media posts (Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram) explaining the importance of recycling right. To ensure posts remain fresh and current, and can react to any unforeseen changes that may occur, new posts and images will be delivered each month. The tool kit will be delivered via a word document with posts organized by medium, as well as a Dropbox link to images to accompany the posts.

For now, toolkits are scheduled to be delivered from August-December. In December, we will revisit this strategy and determine if it is still the right way to inform the region about recycling right.

Recipients of the tool kit can post in the order found below so that their customers/constituents receive frequent messaging on how to recycle right. It is recommended communications managers post up to three times a week. There will always be enough posts contained in the tool kit to accomplish this.
Images for posts will be located here and correlate to the numbered posts below.

Questions regarding the posts and the strategy can be directed to King County Solid Waste Division Communication Specialist Matt Manguso – matt.manguso@kingcounty.gov, 206-477-7914. With each month’s delivery of the tool kit, we will also be sending a survey for communications managers to fill out. We want to see if the tool kit is of use to you, and how we can work to make the tool kits better.

Key Messages:

1. Keep recyclables empty, clean and dry. No food or liquids in recycling.
2. Customers should recycle right, according to your city’s and recycling companies’ recycling guidelines.
3. Keep recycling. Recycling creates new products and decreases the extraction of virgin materials, such as petroleum and wood.
4. Prevent and reduce waste by choosing reusable items and opting out of excess paper and packaging when you can.
5. Learn more about recycling in your area by checking with your city or waste collection company

Key Links:
- King County Recycle Right webpage: https://kingcounty.gov/depts/dnrp/solid-waste/garbage-recycling/recycle-right.aspx
- Shortened Link: https://kingcounty.gov/recycle-right
- Find your recycling company: https://kingcounty.gov/depts/dnrp/solid-waste/garbage-recycling/garbage.aspx

Social Media Posts for Aug. – Sept. 2018

Tool Kit: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/gsI52vwzp7ghs/AAAagFaoB9PvbM_CC3KZ15ZZa?dl=0

Twitter:
Images: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/pv6dda4i13ycz50/AAAmkMuruO56y-LNt5QHkvva?dl=0

1. Everything we use comes from natural resources. Don’t waste them. Keep recycling. https://kingcounty.gov/recycle-right

2. Preventing waste is a great way to conserve natural resources. Here are some tips http://bit.ly/wastepreventiontips

4. What’s in a shape? Plastic bottles, tubs, and jugs are all recyclable. Just make sure they’re empty, clean, and dry.


6. Things you should always recycle – plastic bottles and jugs, cardboard, cans, and paper. Make sure they’re empty, clean, and dry.

7. How clean should your recycling be? Once it’s empty, scrape and rinse to remove food. Then let it dry. That’s all it takes!

8. We’re great at recycling but we can be better. Recycling should be empty, clean, and dry before it goes in the bin.


10. We receive 85 billion pieces of junk mail each year. That’s about 111 million trees worth of paper! Conserve those trees by opting out of junk mail http://bit.ly/2JTSemp

11. Recycling is easy but it can be confusing. When in doubt find out by checking with your recycling company http://bit.ly/findyourrecyclingcompany

12. Keep your recycling dry. Don’t overfill the bin and shut the lid tight.

Facebook:
Images: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/789ivut85465rbn/AAAjtrNJLK5WeG6rF7bYXlSza?dl=0

1. Can these common materials be recycled? When in doubt find out by looking at your recycling company’s guidelines http://bit.ly/findyourrecyclingcompany

2. Keep your recycling dry. Don’t overfill the bin and shut the lid tight to keep out the rain and other water. https://kingcounty.gov/recycle-right

3. What’s the shape of recycling? Plastic bottles, jugs, and tubs – they’re all recyclable. Just make sure they’re empty, clean, and dry before you put them in the blue bin. https://kingcounty.gov/recycle-right

4. Yes you can (and should) recycle clean, empty, and dry metal cans. https://kingcounty.gov/recycle-right

5. Drowning in junk mail? You can be prevent waste and conserve resources by opting out of junk mail. http://bit.ly/nomorejunkmail
6. Flatten cardboard before putting it in the recycling bin. That way you can close the lid tight and prevent water from getting in. [https://kingcounty.gov/recycle-right](https://kingcounty.gov/recycle-right)

7. Let your empty, clean, and dry recycling mingle. Put it in the bin loose – no plastic bags and no bundled cardboard. [https://kingcounty.gov/recycle-right](https://kingcounty.gov/recycle-right)

8. We recycle better than most other regions in the U.S.! Keep it up – always recycle empty, clean, and dry plastic bottles, tubs, and jugs; cardboard; paper; glass bottles; and metal cans. [https://kingcounty.gov/recycle-right](https://kingcounty.gov/recycle-right)


10. We receive 85 billion pieces of junk mail every year. That's about 111 million trees worth of paper! Not to mention the others resources it takes to produce and transport all that junk. Conserve trees and other resources by opting out of junk mail [http://bit.ly/2JTSemp](http://bit.ly/2JTSemp)

11. Recycling is as important as ever! It allows existing items to be made into new products and prevents the need to extract resources like oil, wood, minerals, and water. Conserve these resources by recycling right [https://kingcounty.gov/recycle-right](https://kingcounty.gov/recycle-right)

12. How clean should your recycling be? Once it’s empty, scrape and rinse to remove food. Then let it dry. That’s all it takes!

**Instagram:**

Images: [https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ju4ai8e6ocwlhz8/AA Db2v6yBJEkOqh7k8stvE-Ta?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ju4ai8e6ocwlhz8/AA Db2v6yBJEkOqh7k8stvE-Ta?dl=0)

1. Confused about what kind of plastic is recyclable? Just check the shape. Plastic bottles, jugs, and tubs can all be recycled. Just make sure they’re empty, clean, and dry. #EmptyCleanDry #RecycleRight #RecycleMore

2. Let your recycling mingle. Forget the plastic bag, just put your empty, clean, and dry recycling right in the bin.

3. We’re great at recycling so let’s keep it up! Always recycle empty, clean, and dry plastic bottles, tubs, and jugs; cardboard; paper; and aluminum and metal cans.

4. How clean should your recycling be? Once it’s empty, a scrape and a quick rinse are all it takes to remove food particles. Let it air dry before putting it in your recycling bin. #EmptyCleanDry #RecycleRight #RecycleMore
5. When you recycle, make sure your items are empty, clean, and dry. Empty food waste into the compost bin, give the container a scrape and a rinse, and then let it air dry. That’s how you #RecycleRight

6. Keep your recycling dry. Don’t overfill the bin and shut the lid tight to keep out the rain and other water.

7. Yes you can (and should) recycle clean, empty, and dry metal cans. #EmptyCleanDry #RecycleRight #RecycleMore

8. What’s the shape of recycling? Plastic bottles, jugs, and tubs – they’re all recyclable. Just make sure they’re empty, clean, and dry before you put them in the blue bin.

9. Flatten cardboard before putting it in the recycling bin. That way you can close the lid tight, and prevent water from getting in.

10. What do these items all have in common? They can be recycled! Just make sure they’re empty, clean, and dry before putting them in the recycling bin. #EmptyCleanDry #RecycleRight #RecycleMore

11. Why empty, clean, and dry? When you don’t remove food and water from your recycling it can mold just like this peanut butter jar lid. When recycling molds it is no longer recyclable. Recycling is important because it conserves natural resources like wood, oil, minerals, and water. Don’t waste those resources by letting your recycling get moldy. Always recycle right by making sure your recycling is empty, clean, and dry. #EmptyCleanDry #RecycleRight #RecycleMore