



SCA Public Issues Committee AGENDA

December 11, 2019 – 7:00 PM
Renton City Hall

1. **Welcome and Roll Call** – Ed Prince, Renton, Chair 2 minutes
2. **Public Comment** – Ed Prince, Renton, Chair 10 minutes
3. [Approval of Minutes – November 13, 2019 Meeting](#) 2 minutes
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4. **Chair’s Report** – Ed Prince, Renton, Chair 5 minutes
5. **Executive Director’s Report** – Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director 5 minutes
6. [Election of 2020 PIC Chair and Vice Chair](#) 5 minutes
ACTION
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Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director
7. [Regional Board and Committee Appointments](#) 10 minutes
ACTION
Page 19
Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director
8. [SCA 2020 Legislative Agenda](#) 10 minutes
ACTION
Page 24
Brian Parry, SCA Policy Director
9. [Proposed King County Regional Homelessness Authority](#) 10 minutes
UPDATE
Page 26
Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director
10. [2020 SCA Priorities](#) 60 minutes
DISCUSSION
Page 35
Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director
11. **Upcoming Events**
 - a. SCA Public Issues Committee – Wednesday, January 8, 2020 – 7:00 to 9:00 PM (6:00 PM Pre-PIC Workshop) – Renton City Hall

- b. SCA Newly Elected Officials Orientation – Thursday, January 30, 2020 – 2:00 to 4:00 PM – PSRC Board Room

12. For the Good of the Order

13. 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

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

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.



SCA Public Issues Committee MINUTES

November 13, 2019 – 7:00 PM
Renton City Hall
1055 S Grady Way, Renton WA 98057

1. Welcome and Roll Call

PIC Chair Council President Ed Prince, Renton, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. 27 cities had representation ([Attachment A](#)). Guests present included Erin Stout, Black Diamond councilmember; Kent Treen, Sammamish councilmember-elect; Diana Hart, Woodinville staff; Shannon Braddock, King County staff; Doug Levy, Renton consultant; Lyman Howard, Clyde Hill staff; Bill Vadino, Federal Way staff; Philipp Schmidt-Pathmann, Newcastle resident; Hannah Smith, Seattle staff; Erin Arya, King County staff; Joyce Nichols, Bellevue staff; Susan Oxholm, King County staff.

2. Public Comment

Chair Prince asked if any member of the public would like to provide public comment. Newcastle resident Philipp Schmidt-Pathmann provided public comment relating to landfilling of solid waste. He said that it is critical to stop landfilling waste for environmental and economic reasons and that the region needs to evaluate an integrated waste management system. He provided a letter to the PIC with his comments ([Attachment B](#)).

3. Approval of the October 9, 2019 PIC Minutes

Chair Prince asked if there were any amendments to the October 9, 2019 PIC minutes. **Councilmember Hank Margeson, Redmond, moved, seconded by Councilmember Ross Loudenback, North Bend, to approve the October 9, 2019 minutes. The motion passed unanimously.**

4. Chair's Report

Chair Prince said that his report consisted of comments that he would provide under agenda item 6.

5. Executive Director's Report

SCA Executive Director Deanna Dawson noted that PIC members Hank Margeson, Redmond, and Catherine Stanford, Lake Forest Park, as well as former PIC Chair Marlla Mhoon, Covington, were among those members who were unsuccessful in their reelection bids. PIC members thanked those members for their service. Dawson noted that nominations for 2020 board and committee appointments were closing. She reminded members of the SCA Annual Meeting, to be held on December 4, 2019. She offered to come visit city councils in 2020 to introduce new members to SCA.

6. Proposed King County Regional Homelessness Authority

SCA Executive Director Deanna Dawson provided a report to the PIC. She noted that the Regional Policy Committee (RPC) may be taking a vote on the proposed Regional Homelessness Authority in the coming weeks. Councilmember John Stokes, Bellevue, who serves as Vice Chair of the RPC, stated that RPC Chair Pete Von Reichbauer had indicated that a Special Meeting of the RPC would be held on December 2, 2019.

Dawson noted that two new proposals to amend the proposed Regional Homelessness Authority legislation had been introduced. The first, a proposed striker amendment from County Councilmember Jeanne Kohl-Welles, had been introduced and sent to PIC members earlier in the week. The second, an “alternative concept” prepared by County Council Chair Rod Dembowski, had been provided to PIC members earlier in the day. Dawson provided members with three handouts on the two proposals:

- County [Councilmember Kohl-Welles's conceptual striker](#);
- [Councilmember Dembowski's alternative concept](#); and
- A [graphic](#) describing the Dembowski alternative concept

Dawson walked members through the two proposals.

Dawson noted that the PIC materials contained a draft statement of guiding principles, which PIC had voted in October to bring back for potential action. Because there were new proposals on the table that had not yet been vetted by SCA member cities, ED Dawson and Chair Prince noted that members may not feel comfortable taking action at the meeting.

Chair Prince turned to PIC members for questions, comments, and feedback.

Mayor David Baker, Kenmore, noted that a significant change in the Kohl-Welles proposal was to clarify that the entity would have no taxing authority. While the Kenmore council liked the original proposal, he felt that his council would support this change.

Councilmember Kate Kruller, Tukwila, stated that she had received a call from a County Councilmember prior to the meeting indicating that there was no consensus from the council on any proposal at this time. She sought clarification on the aspect of the Dembowski proposal to have an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) without forming a Public Development Authority (PDA). She noted that time would be needed to better understand the differences between a PDA and an ILA. Tukwila is interested in getting to yes on a proposal. Tukwila is supportive of the SCA draft guiding principles.

Mayor Elaine Cook, Woodinville, noted that her council had a number of questions about the original proposal, and did not yet have consensus on the original proposal. She had not understood that an option other than a PDA was a possibility. The majority of the Woodinville Council had expressed concerns about forming a PDA. Woodinville also had general concerns about partnering on this issue with Seattle and King County. They had questions about the impact of signing (or not signing) an ILA under the original proposal. She noted that both new proposals had reframed the Governing Board as having elected officials in that role, with non-elected members in an advisory capacity. She noted that this was a more familiar structure.

Deputy Mayor Catherine Stanford, Lake Forest Park, noted that her city's biggest concern was in establishing a PDA. The Dembowski proposal addressed Lake Forest Park's concerns in that regard. She expressed concern over the fact that the Regional Action Plan (RAP) had still not been released, and concern over being asked to approve something without a plan. She noted that the two new proposals still lacked specificity on goals. Lake Forest Park wants this effort to be successful, and sees the need for it.

Councilmember John Stokes, Bellevue, noted that SCA discussions and feedback had had a positive effect on the proposals coming forward. He expressed support for the changes to the organizational structure to provide governance from elected officials. But, as noted by Stanford, the proposals still did not address the lack of a plan. He noted a strong push by Seattle and King County to get this matter resolved by end of year. Stokes expressed the need to see the RAP before moving forward.

Councilmember Traci Buxton, Des Moines, noted that the Kohl-Welles proposal contained a variety of new terms and proposed committees, which raised new questions. She still has questions about implications of signing on to an ILA under the original proposal. She has new questions about the differences between the proposed PDA, and the new proposal for an ILA without PDA. Buxton also expressed concerns about the focus on crisis response versus prevention, recalling the earlier work of One Table. She expressed concerns about enabling versus addressing root causes. She wondered why the process was being rushed, and whether it was due to pressures from the business community. She questioned whether the proposal would only address the needs of those who were unsheltered, versus all people experiencing homelessness. Dawson clarified her understanding that the various proposals would address the entire crisis response system. Buxton questioned the aspect of the Kohl-Welles proposal to have a single liaison to the various other systems impacting homelessness, noting that this may not be sufficient. Buxton made note of numbers from the Point in Time Count, noted disparities in the concentrations of people experiencing homelessness across different areas of the County, and noted that there may not truly be a "crisis" in all areas of the County. She wondered, "Do we have a crisis, or does Seattle have a crisis?"

Councilmember Chris Roberts, Shoreline, indicated that Shoreline sees the need to make a change to the current system, and that it would be preferable to take action that is imperfect rather than maintaining the current system. Shoreline would prefer not to see a PDA and in that respect would have a preference for the Dembowski proposal, but would be amenable to the other proposals as well, as they would represent an improvement over the current system.

Council President Tola Marts, Issaquah, stated that the process felt very rushed, noting the two new proposals that had not been vetted by cities. He noted that this is a hugely important issue, which should not be rushed.

Councilmember John Holman, Auburn, noted that his city had a study session on the issue, and he had reviewed with his Mayor. Auburn was generally supportive of the Kohl-Welles proposal with a few concerns. He felt that those limited concerns seemed to be addressed by the Dembowski proposal, noting that the proposals seemed to be moving in a positive direction. He expressed support for the inclusion in the Dembowski proposal requiring that matters be

approved by at least one vote from each caucus. Auburn wants equity addressed. Still missing from both proposals was the need to see the RAP. Holman made reference to the Good Eggs breakfast held that morning, where Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan spoke to the theme of working regionally. He noted that the current system is not working, and we need to get past our inertia.

Councilmember Lydia Assefa-Dawson, Federal Way, questioned why the matter was being rushed, and why the newly elected Seattle and County Councilmembers should not be involved. She questioned what the role and expectations would be for cities, whether or not they signed onto an ILA. She noted concerns from Federal Way about creating a PDA that would exist in perpetuity, and questioned whether the Kohl-Welles proposal adequately addressed this concern.

Councilmember Hank Margeson, Redmond, expressed support for taking action on the proposed guiding principles, noting that they would provide a lens to evaluate the various proposals, and a tool for RPC members to evaluate any new proposals. He noted a significant lack of objectives with any of the proposals, but noted that the Dembowski proposal was getting closer.

Councilmember Chance LaFleur, Enumclaw, reiterated earlier concerns raised by Enumclaw, but noted that aspects of the proposals removing taxing authority and increasing the role for elected officials addressed some of his city's concerns. He agreed that the current system is not working, but wanted to see that a new structure would actually improve upon the current system. The proposals still feel half-baked.

Council President Bill Boyce, Kent, expressed support for the proposed SCA guiding principles. He expressed strong preference for an ILA without forming a PDA. He expressed concerns over reference in the Kohl-Welles proposal over siting authority, noting issues of King County siting other types of facilities in Kent.

PIC Chair Ed Prince, Councilmember for Renton, stated that both proposals are closer to what SCA has wanted. He cautioned members to not let perfect be the enemy of the good, and noted that there were positive elements in both the two new proposals.

Councilmember Kate Kruller, Tukwila, moved, seconded by Councilmember Hank Margeson, Redmond, to recommend that the SCA Board adopt the following guiding principles:

The Sound Cities Association (SCA) recognizes that homelessness is a regional crisis

- People are experiencing homelessness throughout the region
- The acute crisis in Seattle affects the rest of the region
- There are differences in the challenges, and solutions, in subregions of the county that need to be addressed sub-regionally

Sub-regional planning is key to the success of a region-wide effort

- Cities need better clarity on how sub-regional plans would be developed and how sub-regional planning efforts and subsequent implementation of

recommended programs and actions would be supported by a proposed regional entity

- Cities and other entities already working on homelessness in the sub-regions must be integrally involved in the development of sub-regional plans
- There must be a commitment that staff and resources will be disbursed equitably throughout the county to develop and implement sub-regional plans as well as the Regional Action Plan and Five-Year Plan(s)
- Cities have been told that funds will be distributed without regard to whether a jurisdiction agrees to sign onto an ILA or service agreement; this must be formalized in the legislation

Cities must be involved in the development of a Regional Action Plan and Five-Year Plan(s)

- Cities must be involved in the development of the Regional Action Plan and Five-Year Plan(s) and these should be based on sub-regional plans
- King County's funding to address homelessness is due in large part from city populations
- As such, cities are not the same as other interested stakeholders, and have a distinct interest in the development of sub-regional and regional plans and the expenditure of resources to address homelessness occurring within their borders
- Cities and entities already working on homelessness in the sub-regions must be integrally involved in the development of the Regional Action Plan and Five-Year Plan(s) to address homelessness

SCA members have significant questions about the value of forming a new government (PDA) to tackle the challenges of a fractured system

- There are questions about whether the new proposal would be more efficient, or simply more bureaucracy; the County must explain how efficiencies would be realized
- SCA cities have requested details on current administrative costs, and anticipated administrative costs under the new proposal
- Questions remain about how signatories would extricate themselves from the structure if it does not work, and/or if future council budgets do not fund, and whether a sunset clause should be built into the legislation
- We must ensure that the new entity is not creating additional silos (with behavioral health, affordable housing, and other systems)

There needs to be high level agreement among policy makers across the County on the objectives for a new entity before a new entity is formed

- A common shared understanding of goals and outcomes is required, at a minimum. These goals and outcomes must include reducing the number of unsheltered people throughout King County and increasing permanent supportive housing for these people. More detail on a plan for how to achieve these goals will likely be necessary for many elected officials to decide whether to participate in the new entity

If a new governance structure is established, policy makers (elected officials) should set policy

- A board of experts to oversee day to day operations may make sense but large regional policy decisions, and major budgetary decisions, need to be made by elected officials, who are accountable to the public

Any board/committee of elected officials should have equitable distribution of power between King County, Seattle, and SCA cities

- A minimum of two seats (north/east and south) for SCA members would be necessary to reflect sub-regional planning efforts
- Appointments to subcommittees and working board should be made jointly by SCA/County/Seattle
- Approval of any major decision (budget, regional plan, etc.) should have approval from at least one representative from each of the three (SCA/Seattle/King County) to ensure that there is regional buy in

Councilmember Austin Bell, Burien, noted that one of the bullets was not in the form of a principle.

Councilmember John Stokes, Bellevue, felt that in light of the new proposals being on the table, the principles were no longer up to date. He was not sure that voting on the principles would have an impact.

Councilmember Chris Roberts, Shoreline, agreed with the rationale stated by Margeson in support of voting on the principles. He took issue with calling out Seattle specifically in the second bullet, noting that normally SCA would not call out another city, but stated that he would not be moving to amend given the lateness of the hour and the length of the discussion.

The motion passed 25-2, with Kenmore and Bellevue voting no.

7. 2020 SCA Legislative Agenda

SCA Policy Director Brian Parry reported the SCA Legislative Committee is working to develop the 2020 Legislative Agenda to recommend to PIC. At the most recent PIC meeting, members provided feedback in support of priorities focusing on local control; local infrastructure projects and the importance of fully funding the Public Works Trust Fund; providing cities with sustainable local funding tools; addressing the affordable housing crisis; and, increasing tools for funding transportation and mobility projects. Parry said the Legislative Committee met to review potential priorities and he provided a handout of a proposed [draft 2020 Legislative Agenda](#).

Parry provided an overview of the priorities included in the draft agenda, and the specific requests under each priority. Priorities identified in the draft agenda include:

- Address the Affordable Housing and Homelessness Crisis;
- Invest in Transportation Infrastructure and Mobility
- Fully Fund the Public Works Trust Fund and Provide Options for Local Infrastructure Needs;
- Preserve Local Decision-Making Authority;
- Provide the tools for Cities to Address Local Priorities.

Parry asked members for their feedback. He noted that the Legislative Committee would be meeting again prior to the December PIC meeting and asked members to consult with their councils and provide any feedback for the Committee to consider prior to the end of the month. He noted discussion and amendments could also take place at the full PIC meeting.

8. Metro's Mobility Framework

SCA Policy Analyst Cynthia Foley reported on the [Mobility Framework](#), co-created by Metro Transit and the King County Metro Mobility Cabinet. The Framework provides guidance on the equitable implementation of mobility services and traditional transit. It was requested by the King County Council one year ago and was transmitted to the Council at the end of October. The Regional Transit Committee (RTC) will review and possibly act a summary version of this document in November and December.

Foley reported that the Mobility Framework is expected to guide future updates to Metro's adopted policies, including Metro Connects, the Service Guidelines, and Metro's 2021/2022 biennial budget proposal.

Foley said that mobility can include an array of private and public transportation options including rental e-bikes and ride hailing services. Mobility services are changing travel patterns and providing more transportation options. These services can also compete with public transit for riders and right-of-way and impact job opportunities. For some individuals, these services may be unaffordable or inaccessible.

Foley noted that stated vision in the Mobility Framework is "a regional network of traditional and new transportation services that gets people where they want to go, when they want to get there, while contributing to healthy communities, a thriving economy, and a sustainable environment."

She said that Metro partnered with an Equity Cabinet made up of 23 community leaders to develop recommendations.

The Mobility Framework recommends additional transit investment in geographic areas with a high proportion of priority populations (defined as low and no-income people, people of color and indigenous people, immigrants and refugees, people with disabilities, and members of limited-English speaking communities). A [composite map](#) of dense areas with unmet transit need and high proportions of priority populations is shown on page 63 in the PIC packet.

Foley reported that the SCA Caucus of the Regional Transit Committee provided initial feedback on a draft report. She noted that caucus members expressed support for increased focus on improving equity in the transit system. Caucus members also emphasized that distribution of transit service throughout the region is an important consideration.

The Mobility Framework recommends working with jurisdictions to provide incentives that promote increased density and/or affordable housing. The Mobility Framework also recommends that Metro work with jurisdictions to develop and adopt policies to minimize displacement near transit.

Foley said that on the theme of innovation, the Mobility Framework recommendations include: adopting policies that address new services, developing guidelines for private providers, and facilitating integrated trip payment and planning.

She noted that the Framework recommends strengthening engagement and marketing efforts to ensure that priority populations are aware of existing mobility services, innovative new pilots, service changes, affordability programs, and other efforts. Foley said that continuation of the Equity Cabinet is also recommended in the Mobility Framework.

Councilmember Ross Loudbeck, North Bend, commented that a map of unmet need shows very few areas in east King County as high areas of unmet need, but that many people there live on very low incomes.

Councilmember Kate Kruller, Tukwila, said that the map of unmet need does not show enough detail to see where service is most needed.

Councilmember Chris Roberts, Shoreline, questioned how the passage of I-976 passing will impact future transit service and planning.

Councilmember Traci Buxton, Des Moines, said that Metro gave a presentation to Des Moines and noted that the agency was struggling to meet demand before the passage of I-976 and that the problem would only grow.

Council President Tola Marts, Issaquah, said that he is concerned that no areas of high unmet need are shown on the I-90 corridor according to the composite map.

Councilmember Hank Margeson, Redmond, noted that the map of unmet need includes density as a factor. He said that the Equity Cabinet is a fantastic idea and mentioned that he has suggested minor changes to the motion accepting the report. The intent of these changes is to keep the Equity Cabinet involved going forward and while ensuring the Framework is integrated with Metro Connects, the Strategic Plan and Service Guidelines.

PIC Chair Prince and ED Dawson requested that the PIC revisit item 7, the 2020 SCA Legislative Agenda.

7. 2020 SCA Legislative Agenda (continued)

Dawson noted that if SCA wanted to adopt the legislative agenda before end of year, PIC should take initial action at this meeting to bring the item back in December for potential action.

Councilmember Hank Margeson, Redmond, moved, seconded by Councilmember John Stokes, Bellevue, to bring back the draft 2020 Legislative Agenda ([Attachment C](#)) for possible action at the next PIC meeting on December 11, 2019. The motion passed unanimously.

9. King Conservation District Rates and Charges

SCA Policy Analyst Alexis Mercedes Rinck provided an update on the King Conservation District Rates and Charges process. Rinck noted there was a hearing on the proposed rates and charges earlier in the day at the Local Services, Regional Roads & Bridges Committee meeting and provided a [handout](#) highlighting the latest information on the proposal. *(Note – the [handout](#) provided at the meeting contained an error. The corrected [handout](#) is attached.)*

Rinck provided a review of the King Conservation District, stating they are a natural resources assistance agency that promotes the sustainable use of natural resources through responsible stewardship. They offer services to 34 cities in King County to help jurisdictions maintain and improve their water sources, soil, forests, and agriculture. KCD is funded primarily by a per-parcel assessment fee.

KCD is in the fifth and final year of its 2015- 2019 work plan. Over the past year, the KCD has worked with its Advisory Committee to develop a new 2020-2024 work plan and an accompanying rates and charges budget to support it.

PIC was last updated in July when the proposed rates and charges were sent from KCD to the King County Council. The KCD proposal requested an average increase of 38% across all parcel categories for an average rate of \$13.01 per parcel. In early October, the County Executive put forward a proposed ordinance with approximately a 3% inflationary adjustment for 2020 and each year thereafter through 2024. The average per parcel rate for the County Executive's proposal was \$9.96. The County Executive's proposal also recommended increasing budgeted funding from grants and other sources by \$1.3 million from what was originally proposed by KCD.

During County Council review of the proposed ordinance, the Executive Office acknowledged mistakenly underestimating the budget for KCD's Riparian Improvement Program by \$775,000 in 2020. The striking amendment brought forward in November includes restoring the funding requested for the Riparian Improvement Program, and funding this program through an increase to the proposed rates and charges. In addition, the striking amendment maintains the increased budget from grants and other sources proposed by the Executive. In total, the striking amendment would increase rates and charges by 19.98% and provide for yearly inflationary increases. The total KCD budget for 2020 would be \$8.88 million, a 10.3% increase over KCD's 2019 budget of \$8.05 million.

One other change included in the striking amendment is requiring elections as a work area. The Board of Supervisors just approved using Democracy Live in collaboration with King County elections, which will allow 2020 election constituents to be able to vote for the KCD Board of Supervisors using the platform. The striking amendment was adopted and forwarded to full council with a do-pass recommendation to be heard on December 4th and the Regional Policy Committee may also be briefed on the proposal.

Councilmember Chris Roberts, Shoreline, noted that there is only \$100,000 difference between the total budget from KCD's original proposal and that contained in the striking amendment, despite the total collected from per parcel rates and charges being significantly different.

Rinck answered that the original KCD requested budget was changed to include additional assumed funding from outside funds, such as grants that they have relied upon in the past.

Councilmember Chris Roberts, Shoreline, added that Council should not approve of an election system for the KCD Board of Supervisors where people must go outside of our normal elections process or to another system to vote.

Councilmember Hank Margeson, Redmond, agreed with Roberts' comments about elections. He said KCD should budget to live within their means and that he prefers the inflationary increases what is proposed.

Councilmember Toby Nixon, Kirkland said that he recently spoke with State Representative Pollet, and that there is interest in comprehensive reform of election procedures for special purpose districts and encouraged members to reach out to their legislators.

Councilmember John Stokes, Bellevue, said that the KCD Advisory Committee is supportive of redesigning election procedures.

Deputy Mayor Catherine Stanford, Lake Forest Park, asked staff to provide additional information on grants and where the dollars will be spent.

10. King County Waste to Energy and Waste Export Feasibility Study

Agenda item deferred to a future PIC meeting due to time constraints.

11. Levies and Ballot Measures in King County

SCA Policy Director Brian Parry reported on the results of the November 2019 general election. Parry provided a [handout](#) with results as of November 13, 2019, and members were encouraged to share news about election results impacts on their cities. Members shared updates on council elections and measures on the ballot in their cities.

12. Potential Upcoming SCA Issues

SCA Executive Director Deanna Dawson reported that SCA Board Elections will be held at 6:00 PM on December 11, prior to the December PIC meeting. She said that there will also be a discussion at that meeting for members to provide input on SCA priorities for 2020.

13. Upcoming Events

- a. SCA Annual Meeting (guest speaker University of Washington President Ana Mari Cauce, sponsor Comcast) – Wednesday, December 4, 2019 – 5:30 to 8:00 PM – Renton Pavilion and Event Center
- b. SCA Public Issues Committee – Wednesday, December 11, 2019 – 7:00 to 9:00 PM (6:00 PM SCA Board Elections) – Renton City Hall

14. For the Good of the Order

15. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 9:23 PM.

**Public Issues Committee Meeting
November 13, 2019**

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

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

November 13th 2019

Good evening honorable representatives,

With a world's population exceeding 7.8 billion - that is 7.8 billion consumers (more or less) and growing - environmentally sound resource management in all its forms and shapes has to be a top priority.

For me this has been a long process – 22 years I have been provided King County and surrounding communities, organizations and companies with scientific-economic and environmental facts why it is critical to stop landfilling the waste we produce and why we need to switch to an integrated waste and resource management system. I cannot stress enough that the impacts of landfilling to humans and the environment are detrimental and the cost are higher than any other option.

What does that mean for us, right here in King County?

- 1) The Scientific Experts on GHG from landfills have known for a long time that recovering methane from landfills is not very efficient. At the same time, locally we hear numbers of 95%+ methane capture. What if the actual methane capture rate is indeed less than 50% and the entire discussion about the landfill and about Greenhouse Gases are not only inaccurate but come at a very high cost to the environment and the citizens of King County?
- 2) Our current landfill-based system doesn't support a financeable, workable recycling infrastructure! What if our recycling rate is well below the stated 52%? Can we tangibly and transparently show, how and if the 'materials' are actually recycled. NO, we cannot. Not even WA State Department of Ecology knows. 52%??? Less than 40%? Less than 30%? We don't have the needed infrastructure nor the regulatory framework that will support a higher recycling rate and sending this to China or any other country isn't the answer. We are responsible for the waste we produce.
- 3) While the very recent Arcadis study, which I believe you will hear about tonight, provided a lot more clarity regarding cost and GHGs - KIRO 7, KOMO 4 and KING 5 NEWS highlighted the economic and environmental benefits last week - the study did not adequately evaluate the potential of an integrated waste management system. That means for example building a local recycling infrastructure and other elements that move us closer to a circular economy and mitigating the many issues already caused by the Cedar Hills Landfill. Topic specific experts on our team have already identified a number of viable financeable and technical proven options and possibilities.
- 4) Why spend \$250 Mio, \$500 Mio or even more on adding just one more cell for just 10 years capacity to an already challenged landfill when viable economic and environmentally preferred options are readily available.
- 5) With the understanding of the limitations to recycling and the missing necessary infrastructure, the Cedar Hills Landfill is filling up much faster than anticipated. We need to implement readily available landfill alternatives now. We don't have the time nor financing to keep reevaluating and restudying. Question is: What is it that we want?

Recycling? GHG reductions? Circular Economy? Jobs? Better use of taxpayer monies? Clarity? Tangibility? All of the above? We are still decades behind where we could be!
6) We need the education and we need topic educated experts to lead the way.

The bottom line is that AS LONG AS WE LANDFILL AND CONTINUE TO PROMOTE A LANDFILL BASE SYSTEM, THE LEAST SUSTAINABLE METHOD OF DEALING WITH WASTE we will fail in achieving needed GHG reduction goals, waste reduction goals, becoming more sustainable in moving closer to cradle to cradle. \$100s of millions of taxpayer money is going up in smoke by maintaining a status quo that is outdated and keeps us in the downward spiral.

While we have procrastinating on implementing a better waste and resource-oriented infrastructure other countries have done so successfully and pay now less than the average King County resident.

Implementing viable and proven alternatives to landfilling will finally enable us to not only level but reduce the cost to the citizens of King County and other communities in less than 10 years.

We need to follow a new direction based on proven technologies, on reality what can and can't be recycled. We need to update and implement a new regulatory framework. We need to look at the sources i.e. manufacturing. We need to change how we collect and how, where and what we recycle. We need to look beyond the obvious US boundaries and make use of what is already possible and what we can do to create more jobs, retain revenues and become leading innovators while we create a better living atmosphere for the taxpayers that already do live and are planning to move to our region.

Driven by a number of factors including climate change and global warming our region will see significant growth of people moving into our area. We need to be ready.

Sincerely,
Philipp Schmidt-Pathmann
International Waste/Resource Management Specialist.
206-313-9774

DRAFT SCA 2020 Legislative Agenda

Address the Affordable Housing and Homelessness Crisis

The state and cities must partner to preserve and increase the supply of affordable housing as, well as address behavioral health needs and other root causes of homelessness. Sound Cities Association urges the Legislature to:

- *Allow cities to create and preserve affordable housing through optional local tools, including extending the timeline to approve a “qualifying local tax” provided under HB 1406 adopted in the 2019 legislative session*
- *Continue to expand investment in the Housing Trust Fund*
- *Address other underlying causes of homelessness by providing support to cities to implement innovative local solutions and increasing investments in our state’s behavioral health system*

Invest in Transportation Infrastructure and Mobility

The economic vitality of our state demands that we invest in our existing transportation infrastructure and prioritize new investments that improve the movement of people and goods. Cities have increased investments in local transportation systems, but still face an annual funding gap for maintenance and operation of those systems of \$1 billion statewide. Sound Cities Association urges the Legislature to:

- *Partner with cities to develop a comprehensive transportation bill that provides new resources and options for local government to address transportation and mobility needs*

Fully Fund the Public Works Trust Fund and Provide Options for Local Infrastructure Needs

Today’s cities are building the infrastructure necessary to accommodate a growing population and economy. Investments in infrastructure keep communities vibrant, protect the environment, and attract economic development. Cities need tools to lower the cost of providing local infrastructure and to avoid further exacerbating the housing affordability crisis. Sound Cities Association urges the Legislature to:

- *Fully fund the Public Works Trust Fund*
- *Support economic development tools that help maintain and expand local infrastructure, such as Tax Increment Financing and similar tools*

Preserve Local Decision-Making Authority

Cities possess strong local knowledge and authority to keep communities safe, healthy, and improve quality of life. It is critical cities maintain the authority to provide the necessary services and retain local control over land use planning that will help communities thrive.

Provide the Tools for Cities to Address Local Priorities

City revenue streams are limited and are not structured to sustainably keep-up with rising costs. Cities need flexible local funding tools, fewer unfunded mandates, and continued support from the state for shared responsibilities. Sound Cities Association urges the Legislature to:

- *Replace the arbitrary 1% cap on annual property tax increases with a limit tied to inflation plus population growth*
- *Meet the state’s commitment to revenues intended to be shared with cities to serve our shared constituents*
- *Continue streamlined sales tax mitigation to affected cities*

Item 06:

Election of the 2020 PIC Chair and Vice Chair

ACTION ITEM

Staff Contact

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

SCA PIC Nominating Committee Members

Councilmember Ross Loudonback, North Bend, Chair; Councilmember Chance LaFleur, Enumclaw; Council President Ed Prince, Renton; Councilmember Chris Roberts, Shoreline

Action

Election of the 2020 SCA Public Issues Committee Chair and Vice Chair.

Background information

The PIC Nominating Committee received one nomination each for PIC Chair and Vice Chair. Current PIC Vice Chair Christie Malchow of Sammamish was nominated to serve as PIC Chair, and current PIC member Bill Boyce of Kent was nominated to serve as PIC Vice Chair. The PIC Nominating Committee met on November 26, 2019 and reviewed these nominations. The PIC Nominating Committee recommends that Mayor Christie Malchow, Sammamish, be elected 2020 PIC Chair and Council President Bill Boyce, Kent, be elected 2020 PIC Vice Chair.

Per the PIC Operating Policies:

Committee Leadership shall be a Chair and Vice-chair elected by the committee. The nominating committee of the PIC shall solicit names for the Chair and Vice-chair of the PIC and make a recommendation to the PIC by December 15th of each year. The Chair may serve a one year term with a two term maximum.

Next Steps

The full PIC will vote to elect a 2020 PIC Chair and Vice Chair at the December 11, 2019 PIC meeting.



December 11, 2019
SCA PIC Meeting

Item 07:
Regional Board and Committee Appointments
ACTION ITEM

Staff Contact

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

SCA PIC Nominating Committee Members

Councilmember Ross Loudanback, North Bend, Chair; Councilmember Chance LaFleur, Enumclaw; Council President Ed Prince, Renton; Councilmember Chris Roberts, Shoreline

Action

The PIC Nominating Committee will recommend a slate of appointments for 2020. The PIC is anticipated to take action on December 11, 2019 to recommend appointments to the SCA Board of Directors.

Background

A nominating committee of the Public Issues Committee (PIC) consisting of one representative of each SCA Regional Caucus (South, North, South Valley, and Snoqualmie Valley) is appointed annually by the Chair of the PIC, and makes recommendations to the PIC on appointments. The PIC in turn makes recommendations on regional board and committee appointments to the SCA Board of Directors.

Per SCA Bylaws, appointees to major regional committees shall be selected from among elected officials otherwise qualified to serve in such positions, in accordance with the terms of the enabling documents creating such boards and committees. Appointees shall represent the positions of all SCA member cities. Equitable geographic distribution shall be considered in recommending appointments to the Board of Directors.

No member shall serve more than six (6) consecutive years on a regional board or committee appointed by SCA. This limitation shall not apply to alternates to regional boards and committees. Once a member has served six (6) consecutive years on a regional board or committee, they shall be ineligible to serve on said committee for a minimum of one (1) year. Pursuant to a bylaw amendment adopted on December 2, 2015, "In extraordinary circumstances, the Board may make exceptions to the six-year term limit upon the recommendation of the PIC nominating committee and the PIC when a supermajority (2/3) of Board members present and voting at a meeting finds that doing so would be in the best interests of SCA and its member cities."

The PIC Nominating Committee met on November 26 and December 3, 2019 to develop a list of recommended appointments for consideration by the PIC. [Attachment A](#) provides those recommendations.

SCA is still in need of volunteers to serve on the following committees:

- Emergency Management Advisory Committee (EMAC)
 - One vacancy for an alternate member
- King County Flood Control District Advisory Committee (KCFCDAC)
 - Two vacancies for alternate members
- Regional Law, Safety and Justice Committee (RLSJC)
 - One vacancy for a member

Interested members should contact SCA Executive Director Deanna Dawson. If additional nominations are received, the PIC Nominating Committee will meet in advance of the December 11, 2019 PIC meeting to consider additional nominees.

Next Steps

Following action by the PIC, recommendations will be forwarded to the SCA Board for final approval at their next meeting.

Attachment

- A. [PIC Nominating Committee Recommended 2020 Regional Board and Committee Appointments](#)

2020 SCA Regional Board & Committee Appointments

Advisory Council on Aging and Disability Services (ADS Advisory Council)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Marli Larimer	Kent	S
Member	Sofia Aragon	Burien	S

Affordable Housing*

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Claude DaCorsi	Auburn	S
Member	Nancy Tosta	Burien	S
Member	Ryan McIrvine	Renton	S
Member	Lynne Robinson	Bellevue	N
Alt	Marli Larimer	Kent	S
Alt	Tanika Padhye	Redmond	N
Alt	Zach Hall	Issaquah	N
Alt	Rob McFarland	North Bend	SNO

*Two-year terms expire 12/31/2020

Board of Health (BOH)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Susan Honda	Federal Way	S
Member	David Baker	Kenmore	N
Alt	Krystal Marx	Burien	S
Alt	Janice Zahn	Bellevue	N

King County Regional Census Committee

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	De'Sean Quinn	Tukwila	S
Member	Debra Srebnik	Kenmore	N

Children and Youth Advisory Board (CYAB)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Kevin Schilling	Burien	S
Member	Varisha Khan	Redmond	N

Domestic Violence Initiative Regional Task Force (DVI)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Traci Buxton	Des Moines	S
Member	Yolanda Trout-Manuel	Auburn	S
Member	Tanika Padhye	Redmond	N
Member	Dana Parnello	Maple Valley	S
Alt	Satwinder Kaur	Kent	S
Alt	Dawn Dofelmire	Algona	SV
Alt	Jared Nieuwenhuis	Bellevue	N
Alt	Joseph Cimaomo, Jr.	Covington	S

Key:

No color = Returning
 Grey = Unexpired term
 Yellow = New Appointment
 Green = Alt moved to Member
 Teal = 2nd Alt moved to Alt

Emergency Management Advisory Committee (EMAC)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Marianne Klaas	Clyde Hill	N
Member	Bob Baggett	Auburn	S
Member	Linda Olson	Maple Valley	S
Alt	David Carson	Redmond	N
Alt	Alan Gothelf	North Bend	SNO
Alt			

Greater Seattle Partners

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Nancy Backus	Auburn	S

Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Leanne Guier	Pacific	SV
Member	Matt Larson	Snoqualmie	SNO
Member	Thomas McLeod	Tukwila	S
Member	Satwinder Kaur	Kent	S
Member	Pam Stuart	Sammamish	N
Member	Chris Reh	Issaquah	N
Alt	Syd Dawson	Maple Valley	S
Alt	Salim Nice	Mercer Island	N
Alt	Debra Srebnik	Kenmore	N
Alt	Ryan McIrvine	Renton	S

HealthierHere Governing Board

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Semra Riddle	Lake Forest Park	N
Alt	Barbara de Michele	Issaquah	N

*Erin Sitterley Member through 4/30/2020

Joint Recommendations Committee (JRC)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Clyde Hill	SeaTac	S
Member	De'Sean Quinn	Tukwila	S
Member	Chris Ross	Sammamish	N
Member	Amy McHenry	Duvall	SNO

King Conservation District Advisory Committee (KCD)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Brenda Fincher	Kent	S
Member	Mark Phillips	Lake Forest Park	N
Member	Amy McHenry	Duvall	SNO
Alt	Victoria Hunt	Issaquah	N
Alt	Susan Boundy-Sanders	Woodinville	N
Alt	Kelly Curtis	Kirkland	N

2020 SCA Regional Board & Committee Appointments

King County Flood Control District Advisory Committee (KCFCDAC)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Leanne Guier	Pacific	SV
Member	Henry Sladek	Skykomish	SNO
Member	Michelle Hogg	Duvall	SNO
Member	Karen Moran	Sammamish	N
Alt	Carol Benson	Black Diamond	SV
Alt	Linda Johnson	Maple Valley	S
Alt			
Alt			

King County Law Enforcement Officers' and Fire Fighters' Plan 1 (LEOFF1) Disability Retirement Board

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Kevin Schilling	Burien	S

Local Hazardous Waste Management Program (LHWMP) Management Coordination Committee (MCC)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Krystal Marx	Burien	S

Mental Illness and Drug Dependency (MIDD) Oversight Committee King County

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Brenda Fincher	Kent	S
Alt	Gary Harris	Woodinville	N

Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (PSCAA) Advisory Council

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Satwinder Kaur	Kent	S

PSRC Economic Development District Board (EDDB)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Ed Prince	Renton	S
Member	Lydia Assefa-Dawson	Federal Way	S
Alt	Lindsey Walsh	Issaquah	N
Alt	Betsy Robertson	Shoreline	N

PSRC Executive Board

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Amy Ockerlander	Duvall	SNO
Member	Chris Roberts	Shoreline	N
Member	Allan Ekberg	Tukwila	S
Alt	David Baker	Kenmore	N
Alt	James McNeal	Bothell	N
Alt	Nancy Tosta	Burien	S
2 nd Alt	Jeff Wagner	Covington	S
2 nd Alt	Angela Birney	Redmond	N

PSRC Growth Management Policy Board (GMPB)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Jay Arnold	Kirkland	N
Member	Traci Buxton	Des Moines	S
Member	Ed Prince	Renton	S
Alt	Tola Marts	Issaquah	N
Alt	Phillipa Kassover	Lake Forest Park	N
Alt	Claude DaCorsi	Auburn	S

PSRC Operations Committee

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Chris Roberts	Shoreline	N
Alt	Dana Ralph	Kent	S

PSRC Transportation Policy Board (TPB)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Kate Kruller	Tukwila	S
Member	Dana Ralph	Kent	S
Member	Mary Lou Pauly	Issaquah	N
Alt	Peter Kwon	SeaTac	S
Alt	Wendy Weiker	Mercer Island	N
Alt	John Wright	Lake Forest Park	N

Regional Law, Safety and Justice Committee (RLSJC)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Krystal Marx	Burien	S
Member	Jon Pascal	Kirkland	N
Member	Yolanda Trout-Manuel	Auburn	S
Member	Toni Troutner	Kent	S
Member	Lydia Assefa-Dawson	Federal Way	S
Member	Chris Ross	Sammamish	N
Member	Kim-Khanh Van	Renton	S
Member			

2020 SCA Regional Board & Committee Appointments

Regional Policy Committee (RPC)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Angela Birney	Redmond	N
Member	John Stokes	Bellevue	N
Member	Dave Hill	Algona	SV
Member	Nancy Backus	Auburn	S
Alt	James McNeal	Bothell	N
Alt	Armondo Pavone	Renton	S

Regional Transit Committee (RTC)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Leanne Guier	Pacific	SV
Member	Kathy Hougardy	Tukwila	S
Member	Susan Chang	Shoreline	N
Member	Ryan McIrvine	Renton	S
Member	Kim Lisk	Carnation	SNO
Member	Jon Pascal	Kirkland	N
Member	Jennifer Robertson	Bellevue	N
Member	Bob Baggett	Auburn	S
Alt	Toni Troutner	Kent	S
Alt	Mary Lou Pauly	Issaquah	N
Alt	Jeralee Anderson	Redmond	N
Alt	Dave Hill	Algona	SV

Regional Water Quality Committee (RWQC)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Leanne Guier	Pacific	SV
Member	Penny Sweet	Kirkland	N
Member	Benson Wong	Mercer Island	N
Member	Yolanda Trout-Manuel	Auburn	S
Alt	Conrad Lee	Bellevue	N
Alt	Zandria Michaud	Kent	S

Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Phillippa Kassover	Lake Forest Park	N
Member	Penny Sweet	Kirkland	N



December 11, 2019
SCA PIC Meeting

Item 08:
2020 SCA Legislative Agenda
ACTION ITEM

SCA Staff Contact

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

2019-2020 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 Action

To recommend the 2020 SCA Legislative Agenda ([Attachment A](#)) to the SCA Board of Directors.

Background

The 2019/2020 SCA Legislative Committee, consisting of members from each geographic caucus, is tasked with developing the SCA Legislative Agenda. The PIC reviews and recommends the proposed Legislative Agenda to the SCA Board, by whom it is formally adopted.

SCA 2020 Legislative Agenda Development

The SCA Legislative Committee met September 30, November 12, and December 4, 2019 to develop SCA's 2020 legislative priorities. PIC discussed potential priorities in [October](#) and a draft legislative agenda was provided to PIC members in [November](#). At the November PIC meeting, PIC members were asked to provide any proposed amendments to enable consideration by the SCA Legislative Committee at its meeting on December 4. PIC members expressed support for the priorities highlighted in the proposed agenda and no recommended changes were provided.

The draft 2020 SCA Legislative Agenda, as proposed by the SCA Legislative Committee, is included here as [Attachment A](#). The proposed agenda is unchanged from what was reviewed by PIC at its meeting on December 4.

Next Steps

At the December 11, 2019 PIC meeting, the PIC will review the draft SCA Legislative Agenda, and is anticipated to take final action to recommend the 2020 SCA Legislative Agenda to the SCA Board of Directors for adoption.

Attachments

- A. [2020 Draft SCA Legislative Agenda](#)



PROPOSED SCA 2020 Legislative Agenda

Address the Affordable Housing and Homelessness Crisis

The state and cities must partner to preserve and increase the supply of affordable housing as, well as address behavioral health needs and other root causes of homelessness. Sound Cities Association urges the Legislature to:

- *Allow cities to create and preserve affordable housing through optional local tools, including extending the timeline to approve a “qualifying local tax” provided under HB 1406 adopted in the 2019 legislative session*
- *Continue to expand investment in the Housing Trust Fund*
- *Address other underlying causes of homelessness by providing support to cities to implement innovative local solutions and increasing investments in our state’s behavioral health system*

Invest in Transportation Infrastructure and Mobility

The economic vitality of our state demands that we invest in our existing transportation infrastructure and prioritize new investments that improve the movement of people and goods. Cities have increased investments in local transportation systems, but still face an annual funding gap for maintenance and operation of those systems of \$1 billion statewide. Sound Cities Association urges the Legislature to:

- *Partner with cities to develop a comprehensive transportation bill that provides new resources and options for local government to address transportation and mobility needs*

Fully Fund the Public Works Trust Fund and Provide Options for Local Infrastructure Needs

Today’s cities are building the infrastructure necessary to accommodate a growing population and economy. Investments in infrastructure keep communities vibrant, protect the environment, and attract economic development. Cities need tools to lower the cost of providing local infrastructure and to avoid further exacerbating the housing affordability crisis. Sound Cities Association urges the Legislature to:

- *Fully fund the Public Works Trust Fund*
- *Support economic development tools that help maintain and expand local infrastructure, such as Tax Increment Financing and similar tools*

Preserve Local Decision-Making Authority

Cities possess strong local knowledge and authority to keep communities safe, healthy, and improve quality of life. It is critical cities maintain the authority to provide the necessary services and retain local control over land use planning that will help communities thrive.

Provide the Tools for Cities to Address Local Priorities

City revenue streams are limited and are not structured to sustainably keep-up with rising costs. Cities need flexible local funding tools, fewer unfunded mandates, and continued support from the state for shared responsibilities. Sound Cities Association urges the Legislature to:

- *Replace the arbitrary 1% cap on annual property tax increases with a limit tied to inflation plus population growth*
- *Meet the state’s commitment to revenues intended to be shared with cities to serve our shared constituents*
- *Continue streamlined sales tax mitigation to affected cities*

Item 09:

Proposed King County Regional Homelessness Authority

UPDATE

SCA Staff Contact

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

Executive Leadership Group Members

Mayor Nancy Backus, Auburn; Mayor John Chelminiak, Bellevue; Council President Ed Prince, Renton

Regional Policy Committee members

Deputy Mayor Austin Bell, Burien; Council President Angela Birney, Redmond; Councilmember Bill Peloza, Auburn; Councilmember John Stokes, Bellevue; Mayor Dave Hill, Algona (alternate); Councilmember James McNeal, Bothell (alternate)

Potential Action

On September 4, 2019, King County Executive Dow Constantine and Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan transmitted legislation to their respective councils that would charter a King County Regional Homelessness Authority, along with companion legislation that authorizes the Executive to execute an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with cities across King County. The proposed entity would address homelessness crisis response.

At the November 13, 2019 PIC meeting, PIC recommended SCA Board adoption of principles to provide feedback to the County Council, and to guide members on the Executive Leadership Group (ELG) and Regional Policy Committee (RPC) as they weigh-in on the proposal. The principles recommended by PIC were adopted by the SCA Board on November 20 and a letter containing those principles was sent to King County Council Chair Rod Dembowski ([Attachment A](#)) on November 21.

On December 5, the RPC considered an alternative proposed Ordinance [2019-0478](#) sponsored by King County Councilmembers Kohl-Welles, Dembowski, and von Reichbauer. The new ordinance differs from the original transmittal in several significant ways, including: establishing the Authority through interlocal agreement between Seattle and King County rather than as a Public Development Authority; equal representation on the Governing Committee of three members each from SCA, Seattle, King County, and individuals with lived experience; and, increased authority for the Governing Committee to amend and approve plans and budgets.

At the RPC meeting on December 5, SCA members successfully advocated for amendments to the proposed ILA to ensure that sub-regional planning serves as the basis for the Authority's plans, and to strengthen reporting requirements from the proposed Authority.

The RPC voted unanimously on December 5 to approve Ordinance 2019-0478 as amended. A copy of the ILA as approved by the RPC can be found [linked here](#).

The amended version of Ordinance 2019-0478 as approved by the RPC will be provided to PIC members when it becomes available from the County. The ordinance is expected to be heard by the full King County Council on December 11. If amended by the County Council, the proposal would be returned to the RPC for further consideration. In addition to approval by King County, Seattle must also approve an identical ILA. At the December 5 RPC meeting, representatives from Seattle suggested that additional amendments may be forthcoming from the City. SCA staff will continue to monitor the proposal and update PIC members as new information becomes available.

Background

A number of reports have identified the fractured nature of the current system as a barrier to addressing homelessness in King County. On September 4, 2019, the King County Executive and Seattle Mayor transmitted [legislation](#) to their respective councils that would charter a King County Regional Homelessness Authority, along with [companion legislation](#) that authorizes the Executive to execute an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with cities across King County. The form of the proposed entity would be a Public Development Authority (PDA). The PDA would address homelessness crisis response. It would not have authority over upstream interventions, behavioral health, or affordable housing.

On December 5, the RPC considered an alternative proposed Ordinance [2019-0478](#) sponsored by King County Councilmembers Kohl-Welles, Dembowski, and von Reichbauer. The new proposal differs from the original transmittal in several significant ways, including: establishing the Authority through interlocal agreement between Seattle and King County rather than as a Public Development Authority; equal representation on the Governing Committee of three members each from SCA, Seattle, King County, and individuals with lived experience; and, increased authority for the Governing Committee to amend and approve plans and budgets. The text of the proposed ILA as approved by RPC on December 5 can be found [linked here](#).

A comparison prepared by County staff of the original Executive proposal and that brought forward by Councilmembers at the December 5 RPC meeting is included here as [Attachment B](#).

At the RPC meeting on December 5, SCA members successfully advocated for amendments to the proposed ILA to ensure that sub-regional planning serves as the basis for the Authority's plans, and to strengthen reporting requirements from the proposed Authority.

More detail on the process leading up to this proposal can be found in the [September 11](#) and [October 9, 2019 PIC materials](#). Detailed information on the findings of consultants that led to the recommendation can be found in the [January 9, 2019 PIC packet](#), and additional materials can be found in the [March 13](#), [April 9](#), [May 8](#), and [June 12, 2019 PIC materials](#). More information on the consultant work that formed the basis for the recommended governance structure can also be found at www.regionalhomelesssystem.org.

Next Steps

The RPC voted on December 5 to approve Ordinance 2019-0478 as amended. The ordinance is expected to be heard by the full King County Council on December 11. If amended by the County Council, the proposal would be returned to the RPC for further consideration. In addition to approval by King County, Seattle must also approve an identical ILA. At the December 5 RPC meeting, representatives from Seattle suggested that additional amendments may be forthcoming from the City. SCA staff will continue to monitor the proposal and update PIC members as new information becomes available.

For more information contact SCA Executive Director Deanna Dawson at deanna@soundcities.org or 206-499-4159.

Attachments:

- A. [SCA Letter Regarding the Proposed Regional Homelessness Authority, November 21, 2019](#)
- B. [County Staff Comparison of Executive Proposed Legislation and the ILA Considered by RPC on December 5, 2019](#)



SOUND CITIES ASSOCIATION

38 Cities. A Million People. One Voice.

2019 Board of Directors

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Mayor
City of Pacific

Vice President

Dana Ralph
Mayor
City of Kent

Treasurer

Hank Margeson
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Council President
City of Renton

Bob Larson
City Administrator
City of Snoqualmie

Executive Director

Deanna Dawson

Sound Cities Association
6300 Southcenter Boulevard
Suite 206
Tukwila, WA 98188
(206) 433-7168
SCA@SoundCities.org
www.SoundCities.org

November 21, 2019

Councilmember Rod Dembowski, Chair
King County Council
516 3rd Ave Ste 1200
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Chair Dembowski and Members of the King County Council:

Thank you for the opportunity for the Sound Cities Association (SCA) to comment on the proposed Regional Homelessness Authority.

As you know, our 38 member cities represent well over one million constituents in King County. For a proposal to be considered truly “regional,” it must address the needs of the majority of King County that our cities represent. We appreciate your seeking our feedback.

At our meeting yesterday, our Board unanimously adopted the following guiding principles:

The Sound Cities Association (SCA) recognizes that homelessness is a regional crisis

- People are experiencing homelessness throughout the region
- The acute crisis in Seattle affects the rest of the region
- There are differences in the challenges, and solutions, in subregions of the county that need to be addressed sub-regionally

Sub-regional planning is key to the success of a region-wide effort

- Cities need better clarity on how sub-regional plans would be developed and how sub-regional planning efforts and subsequent implementation of recommended programs and actions would be supported by a proposed regional entity
- Cities and other entities already working on homelessness in the sub-regions must be integrally involved in the development of sub-regional plans
- There must be a commitment that staff and resources will be disbursed equitably throughout the county to develop and implement sub-regional plans as well as the Regional Action Plan and Five-Year Plan(s)
- Cities have been told that funds will be distributed without regard to whether a jurisdiction agrees to sign onto an ILA or service agreement; this must be formalized in the legislation

Cities must be involved in the development of a Regional Action Plan and Five-Year Plan(s)

- Cities must be involved in the development of the Regional Action Plan and Five-Year Plan(s) and these should be based on sub-regional plans
- King County’s funding to address homelessness is due in large part from city populations

- As such, cities are not the same as other interested stakeholders, and have a distinct interest in the development of sub-regional and regional plans and the expenditure of resources to address homelessness occurring within their borders
- Cities and entities already working on homelessness in the sub-regions must be integrally involved in the development of the Regional Action Plan and Five-Year Plan(s) to address homelessness

SCA members have significant questions about the value of forming a new government (PDA) to tackle the challenges of a fractured system

- There are questions about whether the new proposal would be more efficient, or simply more bureaucracy; the County must explain how efficiencies would be realized
- SCA cities have requested details on current administrative costs, and anticipated administrative costs under the new proposal
- Questions remain about how signatories would extricate themselves from the structure if it does not work, and/or if future council budgets do not fund, and whether a sunset clause should be built into the legislation
- We must ensure that the new entity is not creating additional silos (with behavioral health, affordable housing, and other systems)

There needs to be high level agreement among policy makers across the County on the objectives for a new entity before a new entity is formed

- A common shared understanding of goals and outcomes is required, at a minimum. These goals and outcomes must include reducing the number of unsheltered people throughout King County and increasing permanent supportive housing for these people. More detail on a plan for how to achieve these goals will likely be necessary for many elected officials to decide whether to participate in the new entity

If a new governance structure is established, policy makers (elected officials) should set policy

- A board of experts to oversee day to day operations may make sense but large regional policy decisions, and major budgetary decisions, need to be made by elected officials, who are accountable to the public

Any board/committee of elected officials should have equitable distribution of power between King County, Seattle, and SCA cities

- A minimum of two seats (north/east and south) for SCA members would be necessary to reflect sub-regional planning efforts
- Appointments to subcommittees and working board should be made jointly by SCA/County/Seattle
- Approval of any major decision (budget, regional plan, etc.) should have approval from at least one representative from each of the three (SCA/Seattle/King County) to ensure that there is regional buy in

Our Board members used these principles to evaluate the various proposals to create a Regional Homelessness Authority, including the original proposal from the King County Executive and the Mayor of Seattle, the initial striker amendment proposed by Councilmember Kohl-Welles, and the refined “alternative concept”/Interlocal Agreement (ILA) proposal that you shared with us last week. Based on our adopted principles, our Board agreed unanimously that the ILA proposal best addresses the issues raised by our member cities.

As the County Council and the Regional Policy Committee (RPC) consider and further refine these proposals, our Board would request that you also take into consideration a few additional considerations.

Our Board agrees with the comments in Renton Mayor Denis Law's letter of November 20, 2019 regarding the importance of sub-regional planning. We share his recommendation that the language be strengthened to provide assurances that sub-regional planning will not simply exist and "inform development," but rather that it would be used and integrated into plans and budgets.

Our Board expressed strong support for many of the terms contained in the ILA proposal, including the fact that it does not propose the creation of a PDA. With that said, we have not yet had a chance to review the actual legislation on this proposal. We therefore have some remaining questions on the details of how this proposal would function.

Finally, we remain concerned that the Regional Action Plan (RAP) has not yet been released, despite the fact that some of the pending proposals make reference to the RAP, and envision aligning plans and resources with this plan. We are pleased to see provisions in the ILA proposal that would provide a voice for SCA members in approving any plan, and ensuring that representatives from King County, City of Seattle, and SCA would each need to approve any plan or budget. Nonetheless, we are concerned about any proposal moving forward before SCA (or the King County Council) have had a chance to see, discuss, or evaluate the RAP.

Should you have any questions about the SCA guiding principles, or our feedback in this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me, or our Executive Director Deanna Dawson.

We remain committed to working with you to address the regional homelessness crisis. Thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Leanne Guier".

Mayor Leanne Guier, City of Pacific
President, Sound Cities Association (SCA)

Cc: King County Councilmembers
King County Executive Dow Constantine
SCA Board
SCA Mayors
SCA Public Issues Committee
SCA Regional Policy Committee (RPC) Members
Seattle Mayor and Council

ANALYSIS

Amendment A1 would delete the existing placeholder attachment and insert a new interlocal agreement. Hardcopies of Amendment A1 will be provided at the Regional Policy Committee meeting on December 5th.

Table 1 below provides a comparison of the County Executive and Seattle Mayor's original proposal to the new concept provided in A1.

Homeless Governance Proposal Comparison – 12/2/2019

Issue	PO 2019-0378 and -0379 as Transmitted by the Executive and Seattle Mayor	CMs Kohl-Welles, Dembowski & von Reichbauer Striking Amendment to PO 2019-0478
Form	Public development authority (RCW 35.21.730 through .755)	Separate governmental administrative agency through interlocal agreement (RCW 39.34.030)
Parties	Seattle and King County; other jurisdictions may also join as Additional Parties	Seattle and King County; other jurisdictions may choose to be Subscribing Agencies
Membership of Governing Committee <i>(formerly Steering Committee)</i>	7 or 8-member Steering Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 King County (Executive + 1 councilmember) • 2 Seattle (Mayor + 1 councilmember) • 1 Sound Cities Association (plus an additional SCA member if more than 20 cities sign onto the ILA) • 2 representing Lived Experience determined by Advisory Committee 	12-member Governing Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 King County (Executive + 2 councilmembers) • 3 Seattle (Mayor + 2 councilmembers) • 3 SCA • 3 representing individuals with Lived Experience determined by Advisory Committee
Duties of Governing Committee & Voting <i>(formerly Steering Committee)</i>	Steering Committee may confirm/reject Five-Year Plan and budget without amendment. Rationale would need to be provided in case of such rejection.	Governing Committee would approve/amend major plans and budgets and confirm the Chief Executive Officer with an affirmative vote of two-thirds majority of those present with a required quorum of 9 members. Governing Committee would remove the Chief Executive Officer with an affirmative vote of 9 members.

PO 2019-0378 and -0379 as Transmitted by the Executive and Seattle Mayor		CMs Kohl-Welles, Dembowski & von Reichbauer Striking Amendment to PO 2019-0478
Issue		
		Other actions, such as removing and confirming Implementation Board members, adopting bylaws, and approving a staffing plan, would require an affirmative vote of a majority of those present with a required quorum of 9 members.
Membership of Implementation Board (formerly <i>Governing Board</i>)	<p>11-member Governing Board with various areas of expertise.</p> <p>Initial appointments for the first five years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 appointed by the Executive • 2 by the County Council • 2 by the Mayor • 2 by the City Council • 3 members appointed by the Lived Experience members of the Steering Committee <p>Subsequent appointments would be made by the Implementation Board (self-perpetuating)</p> <p>Appointments would be subject to confirmation by the Steering Committee</p>	<p>13 members with additional required skills/expertise in youth services and child welfare provision.</p> <p>Initial and subsequent appointments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 appointed by the Executive, • 2 by the County Council, • 2 by the Mayor, • 2 by the City Council, • 2 by the Sound Cities Association, and • 3 by the Advisory Committee <p>Appointments would be subject to confirmation by the Governing Committee</p>
Duties of the Implementation Board (formerly <i>Governing Board</i>)	Adopt a Five-Year Plan, annual performance report and budget and transmit to the Steering Committee. Appoint members to the Governing Board after the initial five-year period.	<p>Implementation Board would recommend major plans and budgets to the Governing Committee.</p> <p>Develop an annual funding allocation report, including sources and distribution of funding across program types and across cities, towns, and unincorporated areas.</p>
Chief Executive Officer (formerly <i>Executive Director</i>)	Executive Director would be appointed and removed by the Governing Board.	Chief Executive Officer would be jointly recruited by the Implementation Board and Governing Committee.

PO 2019-0378 and -0379 as Transmitted by the Executive and Seattle Mayor		CMs Kohl-Welles, Dembowski & von Reichbauer Striking Amendment to PO 2019-0478
Issue		
		<p>Chief Executive Officer would be recommended by the Implementation Board for confirmation by the Governing Committee.</p> <p>Require the Implementation Board to conduct regular performance evaluations of the Chief Executive Officer</p> <p>Require the Chief Executive Officer to annually present an overview of the proposed annual budget and performance against performance metrics to the Seattle City Council and King County Council (including the Regional Policy Committee)</p>
Taxing Authority	Taxing authority is not currently allowed under statute but could be contemplated if state law changes.	Authority would be prohibited from issuing debt or levying taxes.
Performance Audit	None required.	Required after six years.
Linkage with Behavioral Health and Criminal Justice	Individuals with an expertise in behavioral health and criminal justice to be appointed to the Advisory Committee and representative on the Governing Board.	Require the Authority to assign at least one staff member to act as a liaison to ensure coordination and collaboration with homelessness crisis response partners and adjacent systems whose work intersects with homelessness, including with the appropriate Seattle and King County agencies.
Ombuds	Created by the Authority and reporting to the Governing Board.	Same duties/function as proposed, but would allow Authority to contract for ombuds services through Seattle or King County.
Sub-Regional Planning	Require the initial Five-Year Plan to include sub-regional planning	Require the first Five-Year Plan to formalize the Sub-Regional planning processes and ensure they are developed in consultation with the Governing Committee, the Advisory Committee, and the Sound Cities Association.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Ordinance 2019-0478 with Attachment A Interlocal Agreement

Item 10:
2020 Priorities
DISCUSSION

SCA Staff Contact

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

Discussion

At the December PIC meeting, members will have a roundtable discussion of cities' regional priorities for 2020. Members are encouraged to share priorities for their cities and provide input on regional issues that are most important for SCA to become engaged in the coming year. Topics identified by PIC will be discussed by the SCA Board at their retreat in 2020, and will help guide the organization in 2020. Topics identified could also be the basis for future PIC discussion items or pre-PIC workshops in 2020.

Potential Issues

Based on ongoing regional discussions and feedback from members, staff have identified a variety of issues that may be of interest in 2020, including:

- Transportation and mobility, including Metro transit service and funding
- Managing growth and addressing its impacts, including implementation of VISION 2050
- Homelessness and governance of the region's response system, including potential implementation of the Regional Homelessness Authority (if approved)
- Diversity, equity, and inclusion, including planning for the 2020 Governing for Racial Equity Conference
- Clean water plan and capital investments
- Affordable housing
- Best Starts for Kids Levy renewal
- The 2020 census, and work of the King County Regional Census Committee
- Solid waste and the future of recycling and disposal, including review of the new Waste to Energy study
- Addressing public safety concerns
- Apprenticeships and workforce development
- Local infrastructure needs
- Environmental sustainability
- Economic development and expanding opportunity for prosperity
- Behavioral health
- Addressing the need for sustainable sources of funding for cities, and addressing budgetary challenges
- Strengthening civic discourse
- Education and training for newly elected officials

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 or 206-499-4159.