



## SCA Public Issues Committee AGENDA

August 14, 2013 – 7:00 PM  
Renton City Hall  
Council Chambers, 7th Floor  
1055 S. Grady Way - Renton, WA 98057

### Pre - PIC Workshop 6:00 PM King County Solid Waste Transfer Station Plan Review

SCA will be joined by Kevin Kiernan, Assistant Director of the King County Solid Waste Division

1. **Welcome and Roll Call** – Deputy Mayor Mia Gregerson, SeaTac - Chair
2. **Public Comment** – Deputy Mayor Mia Gregerson, SeaTac
3. **Approval of minutes – July 10, 2013 meeting**  
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4. **Chair’s Report** – Deputy Mayor Mia Gregerson, SeaTac 5 minutes
5. **Executive Director’s Report** – Deanna Dawson, SCA 15 minutes
6. **Water Quality Assessment Scope of Work** - Regional Water Quality Committee  
ACTION ITEM 10 minutes  
Doreen Booth, SCA  
Page 24  
(3 minute update, 7 minute discussion)
7. **Support for Sound Transit 145th Street Station** – City of Shoreline  
POTENTIAL FUTURE ACTION ITEM 15 minutes  
Deanna Dawson, SCA  
Page 29  
(3 minute update, 12 minute discussion)
8. **King Conservation District Check-in**  
DISCUSSION ITEM 15 minutes  
Deanna Dawson, SCA  
Page 34  
(3 minute update, 12 minute discussion)

9. **Food Policy Blueprints** – PSRC Regional Food Policy Council

**DISCUSSION ITEM**

15 minutes

De'Sean Quinn, Tukwila City Councilmember

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(5 minute update, 10 minute discussion)

10. **Informational Items**

- a) **SCA 2013 Communications Efforts** – SCA Board of Directors

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11. **Upcoming Events**

- a) Next SCA Public Issues Committee meeting – Wednesday September 11, 2013 7:00 PM  
- Renton City Hall
- b) Future SCA Networking Dinners:
- Wednesday, September 25, 2013 5:30 PM – TPC Snoqualmie Ridge Golf Club – SCA will be joined by Attorney General Bob Ferguson
  - Wednesday, November 20, 2013 5:30 PM – Location TBD – SCA will be joined by Governor Jay Inslee (note: this is also the 2013 SCA Annual Membership Meeting)

12. **For the Good of the Order**

13. **Adjourn**

**Did You Know?**

SCA has a YouTube Channel, a Twitter Site, and a Facebook Page!



253 people have already 'Liked' our page, help spread the word!

[www.facebook.com/SuburbanCitiesAssociation](http://www.facebook.com/SuburbanCitiesAssociation)



SCA has already sent more than 250 tweets and has more than 125 followers.

[www.twitter.com/SoundCities](http://www.twitter.com/SoundCities)



There are currently 13 videos posted on our YouTube page!

[www.youtube.com/user/SoundCities/videos?view=1&flow=grid](http://www.youtube.com/user/SoundCities/videos?view=1&flow=grid)

Reminder: Please forward SCA staff events that are taking place in your cities. We will post event information on our SCA website and social media sites!

# 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.



## SCA Public Issues Committee DRAFT Minutes

July 10, 2013 – 7:00 PM  
Renton City Hall Council Chambers  
1055 S. Grady Way - Renton, WA 98057

### 1. Welcome and Roll Call

Mia Gregerson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Twenty-five cities had representation ([Attachment A](#)). Guests present included: Diane Carlson, King County Executive's office; Pam Elardo, King County Wastewater Treatment Division; Sharman Herrin, King County Wastewater Treatment Division; Joyce Nichols, City of Bellevue; Michelle Clark, King County Councilmember Larry Gossett's office; and Don Davidson, City of Bellevue Council.

### 2. Public Comment

Chair Gregerson asked if any member of the public had any public comment. Seeing none, Chair Gregerson closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

### 3. Approval of the April 10, 2013 Minutes

Dave Hill, Algona, moved, seconded by Jim Haggerton, Tukwila, to approve the June 12, 2013 meeting minutes.

There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

### 4. Chair's Report

Chair Gregerson recently traveled to Washington D.C. for the [National League of Cities](#) (NLC) Annual Conference. Gregerson praised Senator Patty Murray for her leadership as chair of the Senate Budget Committee. Murray's staff will be releasing a draft report on the budget this month. There are a number of federal budget issues that will have an impact on cities.

Gregerson spoke about our nation's lack of preparedness for epidemic outbreaks, as well as the staggering incidence of women veterans experiencing homelessness, the rate of which has nearly doubled in recent years. Gregerson also encouraged cities to participate in [Youth Master Planning](#), creating opportunities for municipal leadership to make children, youth, and family issues a community-wide priority.

The 2013 Annual NLC Conference will be held November 13, 2013 – November 16, 2013 at the Washington State Convention Center in Seattle. Mayor Odell, Sammamish encouraged members to attend, noting that there will be a special discounted rate for first time attendees.

## 5. Executive Director's Report

Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director, reported on the [Association of Washington Cities](#) Annual Conference. The conference was well attended by SCA member cities. ED Dawson highlighted the many valuable networking opportunities these conferences provide, particularly with members throughout the state that are facing similar issues. Jennifer Hooper, former SCA intern from The Evergreen State College, presented at the conference on citizen engagement. A copy of her presentation is available online at [www.awcnet.org/portals/0/documents/training/materials/conference/2013/36CivicEngagementHooperPPT.pdf](http://www.awcnet.org/portals/0/documents/training/materials/conference/2013/36CivicEngagementHooperPPT.pdf).

ED Dawson reported on the close of the legislative session. Chair Gregerson requested details regarding the impact of the state budget on cities. ED Dawson noted that additional information and analysis will be transmitted in the coming weeks from the AWC; in the meantime, she provided a high level summary. The state budget was balanced in part by cutting close to one quarter of a billion dollars in funds for cities. Most of the Public Works Trust Fund is gone. The legislature also severely cut the amount of liquor taxes used by cities to fund public safety. This is a huge hit for cities at a time when liquor sales and the number of retail outlets are increasing, in addition to public safety challenges resulting from marijuana legalization.

ED Dawson spoke about the extreme disappointment throughout the region in reaction to the absence of a statewide funding package for transportation. SCA leadership recently met with Executive Constantine to discuss potential next steps. The Executive is committed to continuing the partnership with cities and the business community, seeking a transportation package that will fund both roads and transit.

ED Dawson reported that the call for nominations will be coming out soon. She noted that there is going to be a lot of turnover this year. ED Dawson encouraged members to reach out to SCA staff and/or begin attending committee meetings. A list of regional boards and committee appointments can be found on SCA's website [www.soundcities.org/2013-regional-boards-and-committee-appointments](http://www.soundcities.org/2013-regional-boards-and-committee-appointments). ED Dawson thanked the PIC Nominating Committee for their hard work and encouraged members to apply to serve on the Nominating Committee if interested.

ED Dawson announced that, in response to requests from the PIC, SCA staff has investigated the possibility of an alternate location for an upcoming PIC meeting. The November PIC meeting can be held in Kirkland, if PIC members are interested. PIC members expressed support for this proposal.

ED Dawson noted that staff is planning on holding a PIC meeting in August, which will include a pre-PIC workshop on solid waste transfer station plan updates. PIC members expressed support for meeting in August.

ED Dawson spoke about the Executive's Healthcare Enrollment Campaign, an effort to enroll uninsured residents in King County. ED Dawson passed out a fact sheet: "Coverage is Here" King County ([Attachment B](#)), provided by the King County Executive's office. As part of this

effort, a group has been formed to provide outreach; Chair Gregerson will be representing cities.

ED Dawson also updated members on the [Executive's Health and Human Services Transformation Plan](#). PIC Chair Gregerson expressed support for SCA being involved in the process moving forward.

ED Dawson called attention to the 'Did You Know?' section of the agenda. This month the agenda highlighted the work of the Regional Food Policy Council. Chair Gregerson and Tukwila City Councilmember De'Sean Quinn will be presenting on the recent work of the Regional Food Policy Council at the August meeting of the PIC.

## **6. Solid Waste – Energy Waste Technology**

This matter came to the PIC at the recommendation of the SCA Caucus of the Regional Policy Committee (RPC), who asked the PIC to consider adopting a public policy position supporting consideration of waste-to-energy options as the Solid Waste Division conducts updates to the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan. At the June 12, 2013 PIC meeting, the PIC voted unanimously to bring back this public policy position for action at the July meeting.

ED Dawson reported that the Solid Waste Division is moving forward on a Sustainable Solid Waste Management Study, which will help to inform the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan updates.

Pete Lewis, Auburn, moved, seconded by Amy Ockerlander, Duvall, to recommend the following policy position to the SCA Board of Directors:

*The Sound Cities Association supports the Solid Waste Division conducting a full review of options for waste disposal, including waste-to-energy, as part of the upcoming Sustainable Solid Waste System Study and through the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan process.*

Mayor Lewis commented that many of the issues regarding solid waste the RPC has addressed this year are intertwined. SCA RPC members have done an excellent job representing the interests of all cities. He thanked his fellow committee members and SCA staff for their efforts.

Mayor Talmas, Woodinville commented on the critical need for a more intensive study, noting SCA's role in moving this process forward. Councilmember Ockerlander concurred, adding that this is a great opportunity to discover ways of doing things better in the future.

The motion passed unanimously.

## **7. Water Quality Assessment Scope of Work**

Doreen Booth, SCA Policy Analyst reported that in 2012, SCA was briefed on the Combined Sewer Overflow Control (CSO) Plan. The Water Quality Assessment and Monitoring Study, required by King County Ordinance 17413 (adopting the CSO Plan) was presented to the

Regional Water Quality Committee (RWQC) at their June meeting. The SCA caucus was not comfortable with the range of costs (\$2.25M - \$5M) for the Water Quality Assessment and Monitoring Study. The caucus also found that the scope of work did not contain sufficient information to assess the costs and study components. Since then, SCA staff has been working with the King County Wastewater Treatment Division to address the caucus's concerns and to provide additional detail and analysis.

Amy Ockerlander, Duvall, moved, seconded by Jamie Perry, Kent, to bring forward to the next meeting of the PIC the following potential policy position:

*SCA generally supports the current scope of work for the proposed Water Quality Assessment and Monitoring Study, but has concerns about the wide range of estimated costs for each element and the high ends of the estimated cost ranges. SCA supports approval of the Water Quality Assessment and Monitoring Study scope of work with the following caveats:*

- *The primary focus of the scope of work shall be to address items required as part of the Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) program review, plan update, and program implementation;*
- *Discretionary items including: the "Synthesis Report" (Element 3) and "Scientific and Technical Review Team" (Element 4) should be included in the scope of work if the anticipated outcomes will produce long term cost savings for King County ratepayers;*
- *The need for an Executive Advisory Panel (as set forth in Element 5) has not been clearly established. Until and unless the need for a Panel is clearly demonstrated to RWQC and the County Council, the up to \$450,000 budgeted for this line item should not be expended;*
- *SCA requests that the Wastewater Treatment Division provide an annual report to the RWQC, which shall include detail regarding the costs expended and benefits received as a result of the expenditures.*

Councilmember Rheaume, Bothell questioned whether the division would be utilizing other water quality monitoring efforts already underway in the region. He also questioned what the outcome of the study would be. Pam Elardo, Director of the King County Wastewater Treatment Division responded that they will be compiling information from other agencies; the study is intended to fill the gaps. Elardo also spoke about specific elements of the study required by the CSO program update and the opportunity for potential savings if the study were to result in the re-sequencing of projects. Mayor Hill inquired if there were cost savings as a result of the study, whether ratepayers would see a reduction in rates. Elardo confirmed that would be the case.

The motion passed unanimously.

## **8. Solid Waste – Transfer Station Plan**

ED Dawson reported that since the approval of the 2006 Solid Waste Transfer and Waste Management Plan, tonnage at transfer stations has decreased due to the economic downturn, and changes in technology and behavior. In addition, the City of Bellevue has

declined to sign the extended interlocal agreement with King County, and will therefore not be a part of the system after 2028.

In response to these changes, the SCA Board adopted a public policy position on April 17, 2013 requesting that the Solid Waste Division (SWD) conduct a review of the Plan, and update the Plan as appropriate.

In response to a request for clarification from the SWD, on June 11, 2013 the SCA Board sent a follow up letter to Chris Eggen, Chair of Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee (MSWMAC) and to the SWD ([Attachment C](#)).

The King County Council has now also asked the SWD to review the Plan. At the July 2, 2013 Budget and Fiscal Management (BFM) Committee meeting, the BFM recommended a budget proviso requiring a review of the Plan that is closely aligned with the SCA request for review. ED Dawson highlighted that this is not just a box checking exercise. The Council and Executive have expressed support for conducting a thorough review of and update to the plan.

An update to the plan could result in fewer facilities being built and/or less costly facilities being constructed, and substantial savings to the region as a result. A handout was distributed to PIC members ([Attachment D](#)), which included an overview of what the review might include. The plan will include feedback from the Regional Policy Committee, SCA, MSWMAC, and SWAC. There will also be workshops with a chance for in depth review and feedback. As part of the proviso, the SWD will be required to document outreach and feedback.

ED Dawson noted that this review is on a very compressed time schedule. Dawson requested feedback from SCA members on what scenarios the review should and should not include. SCA staff is also planning a pre-PIC workshop on the Plan review for August.

Mayor Lewis commented that RPC members inquired about flexibility and timing. The division was very upfront that they do have permits for a certain period of time; however, they can be extended. Lewis reinforced the need to look at plans post 2006/2007. He is supportive of having technical staff working on this review.

Councilmember Nixon, Kirkland spoke about Bellevue's withdrawal from system. He noted that Bellevue currently doesn't require their residents to pay for garbage service, approximately 15% self-haul. If Bellevue continues to allow their residents to self-haul, cities paying into the system will be subsidizing Bellevue.

Councilmember Margeson, Redmond thanked the RPC for helping to push this forward. He added that it is important that MSWMAC, SWAC, RPC, and PIC deliver a consistent message. He expressed concern that the timeframe is rushed. Redmond supports full recycling capacity at each station.

Chair Gregerson expressed concern that compost isn't being tested.

ED Dawson complimented Deputy Mayor Eggen for his participation in this process. SCA has benefited greatly from his leadership and expertise.

#### **9. King County Flood Control District 2014 Work Program and Budget**

Monica Whitman, SCA Senior Policy Analyst, reminded members that this item was a continuation from the PIC discussion that occurred on June 12, 2013.

The King County Flood Control District Advisory Committee (KCFCDAC) reviews and recommends an annual work program and budget for the district, including capital improvement program projects and funding levels. A report must be transmitted to the Flood Control District Board by August 31, 2013.

Whitman prepared a memo ([Attachment E](#)) based on feedback received from cities following the last meeting of the PIC. In recent years, a substantial amount of policy input/direction has been provided to the Board of Supervisors by a Citizens Advisory Committee (formed to provide comment on the King County Flood Hazard Management Plan Update) and the Basin Technical Committees, bypassing the KCFCDAC.

Councilmember Roberts, Shoreline stated that his council had a healthy discussion and identified two areas of concern. First, there should be extra funding devoted to urban streams and seawall replacement. There also needs to be a competitive process for cities that have these issues and are currently unable to compete based on the general risk assessment. Secondly, the council is not sold on FEMA accreditation being priority of the district. No river can be entirely safe. Making accreditation a priority could be detrimental to the regions efforts.

Councilmember Mhoon, Covington commented that the Covington City Council agrees with the current priorities established by King County.

Mayor Lewis commented on the fact that information has been given to the Board of Supervisors that the KCFCDAC hasn't seen. He noted that King County staff wants to work with us, and there appears to be a path moving forward. He also commented that FEMA accreditation isn't a perfect standard. Uncertified levies impact thousands of property owners' flood insurance rates, as well as, the ability to sell their homes/businesses.

Mayor Berger, Carnation is generally supportive of the Flood Control District. He commented that Carnation has a huge land mass and a huge amount of water with very few residents. He is supportive of a regional approach to funding projects.

Mayor Haggerton, Tukwila commented on the Citizens Advisory Committee which was first mentioned to the KCFCDAC a couple months ago, this came as a total surprise. The Flood Control District has been operating very well over last few years. He is leery of any changes to the governance structure of the district, particularly at a time when a new Executive Director will be coming onboard.

Councilmember Perry, Kent commented that the standards for ranking projects should be updated more frequently. Kent would like the priority of the district to be more clearly stated: protecting people first, life safety, and neighborhoods. Also, the severity and consequences of flooding should be taking into consideration. In response to FEMA accreditation, Perry stated that it is possible. Kent is requesting revisions of FEMA maps based on a substantial amount of work that's already been completed. If they don't receive FEMA accreditation, there will be detrimental effects on our regional economy, particularly the Ports. Development improvements will cost substantially more. The Kent Valley is the primary industrial and manufacturing center in the region. Kent's substantial investment in accreditation should be factored into the equation.

Whitman will share the PIC's feedback with the SCA KCFCDAC Caucus prior to their next meeting.

#### **10. Informational Items**

Chair Gregerson asked that members take the informational item included in their packets back to their councils and contact SCA know if there are any questions. Informational item include: PSRC Transportation 2040 – Decision Point B.

#### **11. Upcoming Events**

- a) Next SCA Public Issues Committee Meeting – Wednesday, August 14, 2013, 7:00 p.m. at Renton City Hall
- b) SCA Pre-PIC Workshop: Solid Waste – Wednesday, August 14, 2013, 6:00 p.m. at Renton City Hall
- c) Future SCA Networking Dinners:
  - Wednesday, September 25, 2013, 5:30 p.m. at the TPC Snoqualmie Ridge Golf Club, Snoqualmie – SCA will be joined by Attorney General Bob Ferguson
  - Wednesday, November 20, 2013, 5:30 p.m. at the Renton Pavilion Event Center – SCA will be joined by Governor Jay Inslee (note: this is also the 2013 SCA Annual Membership Meeting)

#### **12. For the Good of the Order**

ED Dawson reported that SCA is still looking for a sponsor for the upcoming September Dinner. *(NOTE: The dinner has now been sponsored. Thanks to Foster Pepper PLLC for their support of SCA!)*

Mayor Odell shared Sammamish's success this 4<sup>th</sup> of July. The Sammamish City Council passed a strict ordinance on fireworks including a \$500 fine if in possession of fireworks and a \$1000 fine for setting them off. The City did a lot of education and outreach, very few citations were given and compliance was high.

PIC members highlighted the following upcoming events:

- Mercer Island will be having their [Summer Celebration](#) July 13 and 14. Summer celebration will include fireworks, a parade, and the dedication of Aubrey Davis Park.
- [Redmond Derby Days](#) begins Friday July 12 at 6pm at city hall. This will be 73rd derby days.
- Kirkland will be celebrating [Kirkland Uncorked](#) July 19 – July 24.
- [Timber! Outdoor Music Festival](#) in Carnation will be July 26 and 27. Music, camping, and more!
- Saturday, July 13 is Pacific Days. Algona Days will be the following week! Featuring a parade and hamster balls.
- [Cornucopia Days](#) in Kent begins Friday, July 12. Featuring over 600 booths and dragon boat races.
- Duvall's [1st Annual SnoRiver Rock Concert & Lighter than Air Fare](#) will take place on August 3. Music, sandcastles, a redo of the rock festival in the 60s, beer garden, and the famous piano drop!

ED Dawson encouraged members to send event information for the SCA website and social media.

Chair Gregerson thanked Whitman for her work organizing two successful workshops for SCA Regional Transit Committee caucus members.

### **13. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

**2013 Roll Call – Public Issues Committee Meeting  
July 10, 2013**

City	Representative	Alternate	Other	Staff
<b>Algona</b>	Dave Hill	Lynda Osborn		MJ Durkan
<b>Auburn</b>	Pete Lewis	Nancy Backus	Bill Peloza	
Beaux Arts	Richard Leider	Tom Stowe		
<b>Black Diamond</b>	Rebecca Olness			
<b>Bothell</b>	Andy Rheaume	Tom Agnew		
<b>Burien</b>	Jerry Robison	Bob Edgar		
<b>Carnation</b>	Jim Berger			
<b>Clyde Hill</b>	Barre Seibert	George Martin		
<b>Covington</b>	Marilla Mhoon	Margaret Harto		
Des Moines	Matt Pina	Melissa Musser		
<b>Duvall</b>	Amy Ockerlander	Will Ibershof		
Enumclaw	Liz Reynolds			
<b>Federal Way</b>	Jeanne Burbidge	Dini Duclos		
Hunts Point	Fred McConkey			
<b>Issaquah</b>	Tola Marts	Paul Winterstein		
Kenmore	David Baker			
<b>Kent</b>	Jamie Perry	Dennis Higgins		
<b>Kirkland</b>	Toby Nixon	Amy Walen		
Lake Forest Park	Catherine Stanford	Tom French		
<b>Maple Valley</b>	Layne Barnes	Erin Weaver		
<b>Mercer Island</b>	Tana Senn	Bruce Bassett		
Milton	Jim Manley	Debra Perry		
<b>Newcastle</b>	Lisa Jensen	Rich Crispo		
Normandy Park	Shawn McEvoy	Susan West		
<b>North Bend</b>	Ross Loudenback	Ken Hearing		
Pacific	Leanne Guier	John Jones		
<b>Redmond</b>	Hank Margeson	John Stilin		
<b>Renton</b>	Rich Zwicker	Ed Prince		
<b>Sammamish</b>	Tom Odell	Ramiro Valderrama		
<b>SeaTac</b>	Mia Gregerson	Barry Ladenburg		
<b>Shoreline</b>	Chris Roberts	Chris Eggen		
Skykomish	Henry Sladek			
<b>Snoqualmie</b>	Kingston Wall	Matt Larson		
<b>Tukwila</b>	Jim Haggerton	Kate Kruller		Kimberly Matej
<b>Woodinville</b>	Bernie Talmas	Susan Boundy-Sanders		
<b>SCA</b>				Deanna Dawson Monica Whitman Doreen Booth Kristy Burwell

Electeds present are highlighted in gray. Cities represented are **bolded**.

# Fact Sheet

## **Coverage is Here King County** *Increasing access to health coverage in King County*

This fall we have an opportunity to enroll about 180,000 uninsured King County residents in free or low-cost health insurance. King County has made it a countywide priority to ensure the enrollment of all residents who are newly eligible for health coverage.

### The opportunity

The Affordable Care Act will significantly improve people's ability to access health insurance.

- **Medicaid** will expand by increasing the income eligibility to 138% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). This means many childless adults will become eligible for the first time.
- Our state's **Health Benefit Exchange**, Washington Healthplanfinder, will give consumers and small businesses a new way to find, compare and enroll in affordable health insurance.
- **Employers** with more than 50 employees will be required to provide health insurance. Small business will receive tax incentives to provide insurance to their staff.

### King County's approach

King County is taking a leadership role to maximize the enrollment and retention of all residents who will be newly eligible for health coverage. Our approach will involve:

- Providing enrollment assistance to King County residents, especially those who need extra help understanding the process.
- Leveraging partnerships to maximize our reach in the community.
- Broad communication and outreach to businesses and the general public to increase awareness of new coverage options.

In addition, King County Executive Dow Constantine has convened a **Leadership Circle** to champion enrollment. The group consists of prominent community leaders from local business, health and community-based organizations, education, cities, media and other sectors, all of whom have made a commitment to engage their respective constituencies.

### Key Facts

- 1 in 6 King County residents between the ages 18-64 is currently uninsured.
- ~80,000 uninsured residents will be newly eligible for Medicaid.
- ~7,000 newly eligible for Medicaid will be homeless people.
- 100,000+ residents may be eligible for subsidized health coverage through the Exchange.
- ~250,000 King County residents work for small businesses that may be eligible to receive tax credits for offering insurance coverage to their employees.

### Timeline



For more information, visit [www.kingcounty.gov/health/reform](http://www.kingcounty.gov/health/reform).

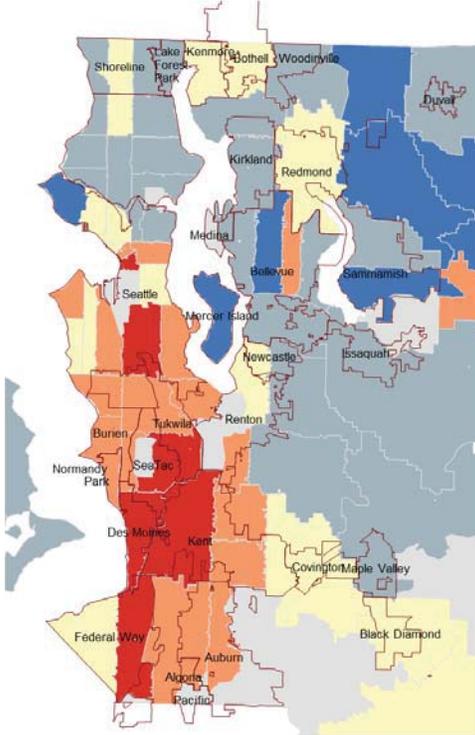
July 2013

## Health insurance access in King County

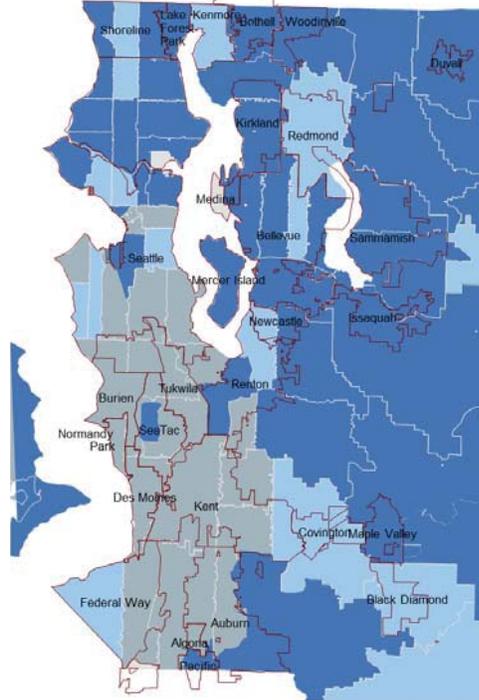
### Coverage is Here King County: Our best opportunity to address health inequity

Wide disparities exist in King County related to place, race/ethnicity, education and income. In fact, King County has some of the greatest disparities in the U.S. in a number of determinants of health, including health coverage.

**Current: 3-30% uninsured**

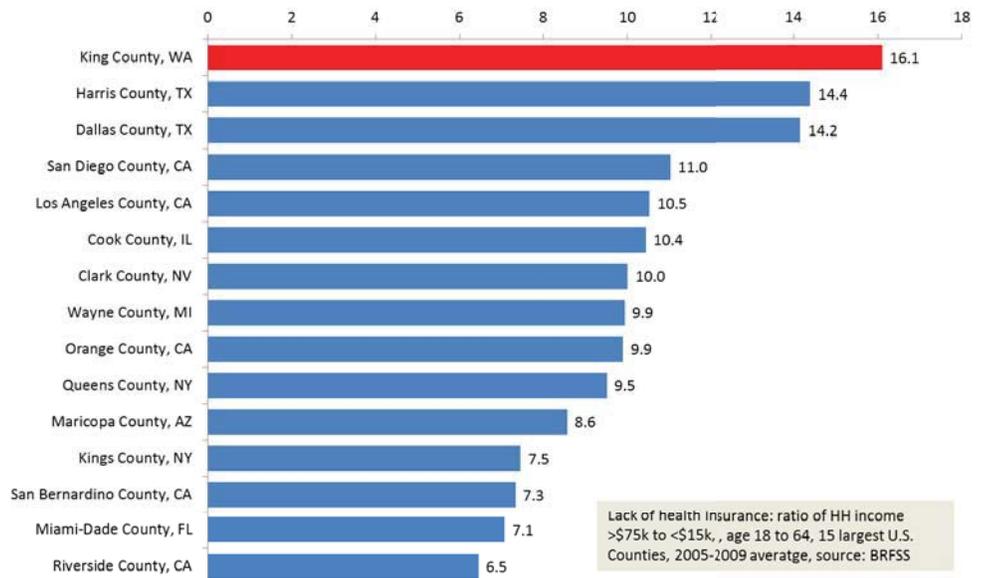


**Post-2014: 1-10% uninsured (anticipated)**



### Lack of health insurance: low/high income disparity

- In King County, low income households are 16 times more likely to be uninsured than higher income households. This disparity is most extreme relative to other large US counties.
- Lack of health insurance is much more common in some communities. For example, 26% of residents in Des Moines and Normandy Park are uninsured, while only 2% of residents in Mercer Island are uninsured.





SOUND CITIES ASSOCIATION

35 Cities. A Million People. One Voice.

**President**  
Denis Law  
Mayor  
City of Renton

June 11, 2013

**Vice President**  
John Marchione  
Mayor  
City of Redmond

Chris Eggen, Chair  
Metropolitan Solid Waste Advisory Committee  
King County Solid Waste Division  
King Street Center 201 S. Jackson Street, Suite 701  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Treasurer**  
Don Gerend  
Councilmember  
City of Sammamish

Dear Chair Eggen:

**Member-at-Large**  
Matt Larson  
Mayor  
City of Snoqualmie

The Sound Cities Association (SCA) adopted a policy position in March 2013 requesting review and recommendations for appropriate updates to the *Solid Waste Transfer and Waste Management Plan*. Specifically, the policy adopted by SCA was as follows:

**Past President**  
Ken Hearing  
Mayor  
City of North Bend

SCA requests that the Metropolitan Solid Waste Advisory Committee (MSWAC) and the King County Solid Waste Division review and recommend any appropriate updates to the 2006 Solid Waste Transfer and Waste Management Plan.

**Members**  
David Baker  
Mayor  
City of Kenmore

The Solid Waste Division (SWD) has expressed willingness to review this Plan and has asked for clarification of what SCA would like the review to include.

Dini Duclos  
Councilmember  
City of Federal Way

As you recall, we discussed this matter at our recent Board meeting, and you asked (as Chair of MSWAC) for staff to put together some additional detail to inform this discussion at MSWAC, and with SWD. SCA staff has worked with staff from member cities to assist in this effort.

Chris Eggen  
Deputy Mayor  
City of Shoreline

As you know, SCA's policy position was informed by the significant reduction in solid waste tonnage and revised 2030 tonnage forecast as a result of the economic recession, as well as a 42% utilization rate of the total capacity of the transfer station system by the time the transfer stations reach the end of their expected useful lives. Three of the transfer stations identified in the Plan have not yet been constructed and therefore we have the opportunity to revisit the assumptions, basis and conclusions of the Plan. We also note the conclusion of negotiations with cities, resulting in an Amended and Re-stated Solid Waste Interlocal Agreement. A handful of cities (including the city of Bellevue) have declined to sign onto this new, longer term agreement, and have instead indicated that they will not be a part of the system after 2028. Based on all these factors, the environment within which we are planning for the future, long-term solid waste system has changed considerably since planning began. SCA would therefore like the Plan to be reviewed, and updated as appropriate, to reflect this changed environment.

Mia Gregerson  
Deputy Mayor  
City of SeaTac

Dave Hill  
Mayor  
City of Algona

David Johnston  
City Manager  
City of Maple Valley

Pete Lewis  
Mayor  
City of Auburn

Jamie Perry  
Councilmember  
City of Kent

**Executive Director**  
Deanna Dawson

The "King County Performance Audit of Solid Waste Transfer Station Capital Projects", completed in September 2011, identifies a number of issues and contains important recommendations that need to be implemented. In addition, the "Independent, Third Party Review of the Solid Waste Transfer and Waste Export Plan", completed in July 2007, notes important items to consider. The review of the *Solid Waste Transfer and Management Plan* should be informed by the recommendations and ideas contained in both of these documents, including the following items:

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

- Update system tonnage projections and base these projections on solid waste tonnage from unincorporated King County and cities who have signed the Amended and Re-stated Solid Waste Interlocal Agreement and who have committed to participate in the regional solid waste system for the system long-term;

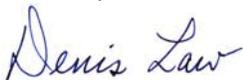
- Review cash flows and revenue from within unincorporated King County and cities that have signed the Amended and Re-stated solid waste Interlocal Agreement and have committed to participate in the regional solid waste system for the system long-term. Such a review should also be included as updated financial policies will be developed in the latter half of 2013;
- Include cost as a transfer station evaluation criteria and conduct cost analysis for system configuration alternatives, including full cost per ton and facility-specific cost metrics;
- Evaluate costs for the full range of functionality at the transfer station system, including compaction costs per transfer station and cost to serve self-haulers at each transfer station;
- Evaluate transfer station system utilization by the time the transfer stations reach the end of their expected useful lives;
- Evaluate the 19 Evaluation Criteria for transfer stations, including adding, removing, or changing the criteria, and evaluate the outcome of potential changes to the criteria;
  - Specifically evaluate and review changes to Evaluation Criteria #1, “90 percent of the users of a facility to be within 30 minutes travel time” and evaluate different time thresholds, including between 30 - 40 minutes travel time
- Audit Recommendation #4, SWD should provide county policy-makers and regional partners systematic analysis of the incremental cost impacts of the number and capacities of the transfer stations, the functionalities of the stations, and an assessment of which project financing and delivery method is most likely to result in lower capital costs

In light of the considerable work conducted by the King County Auditor from their *Performance Audit of Solid Waste Transfer Station Capital Projects*, and ongoing work by the County Auditor’s *Capital Project Oversight Program*, which includes oversight of the Factoria transfer station capital project, we recommend that the King County Auditor work with the Solid Waste Division to conduct this review of the solid waste system and the issues identified above.

Furthermore, the County may wish to consider re-engaging Gershman, Brickner and Bratton (GBB), who conducted the *Independent Third-Party Review of the Solid Waste Transfer and Waste Management Plan*, to provide independent recommendations for the optimal, cost-effective and efficient solid waste system to meet the needs of King County and its’ partners for the next fifty years.

SCA looks forward to working with the County on this important and timely update to the *Solid Waste Transfer and Management Plan*. Thank you for your efforts on behalf of SCA, and your leadership as Chair of MSWAC.

Sincerely,



Denis Law

President, Sound Cities Association

Mayor, City of Renton

Cc: SCA Board of Directors  
 SCA Public Issues Committee  
 Metropolitan Solid Waste Advisory Committee  
 Pat McLaughlin, Division Director, King County Solid Waste Division  
 Kevin Kiernan, Assistant Division Director, King County Solid Waste Division  
 Diane Yates, Intergovernmental Liaison, King County Solid Waste Division  
 Christie True, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks Director

Given recent trends, the economic downturn and potential changes in users of the system in the future, it is timely to conduct a review of the 2006 Solid Waste Transfer and Waste Management Plan. A meaningful review of the planned facilities will help to ensure that approaching planned actions still meet the needs and interest of the system beneficiaries. This document seeks to outline at a high level a recommended approach for carrying out the review in a collaborative, transparent, and effective manner.

#### Purpose of Review

1. Determine if changes are needed to ensure that the transfer system is sized/configured appropriately to meet current and future anticipated needs and;
2. Determine whether changes could be made that could reduce future expenditures while still meeting desired service objectives and levels.

#### Guiding Principles

- The system shall maximize ratepayer value and ensure that residents of King County have access to efficient and reliable regional solid waste handling and disposal services at rates as low as reasonably possible, consistent with sound financial and environmental stewardship.
- Future system facilities will be designed to provide flexibility to accommodate changes in growth, anticipated future customer needs, and future waste disposal options and technologies.
- The system complies with all applicable state and federal law, including requirements for storage for disasters.
- This review will comply with the requirements of ORDINANCE 2013-0258, VERSION 2 as amended and adopted on July 8, 2013.

#### Assumptions

1. Given the significant prior work undertaken to develop the Transfer System Plan, the scope of this plan review will be limited to key issues that have the most potential to impact costs of the remaining planned facilities. The evaluation will identify impacts associated with change scenarios as compared with existing criteria.
2. The recommendations received from stakeholders will inform recommendations that SWD makes regarding potential changes to the plan.

#### Process Overview

1. The purpose of the process is to review transfer station options and resulting impacts to cost and service. The result will be to inform any necessary changes to the current plans for the Factoria, South County, and Northeast county projects.
2. SWD workshop meetings will be held on the fourth Friday in July, August, and September and open to all interested parties including MSWMAC, SWAC, city staff, business partners and interested citizens.

3. SWD will utilize MSWAC and SWAC as the primary bodies to provide information, seek input and obtain feedback and recommendations. In addition to the workshop meetings, SWD will provide updates to the advisory committees during their normally scheduled meetings, and provide briefings to others such as the Regional Policy Committee and Sound Cities Association PIC.

July	August-September	October-November
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MSWAC and SWAC review proposed process</li> <li>• Additional briefings to PIC and RPC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MSWAC and SWAC review data, discuss options, and evaluate impacts.</li> <li>• Pre PIC workshop in August</li> <li>• RPC September</li> <li>• SWD finalizes analysis and develops recommendation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Executive presents draft report to stakeholders by October 9</li> <li>• Executive presents final report to Council by November 27</li> </ul>

**Questions that will be answered as a result of the process;**

1. Given the current tonnage projections through 2040 and requirements of capacity for storage for disasters, what are our options for reconfiguring our Transfer Station system with the remaining decisions to be made? (i.e.: If we build Factoria, will we need a Northeast facility as well or could the volume be absorbed by the other stations? What about South County?)
2. What are the major cost drivers in the construction of these new facilities and what options are there to reduce those expenses?
3. What current policy decisions could be modified to reduce our capital or operating expense at a new facility? (i.e.; self haul, recycling, emergency storage, etc.)
4. What are the customer impacts associated with any given change in terms of cost and service? (i.e.: tipping fees, collection costs, and wait time)

**Data to be considered in the review includes;**

1. The identified issues and recommendations noted in the 2011 “King County Performance Audit of Solid Waste Transfer Station Capital Projects” will be reconciled to the current/planned status.
2. The items to consider noted in the 2007 “Independent, Third Party Review of the Solid Waste Transfer and Waste Export Plan” will be reconciled to the current/planned status.
3. Tonnage projections through 2040 will consider the potential changes in use based on cities committing to remain in the system.
4. For any given system configuration and transfer station features reviewed during this effort, calculations will be estimated for;
  - a. System cost per ton
  - b. Operating cost by transfer station
  - c. Transfer station capacity utilization in 2040 for tonnage and transactions
5. “What If” scenarios will be run for go/no-go and capacity decisions of the South County, Factoria, and Northeast County facilities. Financial, environmental, and service impacts will be estimated based on the various scenarios.

**MEMO**

**TO:** SCA Public Issues Committee (PIC)  
SCA King County Flood Control District Advisory Committee Members

**FROM:** Monica Whitman, Senior Policy Analyst

**RE:** Feedback from the Cities of Auburn, Kent, and Kirkland, and staff from the King County Water Land Resources Division, regarding questions presented to the Basin Technical Committee (slide 19)

**DATE:** July 3, 2013

At the May 30, 2013 Flood Control District Advisory Committee (FCDAC) meeting, the committee had its first briefing on the 2014 Preliminary Draft Work Program and Budget. SCA caucus members requested feedback from the PIC regarding any specific areas of concern included in 2014 draft preliminary budget and work program. At the June 12, 2012 meeting of the PIC, SCA staff shared questions raised at the May 30, 2013 FCDAC meeting in slide 19 of a PowerPoint presentation, and sought feedback from the PIC. Following the meeting, SCA staff also sought feedback from City and County staff on those questions. The following feedback has been received to date.

Dennis Dowdy the City of Auburn Public Works Director and Mike Mactutis, the City of Kent Environmental Engineering Manager, submitted the following feedback:

- 1. If we are doing a corridor planning effort should we commit funding to specific capital projects in advance of completing the planning effort? Under what circumstances can actions move forward in advance of the larger planning effort?**

There will always be exceptions to the rule; the primary factors that should be considered include the risk of failure if a project is delayed and the severity of consequences if a flood protection structure fails. Regarding structure failure, it is critical to know how much damage is expected, how ready is the project for repair, and if there is local knowledge or studies that make the planning effort redundant. These projects should be brought to the Advisory Committee for consideration.

- 2. Should new projects be considered for the CIP at this time and if so how do other jurisdictions submit new project ideas for consideration? If yes, are coastal projects eligible for funding? What about urban streams and stormwater?**

New projects should be considered for the CIP when, based on new knowledge, it is apparent that if we do not act, the probability of a flood control feature failing is higher and the

consequences of a failure are significant. The District has already developed scoring criteria by which we evaluate risk. It would seem that we can apply such criteria on an annual basis as our knowledge of the threat allows us to be aware of an increased threat. Some believe we should wait several years for the update of the Comprehensive plan for each basin before adding new projects.

The first priority of the District is to protect the communities where there is flooding. While planning provides a long term perspective on how to invest in long term flood protection measures that are consistent with other district goals, if we know that a structure protecting a community is failing the Technical Committee and Advisory Committee should have an opportunity to consider the project annually, if not sooner.

### **3. Should FEMA accreditation be a policy priority for District funding?**

Yes, certification & accreditation should be a goal for each flood control structural improvements where it is feasible to meet the FEMA certification requirements and obtain accreditation. The ramifications of non-accreditation in many urban areas makes this a non-question. The levees in these areas must be accredited to maintain economic viability and be able to survive. There are questions about long term safety and education of the public, and those can be addressed as well. Abandonment of regional residential and commercial centers should not be the option due to long term risk. There are other greater risks to our region, such as earthquakes, which are dealt with through higher design standards, education and emergency preparation.

The District has already made some commitments to designing and constructing repairs to meet federal safety standards and be able to be accredited. Due to the Flood District's lead role in operation and maintenance of levees, it is reasonable for the District to assume the role of maintenance of accreditation status where it is deemed appropriate.

### **4. Should we have predetermined allocations for each basin from year to year, or adjust the CIP across the entire county?**

Suggest we keep it simple – this could distract from the mission of the district. It may be appropriate to review the districts mission statement and include “Flood protection based on a risk based assessment”.

### **5. Should the 2012 resolution approving the sandbag removal expenditures on the Green be amended?**

Not necessary.

### **6. How do we make sure that the CIP reflects the highest priority needs across the county?**

County staff have developed the project list and scoring based upon the existing district criteria. However, it has not been reviewed by Basin Technical Committees for several years and many projects have not been scored at all. Basin technical staff should review the scoring for quality control and equitable considerations for presentation to the Advisory Committee. To get started we should first review the capital project scoring criteria with the Advisory Committee to assure we have agreement & consensus. Projects should then have their scoring done or updated and reviewed by the Technical Committees.

Jenny Gaus, Senior Surface Water Utility Engineer, from the City of Kirkland submitted the following feedback:

Kirkland's views are more closely aligned with the views expressed by King County staff. Green River Basin cities may have opinions different from other cities on these issues.

Brian Murray from the King County Water Resources Division, River and Floodplain Management Section, submitted the following feedback:

- 1. If we are doing a corridor planning effort should we commit funding to specific capital projects in advance of completing the planning effort? Under what circumstances can actions move forward in advance of the larger planning effort?**

Based on materials provided at the May 30 meeting, the preliminary draft recommendations for the 2014-9 CIP allocates funds toward implementation of corridor plans while also moving forward on construction of projects based on consequence, severity, and urgency. As an example: while there is funding for SWIF implementation, there is also funding for the Green River to construct the Briscoe floodwall in Kent (2013), Upper Russell secondary levee in Kent (2013-4), the Black River Pump Station in Renton (multi-year beginning in 2014), the Reddington Levee in Auburn (2013), as well as funding to address structural deficiencies identified by the Corps of Engineers at Horseshoe Bend in Kent (2013-4). Within the Snoqualmie basin, funding for Tolt levee construction is in 2016 following completion of the corridor study, while critical revetment repairs necessary to protect a regional water supply line and a state highway are scheduled for construction in 2014 (Sinnema Quaale) and 2015 (Winkelman).

King County staff were instructed by the District to inform the Advisory Committee that these are policy questions that have yet to be specifically considered by the Board, and answers to these questions will not be available in time to guide recommendations on the 2014 budget.

- 2. Should new projects be considered for the CIP at this time and if so how do other jurisdictions submit new project ideas for consideration? If yes, are coastal projects eligible for funding? What about urban streams and stormwater?**

The King County Water and Land Resources Division were directed to not solicit new project proposals for 2014, and that new projects should come out of planning efforts rather than the budget process. This direction was received on March 26, 2013 and shared with the Basin Technical Committees at their joint meeting on April 3, 2013. The preliminary draft CIP recommendations reflect new information about flood risks – that is why the Dutchman Revetment is proposed for the CIP on the lower Snoqualmie, for example, and it is also why funding is included at Horseshoe Bend even though the levee has received conditional accreditation by FEMA for insurance mapping purposes.

Regarding Coastal Flooding, the Board has identified this as a policy issue and received comments from the Citizen Committee. King County staff were instructed by the District to inform the Advisory Committee that these are policy questions that have yet to be specifically considered by the Board, and answers to these questions will not be available in time to guide recommendations on the 2014 budget.

### **3. Should FEMA accreditation be a policy priority for District funding?**

The Board has previously (2011, via motion FCD11-02) adopted a policy statement regarding District support for FEMA accreditation. The policy describes the conditions under which the District will take on the long-term operations and maintenance responsibility necessary for levee certification and FEMA accreditation. To date, levee certification for FEMA insurance mapping purposes has not been established as a policy priority for construction funding, although the project evaluation criteria do currently include regional economic benefits. The Board has identified FEMA accreditation as a policy issue and requested Citizen Committee input. This policy question will be considered by the Board.

Link to the issue paper <http://your.kingcounty.gov/dnrp/library/water-and-land/flooding/flood-hazard-mgmt-plan-update-2012/flood-plan-update-issue-paper-levee-certification-accreditation-service-levels.pdf>.

Link to the Citizen Committee's comments <http://your.kingcounty.gov/dnrp/library/water-and-land/flooding/flood-hazard-mgmt-plan-update-2012/fhmp-2013-update-appendix-l.pdf>.

For the Green River, FEMA accreditation and the appropriate level of service for levee design is also part of the scope for the System-Wide Improvement Framework (SWIF).

King County staff were instructed by the District to inform the Advisory Committee that these are policy questions that have yet to be specifically considered by the Board, and answers to these questions will not be available in time to guide recommendations on the 2014 budget.

### **4. Should we have predetermined allocations for each basin from year to year, or adjust the CIP across the entire county?**

Since the formation of the District priorities have been evaluated across the county, without predetermined allocations for individual basins. Any project under-expenditures are assumed to return to the overall fund balance to meet countywide needs, rather than being reserved for a specific basin. King County staff were instructed by the District to inform the Advisory Committee that these are policy questions that have yet to be specifically considered by the Board, and answers to these questions will not be available in time to guide recommendations on the 2014 budget.

**5. Should the 2012 resolution approving the sandbag removal expenditures on the Green be amended?**

No response

**6. Should new projects be considered for the CIP at this time and if so how do other jurisdictions submit new project ideas for consideration? If yes, are coastal projects eligible for funding? What about urban streams and stormwater?**

WRLD staff a back ground paper (link <http://your.kingcounty.gov/dnrp/library/water-and-land/flooding/flood-hazard-mgmt-plan-update-2012/issue-paper-capital-project-prioritization-06-12-12.pdf>) which was considered by the Citizen Committee on this subject. In 2012, as part of the scope of work for the Flood Plan update, the King County Flood Control District Board of Supervisors directed King County to prepare a number of issue papers to facilitate potential policy development on a number of topics including Capital Project Prioritization. The attached issue paper was presented to the Citizens Committee. The Citizens Committee was established to serve as a "sounding board at key milestones" during the flood plan update. Members were identified by the King County Flood Control District Board of Supervisors and included floodplain property owners as well as professionals in the field of floodplain management. This policy question will be considered by the Board.



August 14, 2013  
SCA PIC Meeting

**Item 6:**

CSO – Water Quality Assessment and Monitoring Study  
Regional Water Quality Committee

**Action Item**

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**SCA Staff Contact**

Doreen Booth, Policy Analyst, [doreen@soundcities.org](mailto:doreen@soundcities.org); office (206) 433-7147, cell (425) 275-7323

**SCA Regional Water Quality Committee Members:**

SCA RWQC Caucus Chair Bill Peloza, Auburn City Councilmember; Craig Goodwin, Black Diamond Councilmember; Doris McConnell, Shoreline City Councilmember; Don Davidson, Bellevue City Councilmember; Elizabeth Albertson (alternate), Kent City Councilmember; John Wright, Lake Forest Park City Councilmember (alternate).

To recommend the following policy position to the SCA Board of Directors:

SCA generally supports the current scope of work for the proposed Water Quality Assessment and Monitoring Study, but has concerns about the wide range of estimated costs for each element and the high ends of the estimated cost ranges. SCA supports approval of the Water Quality Assessment and Monitoring Study scope of work with the following caveats:

- The primary focus of the scope of work shall be to address items required as part of the Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) program review, plan update, and program implementation;
- Discretionary items including: the “Synthesis Report” (Element 3) and “Scientific and Technical Review Team” (Element 4) should be included in the scope of work if the anticipated outcomes will produce long term cost savings for King County ratepayers;
- The need for an Executive Advisory Panel (as set forth in Element 5) has not been clearly established. Until and unless the need for a Panel is clearly demonstrated to RWQC and the County Council, the up to \$450,000 budgeted for this line item should not be expended;
- SCA requests that the Wastewater Treatment Division provide an annual report to the RWQC, which shall include detail regarding the costs expended and benefits received as a result of the expenditures.
- SCA supports the addition of a cost benefit analysis as a separate study to provide data and evaluation of the best investments of \$1 billion to achieve acceptable water quality standards by 2030.

Note: Amendment (underlined) proposed by the City of Kirkland on August 5, 2013.

## **Background**

In October 2012, the Executive's Combined Sewer Overflow Control (CSO) Plan, as amended by the King County Council and approved by the Regional Water Quality Committee, was transmitted to the Washington State Department of Ecology.

In April of 2012, SCA held a study session to review and provide feedback on the draft CSO plan. At that time, members discussed the regional significance and value of this plan to suburban cities in King County. The PIC also questioned if investing in CSO's is most cost effective approach to clean up Puget Sound including environmental and social risks.

The Plan carries forward the nine CSO control projects presented in the October 2011 Wastewater Treatment Division's recommended CSO Control Plan. Completion of the projects will meet federal and state regulations by controlling all King County CSO locations to no more than one overflow per year on average at each location. The schedule calls for completing the projects by 2030, which continues the County's earlier commitments to regulators and the community. These nine projects are estimated to cost a total of \$711 million (in 2010 dollars). In addition to his recommended plan, the Executive recommended completion of a water quality assessment and monitoring study.

The Water Quality Assessment and Monitoring Study is required by King County Ordinance 17413 and is intended to provide information on how CSO control can work in conjunction with other water quality projects, identify opportunities to lower the cost of CSO control, evaluate the effectiveness of emerging technologies, and build a foundation for conducting post-construction monitoring of CSO control projects. It is also intended to help in deciding whether to pursue an integrated CSO control plan under the EPA Consent Decree.

This matter initially came to the PIC at the recommendation of the SCA Caucus of the Regional Water Quality Committee (RWQC) who asked the PIC to consider adopting a public policy position in support of current scope of work for the proposed Water Quality Assessment and Monitoring Study, subject to a number of caveats.

At the July 10, 2013 PIC meeting, the PIC voted unanimously to bring back this public policy position for action at the August meeting. If approved by the PIC at the August 14, 2013 meeting, this public policy position will be forwarded to the SCA Board for consideration and possible adoption.

## **City of Kirkland's Proposed Amendment**

The City of Kirkland has suggested an amendment to SCA's proposed position. The Kirkland City Council approved a resolution supporting this position at their August 6<sup>th</sup> city council meeting.

The City of Kirkland has prepared a CSO Interest Paper; [Attachment A](#). That paper sets out Kirkland's position that a Cost Benefit Analysis should be completed as a companion product of the Water Quality Assessment and Monitoring. The following is an excerpt from Kirkland's CSO Interest Paper:

“As a region we all benefit from good water quality; however, prior scientific studies starting in 1998 have shown that the water quality benefits of King County’s CSO program could be negligible. And some of King County’s uncontrolled CSOs already comply with the Federal CSO standard of no more than 4 system overflows per CSO per year.

The Puget Sound Partnership, tasked with the cleanup of Puget Sound and its watersheds, has prioritized stormwater in their Action Agenda as the most significant contributor to poor water quality resulting in water quality standards not being met. Yet funding for stormwater control and treatment is far short of the need. CSO reduction does result in a small amount of stormwater being treated, but at very high cost. The contrast of the need for stormwater controls and treatment compared to the investment in CSO reduction calls for a thorough analysis to determine the best investment to achieve water quality standards in Puget Sound and its watersheds within King County. To do that, the proposed WTD Water Quality Assessment needs to be paired with a parallel cost benefit analysis conducted by King County and partners.”

Kirkland’s paper also lays out potential options if the cost benefit analysis demonstrates that a more integrated approach to achieve water quality standards results in less CSO investment and more stormwater investment.

Kirkland’s proposed amendment appears to be consistent with the intent and direction given by PIC members, and members of the SCA caucus of the RWQC.

## **Attachment**

### A. [City of Kirkland CSO Interest Paper](#)

CITY OF KIRKLAND  
KING COUNTY WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT INTEREST STATEMENT  
RE: Combined Sewer Overflows (CSO)  
August 6, 2013

King County has proposed a Water Quality Assessment related to its Combined Sewer Overflow [CSO] program and its associated Consent Decree requiring all CSOs to comply with the state standard of no more than one overflow per CSO per year by 2030. The CSO program is stated to be over \$700 million in 2010 dollars, and closer to \$1 billion in today's dollars – about half the cost of Brightwater. This is important to Sound Cities Association (SCA) because these high costs will be borne by all wastewater ratepayers in the King County Wastewater service area even though CSOs only exist in about 40% of Seattle. Combined sewers exist in the oldest part of Seattle, and also in portions of cities such as Tacoma, Everett, Bremerton, and a few others in Washington that date back to early development. Combined sewer overflows are essentially 90% or more stormwater. The overflows occur when the pipes and pumps are unable to handle the large combined volume of stormwater within which a very small amount of sanitary wastewater is mixed. These large volumes also impact the wastewater treatment plant. West Point accepts the combined stormwater and wastewater from the City of Seattle.

As a region we all benefit from good water quality; however, prior scientific studies starting in 1998 have shown that the water quality benefits of King County's CSO program could be negligible. And some of King County's uncontrolled CSOs already comply with the Federal CSO standard of no more than 4 system overflows per CSO per year.

The Puget Sound Partnership, tasked with the cleanup of Puget Sound and its watersheds, has prioritized stormwater in their Action Agenda as the most significant contributor to poor water quality resulting in water quality standards not being met. Yet funding for stormwater control and treatment is far short of the need. CSO reduction does result in a small amount of stormwater being treated, but at very high cost. The contrast of the need for stormwater controls and treatment compared to the investment in CSO reduction calls for a thorough analysis to determine the best investment to achieve water quality standards in Puget Sound and its watersheds within King County. To do that, the proposed WTD Water Quality Assessment needs to be paired with a parallel cost benefit analysis conducted by King County and partners.

If such studies demonstrate that a more integrated approach to achieve water quality standards results in less CSO investment and more stormwater investment, the County may pursue renegotiating the Consent Decree to allow resources to be directed to where they will provide the greatest environmental benefit. Another possible avenue for shifting funding to the highest priority could include recognizing King County Wastewater's integrated and comprehensive role in water pollution abatement as envisioned by its original state authorization statute. A third approach could include offsetting high wastewater rates for the proposed CSO program with

increases in stormwater rates to raise funding for high priority stormwater treatment as an alternative. Investigating funding methods and providing options could be a part of the cost benefit analysis study.

*It is recommended that the proposed King County Water Quality Assessment be paired with a cost benefit analysis to provide data and analyses on the best investments of \$1 billion to achieve acceptable water quality standards by 2030.*



August 14, 2013  
SCA PIC Meeting

**Item 7:**

Support for Shoreline’s Preferred Alternative - 145<sup>th</sup> Street Link Station  
City of Shoreline  
***Potential Future Action Item***

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**SCA Staff Contact**

Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director, [Deanna@soundcities.org](mailto:Deanna@soundcities.org); 206-433-7170

The City of Shoreline is requesting that SCA adopt the following public policy position:

*The Sound Cities Associations urges the Sound Transit Board to support the City of Shoreline’s preferred alternative for Lynwood Link Extension light rail station locations at NE 145th Street and NE 185th Street. NE 145th street provides better connections throughout the region, is more closely aligned with Shoreline’s long term planning goals, and would prevent negative traffic impacts on Shoreline residents.*

**Background**

This matter comes to the PIC at the request of the City of Shoreline. This issue has been raised at the North End Mayors meeting on several occasions. Members of that group expressed support for this item coming before the PIC for possible adoption of an SCA policy position.

Under the ST2 plan that was approved by voters in 2008, there were two stations identified north of Northgate in King County – I-5 and NE 145<sup>th</sup> Street, and I-5 and NE 185<sup>th</sup> Street. As a part of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process, Sound Transit (ST) was also asked to look at alternate station locations.

A final decision on station locations will be made by the ST Board. ST recently released the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Lynnwood Link Extension.

Going into the EIS process, the City of Seattle advocated for adding a station in Seattle at NE 130<sup>th</sup> Street. King County Metro asked to have NE 155<sup>th</sup> Street considered as a potential alternative to 145<sup>th</sup>, contending that NE 145<sup>th</sup> Street was not “transit-friendly” due to a lack of pull out space for buses, and substandard pedestrian facilities (sidewalks). Additionally, Metro currently serves NE 155<sup>th</sup> Street as a transit route.

However, Metro routes will be changed when light rail comes on line, regardless of which station location is chosen. Metro will not begin its route planning until two years ahead of the station opening, or eight years from now.

Shoreline recognizes that a potential station at NE 145<sup>th</sup> Street will be a regional station, connecting the station at the I-5 interchange with State Route 99 and State Route 522. Shoreline contends that the NE 145<sup>th</sup> Street Station is the most logical access point for riders coming from the communities of Lake Forest Park, Kenmore, Bothell and potentially Kirkland and Bothell. This station will also better north Seattle residents and, because 145<sup>th</sup> is a full I-5 interchange, this station location will offer better access off the interstate. Notably, there is no freeway exit from I-5 to NE 155<sup>th</sup> Street. If that location is selected for the station, there will be dramatic neighborhood traffic impacts.

Shoreline has begun the light rail station area planning process for stations at NE 145<sup>th</sup> Street and NE 185<sup>th</sup> Street, which includes increasing density around stations to facilitate transit oriented development. Part of that commitment is to increase pedestrian and bicycle access and improvements to the road network to facilitate transit to serve the stations. The City is also pursuing ownership of NE 145<sup>th</sup> Street in order to improve the transportation facilities for vehicles, buses and non-motorized users, which will help to improve the access to the station.

The draft EIS shows that the stations at NE 145<sup>th</sup> Street and NE 155<sup>th</sup> Street are comparable based on criteria including ridership, cost, environmental impact and transit oriented development potential. However, as noted above, putting a station at NE 155<sup>th</sup> Street would significantly increase traffic through Shoreline neighborhoods.

The ST Board is tentatively scheduled to vote on which preferred alternative to take forward into the final EIS at its October 2013 Board Meeting. This preferred alternative will include designation of station locations.

Shoreline is requesting that SCA adopt a policy position in support of the 145<sup>th</sup> Street Station location. The bases for this request include:

- There is no freeway access to a NE 155<sup>th</sup> Street station. Locating the station at this location would require a high volume of commuters to drive through Shoreline neighborhoods, and would have a substantial negative impact on Shoreline residents;
- Where, as here, there is no substantive difference between the two proposed locations ST should give deference to the City hosting the proposed station, and its long term planning goals;
- Locating the station at NE 145<sup>th</sup> Street will better serve commuters from neighboring jurisdictions including north Seattle, Lake Forest Park, Kenmore, Bothell, and Woodinville.

SCA jurisdictions that will be served by the Shoreline light rail stations are also encouraged to give feedback on which station location will better serve the needs of their residents.

## **Attachments**

- [A. Draft 145<sup>th</sup> Support Resolution](#)
- [B. Draft 145<sup>th</sup> Letter of Support](#)

## Draft NE 145<sup>th</sup> Street Light Rail Station Resolution

### **A Resolution of the City of \_\_\_\_\_, Washington, Expressing Support for Locating a Light Rail Station at NE 145<sup>th</sup> Street in Shoreline**

WHEREAS, voters approved the Sound Transit 2 plan in 2008 which included light rail stations at NE 145<sup>th</sup> Street and NE 185<sup>th</sup> Street; and

WHEREAS, Sound Transit identified I-5 as the preferred route for the light rail line from Northgate to Lynnwood on November 11, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the City of Shoreline designated NE 145<sup>th</sup> Street & NE 185<sup>th</sup> Street as its preferred station locations on April 2, 2012; and

WHEREAS, Sound Transit is currently reviewing the environmental impacts of light rail stations at NE 130<sup>th</sup> Street, NE 145<sup>th</sup> Street, NE 155<sup>th</sup> Street, and NE 185<sup>th</sup> Street in King County; and

WHEREAS, Sound Transit *will be releasing / has released* the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Lynnwood Link Extension Project in early July 2013, and will identify a Preferred Alternative that includes alignment and station locations in fall 2013 prior to issuing the Final Impact Statement; and

WHEREAS, the City of Shoreline has already begun station area planning which includes increasing density around stations to facilitate transit oriented development, identification of pedestrian and bicycle access needs, and improvements to the road network to facilitate transit that will serve the stations; and

WHEREAS, Shoreline is pursuing ownership of 145th Street in order to improve the transportation facilities for vehicles, buses and nonmotorized users; therefore, helping to improve the access to the station; and

WHEREAS, the NE 145<sup>th</sup> Street station will serve as a regional station for Lake Forest Park, Kenmore, Bothell, and north Seattle residents;

WHEREAS, the Sound Transit 2 plan does not include light rail service on the Highway 522 corridor and a station at NE 145<sup>th</sup> Street is the only station that will serve our community; and

WHEREAS, we urge the Sound Transit Board to strongly consider the preference of the local community when making light rail station siting decisions;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF \_\_\_\_\_,  
WASHINGTON AS FOLLOWS:**

1. The City Council hereby expresses its strong support and preference for locating a light rail station at NE 145<sup>th</sup> Street in Shoreline as this location is a regional station; it provides better opportunities for bus access from our communities; it has opportunities for higher ridership and greater transit oriented development; and the City of Shoreline has designated NE 145th as its preferred station location.
2. We urge the Sound Transit Board to designate NE 145<sup>th</sup> Street as a light rail station location in the Lynnwood Link Extension Project.

June 1, 2013

The Honorable Pat McCarthy  
Chair, Sound Transit Board  
401 S. Jackson St.  
Seattle, WA 98104

Re: Support for Light Rail Station at NE 145th Street in Shoreline

Dear Chair McCarthy:

(Name of Organization) would like to offer its support for designating a Light Rail Station at NE 145th Street in Shoreline as part of Sound Transit's Lynnwood Link Extension Project.

We strongly support a station at NE 145th & I-5 as it will serve as a regional station. Due to its proximity to Bothell Way NE/Lake City Way NE (SR 522), the NE 145th Street station will act as a regional station for residents of Lake Forest Park, Kenmore, Bothell and potentially points east, and northwest Seattle residents. We believe that convenient access off main thoroughfares is the most appropriate location for a regional station.

In addition, NE 145<sup>th</sup> Street provides better opportunities for bus access, has opportunities for higher ridership and greater transit oriented development, and the City of Shoreline has designated NE 145th as its preferred station location. However, most importantly, when voters approved ST2, it included stations at NE 145th and NE 185th.

The City of Shoreline has already begun station area planning which includes increasing density around stations to facilitate transit oriented development. Part of that commitment is to increase pedestrian and bicycle access and improvements to the road network to facilitate transit to serve the stations. The City is also pursuing ownership of 145th Street in order to improve the transportation facilities for vehicles, buses and nonmotorized users; therefore, helping to improve the access to the station.

(Name of Organization) strongly urges you to designate NE 145th Street as a station location as it supports greater regional access, provides opportunities for improved transit and nonmotorized transportation facilities, and allows for greater opportunities for transit oriented development. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,



August 14, 2013  
SCA PIC Meeting

## Item 8:

### King Conservation District Update

#### *Discussion Item*

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#### **SCA Staff Contact:**

Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director, [Deanna@soundcities.org](mailto:Deanna@soundcities.org); 206-433-7170

#### **King Conservation District Task Force and Conservation Panel Members:**

Scott MacColl, Shoreline (North); Nicole Sanders, Snoqualmie (East); and Carolyn Robertson, Auburn (South) (King Conservation District Task Force – Staff Members); Deputy Mayor Chris Eggen, Shoreline (North); Mayor Jim Berger, Carnation (East); and Councilmember Kate Kruller, Tukwila (South) (King Conservation District Conservation Panel – Elected Officials).

SCA adopted a position regarding the King Conservation District (KCD) in August 2012. Since that time, the County has entered into a new interlocal agreement with the KCD which modified the methodology for funding the KCD, as well as the amount of funding to the KCD. The County and the KCD also established two advisory groups to review the program of work and funding for the KCD. The purpose of this item is to update the PIC on this process, and to seek feedback and direction from the PIC on next steps.

#### **Background**

The SCA Board adopted the following public policy position in August of 2012:

- SCA recognizes the value of the King Conservation District (KCD), and supports continued funding of the KCD under the following conditions:
  - SCA supports the continuation of WRIA funding through the KCD in 2013, and the future;
  - Given the current economic climate and the heavy tax burdens on property owners in our communities, SCA supports a revenue neutral direction for the KCD at this time. Should future funding for programs historically funded through KCD come through an alternative source, SCA would support a proportional decrease in revenues collected by KCD. For example, if the King County Flood Control District were to fund the WRIAs in the future, SCA would support a corresponding decrease in revenue collection for the KCD;
  - SCA supports continued funding of the KCD Jurisdictional Grant Program. The current processes for grant application and compliance may place unduly onerous burdens on cities. SCA supports reducing these administrative burdens in order to maximize the value of grants to cities;

- SCA supports the creation of a formal advisory committee to provide direction to the KCD in the future. Such a body would ensure that KCD expenditures provide value to taxpayers throughout the County- from rural, urban, and suburban communities alike. Representation on this advisory committee should include proportional representation from elected officials in the Suburban Cities.

As background, see the attached letter ([Attachment A](#)) transmitted to the KCD by the SCA Board in September of 2012. At the time this position was adopted by SCA, the KCD was funded through a \$10 per parcel assessment. Of that \$10, \$5 was directed to the Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs). Of the remaining \$5, \$2 was directed to the Jurisdictional Grant Program.

Near the end of 2012, King County shifted funding for the WRIAs from the KCD to the Flood Control District. The purpose of this shift was to ensure that adequate and stable funding for the WRIAs continued.

King County entered into a new interlocal agreement (ILA) with the King Conservation District in December 2012 ([Attachment B](#)). The term of that ILA was for two years (expiring at end of 2014). This ILA incorporated a new “rates and charges” budget for the KCD. The term of this budget was likewise for two years. That budget translates into roughly the equivalent of \$5 per parcel (down from the earlier \$10 per parcel), due to the shifting of WRIA funding to the Flood Control District. The ILA also calls for continued funding of the Jurisdictional Grant Program at existing levels.

The ILA also called for the establishment of an Advisory Committee to review and make recommendation on the KCD’s program of work. The ILA required that SCA have representation on the Advisory Committee ([Attachment C](#)). Following discussions between SCA and the County, that Advisory Committee was bifurcated into two groups: a staff group (the “Task Force”) and a group of elected officials and other stakeholders (the “Conservation Panel”). SCA had three representatives on each of these groups.

The Task Force and Conservation Panel have been meeting on a regular basis since April of 2013. Based on reports from both groups, the process has been a positive one, largely due to the greatly increased transparency about the KCD’s program of work ([Attachment D](#)). The process has also resulted in a number of concerns being raised by stakeholders, including SCA. See [Attachment E](#), a summary of stakeholder concerns as compiled by the facilitators for the Task Force and Conservation Panel.

As this process wraps up, members of the Task Force and Conservation Panel have requested that the PIC give feedback and direction on next steps. Specifically:

- Do SCA member cities continue to support the funding of the jurisdictional grant program?
  - Do cities continue to agree that the administrative burdens associated with this grant program should be reduced?

- Do cities continue to agree that this program should not require cities to compete with private entities for funding?
- Do SCA member cities continue to believe that there should be a formal advisory committee to give direction to the KCD in the future?
  - Do SCA cities continue to agree that the SCA representatives to such a committee should be made by SCA, rather than having the representatives handpicked by the KCD?
- Do SCA member cities share the concerns raised by the Task Force and Conservation Panel ([Attachment E](#))?
  - Have SCA member cities identified concerns other than those raised in [Attachment E](#)?
- Do SCA member cities continue to agree that now is not the time to increase the amount of funding to the KCD?
  - What feedback do SCA member cities have on how existing funds should be directed?
    - See [Attachment F](#).

Other feedback from member cities about the KCD is welcome and encouraged. Staff from the KCD as well as SCA representatives to the Conservation Panel and Task Force have been invited to the 8-2013 PIC meeting to hear this feedback, and to answer any questions that the PIC members may have.

## Attachments

- A. [9-2012 Letter to KCD](#)
- B. [2012 ILA between King County and King Conservation District](#)
- C. [KCD Budget and Program Overview](#)
- D. [MOU for KCD Task Force and Conservation Panel](#)
- E. [Identified Stakeholder Concerns](#)
- F. [Results of Brainstorm of Potential KCD Programs/Services and/or “Synergistic Opportunities” from July 17, 2013 Task Force Meeting](#)



**Suburban Cities Association**  
6300 Southcenter Blvd Suite 206  
Tukwila Washington 98188

September 25, 2012

The Honorable Bill Knudsen, Chair  
King Conservation District  
1107 SW Grady Way Suite 130  
Renton, WA 98057

Dear Chair Knudsen:

On behalf of the Suburban Cities Association (SCA), I write to you today to express our concerns regarding the King Conservation District's proposed 2013 program of work and budget.

As you are aware, SCA is a nonprofit association representing the suburban cities of King County, Washington. Its members collectively represent nearly one million constituents. SCA was founded to help cities with populations of under 150,000 act locally and partner regionally to create vital, livable communities through networking, advocacy, education, and leadership. We hold monthly meetings of our Public Issues Committee (PIC) and take public policy positions on issues of common concern to our cities, and to the property owners and residents within our cities.

The SCA first took a public policy position regarding the King Conservation District (KCD) in 2006. Then as now, we urged the KCD to maintain funding for the Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs) in its budget and program of work, as well as to maintain a jurisdictional grant program. That same year, we also asked the KCD to establish a formal advisory committee "to foster a greater understanding of the programs provided by the District, identify those programs that are most needed and how to fund them, and avoid conflict or duplication with the plans and programs of other entities." Similarly, in 2009, SCA adopted a public policy position in favor of \$5 of the KCD's \$10 assessment going to fund the WRIAs, and \$2 going to fund the jurisdictional grant program. SCA also urged the establishment in 2009 of a formal advisory committee to the KCD.

In 2012, due to uncertainties regarding the legality of the KCD's assessments, KCD funds were placed into escrow while awaiting resolution of lawsuits against the KCD. In order to ensure that the valuable work of the WRIAs was not disrupted, in 2012 The King County Flood Control District (FCD) Board of Supervisors stepped in and agreed to provide \$3 million to the WRIAs in 2012 only.

With this history and backdrop in mind, the SCA Board of Directors adopted the following public policy position at its August 2012 meeting:

- SCA recognizes the value of the King Conservation District (KCD), and supports continued funding of the KCD under the following conditions:
  - SCA supports the continuation of WRIA funding through the KCD in 2013, and the future;
  - Given the current economic climate and the heavy tax burdens on property owners in our communities, SCA supports a revenue neutral direction for the KCD at this time. Should future funding for programs historically funded through KCD come through an alternative source, SCA would support a proportional decrease in revenues collected by KCD. For example, if the King County Flood Control District were to fund the WRIAs in the future, SCA would support a corresponding decrease in revenue collection for the KCD;
  - SCA supports continued funding of the KCD Jurisdictional Grant Program. The current processes for grant application and compliance may place unduly onerous burdens on cities.

- SCA supports reducing these administrative burdens in order to maximize the value of grants to cities;
- SCA supports the creation of a formal advisory committee to provide direction to the KCD in the future. Such a body would ensure that KCD expenditures provide value to taxpayers throughout the County- from rural, urban, and suburban communities alike. Representation on this advisory committee should include proportional representation from elected officials in the Suburban Cities.

You will note that this is a slight variation on the earlier draft principles proposed by the PIC. The SCA Board was concerned that the principles could be taken individually out of context, and could lead to the mistaken impression that SCA's support for the KCD and for continued funding thereof was unconditional. The Board added clarifying language to ensure that our points were very clear: while there may be a general benefit to the work of the KCD, the direct benefits we see to our jurisdictions and the property owners and taxpayers within our cities derive largely from the allocations to the WRIAs, and to the jurisdictional grant program wherein funds flow directly back into the jurisdictions that are contributing the bulk of the funding to the KCD.

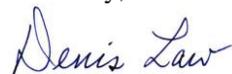
I am in receipt of a letter dated July 31, 2012 from KCD Executive Director Sara Hemphill wherein she expresses confusion over some of the draft principles previously proposed by the PIC. I hope that this letter serves to clarify our position.

We do not support shifting the funding for the WRIAs to the FCD. To do so would result in either eliminating important FCD programs that our membership supports, or raising the FCD assessment and placing additional financial burdens on our citizens. Neither of these are tenable options to our membership. Many of our residents are struggling financially, and having to do more with less. Now is not the time to add to their financial burdens.

As Ms. Hemphill correctly notes, the historic level of funding to the WRIAs makes up nearly half of the funding to the KCD. But I need not remind you that since 2006, the KCD has been collecting an assessment that is double the assessment charged by any other conservation district in the state. The increase from \$5 to \$10 per parcel to the KCD has been premised upon continued funding to the WRIAs. To be perfectly clear: if the KCD does not continue to provide the historic level of \$3 million per year in funding to the WRIAs, SCA strongly supports the KCD's assessment being capped at \$5 per parcel, just as every other conservation district in the state is.

We hope that the KCD Board of Directors takes these concerns seriously, and enters into an interlocal agreement with King County that incorporates the principles adopted by our members, representing nearly one million of the residents of the County.

Sincerely,



Denis Law, President  
Board of Directors, Suburban Cities Association  
Mayor, City of Renton

Cc: Board of Directors, Suburban Cities Association  
Suburban Cities Association Public Issues Committee Members  
Julia Patterson, Chair, King County Flood Control District  
King County Flood Control District Members  
King County Councilmembers and Staff  
King County Executive Dow Constantine and Staff



**King County**  
Department of  
Natural Resources and Parks  
Director's Office  
King Street Center  
201 S Jackson St, Suite 700  
Seattle, WA 98104-3855

December 17, 2012

Anne Noris  
King County Council  
Room 1200  
COURTHOUSE

Dear Ms. Noris:

Attached is a fully executed original of the Interlocal Agreement (ILA) between King County and the King Conservation District relating to Natural Resource Conservation as required in Section 6 of Ordinance 17474. With the filing of the attached ILA with the clerk of the council the required deadline of December 31, 2012, has been met.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the ILA, contact me at 206-296-6500 or by email at [christie.true@kingcounty.gov](mailto:christie.true@kingcounty.gov).

Sincerely,

Christie True  
Director

Enclosure

Electronic copies:

Joe Woods, Deputy Chief of Staff, King County Executive Office  
Mike Huddleston, Municipal Relations Director, King County Council  
Joanna Richey, Assistant Division Director, Water and Land Resources  
Division (WLRD), Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)  
Joan Lee, Manager, Rural & Regional Services Section, WLRD, DNRP  
Grover Cleveland, Council Relations, Director's Office, DNRP

November 13, 2012

Revised Version 2 – Attachment A

17474

**INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
KING COUNTY AND THE KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
RELATING TO NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION**

THIS AGREEMENT is entered into by and between King County, a Washington municipal corporation (hereinafter referred to as the “County”), and the King Conservation District, a governmental subdivision of the state of Washington organized under Chapter 89.08 RCW (hereinafter referred to as the “District”).

RECITALS

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 39.34 RCW (Interlocal Cooperation Act) and RCW 89.08.341, the County and the District are authorized to enter into this Agreement for the purpose of engaging in cooperative efforts to promote, facilitate and undertake programs and activities relating to the conservation of natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the District was established in 1949 pursuant to Chapter 89.08 RCW with the purpose and authority to undertake programs and activities to protect and conserve natural resources throughout King County; and

WHEREAS, since its inception the District has developed an expertise in the management of soil, water and natural resources to protect and conserve the environment and local economies and the District has earned a reputation among landowners as an organization that understands and appreciates their needs; and

WHEREAS, the District's relationship with the Natural Resources Conservation Service of the United States Department of Agriculture and other federal and state agencies strengthens its ability to preserve and protect natural resources in King County through access to federal and state funded programs; and

WHEREAS, the District is authorized to plan and administer activities that affect the best use and conservation of renewable natural resources in such areas as farming, forestry, watershed stabilization and prevention and reduction of erosion and stormwater, protection of fish and wildlife, prevention and reduction of pollution to surface waters and habitat restoration, and to work in coordination with local agencies to avoid duplication of effort; and

WHEREAS, the County has an interest in protecting the quality of its soils and water to enhance human health and the health of its watersheds including aquatic and riparian habitats, and is obligated under its National Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit to do so; and

WHEREAS, RCW 89.08.405 authorizes the County's legislative authority to approve by resolution revenues to the District by fixing a system of rates and charges to fund District activities and programs to conserve natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the County's Zoning Code provides for King County landowners to work with the District to bring agricultural practices into compliance with water quality and critical area standards and to assist farmers in developing farm plans that promote flexibility for water way buffer areas, and soil and water resource conservation practices; and

WHEREAS, the County has a variety of programs and regulations that relate to farm practices and the preservation of natural resources that are best implemented in cooperation and coordination with the District; and

WHEREAS, RCW 89.08.070(8) encourages the District and the County to coordinate efforts on planning programs and activities and to avoid duplicative efforts; and

WHEREAS, RCW 89.08.220(1) authorizes the District to conduct surveys, investigations and research that relate to the conservation of renewable natural resources and the preventative and control measures and works of improvement, provided that, in order to avoid duplication of research activities, any such research shall be done in cooperation with other governments and agencies of the state and the United States; and

WHEREAS, RCW 89.08.220(4) authorizes the District to cooperate and enter into agreements with, and within the limits of appropriations made available to it, to furnish financial or other aid to any agency, government or otherwise, or any occupier of land within the District in the carrying on of preventative and control measures and works of improvement for the conservation of renewable natural resources within the District, subject to such such conditions that the District's Board of Supervisors may deem necessary to advance the purposes of chapter 89.08 RCW; and

WHEREAS, municipal and county governments and other stakeholders have invested major efforts in completing salmon habitat conservation plans through the mechanism of Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) planning processes authorized by the Washington Salmon Recovery Act, Chapter 77.85 RCW, and these planning processes have been coordinated by the WRIA 8 Forum, the WRIA 9 Forum, and the Snoqualmie Watershed Forum, which are composed of local jurisdictions and stakeholders that have joined themselves under interlocal agreements to promote salmon recovery in the WRIA 8 and 9 and Snoqualmie watershed areas; and

WHEREAS, the District has historically been instrumental in the development of the WRIA 8, WRIA 9 and the Snoqualmie Watershed salmon habitat conservation plans by providing annual funding resources to the WRIA forums through a grants program that has helped the member jurisdictions successfully complete such plans and implement early actions and projects that were consistent with the developing plans; and

WHEREAS, alternative funding sources, other than through the District, are now available to the County and other member jurisdictions to continue the water quality and water resource and habitat restoration and management projects and activities associated with the WRIA plans and the District and County believe the alternative funding sources are more suitable for continued funding of these efforts; and

WHEREAS, the District has helped to fund, on an annual basis, critical natural resource conservation programs and activities of its member jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, the County, as a member jurisdiction, has historically received annual funding from the District for programs related to regional agriculture and seeks to continue to receive such support; and

WHEREAS, the District, while no longer funding grants on its former scale to implement the WRIA watershed plans, still provides benefits to such plans by working with private landowners on a voluntary basis to educate and support the voluntary implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) on private lands; and

WHEREAS, such programmatic efforts are known to be critical to the success of natural resource conservation programs and are congruent with the District's mission and statutory mandate; and

WHEREAS, the County and the District continue to share a mutual goal of providing a stable and predictable source of funding for the District's conservation programs, and the member jurisdictions' natural resource conservation programs and activities that are consistent with the District's statutory purposes, so that the District, the County, and member jurisdictions, the watershed forums and other stakeholders can implement long-range plans for natural resource conservation; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 89.08.405 the County has been given the authority to impose a system of rates and charges on lands within the District for a period or periods each not to exceed ten years in duration to fund the District's conservation programs and activities; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 89.08.400 and .405 the District is required on or before the first day of August in the year prior to which the District is proposing the system of rates and charges be imposed to file with the County a proposed system of rates and charges, indicating the years during which the District proposes that such a system of rates and charges be imposed; along with a proposed budget for the District's program of work for the succeeding year; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 89.08.405, in proposing a system of rates and charges to the County, the District may consider: (a) services furnished, to be furnished, or available to the landowner; (b) benefits received, to be received, or available to the property; (c) the character and use of land; (d) the nonprofit public benefit status, as defined in RCW 24.03.490, of the land user; (e) the income level of persons served or provided benefits under this chapter, including senior citizens and disabled persons; or (f) any other matters that present a reasonable difference as a ground for distinction; and

WHEREAS, over the past three assessment funding cycles implemented since 2006, the District has been faced with increasing costs and expenses associated with developing, implementing and delivering its conservation programs and activities, and static levels of funding under chapter 89.08 RCW, while at the same time experiencing a reduction in the availability of grant funding from other state and/or federal agencies, which conditions have

significantly impacted the District's ability to maintain its conservation programs and services at a consistent level and to otherwise meet the demand for the District's services; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 89.08.405, in fixing rates and charges, the County may in its discretion consider the information proposed to the County by the District in a manner that is consistent with RCW 89.08.405; and

WHEREAS, in order for the County to adopt a system of rates and charges under RCW 89.08.400 and .405 for the benefit of the District's conservation programs and activities, the County must find that the public interest will be served by the imposition of the system of rates and charges through implementation of the District's conservation programs and activities, which determination may include a finding that the rates and charges to be imposed on any land will provide burden offsets, and direct or indirect benefits; and

WHEREAS, the County and the District desire to work cooperatively on natural resource conservation efforts, including projects and activities to conserve soils, to improve the quality of water in the County, to protect natural resources, and to assist landowners in King County to comply with laws and regulations that protect the quality of the County's soil, water, and resources; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to RCW 89.08.341, the District has a responsibility to keep local agencies fully informed about the status and progress of their resource conservation programs and plans; and

WHEREAS, the County plans to fulfill its responsibility related to authorizing rates and charges under RCW 89.08.400 and .405 in part by reviewing annually the District's program of work approved by the District to ensure that the conservation programs and activities to be funded each year by rates and charges will make available to landowners and parcels sufficient services and benefits, including but not limited to the offset of burdens caused by the use of lands; and

WHEREAS, the County acknowledges that the District has historically prepared its programs of work and associated budgets on an annual basis and that the District needs to retain the right to prepare annually its programs of work and associated budgets so that they may be based on current information and circumstances and, further, so that the District can maintain some flexibility to address new or emerging conservation needs and requirements which may vary from year to year and which may impact the District's programs of work and associated budgets; and

WHEREAS, this Agreement provides for cooperative efforts on the part of the County and the District to fund the District's conservation programs and activities, and to promote and fulfill the legislative declaration and determinations contained in RCW 89.08.010;

WHEREAS, in fixing the system of rates and charges proposed by the District, the King County council has authorized the use of such revenues by the District to protect and preserve

renewable natural resources, thereby promoting the health, safety and general welfare of the people and properties within the District.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises, benefits and covenants contained herein, the parties hereto agree as follows:

I. PURPOSE OF THE AGREEMENT:

A. The recitals set forth above are incorporated herein by this reference.

B. The purpose of this Agreement is to establish the roles and responsibilities of the County and the District with respect to the authorization of, and use of funds from, a system of rates and charges fixed by the County under RCW 89.08.405 to fund the District's conservation programs and activities. Except as provided for in Section III.A.3 below, the terms of this Agreement do not govern or otherwise restrict the District in any manner relating to any funds that the District has or will receive from sources other than the revenues received from the system of rates and charges imposed by the County pursuant to RCW 89.08.405.

II. DEFINITIONS:

A. "Program of Work" means a detailed statement or description of the conservation programs and activities to be undertaken by the District for a particular calendar year using a system of rates and charges authorized and imposed by the County for the benefit of the District pursuant to RCW 89.08.400 and .405. A Program of Work will include a budget, broken out by major activities, identifying the anticipated expenditure of the rates and charges for the District's conservation programs and activities described in the Program of Work. A Program of Work for each of the years subject to this Agreement shall be submitted to the King County Council by the District on or before August 1 of each year for the following year's activities and programs.

B. "Advisory Committee" means a committee consisting of representatives of the District and key stakeholder groups, including representatives of the County, member jurisdictions and other interested parties, that will be asked by the District to review and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on the District's Programs of Work during the term of the system of rates and charges. The intended purpose of the Advisory Committee will be to foster a greater understanding of the programs and services provided by the District, and to identify conservation programs that may be undertaken by the District through the use of funds derived through the District's approved system of rates and charges. The District shall constitute the Advisory Committee in a manner that reflects the District's commitment to private landowners and to programmatic efforts, while including financial and scientific expertise from the County and with a number of representatives from the incorporated member jurisdictions. Such representation should include at a minimum representatives from the cities of Seattle, Bellevue and the King County Suburban Cities Association. The District will solicit input from the County as to the County's recommendations relating to which other participants the County believes would be appropriate to include on the Advisory Committee; and the District will solicit input from the cities of Seattle and Bellevue, and the King County Suburban Cities Association as to the recommendations relating to which other participants would be appropriate to include

on the Advisory Committee representing the member jurisdictions. The District anticipates that the Committee would meet three times per year, or more often as may be deemed necessary and appropriate by the District. The Committee may advise the District on recommendations for any modifications to the District's protocols and procedures for applying for and receiving member jurisdiction grants. The Committee is an advisory body with the power to make recommendations to the District; however, such recommendations are not binding on the District. Participants on the Advisory Committee are expected to regularly participate in Advisory Committee meetings and associated activities. Given the time, effort and expense associated with maintaining and facilitating the existence of an Advisory Committee, the District may suspend regular meetings of the Advisory Committee if upon polling members there is a lack of interest or participation by the members of the Advisory Committee, or an absence of issues suitable for referral to the Advisory Committee for review and input. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the task force described in Section III.B.5 below may, during the tenure of its existence, meet and function in lieu of the Advisory Committee.

C. "Rates and Charges Budget" means a budget, broken out by major activities, that describes the District's projected expenditure of the rates and charges for the District's programs, and activities for a calendar year subject to this Agreement.

### III. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES:

#### A. THE DISTRICT

1. Cooperation with the County: The District agrees that it will cooperate with the County by performing certain services or responsibilities that (a) have been properly defined and formally accepted by the District, (b) are consistent with the requirements of Chapter 89.08 RCW, and (c) are adequately funded through a King County Council approved system of rates and charges of which funds are designated for such activities and approved by the District, or through other funding sources provided by the County or third parties. The District agrees that these three standards set forth in (a), (b), and (c) above are met for the services described in subsections (a) through (h) below. The District further agrees that the provision of such services shall include:

a. Working with the County in performing specific natural resource conservation functions as identified in the King County Code Titles 2, 9, 16 and 21A, including continuation of collaborative work with King County and rural property owners for natural resource conservation, landowner assistance and farm planning, particularly as provided for in Title 21A. The funding authorized pursuant to this Agreement will be adequate to complete approximately 70-75 farm plans per year. The District and the County agree to discuss additional funding sources for the District to complete farm plans in the event that the requests for farm plans exceeds the stated levels. The District shall not be required to prepare farm plans that are above the stated levels without receiving additional funding for that purpose from sources other than the rates and charges provided for herein; and

b. Working with the County and other stakeholders to develop a system of rates and charges in the future that will fund District work programs at a level reflective of natural

resource conservation and preservation needs; and

c. Working with the County as well as with the Washington State Conservation Commission and the Washington Association of Conservation Districts to produce an electoral process for District supervisors that is more reflective of voter participation in other County general elections; and

d. Responding to citizen requests for natural resource conservation assistance from landowners within District boundaries; and

e. Convening an Advisory Committee to assist the District in the development of its annual Program of Work and to facilitate the purposes of the Advisory Committee in accordance with Section II.B; and

f. Providing annual reports, at the time of submittal of the annual Program of Work, to the King County Council and Executive detailing work completed the prior year; and

g. Administering grant programs with the member jurisdictions, as provided for herein, in an efficient and timely manner; and

h. Implementing the District's Rates and Charges Budget in accordance with Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

2. Other District Services: The District agrees to make a good faith effort to assist agencies of the County where the District's expertise may be of use in performing other conservation programs or activities of public interest such as the Agricultural Commission, farmland preservation, Agricultural Drainage Assistance Program (ADAP), water quality cost-share, agriculture economic development policy, small farm support, and general farm marketing support, including but not limited to Puget Sound Fresh, to the extent such programs and activities are consistent with chapter 89.08 RCW and as District staffing and resources allow.

3. Program of Work, and Rates and Charges Budget: Pursuant to RCW 89.08.405, the District adopted and submitted to the County a proposed a system of rates and charges for the period 2013 – 2017 on July 31, 2012, which proposal included a Rates and Charges Budget for 2013. After a hearing before the County Council on the District's proposed system of rates and charges, the County modified and accepted the District's proposed system of rates and charges resulting in a reduction of the rates and charges to be imposed on certain land categories identified by the District and a corresponding reduction in the total amount of funds to be raised through the system of rates and charges. The period over which the system of rates and charges was to be imposed was also reduced from the proposed five years to two years. As a result of the County's modification of the rates and charges proposed by the District, the District will be required to prepare and adopt a revised Program of Work and associated budget which takes into consideration the total amount of funds anticipated to be raised through the system of rates and charges approved by the County.

The District agrees to adopt a Rates and Charges Budget for 2013 that is consistent with Exhibit A, and to adopt a Work Program and Rates and Charges Budget for Year 2014 that are consistent with Exhibit A. The District agrees that its detailed Program of Work and Rates and Charges Budget for 2013 will be submitted to the County Council and Executive for review by no later than December 7, 2012. The District agrees that it will spend funds collected through the system of rates and charges imposed by the County in a manner which is consistent with its finally adopted Program of Work and Rates and Charges Budget as finally submitted to the County and that no such funds will be spent for activities that are not specified in the annual Program of Work and Rates and Charges Budget.

The District agrees to use any funds collected by or for the benefit of the District in connection with a previously adopted system of assessment in accordance with the terms of the applicable interlocal agreements entered into between the District and the County.

4. Member Jurisdiction Grants & Services Program: During the term of this Agreement, the District will fund and administer a grant program in partnership with member jurisdictions in accordance with the attached Rates and Charges Budget set forth in Exhibit A. The District's jurisdictional grant program will fund projects and programs within a given jurisdiction upon an application being submitted by the local jurisdiction to the District for the District's review and approval on the basis of consistency with the District's adopted grant policies and the District's statutory purposes. Member jurisdiction grants shall be submitted in accordance with the District's grant policies and procedures. Each member jurisdiction shall be eligible to apply for and receive grant funds in 2013 and 2014, or, at the jurisdiction's option, services in lieu of grant funds, in accordance with Exhibit A. In the event that a jurisdiction has not used its funds within three (3) years following the date such rates and charges were collected by the District and available for award, after 180-days' prior written notice from District to the jurisdiction, the District may reallocate the unused funds to other District programs. In the interests of efficiency and obtaining the maximum benefits from these grant funds, the District is willing to allow two or more local jurisdictions to pool resources in any one year for projects consistent with the District's statutory purposes and the District's adopted grant policies and procedure, and to fund such projects on a rotating basis within the group of local jurisdictions participating in the pooling arrangement. The District will establish policies and procedures that provide for the pooling of grant funds and will solicit input from member jurisdictions prior to adopting the policies and procedures.

5. Other District Programs: The District will fund its remaining programs and activities in accordance with the Rates and Charges Budget set forth in Exhibit A.

6. Service to Incorporated Areas: The District's Programs of Work will include services to be provided to incorporated areas within the County, for which the District may enter into separate agreements with other local governments.

7. Annual Reports: The District shall provide annual reports including specific performance measures for completed work program activities to the King County Council and Executive at the time of submittal of the annual Work Program detailing work completed in the prior year. The annual report shall be filed with the clerk of the council for distribution to the

chair of the physical environment committee, or its successor committee, to the Executive, to each councilmember and to the lead staff for the natural resources and utilities committee, or its successor committee. The annual reports shall describe progress achieved towards work plan goals in terms of performance measures and report any barriers towards achieving work plan goals. Specifically, the reports should address the completion of farm plans, dairy nutrient management planning, landowner conservation services and administration and finance operations of the District.

## B. THE COUNTY

1. Approval of System of Rates and Charges: The County has approved a system of rates and charges for a two (2) year period for the benefit of the District in accordance with the requirements of RCW 89.08.400 and .405, to fund the District's conservation programs and activities as described in the Rates and Charges Budget attached as Exhibit A.

2. Review of Programs of Work and System of Rates and Charges: The rates and charges for the remaining years beyond the first year of any multi-year approval of rates and charges may be modified or repealed by the County if the County determines that the public interest is not being served by the work program activities funded by rates and charges, which determination may include a finding that the activities do not provide an adequate amount of burden offsets, or direct or indirect benefits sufficient to warrant the continuation of the system of rates or charges.

3. Authorized Collection Fees: The King County Treasurer is authorized to deduct one percent of the funds collected, exclusive of any credits that may be provided as a result of the settlement in the Hammond litigation, under the system of rates and charges approved by the County, to cover the costs incurred by the County Treasurer and County Assessor in spreading and collecting the rates and charges; provided, however, that any portion of such amount in excess of the actual costs of such work shall be transferred to the District to be used at the discretion of the District.

4. Cooperation and Collaboration with the District: The County, at the invitation of the District, will assist the District in the development and implementation of a collaborative Program of Work. Input from the Advisory Committee will also inform this process. Any agency of the County that has expertise, which may be of use to the District, will make a good faith effort to assist the District, as requested and as resources allow. The Director of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks shall constitute the ongoing point of contact to promote periodic communications with the District. The District and the County will work to establish a process that will provide for communications and discussions between the District Board of Supervisors and the County Council. Further, the County and the District desire to work together in collaboration, and the parties recognize that they each may have ongoing research programs, which may be of benefit to each other. The District agrees, in order to avoid duplication of research activities, that before undertaking any research project, it will consult with the County. In the event that the research project is determined by the District and the County to be duplicative, then it shall not be undertaken by the District through the use of funds derived from the system of rates and charges. If the parties cannot agree on this issue, each shall

appoint a representative and the two appointed representatives shall jointly choose a third. The three individuals shall resolve the dispute by majority vote and the decision of this group shall be final.

In the event that the County considers adopting new regulations or policies, or creating new departments or committees, that relate to or impact services for agriculture and rural land conservation, as provided by the District in Section III.A.1.a of this Agreement, the County point of contact with the District will make reasonable efforts to keep the District informed of such developments and encourage input from the District relating to such activities.

5. Creation of Task Force: The King Conservation District and King County shall jointly convene a multi-jurisdictional task force to investigate the availability of conservation and natural resource programs and services in King County, the needs within the County, both met and unmet for such services and programs, and the actual and prospective sources of funding to meet such needs. The primary focus of such investigation shall be on the types of activities and programs authorized by the Conservation District Statute, Chapter 89.08 RCW. The task force shall include two representatives from King County, one appointed by the chair of the council and one by the executive. The King Conservation District Board of Supervisors shall appoint two representatives. The King Conservation District and King County representatives shall lead the task force and seek advice from the following additional members: one representative to be selected by the City of Seattle, one representative by the City of Bellevue, three representatives by the Suburban Cities Association (one from each of the three geographic areas of north, south and east King County) and three members representing rural landowners, who shall be jointly appointed by the King County and King Conservation District representatives. These twelve representatives shall constitute the task force. The task force is intended to research and provide, by means of consensus, factual information and policy advice regarding natural resource and conservation programs provided in the region, including but not limited to: inventory list of available services; identified program needs; an evaluation of service and service levels provided and number of persons served; identification of available funding sources; issues relating to governance, service availability and equity; opportunities for synergy and leveraging of funds; review of the conservation district rates and charges methodology; program costs and administration; and other issues as may be identified by the task force. Commentary and recommendations from standing advisory groups relating to agricultural, silvacultural, community and environmental issues shall be solicited and considered. Staff support to the task force shall be provided, as available within current resources, by the King Conservation District, King County and as offered by other task force participants. The task force work and recommendations shall be completed and provided to the District and County to inform mutually agreeable funding decisions for future district work programs and budgets as soon as possible and preferably by October 15, 2013 if possible, but in any event no later than December 31, 2013.

#### IV. MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS:

A. The parties agree to maintain accounts and records, including personnel, property, financial and programmatic records and other such records as may be deemed necessary by either party to ensure proper accounting for all funds expended from the District's system of rates

and charges. All such records shall sufficiently and properly reflect all direct and indirect costs of any nature expended and services provided under this Agreement.

B. Records shall be maintained for a period of six (6) years after termination hereof unless permission to destroy them is granted by the Office of the Archivist in accordance with Chapter 40.14 RCW, or unless a longer retention period is required by law.

V. AUDITS AND EVALUATION:

A. To the extent permitted by law, the records and documents of the parties hereto with respect to all matters covered by this Agreement shall be subject to inspection, review, or audit by the other party during the performance of this Agreement and for six (6) years after termination hereof.

B. The parties will cooperate with each other in order to review and evaluate the procedures used to authorize the system of rates and charges and the services provided under this Agreement. The parties will make available to each other all information reasonably required by any such review and evaluation process. Provided, however, each party may require the other party to submit a formal request for information in accordance with applicable internal policies or law.

VI. EFFECTIVENESS, TERMINATION, AND RETENTION OF FUNDS:

A. This Agreement shall become effective upon its signature by both the County and the District, and shall terminate on December 31, 2014, unless it is terminated at an earlier date pursuant to Section VI B. of this Agreement.

B. This Agreement also shall terminate if:

- (1) The County repeals the District's system of rates and charges in accordance with Section III.B.2, or
- (2) The District requests that the County repeal its system of rates and charges.

Notwithstanding any of these actions, any funds collected by or for the benefit of the District based on a previously adopted system of rates or charges will be used by the District in accordance with the previously submitted Programs of Work.

C. In the event that a legal action is brought challenging the validity of the system of rates and charges, and the County and District determine that such challenge warrants placing some or all of then currently held District funds in a special escrow account to be held by the District pending further legal action, the District agrees to place such amount of funds into the special escrow account until the County and District mutually agree on their release and use.

VII. NONDISCRIMINATION:

Each party shall comply fully with applicable federal, state and local laws, ordinances, executive orders and regulations, which prohibit discrimination. These laws include, but are not limited to, Chapter 49.60 RCW, Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Executive Order 11246 issued by the President of the United States and Executive Order 2001-R issued by the King County Executive.

VIII. DEFENSE AND INDEMNIFICATION:

The District agrees to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the County, its elected officials, employees and agents, its appointed and elective officers and employees, from and against all loss or expense, including, but not limited to, judgments, settlements, attorney's fees and costs by reason of any and all claims and demands upon the County, its elected or appointed officials or employees for damages because of personal or bodily injury, including death at any time resulting there from, sustained by any person or persons and on account of damage to property including loss of use thereof, whether such injury to persons or damage to property is due to the negligence of the District, his/her subcontractors, its successor or assigns, or its or their agent, servants, or employees, the County, its appointed or elected officers, employees or their agents, except only such injury or damage as shall have been occasioned by the negligence of the County, its appointed or elected officials or employees. With respect to the performance of this Agreement and as to claims against the County, its officers, agent and employees, the District expressly waives any immunity it may have under Washington's Industrial Insurance act, RCW Title 51, for injuries to its employees and agrees that the obligations to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless provided for in this Agreement extend to any claim brought by or on behalf of any employee of the District. The parties acknowledge that these provisions were specifically negotiated and agreed upon by them. This provision shall survive termination of this Agreement.

IX. AMENDMENTS:

Amendments to the terms of this Agreement must be agreed to in writing by each party and be approved by the County Council and the District's Board of Supervisors.

X. ENTIRE CONTRACT-WAIVER OF DEFAULT:

The parties hereto agree that this Agreement is a complete expression of the terms hereto and any oral or written representations or understandings not incorporated herein are excluded. Waiver of any default shall not be deemed to be a waiver of any subsequent default. Waiver of breach of any provision of this Agreement shall not be deemed to be a waiver of any other or subsequent breach and shall not be construed to be a modification of the terms of the Agreement unless stated to be such through written approval of the parties to this Agreement. Each party shall carry out its duties under this Agreement in good faith and in accordance with legal requirements.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement on the 7th day of December, 2012.

King Conservation District

King County

William M. Kuntz  
Chair, Board of Supervisors

[Signature]  
King County Executive

Approved as to Form:

Approved as to Form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
District Legal Counsel

[Signature]  
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

Exhibit A**RATES AND CHARGES BUDGET****King Conservation District Funding Commitment**

For the time period January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2014, the King Conservation District will fund its programs, grants and services as follows:

**King Conservation District Program of Work**

<b>KCD Program of Work</b>	<b>Annual Budget</b>
Education & Community Engagement	\$105,369
Natural Resource Conservation Planning & Technical Assistance	\$654,666
Conservation Implementation & Projects	\$1,080,687
District Grants Program	\$102,728
Member Jurisdiction Grants & Services Program  (Subject to 5% Grant Administration Fee)	\$1,200,000
Strategic & Other Initiatives	\$152,707
<b>TOTAL</b>	For 2013 <i>estimated at \$3,296,579.*</i>

\* This total amount includes \$57,775 for year 2013 for close out of the WRIA grant program funded under previous interlocal agreements and \$45,404 for COLA increases, both amounts of which are to be allocated by the District to the appropriate categories above.

During the term of this Agreement, each member jurisdiction shall be eligible to apply for and receive grant funds, or, at the jurisdiction's option, services in lieu of grant funds, in an amount equal to its pro rata share of the \$1,200,000 based on the total number of parcels within the jurisdiction that were subject to and paid the District's system of rates and charges. These

amounts shall not be reduced by any credit or rebate provided by the District due to the settlement in the Hammond litigation, as these credit or rebate funds are available from the District's 2012 collection of special assessments.

During the term of this Agreement, the District shall have available for the District's general work programs, other than the Member Jurisdiction Grants & Services Program provided for above, the remaining amount of funds collected for the benefit of the District under the system of rates and charges, consistent with the allocations provided above.

The King County treasurer is allowed to retain an amount equal to the actual costs of collection, not to exceed 1% of total collections.

These agreed upon committed funding levels set out in this Exhibit A, depend upon consistent levels of funding from the system of rates and charges, and the current composition of member jurisdictions, or significant number of parcels, within the District at the time of this Interlocal Agreement, and are subject to adjustment based on any reductions attributed to the withdrawal of any member jurisdictions.

The District and the County agree that the funding commitments set forth herein will be reviewed and amended, as necessary, in order to address (1) new statutory requirements that the District Board of Supervisors are subject to general election laws under Title 29 RCW which would result in significant election expenses being incurred by the District, (2) new unfunded mandates or program requirements that are imposed by Federal, State, or local jurisdictions upon the District such that the District is able to demonstrate that the cost of fulfilling such mandates amount to ten percent (10%) or more of the total amount collected by the District for District programs, except for those amounts attributed to the Member Jurisdiction Grants & Services Program.

# King Conservation District

*Promoting Sustainable Uses of Natural Resources  
through Responsible Stewardship*



The King Conservation District is the bridge between private land stewardship and public benefit.

## History

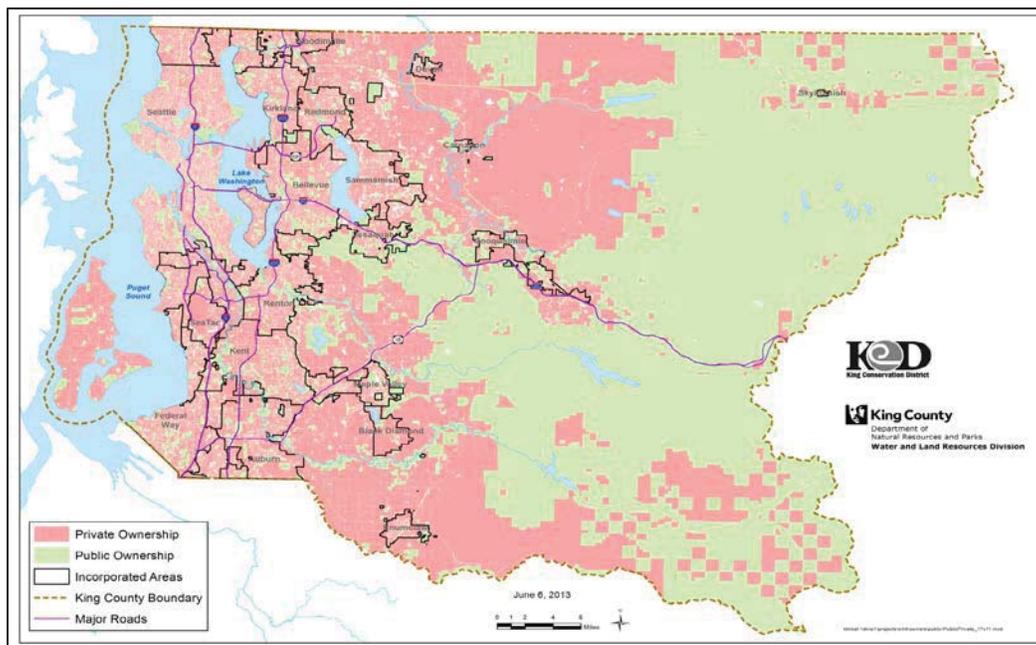
Conservation Districts were established during the 1930s Dustbowl era to address the devastating environmental crisis that threatened our nation's food supply and economy. The Washington legislature established Conservation Districts in our state as autonomous, non-regulatory agencies to assist landowners with responding to local environmental concerns across jurisdictional boundaries.

## How We Work

The King Conservation District takes an incentive-based approach to stewardship. We provide landowners with technical assistance and incentives to adopt resource conservation practices through a three-pronged approach:

- Education
- Site-specific technical assistance
- Financial incentives

## Private Lands in King County



There are more than 300,000 parcels in private ownership in King County. The Conservation District's mission is to partner with private citizens to engage in regulatory and incentive-based programs that complement each other.

This document provides a snapshot of the King Conservation District's resource management priorities and program of work. It concludes with a 10-year scorecard with a summary of programs and services.

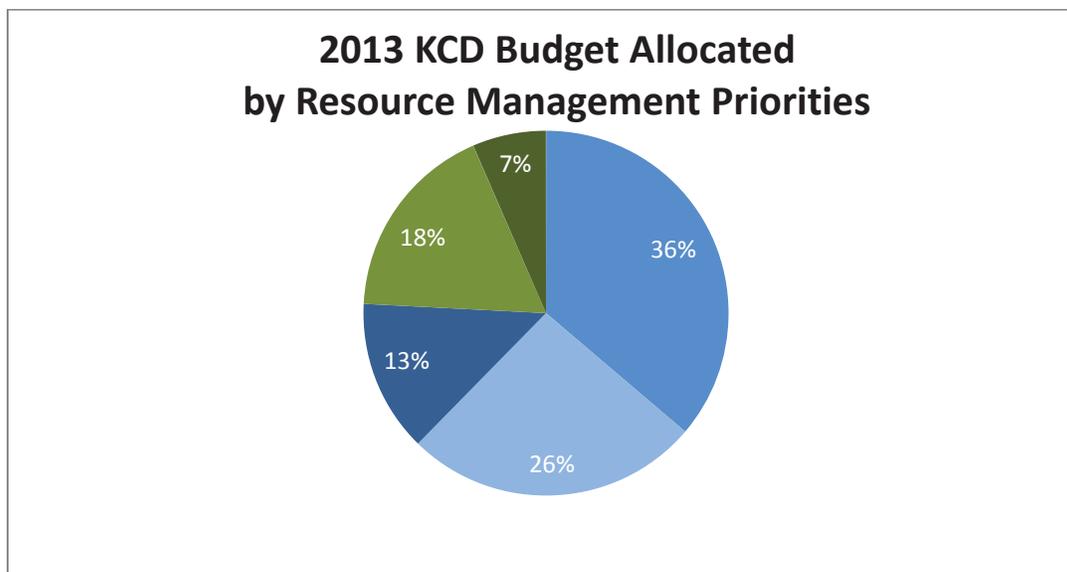
# King Conservation District Budget & Program Overview

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## Resource Management Priorities

The King Conservation District’s programs and services are organized by the following Resource Management Priorities:

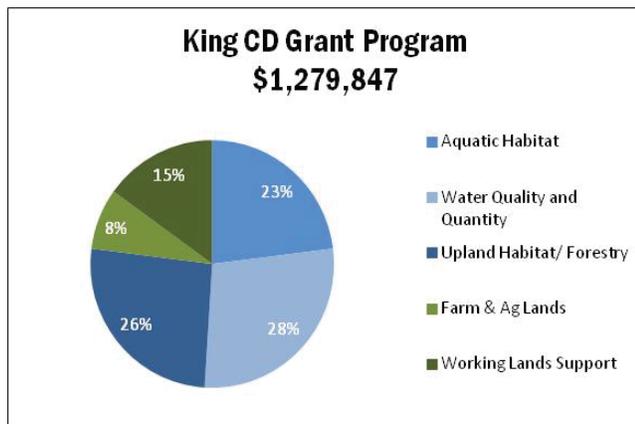
- *Aquatic Habitat (Freshwater & Marine)*
- *Water Quality and Quantity*
- *Forest Health Management & Upland Habitat*
- *Agricultural Lands*
- *Economic Viability of Working Lands*



<b>Aquatic Habitat</b>		<b>36%</b>	<b>\$ 1,376,391</b>
<b>Water Quality &amp; Quantity</b>		<b>26%</b>	<b>\$ 992,152</b>
<b>Forest /Upland Habitat</b>		<b>13%</b>	<b>\$ 511,203</b>
<b>Agricultural Lands</b>		<b>18%</b>	<b>\$ 671,039</b>
<b>Viability of Working Lands</b>		<b>7%</b>	<b>\$ 248,066</b>
			<b>\$ 3,798,851</b>

# King Conservation District Grants Program

## Member Jurisdiction Funding for Natural Resource Stewardship



The King Conservation District assists member jurisdictions with meeting their resource conservation goals by offering grants to enhance natural resources, provide education and outreach, and build capacity for project implementation.

Projects funded through the grants program reflect the District's resource management priorities. Examples of recent grants include:

- City of Renton knotweed removal project (partnering with the Friends of the Cedar River Watershed to target weed removal efforts on both public and private lands).
- King Conservation District/Seattle Community Partnership Grant Program, providing funding for projects implemented by both city agencies and nonprofit organizations. A total of 31 applications are currently being reviewed for 2013 funding.
- The City of Bellevue's storm drain stenciling program is working with citizen volunteers to help neighbors take responsibility for the health of city creeks and ultimately Puget Sound.

## Project Spotlight: Restore the Duwamish Shoreline Challenge



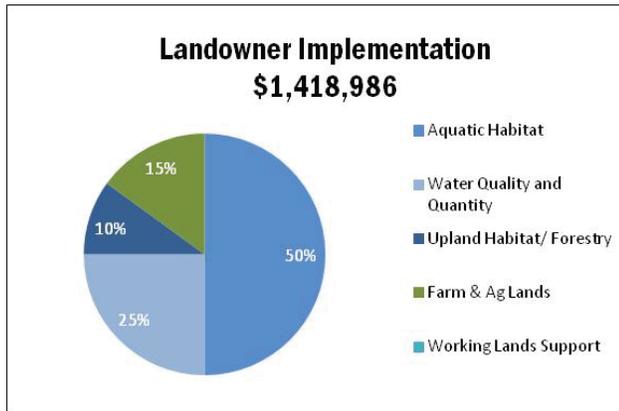
In 2012 the King Conservation District provided the City of Tukwila with a \$20,000 grant in support of community-wide efforts to restore Duwamish River. The city is collaborating with BECU and other local businesses, and the nonprofit organization Forterra to restore 150,000 square feet of riverbank along one and a half miles of the river.



Last September hundreds of volunteers pitched in to kick off the "Restore the Duwamish Challenge," and Forterra is coordinating regular events to achieve the project's ambitious goals. One of the highest priorities is to eradicate invasive plants such as Himalayan blackberries and to replant with natives to re-establish habitat for salmon and other wildlife. The project is also helping the community re-connect with the Duwamish River, which is an important part of Tukwila's heritage.

# Landowner Incentive Program

## Empowering Landowners to Steward Natural Resources



The King Conservation District's Landowner Incentive Program provides landowners with financial incentives to support implementation of conservation practices. Landowner expenses associated with pre-approved conservation practices are matched with KCD funding at a ratio of 50% to 90% of the total cost of projects.

A total of 14 conservation practices are eligible for funding, including:

- Aquatic Area Buffer Plantings
- Bulkhead Removal
- Buffer Fencing
- Forest Health Management
- Livestock Heavy Use Protection Areas
- Pasture & Hay Planting
- Roof Runoff Structures
- Stream Crossings
- Subsurface Drains
- Upland Wildlife Habitat Management
- Livestock Waste Storage Facilities

## Project Spotlight: Stabilizing Bluffs Overlooking Puget Sound



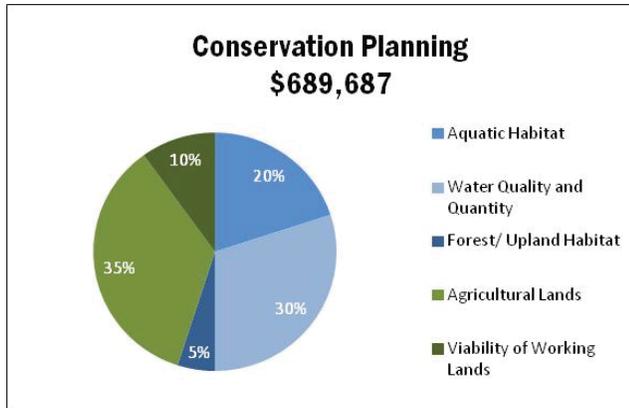
King County has nearly 2,000 miles of marine and freshwater shorelines, and erosion is of major concern to many landowners. For example, Dick Roberts, a Des Moines marine shoreline bluff landowner, worried about his home following a recent slide. Roberts attended a KCD Shoreline Landowner Workshop where he learned techniques to protect his bluff and enhance the marine shoreline at the same time. He realized, however, that to have a meaningful impact he and his neighbors would have to work together.



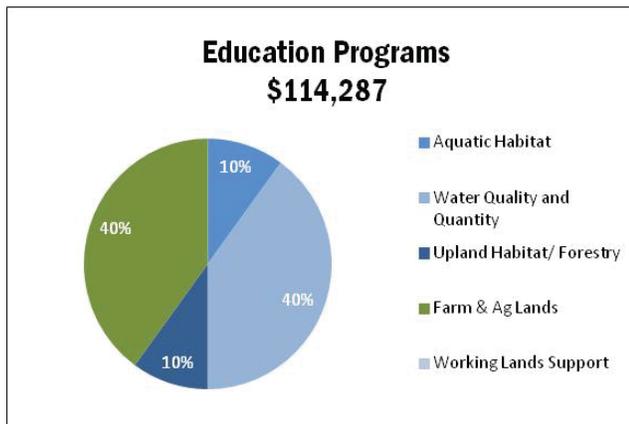
Roberts invited District staff to teach a kitchen table workshop for the neighbors on bluff ecology and management. With KCD support, Roberts and his neighbors began removing lawn areas and planting more trees and shrubs. If the landowners secure additional funding, their next phase will be forest health management along the 150 ft slope, controlling invasive weeds and planting native, bluff-stabilizing trees and shrubs.

# Conservation Planning & Education Programs

## Resource Planning & Conservation Education for Private Landowners



The District provides site-specific, whole property natural resource conservation plans for crop and dairy farms and for horse and livestock owners, with particular focus on livestock impacts on water quality and overall streamside habitat improvement. Although referred to as “farm plans,” only 15% of the plans are for commercial farms, while 85% are for non-commercial horse and livestock owners.

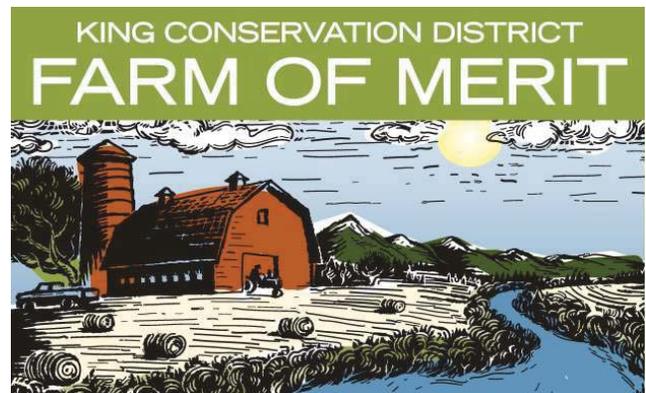


The District sponsors action-oriented workshops, classes, and farm tours, targeting both youth and adults, focused on planning and implementing resource conservation.

## Project Spotlight: Land Stewardship for Horse Owners



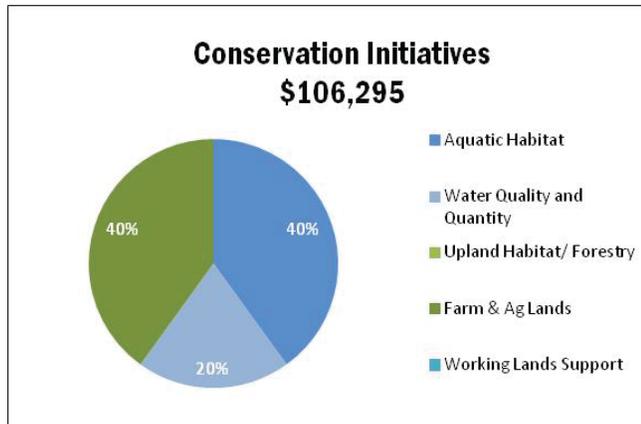
There are an estimated 20,000 horses in King County. Rick and Kim Brighton are the owners of Brighton Ridge Farm, a 15-horse training and boarding stable near Renton. When the couple purchased their five-acre property a decade ago they faced several conservation challenges, including slope erosion, mud, drainage, and manure. KCD staff assisted with development of a site-specific plan based on USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service standards, and within a couple years, they had made all the recommended improvements.



Following a recent review of Rick & Kim’s farm, KCD recognized Brighton Ridge as a "Conservation Farm of Merit." The couple has now volunteered to host a farm tour in 2014 so that they can share their successes—and challenges—with others.

# Conservation Initiatives

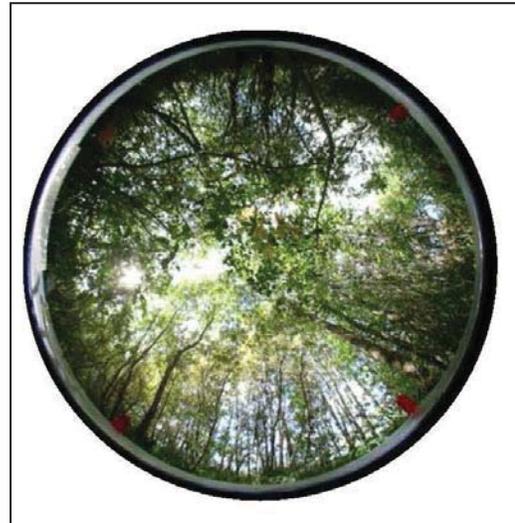
## Support for Innovative Conservation Research



The King Conservation District's programs are based on the latest research and national standards established by USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. The District works closely with local, state and federal agencies and educational institutions to address complex and challenging issues related to soils, wetlands, and habitat preservation.

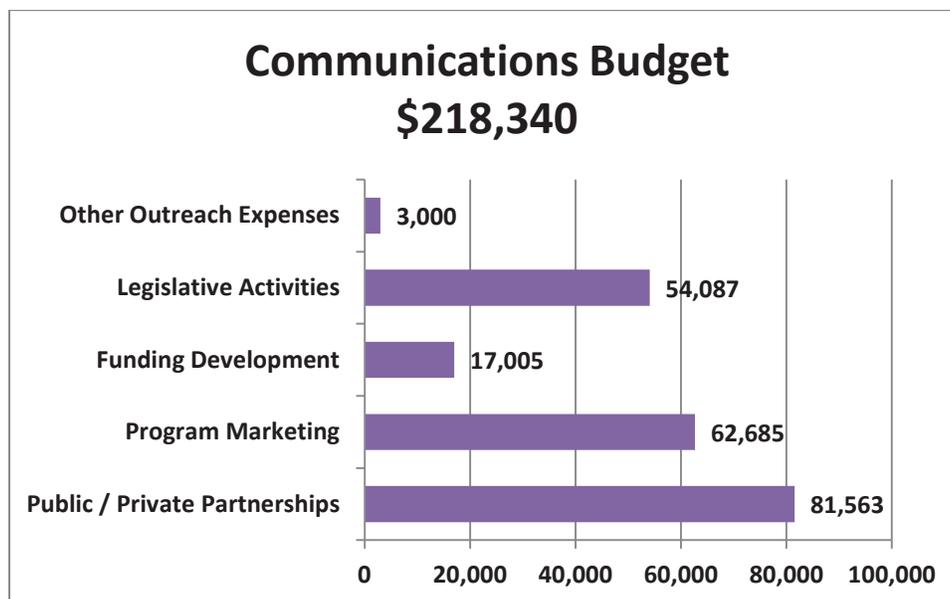
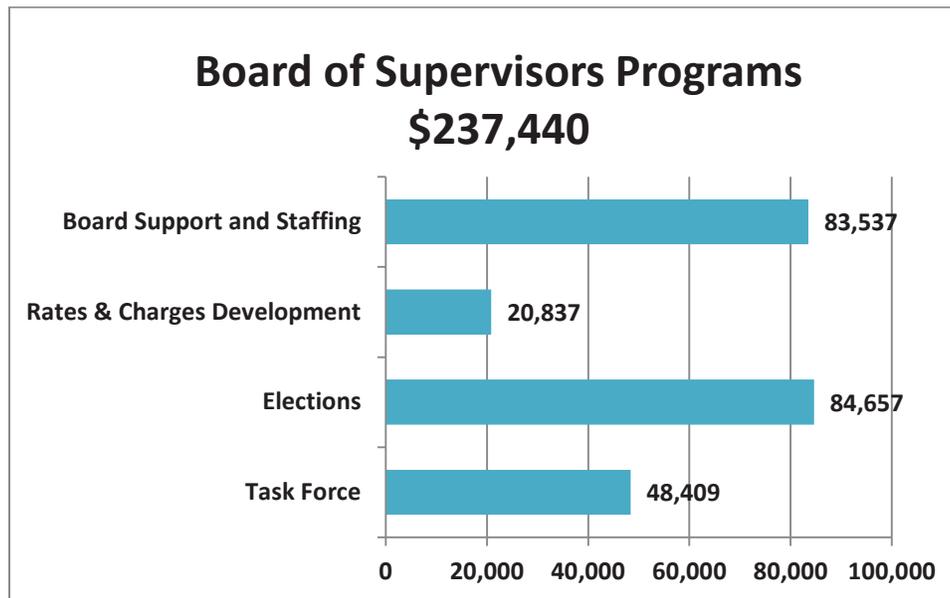
Each year the District budgets for research on issues that impact land owners and land managers in King County.

## Project Spotlight: Waterway Buffer Study



The King Conservation District is currently participating in a collaborative, two-year field study to measure shade and temperature impacts from different buffers along narrow waterways. Project partners include the King County Agriculture Program, Washington State University Extension, and the Whatcom Conservation District. Preliminary results indicate that narrow, dense buffers are as effective as wide buffers at reducing air temperature and creating effective shade for streams and waterways. The object of this study is to assist landowners and land managers with targeting limited funds to effectively reduce temperatures to enhance fish habitat.

# King Conservation District Operations



## Administration Budget

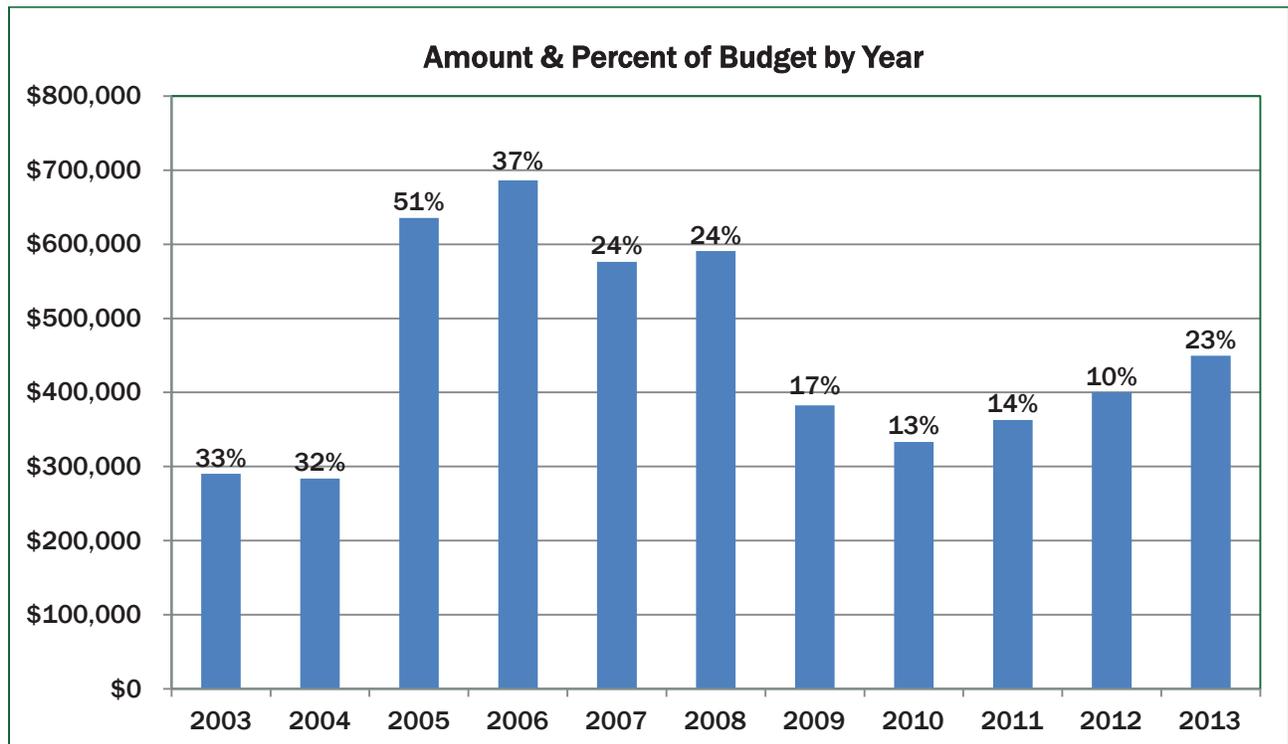
Administration is 12% of the King Conservation District's budget. This includes Human Resources, Bookkeeping, Finance, Legal, Rent, and Fixed Costs.

# District Staffing / Grants & Other Revenues

## King Conservation District Staffing

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
Board	0.75	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.25	1.00	1.25	1.25	0.95	1.30	1.33
Administration	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	2.44	1.70	1.60	1.36	1.52
Outreach	0.50	0.75	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.04	1.14	1.70	1.36	1.49
Education	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.88	0.37	0.37	0.52	0.36
Planning	4.00	4.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	4.75	4.81	4.81	4.95	3.97
Implementation	3.50	3.50	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.85	3.92	4.96	4.59	5.25
Grants	0.75	0.75	1.00	1.00	1.25	1.00	1.05	1.94	2.02	1.74	1.62
Initiatives	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.77	0.78	1.03	0.82	0.53
<b>TOTAL STAFFING</b>	<b>12.00</b>	<b>12.50</b>	<b>15.50</b>	<b>15.50</b>	<b>16.00</b>	<b>15.50</b>	<b>17.03</b>	<b>15.91</b>	<b>17.44</b>	<b>16.63</b>	<b>16.07</b>

## Grants & Other Revenues



# Performance Measures

## King Conservation District Ten Year Report Card 2003-2012

### Summary of Metrics by Programs & Services

<b>Planning and Technical Assistance</b> (including shorelines)	
Number of resource management plans & technical assistance services	1,636
Acres covered by resource management plans and technical assistance	18,469
Practices implemented	3,283
Farmland acreage served with a Conservation Plan	1 In 5 acres

<b>Grant Implementation</b>	
Total grants awarded	561
Total grant funds awarded	\$35,311,405
Dollars leveraged with grant funds (estimated)	\$127,451,896
Dollars cities leverage for each KCD Grant dollar	\$3.60

<b>Education</b>	
Farm tours, classes, workshops	361
People participating in tours, classes, and workshops	5,077

<b>Project Implementation</b>	
Dollars leveraged in association with landowner implementation of conservation practices	\$1,926,569
Dollars leveraged by landowners for each dollar of financial assistance for water quality practices	\$2.78
Miles of shoreline enhanced (fresh and marine)	18
Acres of shoreline enhanced (fresh and marine)	196
Percent of shoreline properties receiving direct buffer project assistance.	1.7% fresh 6.4% marine
Percent of District cooperators with aquatic areas helped to install buffers	90%
Number of native plants installed	523,327

<b>Volunteer / Community Building*</b>	
KCD Volunteers	5,651
KCD Volunteer hours	20,610
Dollars leveraged in association with volunteer labor	\$311,664

*\*These statistics apply to KCD volunteers and do include volunteers, hours, and financial value of volunteers used in member jurisdiction grant projects as the District has not historically requested this information from cities.*

**King Conservation District and King County  
2013 Task Force  
Memorandum of Understanding**

**1. Enabling Ordinance:**

King County Ordinance 17474 which authorizes a system of rates and charges for 2013-2014, in support of the King Conservation District (KCD), provides in Section III B. 5 for a multi-jurisdictional task force to

- *investigate the availability of conservation and natural resource programs and services in King County,*
- *identify the needs within the County, both met and unmet for such services and programs, and*
- *identify the actual and prospective sources of funding to meet such needs.*

The initial focus of such investigation is to be on the activities and programs authorized by Chapter 89.08 RCW. The Task Force will review and discuss the full menu of conservation and environmental programs and services available to County and District stakeholders. The Task Force and the Conservation Panel, as described herein, will make recommendations to the KCD Board and King County Council, as described below.

The ordinance describes other details for/of the Task Force, which details are reflected in this Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”).

**2. King County and King Conservation District Goals:**

The King County and KCD co-conveners agree to the following goals:

- Work in partnership and openly share information and analysis between both entities and with all participants in the Task Force and Conservation Panel;
- Prioritize the objectives in Section 3 of this MOU so that deadlines can be met;
- Include in the final recommendations options to address objectives that cannot be fully addressed during 2013;
- Identify the type, public benefit and regional priority of service gaps in conservation and natural resource programs in King County that could be filled by the King Conservation District;
- Identify sources of funding to fill such gaps;
- Reflect the consensus of Task Force and Conservation Panel members and, if needed, include minority reports in the final recommendations.

**3. Task Force Objectives:**

The co-conveners of the Task Force agree that the primary objective of the Task Force is to research factual information and provide policy advice to the King County Council and the King Conservation District Board regarding priorities and funding for current and future natural resource and conservation programs provided in the region. The scope of the research and policy advice will include but not be limited to:

- inventory list of available services;
- identified program needs;
- an evaluation of service and service levels provided and number of persons served;
- identification of available funding sources;
- issues relating to governance, service availability and equity;
- opportunities for synergy and leveraging of funds;
- review of the KCD rates and charges methodology;
- program costs and administration; and
- other issues as may be identified by the Task Force.

King County and the King Conservation District agree to prioritize the list above to the extent necessary so that the timeline agreed to in this MOU can be achieved. Commentary and recommendations from standing advisory groups relating to agricultural, silvicultural, community and environmental issues shall be solicited and considered.

#### **4. Membership and responsibilities:**

The Task Force will consist of twelve representatives as defined below including the two Co-chairs.

Co-chairs: The King Conservation District and King County will co-convene and lead the Task Force. The Task Force will include two representatives from King County, one appointed by the chair of the council and one by the executive. The King Conservation District board of supervisors shall appoint two representatives. One County representative and one KCD representative shall serve as co-chairs of the Task Force. Both co-chairs will also be members of the Task Force.

The co-chairs will work with the facilitator and technical staff to oversee, supervise and approve agendas and materials, including the final report and policy recommendations.

Members: In addition to the two King Conservation District and two King County members who will co-chair the Task Force, participation (membership) in the Task Force will include members representing Seattle, Bellevue, Sound Cities Association and rural landowners, named in the manner set out by the ordinance:

- Two representatives from King County, one appointed by the chair of the council and one by the executive (one will be a co-chair)
- Two representatives appointed by the King Conservation District (one will be a co-chair)
- One member named by the City of Seattle,
- One member named by the City of Bellevue,
- Three members named by the Sound Cities Association, one from each of the three geographic areas of north, south and east King County,
- Three members representing rural land owners, to be jointly appointed by the King County and King Conservation District representatives (by a majority vote)

thereof) as follows: one to be a member of the King County Agriculture Commission; one to be a member of the King County Rural Forestry Commission; and one to be a representative at large. These three citizens will both own rural land in King County and also have some familiarity with the matters before the Task Force.

Together with the co-chairs, the Task Force members will participate in meetings by physical presence or teleconference if circumstances require, be familiar with the background materials supplied by the staff leads from King County, the King Conservation District and/or the facilitator, engage in the discussion opportunities provided and in the development of findings and recommendations for the Task Force's recommendations. If representing a government or governments or Commission, the Task Force member will provide regular reports to that entity. The Task Force will strive to make decisions by consensus. However if consensus cannot be reached the facilitator may ask for minority report(s) to be included in the final report. The Task Force will agree to operating rules at their first meeting. The Task Force will provide their recommendations to the Conservation Panel and collaborate with the Conservation Panel as described in Section 6 of this MOU.

Term: Task Force members will be appointed on or before April 10, 2013 and will serve until December 31, 2013 or until the final recommendations are made to the King County Council and the King Conservation Board if that happens prior to December 31, 2013. Task Force members may be asked to continue beyond this date to address work program items that may need additional evaluation. In such a case, the final recommendations would include such condition.

Advisory Groups: Input from standing advisory groups relating to agricultural, silvicultural, community and environmental issues shall be solicited and considered.

Conservation Panel: A Conservation Panel of elected officials will review Task Force recommendations and collaborate to develop the final report as described in Section 6 of this MOU. The Conservation Panel will be comprised of nine elected officials representing the same jurisdictional stakeholders as the Task Force. Specifically members will be as follows:

- Two elected officials (or delegates) from King County, one appointed by the chair of the council and one by the executive (one will be a co-chair)
- Two Board members from the King Conservation District (one will be a co-chair)
- One elected official named by and from the City of Seattle,
- One elected official named by and from the City of Bellevue,
- Three elected officials named by and from the Sound Cities Association, one from each of the three geographic areas of north, south and east King County.

The Conservation Panel will be staffed jointly by the Task Force co-chairs. Their meetings will be facilitated by the same facilitator as hired for the Task Force. Conservation Panel members will commit to at least three meetings and to having knowledge and interest in the subject matter of the Task Force. The Conservation Panel

will collaborate with the Task Force to develop consensus support for a set of recommendations as described in Section 6 of this MOU to be forwarded in a final report to the King County Council and the KCD Board. If consensus cannot be reached, the facilitator may ask for minority reports to be included in the final report.

Term: Conservation Panel members will be appointed on or before April 10, 2013 and will serve until December 31, 2013 or until the final recommendations are made to the King County Council and the King Conservation Board if that happens prior to December 31, 2013. Conservation Panel members may be asked to continue beyond this date to address work program items that may need additional evaluation. In such a case, the final recommendations would include such condition.

## 5. Resources:

Facilitator: The King Conservation District and King County jointly shall provide for the retention and share equally the selection and payment of a professional facilitator for the Task Force and the Conservation Panel. The facilitator will be skilled in interest based negotiations and be familiar with or able to quickly achieve familiarity with the subject matter of Task Force. The facilitator will work directly with the co-chairs and co-lead staff to create agendas, accumulate/develop materials and ensure group processes that create and sustain a participatory environment, using best practices and ensuring a safe and collaborative environment for all participants. The facilitator's primary objective is to support the groups and ensure that deliverables described in Section 6 are provided to the Conservation Panel and to King County and the King Conservation District in the time frame required by the ordinance. The facilitator will be selected jointly by staff from King County and the KCD.

Participating Experts: The King Conservation District and King County jointly shall provide for the retention and payment of (as required) mutually agreed upon experts to provide perspective/context and background and briefings on relevant background information as required.

Technical Support: The technical support for the Task Force will be provided by King County and KCD staff, with one staff person from each government named co-lead staff. The support should include at least one staff person from each represented government with appropriate expertise in natural resources or public works issues.

Co-lead staff will maintain a current contact list for all participants and technical staff involved in the task force and a bibliography of all materials presented by or to the Task Force, including the Final Report and Policy Recommendations to be provided to the King Conservation District and King County at the conclusion of the work. All agendas and materials supplied to the Task Force are public documents.

Staff support: The Task Force shall be provided with staff support, as available within current resources, by the King Conservation District, King County and as offered by other Task Force participants.

Budget: The estimated budget for the Task Force, excluding the value of all donated time by the participants and technical staff, will be developed jointly by the King Conservation District and King County in conjunction with the selected facilitator. These expenses will be shared on an equal basis by the King Conservation District and King County. King County and the KCD acknowledge that the budget expenses provided for herein are to be paid under King County's current appropriation authority and under KCD Board approval. To the extent that the payment of expenses provided for herein would exceed such authorizations, the obligation to pay such expenses is null and void and of no further effect, unless further appropriation by the King County Council and approval by the KCD Board to pay such expenses is made.

## **6. Roles and Deliverables:**

The Task Force work and recommendations shall be completed to final draft and presented to the Conservation Panel by July 25, 2013, if possible, but in any event no later than September 1, 2013.

The Conservation Panel will review, deliberate upon and collaboratively develop amendments to the recommendations, as needed, with the Task Force until a common set of recommendations is crafted. These recommendations will be forwarded to the KCD Board and King County Council to inform funding decisions for future KCD work programs and budgets as soon as possible and preferably before October 15, 2013 if possible, but in any event no later than December 31, 2013.

Both the Task Force and the Conservation Panel will use an interest-based process and strive to make decisions by consensus. Consensus is defined as, and will be achieved, when all parties agree they can live with a proposed recommendation even though it may not be their preferred ideal.

However, if consensus cannot be reached, the facilitator may ask for minority reports to be included in the final report. Should the Conservation Panel and the Task Force not reach consensus on all recommendations, both those agreed to and those with unresolved differences will be forwarded to the King County Council. An explanation of the reason(s) for any differences will be provided by the facilitator.

### Facilitator Deliverables:

- A process, developed through a coherent set of agendas, that provides an appropriate level of research and technical detail on the topics described in Sections 2 and 3 of this MOU (responsibility of Facilitator);
- Opportunities in those agendas for meaningful input by the Task Force and Conservation Panel members (responsibility of Facilitator);and
- A final report (a responsibility of the Facilitator with support from the technical support staff provided by King County and the King Conservation District as identified in Section 5). The final report will include sections on

- o A summary of the research considered and discussions of Task Force and Conservation Panel members, in support of focused Findings of Fact,
- o A common set of Policy Recommendations arising out of those Findings of Fact,
- o If requested by the facilitator minority report(s) including any recommendations that are not forwarded and why.

**7. Meetings and Schedule:**

Task Force: The Task Force will be appointed by April 10, 2013. The Task Force will hold 3-4 hour long meetings at least twice monthly beginning before or by May 1, or as soon as possible. Additional meetings will be convened as needed to address comments from the Conservation Panel, or as required. The Task Force and Conservation Panel will hold at least three meetings or parts of meetings jointly.

Conservation Panel: The Conservation Panel will be appointed by April 10, 2013. The Conservation Panel will hold at least three meetings, with one on or before May 1, jointly with the Task Force and two following meetings to consider and discuss interim reports and Final Report recommendations directly with the Task Force. The Conservation Panel will hold additional meetings as needed to finalize consensus recommendations for the King County Council and the KCD Board and submit such recommendations in writing as soon as possible after July 25 and, in any event, no later than December 31, 2013.

Minutes for all meetings will be posted on the King County and KCD website within five business days of each meeting.

**Agreement:**

This Memorandum of Understanding is agreed to this 1st day of April, 2013.

  
Chair, King Conservation District

  
Executive, King County

(On behalf of Executive, King County)

## Stakeholder Group Concerns 6-13-13

### BELLEVUE CONCERNS

- Concerned about the cost and financial burden on taxpayers
- Concerned about duplication or supplanting of services provided by other governmental or non-governmental organizations
- Lack of meaningful role on an advisory committee
- Lack of transparency and accountability in KCD budget and programs
- KCD Board election issues and representation
- Costs and benefits of KCD programs are not apparent

### KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT CONCERNS

- State and federal funding shrinking; state funding impacted by education policy at state; federal farm bill not passed; challenged by regulators, tribes to do more, faster, better; needs exceed resources; lack of awareness of mission, accomplishments as a barrier; work with more landowner than just rural; about 60% of budget goes to water and aquatic habitat; need for more technical assistance for new farmers.
- Cross boundary nature of natural resource work makes coordination challenging
- Disappointed that KCD has missed collaborative opportunities (and 34 cities is a challenging number of entities to work with)
- Contradictory and inflexible regulatory agencies and egos of regulators make it tough for private property owners
- Need to be creative and efficient about how we do our work as we focus more on non-point and behavior management
- Need to have clear understanding of roles and legal responsibilities of all the parties and to design a process that supports the respective responsibilities while meeting (or not undermining) the needs of others.

### KING COUNTY CONCERNS

- There has been a lack of consensus based on an informed understanding of the degree to which private land management on agricultural lands, managed forestlands, and wooded uplands, provide benefits to the King County region as a whole.
- The time and energy involved in building support for and then negotiating an interlocal agreement and rates between the County and the KCD every two-to-three years requires large investment of energy and time and takes away from service delivery. Seek agreement and support for purpose, use and allocation of funds to allow a longer term for the interlocal agreement, if appropriate.
- We are still siloed in some of our problem solving e.g. fish/farm/flood. The interests may also be out of balance, both in problem-solving and representation.

## **Stakeholder Group Concerns 6-13-13**

### **RURAL CONCERNS**

- Given the level of regulations on large parcels there is a need for public investment to address the public benefit received in excess of the burden imposed on landowners; absent that we create an outlaw class of those who have to take risks to manage their land when the regulations exceed the ability of an individual landowner to comply; the compliance burden seems disproportionate between public benefit and cost to individual property owner
- If we are thinking regionally, problems go across county lines; for example in some cases, Snohomish and King Counties are not coordinated and that has created problems
- The public continues to have limited awareness of what is going on including the definition of a watershed for example
- Increased efficiencies could be achieved if KCD managed all the funding it collected and the money was not split into lots of smaller pots for the cities' allocations
- Through partnering, we can get a lot more done and look beyond just the current model for the conservation district in King County, but look outside of King County to other effective Conservation District models as well

### **SEATTLE CONCERNS**

- Continuation of member jurisdiction grants program (Equity – City of Seattle property owners contribute large percent of budget)
- Election process – needs to change, not visible.
- Transparency – how KCD spends it's money
- Accountability
- Barriers to effective service delivery – conflicting regulations

### **SOUND CITIES ASSOCIATION CONCERNS**

- Funds are needed to support small city projects and to support the few small city staff that are available for addressing and representing a wide range of natural resource interests
- More transparency- no taxation without representation- fair; citizens and stakeholders contributing to the district get to weigh in on the funding process;
- Demonstrable value within cities
- Jurisdictional goals are important including paperwork processing (historically it seemed like a lot of process for a few dollars that included reviews by jurisdictions, WRIAs and then KCD)
- Election and selection processes are of concern –SCA uses an appointment process elsewhere where SCA appoints its own representatives to boards and commissions
- Authority and structural aspects
- Transparency over the years, especially administrative and overhead costs as well as determination of direct benefit

**Results of Brainstorm of Potential KCD Programs/Services and/or Synergistic Opportunities from July 17, 2013 Task Force Meeting**

- Support farmers' markets
- Cooperative Monitoring
- Septic Maintenance Assistance
- LID
- Assistance for private land owners next to lake, creek, shoreline
- Forestry conservation, urban and rural
- Increased cost share
- Funding for urban farming
- Mobile slaughter house idea
- Help farmers drain their field
- Soil literacy program in farmers market
- Old fashioned soil conservation programs
- Eliminate weeds
- Tree planting
- Streamlined water rights
- Plant urban trees
- Regulatory compliance assistance
- Permit assistance
- Youth Education
- Grant writing assistance
- Creative reuse of aging farm infrastructure
- Create farm/forest cooperative
- Rethink KCD programs
- Diversify farm to table approaches (more than just farmers' markets)
- Store winter rainfall for summer irrigation use
- Edible buffers and harvestable buffers
- Technical assistance for urban farmers
- Creative use of food banks
- Technical assistance for rural farmers
- Create gleaning programs
- Support pollinators
- LID code rewrite assistance
- Public education on benefits of natural resources and their importance
- Rain barrels
- Continue farm plans
- Partner private landowners with urban land projects; e.g., 10 landowners surrounding city park
- Farmer to foodie program (adopt a farmer)
- Farmers' market vouchers
- Neighborhood rain gardens
- Urban chickens
- Neighborhood gardens

- Fruit tree stewarding
- Accept food stamps at farmers' markets
- Extended habitat maintenance
- Farmer to Foodie; better connections for health
- Septic maintenance (encourage folks to take care of systems)
- Forestry conservation--urban and rural

Additional brainstorm ideas submitted on 7/18/13 (Thank you, Nicole Sanders)

- Small revolving loan fund for Septic-to-sewer conversions
- Joint insurance provision for independent p-patches/community gardens
- LIF project design assistance (Engineer to help design/review/stamp specs)
- Small loans program for various (like in Pierce, for small under \$10 k projects like pervious driveways, neighborhood rain gardens)
- Forest health assessments (comparison of forested-to-invasives levels to direct where to prioritize restoration efforts)

**Item 9:**

PSRC Regional Food Policy Council – Blueprints for Local Governments

***Discussion Item***

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**SCA Staff Contact**

Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director, [Deanna@soundcities.org](mailto:Deanna@soundcities.org); 206-433-7170

Tukwila City Councilmember De'Sean Quinn will be presenting on the recent work of the PSRC Food Policy Council. The purpose of this presentation is to highlight how jurisdictions can address the local food economy and food access through policy and planning.

The PIC will also be joined by Food Policy Council representative Seattle City Councilmember Richard Conlin, Chair of the Food Policy Council.

**Background**

In 2012, the Washington State Department of Health contracted with Regional Food Policy Council to work on a policy or systems change that would increase equitable access to healthy foods in the Puget Sound region. The Regional Food Policy Council chose to develop policy recommendations for local jurisdictions to better support healthy food access and the local food economy through planning, zoning, economic development, and procurement policies.

The Regional Food Policy Council identified five topic areas to address with this project:

- Comprehensive Plans
- Urban Agriculture
- Farmers Markets
- Local Food Procurement
- Rural Farmland Preservation (forthcoming)

These five policy blueprints ([Attachment A](#)) provide recommendations for local governments interested in addressing the local food economy and food access through policy and programs. The blueprint recommendations have examples from the Puget Sound region to show steps some local jurisdictions have already taken.

The blueprints aim to address challenges and opportunities for local communities. Challenges include health disparities and access to healthy food, preserving agricultural resources, and ensuring resiliency in the food system during emergencies. Food system planning can create opportunities to grow the local food economy and provide other community benefits.

Additional resources and reports on various food policy topics are available online [www.psrc.org/growth/foodpolicy/resources-topic](http://www.psrc.org/growth/foodpolicy/resources-topic).

Several SCA members have expressed interest in knowing more about the work of the Food Policy Council, and have requested this presentation.

## **Attachments**

- A. [Food Policy Blueprints](#)



## Food Policy Blueprints

In 2012, the Washington State Department of Health contracted with PSRC's Regional Food Policy Council to work on a policy or systems change that would increase equitable access to healthy foods in the Puget Sound region. The Regional Food Policy Council chose to develop policy recommendations to local jurisdictions to support healthy food access and the local food economy through planning, zoning, economic development, and procurement policies.

The Regional Food Policy Council identified four initial topic areas to address with this project:

- Comprehensive Plans
- Urban Agriculture
- Farmers Markets
- Local Food Procurement

These food policy blueprints provide recommendations for local governments interested in addressing the local food economy and food access through policy and programs. The recommendations focus on examples from the Puget Sound region to show steps some local jurisdictions have already taken.

The blueprints aim to address challenges and opportunities for local communities. Challenges include health disparities and access to healthy food, preserving agricultural resources, and ensuring resiliency in the food system during emergencies. Food system planning can create opportunities to grow the local food economy and provide other community benefits.

The intent is for these resources to grow and change over time as the Council incorporates new recommendations, policy areas or examples.

## About the Regional Food Policy Council

The Regional Food Policy Council brings together community, government, business and agricultural interests to work on integrated and sustainable policy recommendations to strengthen the regional food system. It was established in September 2010 at the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC). PSRC serves as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for King, Pierce, Snohomish and Kitsap counties and is focused on ensuring a thriving central Puget Sound region now and into the future through planning for transportation, growth management and economic development. The Regional Food Policy Council has a diverse membership of local jurisdictions, businesses, institutions and community organizations.

Members of the council and PSRC staff are available to provide technical assistance to jurisdictions considering any of the recommendations.

Resources and reports on various food policy topics are available online here:

<http://www.psrc.org/growth/foodpolicy/resources-topic/>

# The Blueprints

## Farmers Markets

### Background

Farmers markets serve as an important community gathering place, economic development opportunity and connection point between producers and consumers. Farmers markets sit at the intersection of many important policy issues: nutrition and health, environmental protection, food security, economic growth, and community development. While farmers markets can provide significant benefits, urban markets are often challenged by complicated, expensive permitting; lack of stable, long-term locations; and underfunding.

Both locally and nationwide, local governments have taken steps to remove barriers and improve access for farmers markets. This can include establishing a clear code definition for farmers markets, amending codes to allow farmers markets in appropriate zones, allowing markets on city-owned property, streamlining permitting, and establishing a program to sponsor farmers markets. Jurisdictions may also consider supportive steps they can take to facilitate acceptance of electronic payment and food assistance benefits at farmers markets.

### Recommendation: Streamline permitting and fees to remove barriers to establishing and maintaining a farmers market.

Several local jurisdictions have identified licensing and fee schedule improvements to streamline the permitting process for farmers markets. The cities of Gold Bar and Seattle have both considered how to support their farmers markets by streamlining or exempting markets from fees, licenses, or permits. The City of Gold Bar exempts operators at farmers markets from business licenses, while the City of Seattle completed a process in 2009 to streamline market requirements and fees. MRSC has collected other state and local approaches on their [Farmers Market](#) page.

### Local Examples: Streamlined Processes

#### Gold Bar

[5.04.040\(C\)\(10\) - Business Licenses](#)

The following shall be exempt from the licensing provisions of this chapter and are not required to comply with the licensing requirements of this chapter: Businesses operating at a "farmers" market or other city-sponsored or -approved activity so long as the activity does not occur more than one (1) time per week for more than five (5) months of each calendar year; and provided that the name, address, and telephone number is submitted to the city on a city business license application form, in advance.

#### Seattle

Streamlined fees and permitting: [Seattle Farmers Market Ordinance](#) (2009)

### Other Resources

[Zoning for Public Markets and Street Vendors](#) – APA Zoning Practice (2009)

[Establishing Land Use Protections for Farmers Markets](#) - Public Health Law and Policy (2009)

[Community Health and Food Access: The Local Government Role](#) - International City/County Management Association (2006)

[King County Farmers Market Report](#) – King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks (2010)

Topic

Background

Recommendations with examples

Resources

# Comprehensive Plan Policies

## Background

Planning for food is increasingly a topic of interest both locally and around the country. Supporting local food is important for the local rural economy, for community food security and for reducing the distance food travels from farm to table. Local governments can play a significant role in supporting local agriculture, promoting public health, improving access to healthy and affordable food, reducing environmental impacts, and diverting food waste from landfills.

Supporting the local food system with comprehensive planning can have economic, quality of life, and environmental benefits.

- Creating and sustaining farm income
- Living-wage food production, processing, and sales jobs
- Improving the economic viability of local agriculture
- More efficiently using vacant or underutilized parcels through urban agriculture
- Increasing access to healthy food choices in all neighborhoods

Regional and countywide planning also provides direction to local jurisdictions in addressing the food system. VISION 2040 is the central Puget Sound region's long-range growth management, transportation, and economic development framework. It addresses the importance of conserving agricultural land, supporting the local food economy, and building healthy communities. Each central Puget Sound county has countywide planning policies that discuss the food system in some capacity. Depending on the county, these policies look at production, food access, local food procurement, and agriculture.

The examples below focus on supporting food access and the local food economy. In other parts of the country, some jurisdictions have also chosen to address disincentives to unhealthy food in their communities. If jurisdictions choose to incorporate policies regarding "healthy" and "unhealthy" foods, they should consider defining these terms.

Resources are available to help local jurisdictions evaluate food access in their communities and potentially establish quantifiable measures to track changes. Several jurisdictions have found the Retail Food Environment Index (RFEI) to be a useful indicator of the availability of healthy and unhealthy retail. The RFEI is calculated by dividing the total number fast-food restaurants and convenience stores by the total number of supermarkets and produce vendors. More information and state-by-state maps of the Retail Food Environment Index are available [online](#).

For suggested implementation actions, see sections on [Urban Agriculture](#), [Farmers Markets](#), and [Local Food Procurement](#).

## Recommendation: *Incorporate supportive policies in the comprehensive plan.*

### Land Use Element

**Goal:** Promote food security, local food production, and public health by encouraging locally-based food production, distribution, and choice through urban agriculture, community gardens, farmers markets, and food access initiatives. Establish partnerships and share resources to promote food access and production.

### Policies:

- Agriculture and community gardening
  - Work with residents to evaluate and remove barriers to food production.
  - Minimize conflict between agricultural and non-agricultural uses through maintaining a Right-to-Farm Ordinance.
  - Expand community gardening through city land, including parks and surplus property.
  - Support the development and adoption of joint-use agreements on publicly owned sites or institutional facilities to allow gardens, distribution and sales.
  - Promote inter-agency and intergovernmental cooperation and resource-sharing to expand community gardening opportunities.

- Healthy food access
  - Explore incentives or regulatory changes to encourage location of food purveyors in underserved areas.
  - Prioritize low-income areas as potential locations for community gardens, farmers markets, and food access programs.

### **Economic Development Element**

**Goal:** Support the local food economy. Seek ways to expand capacity to grow, process, distribute, and access local foods. Establish partnerships and share resources to support the local food economy.

#### **Policies:**

- Local food economy
  - Support retail sales and local food economy by encouraging locally based food production, distribution, and choice through the support of community gardens, farmers or public markets, and other small-scale, collaborative initiatives.
  - Explore economic development opportunities related to local agriculture. Assess and plan for community-supported agriculture programs, and local food processing/wholesaling/distribution facilities to connect local agriculture to markets such as retailers, restaurants, schools, hospitals, and other institutions.
  - Encourage business, programs and uses that support local food production.
- Farmers markets
  - Support farmers markets as means to encourage community-building, support local agriculture and economic development.
  - Identify potential farmers' market sites on public property, community facilities, and, where feasible, on streets using temporary street closures. Encourage new farmers markets in neighborhoods with low food access.
- Procurement
  - Explore procurement policies that favor local and regional food sourcing of healthy food in city or county services.

## **Local Examples: Healthy Des Moines Element**

The adopted [Healthy Des Moines Plan Element](#) shows how food policies have been integrated in an element focused on health and well-being.

### **12-03 POLICIES**

#### **12-03-01 Healthy Eating**

- (1) Support policy, systems, and environmental changes that result in increased access to healthy foods for the most at risk populations in the City, with an emphasis on school-age children.
- (2) Provide healthy food and beverages in City programs and facilities to promote healthy eating habits.
- (3) Support the Des Moines Food Bank, Farmers Market and other organizations that help provide food assistance to low-income residents so that all families, seniors, schools, and community-based organizations are able to access, purchase, and increase intake of fresh fruits, vegetables, and other nutritious foods.

### **12-04 STRATEGIES**

#### **12-04-01 Healthy Eating**

- (1) Adopt a Healthy Food Resolution and create a long-term action plan to ensure commitment to healthy food access beyond CPPW funding.
- (2) Evaluate, adopt and implement nutritional standards and healthy food procurement policies in City owned and operated facilities and across departments.

#### **12-04-02 Active Living**

- (1) Develop and implement a communication plan and Healthy Des Moines website with information and links about healthy eating, active living and related events.

## Local Examples: King County Comprehensive Plan

The [King County Comprehensive Plan](#) provides examples of supportive food policies that have been integrated throughout plan elements.

### Rural Legacy and Natural Resource Lands

**R-517** King County should explore ways of creating and supporting community gardens, farmers' markets, produce stands and other similar community based food growing projects to provide and improve access to healthy food for all rural residents.

**R-665** The county should develop incentives that support local food production and processing to increase food security and provide a healthy local food supply, and reduce energy use.

**R-674** King County should work with farmers and ranchers to better understand the constraints to increased food production in the county and develop programs that reduce barriers and create incentives to growing food crops and raising food-producing livestock.

**R-675** King County should prioritize its programs to help build and support a sustainable, reliable, equitable, and resilient local food system.

**R-676** King County should consider adopting procurement policies that would encourage purchases of locally grown fresh foods.

**R-677** King County should promote local food production and processing to reduce the distance that food must travel from farm to table.

**R-678** King County should collaborate with other organizations to further the development of programs that increase the ability of shoppers to use food assistance benefits and the ability of farmers to accept electronic and other forms of payment at farmers' markets and farm stands.

### Environment

**E-455** King County shall work with regional stakeholders to ensure a viable and safe organics recycling infrastructure that allows for yard, food, wood, biosolids, manure and other organic wastes to be turned into resources benefiting climate change, soil health, water quality, and maximizing landfill diversion.

### Economic Development

**ED-602f** King County will explore opportunities to support agricultural tourism and value-added program(s) related to the production of food, flowers, and wine in the county. These partnership venues should be educational and include information on the diversity of products available in the county and the importance of buying local.

**ED-603** King County should partner with other Puget Sound counties and businesses to analyze the need and possible sites for regional agricultural (including beef and poultry) and forest product processing facilities that may require regional demand to make them economically feasible. The county should also explore options and incentives to encourage entrepreneurs to invest in mobile forest and food production processing facilities that can serve the region.

**ED-604** King County will continue to partner with organizations that support programs and strategies that strengthen the interdependence and linkage between the rural and urban economies, such as the Regional Food Policy Council and Puget Sound Fresh.

## Other Resources

[Food Access Policy and Planning Guide](#) – University of Washington Northwest Center for Livable Communities (2011)

[Integrating Food Policy in Comprehensive Planning: Resources for the City of Seattle](#) – Puget Sound Regional Council (2012)

[Planning to Eat? Innovative Local Government Plans & Policies to Build Healthy Food Systems in the United States](#) - SUNY – Buffalo (2011)

[Planning for Food Access and Community-Based Food Systems: A National Scan and Evaluation of Local Comprehensive and Sustainability Plans](#) – American Planning Association (2012)

# Urban Agriculture

## Background

Urban agriculture can play an important role in increasing food security, building community, and improving the environment. Local governments occupy a key role in ensuring that cultivation, processing, and sales of locally produced food occurs in appropriate locations with few barriers. Urban agriculture activities include home gardening in front and backyards, planting strips and roofs; keeping livestock, beekeeping, larger urban farms, private and public community gardens, production and sale of value added products like jams and pickles, and on-site sales of locally produced food.

Codes and development regulations are ways for local governments to enable urban agriculture activities. Jurisdictions can ensure that codes permit urban agriculture in appropriate zones. Streamlining permitting processes can help entrepreneurs enter the market. Beyond permitting food production and sales, jurisdictions can adopt plans or strategies to increase access, education, and support for urban agriculture programs. Several central Puget Sound jurisdictions have adopted language in resolutions, codes, and plans to ensure opportunities to grow food in most zones.

For example, jurisdictions have developed policies and code language to:

- Support urban agriculture through plans, programs, administrative actions and development regulations.
- Encourage business, programs and uses that support local food production.
- Encourage alternative growing options, like roof gardens and edible landscaping.

**Recommendation:** *Define/clarify urban agricultural land uses and activities in city code. Develop implementation strategies to increase urban agriculture.*

## Municipal Code Audit

**Goal:** To identify barriers to urban agricultural activities and develop policies that can be built upon to encourage urban agriculture.

**Action:** Jurisdictions will first need to understand the location and types of urban agricultural activities currently allowed. Then, desired activities, including their scale and permitted locations, can be examined. Different agricultural activities may require amending definitions, land use codes, zones, and site requirements in zoning and development regulations. For example, jurisdictions have identified and developed policies and code language that address:

- Zones suitable for urban agriculture and community gardens
- Where gardening is allowed on private property (e.g., planting strips, front yards)
- Accessory structures (hoop houses, cold frames, tool sheds)
- Roof treatments
- Vertical/Indoor farms
- Bonuses for including gardening space or edible landscaping in development projects
- Animals allowed
- Pest management
- Onsite sales of produce/products
- Licensing for offsite sales
- Community kitchens
- Incorporating gardens/fruit trees in landscaping guidelines
- Targets for community garden access
- Composting and waste
- Water use and reuse for agricultural purposes

A code audit could focus on urban agriculture holistically, or a targeted subject, e.g., community gardens. In either case, the audit and subsequent code changes should be mindful of the sustainability of implementing a policy, particularly in view of tenure and maintenance of property that will be farmed or gardened. Involving external groups with dedicated interests in urban agriculture, such as conservation districts, can help both the audit and reviewing proposed code changes.

## Model Land Use Code for Urban Agriculture

**Goal:** To incorporate policies increasing urban agriculture in city code.

**Action:** After policy areas to improve are identified, code amendments can be drafted to address these issues. Model codes can provide modifiable examples. Language may be inserted into the zoning code, other land use regulations, or elsewhere in the city/county code.

### Local examples: Municipal code audit

#### King County

King County has taken a proactive approach to revising its code to ensure the preservation and sustainability of agriculture. This process has been iterative and very collaborative, with many groups, including members of the county agriculture commission, the King Conservation District, farmers in the community, and state and national regulators. The county's work emphasizes the importance of working with both internal and external groups for feedback and input. In 2009, as a part of the creation of the King County FARMS Report, a regulatory review team was formed to review and identify agriculturally friendly regulations.

Code revisions have occurred in several waves. The county began by revising allowed uses in agricultural zones, with an eye towards ensuring economic sustainability and viability of farming. After making these changes, the county became aware that flood and environmental regulations still prevented some of these uses from occurring, and worked to revise these regulations.

These review activities and code amendments are underlined by policies in the King County strategic and comprehensive plans. They explicitly state goals of preserving and sustaining agriculture.

#### Tacoma

The City of Tacoma adopted a revised urban forestry element in its comprehensive plan in 2010. Since then, they have been revising their city code to ensure that the plan may be implemented. Tacoma's experience also underlines the role that review groups can play in a code audit. Tacoma recently amended its code regarding poultry husbandry. The change was brought about after a member of the Sustainable Tacoma Committee identified that the animal code discouraged residents from keeping poultry by requiring a 50-foot setback for chicken coops and imposing criminal penalties for offenders. The City examined other jurisdictions' codes regarding chickens and worked with code enforcement to draft new rules. The revised code was presented to the community for feedback and passed in 2012.

A community petition prompted the City of Tacoma to allow raised bed gardening in planting strips on a permit basis. The code was revised simply to allow this and to remove the annual fee for occupying the right of way.

### Local examples: Land use code and supporting policies

#### Tacoma Comprehensive Plan Policies – [Urban Forest Policy Element](#)

Create an urban agriculture program. Encourage and assist partners to support and/or create urban agriculture programs and policies. Work with partners to establish a model community garden program, including strategies to increase quantity, quality, security, land use, mitigate soil contamination and address other issues that affect community gardens.	Urban Forest Policy Element. UF-UA-1
Implement an education and outreach program to increase the awareness of the benefits of locally and sustainably grown food. Encourage the use of integrated pest management, sustainable water usage, and natural and organic methods to produce food.	Urban Forest Policy Element. UF-UA-2
Encourage the use of native and/or regionally produced edible plants or seeds for use in urban agriculture. Educate citizens about the selection and care of plants in a manner that does not threaten the health of the urban forest ecosystem.	Urban Forest Policy Element. UF-UA-4

Adopt zoning regulations that establish community gardens as a permitted or conditional use in appropriate locations.	Urban Forest Policy Element. UF-UA-7
Encourage new affordable housing units to contain designated yard or other shared space for residents to garden.	Urban Forest Policy Element. UF-UA-8
Encourage development in Mixed-Use Centers, Downtown, and commercial areas to incorporate green roofs, edible landscaping, and the use of existing roof space for community gardening. Community garden space should count towards open space requirements.	Urban Forest Policy Element. UF-UA-9

### Tacoma Municipal Code – Keeping of Poultry

[Tacoma Municipal Code](#) - 5.30.010 Keeping – Prohibited places.

A. No more than 6 adult poultry and 6 pigeons are allowed per parcel provided that if a person has more than 6 adult poultry or 6 pigeons as of September 10, 2012, he/she may keep those excess poultry or pigeons until July 1, 2015, at which time he/she must comply with the maximum limit allowed; provided further that an owner may have up to 10 adult poultry and 10 pigeons if they obtain written consent from all owners of all residences, dwellings, hotels, apartment houses, or rooming

houses owned by others within 50 feet of where the adult poultry or pigeons are kept, and file such consent with the City Clerk.

One additional adult poultry or pigeon is allowed for each 5,000 square feet of lot area in excess of 10,000 square feet.

B. Pursuant to TMC 17.02.041, it is a violation for any person to own, possess, or harbor a rooster within the City limits.

C. Animal enclosures such as a cage or coop shall be set back a minimum of 12 feet from the nearest portion of any residence, dwelling, hotel, apartment house or rooming house. Animal enclosures must be located behind the front wall of the main building on a lot, and shall not be located in the required side yard setback area of the main building as described in TMC 13.06.100.F.5. Animal enclosures larger than 200 square feet must obtain a building permit.

D. The keeping of poultry and pigeons that do not meet these standards is hereby declared to be a public nuisance; provided that this chapter shall not apply in areas in which abattoirs or stockyards are permitted by appropriate ordinances.

(Ord. 28085 Ex. A; passed Aug. 28, 2012: Ord. 22212 § 17; passed Sept. 30, 1980: Ord. 16586 § 1; passed Jun. 14, 1960)

### Tacoma Municipal Code – Removal of right of way occupancy fees for gardening

[Tacoma Municipal Code](#) - 9.08.075 Fees.

The City Council hereby authorizes the fees for street occupancy permits set forth in the schedule below, and all previously adopted fee schedules are hereby rescinded, except that the existing fee schedule for Shoreline Districts shall remain in effect until superseded by an alternative use fee as referenced in Section 2 below. Application and renewal fees are established commensurate with the costs of administration involved in the issuance and continuance of the permits. **Application and renewal fees do not apply for garden activities.** Use fees are established for commercial uses of the street rights-of-way, and are payable in addition to the application and renewal fees. Sidewalk cafes are recognized as a special street occupancy that promotes desirable street life that can have favorable economic impact by encouraging visitation to City business districts and result in patronage of its businesses. Since sidewalk cafes are encouraged, street occupancy permit fees for sidewalk cafes are given favorable consideration.

### Seattle Municipal Code – Urban Agriculture

[Summary of Seattle Code Changes](#) enacted in 2010.

[Ordinance 123378](#) contains and authorizes the 2010 code changes

## Recommendation: *Identify land available and used for urban agriculture.*

### Land inventory

**Goal:** To inventory land currently used and/or potentially available for urban agriculture, including community gardens.

**Action:** Inventorying and identifying land suitable for urban agriculture can be performed with varying levels of technical skill. This assessment will provide a baseline for measuring progress toward urban agriculture goals.

- Identify land in urban agriculture use with property records, maps, GIS, and community-based information.
- Identify land where urban agricultural activity could occur (by zoning right, land that meets land use code/zoning criteria).
- Perform a suitability analysis of vacant, publicly owned, and/or park land that could be dedicated to urban agriculture, considering characteristics such as area, water access, slope, shade, soil quality, proximity to underserved neighborhoods, proximity to community gardens or other urban farms/gardens.

## Local examples: Inventories of land

### Seattle

As a part of Seattle's Local Food Action Initiative Resolution, passed in 2008, the Department of Neighborhoods was tasked to create an inventory of publicly owned land that has community garden potential. The report, [Growing Green](#), listed in the other resources section below, represents an attempt to analyze publicly owned land in Seattle for suitability as P-Patch gardens.

## Other Resources

[Urban Agriculture Code Audit: Milwaukee, WI](#) – City of Milwaukee (2012)

[Seeding the City: Land Use Policies to Promote Urban Agriculture](#) – ChangeLab Solutions (2011)

[Growing Urban Agriculture: Equitable Strategies and Policies for Improving Access to Healthy Food and Revitalizing Communities](#) – PolicyLink (2012)

[Urban Agriculture: A Sixteen City Survey of Urban Agriculture Practices Across the Country](#) – Turner Environmental Law Clinic (2011)

[Growing Green: An Inventory of Public Lands Suitable for Community Gardening in Seattle, Washington](#) – Horst (2008).

[Plotting P-Patch Potential](#) – Bertulfo et. al. (2009).

[Green Roofs](#) research by the University of Washington Green Futures Lab.

# Farmers Markets

## Background

A farmers market can serve as an important community gathering place, economic development opportunity and connection point between producers and consumers. Farmers markets sit at the intersection of many policy issues: nutrition and health, environmental protection, food security, economic growth, and community development. While farmers markets can provide significant benefits, urban markets are often challenged by complicated, expensive permitting, lack of stable, long-term locations, and underfunding.

Both locally and nationwide, local governments have taken steps to remove barriers and improve access for farmers markets. These include establishing a clear code definition for farmers markets, amending codes to allow farmers markets in appropriate zones, allowing markets on city-owned property, streamlining permitting, and establishing a program to sponsor farmers markets. Jurisdictions may also consider additional steps, such as facilitating acceptance of electronic payment and food assistance benefits, outreach and access to markets, and options for stable, year-round infrastructure.

**Recommendation: *Streamline permitting and fees to remove barriers to establishing and maintaining a farmers market.***

Several local jurisdictions have identified licensing and fee schedule improvements to streamline the permitting process for farmers markets. The cities of Gold Bar and Seattle have both supported their farmers markets by streamlining or exempting markets from fees, licenses, or permits. The City of Gold Bar exempts operators at farmers markets from business licenses, while Seattle completed a process in 2009 to streamline market requirements and fees. Municipal Research and Service Center has collected other state and local approaches on their [Farmers Market](#) page.

## Local examples: Streamlined processes

### Gold Bar

#### [5.04.040\(C\)\(10\) - Business Licenses](#)

The following shall be exempt from the licensing provisions of this chapter and are not required to comply with the licensing requirements of this chapter: Businesses operating at a "farmers" market or other city-sponsored or -approved activity so long as the activity does not occur more than one (1) time per week for more than five (5) months of each calendar year; and provided that the name, address, and telephone number is submitted to the city on a city business license application form, in advance.

### Seattle

Streamlined fees and permitting: [Seattle Farmers Market Ordinance](#) (2009)

**Recommendation: *Identify allowable locations for farmers markets to operate. Consider permitting markets to operate on city-owned property.***

Several local jurisdictions have clarified where farmers markets are permitted to operate and have reduced administrative barriers for temporary use of public land to host a farmers market. In addition to sponsoring markets, Steilacoom, Renton, Kirkland, Auburn, Issaquah, Snoqualmie, and North Bend provide space for farmers markets on city land. Identifying feasible locations accessible to patrons and market vendors can be an important step forward that benefits both neighborhoods and markets.

## Local examples: Farmers markets on public land

### Seattle

Seattle facilitated location of farmers markets on city property with clear process and procedures. See [Seattle Administrative Rules Regarding Use of Public Land](#) (2009)

### Renton & Steilacoom

Renton and Steilacoom both host farmers market on city-owned property. Steilacoom has established a clear [process and guidelines](#) to maintain a stable and well-run market.

## Recommendation: *Define farmers markets.*

Some jurisdictions define what constitutes a farmers market to help differentiate these regular markets from other outdoor fairs and sales. Defining a farmers market allows a jurisdiction to more easily set policies to help farmers markets succeed and to identify appropriate locations for markets.

## Local examples: Defining farmers markets

### Snohomish County

Snohomish County defines farmers markets under their county code as a basis for identifying allowable locations and other relevant development regulations. The following definition for a farmers market is used by the county: "A farmers' market is defined as a site or facility owned or operated by a farmers' cooperative or similar arrangement for the growers and producers of agricultural products to display and sell agricultural products." (SCC 30.91F.184) [Farmers Market AG Bulletin #9](#) (2010)

### Seattle

The City of Seattle provides a detailed definition of farmers markets in Attachment A of [Farmers Markets Permitting Process](#) (2009). Seattle's administrative definition of a farmers market requires at least 70% of the market's vendors to be based in Washington state and selling items that include fresh farm products, value-added farm foods, dried flowers and crafted farm products, and processed and prepared foods. This definition is used as criteria for participation in farmers market program that streamlines permitting and allows use of right of way.

## Other Resources

[Zoning for Public Markets and Street Vendors](#) – APA Zoning Practice (2009)

[Establishing Land Use Protections for Farmers Markets](#) - Public Health Law and Policy (2009)

[Community Health and Food Access: The Local Government Role](#) - International City/County Management Association (2006)

[King County Farmers Market Report](#) – King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks (2010)

[Farmers Markets, Public Markets](#) – Municipal Research and Services Center of Washington

[Farmers Markets and Low-Income Communities](#) – Project for Public Spaces

# Local Food Procurement Policies

## Background

Encouraging government and other institutions to purchase locally grown food can strengthen the local food system. It establishes new institutional markets for local producers, maximizes the freshness and quality of food served by these agencies, and can support improvements to local food infrastructure, such as distribution and processing facilities.

Supporting the local food economy can also have important economic, quality of life, and environmental benefits. Benefits include preserving farmland and training the next generation of farmers. Living-wage jobs develop through food production, processing, and sales. New markets of institutional food service providers are created.

Because approximately 50% of food is consumed away from home<sup>1</sup>, institutions that provide meals, snacks, vending and beverage choices can have a role in improving diets. Offering more fruits and vegetables leads to an increase in the choice and consumption of these foods. It ensures that people have access to a diet that helps them meet the [Dietary Guidelines for Americans](#). Beyond providing additional food choices, institutional bulk food purchases provide an opportunity over time to impact our food system as a whole. Organizations that might adopt healthy and local food procurement policies include local governments, school districts, colleges and universities, restaurant and food service organizations, hospitals, correctional facilities, youth providers, and private businesses.

State governments, school districts, and private business have adopted locally grown food purchasing policies or practices in recent years. There are few examples of local governments who have passed these policies, making this a real opportunity for leadership in Washington state. By establishing such practices, organizations can use their food purchasing power to support the local food economy, offer healthier options for their customers, and in the long run, improve the environment.

A number of resources are available on other institutional purchasing of local food, specifically Farm to School. For information on Farm to School programs, please visit the [WSDA Farm to School Toolkit](#).

**Recommendation: *Support institutional procurement policies that encourage purchases of locally grown food products.***

**Goal:** Promote public health, local food production, and the environment by establishing policies and practices that support local food procurement by government agencies and private businesses.

**Elements that can be included in a local food procurement policy:**

- Percent food purchased within a specific geographic area
- Diet-related health concerns
- Supporting area farmers
- Environmental Protection
- Food quality and safety

**Strategy: *Target percentage of local food purchases.***

Under a target percentage policy or law, a certain percentage of all food purchases must be from local sources.

Voluntary efforts to increase local procurement are also an option. An organization could pass a resolution or other statement expressing its support for increased local procurement or could launch a 10% campaign encouraging organizations to buy 10% of their food from local sources.

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<sup>1</sup> [USDA - Economic Research Service](#)

## Policy examples: Target local percentages

[Illinois' Local Food, Farms, Jobs Act of 2009](#) set a goal that all state institutions purchase at least 20% of their food from local sources by 2020.

North Carolina State University's [The 10% Campaign](#) provides an example of encouraging organizations to buy 10% of their food from local sources.

## Strategy: *Mandated percent price preference.*

A law that mandates percent price preference requires locally-produced food to be purchased when the cost of the food is within a certain percentage of the price of similar from a conventional source.

## Policy examples: Price preference

### Alaska

Any state entity or school district receiving state money must purchase its agricultural products from farms within the state as long as the in-state product costs no more than 7% above similar out-of-state products and the in-state product is of the same quality ([ALASKA STAT. ANN. § 36.15.050\(a\)](#)).

### Massachusetts

Their law requires all state agencies purchasing agricultural products (defined to include processed foods and seafood) to prefer products grown in the state or end products made using products grown in the state. When given the choice between Massachusetts-produced products and those from out of state, state agencies are required to buy the local products as long as they are not more than 10% more expensive than the out of state choices. ([MASS. GEN. LAWS ch. 7, § 23B\(a and c\)](#)).

## Strategy: *Discretionary geographic price preference or general geographic preference.*

States can specify that state agencies have discretion to spend more on local products over out-of-state products using a discretionary geographic preference law. States are not required to purchase local, but can do so, even if the cost of the local product is higher.

## Policy example: Geographic preference

Using a local food procurement statute, [Montana](#) gave broad discretion to state institutions (including agencies, schools, prisons, universities, hospitals, etc.) to purchase Montana-produced food directly from farmers and other producers rather than going through the state's standard procurement procedures.

## Strategy: *Comprehensive plan policies to promote local food procurement*

Local food procurement can be reinforced through goals and policies in the comprehensive plan. The 2012 King County Countywide Planning Policies included a new policy statement regarding institutional procurement of local food; jurisdictions in King County in particular should consider how to address this new policy.

## Policy example: Comprehensive plan policies

[King County Countywide Planning Policies](#): Support institutional procurement policies that encourage purchases of locally grown food products. (Development Patterns chapter, DP-60)

[King County](#): King County should consider adopting procurement policies that would encourage purchases of locally grown fresh foods. (Comprehensive Plan, Rural Element, R-676)

[Bremerton](#): Encourage local and regional purchasing of consumer goods by the City and private sector. (Comprehensive Plan, Environment Element, Sustainability, E1D)

## Policy example: Other approaches to purchasing local food

[The New York City Food Purchasing Guidelines](#) address a number of strategies to procure local food including geographic and price preference. In addition to those policy elements, they also include other ways to assure local procurement.

Their policy language is as follows:

*Under Subsection (8)(a) of GML §103, the purchasing agency may also mandate that a particular product, e.g., apples, come from New York State, thereby limiting competition to bidders that can supply such products, rather than similar products sourced from other locations. Under Subsection (8)(a) of GML §103, the purchasing agency may purchase the types of products included on the NYSDA [New York State Department of Agriculture List] list, using solicitations that seek bidders for multiple “classes” of goods. Using this procedure, bidders can be invited to submit offers to provide either a bundle of goods that includes New York State food products (e.g., with a requirement for 30% of the class as such New York State food products) and/or a bundle of goods with no sourcing restrictions. Upon reviewing the bids received, DCAS may then decide to award a contract to either the low bidder in the first “class,” or the low bidder in the second “class.” In addition to the above-described bid solicitation terms that specifically prefer New York State food products, purchasing agencies may use the new “best value” provisions of GML §103 to craft solicitations that consider the freshness and perishability of the food being purchased, such as the number of days from harvest to delivery.*

## Other Resources

[A Guide to Developing a Sustainable Food Purchasing Policy](#) - Food Alliance

[A School’s Guide to Purchasing Washington-Grown Food](#) – Washington State Department of Agriculture

[Local Food for Local Government – Considerations in Giving Preference to Locally Grown Food](#) –Public Health Law & Policy

[Improving the Food Environment Through Nutrition Standards: A Guide for Government Procurement](#) - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[Health and Sustainability Guidelines for Federal Concessions and Vending Operations](#) - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[Good Laws, Good Food: Putting State Food Policy to Work for our Communities](#) - Harvard Law School Food Law and Policy Clinic

[Healthy and Sustainable Food for San Francisco](#) – City and County of San Francisco

[New York City Food Purchasing Guidelines](#) – New York City Office of Contract Services

[Portland State University - Local Food Purchasing](#) – Portland State University

[Mother Earth Farm](#) – Emergency Food Network (example of direct sourcing for institutional use)



August 14, 2013  
SCA PIC Meeting

**Item 10a:**

SCA 2013 Communication Efforts

SCA Board

***Informational Item***

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**SCA Staff Contact**

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**SCA Board Members**

President Denis Law, Mayor City of Renton; Vice President John Marchione, Mayor City of Redmond; Treasurer Don Gerend, Councilmember City of Sammamish; Director-at-Large Matt Larson, Mayor City of Snoqualmie; Past President Ken Hearing, Mayor City of North Bend; David Baker, Mayor City of Kenmore; Dini Duclos Councilmember, City of Federal Way; Chris Eggen, Deputy Mayor City of Shoreline; Mia Gregerson, Deputy Mayor City of SeaTac; Dave Hill, Mayor City of Algona; Pete Lewis, Mayor City of Auburn; Jamie Perry, Councilmember City of Kent; David Johnston, Maple Valley City Manager.

2013 has been an extremely productive year for SCA. The purpose of this item is to highlight SCA's 2013 communication efforts to date.

**Background:**

At 2013 SCA Board Retreat, SCA Board adopted the following objective regarding communications:

**Demonstrate value of Sound Cities Association to members and the region**

The Board adopted 5 strategies, and chose to focus on 3 strategies in particular:

- 1) Successful launch and optimization of the website
- 2) Develop effective social media presence
- 3) Communicate SCA policy positions to regional leaders

The other two communications strategies were:

- 4) Implement media relations program to increase awareness of SCA
- 5) Institute regular member communications

The attached memo is an update from SCA Board President Mayor Law to the SCA Board of Directors regarding the status of these strategies.

SCA members may also be interested in the following editorial that appeared in the Seattle Times on Sunday, August 4, 2013:

[http://seattletimes.com/html/editorials/2021528024\\_katerileycolumnmetropolitan04xml.html](http://seattletimes.com/html/editorials/2021528024_katerileycolumnmetropolitan04xml.html)

**Attachment**

- A. [July 17, 2013 Memo from SCA Board President Law re: Communications](#)

**MEMO**

**TO:** SCA Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Denis Law, SCA President  
**RE:** Update on SCA Communications Efforts for July 2013  
**DATE:** July 17, 2013

At 2013 SCA Board Retreat, SCA Board adopted the following objective regarding communications:

**Demonstrate value of Sound Cities Association to members and the region**

The Board adopted 5 strategies, and chose to focus on 3 strategies in particular:

- 1) Successful launch and optimization of the website
- 2) Develop effective social media presence
- 3) Communicate SCA policy positions to regional leaders

The other two communications strategies were:

- 4) Implement media relations program to increase awareness of SCA
- 5) Institute regular member communications

The purpose of this memo is to update the Board regarding the status of these strategies.

**Priority #1: Successful launch and optimization of the website:**

- Website was launched in early February, and we have received many compliments on site from members and partners
  - [www.SoundCities.org](http://www.SoundCities.org)
- We continue to make updates and improvements to the SCA website
  - Updating website frequently to add news stories about members
  - Added SCA video to website in June:
    - <http://soundcities.org/learn-about-sca/>
    - Also on SCA YouTube page
  - Next step: adding a section with city events, festivals, farmers markets

**Priority #2: Develop effective social media presence:**

- Facebook:
  - 224 “Likes”
    - Up from 126 at beginning of year, 173 in April
  - We did a short, inexpensive FB ads in June to highlight the SCA website, and informational video
    - Post re video reached 14,568 users, with 119 “engaged” users,
  - Most recent (unpaid) post (re Mayor Guier of Pacific) reached 859 people, with 78 engaged users, 59 “talking about this”
- Twitter:
  - @SoundCities
  - Started “tweeting” in February 2013
  - 123 Followers

- Up from 83 in April
  - SCA Senior Policy Analyst Monica Whitman was “live tweeting” from transportation events, which helped to drive our increased presence on Twitter
  - SCA’s followers include a variety of regional leaders
- YouTube
  - SCA has a YouTube channel featuring informational videos, trainings and workshops
  - <http://www.youtube.com/user/SoundCities>
  - SCA Orientation available for viewing online, featuring elected officials including:
    - King County Councilmember Joe McDermott (Board of Health Chair)
    - King County Councilmember Reagan Dunn (Regional Transit Committee Chair)
    - King County Councilmember Jane Hague (Vice Chair for Regional Coordination)
    - King County Prosecutor Dan Satterberg (RLSJ, MIDD)
    - Kitsap County Commissioner Josh Brown (PSRC)
  - We are also using the channel to highlight videos featuring SCA members and staff (e.g., Comcast Newsmakers)

**Priority #3: Communicate SCA policy positions to regional leaders:**

- SCA has formally communicated policy positions on a variety of topics to regional leaders in 2013:
  - Support for the formation of a stakeholder group by the Washington State Legislature, as the means to reach consensus on bill language regarding watershed investment authorities, to be introduced in the 2014 legislative session (2/2013)
    - The stakeholder group was formed and is meeting
    - SCA Senior Policy Analyst Monica Whitman was integral in the establishment of this group
  - Concerns re HB 1848, which would have permitted school siting outside urban growth areas (2/21/2013)
    - Would have undermined comprehensive planning and the Growth Management Act, and have an adverse impact in terms of increase in vehicle miles travelled, time students spent travelling, greater impacts on the environment, loss of rural character and increased development pressure
    - Would have taken local control away from counties and give special districts authority over local land use
    - Emphasized that School Siting Task Force led by SCA was a model example of how cities, the county, school districts, and other interested stakeholders can come together in a collaborative fashion to address the siting of schools
    - The bill did not pass
  - Support for HB 1128, regarding local agencies' responses to public records requests
    - While the bill did not pass, responding to public records requests has been identified as an area of major concern by member cities, and by SCA Board at 2013 retreat
      - Note: SCA also sponsored training for member cities on issues relating to social media and public records requests
  - Support for SHB 1253 & SSB 5262, allowing for flexible use of lodging tax dollars (3/8/2013)
    - The bill was signed by the Governor on May 10, 2013

- This legislation is vital to continuation of special events and community festivals that bring important tourism dollars into our local economies, and the state as a whole
- Support for the sale of the Brugger's Bog property from the County to City of Shoreline (4/29/2013)
  - The sale has been approved by Council
  - Strong support for SCA position from Councilmember Dembowski, who has indicated that he may work with SCA to develop a formal County policy on future property sales
- Support for the Marketplace Fairness Act (5/29/2013)
  - Would be beneficial to SCA member cities, and small businesses within member cities
  - Bill has passed Senate and under consideration in House
  - Working with Congresswoman Del Bene's office on this issue has increased awareness of value of SCA, helped to establish a partnership with the Congresswoman and her staff
- Support for development of a King County Metro Long Range Plan that incorporates transit service needs identified in city comprehensive plans (6/7/2013)
  - Developing strong partnership with Metro through communications and collaboration with Metro staff, and RTC Chair Dembowski
  - SCA Senior Policy Analyst Monica Whitman has spearheaded workshops for SCA RTC members that have proved to be extremely beneficial for SCA member elected officials and staff
- Support for taking a holistic approach to regional tolling implementation at PSRC (6/7/2013)
  - SCA adopting a more collaborative and less adversarial approach with PSRC
  - Adopted this position in collaboration with County, Bellevue
  - Benefits include:
    - Avoidance of unintended consequences that may flow from tolling on a piecemeal basis, and establish equity for toll payers across the region and a fair distribution of costs and benefits
    - Review of the technology available to achieve a regional solution, the implementation challenges, and a proposed phasing plan with greater definition than that provided in the region's Transportation 2040 Plan
    - Review and comparison of alternative finance options including Road Usage Charges (VMT)
- Support for conducting a review of and update to the 2006 Solid Waste Transfer Station Plan (6/11/2013)
  - In response to SCA request, County Council adopted a budget proviso requiring the Solid Waste Division (SWD) to conduct a review
  - ED Dawson and SCA Board Member Chris Eggen have been meeting with staff from SWD, the Executive's Office, and County Council (central staff, as well as Councilmembers McDermott and Dembowski and staff) to develop action plan and timetable for review
  - Revisions to Plan could result in large scale savings to King County rate payers
- Support for a transportation package (6/19/2013)
  - SCA led effort to develop a local option to provide revenues for roads and transit in King County

- Efforts to pass a statewide transportation package and a local option were ultimately unsuccessful this year
- Nevertheless, the efforts from SCA have led to:
  - Stronger partnership with the County, City of Seattle
  - Raised profile of SCA with Legislative leaders
  - Partnership and collaboration with business, labor, and environmental leaders
  - Increased SCA profile in media, with public
    - SCA participated in a video project with the Seattle Chamber on transportation:
      - <http://vimeo.com/65773134>
- Partnership continues, and we are working with County and our partners in business, labor, and environmental communities to find a solution to our roads and transit challenges in King County
  - Because of strong collaboration and partnership, King County has held strong to their commitment to work with our cities and to work toward a package that addresses needs of both cities and county, on roads and transit
- Directly responsive to Board policy priority on transportation established at 2013 retreat
- Support for a King County product stewardship program that provides a safe and effective means of disposal of pharmaceutical products (10/2012)
  - While this position was adopted in 2012, more work was done on this issue in 2013
  - Mayor Baker has taken on leadership role at Board of Health on this issue
  - ED Dawson testified at 5/16/2013 Board of Health Meeting
  - Board of Health unanimously approved a Rule and Regulation establishing an industry-funded product stewardship model for managing unwanted and surplus drugs and medicines in King County;
  - King County will become the second County in the nation (following Alameda County, California) to adopt such a program
  - Program is supported by law enforcement, medical and public health professionals, and zero waste advocates
- In addition, SCA has been working to establish relationships and communicate with regional leaders in less formal ways including:
  - County Executive & staff:
    - Continued monthly meetings with Executive Constantine
      - Meetings have become more and more productive, collaborative
    - Regular communication & collaboration with Executive staff on a variety of topics
      - Particularly strong collaboration and partnership on transportation, solid waste
      - Working to identify and resolve potential issues of concern before they become problematic
    - County Executive Constantine speaker at SCA networking dinner in 2013
  - County Council & staff:

- Councilmember Dembowski spoke at first SCA networking dinner of 2013
- Regular meetings with Jane Hague, Vice Chair for Regional Coordination
- Decision to invite county councilmembers to Executive Committee meetings on regular basis
- Collaboration with Budget Chair McDermott, Councilmember Dembowski & council staff on solid waste transfer station plan
- Communications with Councilmembers on Parks Levy resulting in positive amendments to the levy
- Collaboration with Council and Executive staff (including central staff, and staff for Councilmember Patterson) on Health and Human Services Transformation Plan
  - ED Dawson invited to join Health and Human Services Transformation Panel
- Meetings with Councilmember Lambert on issues including solid waste/waste to energy, and transportation
- Councilmember Dembowski regularly attends North End Mayors monthly meeting
- State legislators
  - Opening up lines of communication with legislative leaders
  - Members took a leadership role on transportation
  - Communicated policy positions to legislators (see below)
- Port Commissioners & staff
  - Upcoming meeting with SCA & Port leadership
  - SCA staff have been in dialogue with Port staff
- Members of Congress & staff
  - Congresswoman DelBene has attended North End Mayors lunch, and her staff attends regularly
  - Congresswoman DelBene has asked to attend an SCA networking dinner
- Governor & staff
  - Working to build relationships with Governor Inslee and staff
  - Governor Inslee will be speaker at SCA 2013 Annual Meeting
- Attorney General & staff
  - Deanna has met with AG Ferguson twice in recent months to discuss topics of interest
  - Meeting with AG staff to discuss how to better connect AG's office with SCA cities
  - AG Ferguson will be speaker at September networking dinner
- Sheriff & Prosecutor
  - Both have been SCA dinner speakers (Urquhart in 2013, Satterberg in 2012)
  - Dan Satterberg working closely with SCA on Regional Law, Safety, & Justice (RLSJ) Committee and related issues
  - ED Dawson and Senior Policy Analyst invited to join in RLSJ steering committee meetings to develop work plan for committee
- Economic Development Council of Seattle and King County
  - Economic development identified as a priority by Board at 2013 retreat
  - SCA formed an Economic Development Committee in 2013
  - SCA and EDC have formed a partnership
    - Dawson invited to join Board of EDC



- “Economy is in jeopardy without adequate local, state transportation funding,” Guest Opinion, Auburn Reporter
  - <http://www.auburn-reporter.com/opinion/214218061.html>
- “Eastside cities send message to state Legislature to pass new transportation package now,” Mercer Island Reporter
  - <http://www.mi-reporter.com/news/212961021.html>
- “King County hosts transportation town hall tonight,” The Issaquah Press
  - <http://www.issaquahpress.com/2013/06/19/king-county-hosts-transportation-town-hall-tonight/>
- “King County hosts transportation town hall tonight,” Newcastle News
  - <http://www.newcastle-news.com/2013/06/19/king-county-hosts-transportation-town-hall-tonight>

**Priority #5: Institute regular member communications:**

- SCA staff, Board, and PIC working to keep members updated on a regular basis
- SCA Board identified increasing citizen engagement as a policy priority
  - SCA brought in intern Jennifer Hooper to conduct research and make recommendations on best practices on citizen engagement
  - Well received by members, little to no cost for SCA
  - Created partnership with Urban Planning faculty at Evergreen State College which may yield additional interns in future
- ED Dawson has spoken to several Councils in 2013 including
  - Normandy Park
  - Kenmore
  - Federal Way
  - Tukwila
  - North Bend
    - Will be speaking to additional councils this summer/fall
- SCA has also stepped up trainings and workshops for member cities
- There is work remaining to be done on this strategy, including creating templates for and beginning regular email newsletters to members

We have made excellent strides on this objective, particularly given limited resources and staffing. Staff and I welcome feedback on where you would like SCA staff to focus efforts for the remainder of 2013.