



## SCA Public Issues Committee

### AGENDA

October 12, 2016 – 7:00 PM

Renton City Hall

1. **Welcome and Roll Call** – Councilmember Marlla Mhoon, Covington, Chair 2 minutes
2. **Public Comment** – Councilmember Marlla Mhoon, Covington, Chair 10 minutes
3. [Approval of minutes – September 14, 2016 meeting](#) 2 minutes  
Page 5
4. **Chair’s Report** – Councilmember Marlla Mhoon, Covington, Chair 5 minutes
5. **Executive Director’s Report** – Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director 10 minutes
6. [Appointment of 2017 PIC Nominating Committee Members](#) 5 minutes  
ACTION ITEM  
Page 19  
Chair Mhoon
7. [Low Income Housing Tax Credit](#) 15 minutes  
ACTION ITEM  
Page 21  
Ellie Wilson-Jones, Policy Analyst  
(5 minute staff report, 10 minute discussion)
8. [2017 SCA State Legislative Agenda](#) 20 minutes  
ACTION ITEM  
Page 31  
Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director  
(5 minute staff report, 15 minute discussion)
9. [Land Conservation and Preservation Work Plan](#) 15 minutes  
DISCUSSION  
Page 37  
Doreen Booth, Policy Analyst  
(5 minute staff report, 10 minute discussion)

**10. [King County METRO CONNECTS Long Range Vision](#)** 15 minutes  
UPDATE  
Page 43  
Katie Kuciemba, Senior Policy Analyst  
(5 minute staff report, 10 minute discussion)

**11. [Future Levies and Ballot Measures in King County](#)** 5 minutes  
UPDATE  
Page 49  
Katie Kuciemba, Senior Policy Analyst  
(2 minute staff report, 3 minute discussion)

**12. [Potential Upcoming SCA Issues](#)** 5 minutes  
UPDATE  
Page 51  
Deanna Dawson, Executive Director  
(2 minute staff report, 3 minute discussion)

**13. Upcoming Events**

- a. SCA Veterans and Human Services Levy Roundtable – Wednesday, October 26, 2016 – 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM – Renton City Hall, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, City Council Chambers
- b. SCA Public Issues Committee Meeting – Wednesday, November 9, 2016 – 7:00 to 9:00 PM – Renton City Hall, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, City Council Chambers
- c. SCA Regional Economic Strategy Update Roundtable – Wednesday, November 16, 2016 – 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM – Renton City Hall, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Conferencing Center
- d. SCA Annual Meeting and Networking Dinner – Wednesday, November 30, 2016 – 5:30 PM – Renton Pavilion Event Center

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

**15. Adjourn**

**Did You Know?**

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

For the tenth consecutive year, on September 16, 2015, [the National Network to End Domestic Violence \(NNEDV\)](#) conducted a one-day unduplicated count of adults and children seeking domestic violence service in the United States. **In the United States, 71,828 victims were served in one day.** 40,302 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs. An additional 31,526 adults and children received non-residential assistance and services, including counseling, legal advocacy, and children’s support groups.

**In Washington State, 2,375 victims were served in one day.** 1,391 domestic violence victims (793 children and 598 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs. 984 adults and children received advocacy and services other than

shelter, including help finding or retaining permanent housing, individual support and counseling, legal advocacy, and children's support groups.

Many cities and organizations will be holding events in October to raise awareness and encourage action to address domestic violence. Resources for cities and citizens can be found at the Coalition for Ending Gender Based Violence's [website](#).

# 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

September 14, 2016 – 7:00 PM

Renton City Hall

1055 S Grady Way, Renton WA 98057

#### 1. Welcome and Roll Call

PIC Chair Councilmember Marlla Mhoon, Covington, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. 27 cities had representation ([Attachment A](#)). Guests present included: Bill Peloza, Auburn Council; John Stilin, Redmond Council; AJ McClure, City of Bellevue; Velia Ruth Villanueva, City of Burien; Lyset Cadena, City of Seattle; Stacey Jehlik, City of Seattle; Diane Carlson, King County Executive's Office staff; Michael Huddleston, King County Council Staff; Kelly Marquardt, Rep. DelBene's Office; Anne Burkland, King County Public Health.

#### 2. Public Comment

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

#### 3. Approval of the July 13, 2016 Minutes

Council President Hank Margeson, Redmond, moved, seconded by Mayor Nancy Backus, Auburn, to approve the July 13, 2016 PIC minutes.

There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### 4. Chair's Report

Chair Mhoon reported that there is an opening on the PIC Nominating Committee for the North caucus, which she will fill at the October PIC meeting. While this committee is for the 2017 calendar year, the work of this body will start in November 2016. Current PIC Nominating Committee members are: Amy Ockerlander, Snoqualmie Valley Caucus; Ed Prince, South Caucus; Leanne Guier, South Valley Caucus; and Hank Margeson, North Caucus, who will be rotating off of the committee. Interested PIC members should contact SCA Executive Director Deanna Dawson at [deanna@soundcities.org](mailto:deanna@soundcities.org).

Chair Mhoon noted that three items will be taken out of order on the agenda: Low Income Housing Tax Credit (Item 6), Mental Illness and Drug Dependency (MIDD) Sales Tax Renewal (Item 9), and Best Starts for Kids Levy Implementation Plan (Item 10).

#### 6. Low Income Housing Tax Credit

Ellie Wilson-Jones, SCA Policy Analyst, summarized the draft policy position contained in the [September PIC packet](#), page 67, which reads as follows: "***The Sound Cities Association supports***

***federal legislation to increase the annual allocation for the Low Income Housing Tax Credit in order to create and preserve critically needed units of affordable housing.***” Wilson-Jones explained that this item is before the PIC as a potential future action item. This draft policy position comes in response to federal legislation co-sponsored by Sen. Maria Cantwell, which would increase the allocation for the 9 percent federal Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) by 50 percent. Wilson-Jones provided an overview of the LIHTC program, which is the federal government’s chief tool for creating and preserving affordable housing. Nearly all affordable housing units are created with the tax credit, including 2.9 million rental homes nationwide since the tax credit was created in 1986 under President Ronald Regan. At current funding levels, the tax credit finances about 100,000 units nationwide annually, including 1,375 units in Washington State. There are more developers wishing to build housing with the 9 percent version of the tax credit than there is allocated funding available. So a competitive annual application process is held at the state level. This legislation would increase the allocated funding for the 9 percent LIHTC tax credit by 50 percent, increasing the number of units built in Washington each year by about 688. The legislation is bipartisan. In addition to Sen. Maria Cantwell, co-sponsors include Republican Sen. Orrin Hatch of Utah and Democratic Sen. Ron Wyden of Oregon, the chair and ranking member of the Senate Finance committee respectively.

Wilson-Jones reported that Cantwell’s office acknowledges there is one core criticism about the legislation: it requires additional government spending. They expect, however, that adding housing would save money elsewhere in the budget, such as with health care. Cantwell’s staff report that the legislation will likely be folded into a larger revenue-neutral bill, meaning it will be paired with some form of funding mechanism. Additional materials about the LIHTC and the legislation are included in the PIC packet. Wilson-Jones invited questions from PIC members on the LIHTC and Cantwell’s legislation, and stated that she would follow up with answers to more complex requests following the PIC meeting.

Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director, added that the SCA Legislative Committee has recommended this policy position be brought forward to the PIC for support.

Councilmember Benson Wong, Mercer Island, expressed support for the legislation and requested more information about Washington State co-sponsors.

Councilmember Bob Keller, Sammamish, requested more information about the cost of increasing the appropriation for the LIHTC.

Councilmember Lydia Assefa-Dawson, Federal Way, stated that three multi-family housing complexes have been built in Federal Way in the last few years and that there is concern among residents about the pace of such affordable housing construction. She requested further materials explaining the legislation. Dawson stated that explanatory documents from Cantwell’s office are included in the September PIC packet as attachments to this item and said SCA staff will reach out to Cantwell’s office for additional materials. She stated that in many jurisdictions, including but not limited to some cities on the Eastside and Seattle, it is challenging or impossible to construct “affordable” market rate housing, and this program is one tool to enable affordable housing to be constructed in those parts of the county.

Mayor David Baker, Kenmore, clarified that this is federal legislation and that the increased appropriation would be nationwide. Baker noted that, countywide, there is a gap between the amount of affordable housing available and the need, and requested additional information about the extent of this gap.

Keller stated that the Low Income Housing Tax Credit provides an effective way of creating affordable housing because the credit is only received if the housing is developed.

Council President Hank Margeson, Redmond, stated that the City of Redmond is supportive of the LIHTC and entered into a project with ARCH (A Regional Coalition for Housing) to build 74 units of affordable housing for seniors in downtown Redmond utilizing this financing tool, among others. Some units will be designated for people making below 30 percent of the area median income, which is considered the greatest level of affordability for such development.

Councilmember Nancy Tosta, Burien, requested additional information about how the LIHTC has been utilized in King County cities.

Councilmember Rich Crispo, Newcastle, stated that the increased appropriation for the LIHTC comes at a cost and likely a tax increase elsewhere in the federal budget.

Margeson clarified that the PIC will utilize a two-step process for considering this policy position. First, a vote will be taken tonight as a first step toward potentially supporting this policy position. Then, members will return to their city councils to seek further direction before the PIC casts a second vote, in October, on the policy position.

***Council President Hank Margeson, Redmond, moved, seconded by Councilmember Amy Ockerlander, Duvall, to bring back the following policy position to the next meeting of the PIC: "The Sound Cities Association supports federal legislation to increase the annual allocation for the Low Income Housing Tax Credit in order to create and preserve critically needed units of affordable housing."***

Councilmember Kate Kruller, Tukwila, requested that SCA staff provide more information for councils to review and discuss. Dawson responded affirmatively.

There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **9. Mental Illness and Drug Dependency (MIDD) Sales Tax Renewal**

Ellie Wilson-Jones, SCA Policy Analyst, reported this item is intended to give PIC members an update about recent activities related to the renewal of the Mental Illness and Drug Dependency (MIDD) sales tax and to gather final input from PIC members into the plan for delivering future services under this funding source. The King County Council has unanimously approved an extension of the MIDD sales tax for nine more years until 2026. The sales tax, which was first passed in King County in 2007, had been scheduled to expire at the close of this year. Now, work is underway to shape the plan for delivering services under the renewed MIDD sales tax. The Executive developed a proposed Service Improvement Plan to guide the delivery of future MIDD services with input from the MIDD Oversight Committee, on which SCA has representation, and has transmitted that plan to the Council. Now, the plan is before the

Regional Policy Committee (RPC). RPC received a briefing on the plan today, September 14, and SCA members posed questions about the allocation of administrative costs under the plan, which programs will be competitively bid, and reporting requirements. Executive staff will be working to address these questions in the coming days. RPC is scheduled to act on the Service Improvement Plan on October 12.

Wilson-Jones reiterated that this represents the final opportunity for PIC members to provide feedback to SCA RPC members on the Service Improvement Plan before they take action. After RPC's action, the plan will go to the Council's Budget and Fiscal Management Committee for consideration in conjunction with the next biennial budget.

Mayor Bernie Talmas, Woodinville, stated that he is a member of RPC and recognized RPC SCA Caucus Chair Bill Pelosa, also in attendance. He recommended that members contact Pelosa should they have any questions about the plan. Members are also requested to notify SCA staff of any questions.

Council President Hank Margeson, Redmond, requested additional clarification about the impact of supplantation and whether MIDD funding is used for Issaquah's court. Ellie Wilson-Jones, SCA Policy Analyst, reported that supplantation, which is when an agency uses a new revenue source to fund existing programs, has been ramping down over recent years and that going forward supplantation will only be available for therapeutic courts. SCA staff will follow up with additional information about MIDD funding for courts.

#### **10. Best Starts for Kids Levy Implementation Plan**

Ellie Wilson-Jones, SCA Policy Analyst, provided an update on the development of the Best Starts for Kids Implementation Plan. In July, the Regional Policy Committee approved the Implementation Plan, sending it on for review by the King County Council's Health, Housing, and Human Services Committee. The Committee's work culminated in the unanimous approval of a striking amendment to the Implementation Plan on September 7. The amendment made extensive edits—consisting of simple technical fixes as well as programmatic additions and broader policy statements. Wilson-Jones distributed a handout, [Attachment B](#), developed by King County Executive branch staff that summarizes the Council Committee's striking amendment. Wilson-Jones also provided an overview of the most significant changes and reported that action by the King County Council was anticipated on September 19.

Mhoon next turned back to Item 5 on the agenda, the Executive Director's Report.

#### **5. Executive Director's Report**

Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director, gave an update that the SCA Finance Committee, along with former committee members, had a discussion with Dwight Dively, Director of King County Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget, on King County's biennial budget. Dawson reported that all funds, other than the general fund, appear to be stable for this biennium. She listed the areas of the general fund facing cuts, largely criminal justice services. Redmond Council President Hank Margeson, SCA Finance Committee member, added that Dively mentioned a gap in funding for the biennium of approximately \$50 million. Dawson noted that

according to Dively, if the 1% property tax cap were to be lifted, it would likely resolve all of the financial issues for this biennial budget.

Dawson reported on the Association of Washington Cities' (AWC) Candidate Forum, co-sponsored by SCA, included candidates for the following offices: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and State Auditor. In addition, staff from the Office of Fiscal Management also discussed issues related to cities. Dawson noted that homelessness was a top issue at the forum, as was the importance of working with the State on its budget to avoid cuts to city shared revenue. Auburn Mayor Nancy Backus, SCA President, noted the importance of candidates understanding issues directly related to cities. A video of the forum will be made available and posted on both the AWC and SCA websites. Councilmember Kate Kruller, Tukwila, requested that the link be emailed when available.

Dawson updated members on a joint workshop of the Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC) and the King County members to the Puget Sound Regional Council's (PSRC) Growth Management Policy Board (GMPB) scheduled for September 28 from 4:30pm to 6:30pm, held at the PSRC Board Room. The meeting is being held due to issues that have arisen during the comprehensive plan certification process at PSRC. The goal of the meeting is to give members of GMPC and GMPB a common understanding of the state's Growth Management Act (GMA), and PSRC's VISION 2014 (and the relationship between VISION 2014 and the Countywide Planning Policies), and the County's process for setting growth targets, and to determine which issues should be addressed by which committee(s). All are welcome to attend as audience members.

Dawson noted that SCA is in the process of hiring a part-time policy analyst.

Dawson reported that she recently attended and presented at a SeaTac City Council meeting and offered to present at other city council meetings.

SCA is experiencing some email issues and asked members to bear with staff as these issues are resolved.

Dawson reiterated the opportunity for a member within the North caucus to be appointed by Chair Mhoon to the PIC Nominating Committee, and that the annual call for nominations is around the corner. She encouraged members to review the SCA Regional Committee and Board Appointment booklet, available in hard copies and on the [SCA website](#), attend committee/board meetings, and make sure meeting dates and times work within schedule. Dawson reviewed the nomination process. Questions about the process should be directed to Dawson.

Mhoon noted that Item 6 had been covered earlier, and turned next to Item 7.

## **7. 2017 SCA State Legislative Agenda**

Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director, explained that at the 2016 SCA Board of Directors retreat, the Board decided to create a legislative committee to address SCA legislative priorities. The Legislative Committee is comprised on members from each SCA caucus: North (Mayor

David Baker and Deputy Mayor Catherine Stanford), South (Mayor Nancy Backus and Councilmember Bill Allison), South Valley (Mayor Leanne Guier), and Snoqualmie Valley (Councilmember Amy Ockerlander). The Committee met for the first time on August 31, 2016. Consistent with direction from the Board, they recommend that the agenda of SCA not duplicate the agenda of Association of Washington Cities (AWC). Rather, the agenda should focus on issues of special concern to cities in King County.

Based on this, the committee recommends adopting the following legislative agenda:

- Lifting the 1% Property Tax Cap
  - SCA has an adopted position on this topic, and the Committee recommended adding this issue to the 2017 SCA Legislative Agenda.
- Public Health Funding
  - Since 2007, SCA has adopted three policy positions related to the need for stable public health funding. There was interest among SCA Legislative Committee members in continuing to advocate for securing sustainable public health funding.
- Affordable Housing and Homelessness
  - Affordable housing and homelessness are among the policy priorities adopted by the SCA Board in 2016, and have been topics of high priority for SCA cities. This would include addressing underlying causes of homelessness, such as the need for additional behavioral health services. It could also include specific items (see pages 89-91 of the [PIC packet](#), legislative priorities that will likely be on the JRC and / or All Home agendas later this year) such as the document recording fee. Dawson asked for feedback on these specific items. Dawson also noted that there were several groups currently working on affordable housing at the subregional level, with a hope to bring these proposals together into a package prior to session.

Mayor David Baker, Kenmore, commented that lifting the 1% cap is not asking the legislature for additional dollars and would benefit not just cities, but also King County and its gap in criminal justice funding. This would in turn benefit cities, which would be impacted by the proposed cuts at the County. Baker suggested that it would be advisable to have a specific source of funding to recommend for public health funding, noting that in the past they had looked to taxes on e-cigarettes as a funding source. Dawson agreed to have staff look into sources of funding.

Mayor Chris Roberts, Shoreline, agreed with the three priorities, especially the 1% property tax cap lift as it could make a big difference in city budgets. Roberts noted that at the AWC Legislative Committee meeting earlier today, some smaller cities outside the Puget Sound noted lifting the cap would not be as helpful to their jurisdictions as they do not have high assessed values. He stated that the King County region would need to lead on the issue. Roberts noted support for the document recording fee for affordable housing and homelessness. Dawson noted the fee is set to sunset in 2019 unless action is taken in the legislature. Lastly, Roberts passed out AWC's Legislative Priorities ([Attachment C](#)).

Councilmember Shelley Kloba, Kirkland, said that Kirkland has been developing its 2017 legislative agenda. While not finalized, items under discussion include support for restoring the housing trust fund to pre-recession levels, lifting the 1% property tax cap, and expansion of Transit Oriented Development (TOD) opportunities.

Dawson asked all members to send SCA their city legislative agendas.

Mayor Nancy Backus, Auburn, proposed that instead of three touches on this policy, the PIC have two touches on the policy, with a vote tonight to bring forward to the next meet for final action on a legislative framework.

***Mayor Nancy Backus, Auburn, moved, seconded by Mayor Chris Roberts, Shoreline, to bring back a potential policy position to the next meeting of the PIC that includes a legislative agenda for 2017 focusing on these three areas: lifting the 1% property tax cap, public health funding, and affordable housing and homelessness.***

Discussion on the motion ensued.

Mayor Rich Crispo, Newcastle, noted the challenge of seeking approval for a legislative agenda that is broad, while some items are still being developed. He noted that while approving or disapproving of lifting a 1% property tax cap was straightforward, there was still work to be done on items like affordable housing.

Dawson noted that the idea was to come together prior to session on where to focus, while specific policies may still be under development leading up to and during the session. Staff will work with the Legislative Committee, PIC, and the Board as items are developed to seek feedback.

Councilmember Amy Ockerlander, Duvall, noted SCA needs high level polices so the organization can be nimble and address bills as they are developed and amended.

Dawson noted that city members from each of SCA's geographic caucuses are on the SCA Legislative Committee and that SCA staff will be talking with them often as the session progresses.

Council President Hank Margeson, Redmond, noted that when an agenda is created before the session starts, the specific bills that will move forward are not yet known.

There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **8. Regional Economic Strategy Update**

Doreen Booth, SCA Policy Analyst, provided an update on the work going at the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) Economic Development District Board (EDDB) developing an updated Regional Economic Strategy (RES), a five year economic plan for the four county Puget Sound Region. The heart of the plan is the vision / goals / strategies; found on page 108 of the [PIC packet](#). PSRC is proposing the updated plan provide the overarching economic framework

which will allow the EDDB to be more nimble in addressing economic opportunities as they arise.

PSRC is still seeking input and conversations with stakeholders on what the Regional Economic Strategy should contain. To that end, SCA will be convening interested members to meet with PSRC staff and provide feedback on the updated RES. If you are interested in being added to the invitation list for the meeting, please email Doreen Booth at [Doreen@soundcities.org](mailto:Doreen@soundcities.org). With that, the EDDB is interested in any feedback you have on the materials you have before you tonight.

Councilmember Nancy Tosta, Burien, shared that the Regional Food Policy Council had submitted a letter to the EDDB earlier this year asking that agriculture and local food products be considered an economic strategy in the region. Booth noted that at an Economic Development Managers meeting earlier in the day, PSRC staff used that as an example of relevant feedback on industry clusters.

Tosta also noted concerns with the SeaTac Airport and its Sustainable Master Plan. Tosta opined the plan was not sustainable, that it proposed doubling passenger numbers in the current footprint. She suggested that strategy 1.1 in the Regional Economic Strategy note there is a regional need for another airport. Tosta also called attention to how recent operational changes at the SeaTac Airport will negatively impact the quality of life in Burien and other South King County cities.

Council President Bill Boyce, Kent, said the strategy and vision align with Kent's. He noted that at a presentation PSRC Executive Director Josh Brown gave to Kent recently, he shared feedback on the lack of success metrics in the strategy. He encouraged members have PSRC present the Regional Economic Strategy at their councils.

Councilmember Erin Sitterly, SeaTac, agreed with Councilmember Tosta's comments about SeaTac Airport. Sitterly also mentioned recent SeaTac Airport activities cutting down 3,000 trees as an example of changes in operating policies that directly impact cities.

Councilmember Kate Kruller, Tukwila, discussed the tension between increasing freight traffic and increasing commuter traffic and the lack of a long term solution to address that tension.

Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director, noted that SCA staff will keep members informed as the Regional Economic Strategy moves forward.

Noting that items 9 and 10 had been taken out of order, Chair Mhoon next turned to item 11.

### **11. Future Levies and Ballot Measures in King County**

Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director, noted that the list is up to date as the election has been certified. She encouraged members to let SCA know what may be coming next year for cities.

Councilmember Kate Kruller, Tukwila, asked for clarification on Snoqualmie’s public safety levy and what the not to exceed amount is. *(Note – while this figure did not appear on the ballot measure, staff have learned that the not to exceed figure is \$650,000.)*

## **12. Potential Upcoming SCA Issues**

Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director, noted that at the last SCA Finance Committee meeting, Mayor Leanne Guier had suggested a potential workshop on the King County biennial budget, if there were interest. Dawson noted that the Executive would be giving his budget address on September 26. Members expressed some interest, and Dawson agreed to check into availability, barring other time-sensitive issues needing to be addressed in October.

Dawson gave an update on progress of SCA Policy Analyst Ellie-Wilson Jones working with staff from cities and the King County Alliance for Human Services on human services funding.

Dawson gave an update on discussions with the County regarding funding for bridges and roads. In meetings with the Roads Division and County Executive staff, there had been an acknowledgement of the need to focus not just on rural roads, but on the regional roads network throughout the county. Their discussions have focused on three areas. First, on the legislative front, County staff have been doing outreach on a potential legislative “ask” regarding funding for “orphaned roads,” rather than seeking (as in last year’s session) to compel cities to take on responsibility for these roads, many of which are in poor condition. Second, there have been discussions of the need to work together rather than at odds with each other in the Puget Sound Regional Council (PRSC) Preservation and Maintenance Working Group on the joint needs of cities and the county. And finally, the County has expressed interest in meeting more frequently and working more closely with city Public Works directors, to better understand the collective needs of the region. Dawson noted that County Councilmember Kathy Lambert has done a good job of highlighting the need for funding for rural roads, and noted that cities also have critical transportation infrastructure needs that must be addressed. Chair Mhoon noted that new County Councilmember Claudia Balducci’s background in transportation may also be beneficial in these discussions. Staff will keep members apprised of these discussions moving forward.

## **13. Upcoming Events**

The next SCA Networking Dinner will be held on Wednesday, October 5, 2016 at 5:30 PM at the Inglewood Golf Club, Kenmore.

The next PIC meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 12, 2016 at 7:00 PM at Renton City Hall.

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

Councilmember Amy Ockerlander, Duvall, announced Veronica Williams is Duvall’s newest councilmember, replacing Gary Gill.

Mayor Bernie Talmas, Woodinville, shared that Woodinville is hosting Camp Unity, a homeless encampment. In contrast to a previous experience, no opposition has arisen and there have been no issues with the camp. The camp is on city property and uses community volunteers

and local sponsors to meet its needs. Woodinville extended the camp's stay from 90 to 120 days.

Mayor Rich Crispo, Newcastle, announced that the Newcastle City Council voted to oppose ST3. The average cost to a Newcastle household would be \$1,500. Councilmembers noted that the city has financial needs, and that passage of this ballot measure may negatively impact the ability of the city to pass ballot measures in the future to address those needs. He noted that we need to do a better job of prioritization as a region.

Councilmember Kate Kruller, Tukwila, announced the TEC Team, a volunteer radio communications group, is the recipient of the 2016 County Executive's Award for Community Preparedness. The award is given each fall in recognition of outstanding efforts made by communities to prepare for and respond to emergencies. The award is also intended to promote safer communities, strengthening King County as a whole.

Councilmember Lydia Assefa-Dawson, Federal Way, provided an update on the former Weyerhaeuser property redevelopment, noting substantial public comment in opposition to the redevelopment.

Chair Mhoon called attention to the "Did You Know" item in the packet, recognizing Kenmore Mayor David Baker and SCA for receiving Association of Washington Cities (AWC) Advocacy All-Star Awards. Dawson thanked the membership for making SCA's award possible.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 PM.

## Public Issues Committee Meeting September 14, 2016

City	Representative	Alternate
Algona	Dave Hill	Bill Thomas
<b>Auburn</b>	Nancy Backus	Bill Pelozza
Beaux Arts Village	Tom Stowe	Richard Leider
Bellevue	John Stokes	Kevin Wallace
<b>Black Diamond</b>	Janie Edelman	Tamie Deady
<b>Bothell</b>	James McNeal	Tris Samberg
<b>Burien</b>	Nancy Tosta	Austin Bell
<b>Carnation</b>	Jim Berger	Dustin Green
<b>Clyde Hill</b>	Barre Seibert	George Martin
<b>Covington</b>	Marlla Mhoon	Margaret Harto
<b>Des Moines</b>	Melissa Musser	Robert Back
<b>Duvall</b>	Amy Ockerlander	Will Ibershof
Enumclaw	Mike Sando	Chance LaFleur
<b>Federal Way</b>	Lydia Assefa-Dawson	Dini Duclos
Hunts Point	Joseph Sabey	
<b>Issaquah</b>	Tola Marts	Mariah Bettise
<b>Kenmore</b>	David Baker	Nigel Herbig
<b>Kent</b>	Bill Boyce	Dana Ralph
<b>Kirkland</b>	Toby Nixon	Shelley Kloba
Lake Forest Park	Catherine Stanford	Tom French
Maple Valley	Erin Weaver	Bill Allison
Medina	Sheree Wen	
<b>Mercer Island</b>	Benson Wong	Debbie Bertlin
Milton	Susan Johnson	Debra Perry
<b>Newcastle</b>	Rich Crispo	Carol Simpson
Normandy Park	Michelle Sipes-Marvin	
<b>North Bend</b>	Ross Loudenback	Ken Hearing
<b>Pacific</b>	Leanne Guier	David Storaasli
<b>Redmond</b>	Hank Margeson	John Stilin
<b>Renton</b>	Ed Prince	Armondo Pavone
<b>Sammamish</b>	Bob Keller	Don Gerend
<b>SeaTac</b>	Erin Sitterley	Pam Fernald
<b>Shoreline</b>	Chris Roberts	Keith Scully
<b>Skykomish</b>	Henry Sladek	
<b>Snoqualmie</b>	Bob Jeans	Matt Larson
<b>Tukwila</b>	Kate Kruller	Verna Seal
<b>Woodinville</b>	Bernie Talmas	Susan Boundy-Sanders
SCA Deanna Dawson Ellie Wilson-Jones Doreen Booth Kristy Cole		

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

### **3H's Committee Adds/Changes to the BSK Implementation Plan**

On September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016 the Health, Housing and Human Services Committee (3H's) voted to approve the BSK implementation plan and send this to Council with recommendation to approve.

This committee-approved plan includes earlier amendments from the Regional Policy Committee and new amendments from the 3H's Committee. The County Council will consider the implementation plan at the 9.19.16 Council meeting and present a new amended plan on which they will vote. We do not anticipate this new plan will include substantial amendment changes.

#### **Small Amendments**

There are several categories of smaller amendments (adds/changes) in this plan. These include:

- Statements clarifying the County's commitment to working towards equity, and addressing disproportionality and disparities.
- Examples of *specific* programs that could be funded in a strategy area in order to further illustrate what *types* of programs could be funded in that area.
- Addition of particular communities or groups to include in focused funding areas (e.g. youth in foster care).
- Technical changes including grammatical, fiscal (consistency between this plan and the appropriations plan), and addressing inadvertent omissions (for example, adding the reporting requirements for the Youth and Family Homelessness Prevention Plan)
- Miscellaneous clarifications (e.g. adding a definition of trauma informed approach, and defining navigators' role).

#### **Significant Amendments**

There are several significant amendments to the plan. However, only one of these amendments changes the funding allocations. As described below, \$400,000 was allocated to a new vaccination program for youth. These funds were balanced with a decrease in allocations of \$200,000 in trauma-informed schools/organizations and restorative practices respectively.

These significant amendments include:

<b>Housing, Health and Human Services Committee Amendments</b>
Amendment to the Executive Summary with two paragraphs about equity and social justice which now make the plan consistent with the ESJ Plan (which was release this summer).
Amendment to the Executive Summary clarifying that when specific programs are called out as examples in this plan, this does not imply that these programs will be funded.
Amendment to the Executive Summary directing plan implementers to remain flexible and responsive to changes in the overall environment that might require program or funding level adjustment, and flexible to addressing changing needs or new needs as we learn more.
Amendment in the prenatal - 5 and 5 – 24 sections which direct the County to contract with one or more organizations to provide outreach, technical assistance and capacity building to community-based organizations to reduce barriers to accessing BSK funds. Allocation will be at least 1% of the total in these two sections.
Amendment in the Workforce Development and School-Based Health Centers strategies to build knowledge of the Safe Haven law which outlines places/people where an individual can safely surrender a newborn if they are unable to care for that newborn.
Amendment adding vaccinations for teens to the School-Based Health Centers strategies. <b>This is the only funding add</b> – it adds \$400K for this strategy, shifting \$200K from trauma-informed schools and restorative practices respectively.
Amendment in the Access to healthy affordable food of the Healthy and Safe Environments strategy adding language to support healthy eating choices and nutrition information in schools.
Amendment in the Stopping the School to Prison Pipeline strategy adding the Students Creating Optimal Performance Education (SCOPE) program.
Amendment adding a new, redrafted chapter for Communities of Opportunity. The redraft was completed by Exec staff and Council staff together. The chapter also contains additional clarifying amendments from Council staff.
Several amendments in the Evaluation chapter which clarify evaluation and reporting procedures.

## 9/9/16 DRAFT Emerging 2017 AWC Priority THEMES

To facilitate and keep moving our internal discussions forward, staff is presenting one possible way to organize our emerging priorities (in no particular order). This is intended to help our discussions and may or may not emerge as one way to communicate our agenda.

- Preserve and enhance local control and self-determination
  - No new mandates
  - Retain current local revenue authorities
    - Example(s)?
  - Consider elimination of caps on revenue authorities
    - Example(s)?
  
- Re-boot & Strengthen the State/City partnerships necessary to maintain vibrant communities
  - Revitalize key infrastructure assistance programs
    - Specifics?
  - Continue historic and vital sharing of revenues
    - Specifics?
  
- Tackle and help solve critical issues facing our communities today
  - Public Records reforms
  - Adequate and sustainable funding to train law enforcement personnel (maybe belongs in the category above?)
  - Continued and expanded funding to address homelessness and mental health challenges
    - Specifics?

In addition, there is interest in having AWC actively participate in state revenue & education funding discussions and to explore opportunities to manage costs associated with new agency rules.

- Specifics?



October 12, 2016  
SCA PIC Meeting

**Item 6:**

Appointment of 2017 Public Issues Committee (PIC) Nominating Committee Members

**Action Item**

---

**Staff Contact**

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

**2016 SCA PIC Nominating Committee Representatives**

Chair Hank Margeson, Redmond Council President; Leanne Guier, Mayor of Pacific; Amy Ockerlander, Duvall Councilmember; Ed Prince, Renton Councilmember.

**Action**

The Public Issues Committee (PIC) Chair will appoint members to the 2017 Public Issues Committee (PIC) Nominating Committee.

**Background**

SCA Bylaw 4.17.7(g) provides that “A nominating committee of the Public Issues Committee consisting of one representative of each SCA Regional Caucus shall be appointed by the Chair of the Public Issues Committee in October to recommend appointments to the committee. Members shall serve for a period of one year.”

In order to have a mixture of experience and fresh voices on the PIC Nominating Committee, the PIC Chair has typically reappointed 3 of the existing members of the committee each year, and appointed one new member. This year, Council President Hank Margeson of Redmond, representing the North Caucus, will be rotating off of the committee. This creates a vacancy for one PIC member from the North to serve on the committee.

SCA staff conducted outreach to PIC members from the North to serve on the committee for 2017. After vetting candidates, Chair Mhoon has indicated her intent to appoint Shoreline Mayor Chris Roberts to fill the vacant North seat, and to reappoint the three current members representing South Valley (Leanne Guier, Mayor of Pacific); Snoqualmie Valley (Amy Ockerlander, Duvall Councilmember); and South (Ed Prince, Renton Councilmember).

The Committee will meet on November 1, 2016 to make appointments for 2017 regional boards and committees, and will continue to meet as needed in 2017 to fill vacancies that arise during the course of the year.

Questions can be directed to SCA Executive Director Deanna Dawson at [Deanna@soundcities.org](mailto:Deanna@soundcities.org).





October 12, 2016  
SCA PIC Meeting

**Item 7:**

Low Income Housing Tax Credit

**Action Item**

---

**SCA Staff Contact**

Ellie Wilson-Jones, Policy Analyst, [ellie@soundcities.org](mailto:ellie@soundcities.org), (206) 495-5238

**SCA Legislative Committee**

Committee Chair David Baker, Kenmore Mayor; Councilmember Bill Allison, Maple Valley; SCA Board President Nancy Backus, Auburn Mayor; Mayor Leanne Guier, Pacific; Councilmember Amy Ockerlander, Duvall; Deputy Mayor Catherine Stanford, Lake Forest Park

**Action Item**

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

*The Sound Cities Association (SCA) supports federal legislation to increase the annual allocation for the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) in order to create and preserve critically needed units of affordable housing.*

**Background**

During the SCA Board of Directors annual retreat on January 29, 2016, addressing affordable housing and homelessness were identified as priorities for 2016, and the Board decided to form a legislative committee. Subsequently, at the first meeting of the newly formed SCA Legislative Committee, on August 31, 2016, members recommended a draft policy position be brought forward to the Public Issues Committee (PIC) expressing support for federal legislation to increase the annual allocation for the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC), a key tool in the creation of affordable housing.

At the last PIC meeting, on September 14, 2016, members were briefed on the Board's direction, Legislative Committee's recommendation, the federal Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program, and legislation proposed by Sen. Maria Cantwell that would increase the annual allocation of for LIHTC. (See the [September 14, 2016 PIC Packet](#), page 67.) The PIC then voted unanimously to bring back for consideration at the next meeting the draft policy position. Members also posed a number of questions about the legislation and LIHTC. Those questions are addressed below.

**Additional Information Requested by the PIC**

The following information is being provided in response to questions posed by PIC members at the September 14, 2016 PIC meeting. This information was also previously distributed to PIC members by email in the form of a questions and answers document on September 22, 2016.

Two updates have been made. First, there are now 13 co-sponsors to S. 2962 (See question 1). Second, additional information is provided about the total number of units financed with low income housing tax credits in each King County jurisdiction since the program was created in 1986 (See question 5).

**1. Sponsors: In addition to Sen. Maria Cantwell, who has signed on to co-sponsor this legislation?**

- **Short Answer: In addition to Sen. Cantwell, there are five Senate co-sponsors of the legislation. Sen. Cantwell is also reaching out to additional Senate colleagues and requesting they join as co-sponsors, especially those who sponsored an earlier iteration of the legislation.**
- Sen. Cantwell is continuing to seek additional co-sponsors for her legislation, which has been introduced in two iterations, [S.3237](#) and [S. 2962](#).
  - Co-sponsors to Sen. Cantwell’s newer legislation – [S.3237](#) – are as follows:
    - Sen. Hatch, Orrin G. [R-UT]
    - Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]
    - Sen. Ayotte, Kelly [R-NH]
    - Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]
    - Sen. Cassidy, Bill [R-LA]
  - Co-sponsors to Sen. Cantwell’s earlier legislation – [S. 2962](#) – are as follows:
    - Sen. Hatch, Orrin G. [R-UT]
    - Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]
    - Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]
    - Sen. Ayotte, Kelly [R-NH]
    - Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]
    - Sen. Murkowski, Lisa [R-AK]
    - Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]
    - Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]
    - Sen. Boxer, Barbara [D-CA]
    - Sen. Cassidy, Bill [R-LA]
    - Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]
    - Sen. Portman, Rob [R-OH]
    - Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]

- Sen. Cantwell introduced [S.3237](#) in July 2016 as an expansion of her previously proposed legislation, [S. 2962](#), from May 2016. The newer bill includes more comprehensive changes to the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program, and Sen. Cantwell is currently urging co-sponsors of the earlier legislation to sign on.
- Companion legislation has not been introduced in the House. Sen. Cantwell has urged those who are supportive of the legislation to reach out to their representatives in the House to urge them to introduce companion legislation.

**2. Cost: How much will it cost to increase the LIHTC appropriation?**

- **Short Answer: \$4.1 billion over ten years with some potential cost savings in the federal social safety net and the likelihood of increased tax revenues associated with additional development.**
- The amount of 9 percent tax credits made available to states annually is set on a per capita basis with a minimum set for small states. The per capita allocation was last increased and indexed to inflation in 2004 and is currently \$2.35. The current small state minimum is \$2.68 million. Section 101 of [S.3237](#) would increase the per capita amount and small state minimum each by 50 percent, subject to inflation, over five years to \$3.53 and \$4.04 million, respectively, by 2021. The Joint Commission on Taxation estimates this provision would cost \$4.1 billion cumulatively over 10 years.
- Sen. Cantwell’s Office answers that the simulative effect of the increase would outweigh the costs through the jobs it would support or create, through local income and tax revenue generated, and by easing the costs of homelessness and supportive services by moving individuals and families into affordable housing.

**3. Explanatory Materials: What materials are available to explain this legislation?**

- **Short Answer: In addition to the materials from the [September PIC Packet](#), the advocacy group Affordable Rental Housing ACTION (A Call to Invest in Our Neighborhoods) Campaign has developed a [number of documents](#) speaking in favor of the legislation.**

- The staff report from the [September 14, 2016 PIC Packet](#) (page 67) provides an overview of the federal Low Income Housing Tax Credit program and Sen. Maria Cantwell’s proposed legislation to increase the allocation for the tax credit.
- There are three additional documents from the Office of Sen. Cantwell included in the [September 14, 2016 PIC Packet](#) as attachments to the staff report that provide more information about the Low Income Housing Tax Credit and Sen. Cantwell’s proposed legislation:
  - *Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act One-Pager* (page 71) (For ease of reference, this item is also included here as [Attachment A](#))
  - *Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act Section-by-Section Summary* (page 72)
  - *Addressing the Challenges of Affordable Housing & Homelessness: The Housing Tax Credit* (page 75)
- Additionally, members may find the following resources useful. They were developed by the Affordable Rental Housing ACTION (A Call to Invest in Our Neighborhoods) Campaign, a national coalition of more than 1,000 national, state, and local affordable housing stakeholder organizations that are calling on Congress to increase the LIHTC program.
  - [Washington State ACTION Campaign Members](#)
  - [Summary of The Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act of 2016, S. 3237](#)
  - [Low Income Housing Tax Credit Impact in Washington Fact Sheet](#)
  - Additional materials from the [ACTION Advocacy Toolkit](#)

**4. Need: What is the current gap between the amount of affordable housing available in King County and the need?**

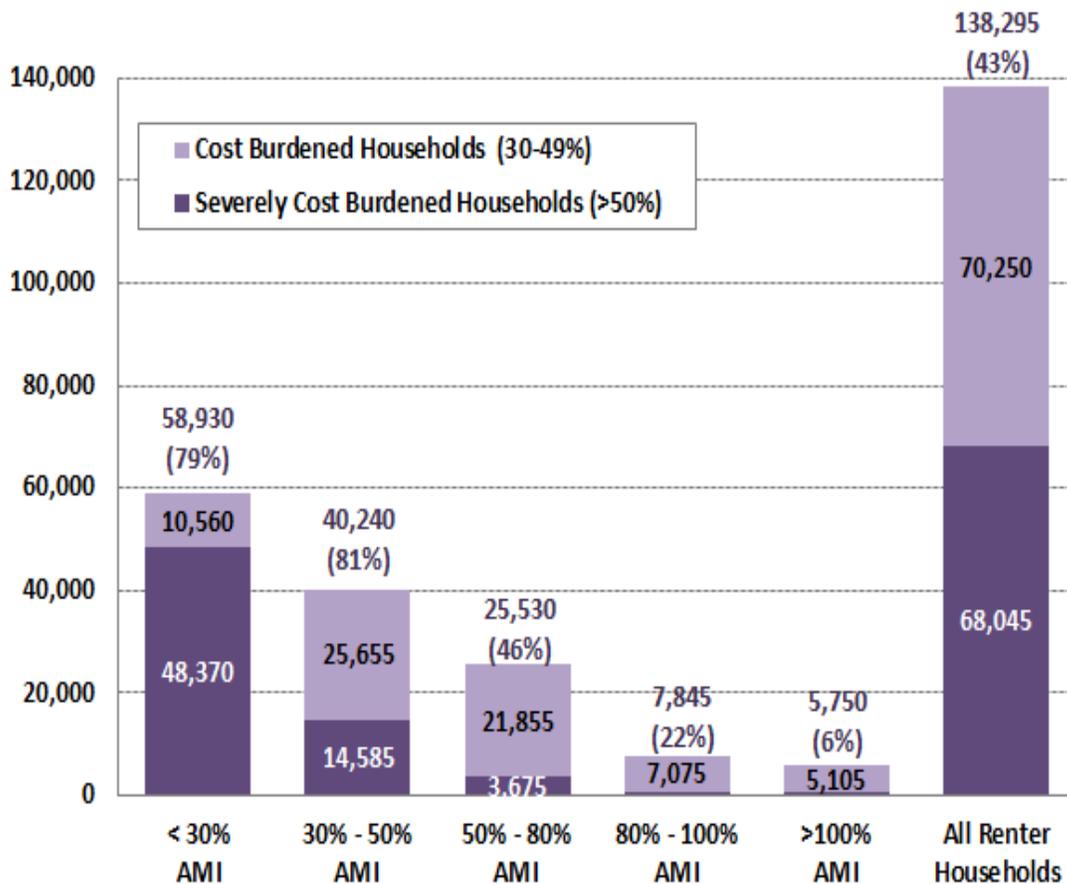
- **Short Answer: Nearly 140,000 King County renting households are said to be cost-burdened, meaning they pay 30 percent or more of their income on rent.**
- The share of households that are cost-burdened (spending 30 percent or more of their income on housing) or severely cost-burdened (spending half or more of their income on housing), is one of the more reliable measures of the need for affordable housing versus the current supply. Measures that compare the number of lower cost units to the number of households in various income brackets may overstate the availability of affordable housing for lower income

households because many of the lower cost units are actually occupied by higher earning households.

- The following chart, taken from [King County's December 2015 Affordable Housing Strategy](#), shows that among households making less than 30 percent and 30-50 percent of the Area Median Income, there are nearly 50,000 and nearly 15,000 households, respectively, that were severely cost-burdened (meaning they spend half or more of their income on rent). These nearly 65,000 households are considered to be unstably housed and may be at risk of homelessness.

**Cost Burdened Households by Income Range**

(Source: [King County Affordable Housing Strategy](#) using 2007-11 Census data)



**5. Local LIHTC-Financed Properties:** How has the 9 percent LIHTC been utilized, to date, in King County cities?

- **Short Answer: Six years' worth of 9 percent LIHTC allocations in King County (outside Seattle) are listed below.**

- The Washington State Housing Finance Commission allocates the 9 percent tax credits to developers through an annual competitive application process, and, each year, the demand for the tax credits exceeds available resources.
- The following table lists projects funded with 9 percent tax credits back to 2011 in King County (outside Seattle).

9% Housing Tax Credit Allocations in King County (Outside Seattle)					
Allocation Year	Project Name	Project Sponsor	City	Credit Request	Low Income Units
<u>2016</u>	Sunset Court Apartments	Renton Housing Authority	Renton	\$905,082	159
<u>2016</u>	Athene	Red Vines 1	Kirkland	\$1,477,113	158
<u>2015</u>	Compass at Ronald Commons	Compass Housing Alliance	Shoreline	\$1,198,297	159
<u>2015</u>	Providence Redmond Sr. Hsg	Providence Health & Services- WA	Redmond	\$1,517,383	155
<u>2014</u>	MSC Federal Way Veterans' Program	Multi Service Center	Federal Way	\$834,070	44
<u>2014</u>	Vantage Point Apartments (Phase 2)	King County Housing Authority	Renton	\$922,950	45
<u>2013</u>	Vantage Glen Phase 1	King County Housing Authority	Renton	\$ 642,167	151
<u>2013</u>	Bellevue Apartments	Low Income Housing Institute	Bellevue	1,007,383	145
<u>2012</u>	South Kirkland Park & Ride	Not listed	Kirkland	\$1,137,333	58
<u>2011</u>	None				

- Statewide allocations of the 9 percent tax credits for each of the last six years are available on the Washington State Housing Finance Commission website:
  - [2016 9% Allocation List](#)

- [2015 9% Allocation List](#)
  - [2014 9% Allocation List](#)
  - [2013 9% Allocation List](#)
  - [2012 9% Allocation List](#)
  - [2011 9% Allocation List](#)
- Additionally, the Housing Finance Commission has compiled information about the number of units created in each King County city with both 4 percent and 9 percent tax credits back to the creation of the low income housing tax credit program (projects funded from 1987-2016). That information is included in [Attachment B](#).

### **Next Steps**

At the September 14, 2016 PIC meeting, members voted unanimously to bring back the draft policy position for final consideration at the next PIC meeting. It is anticipated that the PIC will consider on October 12, 2016 whether to recommend to the SCA Board of Directors adoption of the following position:

*The Sound Cities Association (SCA) supports federal legislation to increase the annual allocation for the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) in order to create and preserve critically needed units of affordable housing.*

### **Attachments**

- A. [Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act One-Pager, Office of U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell](#)
- B. [Low Income Housing Tax Credit Projects in King County, 1987-Present](#)



# Expanding and Reforming the Low Income Housing Tax Credit

FZW>ai ;`Ua\_ W\_ age` Y FSj 5dMf />: F5fi [e fZW^ YahW\_ Wfie bd\_ Sck ba`Uk faa^ Xid `VMSY` Y bdhSFw` hWf\_ Wf [ ` SXadSTWZage` Y ZWb` Y X` S` UWfZWWab\_ Wf aX#`"I`" SXadSTWZa\_ W` S`Z f[a` i [VMSUZ kVd S` V ZSe `VMSYW ahW` #`" Tl`a` [ ` bdhSFwSb[fs^ e` UM[fe UMSf`a` z: ai VMS VgWfa [ UMSW W`S` M [ ` S` #`% eSFWZage` Y X` S` UMSWUW`S` hae fZWag` fdk dUW`W` Sbb`[USf`a` e Xid fZdWf` W` fZW g\_ TWaX>: F5e fZW ZSV ShS`[STWfa S`aUSfW`Wh` Y\_ S` k i adZk SXadSTWZage` Y bca`Wfe g` X` WZ @Sf`a` i [VMSWMSdW`\_ [ `a` VfdW` Wk` ai [ ` Ua\_ WZage` Wa`Vei Za Va ` af ZShV`SU`e fa SXadSTWZage` YZ

EWSfad5S` fi W`[e W`Wab` Y`W`eSf`a` fa bdh[VMS` daTgef` V`bS` e`a` aXfZW>: F5 fa ZWb\_ W`fZ[e` W`ZfZW 5S` fi W`bdabae`S`i [ `S`ea [ ` UgW` S` k fWZ` [US`[ ` bdhW` Wfe`S` Ve\_ b`[USf`a` efa fZW>: F5 bca`Y`S` I [ ` UgV` Y` fZW`^ai [ ` Ybdah`e`a` e`

**PROPOSAL:** Expand the annual LIHTC allocation by 50 percent

Senator Cantwell will be proposing a 50 percent increase in the annual amount of 9 percent credits available to states, allowing the creation or preservation of an additional 400,000 affordable rental units over the next 10 years. This proposal has been endorsed in the Bipartisan Policy Center’s Housing Commission report: “Housing America’s Future,” as well as by over 1300 groups through the A.C.T.I.O.N. Campaign.

;` fZWbSe fW` kVd fZW+ bWUWf` U`Mf` X` W` ahW` \*I`" SXadSTWZage` Y` g` [fe [ ` I` SeZ` Yfa` eSFw` ` W`k` ZS`Xa`i` Z[uzi` W`W`W`W` Xid fZW`f`dW` Wk` ai [ ` Ua\_ Wad Za\_ W`e` Zage` Wa`VeZ` FZ[e` bdabae`S`i` ag`V` S`ai` I` SeZ` Yfa` eSFwfa` W`W`ab` STagf` %`I`S`#` ` W` SXadSTWZage` Y`g` [fege` YfZW>: F5 ahW`fZW`W`f` #` kVd [ ` UgV` Y`\*I`" [ ` = [ ` Y5ag` fKz`

**PROPOSAL:** Promote broader income mixing in LIHTC projects

>: F5 W`Lag`SYW` eSFw` fa` Y`h`W`bd`W`W`U`W`fa` W`Z` h`W`ab\_ W`fe` fZSf` e`W`Se`W`g` [fe` SXadSTW`fa` fZW`ai` W`Z` [ ` Ua\_ W`b`bg`Sf`a` e` [ ` UgV` Y`fZW`Za\_ W`ad` Tgf`

fZW`W`bca`W`fe` S`dW`ZW` aef` V`X`U`g`f` fa` \_` S`]` W`X` S` U`S`^k` X`S`e`[ ` W` W`W`S`^k` [ ` Z`[Y`Z`-U`aef` \_` S`d` W`e` [ `]` W`E`W`Sf`W` EWSfad5S` fi W` i [ ` ^` TW`bdabae` Y` d`X`d` e` fa` fZW>: Z` : F5ie [ ` Ua\_ W` [ ` fSf`a` ` Xid` g`Se` fa` bca\_ afW`Y`d`S`W` [ ` Ua\_ W` [ `]` Y` S`^ai` [ ` Y` W`W`ab\_ W`fe` fa` \_` S`]` fSf` X` S` U`S`^ X`S`e`[ `]` fK` i` Z`[ ` W`bdah`V` Y` S` W`W`W` W`W`a`X` SXadSTW`[ ` fKz`

**PROPOSAL:** Allow states more flexibility in financing projects targeting homeless individuals or extremely low income families

G` W`U`g`d`W`f` Si` I` U`MS` [ ` S`d`Se`S` V` W`W`ab\_ W`fe` S`d`W` W`Y`T`W`fa` d`U`W`W`gb` fa` S` %` b`W`U`W`f` T`Se`e` Taaef` /d`g`f` Y` [ ` \_` adW` age` Y` 5dMf` W`g`[fki` [XfZW`e`S`W` : age` Y` 5dMf` S`^a`USf` Y`SYW`U`k` W`W`U` [ ` W`f`Z`W`Taaef` [e` ` W`W` fa` \_` S`]` W` W`W`ab\_ W`f` X` S` U`S`^k` X`S`e`[ ` W` EWSfad5S` fi W` i [ ` ^` TW`bdabae` Y` fZSf` e`S`f`W` age` Y` 5dMf` S`^a`USf` Y`SYW`U`W`T`W`S`^ai` W` fa` bdah`[W`gb` fa` S` ' ` b`W`U`W`f` T`Se`e` Taaef` Xid` b`ca`b`W`[ ` W` f`S`d`M` Y` W`Z` f`d`W` W`Z`ai` [ ` Ua\_ W`ad` Za\_ W`e` X` [ `]` W`S` V` [ ` V`h`V`g`Z` S`e` S`^ai` [ ` Y` fZW`W`bca`W`fe` fa` SUZ`[ ` W`W`Y`d`S`W` X` S` U`S`^ X`S`e`[ `]` fK`S` V`W` [ ` S`f`W`Z`W` W`W` Xid`W`f` X` S` U` Y`Z`



Row Labels	Sum of Total LIH Units	Sum of TC Elderly	Sum of TC Disabilities	Sum of TC Homeless	Sum of TC Large Households	Sum of TC Transitional
<b>4% Tax Credits</b>	<b>24,704</b>	<b>4,533</b>	<b>2,094</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1,423</b>	
Auburn	1,609	125	202			132
Bellevue	776	64	5			13
Bothell	225	336	68			0
Burien	99	101	20			0
Covington	319	121	65			0
Des Moines	679	119	76			78
Enumclaw	101					0
Federal Way	2,015	450	396			182
Issaquah	135		29			0
Kenmore	21					0
Kent	2,383	862	241			152
Kirkland	108	110	22			0
Lynnwood	177		36			36
Redmond	359		61			0
Renton	1,041	217	58			96
SeaTac	458					0
Seattle	13,198	1,829	742	5		701
Shoreline	433	199	73			33
Tukwila	543					0
Vashon	25					0
<b>9% Tax Credits</b>	<b>12,097</b>	<b>2,149</b>	<b>1,670</b>	<b>1,822</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>111</b>
Auburn	158		27			27
Bellevue	361	159	44	46		18
Enumclaw	41		9			5
Federal Way	470	156	89	42		32
Issaquah	265		57	15		63
Kenmore	120	50	21			15
Kent	528	459	87			10
Kirkland	291	91	26	76		19
Maple Valley	186		26	35		6
Pacific	50	50	11			0
Redmond	255	74	49	10		37
Renton	660	248	117	54		62

Low Income Housing Tax Credit Projects in King County

SeaTac	424		86			11	
Seattle	8,079	812	979	1,532		315	56
Shoreline	59		12	12		0	
Tukwila	50		10			0	
Woodinville	100	50	20			10	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>36,801</b>	<b>6,682</b>	<b>3,764</b>	<b>1,827</b>		<b>2,053</b>	<b>111</b>



October 12, 2016  
SCA PIC Meeting

## Item 8:

### 2017 SCA State Legislative Agenda

#### **ACTION ITEM**

---

#### **SCA Staff Contact**

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

Katie Kuciemba, Senior Policy Analyst, [Katie@soundcities.org](mailto:Katie@soundcities.org), 206-433-7169

Ellie Wilson-Jones, Policy Analyst, [Ellie@soundcities.org](mailto:Ellie@soundcities.org), 206-433-7167

Doreen Booth, SCA Policy Analyst, [Doreen@soundcities.org](mailto:Doreen@soundcities.org), 206-495-3525

#### **SCA Legislative Committee Members**

Committee Chair David Baker, Kenmore Mayor; Councilmember Bill Allison, Maple Valley; SCA Board President Nancy Backus, Auburn Mayor; Mayor Leanne Guier, Pacific; Councilmember Amy Ockerlander, Duvall; Deputy Mayor Catherine Stanford, Lake Forest Park

#### **Potential Action**

##### **To recommend the following position to the SCA Board of Directors:**

The Sound Cities Association (SCA) urges the Washington State Legislature to take the following actions in 2017:

##### **Adjust the Property Tax Cap**

- *The Sound Cities Association urges the Legislature to give local governments the option to replace the arbitrary annual 1% cap on property tax revenues with a growth limit whose maximum is inflation plus the rate of population growth.*

##### **Invest in Public Health Services**

- *The Sound Cities Association urges the Legislature to fund basic public health by investing \$54 million in core public health services.*

##### **Address the Housing and Homelessness Crisis**

- *The Sound Cities Association urges the Legislature to partner with us to address homelessness and increase the supply of affordable housing in the following ways:*
  - *Expand and make permanent the Document Recording Fee*
  - *Invest \$200 million in the Housing Trust Fund*
  - *Allow local governments to create and preserve affordable housing through a Preservation Tax Exemption and other optional local tools*
- *The Sound Cities Association urges the Legislature to address other underlying causes of homelessness by making investments in our state's behavioral health system and enacting legislation to prohibit Source of Income Discrimination.*

## **Background**

At the September 14, 2016 PIC meeting, members voted unanimously to bring a potential policy position to the October 12 PIC meeting that includes a legislative agenda for 2017 focusing on three areas: lifting the 1% property tax cap, public health funding, and affordable housing and homelessness.

## **SCA Legislative Committee Recommendation**

Following the discussion at the September PIC meeting, the SCA Legislative Committee, made up of members from each geographic caucus, met for the second time on October 3, 2016. They confirmed that the SCA legislative agenda should focus on the three policy priorities discussed by the PIC:

- Adjust the Property Tax Cap
- Invest in Public Health Services
- Address the Housing and Homelessness Crisis

The Legislative Committee built upon this issues, and developed a one-page Legislative Agenda. They voted unanimously to recommend adoption of this agenda ([Attachment A](#)) to the PIC.

Additional background about each of the three priority areas is included below.

### **Adjust the Property Tax Cap**

Property tax is the largest revenue source for Washington's cities, supporting critical services such as justice, health, and safety. In 1973, the Legislature responded to concerns that property taxes were rising too fast by passing a 106% annual cap. This means that property tax levies could not increase by more than 6% annually. Then, Initiative 747 passed in the November 2001 election. It limited regular property levies for all taxing districts to 101% of the previous year plus new construction. After the Supreme Court found I-747 unconstitutional, the Legislature reenacted this 1% limit.

This arbitrary 1% limit on annual increases has significantly strained many city budgets. In the first five years, cities lost an estimated \$500 million in property tax revenue, and those impacts are ongoing. The result is an erosion of critical city services at a time when cities are working to meet the needs of a growth population.

A growing coalition made up of counties, cities, labor, and public safety stakeholders have come together to form the Property Tax Coalition. Conversations and planning efforts are underway through the Coalition to draft legislation and communications materials, engage with state legislators, and add coalition members in advance of the 2017 legislative session. At the direction of the SCA Legislative Committee, SCA has joined the Coalition.

On September 26, 2016, King County Executive Dow Constantine championed the message of the Coalition in his [Proposed 2017-2018 Budget Address](#) and hosted a [press conference addressing property tax revenue growth](#) that included SCA representatives.

## **Invest in Public Health Services**

As noted at the September PIC meeting, SCA has adopted several policy positions over the years in support of increased state funding for public health services. There is a critical need for basic public health services across Washington State. Basic public health services that are the responsibility of the state include: communicable disease control; chronic disease and injury prevention; environmental public health; maternal child family health; and access to clinical care. The gap in funding across all county health departments is \$78 million per year, with an additional \$21 million gap at the State Department of Health.

The State Department of Health funding request to the Washington State Legislature is \$54 million, taking into consideration an allocation plan identified by public health departments from across the state. The request will not fully close the funding gap; instead it is the first of two steps in the implementation of the health system modernization plan, to address the most emergent needs. The second step will be to finalize funding needs by local health jurisdictions.

The funding shortfall can be seen in Public Health – Seattle & King County today. Two examples can be found in the Communicable Disease Control program. That program includes tracking and monitoring of residents with tuberculosis (TB). King County staff recently noted that an active case of pulmonary TB exposed at least 75 other vulnerable adults to TB, requiring extensive screening and outreach to prevent the spread of TB. Due to shrinking state investments, Public Health was forced to eliminate monitoring and treating latent cases of TB, focusing instead only on active cases. When monitoring latent TB occurs, Public Health staff can identify and treat infected people before they develop contagious, active disease and potentially prevent high-cost and dangerous outbreaks. Another example of a recent communicable disease outbreak is the Legionella outbreak at University of Washington Medical Center. Public Health staff noted that due to limited resources, they can only react to outbreaks, not prevent them through proactive outreach and are redeploying staff from other service areas to address the outbreaks.

## **Address the Housing and Homelessness Crisis**

Recognizing the housing and homelessness crisis faced by King County cities is multi-faceted— with rising housing costs and a tight rental market, a growing need for homeless services, and an underfunded statewide behavioral health system—the draft SCA 2017 Legislative Agenda includes several specific funding and policy requests. Each of the requests included in the draft SCA 2017 Legislative Agenda have broad-based support from housing organizations and are also likely to be included in many local governments’ legislative agendas. Specifically, draft legislative agendas for following organizations and local governments were reviewed to identify those issues given the highest level of priority and greatest level of consensus:

- Local Governments/Local Government Organizations
  - Association of Washington Cities (AWC)
  - King County Executive’s Office
  - City of Seattle
  - Snohomish County
- Regional Committees
  - All Home

- Joint Recommendations Committee (JRC)
- South King County Homelessness and Housing Partnership (SKKHP) *(Note: SKKHP's current work is to review legislative proposals for alignment with adopted SKC needs and goals)*
- Housing Organizations
  - Washington Low Income Housing Alliance (WLIHA)
  - Housing Development Consortium (HDC)

The specific funding and policy requests included in the draft SCA 2017 Legislative Agenda are as follows:

- **Document Recording Fees (AWC, King County Executive's Office, Seattle, Snohomish County, All Home, JRC, SKHHP, WLIHA, HDC):** Advocates will urge the state to make permanent and expand the \$58 document recording fee, a primary source of flexible funding for programs that help people experiencing or at risk of homelessness maintain and obtain housing. Discussions are ongoing as to what increase to seek, but a fee of \$90-\$100 is currently under consideration. Considerations are also being given to expanding the scope of the documents to which the fee applies (e.g. banking documents). The current fee is scheduled to begin sunseting in 2019, with a fee decrease of \$30 slated, resulting in King County funding dropping from an estimated \$33.5 million to \$12.5 million. At the state level, the sunset would bring an estimated \$112.8 million in collections down to \$42.3 million.
- **Housing Trust Fund (King County Executive's Office, Seattle, Snohomish County, All Home, JRC, SKHHP, WLIHA, HDC):** There is a push to increase the state investment into the Housing Trust Fund to \$200 million over the biennium, restoring the fund to 2007-09 levels. For the current biennium, the total allocation was total \$71,875,000.
- **Preservation Tax Exemption (King County Executive's Office, Seattle, All Home, JRC, SKHHP, HDC):** Housing advocates are working to retool a proposal to allow cities to create an optional Preservation Tax Exemption program under which they would have the option to provide a targeted property tax exemption to property to owners who agree to restrict rents and income-eligibility for a portion of units for a specified minimum time period. There is interest in revisiting 2015 proposed legislation to ensure it would be a useful tool for South King County cities in particular.
- **Source of Income Discrimination (All Home, JRC, SKHHP, WLIHA, HDC):** Some landlords deny tenancy to potential tenants who rely on subsidies and unearned income (such as Social Security Disability Insurance) to pay all or a portion of their rent. Legislation is anticipated that would bar landlords from basing rental decisions on the source of a prospective tenant's income. The cities of Bellevue, Kirkland, Redmond, Seattle, and Vancouver, and unincorporated King County have local ordinances that bar landlords from making rental decisions based on the use of certain types of subsidies.

Advocates note that rental subsidies generated through the document recording fee, which state law requires be used on the private market, have been challenging to utilize in King County due to landlord refusals to rent to tenants using these subsidies. The King County Housing Authority (KCHA) reports that in the first quarter of 2016, close to 50% of KCHA's newly issued vouchers went to households who were unable to find a place to live in under 120 days. KCHA believes that some landlords' unwillingness to rent to households based on their use of a Section 8 voucher is a major contributor to the lengthy amount of time it can take for a low-income family to find housing. However, data is not collected on specific reasons why vouchers go unused. In 2015, the median amount of time for families that did find housing after receiving a voucher was 106 days. The region's low vacancy rental market has increased competition for units making it harder for Section 8 recipients to find affordable housing. KCHA reports examples of entire apartment complexes making the decision to no longer accept Section 8, and end the tenancies of existing Section 8 households that were complying with the terms of their leases.

- **Behavioral Health Investments (AWC, King County Executive's Office, Snohomish County, All Home):** Local governments and others will be seeking investments into the behavioral health (mental health and substance use) system. In order to keep the SCA legislative agenda focused, and in light of emerging work to define the requests in these areas, behavioral health legislative requests have only been included at a high level in the draft SCA 2017 Legislative Agenda. The SCA Legislative Committee will continue to monitor specific proposals in the behavioral health area as they emerge and bring forward updates to the PIC.

### **Next Steps**

Pending discussion and action by the PIC, the SCA Board of Directors will next approve the final 2017 SCA Legislative Agenda. Members of the SCA Legislative Committee are expected to meet again prior to the 2017 legislative session to identify opportunities to work with cities and key stakeholders in the distribution and education of the legislative agenda.

All SCA cities are encouraged to adopt a legislative agenda for your city so that you can directly tell legislators your priorities during the 2017 legislative session. In drafting your agenda, consider the following recommendations:

- Your agenda doesn't need to be long and complex – keep it to one page if possible.
- Add credibility by having your city council adopt your agenda before session.
- Include capital needs along with policy priorities.
- Once you've adopted an agenda make sure you talk about it with your community organizations, media, cities, and legislators.
- Share your agenda with Sound Cities Association.

### **Attachments**

- A. [Draft 2017 SCA Legislative Agenda](#)



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.

## **DRAFT 2017 Legislative Agenda**

### **Adjust the Property Tax Cap**

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

- *The Sound Cities Association urges the Legislature to give local governments the option to replace the arbitrary annual 1% cap on property tax revenues with a growth limit whose maximum is inflation plus the rate of population growth.*

### **Invest in Public Health Services**

Protect our communities by investing in core public health services. The 40% per capita decrease in public health funding since 1999 is reaching crisis levels across the state. The funding shortfall has left Public Health–Seattle & King County unable to fully investigate disease outbreaks. The Washington State Department of Health is requesting \$54 million for local public health jurisdictions to fill critical gaps in disease prevention and response, and to pilot shared services to improve the efficiency of the overall system.

- *The Sound Cities Association urges the Legislature to fund basic public health by investing \$54 million in core public health services.*

### **Address the Housing and Homelessness Crisis**

Our communities face an affordable housing and homelessness crisis. Over 4,500 people are surviving unsheltered on any given night in King County, and others, including older adults and moderate and low-wage workers of all ages, are struggling to find affordable, quality housing in our region. Partnerships between state and local governments are critical to create new units of affordable housing, renewed state commitments to help Washingtonians transition out of homelessness, and expanded investments to address behavioral health needs and other root causes of homelessness.

- *The Sound Cities Association urges the Legislature to partner with us to address homelessness and increase the supply of affordable housing in the following ways:*
  - *Expand and make permanent the Document Recording Fee*
  - *Invest \$200 million in the Housing Trust Fund*
  - *Allow local governments to create and preserve affordable housing through a Preservation Tax Exemption and other optional local tools*
- *The Sound Cities Association urges the Legislature to address other underlying causes of homelessness by making investments in our state's behavioral health system and enacting legislation to prohibit Source of Income Discrimination.*



October 12, 2016  
SCA PIC Meeting

## Item 9:

### Land Conservation and Preservation Work Plan

#### ***DISCUSSION***

---

#### **SCA Staff Contact**

Doreen Booth, SCA Policy Analyst, [doreen@soundcities.org](mailto:doreen@soundcities.org), 206-495-3525

#### **SCA Appointee to Land Conservation Advisory Group**

Redmond Council President Hank Margeson

#### **Other City Elected Officials on Advisory Group**

Bothell Councilmember James McNeal, Tukwila Councilmember De'Sean Quinn, Bellevue Councilmember Vandana Slatter

#### **Discussion**

The King County Executive convened a Land Conservation Advisory Group to seek feedback on the Land Conservation & Preservation Work Plan, a plan for King County to acquire, by fee or development rights, 66,000 acres of high conservation value lands located mainly in unincorporated King County. There is a funding gap of \$383,500,000 over 30 years to achieve the goal to acquire those lands. SCA's representative on the Advisory Group is seeking feedback from PIC members on the Land Preservation & Conservation Work Plan, including member perspectives on funding options and the inclusion of city lands in the Work Plan.

#### **Background**

In March 2016, King County Executive Dow Constantine submitted a Land Conservation & Preservation Work Plan (Land Conservation Plan) to the King County Council. More information about the Land Conservation Plan can be found on the [Land Conservation website](#). Executive Constantine convened a 28 member, broad-based Land Conservation Advisory Group in September 2016. A roster of Advisory Group members and other information about the Advisory Group can be found [here](#). Members on the group include four city officials, one of whom (Hank Margeson, Redmond) was specifically appointed to represent SCA.

King County staff presented on the Land Conservation Plan at the September 14, 2016 Pre-PIC Workshop. The Land Conservation Plan sets out a plan to conserve 5,500 parcels totaling 66,000 acres of high conservation value land for future generations, lands located almost exclusively in unincorporated King County. Lands proposed to be conserved fall into at least one of five conservation categories: natural lands, forests, agriculture, rivers, and regional trails. Some lands are listed as multi-objective - conserving those lands would support more than one conservation category. (See [Attachment A](#) for a breakdown of lands.)

Other than a few isolated parcels related to regional trail acquisitions and rivers, the Land Conservation Plan does not currently include lands located within cities. The Work Plan that King County developed earlier this year calls for the county to coordinate with cities to include incorporated area lands. Accordingly, King County staff is reaching out to cities through Watershed Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs) meetings and individually as requested, to consider city needs for conserving high value conservation lands. [Attachment B](#) is a handout King County provides to city representatives when discussing what city lands might be included in the Land Conservation Plan. Current estimated costs for land acquisition do not include costs for any city lands that might be added to the Land Conservation Work Plan.

The estimated cost to conserve (through a combination of land purchases and the purchase of development rights) the currently proposed 66,000 acres is \$1.5-\$1.8 billion over 30 years, which includes both cost of acquisition and operations and maintenance of the lands. King County has developed a projection for land conservation funds, setting out one option of how to fund the Work Plan using historical and new funding sources and projecting those sources out for 30 years ([Attachment C](#)).

There is a gap in funding of \$383,500,000 to conserve the currently proposed 66,000 acres of lands. The consideration of options on how to close that gap is one of the main focus areas of the Land Conservation Advisory Group.

King County included four potential options for closing the funding gap in the Work Plan submitted to the King County Council in March. The Work Plan also included options for private capital investment and public/private partnerships. The Advisory Group will be reviewing and making recommendations to the County on all of these potential revenue sources. All four of the public funding options identified in the Work Plan would require a vote of the public. The four options are:

**Bond Backed by Property Tax Increase.** Bonds require a 60% majority for approval, are single-purpose and cannot be used for operations and maintenance; such funds would have to come from other sources.

**Real Estate Excise Tax 3 (REET 3).** REET 3 is a real estate excise tax, paid by the buyer as opposed to the seller, and limited to funding conservation acquisitions and maintenance. REET 3 would fluctuate with economic conditions and revenues from all transactions would flow to King County. San Juan County is the only place in Washington State where REET 3 is in effect; an effort to enact REET 3 failed in King County in 1990.

**Property Tax Levy Lid Lift.** A property tax levy lid lift would require a 50% yes vote to pass. The likelihood of negative impacts on junior taxing districts may make this option unviable without a change in state law.

**Conservation Future Tax (CFT) Rate Increase.** The existing CFT generates \$18 M a year and has been in place in King County since 1982. An increase to the CFT of more than 1% a year would require a vote of the people.

A number of Advisory Group members expressed concerns about the proposed funding sources, including how they might hinder the ability of municipalities to plan for their own financial needs, potentially impact junior taxing districts, and increase housing costs.

Funding the Land Conservation Work Plan is the main focus of the October 6<sup>th</sup> Advisory Group meeting. Additional information and feedback on the funding options will be provided at the October 12<sup>th</sup> PIC meeting.

Answers to other questions raised by the Group can be found in the [September 28<sup>th</sup> meeting materials for the Advisory Group](#).

### **Next Steps**

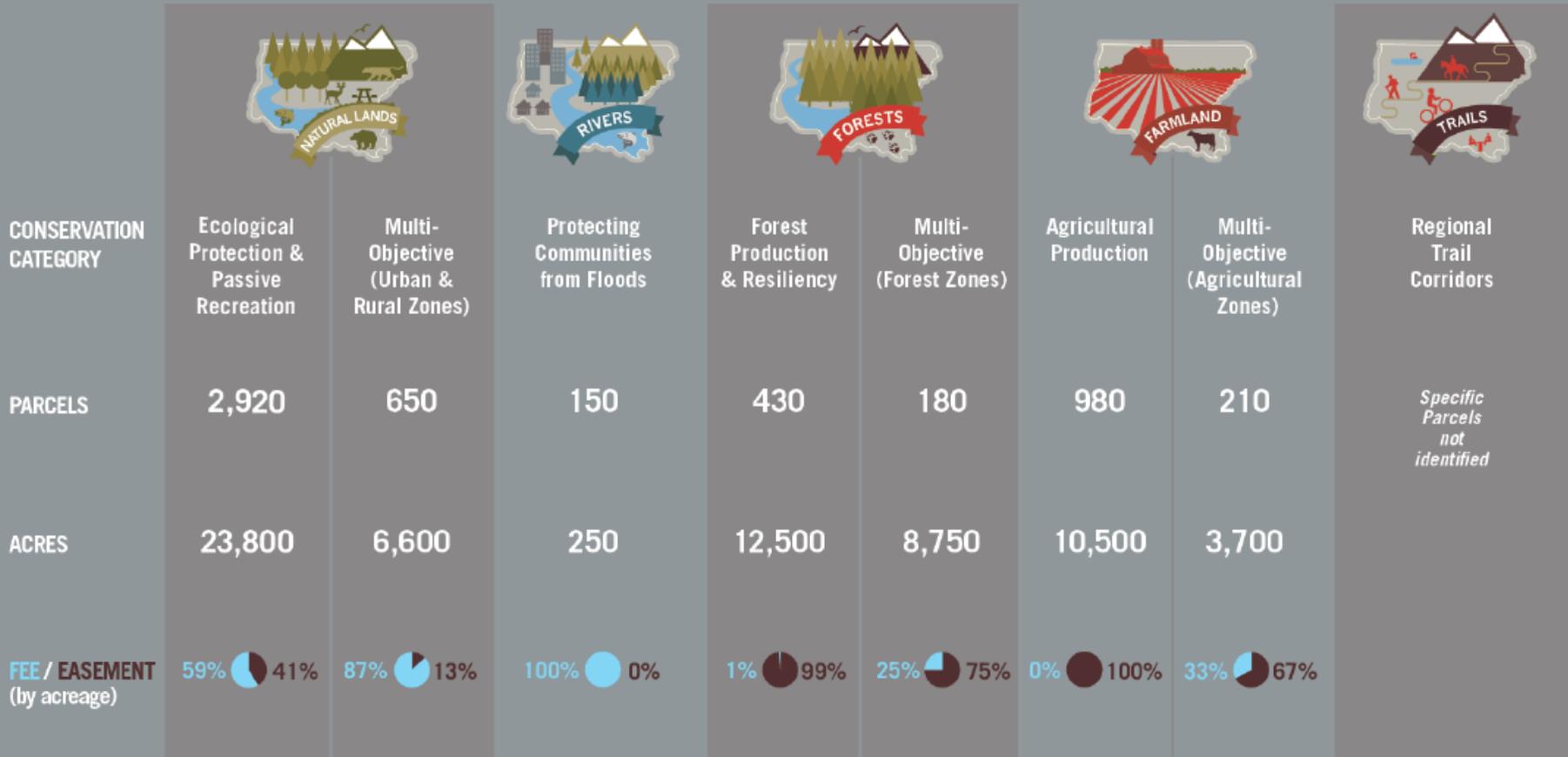
Land Conservation Advisory Group meetings will continue through December 2016. Comments from PIC members will continue to be solicited at the November and December PIC meetings. The Advisory Group will likely provide a recommendation to the County Executive in January 2017. Final meeting dates for the Advisory Group are still being determined.

### **Attachments**

- A. [Acreage by Category and Estimated Cost to Protect Identified Land](#)
- B. [Handout from King County to Cities](#)
- C. [Existing County Funding Sources and Gap – 30 Year Projection based on Historic Funding](#)

# What Lands Should We Consider?

## Updated 2016 Acreages By Category and Total Cost



TOTAL PARCELS: **5,500**

TOTAL ACRES: **66,000**

TOTAL EST. COST: **\$1.5 to \$1.8 B**

*includes acquisition & transaction costs and 30 years of O&M.*

## King County Land Conservation Vision

King County Executive Dow Constantine is considering a new land conservation proposal to protect the remaining high conservation value lands in King County. Our region's open space draws and retains residents and businesses making King County one of the fastest growing counties in the country. Executive Constantine seeks to preserve the remaining important green spaces, working resource lands, and trail corridors that keep our environment, communities, and economy, healthy.

The Executive's Land Conservation Work Plan was sent to King County Council in March. The proposal will be updated by the King County Department of Natural Resources & Parks (DNRP) staff and will be reviewed this fall by the newly established Land Conservation Advisory Group to provide feedback on the lands to be protected, potential funding options, implementation strategies, and other topics. The Advisory Group includes representatives from a variety of stakeholders including city representatives.

One of the main topics that will need to be considered is how cities would participate in this proposal as there are regionally important conservation lands located within cities. In addition to meeting with Sound Cities and WRIA Forums, we want to also reach out to every City for your ideas.

### Key questions on which we would like feedback from cities include:

- Does your City have conservation/open space priorities to include?
- What criteria are important to you in identifying priorities?
- Do you have feedback on current scope: protecting habitat, river corridors, working forests, working farms, trail corridors (possibly historic barns)
- Do you have suggestions as to how to protect urban properties balancing both social equity and conservation goals?
- Do you have feedback on how funding might be allocated to cities under a new proposal (e.g. annual allocation process? Distributions made on project merits vs. population/assessed value basis?)
- How important is funding for maintenance of newly acquired lands?
- Other questions or comments?

If you have questions, please contact Ingrid Lundin in the Parks and Recreation Division, DNRP, at [Ingrid.Lundin@kingcounty.gov](mailto:Ingrid.Lundin@kingcounty.gov) or 206-477-4578.

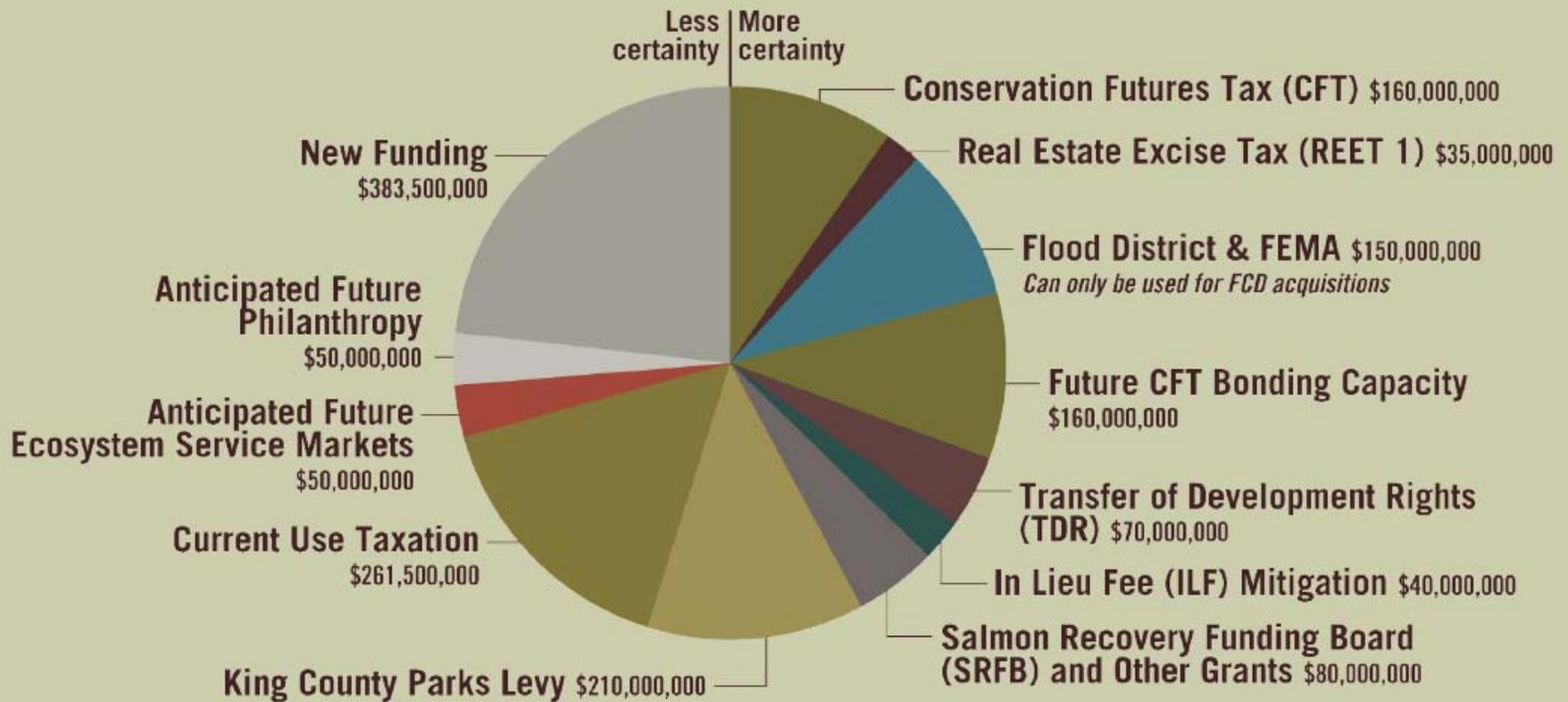
For more information:

Work Plan: <http://kingcounty.gov/land-conservation>

Advisory Group: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/conservation-advisory-group>

# Existing County Funding Sources and Gap - 30 Year Projection based on Historic Funding

*Total cost: \$1.65 billion (in 2016 dollars) Arranged by Certainty*



This chart shows the same total value as the midpoint of revised estimated range of costs: \$1.65 billion. Existing funding sources are shown in today's dollars, projected out 30 years at current levels of funding, except in cases where forecasts are available. The wedges of the pie are arranged in order of certainty; the most certain source (CFT) is in the noon to 1 o'clock position. Moving clockwise, the funding sources and amounts become progressively less certain.



October 12, 2016  
SCA PIC Meeting

## Item 10:

### King County METRO CONNECTS Long Range Vision

#### **UPDATE**

---

#### **SCA Staff Contact**

Katie Kuciemba, Senior Policy Analyst, [katie@soundcities.org](mailto:katie@soundcities.org), 206-433-7169

#### **SCA Regional Transit Committee Members**

SCA Caucus Chair Dave Hill, Algona Mayor; SCA Caucus Vice Chair Kathleen Huckabay, Sammamish Councilmember; Mayor Bruce Bassett, Mercer Island; Councilmember Dennis Higgins, Kent; Councilmember Dave Asher, Kirkland; Councilmember Kathy Hougardy, Tukwila; Councilmember John Wright, Lake Forest Park; Councilmember Ed Prince, Renton; Council President Hank Margeson, Redmond (Alternate); Councilmember Claude DaCorsi, Auburn (Alternate); Councilmember Bill Ramos, Issaquah (Alternate); Councilmember Amy Ockerlander, Duvall (Alternate).

#### **Update Item:**

METRO CONNECTS is a 25-year visionary plan for an integrated system that leverages regional transit investments with other existing plans, including city comprehensive plans. Metro Transit transmitted the plan to the King County Council on August 10, 2016, after King County staff incorporated feedback received during the public comment period.

The Regional Transit Committee (RTC) began its review of the updated METRO CONNECTS in August 2016. Issues of primary focus for the RTC are the updated service network, including access and alternative services; how METRO CONNECTS envisions partnerships; the relationship of METRO CONNECTS to existing policy documents and plans; and implementation and financial details.

#### **Background**

[METRO CONNECTS](#) is King County Metro Transit's vision for bringing more transit service, more choices in transit access, and one coordinated system to the county over the next 25 years. METRO CONNECTS is expected to help guide expansion of Metro's bus service in King County as the region's population and employment grow through 2040. In 2015, Metro provided 3.5 million hours of transit service. By comparison, Metro would add 2.5 million new service hours by 2040 for a total of approximately 6 million service hours with the full implementation of METRO CONNECTS. Additionally, METRO CONNECTS includes a substantial expansion of capital investments to create optimal transit travel conditions to keep buses moving, ensure riders have safe and well-designed transit stops and hubs, and plan for new transit access options.

By way of background, the *draft* METRO CONNECTS Long Range Plan was presented during pre-PIC presentations in October 2015 and April 2016, and discussed regularly during PIC meetings.

The last PIC discussion is summarized in the [June 8, 2016 PIC minutes](#) (page 2 and page 12 for a list of SCA Member Common Comment Themes). Feedback from the June 8 PIC meeting was subsequently shared with SCA members of the Regional Transit Committee (RTC) at their meeting on June 15, 2016. Additional background on the *draft* METRO CONNECTS plan, stakeholder involvement, and feedback by cities can be found in the [May 11, 2016 PIC staff report](#) (page 23) and in the [METRO CONNECTS Public Engagement Report](#).

After approximately two years of development and outreach to stakeholders and residents in the region, Metro transmitted METRO CONNECTS to the King County Council on August 10, 2016. METRO CONNECTS was dual-referred to the Transportation, Economy and Environment (TrEE) Committee and to the RTC.

Since the transmittal of METRO CONNECTS on August 10, members of the RTC have had committee briefings on August 17 and September 14, 2016. Additionally, a special committee workshop was held on August 30, 2016 to illustrate how METRO CONNECTS was shaped by city and stakeholder input. Issues of primary focus for RTC members are the updated service network, including access and alternative services; how METRO CONNECTS envisions partnerships; the relationship of METRO CONNECTS to existing policy documents and plans; and implementation and financial details.

### **Updated Service Network**

METRO CONNECTS includes three broad categories of service with an emphasis on frequent service and extensive integration with Sound Transit light rail service. Based upon stakeholder outreach, discussions with local jurisdictions, and public meetings, an updated METRO CONNECTS 2025 Service Network and an updated METRO CONNECTS 2040 Service Network can be found in the [METRO CONNECTS Supplemental Network Performance Report](#). The three categories of service are:

- **Frequent Service:** “Show-up-and-go” service with speed and reliability improvements (such as RapidRide); starts early and runs late in the day. Approximately 68 percent of the total service network hours would be frequent service.
- **Express Service:** Limited-stop service between regional centers, all day, both ways. Includes peak-period service. Approximately nine percent of the total service network hours would be express service.
- **Local and Flexible Service:** Fixed-route buses and alternatives such as vanpools, Dial-A-Ride Transit, community shuttles, and real-time ridesharing. Approximately 23 percent of the total service network would be local/flexible service.

SCA members of the RTC have asked King County for clarity on how Metro will prioritize new transit routes, a better understanding of how transit service would expand during implementation, concern about the loss of direct connections, and questions about the redeployment of transit service when a major service change occurs.

Related to alternative services, SCA members have asked for additional information about ongoing funding of the program and requested updated language to clarify how alternative service performance will be measured. SCA members would like to see transit access, including

vehicular and non-motorized connections, further developed during the Implementation Program so that local jurisdictions and communities can better plan for growth and future ridership.

While the METRO CONNECTS service network identifies the type of service that should be provided on corridors in the future, the exact level of service in different corridors would be detailed during the rolling six-year implementation planning effort. Cities should consider METRO CONNECTS a roadmap to future transit service; however, it will be critical to be engaged during implementation when more detailed analysis and considerations will be given as Metro moves forward toward service and project delivery.

### **Partnership Expectations**

METRO CONNECTS is predicated on close collaboration with local jurisdictions and stakeholders to improve transit through a variety of partnerships: financial; land uses and planning; traffic operations; transportation policies; and grant coordination. In order to deliver the service network envisioned in METRO CONNECTS, additional investment by partnering transit agencies, state and local agencies, and local jurisdictions will be needed. While the exact partner contribution will be determined by the investment type, financial need, policy consideration, and available resources, [METRO CONNECTS Appendix B](#) (page B1-B2) assumes a total partnership contribution of \$3.139 million.

The following areas are opportunities for local partnerships:

- Speed and reliability improvements. Metro would contribute toward improvements such as creating new bus-only lanes and transit priority features, upgrading signals, adding transit signal priority, and rechanneling roadways. Local jurisdictions will be asked to assist in planning, securing transit-only right-of-way, and changing traffic management practices.
- Passenger facility improvements. Coordination between transit agencies and cities will be critical to ensure that facility locations are consistent with land-use plans and that their design helps integrate different transportation services. Partnership could take the form of transit facility development, help in reducing the cost of land acquisition, construction, or permitting.
- Access to transit. Metro would work with cities and other partners to create trail connections, sidewalks, and bicycle facilities at bus stops and transit centers. Partners could help identify, design, permit, and build access improvements; assist in leased parking lot negotiations; or contribute financially to access improvements. Metro could provide funding to jurisdictions through grants and/or partner with cities to develop grant proposals.
- Transit-Oriented Development. Metro would work to ensure development is consistent with land use plans. Partnerships with cities could help reduce the cost of land acquisition, construction, and permitting.

SCA members of the RTC have asked that King County make clearer the estimated partnership funding for the capital program, including a description of the partnership roles for the different investments types. Additional concerns by RTC members center on how much of the

METRO CONNECTS funding gap is anticipated to come from partner investments and what are the modifications to the plan if Metro is unable to realize the full amount of partner funding.

### **Relationship with Existing Metro Policy**

After a thorough effort to update Metro's Strategic Plan and Service Guidelines by the Service Guidelines Task Force and the RTC in 2015 and early-2016, critical questions have been asked by RTC members regarding the relationship between Metro's primary policy documents. Members have asked for clarification on how the Strategic Plan, Service Guidelines, and METRO CONNECTS impact and affect one another. It is anticipated that the next RTC meeting will focus on the relationship and function of each of Metro's existing policy documents with the long range vision.

### **Implementation Program and Financial Assumptions**

To take METRO CONNECTS from a vision to reality, Metro is planning to develop a rolling six-year Implementation Program to coordinate internally and with jurisdictions on near-term service changes, complementary capital investment, and other program and policy work needed. Changes to the transit network would be made through the existing service change process, which includes extensive public engagement prior to County Council adoption of service change ordinances. It is anticipated that the Implementation Program would help Metro align transit service expansion with changes in local community development and plans.

SCA members of the RTC have requested clarity about how the Implementation Program is expected to work, including the prioritization of transit services and capital projects. Members have stated that a frequent review of capital and operating assumptions is needed, with the suggestion of a biennial progress report. SCA members have stressed the importance of working with local jurisdictions to better understand impacts and outcomes of METRO CONNECTS implementation.

The costs for METRO CONNECTS are high-level planning estimates that are expected to be further refined during the Implementation Program. Based on current revenue assumptions and planning-level assumptions, existing revenue forecasts could fund almost 30 percent of the additional capital cost (\$11 million total) and over 50 percent of the additional 2.5 million service hours in 2040. The identification of funding sources beyond existing King County revenue sources -- and the assumed \$3.139 million in partnership contributions -- is not within the scope of work for METRO CONNECTS.

To lay the foundation for METRO CONNECTS, King County Executive Constantine's proposed 2017-2018 budget invests in organizational capacity, improves service quality, and includes capital program investments. The capital element includes developing plans to add bus base capacity in South King County, fleet improvements, and safety measures for Metro riders and operators. In the future, the service and capital needs identified in the Implementation Program would inform -- and be informed -- by the King County biennial budget.

## **Next Steps**

The RTC has until mid-December to review the transmitted METRO CONNECTS, unless an extension is requested by members. King County's TrEE Committee and the full King County Council will follow with formal review and final approval of METRO CONNECTS, which is anticipated in early-2017.

The next RTC meeting has been scheduled as a special workshop, occurring on Wednesday, October 21, 2016. The anticipated areas of focus will include identified changes to METRO CONNECTS by RTC members; policy and context of existing Metro plans; and further discussion about the implementation of METRO CONNECTS.

A Draft Chair's Striking Amendment is expected to be released by RTC Chair Claudia Balducci on October 10, 2016.

## **Online Resources**

[METRO CONNECTS Long Range Plan](#)

[METRO CONNECTS Technical Appendices:](#)

- Appendix A: Service Network
- Appendix B: Capital Costing Methodology
- Appendix C: Speed and Reliability
- Appendix D: Access to Transit
- Appendix E: Passenger Facilities
- Appendix F: Critical Services Supports
- Appendix G: RapidRide Expansion Report

[METRO CONNECTS Supplemental Network Performance Report](#)

[METRO CONNECTS Public Engagement Report](#)





October 12, 2016  
SCA PIC Meeting

**Item 11:**  
Future Levies and Ballot Measures in King County  
**UPDATE**

**SCA Staff Contact**

Katie Kuciemba, SCA Senior Policy Analyst, [Katie@soundcities.org](mailto:Katie@soundcities.org), 206-433-7169

**Update**

Members will have an opportunity to update the PIC in regards to future ballot measures.

**Background**

The purpose of this item is to provide information for SCA member cities on upcoming ballot measures. This item will be an ongoing, monthly item on the PIC agenda.

**Potential Future Ballot Measures – SCA Cities**

Year	Month	Jurisdiction	Measure
2016	November	Bellevue	Levy for Fire Facilities
2016	November	Bellevue	Levy for Neighborhood Safety, Connectivity, and Congestion
2016	November	Bothell	Levy for Safe Streets and Sidewalks
2016	November	Bothell	Sale, Possession and Discharge of Consumer Fireworks Advisory
2016	November	Duvall	Nine Year Levy Lid Lift for Big Rock Ballfield Improvements, Employment of a Full-Time School Resource Officer, and IT System Improvements
2016	November	Duvall	Sale, Possession and Discharge of Consumer Fireworks Advisory
2016	November	Issaquah	Traffic Improvement Bonds (no more than \$50,000,000)
2015	November	Kenmore	General Obligation Bonds Walkways and Waterways Improvements (up to \$19,750,000)
2016	November	Shoreline	Basic Public Safety, Parks & Recreation, and Community Services Maintenance and Operations Levy (renewal)
2016	November	Snoqualmie	Public Safety Levy (approximately \$650,000)
2016	November	Tukwila	Public Safety Bond (not to exceed \$77,385,000)

**Potential Future Ballot Measures – Other Cities**

Year	Month	Jurisdiction	Measure
2016	November	Seattle	Initiative 124: Health, safety, and labor standards for Seattle hotel employees
2018		Seattle	Families and Education Levy (renewal)
2019		Seattle	Library Levy (renewal)
2019		Seattle	Transportation Levy (renewal)

**Potential Future Ballot Measures – Countywide**

Year	Month	Jurisdiction	Measure
2016	November	Sound Transit	ST3: Light-Rail, Commuter-Rail, and Bus Service Expansion (\$53.8 billion estimated cost)
2016	November	King County	Charter Amendment 1: Nonpartisan Prosecuting Attorney
2016	November	King County	Charter Amendment 2: Gender-Neutral Language
2017		King County	Veterans and Human Services Levy (renewal)
2017		King County	Cultural Access/Affordable Housing/Mental Health
2018		King County	AFIS Levy (renewal)
2019		King County	Medic One
2019		King County	Regional Parks

**Potential Future Ballot Measures – School & Special Purpose Districts**

Year	Month	Measure
2016	November	Auburn School District: School Construction and Replacement General Obligation Bonds (\$465,056,000)
2016	November	Highline School District: Bonds to Construct New Schools and Replace and Renovate Deteriorating Schools
2016	November	Kent School District: Capital Improvement and School Construction General Obligation Bonds (\$252,000,000)
2016	November	King County Fire Protection District 27: Levy of General Tax for Maintenance and Operations (\$475,000/year for four years)
2016	November	South King Fire & Rescue: Levy of General Tax \$2,750,000 for Maintenance and Operations
2016	November	Proposed Eastside Regional Fire Authority (King County Fire Protection District 10 and Fire District 38)
2018		Shoreline School District Operations Levy
2018		Shoreline School District Capital Levy

**Next Steps**

SCA staff will update this document on a regular basis. Please share this information with your city, and provide information on upcoming elections in your city to Katie Kuciemba, SCA Senior Policy Analyst, at [Katie@soundcities.org](mailto:Katie@soundcities.org).



October 12, 2016  
SCA PIC Meeting

**Item 12:**  
Potential Upcoming SCA Issues  
**UPDATE**

---

**SCA Staff Contact**

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

**Update**

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

**Potential Issues**

- City Human Services Funding
  - SCA staff is working with the King County Alliance for Human Services and city staff to collect data and will return to PIC for discussion
- Regional response to increase in property crime rates
  - Identified at November 12, 2015 PIC meeting and December 17, 2015 North and Snoqualmie Valley Caucus meeting
  - Violent crime and/or gun violence was identified as a potential issue at the May 11, 2016 PIC meeting
- King County Bridges and Roads
  - The Bridges and Roads Task Force concluded their work in January 2016 with final recommendations that were presented to Executive Constantine
  - SCA staff is coordinating with King County staff on next steps
  - In a related regional work effort, the PSRC's Transportation 2040 Preservation and Maintenance Working Group began meeting in late-June 2016 to provide oversight and guidance on the T2040 plan update. SCA staff and a number of city staff are working group members
- Cascadia Rising Report
  - SCA staff will provide a briefing on the Cascadia Rising After Action Report at an upcoming PIC meeting

If you or your city has additional items to be added to this list, please contact Deanna Dawson, [deanna@soundcities.org](mailto:deanna@soundcities.org).