



SCA Public Issues Committee

MINUTES

January 13, 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. 29 cities had representation ([Attachment A](#)). Guests present included: Diane Carlson, King County Executive's Office; Tamie Deady, Black Diamond Council; Kamuron Gurol, City of Burien; Will Knedlik; James McNeal, Bothell Council; Martin Moore, Federal Way Council; John Stilin, Redmond Council; Jennifer Sutton, Issaquah Council; Mayor Jeff Wagner, Covington.

2. Public Comment

Chair Mhoon asked if any member of the public had any public comment.

Will Knedlik, Eastside Transportation Association Officer, gave public comment regarding agenda item 12, specifically Sound Transit 3 (ST3). Mr. Knedlik stated the importance of subarea equity, particularly in light of the electoral defeat of King County's Proposition 1 in 2014. Mr. Knedlik stated that the City of Seattle has not been paying into the Sound Transit system fairly and that the ST3 package is at risk, similar to the Proposition 1 defeat. Mr. Knedlik provided a handout, [Attachment B](#).

Seeing no further comments, Chair Mhoon closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

3. Approval of the December 9, 2015 Minutes

Chair Mhoon reported that one correction to the December 9, 2015 PIC minutes had been submitted by Mayor Jim Berger, Carnation, to reflect that Carnation was present at the meeting.

Council President Hank Margeson, Redmond, moved, seconded by Councilmember Janie Edelman, Black Diamond, to approve the December 9, 2015 PIC minutes as amended.

There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Chair's Report

Chair Mhoon reported that SCA Executive Director Deanna Dawson is not present and sends her apologies. Chair Mhoon stated that it is an honor to serve as PIC chair. She asked that name tags face the chair and vice chair, and that members in the back of the room speak loudly as it can be difficult to hear. Chair Mhoon congratulated Mayor Nancy Backus, Auburn, for being

appointed by King County Executive Constantine to the Sound Transit Board of Directors. Chair Mhoon noted that that this appointment was influenced by SCA's involvement and requests by south county mayors to have south county city representation on the Sound Transit Board.

Chair Mhoon reported that the pre-PIC workshop, scheduled for February 10, 2016 prior to the PIC meeting, will be an SCA PIC 101 to provide overview of the committee and provide opportunity for members to ask questions. She continued that all members are invited to attend, not just PIC members, and encouraged attendance. Chair Mhoon stated that this workshop will be beneficial to members who are new to PIC, but also long seated members.

Last, Chair Mhoon called attention to the "Did You Know?" section of the meeting agenda. She encouraged members to send topics for this section to SCA Executive Director Deanna Dawson, deanna@soundcities.org, which may be featured on a future agenda.

5. Welcome of New Members and Introduction to PIC

Chair Mhoon asked members to introduce themselves. Members also provided updates from within their cities such as council leadership, and personnel changes. Chair Mhoon asked staff to introduce themselves.

News of note included that Des Moines City Manager Tony Piasecki would be retiring in August 2016. North Bend Mayor pro tem Ross Loudonback was elected President of the Snoqualmie Valley Government Association. The Klahanie annexation in Sammamish, effective 1/1/2016, would add more than 10,000 residents to the city. Woodinville was interviewing candidates for a new City Manager. Mercer Island's City Manager resigned, and the city was starting a process to hire a new Manager. The City of Duvall has a City Administrator for the first time in over thirty years.

Katie Kuciemba, SCA Senior Policy Analyst, reported that on page 17 of the meeting material packet there is a condensed overview of PIC Operating Policies as well as a list of acronyms for convenience. Kuciemba also highlighted that the February 10, 2016 pre-PIC workshop will go into more depth on the process and procedures of PIC.

6. 2016 PIC Meeting Schedule

Chair Mhoon reported that in developing the 2016 PIC meeting schedule, one potential conflict was identified for March 9, 2016, as there is a National League of Cities (NLC) conference in Washington, D.C. in early-March. She stated that staff polled members regarding their attendance to the NLC conference. While a handful of PIC members/alternates do plan to attend that conference, many will not, and therefore PIC attendance and quorum should not be greatly impacted. Chair Mhoon noted that both the PIC member and alternate for the City of Auburn will attend the NLC meeting, and suggested that another councilmember be identified by Auburn for the March meeting. Chair Mhoon suggested that the March meeting remain on March 9, 2016 and not be rescheduled.

Council President Hank Margeson, Redmond moved, seconded by Mayor Bernie Talmas, Woodinville, to approve Resolution 2016-1, Public Issues Committee 2016 meeting schedule.

There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. King County Metro Strategic Plan & Service Guidelines Update

Katie Kuciemba, SCA Senior Policy Analyst, reported that the Metro Strategic Plan and Service Guidelines update is a preview of the work before the Regional Transit Committee (RTC). Kuciemba stated the importance of PIC's influence on Metro's updates through the SCA Policy Positions and the work of the Service Guidelines Task Force.

Kuciemba explained that in 2010, the Regional Transit Task Force proposed a groundbreaking new policy framework and service guidelines for transit in King County. As a result, transit service in King County is guided by policies contained in the King County Metro Strategic Plan and Service Guidelines. The Strategic Plan establishes goals, objectives, and strategies for achieving Metro's vision, as well as performance measures to track progress. The Service Guidelines are used to evaluate performance; manage the transit system; and provide transparency for Metro's proposals to expand, reduce, or revise service.

Much has occurred since the Strategic Plan and Service Guidelines were last amended and adopted in 2013 including the defeat of King County's April 2014 Proposition 1 and the resulting Metro transit service reductions. Additionally, recommendations have been made related to Metro's service guidelines and how Metro defines access to transit.

The 2015 proposed updates to the Strategic Plan incorporate specific recommendations from the Service Guidelines Task Force, recommendations from Metro's Access to Transit Study, King County's 2015 Strategic Climate Action Plan commitments, and policy clarifications. The 2015 proposed updates to the Service Guidelines incorporates the recommendations from the Service Guidelines Task Force, reorganization to make the document clearer, and policies to increase transparency of Metro's planning process.

Kuciemba concluded that the SCA Caucus of the RTC will be meeting on January 14, 2015 for a caucus workshop. It is anticipated that the 2015 update to the Strategic Plan and Service Guidelines will be adopted by the RTC in late-April.

Mayor Bernie Talmas, Woodinville, thanked Regional Transit Committee members and staff for the time spent on the Metro updates. While the information is detailed, it is important to pay attention to the details early in the process to ensure that cities can help influence the outcome.

Chair Mhoon thanked the committee members and staff.

8. Best Starts for Kids

Ellie Wilson-Jones, SCA Policy Analyst, reported on the Best Starts for Kids Levy, a \$392.3 million property tax levy passed in November 2015 to fund prevention-oriented strategies for children and youth, families, and communities. The King County Executive has recommended the formation of a new Children and Youth Advisory Board to oversee the majority of the levy proceeds, and, on Monday, January 11, 2016, the King County Council approved an ordinance creating this new board. The Executive has announced the bulk of his appointees for this new 40-member board, listed as Attachment A to the staff report in the January PIC Packet, and

those appointments are expected to be officially transmitted to the King County Council soon. In addition to the slate of names listed in Attachment A, SCA has appointed Auburn Mayor Nancy Backus and Lake Forest Park Councilmember Hilda Thompson to fill the two seats reserved for SCA.

This Children and Youth Advisory Board will assist the Executive in developing an implementation plan for levy proceeds allocated for children and youth under five, children and youth ages five through 24, and data and evaluation. The Board will also provide implementation advice regarding the Youth Action Plan, which was developed by a Youth Action Plan Task Force in 2015 to guide county priorities for serving infants through young adults.

The King County Council is expected to act soon on an ordinance related to oversight of the portion of the levy proceeds dedicated to Communities of Opportunity (COO), roughly \$6 million annually. The ordinance that advanced from the Council's Health, Housing, and Human Services Committee would utilize the existing COO Interim Governance Group—of which SCA Executive Director Deanna Dawson is a member—to assist in the development of an implementation plan for levy proceeds dedicated to COO. The ordinance would also charge that group with making recommendations as to changes necessary in the committee's composition.

Council President Hank Margeson, Redmond, requested clarification on levy funding set aside for elections costs. Wilson-Jones reported that under the original levy ordinance, funds would be set aside from the first year's levy proceeds to pay for November 2015 elections costs that were due to Best Starts for Kids. Margeson stated that levy proceeds should be used for programs and services, not for elections costs.

Chair Mhoon stated that as a result of SCA involvement in the Best Starts for Kids levy, SCA will be represented on the Children and Youth Advisory Board.

Councilmember Toby Nixon, Kirkland, and Councilmember Bill Peloza, Auburn, inquired about SCA's appointments to the Children and Youth Advisory Board. Wilson-Jones responded that Auburn Mayor Nancy Backus and Lake Forest Park Councilmember Hilda Thompson are SCA's appointees to the Children and Youth Advisory Board.

9. SCA Member Cities 2016 State Legislative Agendas

Katie Kuciamba, SCA Senior Policy Analyst, reported that it was agreed that SCA would collect member city legislative agendas in order to share them amongst cities, and to see where there are areas of commonality between cities.

After receiving 18 legislative agendas or positions from cities to date, the following issues were identified by a majority of cities:

- Support for legislation to raise the 1% property tax revenue limit;
- Support efforts to strengthen the Public Records Act;
- Support for state funding for mental health services, resources to respond to homelessness, and tools to help jurisdictions expand the number of affordable housing units; and

- Support for state-level infrastructure funding and create a reliable funding source to help fund critical and basic water, sewer, stormwater, and transportation infrastructure investments in local communities.

Kuciemba stated that the 2016 Legislative Session convened on January 11, 2016, and is scheduled to adjourn March 10, 2016. In a short 60-day session, the deadlines to consider and move a bill forward are tight and members will know by the first week of February which issues, other than budget modifications, are likely to move forward. Key issues during the session include: funding public schools per McCleary, charter schools, adopting a supplemental budget, fallout from Department of Corrections prisoner release, and an initiative to impose a carbon emissions tax on fossil fuels.

Kuciemba reported on the following legislative issues which were shared in legislative agendas submitted by cities.

Fireworks Ban:

Representative Hawkins and Representative Gregerson have introduced legislation, [HB 2348](#), that would remove the one year waiting period for local governments to adopt fireworks ordinances. HB 2348 is scheduled for public hearing in the House Local Government Committee on January 14. At Councilmember Dini Duclos' request, Kuciemba will send additional information on HB 2348.

Police Body Cameras:

Representative Hansen has drafted a bill that would help address the concerns around the public records implications and establish a work group to look at body-worn camera issues and make recommendations. [HB 1917](#) & [HB 2362](#) are being heard by the House Judiciary Committee on January 14.

County Roads:

King County is proposing a bill concerning county road administration and maintenance. Senator Fain has sponsored the Senate Bill, [SB 6314](#) and Representative Moscoso has sponsored the House Bill, [HB 2590](#).

Liquor Revenue:

[HB 2438](#) was introduced on January 13, which gradually increases the local government share of excess liquor revenues until the percentage-based method for distributions is restored.

Public Records:

Representative McBride will prime sponsor legislation intended to revise the public records act with regard to requests to local agencies. The bill, [HB 2576](#), will:

- Create the public records commission to administer the provisions of the public records act.
- Authorize public agencies to recover their costs for public records requests by charging a reasonable fee when records are requested for the purpose of sale or resale.
- Create the dedicated open records account.

Affordable Housing:

Senator Fain introduced [SB 6239](#) authorizing local governments to adopt a property tax exemption program for the preservation of certain affordable housing. Representative McBride introduced two bills on January 13 related to housing: [HB 2395](#) related to condominium conversion fees and [HB 2397](#) related to housing demolition fees, both in support of affordable housing.

Kuciamba concluded her comments by stating that the Senate would hold a hearing regarding I-405 tolling on January 14.

Mayor David Baker, Kenmore, inquired if the fireworks legislation was intended to pre-empt cities, to which the response was no.

Chair Mhoon reminded members that SCA does not have a lobbyist in Olympia but SCA staff will keep the PIC informed of topical issues at the Legislature.

10. Puget Sound Emergency Radio Network (PSERN)

Ellie Wilson-Jones, SCA Policy Analyst, reported on Puget Sound Emergency Radio Network or PSERN, a \$273 million property tax levy approved by voters in April 2015. PSERN will replace King County's nearly 20-year-old emergency radio communications system, which is used to dispatch responders to incidents and allows them to communicate with each other. The current system supports more than 100 agencies in King County and about 16,000 radio users. Once complete, the PSERN project—which will also serve these agencies and radio users—will increase coverage capacity from 94 percent to 97 percent.

King County is leading implementation of the project and has hired several contractors, most significantly Motorola, which was awarded a \$112 million contract to design, develop, implement, test, and provide ongoing support for the PSERN project. The staff report in the January PIC packet details the oversight mechanisms that are in place for the PSERN project. Briefly, a Joint Board made up of the owners of the current network – King County, Seattle, and the cities that make up Valley Communications Center and the Eastside Public Safety Communications Agency – has been established to provide oversight during the planned five-year implementation period. After implementation, ownership, operation, and maintenance of the PSERN system will be vested in a newly formed non-profit governed by a board of directors.

In addition to the Joint Board, the King County Council and Regional Policy Committee have also been monitoring implementation. Under a motion enacted by the King County Council in 2015, the Executive is required to brief the Council's Law, Justice and Emergency Management Committee quarterly about how the PSERN project is progressing toward identified milestones, listed on page 101 of the January PIC packet. The first of those required briefings occurred Tuesday, January 12, 2016. At that briefing, PSERN Project Manager David Mendel reported that the timeline for the first three milestones will be adjusted but that the later milestones, including the project completion date, are not expected to be impacted.

The PSERN project timeline is being adjusted in response to two reports. The first is a King County Auditor's Report, from November 2015, which is included in the January PIC packet as

Attachment B. The second is an Independent Project Management Quality Assurance Report completed by a contractor hired by the King County Information Technology Project Review Board. The audit report includes five recommendations, which can be summarized as follows: revise the schedule, improve status reporting, establish a baseline – for both the project schedule and budget, work to control contract risks, and evaluate the benefits and risks of work order contracts for construction work. Motorola played a role in concerns about the project schedule. Motorola has been contracted with to identify useable tower locations, but 38 of the sites identified by Motorola as of the fall were deemed unusable. PSERN has since met with Motorola executives and expressed their concerns about the contractor's performance, and PSERN staff say that they have since seen a marked change.

The Independent Project Management Quality Assurance report made similar recommendations. PSERN project staff have agreed with all of the recommendations from these reports and have stated that they are working to implement them. PSERN has hired a master scheduler who is working to update the project timeline. To address concerns about construction contracts, PSERN will be breaking up what was originally planned to be one large contract into several successively bid contracts. The staff says this will better allow the project to control for risk and will create a more competitive environment for vendor bids. It will also allow PSERN to apply lessons learned to future contracts.

Additionally, on January 13, 2016 the Regional Policy Committee (RPC) received a briefing on the PSERN project at the request of SCA's members.

Mayor Bernie Talmas, Woodinville, stated that the RPC received a briefing that afternoon and that he still has concerns about the performance of Motorola. Talmas requested that staff monitor adjustments to the PSERN schedule and whether that schedule is followed. Wilson-Jones stated that SCA will continue to monitor the PSERN project, including the revised project timeline, and whether milestones are being met.

Mayor Dave Hill, Algona, asked why PSERN does not utilize existing tower locations for the new system. Wilson-Jones explained that the new PSERN system will expand coverage and will require nearly twice as many tower sites as currently exist. Diane Carlson, King County Executive's Office, added that as many existing sites will be utilized as possible.

Councilmember Bill Pelozo, Auburn, stated that he was encouraged by the PSERN presentation to the RPC and efforts to be transparent. He stated that the PSERN project has opened up the books, which provides him assurance, and that more people have also been hired for PSERN to manage the project and to provide greater oversight.

Councilmember Tom Stowe, Beaux Arts Village, asked about integration between the PSERN system and neighboring counties. Wilson-Jones stated that she would follow up with information about coverage in areas near the county borders.

Council President Hank Margeson, Redmond, stated the PSERN project is not off to a good start and underscored the importance of the project's success, particularly since Motorola will be discontinuing support for the current system. He stated that he is concerned that the project

will be bid out in parts and stated that the auditor has concerns about the design bid contracting approach used.

Chair Mhoon recognized Councilmember Martin Moore, Federal Way, in the audience who provided comment. Moore added that he was glad the PSERN levy, which funds critical work, was passed, but echoed Margeson's concerns.

11. Future Levies and Ballot Measures in King County

Chair Mhoon asked that members inform staff of any changes to the list of future levies and ballot measures.

Katie Kuciemba, SCA Senior Policy Analyst, reported that the updated list of levies and ballot measures could be found in the PIC materials on page 126.

Mayor David Baker, Kenmore, confirmed there would be an "Imagine Kenmore" measure.

Council President Hank Margeson, Redmond, stated the Lake Washington School District will have a bond measure on the April 2016 ballot.

Councilmember Melissa Musser, Des Moines, confirmed a committee has been working to put together a bond measure for the Highline School District for the November ballot.

Councilmember Bill Peloza, Auburn, suggested to SCA staff the addition of the estimated dollar amount, if known, for future levies and ballot measures.

12. Potential Upcoming SCA Issues

Katie Kuciemba, SCA Senior Policy Analyst, reported that an updated list of potential upcoming SCA issues is included in the meeting material packet. Kuciemba highlighted that comment letters on the Sound Transit 3 projects are due January 21, 2016, and suggested that members could provide SCA with a copy of their letters.

As a reminder of her overview on bills in the Legislature, Kuciemba stated that legislative hearings had been scheduled for January 14, 2016 on bills pertaining to body cameras and fireworks bans. Kuciemba asked for PIC members to inform her of any changes or additions.

13. Upcoming Events

The Economic Development Council of Seattle and King County's 44th Annual Economic Forecast Conference will be held on Thursday, January 14, 2016, at 7:00 AM at The Westin Seattle Hotel.

The SCA New Elected Training will be held on Tuesday, January 19, 2016, at 1:45 PM at Puget Sound Regional Council.

The SCA Appointee Orientation for Regional Boards and Committees is scheduled for Wednesday, February 3, 2016, at 6:30 PM at SeaTac City Hall.

The next Public Issues Committee Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 10, 2016, at 7:00 PM at Renton City Hall. A pre-PIC workshop: PIC 101 is scheduled at 6:00 PM, prior to the PIC meeting.

The next SCA Networking Dinner will be held on Wednesday, February 17, 2016, at 5:30 PM at the Renton Pavilion Event Center. King County Executive Constantine will be the keynote speaker.

14. For the Good of the Order

Councilmember Toby Nixon, Kirkland, asked for clarification of the topic for the February 10, 2016 pre-PIC workshop, whether it is SCA 101 or PIC 101. Staff responded that it is PIC 101.

Councilmember Henry Sladek, Skykomish, inquired if only new councilmembers can attend the SCA Newly Elected Officials Orientation. Staff and members responded that the orientation is focused for elected officials who are new to SCA.

Chair Mhoon thanked attendees and staff for a great meeting, and ended the meeting with a quote, "May the new year bring you health, happiness, and the opportunity to leave this place better than when you found it."

15. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 PM.

2016 Roll Call – Public Issues Committee Meeting January 13, 2016

City	Representative	Alternate
Algona	Dave Hill	Bill Thomas
Auburn	Nancy Backus	Bill Pelozo
Beaux Arts Village	Tom Stowe	Richard Leider
Black Diamond	Janie Edelman	Tamie Deady
Bothell	Tris Samberg	Andy Rheaume
Burien	Nancy Tosta	Austin Bell
Carnation	Jim Berger	Dustin Green
Clyde Hill	Barre Seibert	George Martin
Covington	Marlla Mhoon	Margaret Harto
Des Moines	Melissa Musser	Robert Back
Duvall	Amy Ockerlander	Will Ibershof
Enumclaw	Mike Sando	Liz Reynolds
Federal Way	Dini Duclos	Jeanne Burbidge
Hunts Point	Joseph Sabey	
Issaquah	Tola Marts	Jennifer Sutton
Kenmore	David Baker	Allan Van Ness
Kent	Bill Boyce	Dana Ralph
Kirkland	Toby Nixon	Shelley Kloba
Lake Forest Park	Catherine Stanford	Tom French
Maple Valley	Erin Weaver	
Medina	Alex Morcos	
Mercer Island	Benson Wong	Debbie Bertlin
Milton	Debra Perry	Jim Manley
Newcastle	Rich Crispo	Carol Simpson
Normandy Park	Michelle Sipes-Marvin	Doug Osterman
North Bend	Ross Loudenback	Ken Hearing
Pacific	Leanne Guier	
Redmond	Hank Margeson	John Stilin
Renton	Ed Prince	Armondo Pavone
Sammamish	Bob Keller	Don Gerend
SeaTac	Rick Forschler	
Shoreline	Chris Roberts	Keith Scully
Skykomish	Henry Sladek	
Snoqualmie	Bob Jeans	Matt Larson
Tukwila	Kate Kruller	Verna Seal
Woodinville	Bernie Talmas	Susan Boundy-Sanders
SCA Katie Kuciemba Ellie Wilson-Jones Kristy Cole		

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

Testimony to Mayor and Council Members of City of Bellevue

My name is Will Knedlik, and I appear as an Eastside Transportation Association officer to ask this city to obtain core facts essential to supply the formal "acknowledgement" requested, as to Sound Transit 3, on a reasonably informed basis necessary to fulfill your oaths of office.

Given the very brief and thus rushed time-frame proposed by Sound Transit in respect to its ST3 project lists – now totaling approximately \$30 billion pursuant to Redmond Mayor John Marchione's hurried calculations for his fellow agency Board members – **no** official elected to represent **any** suburban city could responsibly agree to its deadline without genuine clarity about (1) immense subarea inequities long piled on suburban residents to subsidize ST1-and-ST2 transit services for beneficiaries in Seattle, and (2) how ST3 will (a) rectify this massive injustice and (b) prevent future unfairness, *e.g.*, from veiled multibillion-dollar ST3 liabilities.

For example, the Sound Transit Board has repeatedly shielded the Seattle subarea from great expense foisted onto such agency's other four subareas to cover its gigantic bus-rapid-transit, commuter-rail and light-rail costs, while allowing that inequitably subsidized city to retain \$1 billion in federal grants, but forcing East King County to borrow \$1 billion for light rail here. Further, Sound Transit found money to tunnel under Seattle's Roosevelt community – with **no** reimbursement from it – while coercing this city to pay for a tunnel to serve its residents.

Beyond gross inequalities as to light-rail expenses, Sound Transit has financed **all** bus-rapid-transit services for Seattle interests, since 1996, primarily with subsidies extracted from taxes collected from residents of East King, Pierce, South King and Snohomish counties, and with not one thin dime of taxes ever having been paid in Seattle. Likewise, **all** taxes for commuter rail, largely to benefit Seattle, have been funded **solely** from Pierce and Snohomish counties.

Still more troubling, roll-up financing for ST1, ST2 and ST3 is based on **not** paying full and fair market value for rail use of critical and costly Interstate 90 bridge assets; **not** budgeting to reimburse the constitutional trust created "exclusively for highway purposes" by our state constitution for large reductions in useful lives of vital floating-bridge assets because of rail operations' destructive microfracturing and resulting separation of steel rebar from concrete; and **not** identifying fair allocations of \$5 billion or more in resulting liabilities to any subarea but East King County (notwithstanding commerce in Seattle being the principal beneficiary).

Sound Transit staff has directly informed the state-appointed Expert Review Panel that cities received 30 months for crucial input on far-simpler and much-less-expensive ST2 plans, from 2006 to 2008, while little more than 30 days are being afforded, now, excluding two recent holidays with three-and-four day weekends, which is unreasonable given major complexities.

At a minimum, demanding fiduciary duties created by oaths of office, sworn or affirmed by each of you, require prudent ascertainment, for your constituents, of **all** taxes so far and to be paid and of **all** benefits so far and to be received, along with truly immense subarea inequities briefly outlined above, including but not limited to huge subsidies by suburban residents thus yielding first-class transit services in Seattle and far-inferior transit delivery everywhere else.

January 4, 2016

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