



SCA Public Issues Committee

MINUTES

November 12, 2015 – 7:00 PM

Renton City Hall

1055 S Grady Way, Renton WA 98057

1. Welcome and Roll Call

PIC Chair Mayor Bernie Talmas, Woodinville, called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM. 22 cities had representation ([Attachment A](#)). Guests present included: Bill Peloza, Auburn City Council; Dana Hinman, City of Auburn; Robin Koskey, City of Seattle.

2. Public Comment

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

3. Approval of the October 14, 2015 Minutes

Chair Talmas reported that one correction to the October 14, 2015 PIC minutes has been submitted by Council President Hank Margeson, Redmond, to clarify his recommendation for the 2016 RLSJC agenda. Margeson suggested the committee discuss anti-crime teams, such as the Auto Theft Tactical Analysis Center for King County (ATTACK).

Council President Hank Margeson, Redmond, moved, seconded by Mayor Dave Hill, Algona, to approve the October 14, 2015 meeting minutes with that correction.

The motion passed unanimously.

4. Chair's Report

Chair Talmas reported that there was no October meeting between the SCA leadership and the King County Executive due to scheduling conflicts. Chair Talmas reported that the Best Starts for Kids levy passed and congratulated members on their efforts to help pass the levy.

5. Executive Director's Report

Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director, echoed Chair Talmas's comments on the Best Starts for Kids levy, and thanked members for their efforts.

Dawson reported that SCA has submitted three nominees to the E911 Leadership Group: Mayor Denis Law, Renton, Councilmember Tola Marts, Issaquah, and Mayor Liz Reynolds, Enumclaw. The E911 Leadership Group will provide oversight for the strategic plan.

Dawson reminded members that SCA will be cohosting along with Seattle and King County a public sector economic development summit. This will be held on December 11, 2015 at Microsoft, Redmond. More information, including an agenda, will be circulated in November.

Dawson reminded members that the deadline for the call for nominations for 2016 appointments to regional boards and committees is today.

Dawson reported that the PIC will meet in December to take action on the recommended appointments to 2016 regional boards and committees. Dawson suggested that the December meeting be primarily devoted to the PIC discussing PIC policies and practices, and ways to make the meetings more effective. The members concurred with this suggestion.

Dawson reported that the PIC will vote on committee chair and vice chair at the first meeting in 2016. Vice Chair Marlla Mhoon has indicated that she is interesting in becoming Chair in 2016. Two members have submitted nominations for 2016 Vice Chair; Tola Marts of Issaquah, and Chris Roberts of Shoreline. Others who wish to be considered should submit their nomination to Dawson.

Dawson reported that there will be multiple seats open on the SCA Board of Directors in 2016, with at least one seat open per regional caucus. The SCA Board elections for the South and South Valley caucuses are scheduled for Wednesday, December 16, 2015, and the North and Snoqualmie Valley caucuses are scheduled for Thursday, December 17, 2015. Members interested in running for election to the SCA Board of Directors should contact Dawson at deanna@soundcities.org. Each city must identify a voting member for the Board elections.

The 2015 SCA Annual Meeting and Networking Dinner is scheduled for Wednesday, December 2, 2015 at the Renton Pavilion Event Center. The SCA Membership will vote on the 2016 dues, 2016 budget, and proposed bylaw amendments. Each city must identify a voting member for the annual meeting. Dawson announced that SCA will be honoring members who are retiring, and, so far, the SCA Board has identified two Member Emeritus honorees: Deputy Mayor Chris Eggen, Shoreline, and Mayor Jim Haggerton, Tukwila. Dawson reported that former Governor Chris Gregoire will be the keynote speaker at the annual meeting and networking dinner.

Dawson noted two events in early 2016. The SCA Committee & Board Appointee Orientation is scheduled for Wednesday, February 3, 2016 at SeaTac City Hall. The first SCA Networking Dinner is scheduled for Wednesday, February 17, 2016 and will feature King County Executive Dow Constantine as the keynote speaker.

6. November 3, 2015 Election Results

PIC Members had a round robin discussion of election results in their cities. SCA Executive Director Dawson also gave an update on election results from cities not represented at the meeting, and countywide election results. It was reported that a number of incumbents lost their races, including more than a dozen SCA members. Advisory votes to ban fireworks passed in multiple jurisdictions. An advisory vote on whether to allow marijuana related businesses failed in Federal Way. Propositions to establish metropolitan parks districts failed in Kirkland

and Normandy Park. Enumclaw passed a Transportation Benefit District. Complete election results can be found on the [County Elections website](#).

During the discussion, Councilmember Carol Simpson, Newcastle, referenced an [opinion editorial article](#) written by Newcastle Mayor Steve Buri.

7. Regional Legislative Agendas Addressing Homelessness and Affordable Housing

Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director, handed out a letter to the Senate Majority Leader and the Human Services, Mental Health, and Housing Committee chair, supporting a local option to preserve affordable housing through a housing preservation tax exemption. Dawson noted that eleven cities had signed on to the letter to date. Seattle wants to make the legislation work for other cities and encouraged cities to contact Edie Gillis, City of Seattle, if they have staff to participate in a work group on the proposed legislation.

Doreen Booth, SCA Policy Analyst, provided an overview of the JRC and All Home legislative agenda priorities. The two state legislative agendas contain a number of common priorities, with many of the items budget-related issues that are carried over year to year. Other items relate to landlords and tenants and a new real estate excise tax. Booth noted that the JRC supported the Preservation Tax Exemption legislative proposal. SCA provided these priorities for member information and for cities to consider as they develop their own legislative agenda. There is one item that was included in the JRC and All Home Legislative Priorities, the Washington Youth and Families Fund, that is not likely to be pursued this year.

Chair Talmas questioned whether the housing preservation tax exemption would have value to small cities. He also noted that the area of Woodinville where low-income housing is located is also the area poised for redevelopment.

Councilmember Amy Ockerlander, Duvall, noted that Duvall had little affordable housing and she would like to have as many tools as possible to meet affordable housing targets.

Councilmember Tom Stowe, Beaux Arts Village, noted that the tax burden would just be shifted to other property owners. He also noted that his city encourages ADUs to address affordable housing needs.

Councilmember Chris Roberts, Shoreline, noted that he serves on the AWC legislative committee, and that providing more tools for affordable housing is a major priority of AWC.

Council President Hank Margeson, Redmond, noted Redmond's number one lobbying effort for the 2016 short legislative session is to provide more tools to cities for affordable housing. Redmond is poised support the housing preservation tax exemption proposal on December 1.

8. Bridges and Roads Task Force

Katie Kuciemba, SCA Senior Policy Analyst, reported that the fifth meeting of the Bridges and Roads Task Force concluded prior to the PIC meeting on November 12, 2015. A final meeting will occur on January 20, 2016 where Task Force members will discuss implementation strategies for Task Force recommendations.

Kuciemba stated the Task Force evaluated over 140 recommendations generated from members, which have been narrowed down to approximately 20 recommendations focused on revenue, infrastructure, outreach and efficiencies. The Task Force agreed that it is important for recommendations to benefit both city and county roads.

Kuciemba provided a high-level overview of the narrowed down recommendations which will be included into the Final Report, beginning with the following revenue recommendations:

- A county-wide property tax, in excess of the current 1% annual increase limitations on property taxes, to be spent on city and county roads
- A county-wide tax that provides a progressive system and follows a set of guidelines. Any tax should be attached to inflation, sustainable, long-term, and provide a benefit to cities and the County.
- A Motor Vehicle Excise Tax (MVET), with a portion of the funds dedicated to county road services.
- Change the bonding formula so annexing cities have to pay outstanding debt left to County.

Ultimately, Task Force members concluded that the most successful approach may involve using multiple revenue tools, with some additional resources dedicated to city transportation needs. Kuciemba reported that City representatives of the Task Force urged King County to partner with cities to further discuss a potential formula for revenue and identify changes in County infrastructure management.

Under the category of infrastructure, the Task Force is recommending that the County incorporates county roads that are orphaned, islands of roads within cities, and Potential Annexation Areas (PAAs) within the growth boundaries of cities into those jurisdictions. Kuciemba reported that a Task Force recommendation urges the County to further study options for a future tax or fee based various road pricing options including vehicle miles traveled (VMT) congestion pricing and/or tolling.

As reported a previous PIC meetings, Task Force members have added a recommendation that King County should enhance its outreach efforts to educate elected bodies, other agencies, and the public about the road funding situation. Kuciemba stated that the Roads Services Division has begun meeting with city staff in recent weeks as part of this outreach effort.

Kuciemba concluded by stating that the recommendations of the Task Force will be sent to the King County Executive and Council for review in the coming weeks. There is still more work that needs to be done including defining regional corridors, identifying which roads should be maintained by the County, and at what level the roads should be maintained. It will be critical that a wider representation of cities be convened to address countywide funding and coordination.

Chair Talmas questioned whether the Roads and Bridges Task Force would change with the new make-up of the King County Council. Kuciemba responded that the financial instability of King

County's transportation infrastructure will carry forward until a long-term solution can be identified.

Councilmember Amy Ockerlander, Duvall, serves as a member of the Task Force and reconfirmed her cautious optimism about the process and believes that it is leading to an opportunity for greater involvement by cities throughout King County. Ockerlander expressed frustration that the recommendations made by Task Force members require Washington State legislative action at a time when the Legislature recently passed the Connecting Washington transportation package. She felt that the Task Force may not be giving the County palatable recommendations.

Mayor Matt Larson, Snoqualmie, serves as a member of the Task Force and feels that the challenges King County faces is a huge; however, Task Force recommendations are not powerful in their current form. A revenue package focused only on taxing unincorporated residents will be exponentially more costly per household than a tax spread across the entire county. However, cities have made the case that they have their own transportation infrastructure financial challenges. Larson suggested that cities work with King County toward solutions that benefit both city and county roads. The County will need to engage with mayors and councilmembers in what comes after the Task Force.

Chair Talmas asked Councilmember Ockerlander and Mayor Larson if there is anything that Sound Cities Association can do to assist.

Ockerlander responded that when the Bridges and Roads Task Force Final Report is complete, SCA may consider taking a position or sending a letter to King County leadership about what cities would like to see next to further the conversation. The County and cities will need to be open-minded, forward-looking and collaborative in helping to identify solutions.

Larson provided the examples of Hobart Road, State Route 169, and State Route 18 as regional roads that connect residents between cities and King County. The County and cities cannot ignore this infrastructure challenge but it won't be an easy conversation.

Councilmember Bob Keller, Sammamish, identified the State Route 202 corridor which the State, King County and Cities need to address. It serves as the "doorway" to communities such as Redmond, Sammamish, and Woodinville. Keller believes the State, County and Cities must work together to address the problem. The State, County and Cities should do better outreach to identify mutual need and potential resolutions.

Councilmember Barry Ladenberg, SeaTac, serves on South County Area Transportation Board (SCATBd) where discussions have centered on County roads being neglected. Ladenberg suggested that King County apply for grants in partnership with local jurisdictions. He noted that it is very challenging for smaller jurisdictions to apply for these grants on their own.

Mayor Larson concurred with Ladenberg's suggestion and stated that greater city representation at the table will be critical to provide meaningful recommendations.

9. United Way of King County Strategic Plan

Ellie Wilson Jones, SCA Policy Analyst, reported that at the October 2015 PIC meeting, Kenmore Mayor David Baker alerted members that the United Way of King County (UWKC) has adopted a new Strategic Plan and that it will impact funding for seniors. UWKC's new Strategic Plan for 2015 to 2020, which was adopted in June 2015, sets four priority areas: giving kids an equal chance, which speaks to ensuring children are prepared for Kindergarten; supporting youth, which relates to ensuring teens and young adults who have dropped out of high school receive a GED and are learning job skills; keeping families stable, which is about poverty and childhood nutrition; and ending homelessness, for which UWKC has set a goal of reducing the number of unsheltered people in the annual one night count by half over the next five years.

In adopting these new priorities, UWKC has also made the decision to focus its investments in these areas, rather than broadly dispersing funding to a wider array of community programs and services. The result is that grants previously made to programs that do not fit within the four priority areas will be discontinued. These impacts cumulatively total more than \$1.7 million in funding for health and wellness programs and services for older adults.

UWKC will continue to fund services for seniors and those with disabilities that fit within the four priorities, such as shelters and food banks. Agencies with programs that will no longer receive funding are also invited to apply for grants for programs that do fit within the priority areas, such as services that address poverty. UWKC has been meeting regularly with impacted agencies and other stakeholders. Additionally, Mayor Baker, who will be the incoming vice chair of the Aging and Disability Services Advisory Council, will be attending a meeting at UWKC on November 16, 2015 with impacted agencies to discuss impacts for programs serving older adults and individuals with disabilities.

10. Future Levies and Ballot Measures in King County

Katie Kuciemba, SCA Senior Policy Analyst, reported that the updated list of future levies and ballot measures can be found on page 81 of the PIC packet and asked for PIC members to inform her of any changes or additions.

Councilmember Erin Weaver, Maple Valley, stated that the City will have a parks bond measure on the ballot in April 2016.

Chair Talmas inquired how quickly King County will implement Best Starts for Kids. Dawson responded it will take effect next year and there is planning time built into the ordinance.

Councilmember Chris Roberts, Shoreline, stated that the City is considering a renewal of a property tax levy in November 2016.

Councilmember Amy Ockerlander, Duvall, stated the City may have a referendum on fireworks in November 2016. Duvall is considering a Metropolitan Park District within city boundaries.

Councilmember Ed Prince, Renton, stated that the Renton School District is planning for a levy in April 2016.

Councilmember Tris Samberg, Bothell, stated the City of Bothell may place a parks bond on the ballot. Additionally, Bothell will likely be placing a binding fireworks ban on the ballot but was interested to know why other cities have chosen advisory votes.

Ockerlander responded that Duvall chose a council ban followed by a referendum because, under state law, it takes one year for the council ban to take effect. The City of Duvall could retract the ban if the voting public opposes the fireworks referendum. Ockerlander stated that it's important to get a true read of the electorate so the City of Duvall is considering placing the referendum on the November Presidential Election ballot when there is the highest voter turnout. It was noted that this was a potential concern in the City of Kent, where there was a very small turnout in the advisory vote on a fireworks ban.

11. Potential Upcoming SCA Issues

Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director, referred to the staff memo which called out a list of potential upcoming issues. She highlighted two issues. With regards to body cams, Dawson noted that SCA (including Renton Mayor Denis Law and SCA President Matt Larson) will be meeting with King County Sheriff John Urquhart and King County Prosecutor Dan Satterberg to discuss this issue. She noted that this is a high priority issue for AWC in 2016.

Dawson also highlighted the issue of city funding for human services and requested member feedback on how this issue should come back to the PIC. Members gave feedback that they would like SCA to survey member cities staff, and provide the information to the PIC so that they could have a meaningful discussion. Councilmember Shelley Kloba of Kirkland noted that Kirkland is considering forming a human services commission, and conducting a needs assessment.

Councilmember Tom Stowe, Beaux Arts Village, was pleased to see the I-90 center roadway closure issue on the list of potential SCA issues. SCA will update members on preparations for construction.

Councilmember Tola Marts, Issaquah, asked that fireworks bans be added to the list.

Councilmember Bob Keller requested information on the implementation of the Best Starts for Kids levy.

Chair Bernie Talmas requested that the issue of body cameras and public records be broadened to involve discussion of fixed cameras.

Mayor Dave Hill, Algona, stated that public record requirements are Algona's main concern with implementing dash and body cameras. He stated that the city would not be implementing them without changes to state law.

Ladenburg stated that the City of Seattle has developed software that assists with blurring footage to redact sensitive aspects of requested video.

Marts reported that King County Sheriff John Urquhart discussed body cameras at the Regional Law, Safety and Justice Committee earlier this year and stated that there was disagreement between the national and local ACLU organizations about permissible uses for body camera footage.

12. Informational Item

Chair Talmas reported that there is one informational item in the packet regarding farmers market and temporary event fees.

13. Upcoming Events

Chair Talmas reminded members that the SCA Annual Membership Meeting and Networking Dinner will be held on Wednesday, December 2, 2015 at 5:30 PM at the Renton Pavilion Event Center.

The next Public Issues Committee Meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 9, 2015, at 7:00 PM at Renton City Hall.

Chair Talmas reminded members to save the date for the Public Sector Economic Development Summit scheduled for December 11, 2015.

Chair Talmas reported that the South and South Valley Caucus Meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 16, 2015, at the Truitt Building, Auburn.

The North and Snoqualmie Valley Caucus Meeting will be held on Thursday, December 17, 2015, at the Redmond Senior Center.

14. For the Good of the Order

Mayor Dave Hill, Algona, reported that a meeting was held this afternoon in Algona with rural cities and King County Metro staff. There was discussion regarding alternative services and the needs of services in rural areas, for example after school transportation. An outcome from this meeting is to set up a new education system so there is a method to communicate issues to Metro, which will in turn help to address those issues.

Councilmember Marlla Mhoon, Covington, congratulated Mayor Hill on the nearly completed sound wall along I-167.

Council President Kate Kruller, Tukwila, reported on the National League of Cities (NLC) Conference, especially regarding transportation issues. Kruller suggested that SCA provide an opportunity for members to share information and experiences gained through NLC. Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director, inquired with PIC members if they are interested in scheduling this topic for the pre-PIC workshop on December 9, 2015. Members were in favor.

Councilmember Shelley Kloba, Kirkland, reported that members, such as Deputy Mayor Nancy Tosta, Burien, posted great information on social media from the NLC Conference.

Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director, shared very sad news that Dennis Manes, Republic Services, passed away. Members extended condolences.

15. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

2015 Roll Call – Public Issues Committee Meeting November 12, 2015

City	Representative	Alternate
Algona	Dave Hill	Dawn Dofelmire
Auburn	Nancy Backus	Bill Peloza
Beaux Arts Village	Tom Stowe	Richard Leider
Black Diamond	Janie Edelman	Tamie Deady
Bothell	Tris Samberg	Andy Rheume
Burien	Nancy Tosta	Stephen Armstrong
Carnation	Jim Berger	Kim Lisk
Clyde Hill	Barre Seibert	George Martin
Covington	Marlla Mhoon	Margaret Harto
Des Moines	Melissa Musser	
Duvall	Amy Ockerlander	Will Ibershof
Enumclaw	Mike Sando	Liz Reynolds
Federal Way	Dini Duclos	Jeanne Burbidge
Hunts Point	Joseph Sabey	
Issaquah	Tola Marts	Eileen Barber
Kenmore	David Baker	Allan Van Ness
Kent	Bill Boyce	Dennis Higgins
Kirkland	Toby Nixon	Shelley Kloba
Lake Forest Park	Catherine Stanford	Tom French
Maple Valley	Erin Weaver	Layne Barnes
Medina	Michael Luis	
Mercer Island	Dan Grausz	Benson Wong
Milton	Debra Perry	Jim Manley
Newcastle	Lisa Jensen	Carol Simpson
Normandy Park	Shawn McEvoy	Doug Osterman
North Bend	Ross Loudenback	Ken Hearing
Pacific	Leanne Guier	Vic Kave
Redmond	Hank Margeson	John Stilin
Renton	Ed Prince	Armondo Pavone
Sammamish	Bob Keller	Don Gerend
SeaTac	Barry Ladenburg	Mia Gregerson
Shoreline	Chris Roberts	Chris Eggen
Skykomish	Henry Sladek	
Snoqualmie	Kingston Wall	Matt Larson
Tukwila	Kate Kruller	Verna Seal
Woodinville	Bernie Talmas	Susan Boundy-Sanders
SCA Deanna Dawson Katie Kuciemba Ellie Wilson-Jones Doreen Booth Kristy Cole		

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