1. Welcome and Roll Call
PIC Chair Council President Ed Prince, Renton, called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM. 27 cities had representation (Attachment A). Guests present included Council President Angela Birney, Redmond (PIC Alternate); Councilmember Tamie Deady, Black Diamond (PIC Alternate); Carol Simpson, Newcastle (PIC Alternate); Councilmember Pam Fernald, SeaTac (PIC Alternate); Councilmember Susan Boundy-Sanders, Woodinville; Doug Levy, City of Renton consultant; Alex Herzog, City of Woodinville staff; Colleen Kelly, City of Redmond staff; Pat McLaughlin, King County staff; Michael Huddleston, King County Council staff; Alison Mendiola, King County Council staff.

2. Public Comment
Chair Prince asked if any member of the public would like to provide public comment. Seeing none, Chair Prince closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

3. Approval of the July 11, 2018 PIC Minutes
Chair Prince asked if there were any amendments to the July 11, 2018 PIC minutes.

Mayor Nancy Backus, Auburn moved, seconded by Councilmember Janie Edelman, Black Diamond, to approve the July 11, 2018 PIC minutes. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Chair's Report
Chair Prince reported that members of the SCA Board have been holding meetings with members of the King County Council and that issues discussed include the King County Parks Levy development process, the county’s budget outlook, and proposals under consideration at the county related to lodging tax. Prince also noted that numerous mayors had signed a letter to Executive Constantine regarding the County’s inquest process. The Executive has reached out to Prince and SCA President Walen to discuss.

5. Executive Director's Report
Executive Director Deanna Dawson reported that the SCA Finance Committee recently met with King County Budget Director Dwight Dively and were provided a briefing on the outlook for the 2019 King County budget. She said Dively reported that while there are ongoing structural problems with long-term funding for county services, major budget cuts are not expected in 2019 due to the strength of the economy.
Executive Director Dawson reported on a recent call for nominations to fill a vacant seat on the King County Conservation District Advisory Committee. She said that in accordance with SCA Board Policies, nominations to fill vacancies on regional boards and committees occurring after August 1st are sent directly to the Board for their consideration.

Executive Director Dawson reported that the Board would be addressing a vacancy on the Puget Sound Regional Council Executive Board. The City of Auburn recently passed the 80,000-person population threshold entitling the city to a seat on the Executive Board. Auburn Mayor Nancy Backus currently represents SCA on the PSRC Executive Board and this position will be vacated when Auburn’s new seat is established.

6. 2019 SCA Legislative Agenda
SCA Policy Consultant Scott MacColl reported that the SCA Legislative Committee met on September 7th to begin developing the 2019 SCA legislative agenda. He provided a handout (Attachment B) with an initial draft legislative agenda proposed by the Legislative Committee. PIC members were asked to provide comments prior to the October PIC meeting. In October, PIC members will be asked to finalize the agenda and take action to bring the agenda back to the following PIC meeting for a formal recommendation to the SCA Board of Directors.

Council President Tola Marts, Issaquah, stated that distribution of marijuana tax revenues is a topic of interest to Issaquah.

Councilmember Toby Nixon, Kirkland, said that the city is considering a request for funding to study shared housing and how it could help address the affordable housing crisis. He suggested the Legislative Committee consider adding a request to fund more training capacity at the Washington State Corrections Officers Academy.

Mayor Nancy Backus, Auburn, said that she supported the inclusion of a request for additional training capacity at the Washington State Basic Law Enforcement Academy shown on the draft legislative agenda. Councilmember Hank Margeson, Redmond, agreed with Mayor Backus and said that he would like to see the request prioritized in the agenda. He said that he would like to see the transportation priority focus on investing in mobility.

Councilmember Sue-Ann Hohimer, Normandy Park, said that she would like to see efforts to address affordable housing that create paths to homeownership and equity-building prioritized.

7. Homelessness Update
Executive Director Deanna Dawson gave an update on homelessness. She noted that the region has multiple levies and governing bodies that could be better coordinated to address the homelessness crisis in the region. She reported that Seattle and King County signed a Memorandum of Understanding agreeing to address governance, and to make a recommendation by December 2018. She said that SCA was asked to participate in these discussions and that she is representing SCA with the assistance of Colleen Kelly, Redmond staff, and Merina Hanson, Kent staff. She noted that members of the philanthropic and the business communities are also participating in work, which will also cover an assessment of existing investments, and a business plan to guide future action.
Councilmember Traci Buxton, Des Moines, asked if the governance discussions were related to an effort underway to form a housing collaboration among cities in south King County. Mayor Nancy Backus, Auburn, said that the proposed South King Housing and Homelessness Partnership (SKHHP) is a separate but related effort that will give cities in South King County a stronger voice in housing and homelessness policy in the region.

Dawson noted that several consultants had been retained to assist with this work – SCA and its member cities will not be asked to contribute toward those costs. One of the consulting teams is interested in conducting a focus group with SCA cities. Dawson asked if members would be interested in postponing an upcoming pre-PIC workshop to allow for this. Members were enthusiastic, and asked that the October pre-PIC be postponed to allow this focus group to happen at that time. Dawson agreed to see if the date would work for the consultants, and to confirm for PIC.

8. Regional Affordable Housing Task Force
SCA Policy Director Brian Parry provided a report on the work of the King County Regional Affordable Housing Task Force (Task Force). In September, the Task Force released a draft Five-Year Action Plan (Action Plan) for public comment. The draft Action Plan includes seven high-level goals for addressing the region’s housing affordability crisis as well as recommended implementation strategies for adoption at the city, county, and state level. The Task Force has worked with the assistance of a technical advisory group to prioritize strategies that can be leveraged at the regional level for the greatest impact associated with these goals.

Parry noted that many of the actions identified in the draft Action Plan are already being implemented to some degree by cities in King County, and that the intent of the Task Force is to learn from these programs and policies, identify priority actions, and collaborate to build capacity to expand successful programs to a regional scale.

Parry said that the Task Force is working to finalize its recommendations and that it is very important for cities to provide feedback as soon as possible if they have any concerns about what is being proposed or if they feel priorities are missing from the draft plan. A revised draft of the plan is expected to be completed in time to be considered by the PIC in October, at which time the PIC will discuss whether to bring back to the following PIC meeting a policy position related to the Action Plan.

Parry said that the Task Force is considering options for how the recommended strategies will be coordinated and overseen moving forward. The draft plan includes several potential options for oversight, and the proposal that currently seems to have the most support is to create a working committee under the authority of the King County Growth Management Planning Council. The proposal is that this committee would include representatives from cities, King County, and stakeholders, and that it would be tasked with monitoring and assisting with implementation of the priority actions identified in the draft Action Plan. He said the Task Force is still working through how this work will be coordinated with ongoing efforts to revise how homelessness services are governed in King County.
Parry provided a handout (Attachment C) summarizing the goals and strategies in the draft Action Plan. He asked PIC members to review the plan with their cities and to provide any feedback as soon as possible in September.

Mayor Sean Kelly, Maple Valley, described recent efforts in the city to count the homeless population, and asked PIC members about similar efforts. Councilmember Kate Kruller, Tukwila, and Councilmember Ross Loudenback, North Bend, said that they participate Count Us In, the annual countywide effort to collect data on the needs of people experiencing homelessness. Kelly expressed concerns about how the count was conducted in his area of the County, and whether the homeless numbers were accurately counted.

Mayor David Baker, Kenmore, noted that PIC members have regularly discussed the importance of addressing the affordable housing crisis in the region. He said that the Task Force is close to wrapping up its work and stressed that now is the time for cities to provide their feedback and help address the problem. He said the problem is far-reaching and growing every day, and that retiring seniors are being heavily impacted.

Mayor Nancy Backus, Auburn, said that the city hosted a community meeting of the Task Force on Tuesday night that she participated in, and that there was good discussion there about what can be done to address the problem.

Councilmember Kate Kruller, Tukwila, said that the city is currently working on several affordable housing developments. She said that cities need to make a commitment now to addressing affordable housing, and that she would like more information about what the Task Force will be recommending for cities.

Mayor David Baker, Kenmore, said that legislation is being circulated for 2019 that would mandate affordable housing and increased densities near transit. He said that cities should be proactive to ensure housing is accommodated in ways that fit each city’s vision rather than becoming a mandate from the state.

Councilmember Hank Margeson, Redmond, said that the PIC previously discussed the need for assistance for cities to implement affordable housing strategies and that more unfunded mandates would not be well received. He said the region needs to do a better job tracking and communicating what money is being spent on affordable housing and the results of those efforts.

9. Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan and Proposed Fees


Foley reported that the Regional Policy Committee (RPC) began review of the Executive proposed King County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan (Plan) in August. She noted that several changes have been made since a draft version of the plan was presented to the PIC in February. The draft version suggested several options for long-term disposal and
adding transfer capacity in Northeast King County. She said that the current version narrows these options, recommending capital investments to extend the life of the Cedar Hills Regional Landfill through 2040 and the construction of new transfer station in Northeast King County. Foley stated that the plan does not specify the next disposal method after ultimate closure of Cedar Hills. She encouraged PIC members to provide comments on a preferred disposal method after 2040 and the process for evaluating those options.

Foley reported that the modeled cost per ton and greenhouse gas emissions for the long-term disposal options considered in the planning process are shown on page 48 of the PIC packet.

Foley said the proposed Plan recommends closing Houghton Transfer Station after constructing a new station in Northeast King County. She stated that planning for a new Northeast station would begin in 2019, after approval of the Plan.

Foley noted that the RPC and King County Council will review the Plan through October. Cities will then act to approve or disapprove the Plan. She said that the King County Council may approve the proposed solid waste fees in September 2018.

Foley reported on proposed solid waste fees under consideration by the King County Council in Ordinance 2018-0311. She said the per-ton solid waste fee known as the “tipping fee” or “basic rate” is proposed to increase from the current $134.59 to $140.82 per ton, an increase of 4.6 percent. Foley said that on average the change would add $0.34 cents to the single-family monthly curbside bill.

Councilmember Traci Buxton, Des Moines said that she was concerned about the lack of a plan for disposal when capacity at the Cedar Hills landfill is reached.

Deputy Mayor Austin Bell, Burien, noted that the plan identifies options post-Cedar Hills closure, and identified the need to start that planning.

Councilmember Tola Marts expressed concern about the differences in greenhouse gas emissions described in the Plan and whether these were reflected accurately.

Mayor David Baker, Kenmore, said that the region should continue to look at waste-to-energy options for future disposal.

Deputy Mayor Catherine Stanford, Lake Forest Park, said that Councilmember Phillippa Kassover, Lake Forest Park, serves on the Solid Waste Advisory Committee and wrote a letter regarding the plan that she would share with PIC members (Attachment D).

10. Future Levies and Ballot Measures
SCA Policy Director Brian Parry provided an update on future levies and ballot measures in King County and results from the August 7th primary election the PIC was tracking. The Automated
Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) levy was approved with a vote of 56% in favor. A levy proposed by South King Fire and Rescue was approved with a vote of 59% in favor. Parry said that measures have been officially filed for the November general election by the cities of Bothell, Covington, Kirkland, Mercer Island, and Shoreline.

11. Potential Upcoming SCA Issues
Executive Director Deanna Dawson reported on upcoming SCA meetings and pre-PIC workshops.

12. Informational Item
   a. Recycling Communications Toolkit
Chair Prince noted that there is an informational item on a recycling communications toolkit included in the PIC packet.

13. Upcoming Events
Chair Prince noted that the SCA Public Issues Committee Meeting is on Wednesday, October 10\textsuperscript{th}, 2018 at 7:00 PM (6:00 Pre-PIC Workshop) at Renton City Hall.

Executive Director Deanna Dawson reported that the SCA Annual meeting would take place on December 5\textsuperscript{th}. She said the speaker would be Washington State Governor Jay Inslee and that the location was to be determined.

14. For the Good of the Order
Chair Prince asked if PIC members had anything to report for Good of the Order.

Councilmember Janie Edelman, Black Diamond, said the city would be hosting their annual Community Preparedness Fair on Saturday, September 29\textsuperscript{th}, from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM at Rock Creek Elementary School.

Councilmember Toby Nixon, Kirkland, said that the King County Charter Review Commission recently held its first meeting. Nixon said that he was participating on the outreach committee for the Commission, and encouraged members to provide him with any suggestions of community organizations and others who should be engaged.

Mayor Nancy Backus, Auburn, said that the Greater Seattle Partnership is getting off the ground and recently hired Brian McGowan as its first Chief Executive Officer. She also reported that James Henderson, formerly with the City of Bellevue, has been hired by the Greater Seattle Partnership to be their Chief Operating Officer.

Councilmember Joseph Cimaomo, Covington, reported that the City of Covington recently partnered with ClearGov to improve transparency by providing residents with online access to city budget information.

Councilmember Hank Margeson, Redmond, said the city would be hosting a grand opening celebration for its Downtown Park on Saturday, September 15\textsuperscript{th}, beginning at 1:00 PM with a scavenger hunt followed by a ribbon cutting at 5:00 and activities throughout the day.
Councilmember Kruller said that the Rave Foundation, a charity supported by the Seattle Sounders, would be holding a charity Rave Green Run in the City of Tukwila on Saturday, September 15th, at 9:00 AM.

Acting Mayor Erin Sitterley, SeaTac, reported that the SeaTac mayor resigned for health reasons and a mayor would be appointed at their next meeting. She said that she is currently serving as the Acting Mayor.

Vice Chair Christie Malchow, Sammamish, said the city would be hosting its 13th annual Sammamish Disaster Preparedness Fair on Saturday, September 22nd, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at Sammamish Commons Plaza at City Hall. She said this year’s fair will feature “the Big Shaker,” the world’s biggest earthquake simulator, which can simulate the intense shaking of a magnitude 8.0 earthquake.

15. Adjourn
The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.
### Public Issues Committee Meeting
#### September 12, 2018

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<th>City</th>
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<td>Algona</td>
<td>Dave Hill</td>
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<td>Auburn</td>
<td>Nancy Backus</td>
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<td>Beaux Arts Village</td>
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<td>Redmond</td>
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<td>Scott MacColl</td>
<td>Cynthia Foley</td>
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Voting members are highlighted in **gray**. Cities represented are **bolded**.
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.

**SCA Draft 2019 Legislative Agenda**

**Address the Affordable Housing and Homelessness Crisis**
The state must partner with cities to preserve and expand the supply of affordable housing, and address behavioral health needs and other root causes of homelessness. Sound Cities Association urges the Legislature to:

- **Increase the supply of affordable housing, including:**
  - Continued investment and expansion of the Housing Trust Fund
  - Reform condominium liability law to promote new construction while protecting consumers
  - Allow cities to create and preserve affordable housing through optional local tools

- **Address other underlying causes of homelessness by making increased investments in our state’s behavioral health system**

**Invest in Transportation**
The regional network of major and minor arterials and other connecting roads in the state are at a critical juncture with aging infrastructure, declining revenues, and rapidly expanding economic growth. While the 2015 Connecting Washington Transportation Package provided funding for important large state-owned projects, it did not address the capacity or maintenance needs of this critical network. Sound Cities Association urges the Legislature to:

- **Create stable, long-term funding available to cities to address maintenance and preservation of existing infrastructure**
- **Reinvest in the Public Works Trust Fund, a highly effective tool that provides a source of revenue for low-interest infrastructure financing**

**Provide Flexible Funding Tools for Cities to Address Local Priorities**
City revenue streams are limited and are not keeping up with rising costs. Many funding sources are dedicated and don’t fully address cities’ needs, while the state is increasing city responsibilities without providing adequate funding. Sound Cities Association urges the Legislature to:

- **Give cities flexible funding tools to address local priorities, such as:**
  - Replacing the arbitrary annual 1% cap on property tax increases with a limit tied to inflation plus population growth
  - Increasing flexibility for REET and other revenues to address critical needs
  - Continue streamlined sales tax mitigation to affected cities

- **Maintain the state’s responsibility to cities by:**
  - Continuing to meet the state’s obligation to share revenues with cities
  - Not burdening cities with unfunded mandates
  - Fully funding the Basic Law Enforcement Academy, MRSC, and other city priorities
OVERARCHING GOAL:
The region should strive to eliminate cost burden for households earning 80% Area Median Income and below, with a priority for serving households at or below 50% Area Median Income.

1 Create and support an ongoing structure for regional collaboration.
   - **A** Create a governance structure that includes at least King County and cities
   - **B** Support the creation and operation of sub-regional collaborations to increase and preserve affordable housing

2 Secure housing stability for the lowest-income households by increasing construction and preservation of affordable homes for the lowest-income households.
   - **A** Regional governance organization to detail needed funding and identify increased resources to meet funding needs.
   - **B** Prioritize and make available (for free or at deep discount) under-utilized property from state, county, cities, and non-profit or faith communities
   - **C** Develop a short-term acquisition loan fund to enable rapid response to preserve affordable housing developments when they are put on the market for sale

3 Prioritize affordable housing accessible within a half mile of existing and planned frequent transit service, with a particular priority for high-capacity transit stations
   - **A** Implement comprehensive inclusionary/incentive housing policies to achieve affordability for the lowest income households possible through land use incentives to be identified by local jurisdictions
   - **B** Maximize resources available for transit oriented development in the near term
   - **C** Create and implement regional land acquisition and development strategy
Preserve access to affordable homes for renters by supporting tenant protections to increase housing stability and reduce risk of homelessness.

A. Propose and support statewide policies related to tenant protections
B. Strive to more widely adopt model, expanded tenant protection ordinances countywide
C. Expand supports for low-income renters
D. Adopt programs and policies to improve the quality of housing

Protect existing communities of color and low-income communities from displacement.

A. Authentically engage communities of color and low-income communities in affordable housing development and policy decisions
B. Increase investments in communities of color and low-income communities by developing programs and policies that serve individuals and families at risk of displacement

Promote greater housing growth and diversity & improve jobs/housing connections throughout King County.

A. Update zoning and land use regulations (including in single-family, low-rise zones) to increase and diversify housing choices
B. Decrease costs to provide affordable housing
C. Incentivize growth and affordability goals by expanding tools for investments in local infrastructure

Better engage local communities and other partners in addressing the urgent need for and benefits of affordable housing.

A. Support local engagement of neighborhoods and residents in planning for affordable housing
B. Expand engagement of non-governmental partners (philanthropy, business, and faith communities) to support efforts to build and site more affordable housing
Dear Director McLaughlin,

Following discussion with my city council, I have been charged with sending to you our thanks and some concerns as the final draft of the proposed King County Solid Waste Comprehensive Plan is prepared for delivery to the King County Executive and County Council.

We appreciate King County Solid Waste Division staff’s conscientious and thoughtful work in assembling the draft Comprehensive Plan and conducting a wide effort to solicit public comment.

The City is pleased that the Division is recommending siting of a new Northeast Transfer Station that will minimize traffic impacts on overcrowded highways and on neighborhoods. We also support the Division in the ongoing commitment to responsible recycling and composting. Lake Forest Park citizens have been stellar in their commitment to recycling and composting and wish to continue as good stewards of our precious Northwest environment. You can count on our city and our citizens to support the Division efforts to divert recyclable and compostable materials from the waste stream and to continue leading King County in these efforts.

We also support the department’s commitment, as detailed in the Comprehensive Plan, to monitoring improvements and new technologies as well as market trends in the recycling and waste industries. We believe that our residents are forward-looking and eager to adopt emerging solutions that protect our region and our planet.

We do have an area of key concern, referenced in Chapter Six of the Comprehensive Plan, especially the section proposing a preferred “Long Term Disposal Method” for waste. It is not made as clear as we believe is needed, that the proposed expansion of the Cedar Hills Landfill is only a temporary solution that may be able to accommodate King County waste until 2040, but less if recycling markets do not improve or stabilize. The comprehensive plan states that “as Cedar Hills reaches capacity, previously described evaluation criteria would be used to select the next disposal method. A new disposal method would need to be ready for service when the new capacity at Cedar Hills is exhausted, estimated at 2040.”

Recognizing that careful planning for the future is essential and that it is also time consuming, probably in excess of the customary 7-10 year planning timeline, we recommend that the analysis, public process, policy decisions and regulatory approvals required to implement a true long-term disposal method should begin now.

We request that the Comprehensive Plan not identify the preferred option of Cedar Hills expansion as “long-term”, as it falls well short of the customary 50-year outlook. We also request that an acknowledgement of the magnitude of the next decision-making process be
included in the comprehensive plan. We request that the plan include language to advise and encourage the County to immediately begin a substantial analysis, based on current science and best practices of the other two options: Waste Export and Waste-to-Energy Facility. It is clear to us that comprehensive public education campaigns will be required for the general public, key groups, and stakeholders to understand the full implications of the choice before us, and that complex and far-reaching regulatory conversations with state and federal agencies will be required for either/both options.

We believe a few examples of this long-term and difficult work include:

- Deeper analysis of projected rail capacity to out-of-county landfills, including the environmental impacts of transporting increasing amounts of waste through the river valleys and/or mountain passes of Washington State. Do new rail lines need to be built? Who pays? Will regulatory agencies grant land-use, environmental and other permissions?
- Deeper analysis and understanding of the option of using a pricing model to secure rail capacity for King County waste on the existing rail system. What impact would this have on the state’s overall economy, especially agricultural exports? Can the cost to the county and the rate-payers be accurately estimated?
- Public education campaigns that facilitate an accurate understanding of air quality and emissions standards currently being met by waste to energy plants nationally and internationally.
- Working with legislators to review Washington State laws that do not currently consider electricity from a mass burn facility as renewable. Other states and countries view this differently.
- Working with legislators to review Washington State laws that require the bottom ash from Waste-to-Energy plants be disposed of in landfills. Other countries and states have no problems using this ash for concrete, construction and road-beds.

For the sake of future King County residents, we encourage you to take the long view now by recommending actions that ensure a healthy future for following generations and not to “kick the can down the road” by limiting the Comprehensive Plan recommendations for action on waste disposal to a mere 20-year timeframe.

There are hard decisions ahead, and as local elected officials, we wish to support and collaborate with the department and the county council as we collectively demonstrate the political courage necessary to secure the future health and welfare of our region and its people.

Sincerely,

Phillippa M. Kassover
Councilmember
City of Lake Forest Park
Member, Metropolitan Solid Waste Advisory Committee,
Member, Solid Waste Advisory Committee.