



SCA Public Issues Committee AGENDA

February 12, 2020 – 7:00 PM
Renton City Hall

1. **Welcome and Roll Call** – Christie Malchow, Sammamish, Chair 2 minutes
2. **Public Comment** – Christie Malchow, Sammamish, Chair 10 minutes
3. [Approval of Minutes – December 11, 2019 Meeting](#) 2 minutes
Page 4
4. **Chair’s Report** – Christie Malchow, Sammamish, Chair 5 minutes
5. **Executive Director’s Report** – Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director 5 minutes
6. [2020 PIC Meeting Schedule](#) 5 minutes
ACTION
Page 12
Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director
7. [Regional Board and Committee Appointments](#) 5 minutes
ACTION
Page 14
Brian Parry, SCA Policy Director
8. [2020 Legislative Session](#) 20 minutes
DISCUSSION
Page 16
Brian Parry, SCA Policy Director
9. [2020 Regional Transit Policy and Plan Updates](#) 15 minutes
DISCUSSION
Page 21
Cynthia Foley, SCA Policy Analyst
10. [VISION 2050](#) 10 minutes
UPDATE
Page 25
Brian Parry, SCA Policy Director
11. [Affordable Housing and Countywide Planning Policies](#) 10 minutes
UPDATE
Page 37
Alexis Mercedes Rinck, SCA Policy Analyst

12. [Long-Range Solid Waste Disposal in King County](#)

UPDATE

10 minutes

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Cynthia Foley, SCA Policy Analyst

13. [Levies and Ballot Measures in King County](#)

DISCUSSION

5 minutes

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Brian Parry, SCA Policy Director

14. [Potential Upcoming Issues](#)

DISCUSSION

5 minutes

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Brian Parry, SCA Policy Director

15. Upcoming Events

- a. SCA Networking Dinner – Wednesday, February 19, 2020 – 5:30 PM – Renton Pavillion and Event Center
- b. SCA Public Issues Committee – Wednesday, March 11, 2020 – 7:00 to 9:00 PM (6:00 PM Pre-PIC Workshop) – Renton City Hall

16. For the Good of the Order

17. Adjourn

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

Capitalizing on the diversity of our cities to lead policy change to make the Puget Sound region the best in the world.

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

December 11, 2019 – 7:00 PM

Renton City Hall

1055 S Grady Way, Renton WA 98057

1. Welcome and Roll Call

PIC Chair Council President Ed Prince, Renton, called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. 29 cities had representation ([Attachment A](#)). Guests present included Councilmember Janice Zahn, Bellevue (PIC Alternate); Councilmember Angela Birney, Redmond (PIC Alternate); Councilmember John Holman, Auburn (PIC Alternate); Mayor Dana Ralph, Kent; Mayor Mary Lou Pauly, Issaquah; Councilmember Erin Stout, Black Diamond; Diana Hart, Woodinville staff; Doug Levy, Renton consultant; Tom Goff, King County Council staff; Helena Stephens, City of Bellevue staff; and, Hannah Smith, City of Seattle 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 November 13, 2019 PIC Minutes

Chair Prince asked if there were any amendments to the November 13, 2019 PIC minutes.

Councilmember Hank Margeson, Redmond, moved, seconded by Councilmember Janie Edelman, Black Diamond, to approve the November 13, 2019 minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Chair's Report

Chair Prince recognized PIC members and alternates who are retiring and will not be returning to PIC in 2020. Retiring PIC members include Councilmember Hank Margeson, Redmond; Deputy Mayor Catherine Stanford, Lake Forest Park; Councilmember Jonathan Chicquette, Normandy Park; Councilmember Sheree Wen, Medina; Councilmember Barre Siebert, Clyde Hill; Councilmember Janie Edelman, Black Diamond; Deputy Mayor Austin Bell, Burien; and Mayor Allen Dauterman, Newcastle. Retiring PIC alternates include Councilmember John Holman, Auburn; Mayor Ken Hearing, North Bend; Councilmember Carol Simpson, Newcastle; and Councilmember George Martin, Clyde Hill. Chair Prince thanked all of them for their service on behalf of SCA and the region.

5. Executive Director's Report

SCA Executive Director Deanna Dawson reported on the work of the SCA representatives on the PSRC Growth Management Policy Board (GMPB) to ensure SCA voices provided meaningful influence over the development of the update to the regional long-range plan for growth, VISION 2050. The updated plan was unanimously recommended for approval by the GMPB at its meeting on December 5. She recognized Councilmember Hank Margeson, Redmond, for his leadership as vice chair of the GMPB; as well as Deputy Mayor Jay Arnold, Kirkland, for his

leadership as the SCA GMPB caucus chair, and PIC member Councilmember Traci Buxton, Des Moines and PIC alternate Councilmember John Holman, Auburn for their work on the GMPB on behalf of SCA. Dawson noted that work to finalize and implement VISION will continue in 2020, and it will be especially important that all our representatives on the PSRC Executive Board work together to ensure that the good work of SCA GMPB members makes its way into final adoption.

6. Election of the 2020 PIC Chair and Vice Chair

Executive Director Deanna Dawson reported that in November, PIC members were encouraged to submit nominations to serve as PIC chair and vice chair in 2020. Current PIC Vice Chair Christie Malchow of Sammamish was nominated to serve as PIC Chair, and current PIC member Bill Boyce of Kent was nominated to serve as PIC Vice Chair. The PIC Nominating Committee met on November 26, 2019 to review nominations and recommends that Mayor Christie Malchow, Sammamish, be elected 2020 PIC Chair and Council President Bill Boyce, Kent, be elected 2020 PIC Vice Chair.

Chair Prince moved, seconded by Councilmember Hank Margeson, Redmond, that Mayor Christie Malchow, Sammamish, be elected 2020 PIC Chair and Council President Bill Boyce, Kent, be elected 2020 PIC Vice Chair. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Regional Board and Committee Appointments

Nominating Committee member Councilmember Chance LaFleur, Enumclaw, reported that the PIC Nominating Committee met on November 26 and December 3, 2019 to develop a list of recommended appointments to regional boards and committees for consideration by PIC. He said the committee worked hard to find committee assignments for as many people as possible and was successful at striking a balance on committees of representatives from different geographic areas and from different sized cities.

Executive Director Dawson noted that there are open positions for which not enough applications were received prior to the PIC meeting. These include an alternate seat on the Emergency Management Advisory Council (EMAC); two alternate seats on the King County Flood Control District Advisory Committee; one member seat on the Regional Law Safety and Justice Committee. She noted that SCA has received a volunteer for EMAC, and encouraged members to inform SCA if they or their fellow councilmembers are interested in serving in any of these open positions in 2020. Any additional nominees will be brought to the SCA Board of Directors for their consideration at their next meeting on December 18.

Councilmember Chance LaFleur, Enumclaw, moved, seconded by Deputy Mayor Catherine Stanford, Lake Forest Park, to recommend the SCA Board of Directors approve the 2020 Regional Board and Committee appointments as shown in Attachment B to these minutes. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

8. 2020 State Legislative Agenda

SCA Policy Director Brian Parry reported that in November PIC voted to consider action at the December meeting on a proposed 2020 SCA Legislative Agenda. The SCA Legislative Committee

met September 30, November 12, and December 4, 2019 to develop SCA's 2020 legislative priorities. PIC discussed potential priorities in October and a draft legislative agenda was provided to PIC members in November. At the November PIC meeting, PIC members were asked to provide any proposed amendments to enable consideration by the SCA Legislative Committee at its meeting on December 4. PIC members expressed support for the priorities highlighted in the proposed agenda and no recommended changes were provided.

Councilmember Hank Margeson, Redmond, moved, seconded by Councilmember Kate Kruller, Tukwila, to recommend the SCA Board of Directors approve the following 2020 SCA Legislative Priorities:

Address the Affordable Housing and Homelessness Crisis

The state and cities must partner to preserve and increase the supply of affordable housing as, well as address behavioral health needs and other root causes of homelessness. Sound Cities Association urges the Legislature to:

- *Allow cities to create and preserve affordable housing through optional local tools, including extending the timeline to approve a "qualifying local tax" provided under HB 1406 adopted in the 2019 legislative session*
- *Continue to expand investment in the Housing Trust Fund*
- *Address other underlying causes of homelessness by providing support to cities to implement innovative local solutions and increasing investments in our state's behavioral health system*

Invest in Transportation Infrastructure and Mobility

The economic vitality of our state demands that we invest in our existing transportation infrastructure and prioritize new investments that improve the movement of people and goods. Cities have increased investments in local transportation systems, but still face an annual funding gap for maintenance and operation of those systems of \$1 billion statewide. Sound Cities Association urges the Legislature to:

- *Partner with cities to develop a comprehensive transportation bill that provides new resources and options for local government to address transportation and mobility needs*

Fully Fund the Public Works Trust Fund and Provide Options for Local Infrastructure Needs

Today's cities are building the infrastructure necessary to accommodate a growing population and economy. Investments in infrastructure keep communities vibrant, protect the environment, and attract economic development. Cities need tools to lower the cost of providing local infrastructure and to avoid further exacerbating the housing affordability crisis. Sound Cities Association urges the Legislature to:

- *Fully fund the Public Works Trust Fund*
- *Support economic development tools that help maintain and expand local infrastructure, such as Tax Increment Financing and similar tools*

Preserve Local Decision-Making Authority

Cities possess strong local knowledge and authority to keep communities safe, healthy, and improve quality of life. It is critical cities maintain the authority to provide the necessary services and retain local control over land use planning that will help communities thrive.

Provide the Tools for Cities to Address Local Priorities

City revenue streams are limited and are not structured to sustainably keep-up with rising costs. Cities need flexible local funding tools, fewer unfunded mandates, and continued support from the state for shared responsibilities. Sound Cities Association urges the Legislature to:

- *Replace the arbitrary 1% cap on annual property tax increases with a limit tied to inflation plus population growth*
- *Meet the state's commitment to revenues intended to be shared with cities to serve our shared constituents*
- *Continue streamlined sales tax mitigation to affected cities*

There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Proposed King County Regional Homelessness Authority

Executive Director Deanna Dawson reported on the proposed Regional Homelessness Authority first transmitted on September 4, 2019, by King County Executive Dow Constantine and Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan to their respective councils. The proposed entity would address homelessness crisis response.

At the November 13, 2019 PIC meeting, PIC recommended SCA Board adoption of principles to provide feedback to the County Council, and to guide members on the Executive Leadership Group (ELG) and Regional Policy Committee (RPC) as they weigh-in on the proposal. The principles recommended by PIC were adopted by the SCA Board on November 20 and a letter containing those principles was sent to King County Council Chair Rod Dembowski on November 21.

On December 5, the RPC considered an alternative proposed Ordinance 2019-0478 sponsored by King County Councilmembers Kohl-Welles, Dembowski, and von Reichbauer. The new ordinance differs from the original transmittal in several significant ways, including: establishing the Authority through interlocal agreement between Seattle and King County rather than as a Public Development Authority; equal representation on the Governing Committee of three members each from SCA, Seattle, King County, and individuals with lived experience; and, increased authority for the Governing Committee to amend and approve plans and budgets. At the RPC meeting on December 5, SCA members successfully advocated for amendments to the proposed ILA to ensure that sub-regional planning serves as the basis for the Authority's plans, and to strengthen reporting requirements from the proposed Authority.

The RPC voted unanimously on December 5 to approve Ordinance 2019-0478 as amended and the County Council approved the recommended ordinance on December 11. In addition to

approval by King County, Seattle must also approve an identical ILA (*note: the Seattle City Council approved the ILA – as approved by King County – on December 16, 2019*).

Mayor Elaine Cook, Woodinville, asked what would happen if the City of Seattle wanted to go a different direction and if the county could still withdraw from the ILA. Dawson noted that if any amendments were adopted by Seattle then the ILA would have to return to the beginning of the county's approval process in 2020.

Councilmember Kate Kruller, Tukwila, said that she supported the changes made to the proposal by the RPC and asked for information to be shared with PIC members that they could take to their respective city councils.

Deputy Mayor Catherine Stanford, Lake Forest Park, said that she was happy with the proposal approved by RPC and thanked SCA representatives and staff who worked on the issue.

Councilmember John Stokes, Bellevue, noted that he serves as an SCA representative on the RPC. He noted that reaching agreement required a lot of negotiation among the parties. He recognized Dawson for her work on behalf of SCA.

Councilmember Hank Margeson, Redmond, said that he appreciated the work of SCA representatives to the RPC, PIC, and the Executive Leadership Group on behalf of SCA. He said that PIC is the most influential policy body in the region and that SCA's influence throughout deliberations on the issue was proof of that.

Councilmember Traci Buxton, Des Moines, echoed the comments of previous speakers and expressed her appreciation for the work of SCA members and staff.

10. 2020 SCA Priorities

SCA Executive Director Deanna Dawson led a roundtable discussion of cities' regional priorities for 2020. She asked members to share priorities for their cities and provide input on regional issues that are most important for SCA to become engaged in the coming year. She said that topics identified by PIC will be discussed by the SCA Board at their retreat in 2020 and will help guide the organization. In addition, topics identified could also be the basis for future PIC discussion items or pre-PIC workshops in 2020.

Dawson highlighted a variety of issues identified by SCA staff that may be of interest to members in 2020, including:

- Transportation and mobility, including Metro transit service and funding
- Managing growth and addressing its impacts, including implementation of VISION 2050
- Homelessness and governance of the region's response system, including potential implementation of the Regional Homelessness Authority
- Diversity, equity, and inclusion, including planning for the 2020 Governing for Racial Equity Conference
- Clean water plan and capital investments

- Affordable housing
- Best Starts for Kids Levy renewal
- The 2020 census, and work of the King County Regional Census Committee
- Solid waste and the future of recycling and disposal, including review of the new Waste to Energy study
- Addressing public safety concerns
- Apprenticeships and workforce development
- Local infrastructure needs
- Environmental sustainability
- Economic development and expanding opportunity for prosperity
- Behavioral health
- Addressing the need for sustainable sources of funding for cities, and addressing budgetary challenges
- Strengthening civic discourse
- Education and training for newly elected officials

Mayor Leanne Guier, Pacific, said she would like to see SCA continue its work to create job opportunities and career pathways.

Councilmember Tola Marts, Issaquah, said that sustainable local funding and shaping the Best Starts for Kids levy renewal are priorities.

Deputy Mayor Catherine Stanford, Lake Forest Parks said that education and training for newly elected officials as well as expanding economic prosperity are priorities.

Mayor Elaine Cook, Woodinville, said the work of PIC in 2019 helped benefit the City of Woodinville, in particular in the area of affordable housing and their efforts to develop a housing strategy for the city. She noted that housing and mobility go hand in hand.

Councilmember Carol Simpson, Newcastle, noted that there would be a lot of turnover of SCA members on regional committees and said that training for new committee members would be important in 2020.

Councilmember Benson Wong, Mercer Island, said that he agreed that advocating for sustainable local funding tools, especially for needed infrastructure, should be a priority.

Councilmember Janice Zahn, Bellevue, said that disaster and emergency response should be prioritized. She said work on economic development should focus on having an inclusive economy that supports small business.

Councilmember Angela Birney, Redmond, said she would like to see a focus on leadership training.

Councilmember Lydia Assefa-Dawson, Federal Way, highlighted homelessness, community safety, and equity and inclusion as priorities.

Councilmember Chance LaFleur, Enumclaw, said that local infrastructure should be a priority as well as efforts to increase the supply of housing in the region to address the affordability crisis.

Councilmember Michelle Hogg, Duvall, said she agreed with others that sustainable funding is critically important.

Council President Bill Boyce, Kent, said that he would like to see SCA work to connect elected officials with mentors from among their peers.

Councilmember Hank Margeson, Redmond, noted that Metro would be updating their service guidelines in 2020 and it would be important for SCA to be engaged in that work. He said SCA should look for opportunities to partner with King County in support of sustainable local funding tools.

Councilmember Alan Gothelf, North Bend, highlighted water rights as an emerging issue that will impact cities.

Councilmember Katherine Ross, Snoqualmie, said that she is concerned about sustainable funding as well as the impacts of I-976 on local transportation needs.

Mayor Nancy Backus, Auburn, said that Auburn is moving forward with work to address racial bias and equity in 2020.

Deputy Mayor Austin Bell, Burien, said that Burien successfully developed policies related to tenant protections and that it would be beneficial to have cities coordinate their policies.

Councilmember Sue-Ann Hohimer, Normandy Park, suggested a future pre-PIC workshop dedicated to members sharing ideas to address SCA priorities.

Councilmember Janice Zahn, Bellevue, noted recent pedestrian and bicycle fatality accidents in Bellevue and said that SCA should look for ways to raise awareness and improve safety.

11. Upcoming Events

- a. SCA Public Issues Committee – Wednesday, January 8, 2020 – 7:00 to 9:00 PM (6:00 PM Pre-PIC Workshop) – Renton City Hall
- b. SCA Newly Elected Officials Orientation – Thursday, January 30, 2020 – 2:00 to 4:00 PM – PSRC Board Room

12. For the Good of the Order

Deputy Mayor Austin Bell, Burien, reported that Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals issued a decision in favor of the City of Burien in Burien's lawsuit against the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) arising from the FAA's change of a flight path over Burien without environmental review.

13. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

**Public Issues Committee Meeting
December 11, 2019**

City	Representative	Alternate
Algona	Dave Hill	Bill Thomas
Auburn	Nancy Backus	John Holman
Beaux Arts Village	Tom Stowe	Aletha Howes
Bellevue	John Stokes	Janice Zahn
Black Diamond	Janie Edelman	Tamie Deady
Bothell	James McNeal	Davina Duerr
Burien	Austin Bell	Nancy Tosta
Carnation	Dustin Green	Kim Lisk
Clyde Hill	Barre Seibert	George Martin
Covington	Fran Hollums	Joseph Cimaomo, Jr.
Des Moines	Traci Buxton	Matt Mahoney
Duvall	Michelle Hogg	Jennifer Knaplund
Enumclaw	Chance LaFleur	
Federal Way	Lydia Assefa-Dawson	Martin Moore
Hunts Point	Joseph Sabey	
Issaquah	Tola Marts	Chris Reh
Kenmore	David Baker	Nigel Herbig
Kent	Bill Boyce	Toni Troutner
Kirkland	Toby Nixon	Jay Arnold
Lake Forest Park	Catherine Stanford	Tom French
Maple Valley	Sean Kelly	Linda Johnson
Medina	Sheree Wen	Alex Morcos
Mercer Island	Benson Wong	
Milton	Shanna Styron Sherrell	Mary Tompkins
Newcastle	Allen Dauterman	Carol Simpson
Normandy Park	Sue-Ann Hohimer	Jonathan Chicquette
North Bend	Ross Loudonback	Alan Gothelf
Pacific	Leanne Guier	David Storaasli
Redmond	Hank Margeson	Angela Birney
Renton	Ed Prince	Armondo Pavone
Sammamish	Christie Malchow	Karen Moran
SeaTac	Erin Sitterley	Pam Fernald
Shoreline	Chris Roberts	Keith Scully
Skykomish	Henry Sladek	
Snoqualmie	Katherine Ross	Matt Larson
Tukwila	Kate Kruller	Zac Idan
Woodinville	James Evans	Elaine Cook
Yarrow Point	Dicker Cahill	
SCA	Deanna Dawson Brian Parry	Christa Valles Cynthia Foley

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

Item 6:
2020 PIC Meeting Schedule
ACTION ITEM

Potential Action

Approval of Resolution 2020-1, Setting the Public Issues Committee's 2020 Meeting Schedule

Pursuant to SCA Bylaw 4.17.6, the Public Issues Committee (PIC) "shall review and evaluate policy positions and recommend to the Board what, if any, action should be taken on such policy positions." These meetings are open to the public, and agendas are available on the SCA website. Pursuant to SCA Bylaw 4.17.7c, regular meetings of the PIC "shall be held monthly or as deemed necessary."

In the interest of openness, accountability, and transparency, the PIC will adopt a meeting schedule by resolution at its first meeting of the year. This will enable all SCA members and the public to be aware of meeting dates and locations.

The PIC typically meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7 PM at Renton City Hall. SCA also typically holds a pre-PIC workshop at 6 PM in advance of those meetings.

A resolution establishing the PIC meeting schedule for 2020 is attached.

Attachment

- A. [Resolution 2020-1, Setting the PIC's 2020 Meeting Schedule](#)

**Sound Cities Association
Resolution 2020-1
2020 Public Issues Committee Schedule**

WHEREAS, the Public Issues Committee (PIC) of the Sound Cities Association meets monthly on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM to conduct the regular business of the Committee, unless otherwise stated; and

WHEREAS, the Public Issues Committee holds a Pre-PIC workshop monthly at 6:00 PM on the 2nd Wednesday of the month for informational, educational or other PIC-related purposes, unless otherwise stated; and

WHEREAS, the Public Issues Committee holds the majority of its meetings at Renton City Hall;

NOW THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PUBLIC ISSUES COMMITTEE OF THE SOUND CITIES ASSOCIATION AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1:

The Public Issues Committee sets the following schedule for 2020 PIC meetings:

February 12
March 11
April 8
May 13
June 10
July 8
August 12
September 9
October 14
November 11
December 9

SECTION 2:

Public Issues Committee meetings will typically be held at Renton City Hall. Alternate meeting locations may be determined by the membership.

PASSED BY THE PUBLIC ISSUES COMMITTEE OF THE SOUND CITIES ASSOCIATION AT ITS REGULAR MEETING ON THE 12th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2020.

Christie Malchow, 2020 PIC Chair	Date
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Attest:

Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director	Date
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February 12, 2020
SCA PIC Meeting

Item 07:
Regional Board and Committee Appointments
ACTION

SCA Staff Contact

Brian Parry, SCA Policy Director, brian@soundcities.org, 206-499-4159

SCA PIC Nominating Committee Members

Councilmember Ross Loudonback, North Bend, Chair; Councilmember Chance LaFleur, Enumclaw; Council President Ed Prince, Renton; Councilmember Chris Roberts, Shoreline

Action

The PIC Nominating Committee will recommend appointments to fill vacant positions on the following regional boards or committees:

- Children and Youth Advisory Board (CYAB) – 1 member seat
- King County Flood Control District Advisory Committee (KCFCDAC) – 2 alternate seats
- Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) Executive Board – 1 second alternate seat

The recommendations of the Nominating Committee will be presented for consideration by PIC at the February 12 PIC meeting.

Background

A call for nominations to fill vacant positions on the Children and Youth Advisory Board, King County Flood Control District Advisory Committee, and PSRC Executive Board was sent to SCA members on January 29, 2020. The deadline for applications is Thursday, February 6, 2020. The PIC Nominating Committee will meet prior to the February 12 PIC meeting to consider nominations and make recommendations on appointments to PIC.

Committee Information

Children and Youth Advisory Board

Members of the King County Children and Youth Advisory Board (CYAB) consist of individuals from throughout the region with the experience, knowledge, and information to aid county leaders as they consider policies, investments and outcomes related to children, families, youth and young adults. In particular, the CYAB serves as the oversight body to make recommendations and monitor distribution of proceeds from the Best Starts for Kids levy. More information is available on the CYAB [website](#).

King County Flood Control District Advisory Committee

The King County Council governs the Flood District as a “District Board of Supervisors.” The King County Flood Control District Advisory Committee (KCFCDAC) is charged with providing the

Board of Supervisors with expert policy advice on regional flood protection issues. The committee reviews and recommends an annual work program and budget for the district, including capital improvement program projects and funding levels, subject to approval or approval and modification by the District Board of Supervisors. SCA has authority to appoint four members and four alternates to the committee from SCA member cities that do not hold permanent seats. SCA member cities with permanent seats are: Auburn, Bellevue, Carnation, Kent, North Bend, Renton, Snoqualmie, and Tukwila.

The Chair of the KCFCDAC for 2020, King County Councilmember Dave Upthegrove, has stated that his focus in 2020 is on reorienting the work of the District to ensure all regions of the County receive benefit from their contribution to the district; provide increased emphasis on multi-benefit projects; and, improve budget processes and other administrative procedures to provide more transparency and engagement. More information is available on the KCFCDAC [website](#).

PSRC Executive Board

The purpose of the Executive Board is to direct the affairs of the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC). Executive Board members are appointed to represent the member governments of the PSRC. The board is chaired by the PSRC's president and meets monthly to carry out all designated powers and responsibilities between meetings of the PSRC General Assembly. SCA has authority to appoint members to represent cities and towns in King County that are not already represented on the Executive Board pursuant to statutory requirements. King County cities with their own appointing authority are: Auburn, Bellevue, Federal Way, Kent, Kirkland, Redmond, and Renton. More information is available on the Executive Board [website](#).

Next Steps

Recommendations from PIC will be considered by the SCA Board of Directors at its meeting on February 19, 2020. For more information, contact SCA Policy Director Brian Parry at brian@soundcities.org or 206-499-4159.

Item 08:
2020 Legislative Session
DISCUSSION

SCA Staff Contact

Brian Parry, Policy Director, brian@soundcities.org, 206-499-4159

Discussion

The 2019 Washington State Legislative Session begins January 13 for an up to 60-day regular session. The SCA 2020 Legislative Agenda ([Attachment A](#)) was recommended by PIC and approved by the SCA Board of Directors on December 18, 2019. The SCA Legislative Agenda focuses on legislative requests in four priority issue areas: Address the Affordable Housing and Homelessness Crisis; Invest in Transportation Infrastructure and Mobility; Fully Fund the Public Works Trust Fund and Provide Options for Local Infrastructure Needs; and, Preserve Local Decision-Making Authority.

Background

PIC will be joined at the February meeting by Candice Bock, Director of Government Relations for the Association of Washington Cities (AWC), to provide an update to PIC members on key legislative priorities. AWC's "Hot Sheet" for the week of February 3, which tracks priority bills the Association is supporting and opposing, can be found attached to this memo ([Attachment B](#)). In addition to the AWC Hot Sheet, SCA staff recently provided PIC members via email with a [summary of a proposed business payroll excise tax](#) for affordable housing and homelessness services which can be found here. As an update, the Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce sent a [letter to the House Finance Committee](#) on February 4 outlining a host of questions about the proposal that members may find of interest.

The first cutoff date of the 2020 legislative session is approaching on Friday, February 7, when bills must be passed out of their policy committees or are generally considered dead unless deemed necessary to implement the budget. An update on bills related to the SCA Legislative Agenda will be distributed to PIC members following the Friday cutoff.

The 2020 Washington State Legislative Session kicked off on January 13 for a short, 60-day regular session. Important cutoff dates for the 2020 Legislative Session are:

- February 7: Last day for bills to pass from policy committees. Bills that have not passed the policy committee in their house of origin are generally considered dead unless deemed necessary to implement the budget.
- February 11: Last day for bills to pass out of House fiscal committees as well as the Senate Ways and Means and Transportation committees.

- February 19: Last day to pass bills from their house of origin.
- February 28: Last day to pass opposite house bills from policy committees, except bills from House fiscal committees as well as the Senate Ways and Means and Transportation committees.
- March 2: Last day to pass opposite house bills from House fiscal committees as well as the Senate Ways and Means and Transportation committees
- March 6: Last day to pass opposite house bills except those deemed necessary to implement the budget and other limited circumstances.
- March 12: Last day allowed for regular session under the state constitution.

Next Steps

Please share this information with your city. Questions may be directed to SCA Policy Director Brian Parry at brian@soundcities.org or 206-499-4159.

Attachments

- A. [SCA 2020 Legislative Agenda](#)
- B. [Association of Washington Cities Hot Sheet for the Week of February 3, 2020](#)

SCA 2020 Legislative Agenda

Address the Affordable Housing and Homelessness Crisis

The state and cities must partner to preserve and increase the supply of affordable housing as, well as address behavioral health needs and other root causes of homelessness. Sound Cities Association urges the Legislature to:

- *Allow cities to create and preserve affordable housing through optional local tools, including extending the timeline to approve a “qualifying local tax” provided under HB 1406 adopted in the 2019 legislative session*
- *Continue to expand investment in the Housing Trust Fund*
- *Address other underlying causes of homelessness by providing support to cities to implement innovative local solutions and increasing investments in our state’s behavioral health system*

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Provide the Tools for Cities to Address Local Priorities

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- *Meet the state’s commitment to revenues intended to be shared with cities to serve our shared constituents*
- *Continue streamlined sales tax mitigation to affected cities*



Hot sheet – Bills of interest

Week of February 3, 2020



Priority bills – Support

- [HB 1590](#) / [SB 6126](#) Makes an optional sales tax for affordable housing councilmanic
- [HB 2145](#) Revises the 1% property tax cap
- [HB 2342](#) Extends GMA and SMP planning timelines—Needs amendment on timeline for increased review of housing element and critical areas
- [HB 2343](#) / [SB 6334](#) Expands and creates new incentives for urban density and housing supply
- [HB 2362](#) / [SB 6652](#) Creates new local transportation revenue options
- [HB 2620](#) / [SB 6411](#) Extends and expands eligibility for the multifamily tax exemption program
- [HB 2778](#) / [HR 4212](#) Authorizes Tax Increment Financing and the corresponding constitutional amendment
- [HB 2804](#) Reopens and funds additional Local Revitalization Funding applications
- [HB 2900](#) Increases cannabis revenue sharing with cities and counties



Other bills – Support

- [HB 1086](#) / [SB 5098](#) Increases appropriated funding for public defense services
- [HB 1679](#) Authorizes cities planning voluntarily under GMA to impose REET with a vote of the council
- [HB 1793](#) / [SB 5789](#) Don't "block the box," expands the use of automatic traffic cameras
- [HB 1938](#) / [SB 6328](#) Creates an infrastructure investment program to support development of affordable housing and revitalization
- [HB 2247](#) Requires the LCB to issue cannabis licenses in accordance with local zoning ordinances
- [HB 2307](#) Allows cities to enact certain fireworks bans immediately

- [HB 2420](#) Shifts the management of public defenders to the state
- [HB 2473](#) Includes intimate partners as protected individuals under domestic violence laws
- [HB 2560](#) Establishes a statutory annual minimum number of required BLEA classes
- [HB 2565](#) Establishes labeling requirements for non-flushable wipes
- [HB 2625](#) / [SB 5680](#) Establishes a voter-approved sales tax option for parks funding
- [HB 2642](#) Removes coverage barriers to accessing substance use disorder treatment services
- [HB 2684](#) / [SB 6466](#) Allows cities to install bike-specific traffic signals
- [SB 6543](#) Allows a grace period after closing records requests to provide additional responsive records
- [SB 6386](#) Authorizes cities to fully waive impact fees for affordable housing



Other bills – Monitor

- [HB 2230](#) Expands a property tax exemption for tribal-owned lands serving an economic development purpose—Cities would like to see time limitations on the exemption
- [HB 2427](#) / [SB 6453](#) Adds climate change as a goal to GMA—Cities have concerns with the goal language and liability potential
- [HB 2507](#) Mandates a new element of stormwater programs to address wastewater from RVs used by people experiencing homelessness
- [HB 2609](#) / [SB 6335](#) Adds a climate change goal and element to GMA and assigns emission reduction requirements to cities
- [HB 2649](#) Creates a new process to increase homeless shelter capacity
- [SB 6302](#) Prohibits limiting the number of unrelated dwelling occupants—Cities have concerns it could impact the ability to address unregulated boarding houses



Hot sheet – Bills of interest Week of February 3, 2020



Other bills – Oppose

- [HB 2549](#) Requires GMA planning and development regulations to achieve “net ecological gain” instead of “no net loss”
- [HB 2570](#) Preempts local control around accessory dwelling units (ADUs)
- [HB 2780](#) / [SB 6536](#) Preempts local control around single-family zoning mandates
- [HB 2870](#) Creates a licensing structure that requires cities to determine social equity in the retail marijuana market
- [HB 2886](#) Mandates faster permit processing without recognition of staffing capacity
- [SB 6165](#) Adopts an unfunded PERS 1 cost of living adjustment
- [SB 6194](#) Preempts local business taxing authority by restricting cities to imposing only one tax on businesses
- [SB 6266](#) Adds reporting requirements for seizure & forfeiture
- [SB 6461](#) Reduces land use permit application review timelines

Item 09:
2020 Regional Transit Policy and Plan Updates
UPDATE

SCA Staff Contact

Cynthia Foley, SCA Policy Analyst, cynthia@soundcities.org, 206-495-3020

SCA Regional Transit Committee Members

Councilmember Kathy Hougardy, Tukwila (Caucus Chair); Councilmember Susan Chang, Shoreline (Caucus Vice Chair); Mayor Leanne Guier, Pacific; Mayor Kim Lisk, Carnation; Councilmember Ryan McIrvine, Renton; Councilmember Jon Pascal, Kirkland; Councilmember Jennifer Robertson, Bellevue; Councilmember Jeralee Anderson, Redmond (alternate); Mayor Dave Hill, Algona (alternate); Mayor Mary Lou Pauly, Issaquah (alternate); Councilmember Toni Troutner, Kent (alternate)

Update

In 2020, the Regional Transit Committee (RTC) will work on updates to three regional policies that guide the development and delivery of King County Metro (Metro) transit service. These include:

1. The [Service Guidelines](#), which guide the evaluation and allocation regional transit service;
2. The [Strategic Plan for Public Transportation](#) (Strategic Plan), which defines goals, objectives, strategies and metrics to provide direction and data that guide Metro's performance as an agency; and
3. [Metro Connects](#), which establishes a vision for the growth of transit service through 2040 and encourages the expansion of additional transportation options such as vanpools, community shuttles, and real-time ridesharing.

Policy updates to all three documents are expected to be informed by the [Mobility Framework Report](#), a report on transportation equity. Review of regional transit policy updates is expected to take place in 2020. These policies are expected to be formally transmitted for review and possible action in January 2021.

In addition to the policy and plan updates, discussion is ongoing about the potential for a transit ballot measure in 2020. The updated regional transit policies and plans will guide how metro resources are deployed, including any additional revenue should a ballot measure be considered.

Background

The Regional Transit Committee (RTC) will work on updates to three important regional transit policies and plans in 2020. These include the [Service Guidelines](#), the [Strategic Plan for Public Transportation](#), and [Metro Connects](#).

Updates to all three documents are expected to be informed by the [Mobility Framework Report](#), a report on transportation equity. The RTC acted to recommend adoption of this document in December 2019. The report was developed with input from Metro staff and a stakeholder group called the Equity Cabinet. The recommendations address four central themes: investments, surrounding land use, innovation, and engagement. The Mobility Framework recommends additional transit investments in geographic areas with a high proportion of priority populations (low- and no-income people, people of color and indigenous people, immigrants and refugees, people with disabilities, and members of limited-English speaking communities) and areas that have and that have limited mid-day and evening transit service to schools, jobs, and child care centers.

Policy updates are also expected to include new cost and population information and propose increased consistency among the three policy documents. If adopted, updated transit policies would be used to inform the deployment of future transit resources throughout King County.

Metro Connects

Metro Connects is an adopted vision for the future of Metro's transit service through 2040. This document provides guidance on how Metro could grow its fixed-route bus service and encourages the development of additional transit alternatives and emerging forms of transportation such as vanpools, community shuttles, and real-time ridesharing.

The proposed transit service network in Metro Connects is based on regional plans, including city plans. An interactive map of the transit service envisioned in Metro Connects is [available online](#).

The transit service network envisioned in Metro Connects is not fully funded. When Metro Connects was approved in 2017, it was estimated that \$7.8 billion dollars in new capital investment would be needed by 2040, as well as funding for 1.2 million new service hours to implement the plan. These figures are currently undergoing analysis. Updated estimates of the cost to implement Metro Connects will be presented to the Regional Transit Committee on February 19.

Proposed updates to Metro Connects are expected to include new information regarding implementation costs, population growth, and travel times. Policy updates are not expected to include changes to the transit service network envisioned in Metro Connects.

Service Guidelines

The Service Guidelines are used to set targets for transit service levels (frequency and service type), evaluate performance, and prioritize service investments. The Service guidelines are also used to add or remove service based on four priorities (reducing crowding, on-time performance, new service to connect activity centers, and route productivity).

Proposed updates to the Service Guidelines are expected to include new guidance on emerging forms of transportation (such as real-time ridesharing), land use, and marine service. Additional changes may be proposed to increase consistency between the Service Guidelines, Metro Connects, and the Mobility Framework.

Strategic Plan for Public Transportation

Strategic Plan for Public Transportation (Strategic Plan) outlines Metro's goals, as well as the strategies and objectives to achieve them, and establishes measures to evaluate success.

Several proposed updates to the Strategic Plan were presented at the Regional Transit Committee meeting on January 15, 2020. The presentation suggested replacing the current Strategic Plan Goals with the Guiding Principles from the Mobility Framework. Proposed changes also included revisions to strategies and objectives in the Strategic Plan. The number of metrics was proposed to be reduced to provide a more focused report on transit operations.

Potential 2020 Ballot Measure

In 2014, the region pursued a countywide funding proposal to support transit service and road maintenance. The revenue would have been raised using revenue options available to the King County Transportation Benefit District (TBD), and the proposal included a \$60 car tab fee and a 0.1 percent sales tax increase. The proposition was rejected by voters in April 2014. In response to the failure of the countywide measure, Seattle leaders proposed transit funding package utilizing the same funding sources. In November 2014 the Seattle-only transit funding package was approved with an expiration of 2020.

The 2020 expiration of funding provided through the Seattle TBD provides the opportunity to consider long-term roads and transit funding countywide and address the needs of cities in any such proposal. Without a regional transportation funding proposal, Seattle may propose renewing transit funding through the Seattle TBD, reducing the likelihood of countywide measure. A regional source of transit revenue could serve system-wide transit needs and reduce transit service disparities. Deployment of these resources would be guided by the updated regional transit policies and plans.

In preparation for the potential that legislation authorizing a transit ballot measure may be introduced at the King County Council, the RTC Vice Chair Councilmember Kathy Hougardy, Tukwila, has requested that any such legislation be referred to the RTC for their consideration.

SCA is seeking input from member cities on whether they would support such a measure in concept; and, what would need to be included in any revenue package to make such a proposal acceptable to your city.

Next Steps

The Regional Transit Committee is likely to begin review of potential updates to Metro Connects in February and the Service Guidelines in April. Policy updates are expected to be formally transmitted for review and possible action by the RTC and King County Council by January 2021. SCA staff will continue to monitor the updates to these plans and policies and members are encouraged to provide feedback that can be shared with SCA representatives on RTC.

Questions and comments can be directed to SCA Policy Analyst Cynthia Foley at cynthia@soundcities.org or 206-495-3020.

Item 10:
VISION 2050
UPDATE

SCA Staff Contact

Brian Parry, Policy Director, brian@soundcities.org, (206) 499-4159

SCA Members of the PSRC Executive Board

Mayor Amy Ockerlander, Duvall; Councilmember Chris Roberts, Shoreline; Mayor Allan Ekberg, Tukwila; Mayor David Baker, Kenmore (alternate); Councilmember James McNeal, Bothell (alternate); Councilmember Nancy Tosta, Burien (alternate); Mayor Jeff Wagner, Covington (2nd alternate)

SCA Cities with Seats on the PSRC Executive Board

Mayor Nancy Backus, Auburn; Mayor Lynne Robinson, Bellevue; Mayor Jim Ferrell, Federal Way; Mayor Dana Ralph, Kent; Mayor Penny Sweet, Kirkland, Mayor Angela Birney, Redmond; Mayor Armondo Pavone, Renton

Update

In December, following a nearly two-year process, the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) Growth Management Policy Board (GMPB) unanimously recommended approval of the update to the regional plan for growth, VISION 2050. Their recommendation now goes to the PSRC Executive Board for their consideration. If recommended by the PSRC Executive Board, the draft plan will then go before the PSRC General Assembly made up of all PSRC member jurisdictions for final approval in May 2020.

In September, the SCA Board approved guiding principles related to the VISION update as proposed by PIC and included those principles in a comment letter to PSRC ([Attachment A](#)). SCA representatives on GMPB actively engaged in the development of the recommended update consistent with the guiding principles and joined other members of the GMPB in supporting approval of the draft VISION 2050.

The draft VISION 2050 plan sets the framework for how the four-county PSRC region will manage growth of an additional 1.8 million people and 1.2 million jobs in the next 30 years. The plan sets important expectations that will guide the development of countywide growth targets, city comprehensive plans, and sets the stage for regional collaboration on a host of important issues such as affordable housing and local infrastructure funding.

Cities are encouraged to provide any additional feedback on the draft VISION 2050 plan to SCA staff to be shared with SCA members on the PSRC Executive Board as they work toward a final recommendation.

Background

On December 5, 2019, the PSRC Growth Management Policy Board (GMPB) unanimously recommended adoption of the [draft VISION 2050 plan](#) to the PSRC Executive Board. Their recommendation reflects the culmination of two years of review, public comment, and discussion among PSRC's member jurisdictions in King, Pierce, Snohomish, and Kitsap counties to update regional planning policies and extend the region's long-range plan for growth from 2040 out to 2050.

Between now and 2050, the four-county region is expected to grow by more than 1.8 million people and add 1.2 million jobs to the local economy. The role of VISION 2050 is to provide a framework for managing that growth with a consistent set of goals to provide for a sustainable region and high quality of life.

The update builds-off of the existing framework for growth in the region, VISION 2040, by continuing to emphasize growth within the urban growth area and centers while adding new emphasis to health and equity; climate change; and implementation of recent plans and initiatives such as the Regional Economic Strategy, Regional Open Space Conservation Plan, Regional Centers Framework, and Growing Transit Communities. A summary of the changes from VISION 2040 to VISION 2050 produced by PSRC staff can be found in [Attachment B](#).

The plan includes several key component parts:

- The *Regional Growth Strategy* provides a numeric strategy to guide where growth will occur in the region according to categories of cities and land uses known as "Regional Geographies."¹ Similar to VISION 2040, the draft plan calls for accommodating most growth in larger "Metropolitan" and "Core" cities. However, the draft update also includes increased expectations for the amount of growth expected to occur in proximity to high-capacity transit. This includes a stated goal of accommodating 65% of the region's planned population growth and 75% of planned employment growth in proximity to high-capacity transit.
- *Multicounty Planning Policies*, as required by GMA, are included in the plan and establish consistent expectations across to the region for what must be included in Countywide Planning Policies and ultimately within each jurisdiction's comprehensive plan.
- Regional, county, and local *Actions* in the draft plan describe future work for the region (through PSRC) and individual jurisdictions to make the plan successful.

SCA representatives on the GMPB were actively engaged in the development of the recommended update and joined other members of the GMPB in supporting the draft VISION 2050. The work of the GMPB was guided by discussions at PIC and SCA member feedback,

¹ A map of Regional Geographies and regional population shares that are allocated by category can be found in [Attachment C](#). VISION anticipates that counties and cities will work together to allocate growth (through targets) consistent with their growth shares by Regional Geography, but does not specify targets for individual jurisdictions. Target setting in King County takes place through the oversight of the Growth Management Planning Council.

which was also included in a comment letter highlighting SCA priorities that was sent to PSRC in September 2019.

The GMPB's draft plan reflects many of the comments previously provided by SCA members to:

- Set ambitious goals for accommodating region's growth in proximity to high-capacity transit;
- Include emphasis on reducing climate change impacts, addressing the region's need for affordable housing, and promoting community health;
- Provide a framework for cities to address the region's challenges with growth through their local plans and avoid some of the "top-down mandates" related to zoning that have been considered by the legislature.
- Promoting consistency across the region to focus growth in centers and high-capacity transit areas while recognizing that for the setting of growth targets, "different approaches may be appropriate based on local circumstances" and recognition that the Growth Management Act requires counties and cities to provide capacity to accommodate 20-year projected growth targets "at a minimum."

SCA Comment Letter

The comment letter sent by the SCA Board in September ([Attachment A](#)) was developed as guiding principles approved by PIC in September. Those principles were based on comments made by SCA cities throughout the process to update to VISION 2050, feedback from staff, and PIC discussions. SCA cities providing comments during the update to VISION have broadly offered their support for focusing a significant share of future growth near transit and in compact centers at the regional level. Most noted the importance of leveraging ongoing transit investments and the benefits this provides with regard to environmental impacts, climate change, increases in transit usage, access to jobs, air quality, health, and increasing the supply of moderate density housing – the housing type most associated with affordability. Some also noted that the Transit Focused Growth alternative carries with it the greatest risk of displacement due to redevelopment and encouraged a strong focus in VISION on mitigation measures.

Many cities also stressed the need for clarity around how the distribution of growth ultimately included in the Regional Growth Strategy will be implemented. While growth targets that cities will be required to plan for in their comprehensive plans are set at the countywide level (in King County this is through the Growth Management Planning Council), those targets are required to be consistent with the policies and growth shares included in VISION 2050.

Members generally expressed that the proposed growth shares are regional and should be aspirational while allowing flexibility at the local level and encouraging additional planning to ensure growth targets are realistic on a jurisdiction-by-jurisdiction basis.

Ongoing Issues

Snohomish County Rural Population Growth Target

Prior to the GMPB taking action to recommend the proposed update to VISION, a closely split vote was held on an amendment to limit the share of *rural* growth projected for Snohomish County, or growth expected to occur outside of the urban growth boundary. The recommendation in the plan, which was supported by the SCA caucus to the GMPB along with the City of Seattle and King County, calls for rural growth to be limited to 3% of Snohomish County's projected population and employment growth to 2050 (13,000 people). Snohomish County, joined by others, supported a 6% rural growth share (25,000 people), noting that 6% would represent a lower share of rural growth than current trends and the limited ability for jurisdictions to prevent development on vested lots.

It is anticipated that this issue may be raised again by Snohomish County representatives at the Executive Board, but no formal amendment has been proposed to the draft plan to date. While there is no direct impact on King County or how population will be allocated in the county, some members of the GMPB raised concerns about indirect impacts to a more dispersed growth pattern and whether it would lead to negative environmental and transportation impacts in the region as a whole.

Pierce County and Major Military Installations

The GMPB was able to strike a compromise related to a longstanding debate over how to incorporate major military installations into regional plans. Pierce County has long requested that projects addressing the transportation impacts of major military installations be considered for regional funding on par with Regional Growth Centers and Manufacturing/Industrial Centers. Others opposed the proposal as moving focus away from PSRC's role in accommodating future growth and doing so in Centers approved by the region as there is no ability at the local level to manage or project growth in personnel at military installations.

To continue working toward a solution, the GMPB approved an action calling for the region to address major military installations in the Project Selection Framework as follows:

Incorporate criteria into regional infrastructure evaluation processes that would allow for the inclusion and funding of transportation projects, identified in a completed local or regional transportation study, that relate to and potentially benefit access to military installations and surrounding jurisdictions. Funding for such projects will be consistent with the goals and policies of VISION 2050, including support for regional centers and progress toward greenhouse gas emissions reductions targets. (RC-Action-5)

Per the language approved above in the draft plan, additional work is expected to continue at the PSRC Transportation Policy Board to ensure any inclusion of major military installations in regional funding discussions is consistent with other goals within the plan.

Next Steps

SCA members are encouraged to provide feedback on any outstanding issues or concerns with the proposed VISION update. The Executive Board is currently scheduled to review the draft VISION 2050 plan in February and make its recommendation to the PSRC General Assembly in March. The General Assembly, made up of all PSRC member jurisdictions, has the authority to formally adopt the plan. The 2020 PSRC General Assembly meeting is scheduled for May 28, 2020 from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the Embassy Suites Seattle Pioneer Square. For more information, contact SCA Policy Director Brian Parry at brian@soundcities.org or 206-499-4159.



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September 24, 2019

Councilmember Ryan Mello
Chair, Growth Management Policy Board
Puget Sound Regional Council
1011 Western Avenue, Suite 500

Dear Chair Mello:

Thank you for the opportunity for the Sound Cities Association (SCA) to comment on the draft update to the region's long-range plan for growth, VISION 2050.

SCA was founded to help cities in King County act locally and partner regionally to create vital, livable communities through advocacy, education, leadership, mutual support, and networking. Collectively, our 38 member cities represent over one million constituents in King County.

On September 18, 2019 the SCA Board of Directors unanimously adopted the following policy position in response to the draft plan and its successful implementation over the next 30 years:

1. Maximize the benefits of the region's significant investments in high-capacity transit by setting ambitious regional goals for attracting housing and jobs in proximity to this transit.

The Transit Focused Growth alternative analyzed in the DSEIS performed comparably better regionally in modeling potential environmental impacts of 1) air quality and community health; 2) the degree of forecasted climate change; 3) increases in transit use and thus access to jobs; and 4) an increased supply of the moderate-density housing most associated with increasing access to affordability.

The draft Regional Growth Strategy includes an ambitious goal to "attract 65% of the region's residential and 75% of the region's employment growth to high-capacity transit station areas." PSRC has previously affirmed this numerical goal as an aspirational regional statement and not as a standard applied to individual jurisdictions and their station areas and this should be clearly stated in the plan. Implementation of a transit focused strategy should not be one-size-fits-all and significant analysis will be required to determine what can be realistically achieved within individual jurisdictions while promoting improved quality of life.

2. Incorporate policies and regional actions that mitigate displacement risk, ensure equitable outcomes and access to opportunity, and support affordable housing preservation and development most suitable for each city and town across the four-county region

Because focusing growth near transit emphasizes redevelopment, it also carries a relatively greater risk of displacing existing affordably-priced housing and vulnerable populations. SCA supports the development of effective displacement mitigation tools and strategies for centering equity in regional planning. This work should be supported by the development of a regional housing needs assessment and through direct PSRC technical assistance to develop effective affordable housing goals, strategies, and programs. Providing tools to address affordability is preferable to “top-down” mandates as cities and towns address the region’s affordable housing crisis within the constraints of their own local housing markets.

3. Conduct further work by PSRC and member jurisdictions to mutually clarify expectations related to local plan growth targets.

It is critical to include counties, cities, and towns in a process to transparently set targets, and in developing the guidance that PSRC will provide. Local targets must: 1) be based on real-world circumstances; 2) reflect the ability of jurisdictions to provide necessary services and infrastructure; and 4) recognize that market forces often act independent of local policy.

Meeting the goal of encouraging efficient use of urban land requires that the Regional Growth Strategy not be used to set caps on growth when it can be demonstrated that existing or planned infrastructure—including access to transit—is available to accommodate that growth.

4. Provide technical assistance and advocate for resources for cities and towns to implement VISION 2050.

Developing local comprehensive plans is complex and demands significant resources. It is critical that the four-county region advocate for state resources for local planning, necessary infrastructure investments, and provide technical assistance for cities and towns, especially smaller jurisdictions, to effectively implement VISION 2050.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft VISION 2050 plan. If you have any questions, please contact SCA Policy Director Brian Parry at brian@soundcities.org.

Sincerely,



Mayor Leanne Guier, Pacific
President, Sound Cities Association (SCA)

cc: SCA Board of Directors
SCA Public Issues Committee
King County Executive Dow Constantine
King County Council
Deputy Mayor Jay Arnold, Kirkland, SCA GMPB Caucus Chair
Mayor Debbie Bertlin, Mercer Island, SCA GMPC Caucus Chair



Puget Sound Regional Council

VISION 2040 to 2050

January 2020

VISION 2040 served as a basic building block for VISION 2050. This document summarizes the differences between VISION 2040 and the Growth Management Policy Board's recommendation for VISION 2050. Full detail about changes to the multicounty planning policies and actions are provided in a [summary table](#) with strike-through edits.

Overall, VISION 2050:

- Retains the same core emphasis on a strong economy, healthy environment, preserving farms and forests, and supporting growth within the urban growth area and centers
- Retains the same plan structure as VISION 2040, with a numeric Regional Growth Strategy, multicounty planning policies, and actions
- Identifies new regional outcomes and a vision statement for the region
- Addresses equity and health in policies and actions throughout the plan
- Supports implementation of recent plans and initiatives, like the Regional Transportation Plan, the Regional Economic Strategy, the Regional Open Space Conservation Plan, the Regional Centers Framework, and Growing Transit Communities

Regional Collaboration (formerly the General chapter)

- Recognizes the need to work collaboratively across jurisdictions
- Retains focus on outreach, engagement, and funding to support VISION implementation
- Consolidates regional funding policies in the Regional Collaboration chapter
- Includes new policies on coordination with tribes and military installations and a new action to develop a Regional Equity Strategy
- Includes a new action for future work to incorporate funding criteria related to communities near military installations

Regional Growth Strategy

Regional geographies

- Retains concept of growth allocations by regional geography (groups cities and unincorporated areas by characteristics; not by individual city)
- Changes some regional geography categories based on transit and annexation:
 - Differentiates urban unincorporated areas by whether they are or will be served by high-capacity transit and if they are planned for annexation or incorporation
 - Adds regional geographies to acknowledge role of tribes and military installations

Growth allocations

- Similar to VISION 2040, accommodates most growth in Metropolitan and Core cities

- Modified version of the Transit Focused Growth alternative studied in Draft SEIS
- Allocates more growth to cities with existing and planned high capacity transit and less to rural areas compared to VISION 2040
- Adds a goal for 65% of region's population growth and 75% of employment growth in regional growth centers and near high-capacity transit
- Similar to VISION 2040, shifts 5% of expected employment growth from King County to encourage planning for employment growth and improved job-housing balance in other counties

Policies and actions

- Incorporates the Regional Growth Strategy in the multicounty planning policies to provide a better nexus between the policy and growth strategy
- Incorporates guidance from VISION 2040 appendix on aligning growth targets with the Regional Growth Strategy
- Supports the upcoming round of countywide growth target setting (2021) and local plan updates (2023-24)

Environment

- Continues focus on environmental stewardship, protection of farms and forests, and improving air quality
- Incorporates new policies and actions to more strongly support the recovery of Puget Sound, conservation of the regional open space network and access to open space

Climate Change

- Creates new Climate Change chapter
- Supports the various state, regional and local goals, targets and activities
- Seeks to advance the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency's targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions
- Includes a new action directing a Greenhouse Gas Strategy that build's off of PSRC's existing Four-Part Greenhouse Gas Strategy
- Seeks local plans to includes policies and actions to address climate change

Development Patterns

- Continues support for urban design and connectivity, maintaining the rural area, and using land use tools to conserve farms and forests
- Incorporates new policies and actions on displacement risk, opportunity mapping, health disparities, and transit-oriented development to address equitable development
- Directs implementation of the Regional Centers Framework

Housing

- Continues focus on providing housing choices and addressing housing affordability
- Incorporates new policies to promote affordable housing in all development, expand moderate density housing, and identify and work to mitigate displacement
- New policy and action call out the need for high-job growth communities to plan for additional housing capacity

- Identifies new actions to develop a regional housing strategy, including a regional housing needs assessment
- Adds new action to develop anti-displacement strategies
- Directs support for local housing efforts

Economy

- Continues emphasis on supporting industry clusters and workforce development
- Incorporates new and revised policies and actions to support economic development throughout the region, encourage jobs in proximity to housing, and work to mitigate commercial displacement

Transportation

- Updates information about the regional transportation system, including investments made to roads, transit and ferries since 2008
- Continues focus on providing a safe and connected multimodal transportation system, linking centers, and supporting the Regional Growth Strategy
- Incorporates new policies and actions addressing stormwater, electrification and emissions reductions, changing transportation technology, and aviation capacity needs in the region
- Supports the upcoming update of the Regional Transportation Plan

Public Services

- Continues focus on demand management, conservation, and sustainable utilities and public services
- Incorporates new policies on climate change, resilience, and water supply management
- Addresses change to state law regarding school siting and adds policy on working collaboratively to site and design urban schools

Implementation

- Continues use of PSRC implementation tools of regional planning, plan review, funding, providing local guidance, communicating with the Legislature, and the PSRC work program
- Incorporates a new action to create new monitoring program to track implementation

For additional information about VISION 2050, please visit <https://www.psrc.org/vision>

Figure 5 – Regional Geographies

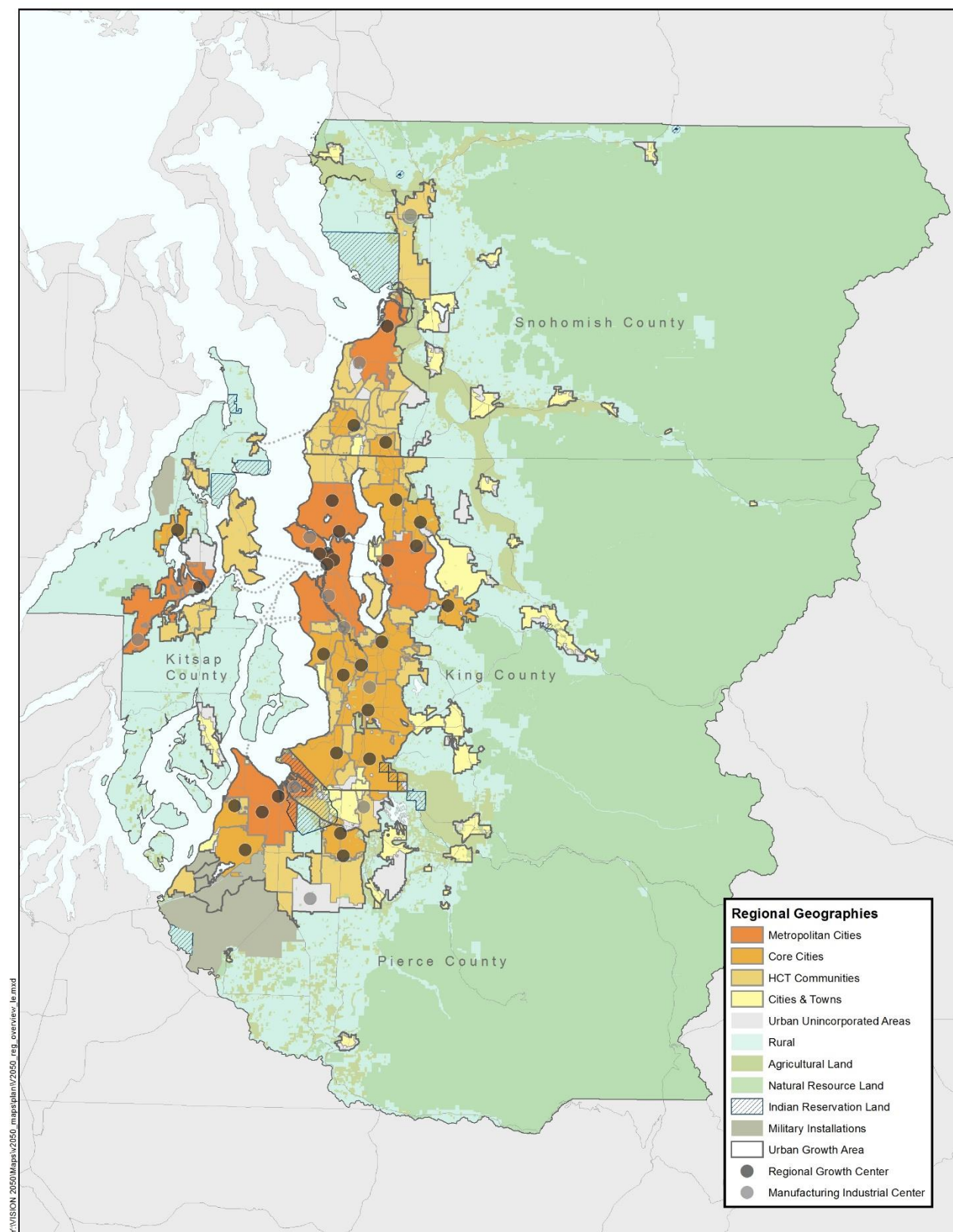


Figure 6 – Population Growth 2017-50, Preferred Alternative

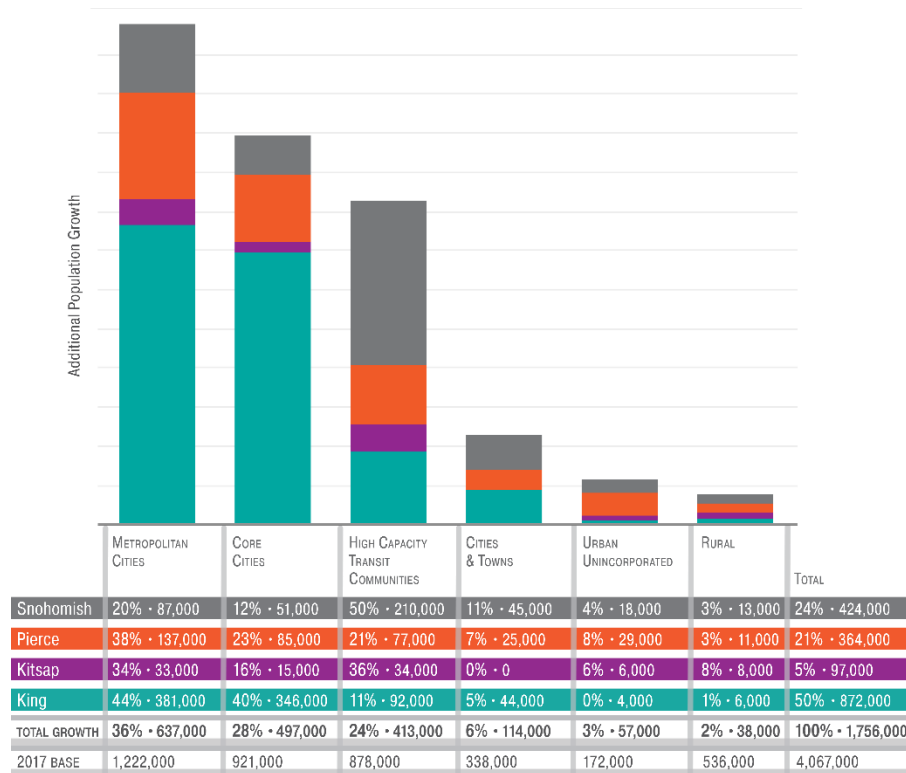
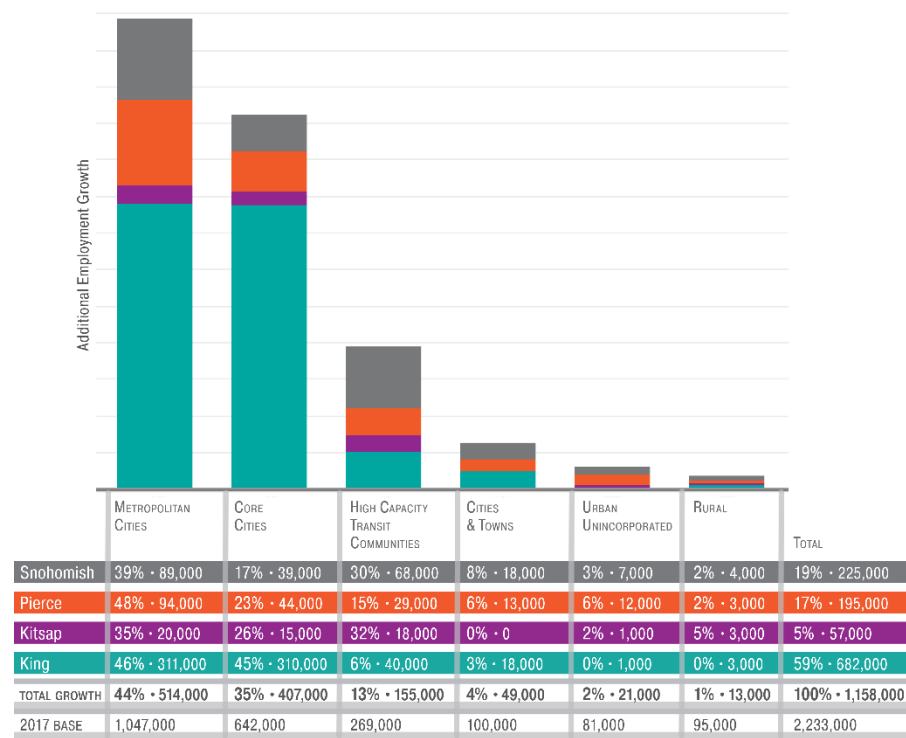


Figure 7 – Employment Growth 2017-50, Preferred Alternative



Item 11:

Affordable Housing and Countywide Planning Policies

UPDATE

SCA Staff Contact

Alexis Mercedes Rinck, Policy Analyst, alexis@soundcities.org, (206) 495-5238

SCA Members of the King County Affordable Housing Committee

Councilmember Claude DaCorsi, Auburn; Mayor Lynne Robinson, Bellevue; Councilmember Nancy Tosta, Burien; Councilmember Ryan McIrvine, Renton; Councilmember Marli Larimer, Kent (alternate); Council President Tanika Padhye, Redmond (alternate); Councilmember Zach Hall, Issaquah (alternate); Mayor Rob McFarland, North Bend (alternate)

Update

The affordable housing crisis in King County has been identified by SCA members as a priority issue facing the region and impacting residents; SCA and member cities are engaged in numerous ongoing actions at the local and regional level to address the challenge.

The Affordable Housing Committee of the Growth Management Planning Council is one of the regional bodies influencing affordable housing policy in King County. The AHC adopted its 2020 workplan in November 2019, which includes several strategies to address the affordable housing crisis. At PIC, members will be updated and asked for feedback on efforts underway by the Affordable Housing Committee to make recommendations for updating the Housing Chapter of the Countywide Planning Policies.

The Countywide Planning Policies are updated every five years and provide consistent expectations for what must be included in cities' comprehensive plans. The next update cycle will commence in 2020 and offers a timely opportunity for the AHC to ensure alignment between Committee priorities and housing policies contained in the regional plan for growth, VISION 2050, which will be adopted in May 2020.

Background

In July 2017, the King County Regional Affordable Housing Task Force convened for the first time. The Task Force was designed to have balanced representation between County and city elected officials, with five County Council members and the County Executive participating, along with two representatives from the City of Seattle and four representatives from the Sound Cities Association. The Task Force met nearly monthly for a year and a half to understand the scale of the regional affordable housing crisis, its different impacts on King County communities, and consider diverse strategies to address these impacts. The Task Force's goal was to develop a strategy to address housing affordability at a regional scale. Ultimately, the

Task Force completed its work in December 2018 with the release of a [Final Report and Recommendations](#). SCA adopted a policy position in support of the recommendations on the understanding that they provide a range of options for cities to consider within their own local housing context.

One of the strategies from the RAHTF report was to develop an Affordable Housing Committee (AHC) under the Growth Management Planning Council to serve as a regional advisory body formed to recommend actions and assess progress toward implementing the [Regional Affordable Housing Task Force Five-Year Action Plan](#). The Plan strives to support action 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.” It began meeting in June 2019 and meets on a bi-monthly basis.

In June 2018, SCA adopted “Guiding Principles” developed by SCA representatives to Regional Affordable Housing Task Force with input from PIC. The principles served a tool to review and assess the work of Task Force and continues to be used in evaluating work for the AHC.

SCA Caucus Guiding Principles

- Greater transparency is needed with regard to how existing funding is being used to support affordable housing development and preservation. This is especially critical prior to the Task Force making any recommendations to increase taxes at the local level.
- Cities need assistance to implement affordable housing strategies, not mandates.
- Preservation of existing affordable housing needs to be prioritized. The region should inventory current affordable housing stock and develop strategies to preserve those units.
- The region is investing in high-capacity transit at historic levels. We should capitalize on those investments to promote affordable housing, particularly around new light rail stations.
- The region should actively measure what is being achieved by adopted affordable housing policies and assign a body to track results over time as well as recommend corrective actions jurisdictions can consider to address areas of greatest need.
- Many cities are working to implement affordable housing strategies. The region should provide technical assistance to cities to help them develop and implement local strategies (e.g. housing toolkits, best practices, model ordinances).
- Preventing displacement is critical. The region should prioritize emergency assistance to prevent loss of housing.

- Existing public assets should be used to promote affordable housing. The region should work on a strategy to ensure publicly owned lands are utilized to the best extent possible to promote affordable housing (whether through sale proceeds, use of the land, or other strategies).
- Addressing the affordable housing needs of our growing senior population needs to be emphasized.

The committee is supported by the Housing Interjurisdictional Team composed of staff from King County, the City of Seattle, SCA and SCA member cities, transit agencies, nonprofit and stakeholder groups. This includes representatives from sub-regional collaborations such as ARCH (A Regional Coalition for Housing) and SKHHP (South King Housing and Homelessness Partners). King County staff is tasked with convening and leading the work of the staff team.

Planned Work in 2020

In November 2019, the AHC approved its annual workplan for 2020.

Table A: 2019-2020 Affordable Housing Committee Work Plan

BUILD ACCOUNTABILITY	TAKE ACTION
1. To each other Establish Committee procedures	4. Focus on emerging opportunities Take advantage of timely opportunities to increase regional collaboration
2. To the people we serve Center equity in the Committee's work	5. Work with the community To build support for affordable housing, develop a community engagement strategy
3. To achieve our goals Develop the data dashboard and reporting systems	6. Advance Committee priorities to produce more homes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyze and identify unused and new revenue sources and help build the case for greater investment • Review and recommend zoning and land use actions to increase and diversify housing choices and maximize affordability, particularly near frequent transit

Updating the King County Countywide Planning Policies (CPP's)

The Countywide Planning Policies are updated every five years and provide consistent expectations for what must be included in cities' comprehensive plans. The next update cycle will commence in 2020 and offers a timely opportunity for the AHC to ensure alignment between Committee priorities and housing policies contained in the regional plan for growth, VISION 2050, which will be adopted in May 2020.

As described in the AHC work plan, the committee is tasked to "take advantage of timely opportunities to increase regional collaboration" as well as to "review and recommend zoning and land use actions to increase and diversify housing choices and maximize affordability, particularly near frequent transit service." A key component of these work items is reviewing and making recommendations to the Growth Management Planning Council on potential amendments to the Housing Chapter of the CPP's.

The King County Growth Management Planning Council is the formal countywide planning body responsible for recommending updates to the CPPs. Changes to the CPP's must be approved by the County Council and then ratified by at least 30 percent of cities and towns representing at least 70 percent of the total county population. Upon ratification, the CPP's become binding on the County and its 39 cities and provide direction on elements that must be included in local comprehensive plans.

The CPPs set direction for issues that extend beyond boundaries of a single jurisdiction and serve as the framework for local comprehensive plans and development regulations. They serve to ensure that the comprehensive plans of King County and each city work together toward a common regional direction and are one part of a cascading set of regulations that govern how the Puget Sound region, and other populous areas of Washington State, plan for growth. The CPPs offer an opportunity to enforce consistency, concurrency, and accountability in affordable housing plans and regulations across the county.

The current Housing Chapter in the CPPs, adopted in 2012, include policies intended to help all jurisdictions "plan for and promote a range of affordable, accessible, and healthy housing choices for current and future residents."

Under these policies, each jurisdiction is expected to follow a four-step process to implement the Housing Chapter:

1. Conduct an inventory and analysis of existing and projected housing needs and conditions;
2. Implement a range of strategies and policies within a local jurisdiction to address unmet housing needs;
3. Measure results; and
4. Respond to measurement with reassessment and adjustment of strategies.

The intent of the current policies is to recognize that conditions affecting housing supply are different throughout the county and will require different solutions for addressing the need for affordable housing. For instance, in some communities, efforts focused on preservation of existing affordable housing stock may be the most effective. In others, the more effective approach may be to capitalize on new development and tools to incentivize or require the inclusion of affordable units.

The Puget Sound Regional Council recently surveyed member jurisdictions on actions they have taken to promote development of affordable housing. A full report is anticipated by March 2020, and initial summary results can be found in the presentation linked [here](#). The initial findings show that most jurisdictions have worked to increase affordable housing incentives and mandates, but that these are highly varied by local housing markets and size of city.

Most cities adopted updates to their comprehensive plans in 2015, which included new policies consistent with the Housing Chapter of the CPP's. The CPP's call for jurisdictions to "Review and

amend, a minimum every five years, the countywide and local housing policies and strategies, especially where monitoring indicates that adopted strategies are not resulting in adequate affordable housing to meet the jurisdiction's share of the countywide need."

As noted in a staff report to the AHC, "a regional monitoring structure was not established, and each jurisdiction's share of the countywide need was unclear, so it was challenging to assess the effectiveness of individual housing strategies. Without a data reporting structure, the region lacked accurate information on whether the county was meeting its overall goal to ensure that the housing needs of all economic and demographic groups were met within all jurisdictions. In addition, many jurisdictions lack the resources to track these housing metrics and jurisdictional-level monitoring fell by the wayside."

Despite ongoing efforts by jurisdictions in King County, the region has continued to see a net decline in housing units affordable to a broad spectrum of residents.



On January 17, the AHC held a study session on the Countywide Planning Policies (CPPs) in which they reviewed a [Staff Memo](#) prepared by the HIJT. In the memo, the staff identified four issue areas in the current housing chapter of the CPPs:

Issue 1: Methods for ensuring regional accountability

Issue 2: Geographic distribution and siting of affordable housing

Issue 3: Planning Policies to address the need for housing affordable to very low-income households

Issue 4: Affordable housing goals and housing need by AMI percentage

SCA members of the AHC provided feedback on each of the issue areas as described below. SCA members are encouraged to provide additional information and feedback to guide the SCA representatives on the committee and staff as work on updating the CPP's continues.

Issue 1: Methods for ensuring regional accountability

- SCA representatives emphasized that in conversations about accountability, the focus should be on incentives rather than punishment for failing to meet a specific housing goal.
- Different jurisdictions have varying levels of capacity to track progress toward housing goals, and members identified a need for jurisdictions to receive support in collecting information.
- AHC oversight of monitoring regional progress toward meeting the affordable housing need includes evaluating, elevating, and making data public. The AHC does not have punitive authority over jurisdictions failing to implement the CPPs.

Issue 2: Geographic distribution and siting of affordable housing

- Overall, SCA representatives to the AHC offered support for balancing: 1) availability of affordable housing options countywide and 2) targeting affordable housing in areas of opportunity with access to high-capacity transit, jobs, high performing schools, and parks/open space
- SCA representatives asked AHC members to consider high transit areas, opportunities for growth in the long term, and areas with lower land costs for affordable housing production

Issue 3: Planning Policies to address the need for housing affordable to very low-income households

- Overall agreement from all AHC members to preserve manufactured home communities which house very low-income households such as senior
- SCA representatives stressed the need to ensure housing developers and manufacturers are involved in discussions to address the need for housing affordable to very low-income households.
- SCA representatives urged AHC members to consider the barriers of suburban cities (i.e. lack of transit, lack of public will for affordable housing) when designing an approach for affordable housing in these cities

Issue 4: Affordable housing goals and housing need by AMI percentage

- The Five-Year Action Plan adopted by the RAHTF includes analysis that there is a need for 244,000 additional affordable homes in King County by 2040 to ensure that no household earning below 80% AMI is cost burdened. SCA staff have raised concerns that while total need may be a useful benchmark, it does not provide a realistic foundation for comprehensive planning. To meet the goal, King County jurisdictions would need to produce over 12,000 *affordable* units per year; meanwhile, *total* housing production during the latest housing boom has been between 10,000 and 15,000 per year in King County from 2014-2017 (source: [Puget Sound Regional Council Housing Background Paper](#)).

Next Steps

Incorporating feedback from AHC and PIC, the HIJT will create a draft recommendation for changes to the housing chapter, which will be reviewed by the full AHC on March 30. PIC will have the opportunity to provide feedback on that draft recommendation on April 15. The AHC is expected to vote on final recommendations for consideration by the Growth Management Planning Council in May.

Item 12:
Long-Range Solid Waste Disposal in King County
UPDATE

SCA Staff Contact

Cynthia Foley, Policy Analyst, cynthia@soundcities.org, (206) 495-3020

SCA Members of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee

Mayor Penny Sweet, Kirkland; Councilmember Phillippa Kassover, Lake Forest Park

Update

Cedar Hills Landfill, the last remaining landfill in King County and primary destination for solid waste in the county, is expected to reach capacity sometime between 2035 and 2041. The [2019 King County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan](#) directs King County to invest in extending the life of the Cedar Hills Regional Landfill by expanding the area for landfilling while also beginning work to identify the next disposal option before a required five-year plan update.

During the 2019/2020 biennial budget process, the King County Council funded a study to analyze two disposal options: siting and development of a waste to energy incineration plant, and exporting solid waste out of the county by rail. The [Waste-to-Energy and Waste Export by Rail Feasibility Study](#), conducted by Arcadis U.S., Inc., was released on October 4, 2019.

The Arcadis Team recommends waste-to-energy as the preferred disposal option, as compared to waste export by rail. The study found long-term cost savings, improved recycling rates, and potential for net negative greenhouse gas emissions with the inclusion of carbon capture technology. The Arcadis Team recommends that King County pursue additional evaluation, analysis of permitting and siting considerations, and other steps necessary to move forward with waste-to-energy disposal.

The 2019 Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan requires the Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget to engage regional partners to develop a plan for long-term disposal. A status report on this plan is required to be delivered to the King County Council by December 31, 2021.

Background

The King County solid waste system is cooperatively managed by thirty-seven cities (all cities in King County except for Milton and Seattle) and King County. Changes to solid waste comprehensive plans need to be approved by these cities and King County as required by

interlocal agreements (ILA). On April 24, 2019 the King County Council passed [Ordinance 18893](#), which authorizes the [2019 King County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan](#). The plan was accepted by the Department of Ecology in November 2019 and is considered finalized.

The 2019 Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan directs King County to invest in extending the life of the Cedar Hills Regional Landfill by investing in expanded capacity. The plan also states that King County should consider the next disposal method before the required five-year plan update to provide enough time for method selection, planning, and implementation.

During the 2019 Comprehensive Solid Waste Management plan approval process, several cities submitted formal letters commenting on the future of disposal. Issaquah, Newcastle, North Bend, and Snoqualmie submitted letters stating that waste-to-energy may be a viable disposal option for the future of King County. Lake Forest Park and Maple Valley sent comment letters suggesting that further analysis of disposal options would benefit continued planning efforts.

During the 2019/2020 biennial budget process, the King County Council added a budget proviso funding a study to continue analysis of future disposal options. As a result of this action, the King County Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget released the [Waste-to-Energy and Waste Export by Rail Feasibility Study](#) on October 4, 2019. The study was commissioned from Arcadis U.S., Inc.

Summary of the 2019 Arcadis Feasibility Study

The Arcadis Team recommends waste-to-energy as the preferred disposal option, as compared to waste export by rail. The study found long-term cost savings, improved recycling rates, and potential for net negative greenhouse gas emissions with the inclusion of carbon capture technology. The study's authors identify potential hurdles during the permitting and siting process, but state that waste-to-energy represents a much more stable long-term financial profile over exporting waste by rail to protect the County's solid waste rate structure against future inflation.

The Arcadis study determined that waste-to-energy will provide a gross savings of approximately \$4.3 to \$7.2 billion when compared to waste export by rail over the 50-year planning period and that waste-to-energy has a significant advantage on improving recycling rates and energy recovery when compared to export by rail. This analysis excludes the cost of purchasing land for siting and assumes that King County will collect revenue from processing waste from nearby jurisdictions. Identified financial risks include potential inability to sell additional processing capacity and possible future carbon sequestration fees.

The Arcadis Team found that waste-to-energy will release less emissions than exporting by rail, showing negative carbon emissions for every ton of waste processed in a waste-to-energy facility. The model of greenhouse gas emissions for exporting waste by rail assumes

that a landfill gas recovery system will capture 80 percent of methane generated by the landfill.

The Arcadis Team recommends that King County pursue additional evaluation, analysis of permitting and siting considerations, and other steps necessary to move forward with waste-to-energy facility disposal.

Timeframes for Implementing Waste-to-Energy or Waste Export by Rail

The Arcadis study estimates that it would take between eight and eleven years to implement waste-to-energy from permitting through construction, and it would take between two and six years to implement waste export by rail. According to King County Executive staff, Cedar Hills Regional Landfill is expected to reach capacity sometime between 2035 and 2041. Changes to disposal methods would need to be put in place before capacity at the landfill has been exhausted. Solid waste interlocal agreements require consultation with cities at least 7 years in advance of transitioning to a new disposal method.

Next Steps

The Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan requires the Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget to engage regional partners to develop a plan for long-term disposal. The King County Executive is required to provide a progress report on the development of this plan to the King County Council by December 31, 2021.

For more information contact SCA Policy Analyst Cynthia Foley, cynthia@soundcities.org.



February 12, 2020
SCA PIC Meeting

Item 13:
Levies and Ballot Measures in King County
UPDATE

SCA Staff Contact

Brian Parry, Policy Director, brian@soundcities.org, (206) 499-4159

Discussion

This is a monthly item on the PIC agenda to share information on recent and upcoming local levies and ballot measures in King County jurisdictions. Items identified as “potential future ballot measures” are under consideration or reflect potential renewal of an existing levy but have not been approved to be placed on the ballot and may not ultimately move forward. The next election will take place on February 11, 2020.

Please send information on any upcoming measures affecting your city to SCA Policy Director Brian Parry at brian@soundcities.org or 206-499-4159.

Future Ballot Measures – SCA Cities (none reported)

Future Ballot Measures – Other Jurisdictions and Special Purpose Districts			
Year	Month	Jurisdiction	Measure
2020	February	Valley Regional Fire Authority	Levy lid lift to restore regular property tax levy rate to \$1.00 per \$1,000 of assessed value.
2020	February	Auburn School District	Educational program and operations replacement levy estimated at \$2.00 per \$1,000 of assessed value.
2020	February	Auburn School District	Technology replacement capital projects levy estimated at \$0.42 per \$1,000 of assessed value.
2020	February	Bellevue School District	General obligation bonds totaling \$675 million.*
2020	February	Enumclaw School District	Replacement capital levy for instructional technology improvements estimated at \$0.35 per \$1,000 of assessed value.
2020	February	Issaquah School District	Educational programs and operations levy estimated at \$1.33 per \$1,000 of assessed value.
2020	February	Kent School District	Replacement of expiring educational programs and operations levy estimated at \$2.15 per \$1,000 of assessed value.
2020	February	Riverview School District	General obligation bonds totaling \$125 million.*

2020	February	Tahoma School District	Replacement of existing educational programs and operations levy estimated at \$2.00 per \$1,000 of assessed value.
2020	February	Tukwila School District	Renewal educational programs and operations levy estimated at \$1.75 per \$1,000 of assessed value.
2020	February	Tukwila School District	Renewal technology and capital projects levy estimated at \$0.75 per \$1,000 of assessed value.
2020	February	Vashon Island School District	Replacement expiring technology and facilities capital projects levy estimated at \$0.43 per \$1,000 of assessed value.

*Requires 60% yes vote for approval with a minimum of turnout of no less than 40% of voters voting in the district at the last general election

Potential Future Ballot Measures – SCA Cities			
Year	Month	Jurisdiction	Measure
2020		Kirkland	Fire Services and Capital Levy

Potential Future Ballot Measures – Other Jurisdictions and Special Purpose Districts			
Year	Month	Jurisdiction	Measure
2020		King County Library System	Operations Levy
2020		King County	Road Levy Lid Lift (unincorporated King County)
2020		Seattle	Transportation Benefit District Renewal
2020		King County	Regional Transit Measure
2021		King County	Best Starts for Kids Renewal

Next Steps

Please share this information with your city and provide information on upcoming elections in your city to SCA Policy Director Brian Parry at brian@soundcities.org or 206-499-4159.

Item 14:
Potential Upcoming SCA Issues
UPDATE

SCA Staff Contact

Brian Parry, Policy Director, brian@soundcities.org, (206) 499-4159

Update

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

Potential Issues

Throughout the year, issues brought forward by SCA members are tracked in this ongoing, monthly agenda item and may be taken up by the PIC through workshops, briefings and discussion items, and as action items. Potential issues were discussed by the PIC in December 2019.

- Homelessness and governance of the region's response system
- Local infrastructure needs and tools for funding local needs
- Affordable housing
- Transportation and mobility, including Metro transit service and funding
- Managing growth and addressing its impacts, including implementation of VISION 2050
- Diversity, equity, and inclusion, including planning for the 2020 Governing for Racial Equity Conference
- Clean water plan and capital investments
- Best Starts for Kids Levy renewal
- The 2020 census, and work of the King County Regional Census Committee
- Solid waste and the future of recycling and disposal, including review of the new Waste to Energy study
- Addressing public safety concerns
- Apprenticeships and workforce development
- Environmental sustainability
- Economic development and expanding opportunity for prosperity
- Behavioral health
- Addressing the need for sustainable sources of funding for cities, and addressing budgetary challenges
- Strengthening civic discourse
- Education and training for newly elected officials

If you or your city has additional items to be added to the list of potential upcoming SCA issues, or items to suggest for future trainings or workshops, please contact SCA Policy Director Brian Parry, brian@soundcities.org or 206-499-4159.