



SCA Public Issues Committee

AGENDA

July 8, 2020 – 7:00 PM

Due to the COVID-19 emergency and pursuant to the Governor's Safe Start-Stay Healthy Proclamation, the PIC meeting will be conducted remotely.

Members of the public may view or listen to the meeting using the following methods:

From computer, tablet or smartphone:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87283183967?pwd=UjRLRE9qZXFCZ3ZhMW9Qd093NFlaZz09>

Password: 381953

Or dial in by phone: 1-253-215-8782 / Webinar ID: 872 8318 3967 / Password: 381953

1. **Welcome and Roll Call** – Christie Malchow, Sammamish, Chair 5 minutes
2. **Public Comment** – Christie Malchow, Sammamish, Chair 10 minutes
3. [Approval of Minutes – June 10, 2020 Meeting](#) 5 minutes
Page 5
4. **Chair's Report** – Christie Malchow, Sammamish, Chair 5 minutes
5. **Executive Director's Report** – Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director 10 minutes
6. [PIC Meeting Schedule](#) 5 minutes
POTENTIAL ACTION
Page 18
Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director
7. [Board of Health Declaration of Racism as a Public Health Emergency](#) 20 minutes
DISCUSSION
Page 20
Alexis Mercedes Rinck, SCA Policy Analyst
8. [Budget Outlook](#) 20 minutes
DISCUSSION
Page 27
Brian Parry, SCA Policy Director
9. [King County Regional Homelessness Authority](#) 10 minutes
UPDATE
Page 31
Alexis Mercedes Rinck, SCA Policy Analyst

10. [Levies and Ballot Measures in King County](#) 5 minutes

UPDATE

Page 33

Brian Parry, SCA Policy Director

11. [Potential Upcoming SCA Issues](#) 5 minutes

UPDATE

Page 36

Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director

12. Informational Items

- a. [SCA Letter Concerning Rate and Fee Increases](#)

Page 37

- b. [Legislative Priorities – Potential Special Session 2020](#)

Page 39

13. Upcoming Events

- a. SCA Public Issues Committee – Wednesday, August 12, 2020 – 7:00 to 9:00 PM (unless canceled)

14. SCA Public Issues Committee – Wednesday, September 9, 2020 – 7:00 to 9:00 PM

14. For the Good of the Order

15. 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.

Commonly Used Acronyms

ADS Advisory Council	Advisory Council on Aging and Disability Services
AFIS Advisory Committee	Automated Fingerprint Identification System Advisory Committee
AWC	Association of Washington Cities
BOH	Board of Health
CYAB	Children and Youth Advisory Board
DVI Task Force	Domestic Violence Initiative Regional Task Force
EDDB	Central Puget Sound Economic Development District Board
EMAC	Emergency Management Advisory Committee
EMS Advisory Task Force	Emergency Medical Services Levy Advisory Task Force
ETP	Eastside Transportation Partnership
GMPB	PSRC Growth Management Policy Board
GMPC	King County Growth Management Planning Council
GSP	Greater Seattle Partners
IJT	Interjurisdictional Team – staff support to the GMPC
JRC	Joint Recommendations Committee for Community Development Block Grants
K4C	King County-Cities Climate Collaboration
KCD	King Conservation District
KCDAC	King Conservation District Advisory Committee
KCFCD	King County Flood Control District
KCFCDAC	King County Flood Control District Advisory Committee
KCEC	King County Project Evaluation Committee
LEOFF1 Disability Board	Law Enforcement Officers and Fire Fighters Plan 1 Disability Board
LHWMP	Local Hazardous Waste Management Program
LHWMP MCC	Local Hazardous Waste Management Program Management Coordination Committee
MIDD	Mental Illness and Drug Dependency Oversight Committee
MKCC	Metropolitan King County Council
MSWMAC	Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee
PIC	Public Issues Committee
PSAP	Public Safety Answering Points
PSCAA	Puget Sound Clean Air Agency
PSCAAAC	Puget Sound Clean Air Agency Advisory Council
PSERN	Puget Sound Emergency Radio Network
PSRC	Puget Sound Regional Council
RLSJC	Regional Law Safety and Justice Committee
RPC	Regional Policy Committee
RPEC	PSRC Regional Project Evaluation Committee
RTC	Regional Transit Committee
RWQC	Regional Water Quality Committee
SCA	Sound Cities Association
SCAACG	South Central Action Area Caucus Group
SCATBd	South County Area Transportation Board
SeaShore	Seashore Transportation Forum
SWAC	Solid Waste Advisory Committee
TPB	PSRC Transportation Policy Board



SCA Public Issues Committee

DRAFT MINUTES

June 10, 2020 – 7:00 PM

TELEPHONIC

1. Welcome and Roll Call

PIC Chair Deputy Mayor Christie Malchow, Sammamish, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. 26 cities had representation ([Attachment A](#)). Guests present included Councilmember James Jeyaraj, Auburn (PIC Alternate); Councilmember Barbara de Michelle, Issaquah (PIC Alternate); Councilmember Ernest Thompson, Normandy Park (PIC Alternate); Councilmember Vanessa Kritzer, Redmond (PIC Alternate); Councilmember Tom Agnew, Bothell (PIC Alternate); Deputy Mayor Nancy Tosta, Burien (PIC Alternate); Councilmember Kent Treen, Sammamish (PIC Alternate); Councilmember Susan Honda, Federal Way; Councilmember Valerie O'Halloran, Renton; Jenny Huston, King County staff; Dorian Waller, King County staff; Beth Mountsier, Bellevue staff; Joyce Nichols, Bellevue staff; Kelsey Beck, Seattle staff; Tom Goff, King County staff; Doug Levy, Renton Consultant; Diana Hart, Woodinville staff; Madelina Cavazos, King County staff; Pat McLaughlin, King County staff; John Walsh, King County staff; Jackie Wheeler; Brian Halverson.

Chair Malchow stated that the PIC meeting was being held telephonically and online due to the COVID-19 public health emergency and consistent with the Governor's Safe Start-Stay Healthy Proclamation. She noted that the SCA bylaws provide for meetings to be held by telephone in the event of an emergency.

SCA Policy Director Brian Parry provided an overview of how the meeting would be facilitated using Zoom Webinar software. He noted that any discussion in the chat logs would be maintained for public records purposes ([Attachment B](#)).

2. Public Comment

Chair Malchow asked if there was anyone in attendance who would like to provide public comment. Hearing none, Chair Malchow closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

3. Approval of the May 13, 2020 PIC Minutes

Chair Malchow asked if there were any amendments to the May 13, 2020 PIC minutes. **Vice Chair Bill Boyce, Kent, moved, seconded by Councilmember Ross Loudonback, North Bend, to approve the May 13, 2020 minutes. The motion passed unanimously.**

4. Chair's Report

Chair Malchow reported that SCA board leadership would be meeting with King County Executive Dow Constantine on June 11 and encouraged members to suggest any questions or issues to address during the meeting. She said the SCA board approved the anti-bias

proclamation recommended by PIC, and that a copy of the signed proclamation was included in the meeting packet as an informational item. In addition, SCA President Mayor Dana Ralph, Kent, and SCA Vice President Councilmember Ed Prince, Renton, recently issued a statement condemning racism on behalf of SCA, which was also included in the meeting packet as an informational item.

5. Executive Director's Report

SCA Executive Director Deanna Dawson provided a report. She drew members' attention to the informational item in the meeting packet regarding the Regional Homelessness Authority. The Governing Committee for the Authority met for the first time on May 21 and reviewed a draft timeline for making the Authority fully operational that is included in the informational item. At its June meeting, the Governing Committee is expected to decide on co-chairs (if any); review a staff recommendation on a CEO recruitment firm; receive an update on seating of the Implementation Board; and review draft bylaws. The staff group (which SCA serves on) is going to discuss appointments to the implementation Board on Friday, June 12.

Dawson said SCA is in the process of filling a vacant policy analyst position and is hoping to have the position filled by the next PIC meeting.

Dawson reiterated that SCA board leadership would be meeting with King County Executive Dow Constantine the following day, and noted that SCA would be seeking information on the status of funding to cities for small business grants as approved by the County Council.

Dawson said that it is a challenging time for everyone and that is an important time to remember the Guiding Principles that SCA adopted earlier this year as members engage with each other:

- Assume that others are acting with good intent
- No surprises!
- Have each other's backs
- Think about who is not at the table
- Be candid, but kind
- Once a decision is made, work together to make it work
- Show up to meetings prepared
- Extend grace to others – cut them some slack
- Remain open-minded
- Respect differing views

6. Proposed King County Rates and Fees

SCA Policy Director Brian Parry reported that at its May meeting, PIC voted to consider recommending a policy position to the SCA board related to proposed increases to rates and fees. The proposed position states, "The Sound Cities Association (SCA) urges King County and other entities to forego any increases in rates and fees in light of the COVID-19 public health emergency and resulting economic impacts." The discussion at the May meeting was prompted by proposed increases to the King County sewer rate and solid waste tonnage fees, but Parry noted that the policy position as written is broader than those two fees.

Parry said concern was expressed by members at the May PIC meeting about the impact of increasing fees – even relatively small increases – during the COVID-19 health emergency and as cities, utility providers, and customers are addressing its economic impacts. At the SCA board meeting in May, there was discussion about whether the position should be considered in terms of strongly urging that every possible alternative be explored before any increases in rates and fees are proposed. Members were asked to provide direction on the policy position as proposed and for any additional feedback to inform further SCA board discussion.

Since the last PIC meeting, the King County Council approved a 4.5% increase to the sewer rate for 2021 and is continuing to develop a 2021-2022 solid waste fee recommendation. The proposed solid waste fee is expected to be transmitted within the next month. The King County Solid Waste Division is currently recommending a rate increase of 6% in 2021 and 8% in 2022. On average, this would add 46-cents in 2021 and 65-cents in 2022 to the monthly residential curbside customer. That proposal will be reviewed by the Solid Waste Advisory Committee before the county executive transmits his final proposal to the council.

Councilmember Tola Marts, Issaquah, said that the Issaquah City Council was split on whether to support the proposed policy position recognizing that these are very difficult times economically but also that the proposed fees support important regional services.

Mayor Angela Birney, Redmond, said that she is concerned about the proposed rate increases but understands why the county is seeking them. She said Redmond is planning to absorb the proposed rate increases in order to avoid increasing costs to residents and businesses, but that this would require program cuts. She said some service providers, including cities, may need to consider increasing revenues in order to remain viable and that she would like to hear feedback from other cities about the proposed policy.

SCA Executive Director Deanna Dawson said at the May SCA board meeting, board members stressed the importance of the county and other entities looking at all alternatives before proposing to increase rates.

Councilmember Kelli Curtis, Kirkland, said that Kirkland would also look to absorb any increases in rates to avoid increasing costs to residents and businesses. She said the city wrote a letter to King County Executive Dow Constantine expressing concerns about the rate proposals and that based on the response they received she did not expect the county to agree to not raise utility rates.

Councilmember Katherine Ross, Snoqualmie, said Snoqualmie is spending significant resources to upgrade utilities serving their downtown and could be faced with a need to increase rates to support that work. She said urging entities not to raise rates does not need to be an absolute rejection of fee increases, recognizing that everyone is facing difficult budget decisions.

Councilmember James McNeal, Bothell, said the Bothell City Council discussed the proposed solid waste rate and a majority felt an increase to the solid waste fee could be justified. He said

based on the majority recommendation from his city council, he would not be voting in favor of the proposed policy position.

Vice Chair Bill Boyce, Kent, moved, seconded by Councilmember Ed Prince, Renton, to recommend the SCA board adopt the following policy position: The Sound Cities Association (SCA) urges King County and other entities to forego any increases in rates and fees in light of the COVID-19 public health emergency and the resulting economic impacts. The motion passed with 20 cities voting in yes, two cities voting no (Bothell and Issaquah), and three cities abstaining (Burien, Snoqualmie, and Woodinville).

7. COVID-19 Legislative Priorities

SCA Policy Director Brian Parry reported that at its May meeting, PIC voted to consider recommending a policy position to the SCA board related to legislative priorities and COVID-19 response and relief in advance of a potential special session of the Washington State Legislature in 2020. The proposed position states:

As the Legislature considers necessary actions to address the impacts of COVID-19 on our state, SCA asks that priority be given to support for cities and towns in the following areas:

Financial support

- o Maintain critical state shared revenues that provide funding for essential public services.*
- o Provide fiscal relief to cities hard hit with costs for emergency response and loss of tax revenue.*

Fiscal flexibility

- o Provide flexibility within existing restricted revenues to allow cities to use funds where they are most needed right now.*

Regulatory relief

- o Continue the emergency action taken by the Governor to provide flexibility on deadlines for permitting and land use timelines. Cities hard hit by this emergency may still be experiencing staffing shortages and back-logs that will impact their ability to comply with typical statutory deadlines.*

City-owned utility support

- o Allow city-owned utilities that have waived late fees and shut-offs and extension of their ability to collect outstanding debt so that they can work with rate payers to extend payment plans without impacting the financial viability of the utility or raising rates on other customers.*
- o Provide funding to help offset losses related to forgiving late fees and delinquent accounts for those customers hard-hit by the emergency.*

Economic stimulus

o Investing in public infrastructure projects is one of the best ways to support economic stimulus as infrastructure investments have a positive economic multiplier with the creation of family-wage jobs and support increased economic activity.

Cities also support efforts to help the most vulnerable residents and our small businesses

o Cities support programs to provide emergency rental assistance and emergency housing.

o Cities support programs to provide emergency assistance to small businesses.

Parry said that the proposed legislative priorities are the same as those recently adopted by the Association of Washington Cities and that no changes were made to the proposal since the last PIC meeting. Parry said it is important for cities to be out in front of any special session and communicating city priorities with legislators. He said timing of any special session is still to be determined with some legislators suggesting a special session could happen any time before the end of the year or may not happen at all.

Mayor Angela Birney, Redmond, said she supports the proposed legislative priorities. She said in meetings with legislators she is strongly advocating for not reducing shared revenues as was done during the last major recession. She said many of the service reductions that happened because shared revenues were reduced in that time are exacerbating challenges happening today, such as gaps in behavioral health services.

Councilmember Tola Marts, Issaquah, said the Issaquah City Council supports the proposed legislative priorities. He said the City is fortunate to be represented by legislators with local government backgrounds who understand issues important to cities.

Councilmember Traci Buxton, Des Moines, suggested revising the proposed language related to economic stimulus to make the statement more action-oriented.

Councilmember Ed Prince, Renton, said he supports the proposed legislative priorities and that they are consistent with Renton's adopted priorities.

Councilmember Tola Marts, Issaquah, moved, seconded by Mayor Marianne Klaas, Clyde Hill, to recommend the SCA board adopt the legislative priorities as proposed and shown on [page 17 of the June PIC packet](#):

As the Legislature considers necessary actions to address the impacts of COVID-19 on our state, SCA asks that priority be given to support for cities and towns in the following areas:

Financial support

o Maintain critical state shared revenues that provide funding for essential public services.

o Provide fiscal relief to cities hard hit with costs for emergency response and loss of tax revenue.

Fiscal flexibility

o Provide flexibility within existing restricted revenues to allow cities to use funds where they are most needed right now.

Regulatory relief

o Continue the emergency action taken by the Governor to provide flexibility on deadlines for permitting and land use timelines. Cities hard hit by this emergency may still be experiencing staffing shortages and back-logs that will impact their ability to comply with typical statutory deadlines.

City-owned utility support

o Allow city-owned utilities that have waived late fees and shut-offs and extension of their ability to collect outstanding debt so that they can work with rate payers to extend payment plans without impacting the financial viability of the utility or raising rates on other customers.

o Provide funding to help offset losses related to forgiving late fees and delinquent accounts for those customers hard-hit by the emergency.

Economic stimulus

o Investing in public infrastructure projects is one of the best ways to support economic stimulus as infrastructure investments have a positive economic multiplier with the creation of family-wage jobs and support increased economic activity.

Cities also support efforts to help the most vulnerable residents and our small businesses

o Cities support programs to provide emergency rental assistance and emergency housing.

o Cities support programs to provide emergency assistance to small businesses.

The motion passed unanimously.

8. King County Emergency Management Coordination

SCA Policy Director Brian Parry reported on a proposal being considered by King County related to emergency management coordination and specifically support to cities provided by two Zone Coordinators. SCA cities and many special purpose districts in the county are served by two Zone Coordinators whose contracts are managed by King County. Despite being overseen by the county, these zone coordinators have a role as independent advocates within the regional emergency management system and support cities in fulfilling emergency management responsibilities and planning required under state law. Smaller cities, most of which do not have the resources to staff a full-time emergency manager, in particular have provided feedback to SCA expressing how important the role of the zone coordinators are in both supporting their work and advocating with the county during emergencies.

The County Office of Emergency Management (KCOEM) recently proposed changing the structure of how these contract positions are managed. KCOEM initially gave notice that the contracts would be eliminated in June and their duties managed in-house by existing county

staff. This was initially acted upon without any input from cities or even the Emergency Management Advisory Committee on which SCA has three representatives. In response to feedback from Emergency Management Advisory Committee (EMAC) members, emergency managers, several cities and SCA staff, KCOEM agreed to delay any decision to the end of 2020 and committed to working with EMAC in the interim on a plan going forward.

The proposal from KCOEM raised concerns about the proposal potentially leading to cities losing the independent advocacy services provided by the Zone Coordinators and more broadly whether the services cities rely on would truly continue to be provided under the new structure. Parry said some cities have provided feedback that absorbing the work of the Zone Coordinators within existing county staff is a non-starter; meanwhile, others have suggested some openness to restructuring how the positions are managed if safeguards are in place to ensure the work important to cities continues.

Parry asked members to provide feedback to guide SCA representatives on EMAC as they engage in discussions with the county. Members were asked to provide feedback on the current role of zone coordinators within their cities; how important it is for the Zone Coordinators to maintain some independence; and, whether members would be open to a model where the Zone Coordinators become county employees if cities and EMAC have a defined role in developing their workplan and other assurances that they will continue to provide the same level of service to cities.

Councilmember Traci Buxton, Des Moines, said that she would support maintaining the current structure for managing the Zone Coordinators if other cities find that the services provided are valuable to them.

Councilmember Sue-Ann Hohimer, Normandy Park, said Normandy Park values the support provided by their Zone Coordinator and that their police chief works very closely with them.

Councilmember Tola Marts, Issaquah, said Issaquah sent a letter to the county in support of extending the Zone Coordinator contracts. He said that the city has emergency management staff, but that they rely on the Zone Coordinators as well and value the services they provide.

Mayor Angela Birney, Redmond, echoed the comments of previous speakers. She said there is value in maintaining some independence for the Zone Coordinators that could be lost if they become directly employed by the county. She said any decision should go through EMAC.

Councilmember Erin Stout, Black Diamond, asked about the timeline for making a decision about the Zone Coordinators. SCA Policy Director Brian Parry said the director of the King County Department of Emergency Management committed to working on the issue with EMAC and cities directly, but that process has not yet been outlined.

Mayor Marianne Klaas, Clyde Hill, said that she serves on EMAC and knows firsthand the importance and scale of work performed by the Zone Coordinators. She said members of EMAC pushed back strongly against eliminating the Zone Coordinator contracts. She said she is

concerned that if the positions are absorbed within the county the voices of cities will be diluted and city needs will not be prioritized.

Councilmember Kelli Curtis, Kirkland, said that the timing of the decision during a pandemic was concerning. She said Kirkland is fortunate to have full-time emergency management staff and she could support the proposal by King County to perform the Zone Coordinator work with county staff.

Councilmember Michelle Hogg, Duvall, said Duvall's emergency manager is part-time and frequently relies on the Zone Coordinators to provide support, especially during flooding emergencies. She expressed concerns that if the Zone Coordinators are county employees the city would not have the same access to resources to respond during an emergency, communication and coordination would be reduced, and ultimately the positions may be eliminated altogether.

Chair Malchow said there needs to be a defined timeline and process to clarify what is being proposed by the county and that EMAC needs to be part of that discussion. She said that the Zone Coordinators may be less necessary for larger cities who have their own emergency management staff, but that they still play an important role that needs to be maintained.

9. Potential Upcoming Issues

SCA Executive Director Deanna Dawson said it is becoming increasingly clear that in-person events were likely on hold for the remainder of the year. She said SCA is working on a number of educational and training events to be held in the next several weeks and asked members for their feedback on other events that would be of interest.

Dawson highlighted planned upcoming events for SCA members, including:

- Webinar on providing support for neighborhood businesses as King County transitions to Phase 2 of the reopening plan. Speakers include Seattle Southside Chamber President and CEO Andrea Reay; Washington State Department of Labor and Industries, Division of Occupational Safety and Health Operations Manager Pam Cant; and, Redmond Manager of Strategic Initiatives Sara Pyle. *(The webinar was held on Monday, June 15, 2020 and a recording can be found on the [SCA website.](#))*
- Partners Forum with CenturyLink and Puget Sound Energy on how cities and utilities can partner as we enter economic recovery.
- Webinar with the King County Sexual Assault Resource Center to brief local officials what survivors are experiencing, changing trends, and policy implications resulting from the COVID-19 crisis. The webinar will be provided at two different times on Wednesday, June 17.
- SCA is also working to host:
 - A panel discussion led by African-American elected officials on racial equity;
 - A webinar with King County Metro on the impacts of COVID-19 on service and operations; and
 - A training on how to hold effective online meetings with Ann Macfarlane of Jurassic Parliament.

Dawson highlighted a number of priorities for SCA that were adopted earlier in 2020, including: transportation; budget challenges and infrastructure needs; homelessness; and diversity, equity, and inclusion. She asked members to provide ideas for other topics that SCA should look to support workshops and trainings over the next several months. She said SCA recognizes there are a lot of important conversations that need to happen right now and that these conversations are even more difficult to have in large online meetings where there is limited time for each member to speak, and that members should use SCA as a resource for helping to convene productive meetings.

Deputy Mayor Krystal Marx, Burien, said she appreciates the work SCA is doing to support cities. She said her fellow Burien City Councilmember Nancy Tosta suggested holding a convening to explore opportunities to restructure and improve systems as we approach a “new normal.” She also suggested working with the Board of Health on a presentation on their data dashboard and programs.

Councilmember Janice Zahn, Bellevue, suggested a briefing on a potential federal infrastructure package. She said the Board of Health is considering a proclamation declaring racism a public health crisis and suggested PIC should consider a similar proclamation.

Councilmember Traci Buxton, Des Moines, said diversity, equity, and inclusion should be the top priority. She said communities are struggling with the best and most compassionate way to work through challenging issues and would benefit from learning about successful events, policies, and programs others are organizing.

Mayor David Baker, Kenmore, thanked Councilmember Zahn for raising the issue of declaring racism a public health crisis. He asked whether members would support bringing an item to the next PIC meeting for potential action and encouraged members to begin having conversations with their councils and mayors.

10. City Roundtable Discussion

Members provided brief updates on some of the important work happening in their cities. Many highlighted efforts to respond to the COVID-19 emergency and its economic impacts; recent demonstrations held in their cities in support of Black Lives Matter; and, community discussions about policing and potential police reforms. Some members asked for more information on the “8 Can’t Wait” police reform proposals, which can be found on their [website](#).

11. Informational Items

Chair Malchow highlighted informational items in the packet on the following topics: the King County Regional Homelessness Authority; the approved SCA COVID-19 anti-bias proclamation; a statement from SCA President Dana Ralph and Vice President Ed Prince condemning racism; and, an update on levies and ballot measures in King County.

12. Upcoming Events

- a. SCA Public Issues Committee – Wednesday, July 8, 2020 – 7:00 to 9:00 PM

13. For the Good of the Order

Chair Malchow asked if any members had any items for the good of the order.

Vice Chair Boyce announced that Councilmember Fran Hollums, Covington, was retiring from public office and recognized her for her contributions to PIC and to the region.

Mayor Angela Birney, Redmond, said she is impressed by the way cities are working together to address many challenging issues.

Councilmember Kate Kruller, Tukwila, apologized for joining the meeting late due to a conflict with a Youth Council meeting (*Councilmember Kruller joined the meeting during item 10*). She said that she appreciates the camaraderie among cities and that now is a time to listen to the changes people are seeking and find reasonable solutions.

14. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:51 PM.

Public Issues Committee Meeting
June 10, 2020

City	Representative	Alternate
Algona	Dave Hill	
Auburn	Nancy Backus	James Jeyaraj
Beaux Arts Village	Tom Stowe	Aletha Howes
Bellevue	Janice Zahn	Jeremy Barksdale
Black Diamond	Erin Stout	Tamie Deady
Bothell	James McNeal	Tom Agnew
Burien	Krystal Marx	Nancy Tosta
Carnation	Dustin Green	Kim Lisk
Clyde Hill	Marianne Klaas	Kim Muromoto
Covington	Fran Hollums	Joseph Cimaomo
Des Moines	Traci Buxton	
Duvall	Michelle Hogg	Jennifer Knaplund
Enumclaw	Chance LaFleur	Tony Binion
Federal Way	Martin Moore	Lydia Assefa-Dawson
Hunts Point	Joseph Sabey	N/A
Issaquah	Tola Marts	Barbara de Michele
Kenmore	David Baker	Corina Pfeil
Kent	Bill Boyce	Toni Troutner
Kirkland	Kelli Curtis	Toby Nixon
Lake Forest Park	Tom French	Semra Riddle
Maple Valley	Sean Kelly	Les Burberry
Medina	Jennifer Garone	Jessica Rossman
Mercer Island	Benson Wong	David Rosembaum
Milton	Jim Gillespie	Shanna Styron Sherrell
Newcastle	Linda Newing	Tony Ventrella
Normandy Park	Sue-Ann Hohimer	Ernest Thompson
North Bend	Ross Loudenback	Heather Koellen
Pacific	Leanne Guier	David Sporaasli
Redmond	Angela Birney	Vanessa Kritzer
Renton	Ed Prince	Armondo Pavone
Sammamish	Christie Malchow	Kent Treen
SeaTac	Erin Sitterley	Pam Fernald
Shoreline	Chris Roberts	Will Hall
Skykomish	Henry Sladek	
Snoqualmie	Katherine Ross	Matt Larson
Tukwila	Kate Kruller	Thomas McLeod
Woodinville	Elaine Cook	Gary Harris
Yarrow Point	Dicker Cahill	
SCA	Deanna Dawson Brian Parry	Alexis Mercedes Rinck Leah Willoughby

Cities present at the meeting are **bolded**. Voting representatives present are highlighted.

SCA Public Issues Committee – May 13, 2020
Attachment B – Zoom Chat Log

17:37:33 From Brian Parry (SCA) to All panelists : Hi everybody! Welcome to tonight's PIC meeting. We will begin at 7:00 PM. Please note that we are going to begin "broadcasting" to all attendees and any members of the public in just a couple of minutes.

17:40:57 From Brian Parry (SCA) to All panelists : PIC Members: As you join tonight's meeting, please take a moment to locate the "raise hand" button on Zoom. This will be important to help facilitate tonight's discussion. On a PC, you should be able to find the raise hand button on the Panelists menu (bottom of screen). For those using an iPhone, the raise hand button can be found by clicking the "More" button on the bottom right of your screen.

17:52:59 From James Jeyaraj to All panelists : do we have audio?

17:55:07 From Tola Marts, Issaquah to All panelists : Perhaps we can all mute when we are not talking? :^)

17:55:16 From Corina Pfeil - Kenmore City Councilmember to All panelists : Councilmember Pfeil here, I didn't receive a link

18:01:56 From James Jeyaraj to All panelists : I am not getting any audio.

18:02:43 From CM Tosta (Burien) to All panelists : Brian - I am on the call - N. Tosta - but not in the meeting.

18:03:08 From Deanna Dawson to All panelists : James, Brian or Leah will try to help you

18:03:24 From Deanna Dawson to All panelists : Nancy, are you the voting member tonight?

18:04:05 From James McNeal, Bothell to Tom Agnew and all panelists : Welcome Tom Agnew Bothell

18:04:23 From Tom Agnew to All panelists : thanks brother

18:04:59 From Earnest Thompson to All panelists : Earnest Thompson Representing for Normandy Park

18:05:10 From Vanessa Kritzer to All panelists : This is Vanessa Kritzer from Redmond. I am on but am using the dial in because I am having trouble getting the zoom link to work

18:05:51 From Toby Nixon to All panelists : Not hearing audio usually means their volume is turned down all the way.

18:05:58 From Lydia Assefa-Dawson, Federal Way to All panelists : I'll participate for FW until Martin shows up.

18:07:12 From Vanessa Kritzer to All panelists : Actually I figured it out

18:08:47 From CM Tosta (Burien) to All panelists : I am waiting for the "upload" :). Not sure if DM Marx plans to join, but until then, I'm ready.

18:11:07 From Tola Marts, Issaquah to All panelists : For once Henry Sladek doesn't have to drive all the way down!!!

18:13:28 From Traci Buxton, Des Moines to All panelists : You're an inspiration, Dana!

18:15:12 From Dana Ralph, SCA President to All panelists : Traci - this is definitely a team sport!

18:37:14 From Leah Willoughby (SCA) to Corina Pfeil - Kenmore City Councilmember and all panelists : Hi Corina, just taking comments from representatives right now.

19:01:16 From Chris Roberts, Shoreline to All panelists :

<http://soundcities.org/wpcontent/uploads/pdf/PIC-Operating-Policies-Approved-12-12-12.pdf>

19:16:42 From Tola Marts, Issaquah to All panelists : Math is fun!

19:16:54 From Tola Marts, Issaquah to All panelists : (Said the rocket scientist.)

19:23:39 From Kate Kruller, Tukwila to All panelists : The updates from SCA are GREAT!

19:25:58 From Traci Buxton, Des Moines to All panelists : What Kate said!

19:35:26 From Deanna Dawson to All panelists : I'm back!

19:35:40 From Fran Hollums, Covington to All panelists : Appreciate the reports. I hear it first through that format.

19:39:05 From Janice Zahn, Bellevue to All panelists : We are doing vouchers with food trucks.

19:51:15 From Erin Stout, Black Diamond to All panelists : Black Diamond has cancelled July Miner Days. The Labor Day Committee is still meeting with fingers crossed.

19:51:32 From Elaine Cook, Woodinville to All panelists : Woodinville Chamber thinking about having drive-in movies during the Summer. No concerts in the park or parade.

19:54:07 From Angela Birney, Redmond to All panelists : all summer events canceled in Redmond and no events permits to outside organizations :(

19:54:33 From Janice Zahn, Bellevue to All panelists : Bellevue closed summer events too

19:55:09 From Kelli Curtis, Kirkland to All panelists : What are you doing about recreation programs and athletic fields?

19:56:10 From Kate Kruller, Tukwila to All panelists : Tukwila has no summer events planned.

19:57:03 From Jennifer Garone, Medina to All panelists : Medina may hold our annual August event but are thinking though what is possible with SD. We will have fireworks in August

19:57:43 From Jennifer Garone, Medina to All panelists : The Medina 65th anniversary celebration is postponed to be a 66th anniversary celebration

19:59:01 From Kelli Curtis, Kirkland to All panelists : Thank you all for sharing your summer plans

19:59:05 From James McNeal, Bothell to All panelists : Bothell 5.4 mil short fall, Small increase commercial crime. Sports field also opened, NO Organized sports but open to general use.

19:59:44 From Kate Kruller, Tukwila to All panelists : Tukwila \$12 million shortfall this year; \$6 million projected for 2021

20:01:20 From Henry Sladek, Skykomish to All panelists : Skykomish has cancelled mosr (sic) summer events

20:01:52 From Jennifer Garone, Medina to All panelists : Medina is seeing a large increase in bike traffic, leading to challenges with auto, pedestrian and bike interactions.

20:04:38 From Martin Moore, Federal Way : federal way has canceled Fourth of July celebrations and like other cities we are operating on revenue shortfalls. trying to support food banks and human services programs and businesses. good luck to all during this difficult time. thanks, -Martin Moore, Federal Way.

20:07:34 From Tom French, Lake Forest Park : Lake Forest Park opened its farmer's market on Mother's Day with a good turnout.

Item 6:
PIC Meeting Schedule
POTENTIAL ACTION

SCA Staff Contact

Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director, deanna@soundcities.org.

Potential Action

Amending Resolution 2020-1 to cancel the August PIC meeting, reschedule the November PIC meeting, and to state that meetings will temporarily be held virtually (Attachment A).

Background

At the February 12, 2020 Public Issues Committee meeting, members adopted Resolution 2020-1 setting the PIC's 2020 Meeting Schedule. The PIC typically meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM.

Amended Resolution 2020-1A (Attachment A) includes the following actions:

August PIC Meeting Cancellation

Consistent with many cities and regional committees, the PIC typically does not meet in the month of August. PIC members will be asked to provide input on whether to hold an August meeting in 2020. As currently drafted, Amended Resolution 2020-1A would cancel the August meeting.

November PIC Meeting Date

The regular meeting date for PIC in November falls on Veteran's Day, November 11, 2020. At the March PIC meeting, members agreed to reschedule the meeting to another date. Feedback on which date to hold the meeting was mixed. Staff are recommending the November PIC meeting be rescheduled to November 12.

Virtual Meeting Location

On June 17, 2020, the SCA Board of Directors adopted Resolution 2020-2 temporarily designating the location for SCA meetings to be virtual locations due to the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency. Amended Resolution 2020-1A incorporates this change as part of the 2020 meeting schedule.

Sound Cities Association
Resolution 2020-1-A
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;~~

WHEREAS, the Sound Cities Association Board of Directors adopted Resolution 2020-12 on June 17, 2020 temporarily designating the location for PIC meetings to be virtual locations due to the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency until King County enters Phase Three of the Governor's Safe Start Reopening Plan;

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~~12
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.~~ Due to the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency, the location of PIC meetings is designated to be virtual locations until King County enters Phase Three of the Governor's Safe Start Reopening Plan.

PASSED BY THE PUBLIC ISSUES COMMITTEE OF THE SOUND CITIES ASSOCIATION AT ITS REGULAR MEETING ON THE 12th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2020: AND AMENDED ON THE 8th DAY OF JULY, 2020.

Christie Malchow, 2020 PIC Chair

Date

Attest:

Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director

Date

Item 7:

Board of Health Declaration of Racism as a Public Health Crisis

DISCUSSION

SCA Staff Contact

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

SCA Representatives on the King County Board of Health

Councilmember Susan Honda, Federal Way; Mayor David Baker, Kenmore; Deputy Mayor Krystal Marx, Burien; Councilmember Janice Zahn, Bellevue

Update

On June 18, the King County Board of Health unanimously approved a resolution declaring racism a public health crisis and committing to efforts the Board will undertake to address racial equity and health disparities in all forms.

While the Board of Health is taking action to address the public health impacts of systemic racism, many other organizations including SCA are exploring ways to address racism at all levels. At PIC, members will have an opportunity to provide feedback on SCA's role in facing this challenge.

Background

At the June 18 King County Board of Health meeting, members voted unanimously to approve a resolution declaring racism a public health crisis ([Attachment A](#)). Similarly, County Executive Dow Constantine and Public Health – Seattle & King County Director Patty Hayes [declared](#) that racism is a public health crisis, and expressed a commitment to “implementing a racially equitable response to this crisis, centering on community.”

BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color) frequently face disproportionate health outcomes, including higher rates of COVID-19 infection and mortality. In King County, the total number of deaths from COVID-19 is highest among whites; however, for example, [the rate of death per 100,000 for Hispanic/Latinx and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islanders is more than double that of whites](#). One possible reason behind the heightened number of cases amongst BIPOC is the increased prevalence of chronic health conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, severe obesity tied to a disproportionate lack of access to affordable and nutritious food; and asthma, which is tied to poor air quality and other environmental factors. Another reason lies within working conditions, with many BIPOC working in jobs considered essential and as such experience an increased likelihood of exposure to COVID-19 due to inability to avoid contact with potentially infected individuals.

In addition to declaring racism a public health crisis, the Board of Health committed to do the following:

- Assess and revise its guiding documents like the Board of Health Code and the annual workplan with a racial justice and equity lens;
- Conduct ongoing work around race and equity such as participating in racial equity training;
- Engage and be responsive to communities and residents impacted by racism, especially Black and Indigenous communities, as partners in identifying and implementing solutions; and,
- Establish an agreed upon understanding of racial equity principles to work towards antiracist policies and practices and to serve as ambassadors of racial equity work;

In discussion about implementing these actions, it was agreed that the entire Board of Health should be committing to engaging with racial equity work. In addition, the Board of Health decided that it would be beneficial to develop a racial justice subcommittee to advance and expedite this work in order to make the most of their meeting time in 2020.

Following action by the Board of Health, King County Councilmember and Chair of the Board of Health, Joe McDermott, issued a statement after the passage of the resolution saying, “The strain of racism that Black, indigenous and other people of color in our community live with every day leads to differences in health and well-being, opportunities for employment, education, and housing, and truly is a public health crisis. Our action today places anti-racism, already a cornerstone of the work of Seattle-King County Department of Public Health, at the foundation of the Board’s policies and programs that reach across every community in Martin Luther King Jr. County.”

Next Steps

Many other organizations, including SCA, are exploring ways to address racism at all levels. SCA will be hosting a Racial Equity and Justice Series. The first panel discussion is scheduled for July 10, 2020, from 2:30 to 4:00 PM.

Governing for Racial Equity and Inclusion (GREI), a group in which many SCA member cities participate, will be hosting a session on June 17 from 1:00-2:30 on Prioritizing and Budgeting for Racial Equity.

The University of Washington Race & Equity Initiative has collected resources for those who would like to gain a deeper understanding of historical and present-day manifestations of racism in the United States on their [website](#).

For more information, contact SCA Policy Analyst Alexis Mercedes Rinck at alexis@soundcities.org or (206) 495-5238.



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Resolution

Proposed No. 20-08.2

Sponsors

1 A RESOLUTION declaring racism a public health crisis.

2 WHEREAS, racism has deep and harmful impacts that unfairly disadvantages
3 Black, Indigenous and People of Color ("BIPOC") and unfairly advantages people who
4 identify as white, and

5 WHEREAS, racism harms every person in our society and is the root cause of
6 poverty and economic inequality, and

7 WHEREAS, "injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere," as King
8 County's namesake, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., said, and

9 WHEREAS, whether intended or not, racism becomes ingrained in institutional
10 policies and practices, creating differential access to opportunities and resources, and
11 causes disparate outcomes in all aspects of life affecting health, and

12 WHEREAS, by maintaining the status quo and existing systems of power and
13 privilege based on our country's long history of and continued persistence of white
14 supremacy, institutional policies and practices do not need to be explicitly racist in order
15 to have racist impacts on residents, and

16 WHEREAS, culture across institutions and systems is critical, and the legacy of
17 racist policies and practices continues to exist even once the policies and practices have
18 been changed, and

19 WHEREAS, reversing the legacy of institutional racism calls for an

(1)

Resolution

understanding of the intersectional nature of power and oppression that amplify adverse effects on people who experience more than one form of marginalization, such as race, gender and disability, and a commitment to anti-racist policies and practices, and

WHEREAS, decades of data collected by Public Health - Seattle & King County have demonstrated how BIPOC communities are affected by both acute impacts, such as gun violence, and chronic impacts such as higher rates of cardiovascular disease and diabetes, maternal and infant mortality, underweight babies and shorter, less-healthy lives overall, and

WHEREAS, King County residents of color have deep wells of resilience and strength, and BIPOC communities are less likely to experience other health conditions, such as suicide, Alzheimer's disease and drug and alcohol-related conditions than their white counterparts, and

WHEREAS, King County residents of color are more likely to experience inequities in education, access to jobs, earning power, adequate and safe housing, higher rates of policing and involvement in the criminal legal system, and overall quality of life, and

WHEREAS, the disproportionate impact of the COVID-19 on our BIPOC communities is a present-day demonstration of the systemic racism in institutions and systems that have not valued and supported human life equitably, and

WHEREAS, we recognize that historically and currently King County has been complicit in maintaining and perpetuating structural racism, and that as an institution the Board of Health must stand in support of dismantling oppressive systems grounded in white supremacy, and

Resolution

43 WHEREAS, King County government and Public Health - Seattle & King County
44 have expressed a commitment to developing stronger and better resourced partnerships
45 with community organizations and leaders to disrupt and dismantle racism and protect the
46 health and well-being of our BIPOC residents, using quantitative data, including data
47 about racial inequities, along with voices and knowledge of community leaders and
48 residents to get to solutions that work and that are sustainable, and

49 WHEREAS, in 2008 the King County Executive joined with Public Health -
50 Seattle & King County to launch the Equity and Social Justice Initiative, and later in
51 2010 the King County Council passed equity and social justice ordinance, and now the
52 current Equity and Social Justice Strategic Plan leads with racial justice, and

53 WHEREAS, across the country local governments have taken action to declare
54 racism a public health crisis including the cities of Boston, Cleveland and Columbus,
55 Ohio, Franklin County, Ohio, the Indianapolis City-County Council in Indiana, and the
56 Tacoma-Pierce County Board of Health, and

57 WHEREAS, the Board of Health is committed to addressing racial equity and
58 health disparities in all forms and at all levels, which are the individual, institutional and
59 systemic levels, across the county;

60 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Health of King
61 County:

62 A. The Board declares racism a public health crisis;

63 B. The Board supports King County and Public Health - Seattle & King County
64 immediately in the work to advance a public health approach in addressing institutional
65 and systemic racism;

(3)

Resolution

66 C. The Board commits to assessing, revising, and writing its guiding documents
67 and its policies with a racial justice and equity lens including the Board of Health Code
68 and annual workplan; and

69 D. The Board members commit to ongoing work around race and equity such as
70 participating in racial equity training, engaging and being responsive to communities and
71 residents impacted by racism, especially Black and Indigenous communities, as partners
72 in identifying and implementing solutions, establishing an agreed upon understanding of


Resolution

73 racial equity principles to work towards antiracist policies and practices and to serve as
74 ambassadors of racial equity work.
75

Resolution 20-08 was introduced on and passed as amended by the Board of Health on 6/18/2020, by the following vote:


Yes: 13 - Dr. Daniell, Dr. Delecki, Ms. Honda, Ms. Kohl-Welles, Ms. Lambert, Mr. McDermott, Ms. Mosqueda, Mr. Lewis, Ms. Morales and Ms. Zahn
Excused: 1 - Mr. Baker

BOARD OF HEALTH
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

DocuSigned by:

6D0E6E444F08459...

Joe McDermott, Chair

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

8DE1BB375AD3422...

Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Board

Attachments: None

Item 8:
Budget Outlook
DISCUSSION

SCA Staff Contact

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

The COVID-19 health emergency has brought significant fiscal impacts upon cities due to the costs of emergency response to support individuals and business, and loss of revenue from the dramatic impacts of the emergency on the economy. At the July PIC meeting, members are encouraged to share how they are approaching budget shortfalls, actions taken to date, and expectations for the coming year.

In addition to substantial direct impacts to services provided by cities resulting from COVID-19, significant cuts will impact regional services that city residents rely upon. County programs supported by dedicated sales taxes funding, such as Metro transit and Mental Illness and Drug Dependency (MIDD) funded services, are especially impacted by the current recession. Declining revenue from a variety of sources will also impact county and state general funds. At the county level, the impacts of the current recession are mitigated to an extent by the relative stability of property tax collections, however, a slowing in new construction is expected to reduce previously forecasted growth in future property tax collections.

State and County Budget Outlook

Washington lawmakers are considering holding a special session in the late summer or fall to begin to address major revenue declines. The latest [economic forecast](#) by the Washington State Economic and Revenue Forecast Council, released on June 17, reports that the impact of lost economic activity from the COVID-19 crisis will extend for many years. The June forecast projects a reduction in revenues from pre-COVID-19 estimates of \$4.5 billion in the current biennium and \$4.4 billion in the next. Over half of the decrease is from declining sales taxes.

King County is similarly facing significant impacts from lost sales tax revenue. In total, the June [King County Economic and Revenue Forecast](#) from the Office of Economic and Financial Analysis projects significantly reduced sales tax for several years. As compared to the March 1, 2020 forecast, the county is projecting a decline in sales tax collections of 30.9% in 2020, 20.3% in 2021, and 15.8%. Total taxable sales are not forecast to surpass 2019 levels until 2024. Metro and the Mental Illness and Drug Dependency services are primarily funded by sales taxes and are facing projected sales tax declines of \$464 million (21%) and \$51 million (21%) respectively in the 2020-2022 biennium. Hotel tax collections are also projected to decline by \$42 million (37%) and car rental taxes by \$4 million (32%).

King County Metro

Metro relies on sales taxes for about half of its operating funds, with fares accounting for the next largest share of revenue. Both of these sources have seen significant declines that are anticipated to continue for some time. In total, Metro is projecting reduced collections from these two sources alone of over \$1.5 billion in the next ten years. Metro received \$242 million in CARES Act funding and is using fund balance and reserves to offset short-term losses, but that cannot be sustained into the future.

At the most recent Regional Transit Committee meeting on June 17, Metro reported that they are anticipating a deficit of more than \$2 billion by 2028 (this is up from pre-COVID projections that already anticipated a \$1 billion deficit in that timeframe). As a result, Metro is anticipating a 20-30% reduction in the bus service network, with half of the reduction attributable to service funded by the Seattle Transportation Benefit District if it is not renewed. On the capital side, Metro is projecting a 30-40% reduction, which will include reassessment of the Rapid Ride expansion program, the pace of fleet electrification, and other capital investments.

Metro has initiated temporary service reductions under the authority of the County Executive's emergency declaration. Additional service reductions can be anticipated to be developed over the summer and transmitted by Metro to the King County Council in late September, and again in March as part of the agency's regular service change schedule.

The reduced service levels projected by Metro will not only have immediate impacts on local mobility, but will also pose a challenge to long-range planning for growth in the region that is heavily dependent on concentrating growth in centers and other areas with access to frequent transit service. Members of the Regional Transit Committee emphasized with Metro the importance of actively engaging with cities as proposals are being developed.

Mental Illness and Drug Dependency (MIDD) Behavioral and Recovery Services

King County's MIDD is a countywide 0.1% sales tax that supports services for people living with or at risk of behavioral health conditions. The most recent King County economic forecast projects a 21% decline in MIDD sales tax revenue for 2020-2022 totaling over \$51 million when compared to the March 2020 forecast.

In 2020 alone, the MIDD budget is projected to have a shortfall of \$21 million, a 28.7% reduction from the March 2020 forecast. To address the 2020 shortfall, the county is considering a mix of using approximately \$7 million in reserve funds and implementing service reductions totaling just over \$12 million for the year.

Service areas proposed to see the most significant budget reductions include:

- 57% reduction (\$3.5 million) to the system improvement incentive pool, which supports system transformation within the integrated care network;
- Elimination of funding to support a new Peer Respite program focused on peer-delivered wellness and resiliency (\$2 million);

- 17% reduction (\$2 million) to therapeutic court services provided through the Adult Drug Court, Community Court, Juvenile Drug Court, and Regional Mental Health Court;
- 30% reduction (\$1 million) to wraparound services for youth;
- 22% reduction (\$900,000) to the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program;
- Elimination of funding to support behavioral health workforce development (\$800,000);
- 49% reduction (\$450,000) in crisis intervention training for first responders;
- Elimination of the Risk Awareness, De-escalation and Referral (RADAR) program, which seeks to decrease use-of-force incidents between police and individuals with behavioral health issues (\$400,000);
- 74% reduction (\$392,467) in the Youth Respite Alternatives program, which provides law enforcement with alternatives to detention.

A detailed list of proposed budget reductions is included in [Attachment A](#).

Next Steps

For more information, contact SCA Policy Director Brian Parry at brian@soundcities.org or 206-499-4159.

MIDD 2020 COVID 19-Related Budget Reductions

Initiative	Name	Description	Budget- 2020	
			2020 Original Budget	Approximate Reduction
ADMIN	MIDD Program Administration	This initiative provides funding for King County to administer all MIDD programs	\$4,467,734	\$200,000
TX-ADC	Adult Drug Court	This initiative offers structured court supervision and access to services for eligible defendants charged with felony drug and property crimes, providing comprehensive behavioral health treatment and housing services, along with employment and education support and peer services.	\$4,054,789	\$650,000
RR-07	Behavioral Health Risk Assessment Tool for Adult Detention	Behavioral Health Risk Assessment Tool for Adult Detention addresses the behavioral health needs of incarcerated individuals.	\$506,410	\$100,000
PRI-08	Crisis Intervention Training - First Responders	CIT trains first responders such as police, fire and medical personnel across the county to de-escalate difficult situations and crises.	\$912,317	\$450,000
TX-CCPL	Community Court Planning and Pilot	TX-CCPL, housed at Redmond Community Court, provides services and monitoring for individuals who come into the criminal justice system with high needs, but who are at low risk for violent offense, through an alternative problem-solving approach.	\$712,348	\$100,000
TX-FTC	Family Treatment Court	FTC focuses on children's welfare and families' recovery from substance use disorders through evidence-based practices to improve child well-being, family functioning, and parenting skills.	\$2,061,505	\$335,000
TX-JDC	Juvenile Drug Court	With the goal to reduce the likelihood of continued legal system involvement, and building on national guidelines for coordinated care, JDC provides an incentive-driven program to support youth struggling with substance use who had criminal offenses.	\$1,195,998	\$250,000
CD-01	Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD)	LEAD diverts individuals engaged in low-level drug involvement and prostitution away from the criminal justice system and toward intensive, flexible community-based services.	\$4,131,868	\$900,000
CD-03	Outreach & In reach System of Care	This initiative delivers community-based outreach and engagement services to individuals with behavioral health conditions to reduce the use of crisis services, emergency departments, jails, crisis facilities and psychiatric hospitals.	\$445,883	\$100,000
SI-03	Quality Coordinated Outpatient Care	These funds are used as an incentive pool to support system transformation within the integrated care network.	\$6,111,190	\$3,500,000
RR-11c	Peer Respite	A one-time initiative, Peer Respite is designed to offer peer-delivered, non-clinical services that facilitate wellness and resiliency, increase self-efficacy and coping skills, and increase community inclusion and integration for adults experiencing behavioral health conditions who are able to voluntarily engage in services.	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
CD-18	RADAR (Risk Awareness, De-escalation and Referral)	RADAR seeks to decrease use-of-force incidents between police and individuals with behavioral health issues.	\$394,986	\$500,000
TX-RMHC	Regional Mental Health Court	Seeking to further individuals' stability, reduce legal system involvement, and enhance community safety, RMHC along with the Regional Veterans Court (RVC) serves people with behavioral health disorders during their involvement in the criminal legal system.	\$4,481,759	\$730,000
SI-04	Workforce Development	Workforce Development supports sustainable, systems-based approaches to behavioral health workforce development in King County and improves the county's ability to provide culturally appropriate, trauma-informed behavioral health services.	\$808,162	\$800,000
CD-15	Wraparound Services for Youth	These services engage children and youth and their families in a team process that builds on family and community strengths to support youth to succeed in their homes, schools and communities.	\$3,344,120	\$1,000,000
CD-16	Youth Respite Alternatives	This initiative provides law enforcement with an alternative to detention.	\$529,980	\$392,467
Total			\$34,702,808	\$12,007,467

Item 9:**King County Regional Homelessness Authority**

UPDATE**SCA Staff Contact**

Alexis Mercedes Rinck, SCA Policy Analyst, alexis@soundcities.org, (206) 495-5238; or, Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director, deanna@soundcities.org.

King County Regional Homelessness Authority Governing Committee Members

Mayor Nancy Backus, Auburn; Mayor Angela Birney, Redmond; Councilmember Ed Prince, Renton

Update

The King County Regional Homelessness Authority (KCHRA) Governing Committee held their second meeting on June 18. During this meeting, the Governing Committee was briefed on efforts to provide staffing for members of the Governing Committee with lived experience of homelessness; discussed the process for hiring a CEO and voted to select a hiring firm to conduct the CEO recruitment process; voted to hold a special Governing Committee meeting with the Implementation Board and staff to undergo racial equity and anti-oppression training; reviewed the Interlocal Agreement; and affirmed the Governing Committee workplan.

In July, the committee is anticipated to vote on co-chairs, review draft bylaws for the committee, confirm the Implementation Board members, and review a racial equity assessment.

Background

The King County Regional Homelessness Authority (KCRHA), established by [Interlocal Agreement \(ILA\)](#) between King County and the City of Seattle in December 2019, is focused on homelessness crisis response and is charged with managing procurement for organizations that provide services to people experiencing homelessness or about to experience homelessness. The Governing Committee of the KCRHA serves as the primary oversight body and is responsible for evaluating and approving all plans for the Authority.

Update

At its second meeting on June 18, 2020, the KCRHA Governing Committee was updated by County staff on work to establish staffing for members of the Governing Committee with lived experience of homelessness. Currently, Lived Experience Leaders attend the KCRHA staff workgroup and must work on their own to prepare for meetings since they do not have staff to help them. The goal is that these leaders will have dedicated staff to help them prepare and serve on the Governing Committee akin to what the elected official members have. Per King County staff, the staffing is planned to be paid for by philanthropic donations.

The Committee was briefed on the process to recruit a CEO to lead the Authority, and selected a recruitment firm. The Committee was also briefed on the interlocal agreement forming the Authority, with a focus on the Governing Committee specified powers, the Implementation Board Composition Requirements, and pro-equity features. The Governing Committee voted to schedule racial equity and anti-oppression training for the Committee and the Implementation Board so that all members can better understand root causes to homelessness.

The Committee also voted to approve a Governing Committee Workplan. The Governing Committee will meet monthly throughout 2020 to help stand up the Authority. The current goal is for the Authority to be initially operational by January 2021.

The Implementation Board will be comprised of individuals with expertise in a variety of subject matters associated with homelessness response. SCA has authority to appoint two members (of 13 total) to the Implementation Board. Currently, staff from all appointing entities are working through a nominating committee to develop a recommended slate of candidates for the Implementation Board. It is expected that the Governing Committee will review and consider the recommendation at their next meeting on July 16 meeting.

For additional information on the KCRHA and its authority structure, please refer to the [May 13, 2020 PIC Packet](#).

Next Steps

The Governing Committee will meet next on July 16, 2020 at 10:00 AM.

For more information contact Alexis Mercedes Rinck, SCA Policy Analyst, alexis@soundcities.org, (206) 495-5238; or, Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director, deanna@soundcities.org, (206) 495-3265.

Item 10:
Levies and Ballot Measures in King County
UPDATE

SCA Staff Contact

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

Update

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.

On June 23, the County Council voted unanimously to place on the ballot in November a \$1.7 billion capital bond measure to support health and safety capital improvements at Harborview Medical Center.

The last day to file a resolution placing a measure on the November 2020 general election ballot is August 4.

In addition, the county recently initiated a process to renew the Best Starts for Kids Levy, which is set to expire at the end of 2021. An update on that process is included below.

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 – Other Jurisdictions and Special Purpose Districts			
Year	Month	Jurisdiction	Measure
2020	August	Snoqualmie Pass Fire & Rescue	Authorization for continuation of benefit charges
2020	August	Mountain View Fire & Rescue	Operations levy at a rate of 30-cents per \$1,000 of assessed value
2020	August	South King Fire & Rescue	Maintenance and Operations levy at a rate of 19-cents per \$1,000 of assessed value
2020	November	Harborview Medical Center	\$1.7 billion capital construction bond measure*

*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	November	Kirkland	Fire and Emergency Services Levy

Potential Future Ballot Measures – Other Jurisdictions and Special Purpose Districts			
Year	Month	Jurisdiction	Measure
2020	November	Seattle	Transportation Benefit District Renewal
2020		King County	Road Levy Lid Lift (unincorporated King County)
2021		King County Library System	Operations levy of 50-cents per \$1,000 of assessed value, up from the current rate of 32-cents per \$1,000.
2021		King County	Best Starts for Kids Renewal

Best Starts for Kids Levy Renewal

The Best Starts for Kids Levy is set to expire December 31, 2021, and a levy development process has been initiated by the county with the expectation that a measure to renew the levy will likely go to ballot in Fall 2021.

The Levy was first approved by King County voters in November 2015 and raises an average of \$65 million per year to support services for King County families and children, from prenatal care throughout childhood and young adulthood. The levy costs the average King County property owner about \$1 per week.

Best Starts for Kids has four focus areas:

- Invest early: Support pregnant individuals, babies, very young children, and their parents during critical developmental years with a robust system of support services and resources that meets families where they are—home, community, and child care.
- Sustain the gain: Continue progress made with school- and community-based opportunities to learn, grow and develop through childhood, adolescence and into adulthood.
- Communities matter: Support communities to build safe, thriving places for children to grow up.
- Results focused & data-driven: Use data and evaluation to know what is working for kids and communities.

BSK has released two annual reports, one for [2016-2017](#) and the most recent one for [2018](#). Data on impact for 2019 can be seen [here](#).

[A motion](#) has been introduced and referred to the Regional Policy Committee to be reviewed at the July 8 meeting. If passed, the assessment report would provide recommendations on whether to revise goals and strategies; how the renewed levy could align and coordinate with the [Veterans Seniors and Human Services Levy](#), [Mental Illness and Drug Dependency Sales Tax Fund](#), or [Puget Sound Taxpayer Accountability Account](#); and whether the renewed levy should modify the role of the Children and Youth Advisory Board.

The assessment report will also include:

- an analysis of investments by geographic area
- an analysis of investments by strategy
- progress of levy implementation

- preliminary measurement of changes experienced by families and communities; and
- an analysis of the impact of investments in advancing equity and social justice

For more information about the Best Starts for Kids Levy or the development of a measure to renew the levy, contact Alexis Mercedes Rinck, Policy Analyst, alexis@soundcities.org (206) 495-5238

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 11:

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

The current COVID-19 crisis will have a substantial impact on SCA's ability to host educational and networking events.

Prior to the crisis, the SCA Board identified as policy priorities:

- Transportation
- Budget Challenges/Infrastructure Needs
- Homelessness
- Diversity/Equity/Inclusion

Upcoming SCA Webinars

SCA will be hosting a Racial Equity and Justice Series. The first panel discussion is scheduled for July 10, 2020, from 2:30 to 4:00 PM.

SCA will be hosting a training with Ann Macfarlane of Jurassic Parliament on holding effective online meetings.

Next Steps

SCA staff and Board would appreciate feedback from all our member cities on priorities, and on ideas for how to engage during the public health crisis when meetings must be held virtually.

If you or your city has feedback, please contact SCA Policy Director Brian Parry, brian@soundcities.org or 206-499-4159 or SCA Executive Director Deanna Dawson, deanna@soundcities.org or 206-495-3265.

Item 12a:

SCA Letter Concerning Rate and Fee Increases

INFORMATION

SCA Staff Contact

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

Update

At its June 17, 2020 meeting, the SCA Board unanimously adopted the following policy position:

The Sound Cities Association (SCA) urges King County and other entities to forego any increase in rates and fees until and unless all other options are explored and exhausted, in light of the COVID-19 public health emergency and the resulting economic impacts.

The Board further directed that a letter sharing the policy position be sent to the King County Executive and Councilmembers ([Attachment A](#)).

Background

At the May and June PIC meetings, members discussed proposed sewer rate and solid waste fee increases that could increase costs passed on to cities, local utility providers, and rate payers effective January 1, 2021. Concerns were expressed by numerous PIC members about the impact of increasing fees in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. In June, PIC recommended to the SCA Board of Directors a policy position stating, “The Sound Cities Association (SCA) urges King County and other entities to forego any increases in rates and fees in light of the COVID-19 public health emergency and the resulting economic impacts.” Additional background on the sewer rate and solid waste fee can be found in the [May 13, 2020](#) and [June 10, 2020](#) PIC Packets.

At both PIC and the Board, there was discussion about certain instances in which a rate increase may be warranted (such as when an increase is necessary to protect public health and safety). The Board noted that the intent of the position statement was to urge the county and other entities to exhaust all options before raising rates or fees. Accordingly, the Board adopted the following policy position:

The Sound Cities Association (SCA) urges King County and other entities to forego any increase in rates and fees until and unless all other options are explored and exhausted, in light of the COVID-19 public health emergency and the resulting economic impacts.

The Board further directed that a letter sharing the policy position be sent to the King County Executive and Councilmembers ([Attachment A](#)).

Next Steps

For more information, contact SCA Policy Director Brian Parry at brian@soundcities.org or (206) 499-4159.

2020 Board of Directors

President

Dana Ralph
Mayor
City of Kent

Vice President

Ed Prince
Councilmember
City of Renton

Treasurer

Jeff Wagner
Mayor
City of Covington

Secretary

Amy Ockerlander
Mayor
City of Duval

Immediate Past President

Leanne Guier
Mayor
City of Pacific

Angela Birney
Mayor
City of Redmond

James McNeal
Councilmember
City of Bothell

Mary Lou Pauly
Mayor
City of Issaquah

Wendy Weiker
Deputy Mayor
City of Mercer Island

Nancy Backus
Mayor
City of Auburn

Jan Molinaro
Mayor
City of Enumclaw

Christie Malchow
Deputy Mayor
City of Sammamish

Laura Philpot
City Manager
City of Maple Valley

Executive Director

Deanna Dawson

Sound Cities Association
6300 Southcenter Blvd., Suite 206
Tukwila, WA 98188
(206) 433-7168
SCA@SoundCities.org
www.SoundCities.org

June 18, 2020

RE: Rates and Fees

Dear Executive Constantine and County Council Chair Balducci:

As you know, the COVID-19 crisis is hitting our cities, the County, and our residents hard. King County residents filed 390,144 new unemployment claims from March 1 through June 6, 2020. Unemployment is at nearly 15% countywide and has hit many communities even harder. Some South County communities are facing unemployment rates of 40%, and communities of color are being hit hardest of all.

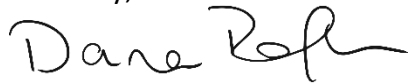
In response to this health and economic crisis, we have stepped up to help residents in need. Cities and the County are providing food and rental assistance to our residents, and we have eviction bans in place. The County and many cities are deferring collection of taxes. Utilities are providing assistance programs to residents in need and are not shutting off service due to non-payment. We have come together to do these things because we know the hardships that our residents are facing.

For this reason, at our June 17, 2020 meeting, the Sound Cities Association Board unanimously adopted a position urging King County and other entities to forego any increases in rates and fees until and unless all other options are explored and exhausted, in light of the COVID-19 public health emergency and the resulting economic impacts.

We recognize that foregoing rate and fee increases may have an impact on programs of work that have been planned. Many of our cities are in the position of facing severe revenue shortfalls due to COVID-19 and are having to make many deep cuts to services. While these cuts are painful, we know that they are necessary to avoid placing additional burdens on our residents when they cannot afford even small increases.

We urge you to work with County departments to ensure that rate and fee increases are avoided during this crisis. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me, or our Executive Director Deanna Dawson.

Sincerely,



Dana Ralph
President, Sound Cities Association

Cc: King County Council
SCA Board of Directors

Item 12b:

Legislative Priorities – Potential Special Session in 2020

INFORMATION

SCA Staff Contact

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

Update

At its meeting on June 17, the SCA Board of Directors adopted legislative priorities in anticipation of a potential special session in 2020 of the Washington State Legislature to address the impacts of COVID-19. The adopted priorities were recommended by PIC in June. Members are encouraged to contact their legislative delegation to communicate these priorities and the important role cities serve in responding to the emergency and driving statewide economic recovery.

Attachments

- A. [Proclamation of Commitment to an Inclusive Community that Rejects Stigma and Bias Related to COVID-19](#)
- B. [Sample Letter for Communicating Priorities to Legislators](#)

Next Steps

PIC members are encouraged to contact their legislators to share the important work of cities in responding to the COVID-19 emergency and future economic recovery. For more information, contact SCA Policy Director Brian Parry at brian@soundcities.org or (206) 499-4159.



SCA 2020 Legislative Priorities Related to COVID-19 Response and Relief

As the Legislature considers necessary actions to address the impacts of COVID-19 on our state, SCA asks that priority be given to support for cities and towns in the following areas:

Financial support

- Maintain critical state shared revenues that provide funding for essential public services.
- Provide fiscal relief to cities hard hit with costs for emergency response and loss of tax revenue.

Fiscal flexibility

- Provide flexibility within existing restricted revenues to allow cities to use funds where they are most needed right now.

Regulatory relief

- Continue the emergency action taken by the Governor to provide flexibility on deadlines for permitting and land use timelines. Cities hard hit by this emergency may still be experiencing staffing shortages and back-logs that will impact their ability to comply with typical statutory deadlines.

City-owned utility support

- Allow city-owned utilities that have waived late fees and shut-offs and extension of their ability to collect outstanding debt so that they can work with rate payers to extend payment plans without impacting the financial viability of the utility or raising rates on other customers.
- Provide funding to help offset losses related to forgiving late fees and delinquent accounts for those customers hard-hit by the emergency.

Economic stimulus

- Investing in public infrastructure projects is one of the best ways to support economic stimulus as infrastructure investments have a positive economic multiplier with the creation of family-wage jobs and support increased economic activity.

Cities also support efforts to help the most vulnerable residents and our small businesses

- Cities support programs to provide emergency rental assistance and emergency housing.
- Cities support programs to provide emergency assistance to small businesses.

Sound Cities Association
6300 Southcenter Blvd., Suite 206
Tukwila, WA 98188
(206) 433-7168
SCA@SoundCities.org
www.SoundCities.org

Sample Letter

Members are encouraged to add examples and stories from your city to help communicate the impact of COVID-19 and the important role of cities in emergency response and long-term recovery.

The Honorable _____
Washington State Senate/Washington State House of Representatives
PO Box _____
Olympia, WA 98504

Dear _____

On behalf of the City of _____, I am writing to urge you to support the necessary, unique, and vital role cities serve in responding to the COVID-19 crisis and driving statewide economic recovery.

As you know, the COVID-19 crisis is hitting our cities, the state, and our residents hard. Cities, with support from the state, have stepped up to help residents in need by providing food and rental assistance, providing grants to suffering small businesses, freezing evictions, deferring collection of taxes and utility payments, and more.

Cities have been impacted significantly due to the costs of emergency response and loss of revenue from the dramatic impact the emergency has had on the economy. Regardless of these impacts, cities are committed to partnering with the state to keep our communities safe and to build a vibrant, inclusive, and prosperous future for all our residents.

As the Legislature considers convening a special session to take necessary actions to address the impacts of COVID-19 on our state, we urge you to support the important work of cities. That is why we joined our fellow King County cities through the Sound Cities Association, representing more than 1.2 million residents, in urging your support for the attached legislative priorities.

Thank you for all of your work on behalf of the people of Washington State. Working together, we can respond to this crisis and build a better future for our communities.

Sincerely,

Title