



## SCA Public Issues Committee

### MINUTES

June 14, 2023 – 7:00 PM

TELEPHONIC

#### 1. Welcome and Roll Call

PIC Chair Bill Boyce, Kent, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. 20 cities were represented ( [Attachment A](#) ). Guests present included: Jenny Huston, King County staff; Tania Santiago Pastrana King County staff; Amy Tsai, Redmond staff; Lacey Jane Wolf, Bellevue staff; Sharman Herrin, King County staff.

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

#### 2. Public Comment

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

#### 3. Approval of the May 10, 2023 PIC Meeting Minutes

Chair Bill Boyce asked if there were any amendments to the minutes of May 10, 2023 PIC meeting.

**Councilmember Ross Loudonback, North Bend, moved, seconded by Mayor Nancy Backus, Auburn to approve the May 10, 2023 PIC minutes. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.**

#### 4. Chair's Report

PIC Chair Boyce welcomed members to the meeting. He said that the July 12 PIC meeting is being planned to be a hybrid meeting with the in-person option being at Renton City Hall. He encouraged members to provide any feedback or suggestions about ensuring everyone is able to fully participate in the hybrid format.

#### 5. Executive Director's Report

SCA Executive Director David Hoffman noted that the next networking event will be the SCA Summer Social on July 26. He said the location was being finalized and more details would be sent to members in the coming days. Hoffman said that he would be at the Association of Washington Cities Annual Conference the following week and looked forward to seeing many SCA members there.

#### 6. August PIC Meeting Cancellation

SCA Policy Director Brian Parry reported that PIC typically cancels its August meeting consistent with many SCA cities and regional committees. PIC members discussed the possible cancellation of the August meeting at their meeting in May.

**Mayor Nancy Backus, Auburn, moved, seconded by Councilmember Kelli Curtis, Kirkland to cancel the August 9, 2023 SCA PIC Meeting. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.**

## **7. Long Range Transit Planning Resources**

SCA Policy Analyst Hali Willis reported that King County Metro has shared various resources to support cities' comprehensive planning efforts, including a checklist to review during the comprehensive planning process. Metro also shared resources for transit-related grants, and offered to partner with cities on city projects that support transit. Resources can be found in the June 14 PIC packet. There was no discussion.

## **8. Metro Fall Service Changes**

SCA Policy Analyst Hali Willis reported that Metro will be reducing scheduled service by about 5% in September 2023, in order to match scheduled service with the service Metro can reliably provide given the current staff shortage.

Councilmember Vanessa Kritzer, Redmond, shared that six routes in Redmond will be reduced, and Redmond staff is evaluating the alternative routes proposed by Metro staff. Kritzer requested that Metro engage with cities if more reductions must be made in the future. Kritzer asked how cities will be engaged once Metro is able to restore service, and encouraged other PIC members to engage with Metro to shape how service is added back to their communities.

Hali Willis, SCA, shared that Metro's Service Guidelines require Metro to engage with city partners and other stakeholders when adding service to an area.

Councilmember Kelli Curtis, Kirkland, agreed with Councilmember Kritzer, and asked for more information once Metro is in a position to add back service that was reduced.

Councilmember Ross Laudenback, North Bend, shared that Metro service in the Snoqualmie Valley is not sufficient to meet that area's need for transit. Laudenback hoped that Metro will study transit needs and make additional investments in the area.

Hali Willis, SCA, shared that the RTC representatives from the Snoqualmie Valley have shared similar concerns, and have raised those concerns to Metro staff, and in RTC meetings.

PIC Vice Chair Chris Roberts, Shoreline, shared that this reduction of service is not a permanent cancellation. Roberts asked how equity will be used to determine how service is added back to the system.

Hali Willis, SCA, shared that Metro has not yet shared a plan to add service back following this temporary reduction, and encouraged cities to engage with Metro once they are in a position to add service again.

#### **9. King County Wastewater Rates**

SCA Policy Analyst Kazia Mermel shared an update on the 2023 wastewater rates. The rate proposal includes a 5.75% rate increase, raising the monthly sewer rate to \$55.11, and a 2.4% capacity charge increase, raising the monthly capacity charge for new utility connections to \$74.73. This rate increase is driven by growth in the WTD capital program due to asset management needs, regulatory demands, and system capacity needs.

As of the last briefing on this topic at the April Public Issues Committee (PIC) meeting, the Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) had shared their rate proposal with the County Executive for review. Since then, the Executive transmitted the rate proposal, unchanged, to the County Council for review and adoption. On May 2, the County Council referred the legislation to the Council's Budget and Fiscal Management (BFM) Committee. BFM reviewed the rate proposal (2023-0172) and WTD supplemental request (2023-0173) on May 10 and 24 and voted to recommend Council adoption of the two ordinances. Council approved the rate proposal (8-1) and the WTD supplemental request (9-0) on June 6.

#### **10. King County Regional Homelessness Authority Five Year Plan**

SCA Policy Analyst Hali Willis shared that the Governing Committee adopted the agency's first Five-Year Plan unanimously, with only minor changes since this item was last discussed at PIC. The KCRHA's next planning steps will be to develop subregional implementation plans, which will describe in more detail how the Five-Year Plan will be implemented in each subregion.

Councilmember Amy Lam, Sammamish, shared that KCRHA has been receiving significant media attention about whether the agency is fulfilling its purpose, and whether they should hire outreach staff, or contract that work out to providers. Lam asked how KCRHA has responded to this criticism

Hali Willis, SCA, shared that KCRHA is in a CEO transition, and there was recent criticism in the Seattle Times regarding the agency's execution of contracts.

Mayor Nancy Backus, Auburn, shared that the Governing Committee members share many of the concerns that were shared in the media, but that more time is needed, and that the agency is still worth supporting. Backus shared that she is waiting to see what subregional plans will include, and shared support for the KCRHA taking a subregional approach to planning.

Councilmember Vanessa Kritzer, Redmond, agreed that KCRHA needs more time, and shared support for treating homelessness as a regional issue. Kritzer shared optimism for the future of the KCRHA, and support for members serving in governance roles. Kritzer also highlighted the importance of thoughtful planning.

David Hoffman, SCA, shared support for a regional agency to address a regional issue like homelessness. Hoffman added that KCRHA incorporated significant feedback from PIC into the Five-Year Plan.

### **11. Potential Future Levies and Ballot Measures**

SCA Policy Director Brian Parry reported on upcoming levies and ballot measures in King County.

### **12. Potential Upcoming Issues**

SCA Policy Director Brian Parry reported on potential upcoming issues to be discussed at PIC or other SCA convenings in 2023 and encouraged members to provide feedback on additional topics and priorities.

Councilmember Harry Steinmetz, Des Moines, said that he would like to see a coordinated effort to advocate for additional funding from the Legislature to support the infrastructure that is necessary to support future growth and the additional required zoned capacity recently adopted into state law.

### **13. Upcoming Events**

- a. Lunch and Learn – King County Overdose Trends and Response – Friday, June 16, 2023 – 12:00PM to 1:00 PM – Virtual
- b. ~~SCA Board of Directors Meeting – Wednesday, June 21, 2023 – 10:00 AM to Noon – Tukwila Community Center canceled~~
- c. SCA Public Issues Committee Meeting – Wednesday, July 12, 2023 – HYBRID – Renton City Hall
- d. SCA Board of Directors Meeting – Wednesday, July 19, 2023 – Tukwila Community Center
- e. SCA Summer Social – Wednesday, July 26, 2023 – Details TBD

### **14. For the Good of the Order**

Councilmember Tola Marts, Issaquah, suggested that the PIC in prior years took more policy positions on issues and that doing so could provide for more engagement at PIC meetings. Vice Chair Chris Roberts, Shoreline, proposed future discussion on the types of actions that the body would like to take. SCA Executive Director David Hoffman emphasized that staff are interested in getting direction from PIC and the SCA Board on their priorities and issues they would like to see SCA taking positions on.

### **15. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 PM.

**Public Issues Committee Meeting  
April 12, 2023**

City	Representative	Alternate
<b>Algona</b>	Troy Linnell	Brenna Franco
<b>Auburn</b>	Nancy Backus	James Jeyaraj
Beaux Arts Village	Aletha Howes	
<b>Bellevue</b>	Janice Zahn	Jeremy Barksdale
<b>Black Diamond</b>	Tamie Deady	
Bothell	James McNeal	Rami Al-Kabra
<b>Burien</b>	Sofia Aragon	Cydney Moore
Carnation	Dustin Green	Jim Ribail
<b>Clyde Hill</b>	Marianne Klaas	Kim Muromoto
<b>Covington</b>	Joseph Cimaomo	Kristina Soltys
Des Moines	Harry Steinmetz	Gene Achziger
<b>Duvall</b>	Amy McHenry	Rick Shaffer
<b>Enumclaw</b>	Chance LaFleur	Corrie Koopman Frazier
<b>Federal Way</b>	Susan Honda	Lydia Assefa-Dawson
Hunts Point	Joseph Sabey	
<b>Issaquah</b>	Tola Marts	Zach Hall
<b>Kenmore</b>	David Baker	Corina Pfeil
<b>Kent</b>	Bill Boyce	
<b>Kirkland</b>	Kelli Curtis	Amy Falcone
<b>Lake Forest Park</b>	Tom French	Lorri Bodi
<b>Maple Valley</b>	Sean Kelly	Dana Parnello
Medina	Mac Johnston	Jessica Rossman
<b>Mercer Island</b>	David Rosenbaum	Ted Weinberg
<b>Milton</b>	Steve Peretti	Shanna Styron Sherrell
Newcastle	Linda Newing	Paul Charbonneau
<b>Normandy Park</b>	Sue-Ann Hohimer	Eric Zimmerman
<b>North Bend</b>	Ross Loudenback	Heather Koellen
<b>Pacific</b>	Leanne Guier	Kerry Garberding
<b>Redmond</b>	Vanessa Kritzer	Angela Birney
Renton	Armondo Pavone	Valerie O'Halloran
<b>Sammamish</b>	Amy Lam	Pam Stuart
SeaTac	Jake Simpson	Iris Guzmán
<b>Shoreline</b>	Chris Roberts	John Ramsdell
Skykomish	Henry Sladek	
<b>Snoqualmie</b>	Cara Christensen	James Mayhew
<b>Tukwila</b>	Kate Kruller	Kathy Hougardy
Woodinville	Mike Millman	Rachel Best-Campbell
<b>Yarrow Point</b>	Katy Harris	

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

**SCA PIC June 14, 2023**

**Attachment B: Chat Log**

19:16:10 From Henry Sladek, Skykomish to Hosts and panelists:  
Hi, I was just now able to log on...Henry from Skykomish

19:44:55 From Lydia Assefa-Dawson, City of Federal Way to Hosts and panelists:  
And their budget