



SOUND CITIES ASSOCIATION

38 Cities. A Million People. One Voice.

SCA Board of Directors

AGENDA

Special Meeting

August 28, 2024

2:00 PM

VIRTUAL

From computer, tablet, or smartphone:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88223572994?pwd=fPjdYs814UvadDDIhAQsf4xYfGRFTb.1>

Dial In 897 9008 8840 Webinar ID: 882 2357 2994 Password: 718230

- 1) Call to Order – President Pauly
- 2) Appointments to Regional Staff Committee - Crisis Care Center Proposal Review Panel 30 minutes
[Attachment 1](#)
- 3) Adjourn



MEMO

To: SCA Board of Directors
From: SCA Staff
Re: Regional Staff Committee Appointments: Crisis Care Center Proposal Review Panel
Date: August 28, 2024

Background

In 2023, King County voters approved to create a new nine-year levy (2024 – 2032) to support the creation of five new regional crisis care center facilities distributed throughout the county, with one center focused on serving youth. More details on the CCC Initiative can be found [here](#).

As outlined in the Crisis Care Center Implementation Plan, each competitive procurement process for operators of crisis care centers must be reviewed by a proposal review panel. The proposal review panel must include a scoring subject matter expert (SME) representative from the North, Central (chosen by Seattle), South, and East King County crisis response zone (see list and map below).

The Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS) defines subject matter experts as those with expertise in administering and/or delivering behavioral health or crisis services, considering both behavioral health organizations and individuals (like city staff) with relevant capital development project experience.

The Sound Cities Association has appointing authority to the proposal review panel for the following:

1. A North King County crisis response zone representative selected by the Sound Cities Association from cities to review crisis care center operator proposals for the north King County crisis response zone. *(North zone includes cities: Bothell; Duvall; Kenmore; Kirkland; Lake Forest Park; Shoreline; Skykomish; Woodinville)*
2. A South King County crisis response zone representative selected by the Sound Cities Association from cities to review crisis care center operator proposals for the south King County crisis response zone. *(South zone includes cities: Algona; Auburn; Black Diamond; Burien; Covington; Des Moines; Enumclaw; Federal Way; Kent; Maple Valley; Milton; Normandy Park; Pacific; Renton; SeaTac; Tukwila)*
3. An East King County crisis response zone representative selected by the Sound Cities Association from cities to review crisis care center operator proposals for the east King County crisis response zone. *(East zone includes cities: Beaux Arts*



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Village; Bellevue; Carnation; Clyde Hill; Hunts Point; Issaquah; Medina; Mercer Island; Newcastle; North Bend; Redmond; Sammamish; Snoqualmie; Yarrow Point)

4. One representative selected by the City of Seattle and Sound Cities Association to review youth crisis care center operator proposals. (Note: this representative can be from any regional zone, provided they have expertise in youth behavioral health or crisis services.)

Seattle and the Sound Cities Association must identify these SMEs by September 1, 2024, ahead of a planned CCC procurement in mid-September. The full review panel will convene before the RFP is published for training.

Crisis Response Zones

Crisis Response Zones

Cities and Unincorporated Parts of King County Located Within Each Crisis Response Zone			
Central CRZ	North CRZ	East CRZ	South CRZ
Seattle	Bothell Duvall	Beaux Arts Bellevue	Algona Auburn
Unincorporated areas within King County Council Districts 2 & 8	Kenmore Kirkland Lake Forest Park Shoreline Skykomish Woodinville	Carnation Clyde Hill Hunts Point Issaquah Medina Mercer Island Newcastle	Black Diamond Burien Covington Des Moines Enumclaw Federal Way Kent Maple Valley Milton
	Unincorporated areas within King County Council District 3 that are north or northeast of Redmond	North Bend Redmond Sammamish Snoqualmie Yarrow Point	Normandy Park Pacific Renton SeaTac Tukwila
		Unincorporated areas within King County Council District 3 that are east or southeast of Redmond & King County Council District 6	Unincorporated areas within King County Council Districts 5, 7 & 9

Key Considerations for Nominations

1. On-the-ground city perspective of behavioral health and crisis response
2. Differing CRZ needs and expertise
3. Engagement across all CRZ cities



Applicants - [Attachment 1.A](#)

North

Brook Buettner

Executive Director of Regional Crisis Response Agency (RCR)
Shoreline, Kenmore, Lake Forest Park, Bothell

Becky Range

Assistant City Manager
Bothell

East

Toni Esparza

Assistant Director of Parks & Community Services
Bellevue

Brooke Buckingham

Human Services Manager
Redmond

South

Merina Hanson

Human Services Manager
Maple Valley

Maryjane Van Cleave

Parks & Recreation Administrator
Renton

Youth

Vikram Cheema

K12 Program Advisor
Department of Education & Early Learning

Diane Swanberg

Crisis Response Social Work Supervisor
Bellevue Fire

Applicants

NORTH CRZ – Two Applicants, Sorted by Last Name

Brook Buettner, Shoreline, Kenmore, Lake Forest Park, Bothell, Kirkland/Regional Crisis Response Agency

Executive Director of R.C.R.

bbuettner@rcrwa.org

Applicant Statement:

I am applying on behalf of Brook Buettner, the Executive Director of the Regional Crisis Response Agency (RCR). For nearly 20 years, Brook has played an integral role in the development of Washington state mental health resources and crisis response. Brook has assisted in the creation of many programs within King County, including DESC's Crisis Solutions Center, the RADAR Navigator program, and now the Regional Crisis Response Agency (RCR). As the Executive Director, Brook oversees behavioral health first response in five of the North King County cities. Brook's breadth of knowledge spans from interpersonal experience as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, to policy work and advocacy on a macro level.

Acknowledging the years of work, passion, and expertise Brook brings to this field makes her voice invaluable to this committee.

(Submitted by Rennee Cox, R.C.R)

Becky Range, Bothell

Assistant City Manager

becky.range@bothellwa.gov

Applicant Statement:

Hello! I'm willing to assist if needed. I oversee Human Services at the City of Bothell, recently contracted with Center for Human Services to site a behavioral health clinic in Bothell (leased space), and was a member of the five city coalition team that recruited and helped site the Kirkland Connections center. I was also on the same team that created the new Regional Crisis Response organization. Admittedly, I do not have much capital project experience, but do serve as the Northshore Parks and Recreation Service Area Executive Director, and in that role, we are expending \$9M in voter-approved funds to complete capital repairs in two buildings that house our regional senior center. Thanks for consideration and good luck with your committee!

EAST CRZ – Three Applicants, Sorted by Last Name

Brooke Buckingham, Redmond

Human Services Manager

bbuckingham@redmond.gov

Applicant Statement:

Redmond is unlikely to host a CCC site and will be able to provide a neutral perspective in the RFP process. Redmond is committed to being a strong regional partner. Brooke manages the Redmond's homeless outreach team and human services, which includes funding to non-profits for the provision of a variety of services, including behavioral health. She has intimate knowledge of the unique needs in East King County. She has also served on numerous RFP panels, including the recent Health through Housing panel. She leads numerous efforts requiring collaboration and partnership with neighboring jurisdictions and has strong knowledge of and relationships with local service providers.

Toni Esparza, Bellevue

Assistant Director

tesparza@bellevuewa.gov

Applicant Statement:

I have spent my 25+ year career in the human services and education field supporting marginalized communities. I have experienced first-hand as both a professional and parent the dire need for increased behavioral health resources. 12 years of my career were spent overseeing a wraparound services youth program, which included mental health and substance use disorder treatment. For the past 6+ years, I have worked for the City of Bellevue; as part of my work I oversee the City's human services funding. Through this work, we track data relative to community need. In recent focus groups and a community survey, respondents identified access to behavioral health support as a significant need. This need seems particularly pronounced with Substance Use Disorder services, where only 27% of respondents reported that they were able to access the service within their community (compared to 59% for mental health counseling). Fewer than half (46%) of individuals seeking mental health counseling or substance use disorder services felt that they were able to receive the service in a reasonable amount of time after contacting a provider. I would value the opportunity to be a part of the review panel that will contribute to the critical expansion of behavioral health services in our community, and believe I could bring valuable professional perspective and also personal lived experience, as a parent of children with behavioral health needs.

[Attachment A: Esparza Resume](#)

SOUTH CRZ – Two Applicants, Sorted by Last Name

Merina Hanson, Maple Valley

Human Services Manager

mhanson@kentwa.gov

Applicant Statement:

Please accept this statement of interest for the CCC Proposal Review Panel. I currently serve as the Human Services Manager for the City of Kent and have dedicated over nearly 27 years to the field of human services, specifically in South King County and Kent. Over the tenure of my career, I have gained extensive experience in evaluating and supporting programs designed to improve individual and community well-being. I have had the opportunity to serve on various funding review panels over the years, including both program services and housing capital projects. I am currently the alternate for Mayor Ralph on the South King Housing and Homelessness Partnership (SKHHP) board and have been involved in reading proposals via the SKHHP Housing Capital Fund application process. I also manage Kent's federal, entitlement Community Development Block Grant.

I have been closely following the Crisis Care Center Levy and had the opportunity to learn more alongside several South King County cities that joined together to do some early exploration of other similar entities and possible siting options. I believe the CCC's will be a critical asset for our residents and communities going forward and I have a solid understanding of the organizations that will be important partners in the process. My most recent grant review panel experience includes the 2024 Human Services Funding Collaborative process for Kent (150 applications requesting over \$7million) and the state's Washington Migrant and Asylum-Seeker Support Project.

Thank you for your consideration and please let me know if I can provide more information.

Maryjane Van Cleave

Parks & Recreation Administrator

mvanceleave@rentonwa.gov

Applicant Statement:

Thank you for your consideration. My experience is the following. I'm currently the department head of the Parks & Recreation Department, that houses our city's human services division, I was previously the department head for the city of Renton's Equity, Housing and Human Services Department. The department has since been re-org in order to better serve our community. I also served for several years on the King County's Veteran, Seniors, Human Services Advisory Board. I empathize for our community members that are in crisis and believe in the role, and opportunity we have at the local and regional level of government.

YOUTH – One Applicant

Vik Cheema, Seattle - Department of Education and Early Learning (DEEL)

K12 Program Advisor

vik.cheema@seattle.gov

Applicant Statement:

Vik Cheema (he/him) is the K12 Program Advisor at City of Seattle’s Department of Education and Early Learning (DEEL). He manages the Wraparound Supports portfolio which includes the City’s investments in School-Based Health Centers, Family Support Services, Homelessness & Housing Support Services, and Student Mental Health Supports. Vik represents DEEL in various workgroups with regional impact, including the King County Policy Codesign Project for Youth Mental Health and Substance Use Prevention.

(Submitted by Elsa Brown, City of Seattle)

Diane Swanberg, Bellevue Fire

Crisis Response Social Work Supervisor

dswanberg@bellevuewa.gov

Applicant Statement:

I am very interested in being a part of the proposal review panel for Sound Cities Association. I have worked in the behavioral health crisis field for 20 years, including substance use disorder, involuntary commitment services and in trauma counseling. The past 10 years of my career have been in leadership positions which have provided me the opportunity to identify deficits in our community resources and develop programs to fill in the gaps. In addition to the positions on my resume, I have also served on the Washington State Designated Crisis Responder (DCR) Board of Directors as the Legislative and DCR Education lead. This position provided me the opportunity to work with DCRs across the state and represent the challenges they faced to the legislature regarding gaps in services for community members experiencing extreme crisis.

[Attachment B: Swanberg Resume](#)