



SCA Public Issues Committee
November 12, 2025 - 7:00 PM
Online Meeting

Members of the public may view and listen to the meeting by using the following link from a computer, tablet, or smartphone:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81473146419?pwd=https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85835561391?pwd=E0WDUnJ2xXf49R3UJ9DzxcJpO2rOJl.1.1>

Or dial in by phone: 1-253-215-8782 / 858 3556 1391 / Passcode: 632911

AGENDA

- | | |
|--|------------|
| 1) Welcome and Roll Call – Chris Roberts, Shoreline, PIC Chair | 5 Minutes |
| 2) Public Comment | 5 Minutes |
| 3) Approval of Minutes – October 8, 2025 Meeting
Page 6 | 5 Minutes |
| 4) Chair’s Report – Chris Roberts, Shoreline, PIC Chair | 5 Minutes |
| 5) Executive Director’s Report – Robert Feldstein, Executive Director | 5 Minutes |
| 6) SCA 2026 State Legislative Agenda & County Priorities
DISCUSSION
Page 15
Aj Foltz, Senior Policy Analyst | 25 Minutes |
| 7) Transit Safety and Security Briefing
DISCUSSION
Page 21
Dax Tate, Policy Analyst | 20 Minutes |
| 8) Unapproved Food Vendors Briefing
DISCUSSION
Page 26
Robert Feldstein, Executive Director | 20 Minutes |
| 9) PSRC Committee Restructuring
DISCUSSION
Page 28
Robert Feldstein, Executive Director
Aj Foltz, Senior Policy Analyst | 10 Minutes |

10) [Election Results Roundtable](#)

15 Minutes

DISCUSSION

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Robert Feldstein, Executive Director

11) Updates/Informational Items

5 Minutes

- a. [Regional Boards & Committees Upcoming Issues](#)
- b. November 2025 Newsletter
- c. [Levies and Ballot Measures](#)

12) For the good of the order

13) Adjourn

Upcoming Events

- a. Regional Utility Rate Summit – Friday, November 14 - [RSVP here](#)
- b. SCA Board of Directors Meeting – Wednesday, November 19
- c. SCA Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday – November 27 – 28
- d. SCA Annual Meeting – Wednesday, December 3, 5:30 PM –
Pickering Barn, Issaquah – [Register Here](#)
- e. SCA Public Issues Committee Meeting – Wednesday, December 10
- f. SCA Office Closed for Winter Holiday December 25 – January 2
- g. SCA 2026 Appointee Orientation – Evening of Wednesday, Feb 4 –
SeaTac City Hall

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

SCA will lead policy change to make the Puget Sound region the best in the world for our diverse communities.

Values

SCA is committed to creating an environment that fosters mutual support, respect, trust, fairness, and integrity for the greater good of the association and its membership. SCA operates in a consistent, inclusive, and transparent manner that respects the diversity of our members and encourages open discussion and risk-taking. SCA acknowledges the systemic racism and inequities in our society and continues its commitment to the work needed to address them.

Guiding Principles

- 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
- Be fully present and engaged during meetings
- Extend grace to others – cut them some slack
- Remain open-minded
- Respect differing views

Commonly Used Acronyms

ADS Advisory Council	Advisory Council on Aging and Disability Services
AHC	Affordable Housing Committee
AFIS Advisory Committee	Automated Fingerprint Identification System Advisory Committee
AWC	Association of Washington Cities
BOH	Board of Health
BPAC	PSRC Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee
CIP	Capital Improvement Plan
CPPs	Countywide Planning Policies
CSO	Combined Sewer Overflows
CYAB	Children and Youth Advisory Board
DCHS	King County Department of Community and Human Services
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
GMA	Growth Management Act
GMPB	PSRC Growth Management Policy Board
GMPC	King County Growth Management Planning Council
GSP	Greater Seattle Partners
HIJT	Affordable Housing Interjurisdictional Team
IJT	Interjurisdictional Team – staff support to the GMPC
ICA	Interlocal Cooperation Agreement
ILA	Interlocal Agreement
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
KCRHA	King County Regional Homelessness Authority
LEOFF1 Disability Board	Law Enforcement Officers and Fire Fighters Plan 1 Disability Board
MCC	Hazardous Waste Management Program Management Coordination Committee
MIDD	Mental Illness and Drug Dependency
MKCC	Metropolitan King County Council
MRSC	Municipal Research Services Center
MSWMAC	Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee
MWPAAC	Metropolitan Water Pollution Abatement Advisory Committee
OPMA	Open Public Meetings Act
PHSKC	Public Health – Seattle & King County
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
PRA	Public Records Act
RCW	Revised Code of Washington
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
SKHHP	South King Housing and Homelessness Partners
SWAC	Solid Waste Advisory Committee
TPB	PSRC Transportation Policy Board
WTD	King County Wastewater Treatment Division



SCA Public Issues Committee

DRAFT MINUTES

October 8, 2025 – 7:00 PM

Online Meeting

1. Welcome and Roll Call

Shoreline Mayor, Chris Roberts, Public Issues Committee (PIC) Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. 20 cities were represented. ([Attachment A](#)).

Guests present included: Katie Halse, Bellevue Staff; Amy Tsai, Redmond Staff; Tania Mondaca, King County Staff; Micha Lujan, King County Executive Staff; Calandra Childers, 4Culture; and Claire Miccio, 4Culture.

Chair Roberts 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

Shoreline Mayor, Chris Roberts, SCA PIC Chair asked if there was anyone in attendance who would like to provide public comment and encouraged any individuals with comment to contact sca@soundcities.org .

Hearing none, Chair Roberts closed this portion of the meeting.

3. Approval of Minutes – September 10, 2025 Meeting

Shoreline Mayor, Chris Roberts, PIC Chair asked for any questions or amendments to the minutes of the September 10, 2025 SCA PIC meeting.

Mayor Kelli Curtis, Kirkland moved, seconded by Covington Councilmember, Joseph Cimaomo, Jr., PIC Vice Chair, to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2025 SCA PIC Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Chair's Report

Shoreline Mayor, Chris Roberts, SCA PIC Chair, thanked Covington Councilmember Joseph Cimaomo, Jr., SCA PIC Vice Chair, for running the September meeting in his absence and thanked members who were able to attend. Roberts said he heard the tour went well and expressed excitement for future light rail openings. He shared that he has the privilege of naming the PIC Nominating Committee, which will consist of Mayor Troy Linnell, Algona; Councilmember Cara Christensen, Snoqualmie; Councilmember Ruth Pérez, Renton; and Councilmember Melissa Stuart, Redmond.

5. Executive Director's Report

SCA Executive Director Robert Feldstein expressed appreciation for being in the room with other PIC members at the September meeting. He introduced new SCA Policy Analyst Dax Tate, who has taken on the portfolio of public safety and transit committees. Feldstein shared that SCA has continued conversations around the potential King County Transportation District tax, including receiving a response from the Building Trades Union and speaking with King County Metro General Manager Michelle Allison.

Feldstein stated that the Regional Transit Safety Taskforce recently presented their implementation plan to the King County Committee of the Whole. He encouraged members to attend the upcoming Regional Utilities Rate Summit, which he shared will be held on November 14th with an invitation to follow shortly.

6. SCA Regional Boards and Committees 2026 Appointments

SCA Executive Director Robert Feldstein highlighted the importance of SCA's work on Regional Boards and Committees and expressed that this work only happens if members apply to committees. Feldstein asked members to reach out to their colleagues and encourage them to apply. Shoreline Mayor, Chris Roberts, PIC Chair, also encouraged members to apply.

7. Indigent Defense Caseload Standards Letter to the Legislature

Presentation by SCA Senior Policy Analyst Aj Foltz. Materials attached and available [here](#) ; the redlined letter and amendments can be found in the PIC Packet ([link](#)) on pages 23-27.

Foltz began by reviewing PIC's prior discussions on this topic. At the July PIC meeting, members decided PIC should take collective action on this issue. Between the July and September meetings, SCA staff met with AWC and Gordon Thomas Honeywell, surveyed SCA cities for more information on the impacts of implementing the new standards, and drafted a letter. At the September meeting, there was consensus that PIC & SCA should take up this issue and vote on the final draft letter at the October meeting. Between the September and October meetings, SCA staff collected proposed amendments, briefed the SCA Board of Directors on the letter, and added a section to the 2026 SCA State Legislative Agenda on Indigent Defense.

Components of the draft letter include rising costs and budgetary concerns, public defense recruitment challenges, operational and fiscal impacts, and inequities in impact. The letter primarily asks for ongoing state-funded resources, workforce development support, and guidance on how to effectively allocate city resources.

Deputy Mayor Harry Steinmetz, Des Moines, moved, seconded by Councilmember Tola Marts, Issaquah, to approve the redlined version of the letter as presented in the PIC packet.

Steinmetz stated that the primary focus of a letter should be on the standards as a fiscal issue and that he hopes SCA does not get bogged down on other issues. He expressed that the letter

directly addresses the issues cities will face in complying with the standards and stated his support for the letter.

Foltz then overviewed the submitted amendments as presented in the PIC Packet. She shared that Kirkland has communicated support for Kent's amendment. Foltz added that SCA staff has been looking into reasons to include a state study or limitations of a study. She overviewed that reasons in support of a state study include that there are specific factors at the state and local level that influence the time attorneys need to represent their clients; that substantive law, court rules and procedures, caseload maximums, outcomes, discovery policies, travel times, and support staff levels vary by jurisdiction; and that the RAND National study calls for a state-specific study. Limitations of a potential study include that in six out of seven state studies SCA staff reviewed, findings were in line with the national study, and in the seventh case, greater capacity was recommended. Other limitations include that the national study has found their conclusions are usually in the middle of state results, state studies are done in partnership with those who conducted the national study, and the timeline would be challenging given that implementation is set to begin in January 2026.

Mayor Kelli Curtis, Kirkland, moved, seconded by Councilmember Jared Nieuwenhuis, Bellevue, to adopt City of Kent's Amendment 1 as presented in the PIC Packet. No objections were raised, and the amendment was adopted.

Nieuwenhuis expressed appreciation for the purpose behind Kirkland's proposed Amendment 3 as presented in the packet. He asked whether the amendment could delay funding until after the study. Foltz replied that her interpretation is that the study would delay implementation by the state but would need to confirm. SCA Executive Director Robert Feldstein added that it is unlikely that the state would pay for a study this year. He also raised questions about the validity of the approach used in the study, though acknowledged its usefulness.

Curtis asked Feldstein whether the studies performed looked at misdemeanors. Feldstein asked SCA Policy Analyst Dax Tate, who stated that the studies were conducted on overall workload, which includes both misdemeanors and felonies. He stated that the national study analysis went into a more granular level of detail.

Curtis moved forward amendments 2 and 3. A second was not obtained.

Councilmember Bill Boyce, Kent, stated his appreciation to approve the standards but shared concerns that a proper process to arrive at the standards was not conducted.

Boyce moved, seconded by Jared Nieuwenhuis, Bellevue, to strike out the language, "SCA appreciates the many months of work by the Washington State Bar Association and Washington State Supreme Court to create and approve these standards." from the letter. Given that this text is now absent from the letter following the adoption of Amendment 1, this motion was ruled out of order.

Steinmetz moved, seconded by Councilmember Melissa Stuart, Redmond, to adopt Amendment 4 as presented in the PIC Packet. No objections were raised, and the amendment was adopted.

Steinmetz expressed that it is important to get the information in Amendment 4 in front of the legislature as soon as possible.

Stuart expressed that she believes Amendment 4 is necessary. She asked whether there had been communication between SCA staff and the staff of the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) in light of recent PIC discussions about aligning with AWC as much as possible. Stuart added that this topic is a priority in the AWC Legislative Agenda alongside workforce development and therefore supports Amendment 4's inclusion in the letter. Foltz replied that SCA staff has been in communication with AWC staff and has drawn on the AWC Legislative Agenda to inform SCA's State Legislative Agenda. Feldstein added that SCA shared the draft letter with AWC early on, and that AWC's only concern was around conducting a state study.

Mayor Pro Tempore Ronn Mercer, Duvall, stated that he is not against the adoption of Amendment 4 but wants to clarify that while Washington law schools have limited numbers of graduates and attorneys in this area, graduates from other states are not precluded from this field.

Steinmetz asked whether Mercer was suggesting a friendly amendment to say "there may be too few attorneys", to which Mercer agreed. Shoreline Mayor, Chris Roberts, PIC Chair, clarified that friendly amendments are not possible, and asked Foltz whether this change would contradict the remaining text of the letter. Foltz replied that it does not.

Roberts called for a vote to adopt the redlined version of the letter as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

8. 4Culture Doors Open Presentation

Presentation by Senior Government Relations Manager Claire Miccio, 4Culture, and Director of Program Strategy and Impact Calandra Childers, 4Culture. Materials attached and available [here](#) .

Miccio began by introducing 4Culture. She shared that 4Culture is chartered as the Cultural Development Authority of King County and was started in the 1970s to support, advocate for, and preserve the cultural resources of the region. 4Culture does this work by providing competitive grant funding programs and art commissions.

4Culture is primarily funded by a 0.1% sales tax funding to implement the Doors Open cultural access program (estimated \$100M annually from 2024-2030), funds from 37.5% of lodging tax from King County (\$10-15M annually), and the 1% for the Arts funds from eligible capital construction projects. For each revenue source, there are tight constraints on how the money can be spent and applicant eligibility.

Miccio shared that the King County Council and Executive appoint 4Culture's Board of Directors, which is representative of the King County Council Districts, guides the work of 4Culture, reports to the King County Executive and Council, and reviews 4Culture's budget. 4Culture also completes additional assessment reporting for Doors Open and is audited annually by the Washington state auditor.

In 2024, 4Culture received 2,000 applications and granted 1,701 awards across 8 programs. The organization developed an Implementation Plan which was approved. They also prepared for the full rollout of the Doors Open Program in 2025.

The Doors Open program is made up of six competitive grant programs: operating support, public schools cultural access, public free access, cultural facilities, County connected, and launch. A minimum of 25% of all Doors Open funding is required to go to projects and organizations outside of Seattle. 4Culture surpassed the 25% goal, as 27% of sustained support funding went out of Seattle, 35% of funded organizations were located outside of Seattle, and 26% of facilities funding went to projects outside of Seattle. Organizations outside of Seattle had a 71% win rate for grants related to facilities and a 98% win rate for grants related to operating support.

The Doors Open program is designed to support new and emerging organizations, including by providing an online resource library and consultant directory. Funded organizations qualify for services like coaching, mentoring, consulting, and communities of practice. The Doors Open Facilities Grants also funded projects focused on ADA compliance.

Childers shared 4Culture's evaluation principles, which ensure responsible stewardship of funds and accountability. 4Culture also hoped to build expanded evaluation capacity across the sector. They collect three levels of metrics to measure success: monitoring and compliance, program performance, and public benefit impact.

Doors Open has developed an Evaluation Framework and Plan that they have been sharing, and will continue to share, with partners across the County.

Doors Open has completed their first round of awards and has done an economic impact review. They found that the Arts and Culture funds have a larger economic impact since grantees buy local. Specifically, they saw that every \$1 of investment creates a \$1.73 total output in arts recreation and entertainment and every \$100,000 of investment creates 1.56 jobs in arts recreation and entertainment. Overall, from a \$60.9 million investment, Doors Open has had \$105.4 million in total economic impact, with 950 new jobs and gigs in King County and \$34.1 million in King County wages.

Councilmember Tola Marts, Issaquah, asked whether 74% of funds are going to Seattle-based organizations. Miccio clarified that 74% of total funds are not going to Seattle. Instead, 27% of sustained support funding went out of Seattle, 35% of funded organizations were located outside of Seattle, and 26% of facilities funding went to projects outside of Seattle. Marts asked how

much of the revenue supporting 4Culture comes from Seattle. Miccio replied that they have not done that analysis for the sales tax amount or the funding source derived from capital facility construction for King County Facilities, but that the majority of the lodging tax revenue comes from Seattle. Marts stated that if the revenue streams primarily come from and return to Seattle, a good argument to primarily fund organizations in Seattle can be made. He stated that in an era of tax fatigue, his constituents might be concerned about why the majority of the funding is going to Seattle. Miccio replied that it would be interesting to analyze how much revenue comes from each jurisdiction.

Shoreline Mayor Chris Roberts, SCA PIC Chair, asked whether adding capacity to struggling, smaller organizations or giving funds to larger organizations with donors has a better return on investment. Childers stated that 4Culture funds organizations that are volunteer-run or have a few staff and does not often fund organizations with a large employee base. She added that organizations with a large employee base bring visitors and tourism revenue to the region but are predominantly in Seattle and are not as accessible to everyone in King County. Childers stated that the focus is on how to distribute funding to groups outside of Seattle.

Councilmember Syd Dawson, Maple Valley, stated that he knows of two nonprofits in Maple Valley that have benefitted from 4Culture funding and expressed appreciation. Dawson stated he is happy to share how the funding has benefitted organizations in his cities.

Councilmember Mark Joselyn, North Bend, asked whether a funded organization must reapply for funding annually. Miccio replied that with the exception of their unique 3-year program, other programs provide funding on an annual basis.

SCA Executive Director Robert Feldstein shared that many cities do not have the infrastructure of nonprofits, and the city's parks and recreation team does the arts and culture programming. He asked whether 4Culture would be willing to support any of the programs breaking out into their own 501(c)3 organizations. Childers replied she would want to confirm the laws in place before providing a definitive answer but thinks this is worth further conversation. She stated that the launch program includes a path for coming up with a new nonprofit and a path for nonprofits that have been doing the work but have not yet hired staff.

9. Regional Boards and Committees Upcoming Issues

SCA Executive Director Robert Feldstein shared that the goal for updating this item is to provide an opportunity for our caucuses to have increased input from more of our cities. SCA Senior Policy Analyst Aj Foltz shared that there was broad support for this item at the September PIC meeting. Foltz stated that SCA policy staff have reworked the memo format of this item and are happy to take feedback on the format and timing of the included items.

Councilmember Melissa Stuart, Redmond, shared that she chairs SCA's caucus for the Growth Management Planning Board, which has recently recommended reconsidering the representation on the committee. She shared that a proposal has been presented that would award six permanent seats to SCA cities and lower the overall designation for SCA-appointed

seats. Stuart expressed that she has questions regarding how this impacts smaller cities and stated that this issue arose after the PIC Packet was compiled.

Councilmember Tola Marts, Issaquah, stated that Issaquah is concerned about this proposal because while Seattle and Bellevue have unique needs, the 80,000 population cutoff for receiving a seat seems arbitrary.

Shoreline Mayor, Chris Roberts, SCA PIC Chair, asked if there were updates on Seattle Mayor Bruce Harrell's letter regarding cities' contributions to homelessness response. Foltz said that the letter was discussed at the last meeting of the King County Regional Homelessness Authority (KCRHA), and that there will be a county-wide look into the resources going into housing. Feldstein shared that the desire is to check if the work being done by SCA cities is proportional to our needs. He clarified that not paying into KCRHA is not the same as not contributing to work on homelessness generally. Feldstein stated that Seattle and King County have a need for a coordinated response that does not apply to other cities as much. He also shared that Harrell recently discussed a potential resolution asking cities to give land for the homelessness response if they cannot provide funding.

10. Updates/Informational Items

SCA Senior Policy Analyst Aj Foltz presented this standing agenda item to offer an opportunity for questions from PIC members.

Foltz shared that work on SCA's 2026 State and County Legislative Agendas is moving forward. She stated that the committee has met twice and proposed topics for consideration and language changes. Foltz said work is underway to compile specific language, and that the agendas will be before PIC next month and then voted on at the December PIC meeting.

Foltz shared that the October 2025 newsletter was released today and asked members to share their feedback. Foltz stated that feedback thus far has been positive and encouraged cities to submit their wins to be highlighted in the newsletter. She also reviewed that the newsletter included pictures from the September Pre-PIC and a City Manager/City Administrator meeting on parks and libraries.

Foltz stated that there was an update to the levies and ballot measures to reflect Covington's item raised at the last PIC meeting.

11. For the Good of the Order

There were no items for the good of the order.

12. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

**Public Issues Committee Meeting
October 8, 2025**

City	Representative	Alternate
Algona	Troy Linnell	David White
Auburn	Nancy Backus	Tracy Taylor
Beaux Arts Village	Aletha Howes	
Bellevue	Jared Nieuwenhuis	Dave Hamilton
Black Diamond	Tamie Deady	
Bothell	Carston Curd	Rami Al-Kabra
Burien	Kevin Schilling	
Carnation	Jim Ribail	
Clyde Hill	Steve Friedman	
Covington	Joseph Cimaomo, Jr.	Kristina Soltys
Des Moines	Harry Steinmetz	Yoshiko Grace Matsui
Duvall	Ronn Mercer	Mike Supple
Enumclaw	Chance LaFleur	Corrie Koopman-Frazier
Federal Way	Susan Honda	Lydia Assefa-Dawson
Hunts Point	Joseph Sabey	
Issaquah	Tola Marts	Kelly Jiang
Kenmore	Nigel Herbig	Melanie O'Cain
Kent	Bill Boyce	Toni Troutner
Kirkland	Kelli Curtis	John Tymczyszyn
Lake Forest Park	Joe Lebo	Tracy Furutani
Maple Valley	Syd Dawson	Dana Parnello
Medina	Michael Luis	
Mercer Island	Dave Rosenbaum	Ted Weinberg
Milton	Tim Ceder	Shanna Styron Sherrell
Newcastle	Paul Charbonneau	Ariana Sherlock
Normandy Park	Sue-Ann Hohimer	Jack Lamanna
North Bend	Errol Tremolada	Mark Joselyn
Pacific	Kerry Garberding	Vic Kave
Redmond	Melissa Stuart	Osman Salahuddin
Renton	Ruth Pérez	Armondo Pavone
Sammamish	Sid Gupta	Amy Lam
SeaTac	Jake Simpson	Iris Guzmán
Shoreline	Chris Roberts	John Ramsdell
Skykomish	Henry Sladek	
Snoqualmie	Cara Christensen	Louis Washington
Tukwila	Jovita McConnell	Hannah Hedrick
Woodinville	David Edwards	James Randolph
Yarrow Point	Katy Kinney Harris	

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

SCA PIC October 8, 2025

Attachment B: Chat Log

19:06:20 From Sid Gupta, Sammamish to Hosts and panelists:

Sid Gupta, CM Sammamish.

Apologies for my tardiness.

20:00:52 From Jared Nieuwenhuis, Bellevue to Hosts and panelists:

I apologize but I need to drop off. Have a good night everyone.

20:12:14 From Robert Feldstein to Everyone:

SCA is looking into this question of city-by-city generated income across a number of taxes.

We don't have that info yet, but will share when we do.

20:22:36 From Claire Miccio, 4Culture to Hosts and panelists:

Thank you! I'd be really interested to see this analysis

20:25:40 From Ronn Mercer, Duvall to Hosts and panelists:

Apologies. I need to drop a bit early. I'm flying out from SeaTac this evening, but I wanted to catch as much of the meeting as possible.

Item 6:
2026 SCA Legislative Agenda

DISCUSSION

SCA Staff Contacts

Aj Foltz, SCA Senior Policy Analyst, aj@soundcities.org, (206) 849-3056

2025-2026 SCA Legislative Committee Members

Council President Vanessa Kritzer, Redmond; Mayor Dana Ralph, Kent; Mayor Troy Linnell, Algona; Mayor Mary Lou Pauly, Issaquah; Regan Bolli, City Manager for the City of Covington

Discussion

The SCA Legislative Committee met several times in September and October to develop the draft 2026 SCA Legislative Agenda and the new draft 2026 SCA County Priorities.

At the November meeting, PIC will review and discuss both documents and offer initial feedback. Amendments can be proposed during the November meeting and over email between PIC meetings for consideration and possible approval by PIC at the December meeting.

The agenda will be considered and recommended for approval at the December 10 PIC meeting. The SCA Board of Directors is expected to formally adopt the agenda at their December 17 meeting.. SCA cities are encouraged to share their respective cities' legislative agendas with SCA policy staff as they become available.

2026 State Legislative Agenda

The Legislative Committee opted to keep the 2026 State Legislative Agenda brief and pointed for the Legislature, due to state budgetary concerns and the upcoming short legislative session. The legislative agenda includes the following topic areas:

- Fund & Support Indigent Defense Services
- Expand Access for Public Safety Local Options
- Support Local Housing Priorities
- Invest in Local Climate Action
- Fund & Support Local Transportation Priorities

The document will also include the following Legislative Guiding Principles, which have not changed since last year.

SCA supports legislation that aligns with the following guiding principles:

- Advance racial equity and social justice
- Improve the social safety net
- Make no unfunded mandates to cities
- Preserve local decision-making authority

PIC members may suggest amendments or additional topic areas to include in the legislative agenda.

2026 County Priorities

The County Priorities document is a new venture for SCA and is intended to suggest ways for cities and King County to strengthen their existing partnerships. With the broad theme of improving the County's communication and collaboration with cities, each topic area focuses on city issues and provides suggestions for improvements. The other function of this document is to direct SCA staff to work on these priorities at the county level throughout the next year.

The following topics are included in the County Priorities document:

- Collaboration on Levy Development
- Siting County Facilities and Infrastructure
- Public Safety Funding
- Long-Term Solid Waste Disposal Strategy
- Utility Rates Affordability

PIC members may suggest amendments or additional topic areas to include in the County Priorities.

Timeline & Next Steps

Amendments to both documents will be accepted over email until **December 1, 2025**. SCA staff will present formatted versions of both documents for review by PIC at the December meeting.

The Sound Cities Association (SCA) urges the Washington State Legislature to adopt a balanced and equitable approach to policymaking that empowers cities to meet the varied and unique needs of communities in King County.

Fund & Support Indigent Defense Services

Cities require sustained state funding, workforce development, and guidance to meet the new indigent defense caseload standards, which are expected to significantly strain local budgets and operations. The projected cost increase for surveyed SCA cities is nearly 700% over ten years, with local funding models disproportionately impacting cities with the most indigent defense cases.

SCA supports:

- State funding for most—if not all—public defense to ensure equity and stability; and,
- Policies that strengthen the public defense workforce.

Expand Access for Public Safety Local Options

SCA cities support a range of state funding sources for public safety and the flexibility to allocate funds based on local priorities. While cities appreciate HB 2015's criminal justice sales tax, restrictive requirements limit cities' ability to access and use the funding effectively.

SCA supports:

- Easing restrictions on eligibility for the HB 2015 sales tax; and,
- Increasing support for public safety workforce and alternative crisis response programs.

Support Local Housing Priorities

Cities request adequate time to implement existing housing regulations before new policies are introduced, along with flexible funding tools to meet both state and local housing goals.

SCA supports:

- Prioritization of incentives over mandates and allow locally tailored approaches that focus on outcomes rather than prescriptive methods;
- Increasing the HB 1590 revenue allocation to cities for housing and behavioral health services from 40% to 50%; and,
- State engagement with cities throughout the legislative process and aligning regulatory efforts, including environmental regulations, with a broader strategy to expand housing supply.

Invest in Local Climate Action

SCA cities ask the state to collaborate more directly with cities to support local climate action. While cities have developed robust climate resilience plans, funding remains a major challenge.

SCA supports:

- Investment in local sustainability efforts; and,
- Providing transparent communication about Climate Commitment Act funding, including outcomes, impacts, and future resources.

Fund & Support Local Transportation Priorities

SCA cities ask the state to provide flexible options for funding local transportation. SCA cities in King County face a major transportation funding gap: the Puget Sound Regional Council's Regional Transportation Plan shows a 45% shortfall for cities compared to much lower gaps for counties and WSDOT.

SCA supports:

- Sustainable state transportation revenue that provides funding for local preservation, maintenance, operations, and safety improvements;
- Implementing a Road Usage Charge with a more balanced revenue distribution than the current gas tax; and,
- Instituting flexible funding options to address growing infrastructure demands.

For the benefit of the County, the region, and the residents of our cities, members of the Sound Cities Association (SCA) seek to strengthen King County's partnerships with local governments. By strengthening this partnership, cities and the County can build a solid foundation for consistent communication and collaborative action on countywide priorities, including those outlined below.

Collaboration on Levy Development

Ensure early and ongoing engagement with cities throughout the levy development process.

Enhanced collaboration between King County and its cities is essential to ensure the effective allocation of funding and the sustained delivery of vital programs and services for our shared residents.

SCA supports:

- Coordinating with cities on levy timing to reduce tax fatigue;
- Early transmittal that provides sufficient time for discussion and potential changes;
- Incorporating or addressing input from city staff and elected officials during development;
- Equitable distribution of levy revenues, including transparent reporting of the geographic distribution.

SCA will continue to emphasize increased communication between our member cities and SCA appointed members already engaged in levy development processes.

Siting County Facilities and Infrastructure

Communicate effectively with all cities, including small cities, on land use decisions. SCA cities face financial and logistical challenges when properties are purchased by King County within city limits without prior coordination. Strengthened coordination and transparency between King County and its cities will advance effective planning and facilitate streamlined, regionally integrated decision-making.

SCA supports:

- Early engagement with cities on siting facilities, including collaboration in identifying potential properties;
- Increased collaboration concerning land use near schools, residential areas, and on adjacent unincorporated lands;
- Discussion on the potential environmental and quality of life impacts of planned facilities; and,
- Supporting cities in communicating with their residents regarding land use decisions.

Public Safety Funding

SCA cities request greater involvement in decision-making related to public safety funding to ensure they are consistently engaged in and adequately prepared for any potential changes.

SCA supports:

- Engagement with cities during the public safety contracting process to ensure mutual communication of potential rising costs and city priorities;
- Providing advance notice of court and other fee increases to ensure cities have adequate time to adjust their budgets accordingly;
- Incorporating a phased-in approach for cities to implement rate changes; and,
- Aligning city and county public safety funding priorities and usage of HB 2015 funds.

Along with these priorities, SCA cities wish to remain actively engaged in broader public safety discussions, including the Regional Safety Task Force implementation, with increased representation and a more prominent role in shaping policy decisions.

Long-Term Solid Waste Disposal Strategy

To address the region's long-term solid waste disposal challenges, **King County should recognize the growing concerns of its cities** and work collaboratively to develop solutions that reflect shared priorities and city input. Solid waste disposal involves not only waste management but transportation concerns.

SCA supports:

- Providing a comprehensive traffic analysis on the impacts that waste export by rail would have on cities with rail lines.
- Analysis of the impacts of a potential waste-to-energy facility on communities surrounding potential sites

Utility Rates Affordability

Following the 2025 Regional Utility Rate Summit, **SCA cities remain committed to ongoing dialogue and engagement to ensure utility rates remain sustainable and equitable for residents.** Cities are particularly interested in mitigating rate increases since utility rates are tied to overall affordability in this region and are a key piece of equity and cost of living.

SCA supports:

- Assistance in communicating county rate changes to our shared populations;
- Coordinating local and county-wide rate increases, when necessary, to ensure local infrastructure and capital needs for utilities continue to be funded adequately; and,
- Engagement between cities and King County on supporting low-income residents who are impacted by rising utility rates.

Item 7:

Transit Safety Task Force Implementation Plan

DISCUSSION

SCA Staff Contact

Dax Tate, SCA Policy Analyst, dax@soundcities.org, 206-321-2353

Discussion

The King County Regional Transit Safety Task Force (“Task Force”) has released its [Implementation Plan](#), including shared implementation work by cities, local law enforcement, King County, Sound Transit, Metro, and other partners. Sacha Taylor and Ashley Street with Leone Solutions Group will be attending PIC to present the plan, discuss next steps, and gather feedback from SCA cities on how best to approach the shared work laid out in the plan.

Background

The King County Council passed [Motion 16783](#) in March 2025 in response to the fatal attack on Metro operator Shawn Yim as well as other reported assaults and safety concerns from both operators and transit riders. The motion directed the King County Executive to convene a transit safety task force with representatives from ATU Local 587, operators, agency leadership, law enforcement, cities, behavioral health providers, care responders, riders, and community organizations.

The Task Force collected input via working sessions, surveys, public events, and reviews from March through September 2025, which included involvement by SCA staff and member cities. The Task Force released its Implementation Plan in October, with more than 150 solutions organized into 39 workstreams within six Core Initiatives. The six Initiative areas are:

1. Regional Coordination & Alignment (p. 9)
2. Regional Responder & Outreach Staffing (p. 18)
3. Field Staffing & Operator Support (p. 21)
4. Workforce Training & Support (p. 23)
5. Safe Transit Environments (p. 29)
6. Employee & Rider Reporting Systems (p. 33)

Implementation will be overseen by an Implementation Review Group – which has not yet been formed and may include some form of SCA representation – and will include near, medium, and long-term actions. Solutions requiring city contributions include:

- Creating signage and public education for a regionwide code of conduct;

- Aligning regional efforts around enforcement, incident response, prosecution, and legal accountability; and
- Developing safe transit sites, with consideration of environmental design, lighting, vegetation, visibility, repairs, and maintenance.

While certain solutions can be implemented independently, many – such as *Regional Alignment of Incident Response* (Initiative 1, Workstream 1), *Cross-System Legal Accountability for Transit Incidents* (Initiative 1, Workstream 6), and *Alternative Response and Regional Response Infrastructure* (Initiative 1, Workstream 8) – will require partnership between cities, local law enforcement, King County, Metro, Sound Transit, and other partners.

Local Law Enforcement Letter and Response

After the Draft Implementation Plan was released in October, chiefs of police from a subset of SCA cities signed onto a letter ([Attachment A](#)) sharing feedback on the plan. The letter expressed concern that the plan, which calls for more uniform incident response and enforcement across the regional transit network, would shift more responsibility to local jurisdictions without a corresponding increase in resources. It also called for a more robust discussion of prosecutorial and court system engagement and clearer funding commitments for proposed solutions.

While not an SCA letter, SCA staff assisted in collecting signatures, distributed the letter on behalf of the signatories, and have been engaged in conversations with Task Force partners on how to incorporate points raised in the letter.

In response to the letter, Leone Solutions Group and King County Metro reached out to Sound Cities Association to discuss specific pieces of feedback and identify areas for further engagement with cities. Some of the specific points that they addressed included:

- **Transfer of Safety Responsibilities** – While the letter raises concerns that the plan implies transferring safety responsibility to local jurisdictions, Task Force representatives expressed that Metro Police and Sound Transit Police lead safety and enforcement efforts, in partnership with local jurisdictions for coordination and response. A proposed gap analysis would identify where local response is relied on most heavily, to determine where additional coordination or targeted support could reduce local burden and increase response consistency.
- **Prosecutorial and Court Coordination** – In response to a point in the letter about an absence of substantive discussion around prosecutorial or court system engagement, Task Force representatives explained that the intent of Workstream 6 (Cross-System Legal Accountability for Transit Incidents) is to develop agreements with prosecutors, city attorneys, and courts to prioritize transit-related offenses and create a post-arrest tracking and data transparency system, in order to ensure legal accountability is embedded within the regional enforcement structure.
- **Funding and Response Thresholds** – Lastly, the letter expresses concerns about a lack of clear funding commitments or defined thresholds of regional versus local response,

which Task Force representatives indicated was beyond the scope of this initial plan and will be addressed in greater detail through the implementation process.

In addition, SCA heard back from Greg Woodfill, ATU 587 President & Business Representative, who expressed that the union:

- **Is tired of no clear responsibility:** “Our Union called for a regional task force specifically because of the decades that we've observed this passing the buck and finger-pointing. We are very supportive of local police chiefs and mayors.”
- **Supports more funding:** “We not only support more funding for Cities, Metro & Sound Transit. We believe recent commitments for more transit safety funding are a direct result of our Union's very public call for it.”
- **Supports more accountability:** “We are also a hundred percent supportive of restoring accountability to those who commit unsafe acts or crimes.”
- **Needs a joint responsibility to safety:** “If Cities, mayors, or police chiefs take a position that the County, Metro, and Sound Transit are solely responsible for their citizens' safety, while in their City, our Union will publicly oppose this position.”

Timeline and Next Steps

After the draft Implementation Plan was presented to the King County Council Committee of the Whole on October 6, work began on assembling an Implementation Review Group. Once that group has convened, they will be responsible for finalizing and approving the Implementation Plan. Then, as funding decisions and resource commitments become clearer, the Implementation Review Group will build a detailed project plan and begin implementing solutions in coordination with stakeholders.

Considerations for PIC Discussion

Both the Implementation Plan and SCA cities have identified a lack of clear roles between regional partners as a key barrier to improving transit safety. Many of the solutions, including incident response – but also other non-law enforcement issues, such as maintenance, activation, or data tracking – will require coordination between SCA cities, local law enforcement, the county, King County Metro, Sound Transit, and other partners.

Finding ways to coordinate with regional transit partners will be a significant part of the work ahead. Sacha Taylor and Ashley Street of Leone Solutions Group, working on the Task Force, will be involved in this regional work. Any feedback that cities can provide regarding ways to clarify roles and increase cooperation among jurisdictions will be especially useful. Please forward this feedback to SCA staff.



October 15, 2025

To: King County Council
Attn: Regional Transit Safety Task Force

Subject: Comments on the King County Regional Transit Safety Implementation Plan

We appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback on the King County Regional Transit Safety Implementation Plan (October 2025). We thank the Task Force for its important work and inclusive approach. The Implementation Plan has yielded many promising ideas. While we support the shared goal of improving operator and rider safety, the Plan as drafted raises significant operational and fiscal concerns for local jurisdictions.

First and foremost, the responsibility for safety, security, and enforcement within the regional transit system lies with King County Metro and Sound Transit. The Implementation Plan implies the potential transfer of these core responsibilities to city police departments that are neither staffed nor funded to absorb them. Local law enforcement agencies already face increasing service demands within their own jurisdictions. The Plan's proposed reliance on municipal response without corresponding funding or staffing allocations would create an unfunded mandate for cities—particularly those with high transit volume.

The Plan outlines expanded behavioral health and alternative response models, yet these depend on city police departments to fill coverage gaps when regional resources are unavailable. This approach lacks clear funding commitments, defined thresholds for regional versus local response, or accountability measures for Metro and Sound Transit when incidents occur on or near their properties. The expectation that local departments will provide routine security or emergency response for regional assets is unsustainable without cost-sharing or dedicated reimbursement mechanisms.

Equally concerning is the absence of any substantive discussion regarding prosecutorial or

court system engagement. Accountability is a cornerstone of any public safety framework. Without clearly identified prosecutorial pathways, charging standards, or judicial coordination, enforcement actions on the transit system will have limited deterrent effect. The Implementation Plan must explicitly include city attorneys, county prosecutors, and the courts as partners in addressing transit-related crime and disorder. Absent this, the system risks perpetuating the same cycle of low-level offenses and unaddressed chronic behaviors that compromise operator and rider safety today.

We support regional collaboration but urge the Council to ensure:

- King County Metro and Sound Transit retain primary responsibility for safety and enforcement within their systems.
- Any expansion of city-level response capacity is matched by formal funding commitments.
- A criminal justice accountability framework is incorporated before implementation.

We remain committed to regional coordination but cannot support a plan that transfers operational and financial responsibility from the regional transit agencies to municipal governments without adequate resources or authority.

Respectfully,

Darrell Lowe, Chief of Police, City of Redmond
Robert Hendrickson, Chief of Police, City of Pacific
Michelle Bennett, Interim Chief of Police, City of Mercer Island
Jon Schuldt, Chief of Police, City of Renton
Adam Easterbrook, Chief of Police, City of Covington
Gary W. Horejsi, Jr., Interim Chief of Police, City of Snoqualmie
Theodore A. Boe, Chief of Police, City of Des Moines
Rafael Padilla, Chief of Police, City of Kent
Wendell Shirley, Chief of Police, City of Bellevue
Mike St. Jean, Chief of Police, City of Kirkland
Dan Yourkoski, Chief of Police, City of Normandy Park
Sam Betz, Assistant Chief of Police, City of Auburn
Tony Lockhart, Chief of Police, City of Maple Valley

Item 8:
Unpermitted Food Vendors Briefing

DISCUSSION

SCA Staff Contact

Laura Belmont, SCA Policy Analyst, laura@soundcities.org , (206) 849-7864

Discussion

At the November meeting, staff from Public Health Seattle & King County (PHSKC) are providing updates to PIC on unpermitted food vending.

Recently, there has been an increase in the number of mobile food vendors (such as food trucks, carts, tents, etc.) selling food without a PHSKC food permit. During the food permitting process, PHSKC ensures businesses follow safe food handling practices to prevent the spread of foodborne illnesses. Therefore, unpermitted vendors have not undergone PHSKC inspection and trainings, which increases the risk of foodborne illnesses. Unpermitted food vendors are seen as unequal competition from food vendors and restaurants who have complied with all rules and permitting. Various efforts are underway to mitigate the number of unpermitted food vendors.

Currently, the Washington State Department of Health is coordinating with the Washington State Patrol and other state partners to explore enforcement options and craft a shared message regarding unpermitted food vendors. In the meantime, local health jurisdictions are already working to address unapproved food vendors.

PHSKC's efforts span multiple approaches. They have gathered input from permitted businesses to understand the problem and have created an internal workgroup to identify and address major barriers faced by street food vendors regarding permitting. PHSKC has also implemented financial incentives for unpermitted businesses to become permitted, including prorated fees and a commissary kitchen voucher program. They are working to address knowledge gaps and provide customer support, such as by expanding the visible food safety rating and signage system, hosting information sessions, conducting outreach with unpermitted vendors, and developing written resources to help vendors understand the process of getting a food permit. PHSKC is increasing public awareness of this issue through media reports and blog posts on the food safety risks posed by unpermitted vendors and by coordinating with sports venues to broadcast messages outside of arenas discouraging the purchase of food from vendors. PHSKC has also collaborated with numerous agency partners to conduct nightlife food safety inspections, respond to complaints related to unpermitted food vendors, and build a collaborative approach to addressing unpermitted food vending.

Local cities are also responding to unpermitted food vendors. City actions taken include community outreach and small business support to assist vendors interested in becoming permitted, as well as coordination between departments on enforcement, such as having fire departments address unsafe propane use. There is an opportunity for cities and the County to coordinate and partner to ensure the most effective response for both enforcement and support.

Questions to ask before coming to PIC:

- Is your city seeing many cases of unpermitted food vending?
- If so, how is your city engaging in the issue? What departments are involved?
- What help would be useful from the County on this issue? What can your city offer to help with this issue?

More information can be found on PHSKC's [blog here](#) , and questions, comments, and complaints around possible unsafe food handling can be submitted [here](#) .

Item 9:

PSRC Committee Restructuring

DISCUSSION

SCA Staff Contacts

Aj Foltz, SCA Senior Policy Analyst, aj@soundcities.org, (206) 849-3056

Discussion

Every three years, the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) is required to review the composition of the PSRC Executive Board. In consultation with the Executive Committee, it was determined that this year's review will also include the Transportation Policy Board (TPB) and Growth Management Policy Board (GMPB).

PSRC convened an Ad Hoc Committee to conduct this review, and the proposed voting alternative would impact the "Other Cities and Towns in King County" voting seats on TPB and GMPB. This is the SCA-appointed section of PSRC membership.

The original intent was to make a decision by the end of 2025 and implement the proposed changes for 2026. **PSRC will likely delay this decision until the end of 2026.**

At the November PIC meeting, Senior Policy Analyst Aj Foltz will present the proposed changes for review by all member cities. The issue may need to return to PIC next year due to the lengthened timeline.

Background

The Transportation Policy Board (TPB) and Growth Management Policy Board (GMPB) are policy committees that inform transportation and growth management plans and decisions for the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC). PSRC is also governed by the Executive Board, a body which makes policy and operational decisions and approves actions made at TPB and GMPB throughout the year. Every three years, PSRC is required to review the composition of the PSRC Executive Board, and it was determined that this year's review will also include TPB and GMPB. PSRC convened an ad hoc committee to conduct this review.

PSRC Ad Hoc Committee Members

- Mayor Dana Ralph, City of Kent - Chair, TPB
- Mayor Rob Putaansuu, City of Port Orchard - Vice Chair, TPB
- Councilmember Ed Prince, City of Renton - Chair, GMPB
- Councilmember Megan Dunn, Snohomish County - Vice Chair, GMPB
- Councilmember Rob Kettle, City of Seattle

- Councilmember Kristina Walker, City of Tacoma
- Councilmember Rosie Ayala, Pierce County
- Councilmember Ben Zarlingo, City of Everett
- Councilmember Sarah Perry, King County

On October 23, the Executive Board approved the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendation for the Executive Board, which made no changes to the composition of the board. The review of TPB and GMPB is still underway.

Current Composition & Voting Structure

Currently, the two PSRC policy committees of TPB and GMPB for total King County representation have:

- 2 Seats for King County;
- 2 Seats for the City of Seattle;
- 1 Seat for Bellevue; and
- 3 Seats for Other Cities and Towns in King County

Each seat counts as one vote on both committees.

The Executive Board composition differs from TPB and GMPB. The current composition for total King County representation on the PSRC Executive Committee includes:

- 2 Seats for King County;
- 4 Seats for the City of Seattle;
- 7 seats for SCA cities over 80,000 (Bellevue, Kent, Federal Way, Renton, Auburn, Kirkland, and Redmond); and
- 3 seats for Other Cities and Towns in King County

The Executive Board utilizes a weighted voting system based on population (see Table 2).

The TPB, GMPB, and Executive Board also include representatives from Kitsap, Pierce, and Snohomish counties (including their County, their largest city, and other cities and towns), as well as Federally Recognized Tribes and statutory membership representing regional government entities.

Proposed Voting Alternatives

Initial Proposal

Presented to TPB and GMPB in October, the proposed voting alternative would:

- Provide permanent voting seats on TPB and GMPB for cities with a population greater than 80,000 residents. This would add seats for the cities of Kent, Federal Way, Renton, Auburn, Kirkland, and Redmond.
- Balance the geography of TPB and GMPB by:
 - Reducing the number of Other Cities and Towns in King County seats (appointed by SCA) from 3 to 1

- Increasing the Other Cities and Towns seats from 1 to 2 for both Pierce and Snohomish Counties

Table 1 below shows the current composition of both committees compared to the proposed voting alternative.

Additional Proposal

There has been some discussion that the two PSRC policy committees could align with the weighted voting on the PSRC Executive Board.

Next Steps

As mentioned above, PSRC is not expected to make a decision on these changes this year.

Discussion Questions for PIC:

- What are your thoughts about the proposed options or additional alternatives?
- What, if any, additional information, data, or guidelines would you like to inform this decision?

The goal of the discussion is to formally gather input from all SCA cities to inform the PSRC discussion for the coming year. As the issue develops at PSRC, PIC can take up the issue again next year if needed.

Table 1: Current and Proposed Voting on TPB and GMPB

Current			Proposed		
King County	County	2	County	2	
	Seattle	2	Seattle	2	
	Bellevue	1	Bellevue	1	
	Other Cities/Towns	3	Other Cities/Towns	1	
			Kent	1	
			Federal Way	1	Total: 11.88
			Renton	1	
			Auburn	0.88	
			Kirkland	1	
			Redmond	1	
Kitsap County	County	1	County	1	
	Bremerton	1	Bremerton	1	Total: 3
	Other Cities/Towns	1	Other Cities/Towns	1	
Pierce County	County	1	County	1	
	Tacoma	1	Tacoma	1	
	Other Cities/Towns	1	Other Cities/Towns	2	Total: 4.12
			Auburn	0.12	
Snohomish County	County	1	County	1	
	Everett	1	Everett	1	Total: 4
	Other Cities/Towns	1	Other Cities/Towns	2	
Federally Recognized Tribes	Muckleshoot Tribal Council	1	Muckleshoot Tribal Council	1	
	Puyallup Tribe of Indians	1	Puyallup Tribe of Indians	1	Total: 3
	Suquamish Tribe	1	Suquamish Tribe	1	
Subtotal		20	New Total		26

**There are two additional voting seats for statutory members that represent the Ports (Seattle, Tacoma, Everett, and Bremerton) and the WA State Department of Transportation.*

Table 2: Composition of the PSRC Executive Board

PSRC Executive Board Weighted Votes and Representatives Effective October 23, 2025					
	OFM 4/1/2025 Population	% of Population	Rep. Based on % of Population	Representatives	FY 2026 Weighted Vote
King	2,411,700	53.312%	15.994	15.88	533.12
County	250,225	5.531%	1.659	2	266.56
Seattle*	816,600	18.051%	5.415	4	100.70
Bellevue*	158,000	3.493%	1.048	1	19.49
Federal Way	102,900	2.275%	0.682	1	12.69
Kent*	140,100	3.097%	0.929	1	17.28
Kirkland	97,850	2.163%	0.649	1	12.07
Redmond*	82,380	1.821%	0.546	1	10.16
Renton*	109,700	2.425%	0.727	1	13.53
Auburn*	80,260	1.774%	0.532	0.88	9.90
Other Cities & Towns	573,685	12.682%	3.804	3	70.75
Kitsap	288,900	6.386%	1.916	4	63.86
County	185,110	4.092%	1.228	1	31.93
Bremerton*	45,890	1.014%	0.304	1	14.12
Port Orchard*	19,260	0.426%	0.128	1	5.93
Other Cities & Towns	38,640	0.854%	0.256	1	11.89
Pierce	958,525	21.189%	6.357	5.12	211.89
County	450,750	9.964%	2.989	2	105.94
Tacoma*	228,400	5.049%	1.515	1	47.65
Auburn*	10,060	0.222%	0.067	0.12	2.10
Lakewood*	64,670	1.430%	0.429	1	13.49
Other Cities & Towns	204,645	4.524%	1.357	1	42.70
Snohomish	864,650	19.113%	5.734	5	191.14
County	379,255	8.384%	2.515	2	95.57
Everett*	114,700	2.535%	0.761	1	22.58
Other Cities & Towns	370,695	8.194%	2.458	2	72.99
Cities/Towns/Counties	4,523,775	100%	30.000	30	1,000.00
Statutory Members					
Port of Bremerton				1	3
Port of Seattle				1	50
Port of Tacoma				1	30
Port of Everett				1	10
WA State Dept of Trans				1	30
WA Trans. Commission				1	30
Statutory Members				6	153
Grand Total				36	1,153.00



November 12, 2025
SCA PIC Meeting

Item 10:
Election Results Roundtable

DISCUSSION

SCA Staff Contacts

Robert Feldstein, Executive Director, robert@soundcities.org , (206) 499-4238

Discussion

November 4, 2025 was General Election Day. As an odd numbered year, voters decided who represents them in approximately half of all local Mayor and City Councilmember positions. While some cities will see many returning members, others with retiring elected officials and contested races may be anticipating new priorities and policy direction in the coming months. At the November PIC meeting, members will have a roundtable discussion to share and reflect upon city election results.

Next Steps

If you or your city has feedback, please contact SCA Executive Director Robert Feldstein or SCA Senior Policy Analyst Aj Foltz at aj@soundcities.org (206) 849-3056.

Item 11.a:

Regional Boards & Committees Upcoming Issues

This memorandum provides an overview of key issues scheduled for discussion on regional boards and committees to inform the Public Issues Committee and support proactive engagement and policy alignment.

The SCA policy staff have identified the following issues for consideration by PIC as potential items for discussion:

- **Regional Utility Rate Summit**
 - The region faces significant increases in utility rates. The Regional Utility Rate Summit will bring together elected officials and other interested parties to acknowledge the urgency of the issue and to collaborate at a regional level with the goal of better understanding current regional rates and what drives them. Attendees will also identify and explore actions to potentially mitigate rising costs. The Summit will be held on November 14 from 8:30 AM-2:00 PM at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Seattle Airport.
- **Board of Health (BOH)**
 - At their November meeting, the King County BOH will possibly take action to update the composition of the BOH in response to the passage of HB 1946. The Snoqualmie and Muckleshoot Tribes along with the Seattle Indian Health Board will now have seats on the BOH. To equalize the membership between elected and nonelected members of the BOH, King County Councilmembers and SCA would gain one additional seat each.

If you have any questions, please reach out to the SCA staff assigned to the committee; SCA staff assignments can be found on the [SCA website](#).

Committee	SCA Caucus	Next Meeting	Upcoming Issues
Local Hazardous Waste Program Management Coordination Committee (MCC)	Councilmember John Boyd, Kent; Councilmember Kim-Khánh Văn, Renton	Nov 18	Update on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for household hazardous waste, community programs assessment

King County Regional Transit Committee (RTC)	Chair: Deputy Council Pres. Barb de Michele, Issaquah; Vice Chair: Councilmember Ryan McIrvine, Renton; Mayor Katherine Ross, Snoqualmie; Councilmember Neal Black, Kirkland; Deputy Mayor Susan Honda, Federal Way; Councilmember Toni Troutner, Kent; Councilmember Joseph Cimaomo, Jr., Covington; Mayor Karen Howe, Sammamish; Councilmember Paul Charbonneau, Newcastle; Councilmember Tracy Taylor, Auburn; Councilmember Tarlochan Mann, Pacific; Councilmember JC Harris, Des Moines	Nov 19	Briefing on Transit Safety Task Force Recommendations; Discussion and possible action on Metro's annual System Evaluation report (which describes the performance of each route in the system).
Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC)	Chair: Councilmember Melissa Stuart, Redmond Vice Chair: Mayor Kelli Curtis, Kirkland Council President Satwinder Kaur, Kent; Mayor Salim Nice, Mercer Island; Councilmember Ryan McIrvine, Renton; Councilmember Kent Treen, Sammamish; Councilmember Amy McHenry, Duvall; Councilmember Lydia Assefa-Dawson, Federal Way; Mayor Jim Ribail, Carnation; Councilmember Kate Baldwin, Auburn	Nov 19	Designation of Countywide & Regional Centers starting this fall; action slated for early 2026 Action on the AHC Strategic Direction and Charter Amendments
Board of Health (BOH)	Deputy Mayor Cheryl Rakes, Auburn; Deputy Mayor Amy Lam, Sammamish; Councilmember Amy Falcone, Kirkland; Deputy Council President Barbara de Michele, Issaquah	Nov 20	Possible action on a rule and regulation that updates the composition of the King County BOH in response to the passage of HB 1946. The Snoqualmie and Muckleshoot Tribes along with the Seattle Indian Health Board will now have seats on the BOH. To equalize the membership between elected and nonelected members of the BOH, King County Councilmembers and SCA would gain one seat each. Discussion of legislative priorities and the 2026 BOH Workplan.
Regional Water Quality Committee (RWQC)	Chair: Deputy Mayor Mork, Shoreline Vice Chair: Councilmember Penny Sweet, Kirkland Councilmember Conrad Lee, Bellevue; Mayor Jessica Rossman, Medina; Deputy Mayor Sarah	Dec 3	Regional Wastewater Services Plan update, Strategic Asset Management Plan briefing, PFAS annual update

	Moore, Burien; Councilmember Yolanda Trout-Manuel, Auburn		
King County Regional Law, Safety, & Justice Committee (RLSJC)	Chair: Councilmember Neal Black, Kirkland; Councilmember Zandria Michaud, Kent; Councilmember Rob Wotton, Snoqualmie; Mayor Troy Linnell, Algona; Councilmember Steve Sinwell, Clyde Hill; Mayor Eric Zimmerman, Normandy Park; Councilmember Carmen Rivera, Renton; Councilmember Suzan Torguson, North Bend	Dec 11	Updates on HB 2015 (public safety funding), county budget, and grant eligibility requirements for cities.
KCRHA Governing Board	Mayor Angela Birney, Redmond; Mayor Nancy Backus, Auburn; Councilmember Ed Prince, Renton; Kent Hay	Dec 18	Discussion/Potential Action on Regional Temporary Shelter Siting Policy



November 12, 2025
SCA PIC Meeting

Item 11.c:

Levies and Ballot Measures

The upcoming King County and special district levies and ballot measures are below. PIC members are encouraged to share upcoming or recently approved city and special districts levies and ballot measures with SCA staff.

Upcoming Ballot Measures – King County				
Year	Month	Measure	Proposal	Status Update
2025	August	Parks Levy renewal	\$0.2329 per \$1000 of assessed value (increase from current \$0.1973 levy rate)	Passed by 72.9% on the August 5 th ballot.
2025	November	Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Levy renewal	\$0.250 per \$1000 of assessed value	[As of 11.5] Ballot counting underway. Levy will likely pass.
2026	TBD	King County Library System levy lid lift	TBD	KCLS staff are exploring options for a possible levy lid lift

Upcoming Ballot Measures – SCA Cities			
Election	City	Measure	Proposal
November 2025	Lake Forest Park	Public Safety Levy	\$0.24 per \$1,000 of assessed property value

Upcoming Ballot Measures - Special Districts			
Election	Special District	Measure	Proposal
August 2025 Primary (for voters in King County Public Hospital District #2)	EvergreenHealth	Levy Lid Lift	\$0.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value (increase from \$0.14 per \$1,000 assessed value)
November 2025 General Election	Lake Washington School District	Education Programs & Operations Levy	TBD
November 2025 General Election	Lake Washington School District	Capital Project Levy for Technology and Facilities	TBD
TBD	Covington	Parks District	TBD – Fact-finding stage

Other Renewals – King County		
Year	Renewal	Status Update
2026	Mental Illness & Drug Dependency (MIDD) 0.1% sales tax renewal	King County Council approved the originally transmitted 9-year MIDD sales tax renewal ordinance at their September 23 meeting.