



## SCA Public Issues Committee

December 10, 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/86161786841?pwd=RoWAXA7a6wdx4o1jxgDieOUha5OhOD.1>

Or dial in by phone: 1-253-215-8782 / 861 6718 6841 / Passcode 580733

## AGENDA

- |  |            |
|--|------------|
| 1) Welcome and Roll Call – Chris Roberts, Shoreline, PIC Chair   | 5 Minutes  |
| 2) Public Comment  | 5 Minutes  |
| 3) <a href="#">Approval of Minutes – November 12, 2025 Meeting</a><br>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) <a href="#">PIC 2026 Chair and Vice Chair Election</a><br>Page 18<br>ACTION<br>Robert Feldstein, Executive Director               | 5 Minutes  |
| 7) <a href="#">2026 Regional Boards and Committees Appointments</a><br>ACTION<br>Page 19<br>Robert Feldstein, Executive Director     | 15 Minutes |
| 8) <a href="#">SCA 2026 State Legislative Agenda &amp; County Priorities</a><br>ACTION<br>Page 25<br>Aj Foltz, Senior Policy Analyst | 30 Minutes |
| 9) Updates/Informational Items   | 5 Minutes  |
| a. <a href="#">Regional Boards &amp; Committees Upcoming Issues</a>  |            |
| b. December 2025 Newsletter  |            |
| c. <a href="#">Levies and Ballot Measures</a>  |            |

**10) For the good of the order**

**11) Adjourn**

**Upcoming Events**

- a. SCA Office Closed for Winter Holiday December 25 – January 2
- b. SCA Public Issues Committee Meeting – Wednesday, Jan 7
- c. SCA Board of Directors Meeting – Wednesday, January 14
- d. 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

November 12, 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 7:01 PM. 21 cities were represented. ( [Attachment A](#) ).

Guests present included: Tracy Taylor, Auburn (PIC Alternate); Cheryl Rakes, Auburn; Katie Halse, Bellevue Staff; Chris Searcy, Enumclaw Staff; Amy Tsai, Redmond Staff; Tania Mondaca, King County Staff; Misha Lujan, King County Executive Staff; Julie Horowitz, Public Health Seattle & King County (PHSKC); Joy Carpine-Cazzanti, PHSKC; Geoffrey Thomas, King County Sheriff's Office; Atar Baer, PHSKC; Gregory McKnight II, PHSKC; Sacha Taylor, Leone Solutions Group; iphone (unidentified); iphone-HP3MW74Y36 (unidentified); zoom user (unidentified).

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](mailto:sca@soundcities.org) .

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

#### 3. Approval of Minutes – October 8, 2025 Meeting

Shoreline Mayor, Chris Roberts, PIC Chair, asked for any questions or amendments to the minutes of the October 8, 2025 SCA PIC meeting.

**Mayor Kelli Curtis, Kirkland, moved, seconded by Councilmember Tola Marts, Issaquah, to approve the minutes of the October 8, 2025 SCA PIC Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.**

#### 4. Chair's Report

Shoreline Mayor, Chris Roberts, SCA PIC Chair, shared that Councilmember Joseph Cimaomo, Jr., SCA PIC Vice Chair, is currently losing his re-election. Roberts shared that, therefore, PIC is looking for a chair and vice chair for the next year and encouraged members to reach out with any questions and/or interest. Roberts thanked members who encouraged their councils to apply to SCA Regional Boards and Committees. He asked SCA Executive Director Robert Feldstein to share how many applications were received.

## **5. Executive Director's Report**

SCA Executive Director Robert Feldstein shared that in 2021 and 2022, SCA received around 168 applicants to committees, which dipped down for the past few years. This year, SCA received 158 applicants to committees. Feldstein shared that he feels like this reflects renewed enthusiasm. He thanked the SCA staff for their work in this process and SCA members for their interest. Feldstein also shared that seats on the SCA Board of Directors are opening, including seats from the North Caucus, South Caucus, Snoqualmie Valley Caucus, PIC Chair, and Council Managers. Feldstein also shared that he will be part of King County Executive-Elect Zahilay's transition team.

Mayor Pro Tempore Mark Joselyn, North Bend, asked what applicants for committees can expect for next steps and notification of results. what the process is going forward for applicants to committees and when applicants will be notified. Shoreline Mayor, Chris Roberts, SCA PIC Chair, shared that the PIC Nominating Committee is meeting later this month to make recommendations, which will then be voted on at the December PIC meeting and subsequently voted on at the December SCA Board of Directors meeting. Feldstein added that this year was tumultuous with so many close elections. He shared that SCA staff pushed the due date back as much as possible but acknowledged the turnaround was still tight.

## **6. SCA 2026 State Legislative Agenda & County Priorities**

Presentation by SCA Senior Policy Analyst Aj Foltz. Materials attached and available [here](#).

Foltz overviewed the timeline for refining these documents. PIC will review the draft documents at this meeting as a first touch; the Board will then review PIC's discussion at their November meeting. PIC members may submit their feedback to SCA staff any time through Monday, December 1. At the December PIC meeting, PIC will review and vote on the updated draft and proposed amendments. At the December Board of Directors meeting, they will review PIC's amendments and decisions, as well as make the final decision whether to adopt.

Foltz stated the purpose of the State Legislative agenda is to communicate legislative priorities to the Washington State Legislature for the 2026 session. When developing the agenda, SCA's Legislative Committee considered that the upcoming session is a short session and that the State is facing budgetary constraints. The County Priorities document aims to provide a roadmap for SCA and King County to collaborate on key issues and strengthen jurisdictional partnerships. When developing the priorities, the SCA Legislative Committee considered that there is a new King County Executive and that the document will allow SCA staff to act on these priorities in conversations with the County and regional partners. These documents can be found on pages 17-20 of the PIC Packet ( [linked here](#) ). Shoreline Mayor, Chris Roberts, SCA PIC Chair, opened discussion on the State Legislative Agenda.

Mayor Pro Tempore Ronn Mercer, Duvall, stated he liked the language in the beginning and expressed he was concerned about the one-size-fits-all approach around growth targets, particularly since smaller cities like Duvall struggled with inventory and tools. He stated that he is concerned about the agenda items of transportation and housing since Duvall does not receive a

lot of investment from King County and meeting housing targets has been a challenge. Foltz replied that the agenda is flexible and said Mercer is welcome to suggest a bullet point around a broader range of options for smaller cities to either the housing or transportation segments. She shared that the needs of small cities were not lost on the committee, though edits can be made to more prolifically reflect this sentiment throughout both documents. Foltz also shared that SCA is putting together a small cities group next year and invited Mercer to partake in that group. Foltz also invited Mercer to send in edits to the documents, to which Mercer replied that he would. SCA Executive Director Robert Feldstein echoed the sentiment that the first bullet point in the housing section is meant to address this idea but could be edited to reflect these concerns more clearly. Mercer replied there is local control throughout the document and appreciates it. He stated he wants to ensure the message is properly conveyed to state legislators.

Councilmember Tola Marts, Issaquah, asked about the status of marijuana public safety dollars and how amounts are calculated for marijuana versus alcohol. Foltz replied she is unsure and will look into it.

Feldstein shared that SCA staff met with AWC to discuss State Legislative Agendas. AWC's position on indigent defense funding is that they would like the state to fund different increments as they arise, rather than the state entirely funding indigent defense. Feldstein also stated that AWC staff seemed interested in clarifying the restrictions on the HB 2015 sales tax, while Feldstein heard from SCA cities that the cities felt there should be fewer restrictions. He also shared that he has heard Kent and a few cities may be working on the liability law and dig line rules.

Roberts asked whether SCA is collecting city legislative agendas, to which Feldstein replied that SCA is, though not through a formal process.

Roberts opened discussion on the County Priorities document.

Foltz shared that areas in the document may apply to all cities, but that there may also be gaps. She encouraged PIC members to provide feedback so the document properly addresses the concerns of all SCA cities.

Mayor Kelli Curtis, Kirkland, complimented SCA on the document, and especially appreciated the first bullet around collaboration on levy development.

Feldstein shared that this document is an experiment, as SCA has never done one before. He said that it feels helpful in providing direction, especially when meeting with the new Executive.

Mayor Jim Ribail, Carnation, complimented both documents. He stated that cities will provide feedback on them, and suggested cities also provide examples to Feldstein so he can use them during his meetings with various partners. Feldstein appreciated the suggestion of examples.

## **7. Transit Safety and Security Briefing**



Presentation by Transit Safety Task Force Facilitator Sacha Taylor, Leone Solutions Group. Materials attached and available [here](#) .

Taylor shared that the Regional Transit Safety Task Force came into existence in early 2025, prompted by the tragic murder of Shawn Yim. The Amalgamated Transit Union called for something to be done. In response, the King County Council passed a motion to convene a task force on the issue. Since the motion's passage in March, they worked with a broad group of stakeholders to identify challenges and gaps facing transit safety goals around the region. This work included 14 working sessions which generated over 150 proposed solutions which were presented to the Transportation District Board. In July, they held a public commitment event where various groups provided feedback on the recommendations. They then circulated the draft implementation plan.

The Motion required the Task Force to convene a broad membership, engage stakeholders, and develop a work plan addressing operator safety, accountability, interagency coordination, and response times. The Task Force has published various items from their work: notes and insights from the kickoff, recommended solutions as refined, focus session guides, and the implementation plan.

Taylor overviewed 7 critical gaps identified by the task force: fragmented emergency response infrastructure, inconsistent enforcement and lack of clear rider rules, drug use and behavioral health crises on transit, staffing shortages across safety roles, unsafe and neglected transit environments, broken communication and reporting systems, and fragmented and inconsistent safety data.

Recommendations to address these gaps were shaped into six top priority areas. Two of which are regionally focused: regional coordination and alignment, and regional responder and outreach staffing. The others are transit agency focused: field staffing and operator support, workforce training and support, safe transit environments, and employee and rider reporting systems. Despite being subdivided by region or transit agency, all six of these areas are meant to be collaborative. Taylor then detailed the various workstreams that fall under the priority areas.

The plan includes activities with local jurisdictions around coordinating emergency response and public safety protocols. This could include establishing MOUs and protocols to ensure consistent responses across jurisdictions and transit agencies, or adoption of consistent fire/EMS entry standards, designating local safety contacts, and implementing and honoring regional exclusion and information-sharing policies.

Other activities with jurisdictions are around accountability and community partnerships. This could include participating in a regional Code of Conduct campaign, coordinating prosecutors and courts to prioritize transit-related offenses, supporting the creation of community court models, partnering with long-term case management programs, and formalizing partnerships with various organizations near transit.

Next, Taylor overviewed activities with local jurisdictions around transit environment and community activation. This could include coordinating with transit agencies and WSDOT on CPTED assessments, expanding art and beautification programs, supporting pop-up vendor activations, investing in design improvements under city ownership, and growing community stewardship programs.

Taylor then overviewed activities with jurisdictions around community safety and data. This includes adopting standardized incident definitions, participating in cross-agency data sharing systems, providing outcome data, using unified reporting tools alongside Metro and Sound Transit, and supporting transparency dashboards.

Taylor stated that the requirements of the Motion have been fulfilled. The next steps are to move from developing the work plan to establishing a task force oversight body, including drafting and ratifying a charter to launch the body. Next steps also include developing a detailed transit safety action plan which would ensure all identified gaps and challenges are being advanced through near-term actions or are documented as items that have been resolved or need to be addressed in future work. They will then establish regional workgroups for each regional-focused workstream and report on progress regularly to King County Council and stakeholders.

Mayor Kelli Curtis, Kirkland, shared that she was at the launch meeting and is excited about the progress. She stated her police department is concerned around additional calls for transit safety, and asked how feedback is being collected. Taylor replied that they always accept feedback via the email she placed in the meeting chat and are also holding meetings with different law enforcement agencies. She stated that they will provide ample notice on workgroup meetings so members can send the appropriate individuals.

Mayor Jim Ribail, Carnation, asked whether organizations Metro supports will be part of the document, such as Snoqualmie Valley Transit. Taylor said that they would potentially be included as action partners assuming they will be impacted by this work, and shared they are continuing to expand which stakeholders are involved.

SCA Executive Director Robert Feldstein thanked them for their inclusion and shared that engaging with the County involves a lot of layers. He shared that cities will need to be engaged in various ways, including law enforcement and public works, and stated that no one of us can speak for all of the different aspects involved.

## **8. Unapproved Food Vendors Briefing**

Presentation by Public Health Seattle & King County (PHSKC) staff, including Food & Facilities Section Deputy Atar Baer, Food & Facilities Supervisor Greg McKnight, and Environmental Health Services Division Strategic Advisor Julie Horowitz. Materials attached and available [here](#).

Horowitz shared that Environmental Health Services is a division within Public Health Seattle & King County (PHSKC) that covers areas such as clean water and food, with food safety as their

largest program. Baer overviewed that the program completes plan reviews, conducts regular inspections, provides food safety trainings, responds to complaint, and takes enforcement actions.

A food permit indicates a vendor has undergone the processes and procedures to operate safely. The mission of their food safety program is to protect the public from foodborne illness by ensuring safety measures are in place. Unpermitted vending includes risks like lack of access to plumbed restrooms, no sink/water for handwashing, lack of temperature controls, food preparation in unapproved home kitchens, and no oversight for excluding ill workers. Foodborne illness can be severe, with youth and elderly populations at increased risk of kidney failures or death. Impacts also extend to public safety and environmental health, such as how propane tanks represent a fire risk. They added that they have heard from permitted vendors that unpermitted vendors hurt the bottom line of permitted vendors, and that they have seen increased threats to the safety of unpermitted vendors, permitted vendors, and staff.

The program has taken various steps to address unpermitted vending, focused around outreach and partnerships, services and resources, permitting and inspections, and regulatory items. Specific examples include hosting events to help new vendors obtain permits, establishing contracts with community-based organizations to conduct outreach, prorating permit fees, providing multilingual services, broadening access to commissary kitchens, and expanding the food safety rating system.

Historically, there were fewer unpermitted vendors. These vendors typically lacked the knowledge and resources to engage in the permitting process but were willing to come into compliance. For these vendors, the strategies previously described worked well. However, there has been a recent and substantial increase in a more organized type of unpermitted vending activity across county and state lines. These vendors have no interest in engaging with PHSKC inspectors and do not want to obtain a permit despite knowing it is required and having the finances to do so. They have observed identical hot dog stands, cut fruit carts, and pop-up stands, suggesting it is not a “mom and pop” operation.

PHSKC has set up a dashboard to track unpermitted vending trends. Their response to unpermitted vending includes following up on every complaint they receive and conducting targeted inspections in the evenings at venues where unpermitted vendors congregate. They have also partnered with other agencies, including code enforcement and law enforcement, as well as with local police and the King County Sheriff's Office to protect staff safety. Other responses include directing vendors to cease operations.

The food safety code was designed for regulating permitted food businesses, not regulating the current unpermitted landscape. For instance, code allows them to inspect and close unpermitted vendors, but they typically reestablish very quickly. A hold order for food does not work if a vendor walks away, and fines only work for property owners. The Code is currently unclear regarding whether they have the authority to destroy food.

Horowitz overviewed collaborations needed for this issue. PHSKC is working to get clarifications on their authority and increase it where necessary. They have engaged with the Washington Department of Health, Attorney General, State Patrol, and Labor & Industries. They are looking more broadly for longer-range strategies with the Big Cities Health Coalition, West Coast Health Alliance, and other local health jurisdictions. PHSKC is also working with coalitions that permitted vendors have formed. PHSKC has published blogs, conducted media interviews, and conducted other measures to send the message that this is a public health risk.

Their next steps include continued collaboration with cities to coordinate responses to unpermitted vending, proposing a survey to city officials, and convening a forum with city staff to plan further collaboration.

Mayor Jim Ribail, Carnation, suggested that members reach out to their local fire departments, as food trucks must be inspected annually for fire concerns.

Councilmember Susan Honda, Federal Way, shared that recently a group in her area had an extensive setup of hot pots on a street corner on a weekend night. She stated that their police chief said they could speak with these vendors, but Honda was unsure what could be done. Baer replied that this has been a consistent story they have heard. McKnight suggested that they could coordinate with their police department and other groups, such as business licensing groups. He also suggested finding the makeshift commissaries the individuals are preparing food at as a way to prevent food preparation upstream.

Honda also asked whether police have the authority to stop unpermitted vending operations, to which McKnight replied that they do.

Deputy Mayor Harry Steinmetz, Des Moines, shared that he has seen the setup Honda is referring to and stated Des Moines has among the lowest ratio of population to police. He asked whether there is an emergency number to report this to or any other emergency response. McKnight shared that emergency enforcement is not usually part of their response, though PHSKC can send individuals to join if the city sends out a response. Horowitz also shared that members can submit complaints if there are specific areas of concern.

Shoreline Mayor, Chris Roberts, SCA PIC Chair, stated that the presentation assumes that unpermitted food vendors are a problem. He shared some people believe these unpermitted food vendors bring vibrancy to neighborhoods and are largely seen as a good thing, particularly if they can be permitted. Roberts also shared some community members feel targeting these unpermitted vendors is especially fraught now given the larger political landscape. He asked whether PHSKC has comments on these sentiments. McKnight shared that PHSKC has avenues to compliance available to vendors, but that these are larger vendors taking hundreds of thousands of dollars out of local communities as they are based in California. He stated that PHSKC is not trying to impinge on anyone's rights but is concerned given the seriously unsafe food conditions. McKnight also shared that immigration status could become a scapegoat in the event of a

foodborne illness outbreak, and that he feels protecting public health and preventing tension is ideal.

Mayor Nancy Backus, Auburn, stated that their code enforcement group will work two weekends and a couple of late nights each month will work two weekends each month. The group will carry a packet of information to advocate and educate prior to enforcement, but she shared that many individuals they encounter do not want to comply.

Mayor Jim Ribail, Carnation, asked what the permitting fee is. Baer replied that it depends on the type of operation (for instance, whether it is a cart, trailer, truck) and the type of food being sold (as a measure of risk level). Baer added that permit fees are one component of other licenses needed.

Steinmetz asked whether there is any money for outreach. He expressed that the “smiley face” system had great outreach and that this issue would benefit from similar increased outreach. McKnight shared that an attitude of excitement around unpermitted vendors has arisen and added a challenge. He stated that PHSKC is looking into placarding the unpermitted carts to tell public not to eat at the food stand.

SCA Executive Director Robert Feldstein shared that there seems to be a potential avenue to convene cities to share strategies and outreach tools.

## **9. PSRC Committee Restructuring**

Presentation by SCA Senior Policy Analyst Aj Foltz. Materials attached and available [here](#) .

Foltz shared that the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) has been discussing restructuring their boards in an ad-hoc committee, though the decision on restructuring has been delayed until next year. Every three years, PSRC is required to review the composition of the PSRC Executive Board. It was determined that this year’s review will also include the PSRC Transportation Policy Board (TPB) and the PSRC Growth Management Policy Board (GMPB). PSRC convened an Ad Hoc Committee to conduct this review.

The Executive Board is the governing body of PSRC that makes policy and operational decisions and approves actions made by TPB and GMPB. It includes seats for King County, the City of Seattle, SCA cities with a population above 80,000, and three seats for other cities and Towns in King County that are appointed by SCA. TPB has seats for King County, the City of Seattle, the City of Bellevue, and three seats for other cities and towns in King County that are appointed by SCA. GMPB has seats for King County, the City of Seattle, the City of Bellevue, and three seats for other cities and towns in King County that are appointed by SCA. All committees also include representatives from Kitsap, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties (including the county, the largest city, and other cities and towns), as well as Federally Recognized Tribes and statutory membership representing regional government entities.

The initial restructuring proposal would provide permanent voting seats on TPB and GMPB for cities with a population above 80,000 residents, which adds seats for the Cities of Kent, Federal Way, Renton, Auburn, Kirkland, and Redmond. They would reduce SCA appointed seats from 3 to 1 and increase the seats assigned to other cities and town seats from 1 to 2 for both Pierce and Snohomish Counties. An additional proposal has been put forward that would provide the additional seats for cities with a population above 80,000 as listed above, but the number of SCA-appointed seats would remain at three.

Councilmember Tola Marts, Issaquah, asked which problem this is intended to solve, to which Foltz replied she was unsure.

Shoreline Mayor, Chris Roberts, SCA PIC Chair, asked who is on the ad-hoc committee. Foltz replied that it includes Mayor Dana Ralph, Kent, as chair of TPB and Councilmember Ed Prince, Renton, as chair of GMPB, along with representatives from Seattle, King County, Tacoma, Pierce County, and Everett. The full list can be found on pages 28-29 of the PIC Packet ( [linked here](#) ).

Mayor Pro Tempore Mark Joselyn, North Bend, expressed that this proposal diminishes North Bend's voice. He shared that commuting by bus takes two hours, and that the lack of accessible public transit jeopardizes grant funding for North Bend's efforts to build affordable housing. He echoed Marts's question and shared that it does not help people in his community.

Marts shared that the proposal strikes at the heart of why SCA exists he feels it is a bad idea and strikes at the heart of why SCA exists, which is the idea that cities in King County have more in common than different and want a common voice on regional issue. He stated that this proposal undermines this idea and feels like a diminishment of SCA's common voice.

Mayor Jim Ribail, Carnation, supported Joselyn's and Marts's points.

Foltz stated that SCA was not consulted before this was brought to PSRC's boards and once SCA heard, it was brought to leadership immediately. Foltz also shared that she has heard concerns from SCA cities around this decision diminishing SCA's unified voice.

SCA Executive Director Robert Feldstein shared that PSRC has paused the proposal at this point due to the number of concerns. He stated that under the second proposal, where SCA has three seats and 7 cities get their own seats, it could be viewed as SCA having ten seats, particularly if we continue working together.

Mayor Pro Tempore Ronn Mercer, Duvall, asked why seats on the PSRC Executive Board are portioned the way they are, as he expressed they feel disproportionately weighted. Roberts shared that PSRC membership is set by state law where cities with a population above 80,000 get a seat and that a principal city in each county gets a seat.

Roberts also shared that a couple of cities are edging closer to the 80,000 population threshold and that he is unsure what will happen when cities cross that threshold such that there are many guaranteed seats on the Board.

#### **10. Election Results Roundtable**

This agenda item was skipped due to time constraints.

#### **11. Updates/Informational Items**

SCA Executive Director Robert Feldstein shared that the Rate Summit is this Friday, an idea which first appeared in SCA conversations. Feldstein stated the Summit is the beginning of a process to hopefully set the groundwork and call attendees to action for future work around utility rates.

SCA Senior Policy Analyst Aj Foltz presented this standing agenda item to offer an opportunity for questions from PIC members. She also highlighted the Rate Summit, as part of the upcoming issues in Boards & Committees. Foltz stated that the November newsletter was recently released and encouraged cities to submit City Wins for the newsletter. She also encouraged PIC members to submit information around their upcoming levies and ballot measures. Foltz shared that the EMS levy was the most recent regional levy to be voted on.

Feldstein also shared that some regional committees will begin discussions on their upcoming work plans and that SCA as an organization will also engage in conversations on these work plans.

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

There were no items for the good of the order.

#### **13. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 pm.

**Public Issues Committee Meeting  
November 12, 2025**

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

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



## SCA PIC November 12, 2025

### Attachment B: Chat Log

19:51:50 From Sacha Taylor to Hosts and panelists:

hello@kingcountytransitsafetytaskforce.com

20:18:29 From Joy Carpine-Cazzanti, Public Health to Hosts and panelists:

<https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/dph/health-safety/food-safety/unpermitted-food-businesses>

20:35:39 From Joy Carpine-Cazzanti, Public Health to Hosts and panelists:

For follow up food questions, you can contact Joy Carpine-Cazzanti at jcarpine@kingcounty.gov. Thank you!

20:47:29 From Jim Ribail, Carnation to Hosts and panelists:

I just want to make clear that was not a slam on SCA. I appreciate SCA bringing this to our attention.

20:56:22 From Laura Belmont, SCA (they/them) to Hosts and panelists:

RSVP:

<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=mgXlurvB210mZlnLf6V1pxynwW55OOQBloloDy0oFxKVUNjk5MklJSIRENE1NNDY3Q0FRRzYyTkFFVS4u&route=shorturl>

20:56:34 From Laura Belmont, SCA (they/them) to Hosts and panelists:

Briefing book: [https://links-](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Fkc1.sharepoint.com%2F:b:%2Fs%2FDNRP-PublicFileSharing%2FIQCK5NY7XcvjTZWc_Mq61FSRAd9flaQpHdZqwZ8R8ig5nrY%3Fe=iWmD1J/1/0100019a7037fdbd-aff6ccdb-9c15-4d83-a6fa-19a14a332cdc-000000/htWsY6wEIYwYi2vsGwUAGFOQVE2CJg5Md4wsB2Fxca8=430)

[1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Fkc1.sharepoint.com%2F:b:%2Fs%2FDNRP-](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Fkc1.sharepoint.com%2F:b:%2Fs%2FDNRP-PublicFileSharing%2FIQCK5NY7XcvjTZWc_Mq61FSRAd9flaQpHdZqwZ8R8ig5nrY%3Fe=iWmD1J/1/0100019a7037fdbd-aff6ccdb-9c15-4d83-a6fa-19a14a332cdc-000000/htWsY6wEIYwYi2vsGwUAGFOQVE2CJg5Md4wsB2Fxca8=430)

[PublicFileSharing%2FIQCK5NY7XcvjTZWc\\_Mq61FSRAd9flaQpHdZqwZ8R8ig5nrY%3Fe=iWmD1J/1/0100019a7037fdbd-aff6ccdb-9c15-4d83-a6fa-19a14a332cdc-](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Fkc1.sharepoint.com%2F:b:%2Fs%2FDNRP-PublicFileSharing%2FIQCK5NY7XcvjTZWc_Mq61FSRAd9flaQpHdZqwZ8R8ig5nrY%3Fe=iWmD1J/1/0100019a7037fdbd-aff6ccdb-9c15-4d83-a6fa-19a14a332cdc-000000/htWsY6wEIYwYi2vsGwUAGFOQVE2CJg5Md4wsB2Fxca8=430)

[000000/htWsY6wEIYwYi2vsGwUAGFOQVE2CJg5Md4wsB2Fxca8=430](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Fkc1.sharepoint.com%2F:b:%2Fs%2FDNRP-PublicFileSharing%2FIQCK5NY7XcvjTZWc_Mq61FSRAd9flaQpHdZqwZ8R8ig5nrY%3Fe=iWmD1J/1/0100019a7037fdbd-aff6ccdb-9c15-4d83-a6fa-19a14a332cdc-000000/htWsY6wEIYwYi2vsGwUAGFOQVE2CJg5Md4wsB2Fxca8=430)

20:56:45 From Laura Belmont, SCA (they/them) to Hosts and panelists:

Rate Summit Slides: [https://links-](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Fkc1.sharepoint.com%2F:b:%2Fs%2FDNRP-PublicFileSharing%2FIQCnNF33T0QQR5JHQw6pWtDIAW8UTP9hMrddt-JFuk-bkZk%3Fe=NM0Sci/1/0100019a7037fdbd-aff6ccdb-9c15-4d83-a6fa-19a14a332cdc-000000/6SYOm1hiYUSkmGZF8tkk6Q6uzeR5AWbJJ6lyszeXjwM=430)

[1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Fkc1.sharepoint.com%2F:b:%2Fs%2FDNRP-](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Fkc1.sharepoint.com%2F:b:%2Fs%2FDNRP-PublicFileSharing%2FIQCnNF33T0QQR5JHQw6pWtDIAW8UTP9hMrddt-JFuk-bkZk%3Fe=NM0Sci/1/0100019a7037fdbd-aff6ccdb-9c15-4d83-a6fa-19a14a332cdc-000000/6SYOm1hiYUSkmGZF8tkk6Q6uzeR5AWbJJ6lyszeXjwM=430)

[PublicFileSharing%2FIQCnNF33T0QQR5JHQw6pWtDIAW8UTP9hMrddt-JFuk-](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Fkc1.sharepoint.com%2F:b:%2Fs%2FDNRP-PublicFileSharing%2FIQCnNF33T0QQR5JHQw6pWtDIAW8UTP9hMrddt-JFuk-bkZk%3Fe=NM0Sci/1/0100019a7037fdbd-aff6ccdb-9c15-4d83-a6fa-19a14a332cdc-000000/6SYOm1hiYUSkmGZF8tkk6Q6uzeR5AWbJJ6lyszeXjwM=430)

[bkZk%3Fe=NM0Sci/1/0100019a7037fdbd-aff6ccdb-9c15-4d83-a6fa-19a14a332cdc-](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Fkc1.sharepoint.com%2F:b:%2Fs%2FDNRP-PublicFileSharing%2FIQCnNF33T0QQR5JHQw6pWtDIAW8UTP9hMrddt-JFuk-bkZk%3Fe=NM0Sci/1/0100019a7037fdbd-aff6ccdb-9c15-4d83-a6fa-19a14a332cdc-000000/6SYOm1hiYUSkmGZF8tkk6Q6uzeR5AWbJJ6lyszeXjwM=430)

[000000/6SYOm1hiYUSkmGZF8tkk6Q6uzeR5AWbJJ6lyszeXjwM=430](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Fkc1.sharepoint.com%2F:b:%2Fs%2FDNRP-PublicFileSharing%2FIQCnNF33T0QQR5JHQw6pWtDIAW8UTP9hMrddt-JFuk-bkZk%3Fe=NM0Sci/1/0100019a7037fdbd-aff6ccdb-9c15-4d83-a6fa-19a14a332cdc-000000/6SYOm1hiYUSkmGZF8tkk6Q6uzeR5AWbJJ6lyszeXjwM=430)

## Item 6:

### 2025 PIC Chair and Vice Chair Election

#### **ACTION**

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#### **Staff Contact**

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

#### **SCA PIC Nominating Committee Members**

Council President Pro Tem Ruth Pérez, Renton, Chair; Mayor Troy Linnell, Algona;  
Councilmember Melissa Stuart, Redmond; Councilmember Cara Christensen, Snoqualmie

#### **Action**

Election of the 2025 SCA Public Issues Committee Chair and Vice Chair.
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#### **Background**

Per the PIC Operating Policies:

*Committee Leadership shall be a Chair and Vice-chair elected by the committee. The nominating committee of the PIC shall solicit names for the Chair and Vice-chair of the PIC and make a recommendation to the PIC by December 15th of each year. The Chair may serve a one-year term with a two-term maximum.*

The PIC Chair serves a one-year term, and may serve up to two consecutive years. The Vice PIC Chair serves a one-year term, and may serve up to two consecutive years.

The PIC Nominating Committee met on December 9, 2025 and reviewed nominees for the 2026 PIC Chair and Vice Chair. The PIC Nominating Committee makes the following recommendations:

- Lydia Assefa-Dawson, Federal Way as 2026 SCA PIC Chair
- Melissa Stuart, Redmond as 2026 SCA PIC Vice Chair.

#### **Next Steps**

The full PIC will vote to elect a 2026 PIC Chair and Vice Chair at the December 10, 2025 PIC meeting.

**Item 7:**  
**Regional Board and Committee Appointments**  
***ACTION***

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**SCA Staff Contact**

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

**SCA PIC Nominating Committee Members**

Council President Pro Tem Ruth Pérez, Renton, Chair; Mayor Troy Linnell, Algona;  
Councilmember Melissa Stuart, Redmond; Councilmember Cara Christensen, Snoqualmie

**Action**

The PIC Nominating Committee met on November 20, 2025 to develop a list of recommended 2026 SCA Board and Committee Appointments for consideration by the PIC ( [Attachment A](#) ). The PIC is anticipated to take action at the December 10, 2025 PIC meeting to recommend appointments to the SCA Board of Directors, who will consider PIC's recommendations at their meeting on December 17, 2025.

**Background**

A nominating committee of the Public Issues Committee (PIC) consisting of one representative of each SCA Regional Caucus (South, North, South Valley, and Snoqualmie Valley) is appointed annually by the Chair of the PIC and makes recommendations to the PIC on appointments. The PIC in turn makes recommendations on regional board and committee appointments to the SCA Board of Directors.

Per SCA Bylaws, appointees to major regional committees shall be selected from among elected officials otherwise qualified to serve in such positions, in accordance with the terms of the enabling documents creating such boards and committees. Appointees shall represent the positions of all SCA member cities. Equitable geographic distribution shall be considered in recommending appointments to the Board of Directors.

No member shall serve more than six (6) consecutive years on a regional board or committee appointed by SCA. This limitation shall not apply to alternates to regional boards and committees. Once a member has served six (6) consecutive years on a regional board or committee, they shall be ineligible to serve on said committee for a minimum of one (1) year. Pursuant to a bylaw amendment adopted on December 2, 2015, "In extraordinary circumstances, the Board may make exceptions to the six-year term limit upon the recommendation of the PIC nominating committee and the PIC when a supermajority (2/3) of Board members present and voting at a meeting finds that doing so would be in the best interests of SCA and its member cities."

The PIC Nominating Committee met on November 20, 2025 and on December 9, 2025 to develop a list of recommended appointments for consideration by the PIC. [Attachment A](#) provides those recommendations. Included in the Nominating Committee's recommendations is a finding of extraordinary circumstances to make an exception to the six-year term limit for the following appointments:

- Councilmember Ed Prince, Renton, as member to the KCRHA Governing Board
- Mayor Nancy Backus, Auburn, as member to the KCRHA Governing Board and the Regional Policy Committee
- Mayor Chris Roberts, Shoreline, as member on the PSRC Operations Committee
- Mayor Dana Ralph, Kent, as member on the PSRC Transportation Policy Board
- Councilmember Ryan McIrvine, Renton, as member on the Regional Transit Committee

The following committee positions remained unfilled following the Nominating Committee's meeting on November 20. A call for nominations will go out in 2026 to fill these vacancies.

- Advisory Council on Aging and Disability Services (1 Member)
- Joint Recommendations Committee (1 Member / 2 Alternates)
- King County Flood Control District Advisory Committee (1 Alternate)
- Local Hazardous Waste Management Program (LHWMP) Management Coordination Committee (1 Alternate)

The appointment process for the Greater Seattle Partnership (GSP) is still under review by staff and GSP, and we anticipate further information in 2026.

### **Next Steps**

Following action by the PIC, recommendations will be forwarded to the SCA Board of Directors for final approval at their next meeting on December 17, 2025.

### **Amended Attachment**

[Attachment A](#) has been updated in this amended materials packet following the Nominating Committee's second meeting on December 9. Changes made since the original materials packet are highlighted in yellow.

## 2026 SCA Regional Boards and Committees – PIC Nominating Committee Recommendations

### Key

Unexpired Term

Reappointment of Incumbent

Alternate to Member

Member to Alternate

New Appointment

*\*\*Finding of Extraordinary Circumstances to make an exception to the six-year term limit*

### Advisory Council on Aging and Disability Services (ADS Advisory Council)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	John Boyd	Kent	S
Member			

### Affordable Housing

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Nigel Herbig	Kenmore	N
Member	Amy Falcone	Kirkland	N
Member	Dana Parnello	Maple Valley	S
Member	Lindsey Walsh	Issaquah	N
Alternate	Annette Ademasu	Shoreline	N
Alternate	Hugo Garcia	Burien	S
Alternate	Claire Sumadiwirya	Bellevue	N
Alternate	Christina Rustik	North Bend	SnoV

### Board of Health (BOH)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Amy Falcone	Kirkland	N
Member	Barb de Michele	Issaquah	N
Member	Victoria Schroff	Maple Valley	S
Alternate	Hugo Garcia	Burien	S
Alternate	Satwinder Kaur	Kent	S
Alternate	Cheryl Paquette	Carnation	SnoV

### Central Puget Sound Economic Development District Board (EDDB)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Lydia Assefa-Dawson	Federal Way	S
Member	James Alberson	Renton	S
Alternate	Michelle Evans	Woodinville	N
Alternate	Tracy Taylor	Auburn	S

### Children and Youth Advisory Board (CYAB)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Ariana Sherlock	Newcastle	N
Member	Hanan Amer	Auburn	S

### Domestic Violence Initiative Regional Task Force (DVI)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Satwinder Kaur	Kent	S
Member	Susan Honda	Federal Way	S
Member	Troy Linnell	Algona	SV
Member	John Tymczyszyn	Kirkland	N
Alternate	Alex Andrade	Burien	S
Alternate	Paula Goode	Lake Forest Park	N
Alternate	Josh Amato	Sammamish	N
Alternate	Lisa Stergus	Auburn	S

## 2026 SCA Regional Boards and Committees – PIC Nominating Committee Recommendations

### Emergency Management Advisory Committee (EMAC)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	JC Harris	Des Moines	S
Member	Cat Cotton	Snoqualmie	SnoV
Member	Kate Kruller	Tukwila	S
Alternate	Valerie Snider	Shoreline	N
Alternate	Josh Amato	Sammamish	N
Alternate	John Herbert	Maple Valley	S

### Joint Recommendations Committee (JRC)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Amy McHenry	Duvall	SNO
Member	Jessica Merizan	Carnation	SnoV
Member	Jane Ho	Tukwila	S
Member			
Alternate			
Alternate			

### Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Kelli Curtis	Kirkland	N
Member	Ryan McIrvin	Renton	S
Member	Melissa Stuart	Redmond	N
Member	Amy McHenry	Duvall	SnoV
Member	Jim Ribail	Carnation	SnoV
Member	Kate Baldwin	Auburn	S
Alternate	Annette Ademasu	Shoreline	N
Alternate	Mark Joselyn	North Bend	SnoV
Alternate	Lisa Wissner-Slivka	Clyde Hill	N
Alternate	Marli Larimer	Kent	S

### King Conservation District Advisory Committee (KCD)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Annette Ademasu	Shoreline	N
Member	Tracy Furutani	Lake Forest Park	N
Member	Jessica Merizan	Carnation	SnoV
Alternate	Rocco DeVito	Burien	S
Alternate	Kevin Nichols	Issaquah	N
Alternate	Deborah Treen	Sammamish	N

### HealthierHere Governing Board

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Semra Riddle	Lake Forest Park	N
Alternate	Sam Mendez	Burien	S

### King County Flood Control District Advisory Committee (KCFCDAC)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	JC Harris	Des Moines	S
Member	Henry Sladek	Skykomish	SnoV
Member	Troy Linnell	Algona	SV
Member	Amy McHenry	Duvall	SnoV
Alternate	Kelly Jiang	Issaquah	N
Alternate	Vic Kave	Pacific	SV
Alternate	Darcey Peterson	Black Diamond	SV
Alternate			

## 2026 SCA Regional Boards and Committees – PIC Nominating Committee Recommendations

### KC Law Enforcement Officers' and Fire Fighters' Plan 1 (LEOFF1) Disability Retirement Board

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Craig Reynolds	Mercer Island	N

### King County Regional Homelessness Authority (KCRHA) Governing Committee

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Ed Prince**	Renton	S
Member	Nancy Backus**	Auburn	S
Member	Kelly Jiang	Issaquah	N
Alternate	Betsy Robertson	Shoreline	N

### Local Hazardous Waste Management Program (LHWMP) Management Coordination Committee (MCC)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	John Boyd	Kent	S
Alternate			

### Mental Illness and Drug Dependency (MIDD) Oversight Committee King County

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Paul Charbonneau	Newcastle	N
Alternate	Jane Ho	Tukwila	S

### Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (PSCAA) Advisory Council

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Satwinder Kaur	Kent	S

### PSRC Executive Board

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Thomas McLeod	Tukwila	S
Member	Jeff Wagner	Covington	S
Member	Amy Lam	Sammamish	N
Alternate	Chris Roberts	Shoreline	N
Alternate	Katy Harris	Yarrow Point	N
Alternate	Mark Joselyn	North Bend	SnoV

### PSRC Growth Management Policy Board (GMPB)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Pam Stuart	Sammamish	N
Member	Ed Prince	Renton	S
Member	Amy McHenry	Duvall	SnoV
Alternate	Mark Mullet	Issaquah	N
Alternate	Satwinder Kaur	Kent	S
Alternate	Cheryl Paquette	Carnation	SnoV

### PSRC Operations Committee

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Chris Roberts**	Shoreline	N
Alternate	Dana Ralph	Kent	S

### PSRC Transportation Policy Board (TPB)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Dana Ralph**	Kent	S
Member	Peter Kwon	SeaTac	S
Member	Jay Arnold	Kirkland	N
Alternate	Susan Honda	Federal Way	S
Alternate	Ruth Pérez	Renton	S
Alternate	Barb de Michele	Issaquah	N

## 2026 SCA Regional Boards and Committees – PIC Nominating Committee Recommendations

### Regional Law, Safety and Justice Committee (RLSJC)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Neal Black	Kirkland	N
Member	Zandria Michaud	Kent	S
Member	Troy Linnell	Algona	SV
Member	Steve Sinwell	Clyde Hill	N
Member	Eric Zimmerman	Normandy Park	S
Member	Carmen Rivera	Renton	S
Member	Suzan Torguson	North Bend	SnoV
Member	Lydia Assefa-Dawson	Federal Way	S

### Regional Policy Committee (RPC)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Nancy Backus**	Auburn	S
Member	Armondo Pavone	Renton	S
Member	Jay Arnold	Kirkland	N
Member	Lynne Robinson	Bellevue	N
Alternate	Dana Ralph	Kent	S
Alternate	Jim Ribail	Carnation	SnoV

### Regional Transit Committee (RTC)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Ryan McIrvine**	Renton	S
Member	Susan Honda	Federal Way	S
Member	Neal Black	Kirkland	N
Member	Toni Troutner	Kent	S
Member	Barb de Michele	Issaquah	N
Member	Tracy Taylor	Auburn	S
Member	JC Harris	Des Moines	S
Member	Pamela Stuart	Sammamish	N
Alternate	Larry Goldman	Lake Forest Park	N
Alternate	Jim Ribail	Carnation	SnoV
Alternate	Vishal Bhargava	Bellevue	N
Alternate	Rocco DeVito	Burien	S

### Regional Water Quality Committee (RWQC)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Laura Mork	Shoreline	N
Member	Jessica Rossman	Medina	N
Member	Sarah Moore	Burien	S
Member	Dave Hamilton	Bellevue	N
Alternate	Melissa Stuart	Redmond	N
Alternate	Hanan Amer	Auburn	S

### Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)

Seat	Name	City	Caucus
Member	Amy Lam	Sammamish	N
Member	Laura Mork	Shoreline	N



## Item 8:

### 2026 SCA Legislative Agenda & County Priorities

#### ***DISCUSSION***

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##### **SCA Staff Contacts**

Aj Foltz, SCA Senior Policy Analyst, [aj@soundcities.org](mailto: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 reviewed and discussed both documents and offer initial feedback. At the December meeting, **PIC will review proposed amendments and vote to approve both documents.**

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**

Please review the proposed 2026 State Legislative Agenda, included in [Attachment A](#) .

[Attachment C](#) includes proposed amendments to the 2026 SCA State Legislative Agenda. Members of the SCA Legislative Committee have been invited to attend the PIC meeting and consult with PIC on the language included in these amendments.

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**

Please review the redlined draft version of the proposed 2026 County Priorities, included in [Attachment B](#).

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.

### **Next Steps**

Following approval by PIC, the 2026 SCA State Legislative Agenda and County Priorities will be considered by the SCA Board of Directors at the December 17 meeting.

## **DRAFT 2026 SCA State Legislative Agenda**

**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.

## **REDLINED DRAFT SCA 2026 County Priorities**

**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. [This includes levies by King County's special taxing districts.](#)

#### *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 [or adjacent unincorporated properties](#) 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 to the extent possible; and,
- Aligning city and county public safety funding priorities and usage of HB House Bill 2015 (2025 Session) 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 continue to 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:*

- Adding the following in the current environmental impact evaluation and upcoming draft State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) report:
  - Providing a comprehensive traffic analysis on the impacts that waste export by rail would have on cities with rail lines. Both long-term disposal options under consideration require a waste export by rail component.
  - A 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-affordable for residents**. Cities are particularly interested in mitigating rate increases while ensuring long-term sustainability of local and regional utility systems. ~~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.

## PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

### DRAFT 2026 SCA State Legislative Agenda

The following amendments will add additional issue areas and language to the SCA 2026 State Legislative Agenda.

#### ***Proposed Amendment #1: City of Mercer Island***

##### **Support for Safe Use of E-Bikes and E-Motorcycles/E-Dirt Bikes**

**SCA cities support the use of regulatory and law enforcement strategies to promote the safe and appropriate use of e-bikes and e-motorcycles/e-dirt bikes.**

*SCA supports:*

- Expanded State regulations to address the rising popularity of e-bikes and e-motorcycles/e-dirt bikes among youth to ensure safe use while promoting sustainable transportation
- Adding a definition for e-motorcycles/e-dirt bikes in state code. As e-motorcycles/e-dirt bikes are distinct from both e-bikes and traditional electric motorcycles, a clarifying statewide definition will ensure these emerging technologies are correctly classified and uniformly regulated to ensure public safety and responsible use.

#### ***Proposed Amendment #2: City of Kent***

##### **Protect Taxpayer Dollars: Address Skyrocketing Liability Costs to Cities**

**SCA cities urge the state to address the growing liability burden on local governments caused by excessive jury verdicts and outdated liability laws.** While the state considers reforms for its own agencies, cities and counties are being left exposed to unsustainable financial risk.

*SCA supports:*

- Legislative reforms to reduce public agency liability exposure, including updates to joint and several liability laws;
- Inclusion of cities and counties in any state-level liability reform efforts, such as those proposed for Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF); and,
- A comprehensive review of tort laws to ensure fairness and protect public resources from disproportionate legal judgments.

#### ***Proposed Amendment #3: City of Newcastle***

##### **Modernize Liability Laws to Protect Cities and Taxpayers**

**Cities across King County face rapidly escalating liability costs that strain local budgets, jeopardize essential services, and contribute to long-term fiscal instability.** Outdated state liability statutes, including rules governing joint and several liability, admissible medical damages, and the presentation of non-economic damages in court, create conditions where municipalities may be held disproportionately responsible for financial



judgments even when their share of fault is limited. These escalating pressures reduce cities' ability to invest in public safety, infrastructure, human services, and other core functions. SCA supports balanced, statewide liability reforms that ensure fair compensation for injured parties while preventing municipalities and taxpayers from bearing disproportionate financial burdens.

*SCA supports:*

- Updating joint and several liability statutes to ensure that financial responsibility aligns with actual fault, including limiting full liability for defendants whose share of fault is minimal or triggering joint responsibility only when a defendant is found to be primarily at fault.
- Reforming the calculation of medical damages by allowing only actual amounts paid or owed—rather than inflated, billed charges—to be considered in settlement and judgment calculations.
- Promoting fairness and transparency in jury awards by ensuring that any stated amounts of non-economic damages presented to a jury are directly tied to evidence rather than arbitrary or speculative anchors.
- Pursuing statewide reforms that protect the long-term financial health of local governments while maintaining equitable access to justice for injured individuals.



December 10, 2025  
SCA PIC Meeting

## Item 9.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.

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
<b>King County Regional Law, Safety, &amp; Justice Committee (RLSJC)</b>	<b>Chair:</b> 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.
<b>Puget Sound Regional Council Transportation Policy Board</b>	<b>Chair:</b> Mayor Dana Ralph, Kent; Mayor Mary Lou Pauly, Issaquah; Councilmember Peter Kwon, SeaTac; Councilmember Susan Honda, Federal Way; Deputy Mayor Jay Arnold, Kirkland; Councilmember Matt Mahoney, Des Moines	Dec. 11	Continued discussion on Regional Transportation Plan, including revenue strategies, set to be released for public comment in mid to late December.
<b>Mental Illness and Drug Dependency Advisory Committee (MIDD)</b>	Councilmember Paul Charbonneau, Newcastle	Dec 11	Briefing on MIDD 2026-2027 Budget, discussion of MIDD's Community Behavioral Health Treatment Initiative and potential changes to it given Medicaid changes, discussion of MIDD renewal
<b>Local Hazardous Waste Management Program Management Coordination</b>	Councilmember John Boyd, Kent; Councilmember Kim-Khánh Văn, Renton	Dec 16	Discussion/action regarding 2026 Work Plan, update on Memorandum of Agreement, Q3 quarterly performance and finance report

<b>Committee (MCC)</b>			
<b>KCRHA Governing Board</b>	Mayor Angela Birney, Redmond; Mayor Nancy Backus, Auburn; Councilmember Ed Prince, Renton; Kent Hay	Dec 18	Regional Funding and Services Analysis data briefing; Accountability Audit presentation; approval of the 2026 KCRHA budget and Five-Year Plan Addendum



December 10, 2025  
SCA PIC Meeting

### Item 9.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 <sup>th</sup> ballot.
2025	November	Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Levy renewal	\$0.250 per \$1000 of assessed value	Passed by 80.7% on the November 4 <sup>th</sup> ballot.
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