



SCA Public Issues Committee
May 13, 2026 - 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/81001940869?pwd=xT6kCoH2Jcv1WPtc8sk1awZRHbiKnQ.1>

Or dial in by phone: 1-253-215-8782 / Meeting ID: 810 0194 0869 / Passcode: 263412

AGENDA

- 1) **Welcome and Roll Call – Lydia Assefa-Dawson, Federal Way, PIC Chair** 5 Minutes
- 2) **Public Comment** 5 Minutes
- 3) [Approval of Minutes – April 10, 2026 Meeting](#) 5 Minutes
Page 6
- 4) **Chair’s Report – Lydia Assefa-Dawson, Federal Way, PIC Chair** 5 Minutes
- 5) **Executive Director’s Report – Robert Feldstein, Executive Director** 5 Minutes
- 6) [Potential Affordable Housing Regional Initiative](#) 30 Minutes
DISCUSSION
Page 17
Aj Foltz, SCA Senior Policy Analyst
- 7) [2027 Proposed Sewer Rate Response Letter](#) 30 Minutes
ACTION
Page 23
Laura Belmont, SCA Policy Analyst
- 8) [Sound Transit Enterprise Initiative](#) 20 Minutes
POTENTIAL ACTION
Page 32
Dax Tate, SCA Policy Analyst
- 9) **Updates/Informational Items** 15 Minutes
 - a. [Regional Boards & Committees Upcoming Issues](#)
 - b. [Levies & Ballot Measures](#)
 - c. [2026 PIC Work Plan](#)
- 10) **For the good of the order**

11) Adjourn

Upcoming Events

- a. Crisis Care Center Procurement and Siting Presentation – May 12, 2026 – 10 AM – Register Here
- b. SCA Board of Directors Meeting – May 20, 2026 – 10 AM – 12 PM – Bellevue City Hall
- c. Memorial Day – SCA Offices Closed – Monday, May 25, 2026
- d. SCA PIC Meeting – June 10, 2026 – 7 – 9 PM – Virtual
- e. Independence Day (Observed) – SCA Offices Closed – Friday, July 3, 2026
- f. Summer Social – Evening of July 22, 2026 – Lake Wilderness Lodge, Maple Valley

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
CJTC	Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission
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
KCEPC	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

April 8, 2026 – 7:00 PM

Renton City Hall, Council Chambers

1. Welcome and Roll Call

Federal Way Councilmember, Lydia Assefa-Dawson, Public Issues Committee (PIC) Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. 26 cities were represented. ([Attachment A](#)).

Guests present included: Tracy Taylor, Auburn (PIC Alternate); Harry Steinmetz, Des Moines (PIC Alternate); Les Sessoms, Federal Way (PIC Alternate); Vikek Prakriya, Redmond (PIC Alternate); Dennis Martinez, Tukwila (PIC Alternate); Megan Utemei, Auburn Staff; Diana Hart, Bellevue Staff; Jeff Swanson, Medina Staff Eric Perry, Renton Staff; Tania Mondaca, King County Council Staff; Cassie Byerly, King County Council Staff; Sharman Herrin, King County Wastewater Treatment Division Staff; Olivia Robinson, King County Wastewater Treatment Division Staff.

2. Public Comment

Federal Way Councilmember, Lydia Assefa-Dawson, 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 Assefa-Dawson closed this portion of the meeting.

3. Approval of Minutes – March 11, 2026 Meeting

Federal Way Councilmember, Lydia Assefa-Dawson, SCA PIC Chair, asked for any questions or amendments to the minutes of the March 11, 2026 SCA PIC meeting.

Councilmember Kate Kruller, Tukwila, moved, seconded by Mayor Vic Kave, Pacific, to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2026 SCA PIC Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Chair's Report

Federal Way Councilmember, Lydia Assefa-Dawson, SCA PIC Chair, stated that PIC attendance in 2025 average 23 cities but the March 2026 PIC meeting had 32 cities present, representing high attendance and engagement. Chair Assefa-Dawson thanked PIC members for their grace during the previous meeting and expressed gratitude for the outcome of the work done at the meeting. She thanked staff for the PIC hot sheet and encouraged members to use it during their city council meetings.

5. Executive Director's Report

Presentation by SCA Executive Director Robert Feldstein. Materials attached and available [here](#).

SCA Executive Director Robert Feldstein thanked members for their engagement at the March PIC meeting. Feldstein stated that while on Monday 14 people had RSVPed for the PIC meeting, attendance today is much higher; he asked members to RSVP earlier in the future for the ease of staff. Feldstein also stated SCA will not provide food at all in-person PIC meetings and encouraged members to independently coordinate plans moving forward.

Feldstein also gave an update regarding the proposed King County Transportation District (KCTD) sales tax. He shared that in January and February, he had not heard interest from the King County Council and Executive in doing a city pass-through of revenues. Throughout March, 25 cities testified at least once and that seven letters were sent representing 23 cities. SCA members and staff also had many communications with King County Councilmembers. Feldstein stated that at the April 2 KCTD meeting, the first amendment presented introduced an even split of revenue between roads and metro, which failed. He stated that a second amendment was made that would have introduced a 25% city pass-through, but a vote was not taken. Additional amendments with different pass-through percentages were made and failed, but no final decision was made. He also shared that the King County Executive office has stated that they are open to discussing pass-through options but did not support the options presented at the meeting.

Feldstein then reviewed various criticisms heard throughout this amendment process. The first is that Seattle would get a greater amount of pass-through funds, though Feldstein stated that SCA cities would get more of their money back in SCA's KCTD proposal for a 25% city pass-through. A second criticism was that even \$100 million would not meet transportation funding needs, though Feldstein argued that it is also important to invest in varied parts of the County. A third was that a pass-through is unprecedented.

Feldstein also stated that a KCTD Executive team has been appointed, and that the KCTD Board of Supervisors has been adjourned until May. Feldstein shared that he expects the Board will likely discuss the size of a pass-through and the allocation formula.

Feldstein reviewed some lessons learned from this process. These include more lead time on letters, trying to find opportunities for city councils to establish positions as appropriate to expedite related future actions, ensuring the Executive's Office is informed of and supportive of the position, the importance of transparency, and that the collective voice of SCA matters.

Mayor Vic Kave, Pacific, stated that there is a core of the County that has Metro and a corridor without Metro, meaning that cities like Pacific rely on vehicles and need transportation funding. He encouraged SCA to keep a sliding scale in mind, as some cities do not receive Metro service.

Mayor Pro Tempore Elizabeth Porter, Covington, asked if KCTD has a plan of projects they would prioritize with the funding. Feldstein and Tate replied that specifics were not given.

Redmond Council President Melissa Stuart, PIC Vice Chair, asked when the sales tax would begin being collected. Feldstein replied that KCTD originally aimed to pass the sales tax by April 17 but are now aiming to pass the tax by July to begin collection by January 1.

6. Regional Boards & Committees Mid-Year Appointments

SCA Executive Director Robert Feldstein briefed members on appointments recommended by the PIC Nominating Committee as shown in the packet ([here](#)) on pages 23-25.

Feldstein shared that Greater Seattle Partners is comprised of cities and nonprofits that pay dues. He stated that the SCA seat was previously held by Mayor Nancy Backus, but Auburn later began paying dues to have their own seat. Because of this confusion, applications for the seat were re-opened. Feldstein also stated that for the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency Advisory Council, the PIC Nominating Committee recommends re-appointing Kent Council President Satwinder Kaur for a one-year term to allow the Council to prepare for a leadership transition, given Kaur's role as vice chair on the committee.

Renton Council President Ruth Pérez, SCA PIC Nominating Committee Chair, thanked members for applying. She stated that staff have been directed to communicate with members who were not selected as they had excellent applications and would like to see them apply again in the future.

Feldstein stated that part of SCA's role is to support its committee partners, which is also reflected in the decisions.

Redmond Council President Melissa Stuart, SCA PIC Vice Chair and SCA PIC Nominating Committee member, shared that Redmond will support the motion on the floor. She stated that it was interesting to read applications and that the PIC Nominating Committee will reconvene before the broader call for nominations in the fall. Vice Chair Stuart also shared that some committees still had seats that remained vacant due to a lack of applicants and encouraged members to spread the word about applying.

Duvall Mayor Pro Tempore Ronn Mercer, SCA PIC Nominating Committee member, stated that in addition to robust discussion, he was grateful to have participated in the committee's work.

Mayor Nancy Backus, Auburn, clarified that Auburn had been a dues-paying member of Greater Seattle Partners from the beginning.

Pérez expressed that staff feedback is also vital to this process.

Pérez moved, seconded by Vice Chair Stuart, to recommend to the SCA Board of Directors the following appointments as recommended by the PIC Nominating Committee, including finding of extraordinary circumstances to make an exception to the six-year term limit for the appointment of Satwinder Kaur to the PSCAAC: Council President Ryan McIrvine, Renton, as Member to the Greater Seattle Partners; Council President Satwinder Kaur, Kent, as Member

to the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency Advisory Council for a term of 1 (one) year; Mayor Jim Ribail, Carnation, as Member to the Regional Transit Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

7. 2027 Proposed Sewer Rate Response Letter

Presentation by SCA staff. Materials attached and available [here](#).

Federal Way Councilmember, Lydia Assefa-Dawson, SCA PIC Chair, shared that this will be the first touch on the Sewer Rate Response Letter, and amendments will be accepted until the vote at the next meeting.

SCA Policy Analyst Laura Belmont shared that the Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) has proposed a monthly sewer rate, and that rates are discussed in the Regional Water Quality Committee (RWQC) and Metropolitan Water Pollution Abatement Advisory Committee (MWPAAC). Belmont shared that this is a one-year rate for 2027. They also clarified that the rate being discussed represents WTD's proposed rate, as the King County Executive has not transmitted a rate proposal at the time of the presentation. Belmont shared the primary drivers for rate cost increases, including regulatory requirements, asset management, and capacity projects. They explained that as costs rise, forecasted rates follow, with rates doubling and tripling in the coming decades. Belmont explained that total rates paid by a ratepayer include regional and local rates, so regional rate increases limit the ability of cities and sewer districts to raise rates. They shared that SCA members' concerns about combined rate increases led to Kirkland's idea for a Regional Utility Rate Summit.

Belmont explained that the SCA RWQC Caucus is recommending SCA adopt a sewer rate response letter to express concerns about the proposed sewer rate increase and request a longer-range financial focus, more holistic view of the impact on ratepayers, and information about system needs and alignment with policies.

Belmont stated that for further action, PIC members must make a motion requesting to bring the 2027 proposed sewer rate issue back to the May PIC meeting for possible action.

Chair Assefa-Dawson asked Shoreline Councilmember Laura Mork, SCA RWQC Caucus Chair, if she had input. Mork thanked staff, particularly Belmont, for their work on this topic. She relayed her concerns regarding the rate increases, particularly highlighting the compounding impact of utility rate increases on ratepayers.

Mayor Sarah Moore, Burien, stated that individual utility staff can do their jobs perfectly, but it is up to elected officials to step back and look at the combined impact of multiple rate increases.

Mayor Jim Ribail, Carnation, expressed that the proposed rate increases are unsustainable. He shared that Carnation had been mandated by the County to build a treatment plant, which they had, and that Carnation ratepayers are still paying for the facility. He expressed that the County

should declare a state of emergency to manage the increasing number of critical issues rather than raise rates.

Mayor Vic Kave, Pacific, stated that WTD's Director spoke to the Pacific City Council and was unable to provide many answers but said that regulations were driving costs. Kave expressed that state officials voted for regulations without a full understanding of the science behind them, and that resulting regulations are unattainable. He said that suspending some regulations would allow utilities to address issues one at a time instead of all at once. Kave also stated that King County has the third highest-paid public employees despite not being the third-highest economy. He expressed that new construction should be paid for with capacity charges, not rates. Kave stated that state must address regulations and that city voices are needed to make that happen.

Belmont clarified that new connections to the system pay a capacity charge to cover the cost of their new connections, and that capacity project charges are generally driven by storm events.

Councilmember Bill Boyce, Kent, said that the letter was missing comments about ongoing engagement with cities and recommended amending the letter to include this.

Mayor Dean Hachamovitch, Clyde Hill, stated that he agrees with comments around the unreasonableness of the proposed rates. Hachamovitch asked if WTD would be surprised by the letter, if anyone is supportive of the proposed rate increases, and if there are reasonable ways to fund cost increases. Belmont responded that WTD staff are in the room and would not be surprised by a letter from SCA or its contents. They also stated that previously, MWPAAC and RWQC have submitted letters in support of the rate, which has shifted in recent years to be a letter of concern or simply a rate response letter, reflecting a change in support for proposed rates. Belmont stated that MWPAAC and RWQC members are also interested in ensuring the wastewater system is properly funded and have asked for additional information on the state of the system from WTD.

Hachamovitch asked if the letter could use stronger language beyond "concern" to convey the tone of the discussion, and who the main players would be in any conversations regarding regulatory changes. Belmont stated that SCA staff work at the direction of PIC, and language can be adjusted accordingly. They also stated that the main regulatory partners brought up by RWQC and MWPAAC members in discussions have included both state and federal level regulators such as the Washington Department of Ecology or the Environmental Protection Agency. Belmont clarified, however, that the County is currently exploring what mechanisms are available to address regulatory concerns and specific information on potential mechanisms has not been shared yet.

Councilmember Mark Joselyn, North Bend, suggested "outrage" would be an appropriate word and stated there are some cities such as North Bend and Carnation that are exempt from these particular rate increases due to separate agreements with the County. Joselyn asked if there is a precedent for whether cities should vote or abstain on issues that do not directly impacted them.

SCA Executive Director Robert Feldstein stated that typically cities are suggested to support an item if they are not directly impacted and the SCA position does not hurt them. He also expressed that SCA should both be talking to the County regarding rate-related actions and working with the County to talk with the State. Feldstein also shared that the King County Executive is seeking cooperation with cities to engage the state.

Mayor Katy Harris, Yarrow Point, shared that the Rate Summit was her first opportunity to fully understand the gravity of the situation and is hoping to see a similar event to bring all the actors together in one place.

Council President Tola Marts, Issaquah, expressed that there is a perception that government spending across the board is out of control, and that while governments can currently fund items, there will come a day when popular perception of government spending will threaten the ability to fund critical services.

Councilmember Kate Kruller, Tukwila stated that she was on the Association of Washington Cities' regional council for ecology, and that environmental pressures to save whales, salmon, and other aquatic life drove costs. She recommended the use of the word "alarmed" in the letter.

Ribail stated that he does not believe cities with separate arrangements will be exempt from rate increases. Ribail said that light rail cost increases can also be pointed to as an example of the dangers of not taking a high-level view.

Mork moved, seconded by Ribail, to bring the 2027 proposed sewer rate issue back to the May PIC meeting for possible action.

Stuart made a point of order that discussion should be opened prior to final vote. The chair acknowledged and discussion followed.

The motion passed unanimously.

Belmont explained that this discussion represents PIC's first touch and summarized next steps. They said that members can propose amendments up to Friday, May 1st to give staff time to incorporate amendments for the May PIC packet. Belmont explained that the May PIC Meeting will be the second touch when amendments will be discussed and voted on, and that a recommendation at that time would go to the May SCA Board meeting for final approval.

Redmond Council President Melissa Stuart, SCA PIC Vice Chair, stated that she serves on RWQC and relayed to members that dozens of hours are spent monthly on this issue. She stated that the energy in the room reflects that the SCA RWQC Caucus has the full support of SCA members. Stuart expressed that she hopes member go back to share this information with their councils. She stated that SCA members care about the health of the Puget Sound and also care about making it affordable for ratepayers. Stuart praised Mork's leadership on the caucus.

8. State Legislative Update & Panel Discussion

Presentation by SCA staff with city staff panelists. Materials attached and available [here](#).

SCA Senior Policy Analyst Aj Foltz overviewed actions taken during the 2026 Washington State Legislative Session based on the SCA State Legislative Agenda. She stated that SCA supports legislation that aligns with guiding principles as provided in the presentation.

Foltz stated that indigent defense was a topic of immense interest to SCA members last year and reviewed that SCA supported state funding for public defense and policies that strengthen the public defense workforce. She stated that there was no additional indigent defense funding for cities.

Foltz reviewed that SCA supported easing restriction on eligibility for the HB 2015 sales tax and increasing support for the public safety workforce and alternative crisis response program. She shared that the Criminal Justice Training Commission continues to engage cities on barriers to accessing funding. She shared that legislators expressed concerns that the grant funding was delayed but did not formally address it in legislation this year.

For housing, SCA supported prioritizing incentives over mandates, increasing HB 1590 revenue allocation to cities, and engagement with cities throughout the legislative process. Foltz stated that significant capital budget investments were made in housing and homelessness.

SCA supported investing in local sustainability efforts and transparent communication around Climate Commitment Act funding. Foltz stated that HB 1960 authorized a state and local renewable energy excise tax and created a new local investment distribution grant program.

She reviewed that SCA supported sustainable state transportation revenue that provides funding for local preservation, maintenance, operations, and safety improvements, among other priorities. Foltz stated that a Road Usage Charge was not implemented this year and that it seems the State may shift to a Highway Use Fee.

Foltz stated that SCA supported expanded regulations to address e-bikes and adding a definition of e-dirt bikes and e-motorcycles. SB 6110 clarified the definition of electric-assisted bicycles.

Foltz shared that while liability laws were a priority area for SCA, there was not a lot of work during the State Legislative Session on this topic.

She then introduced the panelists: State Relations Policy Advisor Diana Hart, City of Bellevue; Government Affairs Manager Eric Perry, City of Renton; and City Manager Jeff Swanson, City of Medina. Foltz asked the panelists which bill was most impactful to cities. Hart stated that she previously would have highlighted the shelters, transitional, emergency, and permanent (STEP) housing bill, though it became more flexible throughout session. Hart expressed that HB 2442 is likely the most impactful to cities. Perry stated that the millionaires' tax is also of great impact to cities because sales tax is discussed as a regressive tax option and if local jurisdictions are not

given options for more progressive tax revenue, it will become a major concern for cities. Swanson stated that the STEP housing bill was the most troubling for smaller cities, as changes to the Growth Management Act each session are difficult for them to catch up with.

Foltz asked panelists to share how the criminal justice sales tax has impacted cities. Perry shared that his city hopes the program moves toward getting funding out. He stated the grant program is becoming more active and cities have begun receiving funding. Swanson shared that Medina did not think they would qualify but later learned they almost fully met the requirements and thus moved forward with the sales tax. Hart shared Bellevue has not taken the tax option yet, but the fact that money is being distributed is an improvement as the first year of the three-year grant program was filled with delays. Hart shared she hopes they continue looking at process improvements.

Foltz asked panelists where they see the greatest tension between state mandates and local control, to which the panelists replied land use had the greatest tension. Hart shared that Bellevue has a lengthy spreadsheet of all the state mandates on land use. She stated that cities were more effective in getting their voices heard this session, as some bills with large impacts on cities did not move forward because cities shared concerns around implementation. Perry added that public safety was another area where the State was beginning to take more actions on how staff should be hired and trained. He referenced the automated license plate reader bill and stated that while he understands privacy concerns on the matter, he has also heard from police that automated license plate readers have been helpful for certain cases. Swanson stated that many regulations are made in silos but have a compounding impact on cities. Hart highlighted an example of two conflicting land use bills that were proposed during session. Perry stated that a high number of cities are meeting or exceeding growth targets which could indicate cities are moving in the desired direction and mandates can pause.

Foltz asked panelists what bills are likely to return next year. Hart mentioned cities will likely bring an item around recovering tax revenue lost from the millionaires' tax and that a homelessness bill of rights is likely to return. Perry highlighted that indigent defense is likely to return. Swanson stated that pressure will continue on state shared revenues.

Foltz asked panelists what strategies cities can use to coordinate with legislators and each other between sessions. Hart stated that legislators are much more accessible outside of session, making it a great time to highlight city work. Hart encouraged cities to lean on government relations staff, as applicable, for what to discuss with legislators. She also stated that government relations staff often work together and are happy to assist SCA members. Perry agreed with Hart. He suggested cities communicate with one another as they are often on the same page about issues. Swanson suggested that it is helpful to bring legislators on the ground to see the impact of various issues on cities. He suggested doing similar work with agency staff and giving them specific examples of how various issues impact cities. Perry added that cities should work with legislators on wins and align with their priorities where possible.

Foltz asked panelists what their favorite lighter-hearted bill was and highlighted a bill designating an official state cactus. Perry referenced SB 5046 which designates kimchi day. Hart highlighted a bill allowing Amazon shuttles to use business access and transit lanes. Swanson referenced SB 6346, the millionaires' tax, and how it spurs widespread discussions on how people view state funding.

Mayor Pro Tempore Ronn Mercer, Duvall, shared that Duvall is a smaller city and while regulations often have good intentions, they also add pressure and cost. He asked the panel for advice on communicating this to the legislature. Swanson stated that he uses context-setting and focuses on trying to help them understand the impact of regulations on the city. Hart added that the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) is a great resource and can help cities raise flags for legislators to minimize potential impacts. Swanson added both AWC and SCA are doubling down on efforts to represent small cities, which he appreciated.

Councilmember Bill Boyce, Kent, stated that many people are concerned the millionaires' tax will eventually be applied to incomes under one million and asked panelists for their thoughts on this possibility. Hart stated she thinks it will likely change at some point in the future. Perry agreed, adding that the state has a spending problem, not a revenue problem.

Councilmember Shilpa Prem, Kirkland, stated that the bill regarding retail on the ground floor of development, SB 6026, caught cities off-guard. She asked if similar housing bills were coming down the pipeline and asked if there was a mechanism to get involved earlier. Hart stated that the bill was brought about by an individual legislator based on work by the Lieutenant Governor, was then supported by the Governor, and then caught on. Hart stated that the representatives of cities in the room were able to make tweaks. She shared that Kirkland brought the bill sponsor to their city and showed her how development looks in Kirkland and how the bill would prevent future development in the same vein. They were then able to modify the bill to be more beneficial to cities. Perry stated that there are not a lot of city advocates in the State Legislature and expressed the importance of inviting legislators to cities. Swanson shared that cities play a lot of defense during session.

Redmond Council President Melissa Stuart, SCA PIC Vice Chair, thanked the panelists. She shared that members should have received a link from AWC on April 1 to participate in a legislative priorities survey. She said that the survey results drive the first draft of the priorities and that she has seen as few as thirteen cities have an outsized impact on the priorities. Vice Chair Stuart asked SCA to send out the link and encouraged members to complete the survey.

Council President Ruth Pérez, Renton, stated that she has been surprised to see cities advocate for the something and legislators subsequently take the opposite route. She asked what else members can do if legislators are not supporting the cities' asks.

Mayor Nancy Backus, Auburn, stated that a small group of people often are making decisions for the entire body which can contradict city relationships at times.

Swanson suggested branching out to legislators that cities may not often spend time with. Perry stated that storytelling is important and encouraged members to align their stories with legislators' priorities. He added that SCA members are the closest to what their communities want and need and should use that platform accordingly. Hart suggested leveraging relationships with other organizations and jurisdictions to expand a given city's voice. Perry encouraged members to have city staff join their government relations group even if they are not government relations staff.

9. Updates/Informational Items

SCA Senior Policy Analyst Aj Foltz presented this standing agenda item to offer an opportunity for questions from PIC members. Foltz highlighted that the Growth Management Planning Council has resumed meeting following a pause in work during the King County Executive transition. The Council's priorities are included in the packet.

SCA Policy Analyst Dax Tate overviewed the Sound Transit Enterprise Initiative. He stated that Sound Transit is facing a \$34.5 billion shortfall and that the Enterprise Initiative seeks to identify cost savings across all agency costs. Tate relayed that a vote is potentially anticipated by the end of May, but could be delayed. He shared that if PIC is interested in recommending the SCA Board of Directors release a statement, this could serve as a first touch of the issue to be brought back next month for discussion on adopting a high-level statement. Foltz encouraged members to reach out to Foltz and Tate with any concerns.

Foltz also shared that the levies and ballot measures tracker has been updated, as has the PIC workplan. She stated that the Housing Development Consortium will return to speak to PIC next month after being moved from the March agenda. She encouraged members to reach out with any topics they wish to discuss.

Councilmember Kate Kruller, Tukwila, moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Elizabeth Porter, Covington, to bring the Sound Transit Enterprise Initiative topic back to the May PIC meeting for possible action. The motion passed, with Redmond abstaining.

Redmond Council President Melissa Stuart, SCA PIC Vice Chair, expressed that it was difficult to weigh in without knowing the potential efficacy of a statement or the timing of its release. She also expressed that she was unsure if it was worth SCA staff time. Tate replied that the statement would likely only be one to three bullet points, which is less of a staff burden.

Feldstein stated that there are tensions on where cuts could happen within the region, so the question is whether SCA members can agree on a statement that is not overly vague.

10. For the Good of the Order

There were no items for the good of the order.

11. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 pm.

**Public Issues Committee Meeting
April 8, 2026**

City	Representative	Alternate
Algona	David White	Troy Linnell
Auburn	Nancy Backus	Tracy Taylor
Beaux Arts Village	Aletha Howes	
Bellevue	Jared Nieuwenhuis	Naren Briar
Black Diamond	Tamie Deady	
Burien	Sarah Moore	Alex Andrade
Carnation	Jim Ribail	Sam Harrison
Clyde Hill	Dean Hachamovitch	
Covington	Elizabeth Porter	Kristina Soltys
Des Moines	Yoshiko Grace Matsui	Harry Steinmetz
Duvall	Ronn Mercer	Adam Olen
Enumclaw	Chance LaFleur	Jan Martinelli
Federal Way	Lydia Assefa-Dawson	Les Sessoms
Hunts Point	Joe Sabey	
Issaquah	Tola Marts	Paul Adair
Kenmore	Eric Adman	Nathan Loutsis
Kent	Bill Boyce	Toni Troutner
Kirkland	Shilpa Prem	Kelli Curtis
Lake Forest Park	Tracy Furutani	Larry Goldman
Maple Valley	Syd Dawson	Dana Parnello
Medina	Heija Nunn	
Mercer Island	Wendy Weiker	Julie Hsieh
Milton	Jason Roberts	Bruce White
Newcastle	Paul Charbonneau	Andy Jacobs
Normandy Park	Eric Zimmerman	Sue-Ann Hohimer
North Bend	Errol Tremolada	Mark Joselyn
Pacific	Vic Kave	
Redmond	Melissa Stuart	Vikek Prakriya
Renton	Ruth Pérez	Armondo Pavone
Sammamish	Debbie Treen	Josh Amato
SeaTac	Peter Kwon	Mohamed Egal
Shoreline	Laura Mork	
Skykomish	Henry Sladek	
Snoqualmie	Louis Washington	Dan Murphy
Tukwila	Kate Kruller	Dennis Martinez
Woodinville	David Edwards	James Randolph
Yarrow Point	Katy Kinney Harris	

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

Item 6:
Potential Affordable Housing Regional Initiative

DISCUSSION

SCA Staff Contact

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

Discussion

At the May PIC meeting, representatives from the Housing Development Consortium (HDC) are providing information regarding a potential regional initiative to fund affordable housing development in King County.

Earlier this year, HDC initiated conversations regarding a potential levy with a group that includes King County, Seattle, and SCA member city leadership, along with affordable housing developers and other partners.

On March 31, 2026, Executive Girmay Zahilay issued an Executive Order that emphasizes identifying new, dedicated revenue sources to address King County's affordable housing shortage. It directs a cross-sector workgroup to develop sustainable funding strategies to support the development, preservation, and operation of emergency shelter and affordable housing. With this announcement, HDC's work on a potential affordable housing regional initiative has been elevated to regional discussion.

HDC is seeking early input on the feasibility and fundamentals of a potential affordable housing levy from SCA cities. HDC is willing to continue these discussions directly with cities and welcomes feedback on how to expand their outreach and engagement throughout this process. Development of an affordable housing levy is in the earliest stages and may be planned for a 2027 or 2028 ballot.

King County Housing Needs Assessment

The question of how to fund affordable housing has been a persistent regional challenge, and SCA has underscored the importance of accurate, data-driven analysis to fully understand and respond to the need. The King County [Countywide Housing Needs Assessment](#) provides insights into the scope of the issue and the challenges this region faces. The Countywide Housing Needs Assessment details data and analysis for all jurisdictions and unincorporated King County, including a breakdown of geographical subareas. For context, [news reports](#) that King County has built the most affordable housing in the country from 2020-2024, with most of the development focused within Seattle.

Development of the Countywide Housing Needs Assessment was prompted by King County’s 2025 Annual Budget. Section 108 of Ordinance 19861 includes Expenditure Restriction 9 (ER-9), which directs the County to contract with a third party to conduct an updated countywide housing needs assessment for use by policymakers, planners, and researchers. ER-9 specifies that the assessment must, at minimum, include:

- Background and policy context, including an update on progress toward eliminating housing cost burden among low-income households by 2040 and a summary of data sources and gaps;
- Population, workforce, and housing characteristics;
- Housing supply and market trends by subarea/jurisdiction, by area median income (AMI), and by tenure—including an estimate of pipeline/under-construction units by affordability;
- Rental and ownership affordability broken down by subregion and jurisdiction;
- Funding tools and funding levels by subregion and jurisdiction; and
- Needs analysis quantifying the gap between existing inventory and housing needs—ideally adding insights useful to policymakers, such as mismatch by household size vs. available bedrooms.

This report fulfills ER9 by assembling a countywide, subregional, and jurisdiction-level view of who lives and works in King County, what housing exists and where, how affordable it is, how much more and what kind is needed, and what it will cost.

An executive summary from this report can be found in Appendix A below.

About the Housing Development Consortium (HDC)

The Housing Development Consortium (HDC) was founded in 1988 as a coalition with the goal of addressing the region’s housing needs. As an association representing more than 215 member organizations, HDC spans a broad range of industries and addresses diverse community needs, including homelessness prevention and access to affordable homeownership. HDC is the leading advocate in the region and the state on affordable housing.

Potential Countywide Affordable Housing Levy

To close the gaps identified by the Countywide Housing Needs Assessment, HDC is leading early discussions regarding a potential countywide affordable housing levy. At the May PIC meeting, HDC is seeking early input on the feasibility and fundamentals of a potential affordable housing levy.

Earlier this year, the conversation was initiated with a group that includes King County, Seattle, and SCA member city leadership, along with affordable housing developers and other partners. HDC is willing to continue these discussions directly with cities and welcomes feedback on how to expand their outreach and engagement throughout this process.

On March 31, 2026, King County Executive Girmay Zahilay issued an [Executive Order](#) launching the Breaking the Cycle Initiative to address interconnected challenges in King County, including homelessness, substance use disorder, behavioral health needs, and repeated justice system involvement. The initiative includes several parts, including:

- Opening 500 units of shelter and housing in 500 days;
- Activating underutilized county-owned properties;
- Integrating data and performance metrics to identify gaps, measure performance, and drive investment;
- Establish a work group to improve service delivery and service coordination across housing, health and criminal justice system; and
- Explore a new sustainable, dedicated revenue source to address King County’s shortage of affordable housing.

Related to the “revenue source,” the order directs the Executive Office to convene a cross-sector workgroup—including representatives from housing, labor, philanthropy, the private sector, and government—to explore funding strategies that can support the development, siting, preservation, maintenance, and operation of emergency shelter and affordable housing. Executive Zahilay has told Sound Cities Association that SCA will have representation on this workgroup.

Affordable Housing Levy RCW Authorization

In October 2020, Washington state authorized [RCW 84.52.105](#), allowing a jurisdiction to impose additional regular property tax levies to finance affordable housing. The table below describes the uses of levies under RCW 84.52.105.

Affordable Housing Levy RCW 84.52.105	
Purpose/Use	Very Low-Income Affordable Housing Affordable Homeownership, repair & foreclosure prevention
AMI Levels	Below 50% AMI for rental Below 80% AMI for homeownership
Levy Amount	Up to \$0.50 per \$1,000 of Assessed Value
Collection Duration	Up to 10 consecutive years
Property Tax Rate Limits	Subject to “\$10 Constitutional Limit” for total state & local levies (\$10 / \$1,000 AV) <u>Not</u> subject to \$5.90 statutory limit for aggregate local levies (\$5.90 / \$1,000 AV)

Other Details

Declaration of Emergency required

Additional Considerations

County Levy Landscape

Development of an affordable housing levy is in the earliest stages and is being planned for a 2027-2028 ballot. HDC has utilized SCA’s levies and ballot measures tracker to strategize the timing of the affordable housing levy. The recent levies are detailed in the table below.

King County Levy Landscape 2025 - 2027

Year	Measure
Passed in 2025	Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) Levy renewal Parks Levy renewal Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Levy renewal Mental Illness & Drug Dependency (MIDD) 0.1% sales tax renewal
2026	Potential KCTD 0.1% sales tax increase – King County Roads Division (councilmanic)
2027	Planned Best Starts for Kids (BSK) Levy renewal
Future	<i>Potential KCTD 0.2% sales tax increase – King County Metro (voter-approved)</i> <i>King County Library System (KCLS) Levy Lid Lift</i>

Seattle Levy Landscape

- *Seattle Property Tax Legal Limit:* The City of Seattle is approaching the legal property tax limit of \$3.60 per \$1,000 of assessed value; Seattle’s current property tax is \$2.95/\$1,000 AV. On the August 2026 ballot, Seattle has a renewal of \$410 million for their libraries which would raise the city’s levy rate to \$3.03 if the levy is approved at the ballot box.
- *Seattle Housing Levy:* The City of Seattle established an affordable housing levy in 1986. The levy was last renewed in 2023, providing a seven-year extension.

Next Steps

SCA staff will continue engaging in these early discussions on behalf of PIC and SCA member cities.

APPENDIX A

Executive Summary – Countywide Housing Needs Assessment

The following sections are taken directly from the [King County Countywide Housing Needs Assessment 2025](#) for ease of reference.

Summary of Key Findings

Countywide permanent and emergency housing needs. The Countywide Planning Policies (CPPs) identify a need for 308,677 net new homes (2019–2044) across the income spectrum, with more than 60 percent needed below 80 percent of AMI.

Equitable distribution of permanent housing needs below 80 percent. The CPPs require that jurisdictions within King County plan for and accommodate greater shares of housing needs below 80 percent if they have less affordable housing, less income restricted housing, and more low-wage jobs than low-wage residents.

Progress to date and inventory distribution. From 2019–2023, King County saw the production of 17,364 publicly funded income-restricted homes affordable to households between 0 and 80 percent of AMI, with Seattle accounting for ~60 percent and the largest share of deeply affordable (≤ 30 percent of AMI) units.

Jobs, wages, and spatial mismatch. High wage growth is concentrated in Seattle and the Eastside. At the same time, South King County is seeing faster expansion in retail and education and has lower median wages across most industries, intensifying need for deeply affordable homes there. Countywide, there are ~318,000 low-wage jobs vs. ~243,000 low-wage resident workers—with the largest gaps in Seattle and East King County—which shows that many low-wage workers are commuting into these places for work. This underscores the need for more affordable housing near major job centers.

Affordability pressures and disparities. Thirty-one percent of households in King County are cost burdened (14 percent severely cost burdened); renters experience higher and more persistent cost burden. In 2023, 45 percent of renters were cost burdened countywide, and renter burden in South King County is nearly 60 percent.

Mismatch by household size. Overcrowding and “renting up”¹ are most acute for larger, lower-income households, evidence of an extreme shortage of 3- and 4-bedroom affordable rentals.

Total units and investment required. Meeting adopted housing needs below 80 percent of AMI will require approximately 177,698 new income-restricted units between 2025 and 2044. The total capital investment needed is estimated at \$80 billion, of which \$73 billion represents the unfunded gap after accounting for currently available resources. In addition, the estimated annual cost to operate and maintain these units is \$1.79 billion, primarily concentrated below 30 percent of AMI and for Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH). Existing sources of operating

support are already fully allocated to the current housing stock, leaving no identified funding available to support the new units needed.

Available resources and the remaining gap. After accounting for recurring federal, state, local, and philanthropic sources, the unfunded housing gap is approximately \$3.96 billion per year, in 2025 dollars. This figure combines two major commitments: the capital investment of producing deeply affordable housing over the next 20 years, and the long-term operating and supportive services funding needed to sustain those units over their full lifecycle.

Implications for Policy and Implementation

- The highest needs are for deeply affordable and supportive housing (30 percent or below AMI), where gaps and operating needs are greatest.
- More large affordable rental units (3–4+ bedrooms) are needed to relieve overcrowding and reduce inequities faced by large low-income households.
- An equitable distribution of affordable housing production across subregions is needed, with a focus on high-opportunity areas and places with high ratios of low-wage jobs to resident low-wage workers (e.g., Seattle/East King County).
- Planning, production, and funding alignment is needed: pair zoning/land use reforms with durable, broad-based revenue to close the gap of \$3.96 billion per year; sustain and grow operating subsidies for permanent supportive and deeply affordable units.
- Regional partnerships (ARCH, SKHHP) and scaled local tools (levies, HB 1590 sales tax) are needed to accelerate production and preservation; broaden participation where adoption is uneven.

Item 7:
2027 Proposed Sewer Rate Response Letter

DISCUSSION/POTENTIAL ACTION

SCA Staff Contact

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

SCA Regional Water Quality Committee Members

Councilmember Laura Mork, Shoreline; Mayor Jessica Rossman, Medina; Mayor Sarah Moore, Burien; Deputy Mayor Dave Hamilton, Bellevue; Councilmember Hanan Amer, Auburn; Council President Melissa Stuart, Redmond

Discussion/Potential Action

For 2027, the monthly sewer rate is proposed to increase by 12.75%. The sewer rate is forecasted to continue rising by double-digit percentages through 2032, resulting in the monthly sewer rate doubling by 2032 and more than tripling by 2042. SCA members are concerned about the compounding impact of sharp increases across utilities on ratepayer affordability, which ultimately spurred the creation of a Regional Utilities Rate Summit.

At the May PIC meeting, **members will review the *final draft of a letter to the King County Council and vote to elevate the letter to the SCA Board of Directors for review and approval.*** Attachment A contains a striking amendment to the letter with changes redlined. Amendments to the letter that will be considered individually can be found in Attachment B. Members can make further amendments during the meeting. Each proposed amendment will be discussed by PIC members and approved in succession.

Background information on this item is included in Appendix 1.

Amendments to the Draft Letter

PIC members can view real-time changes to the letter during the meeting at this [link](#) .

Amendments #1 and 2

These amendments make changes for the sake of brevity. #1 removes the last sentence of the first paragraph, while #2 combines sentences throughout the second paragraph for the sake of brevity.

Amendment #3

The SCA SWAC Caucus is interested in bringing the solid waste rates to PIC for discussion in the future and therefore have proposed adding an explicit nod to this future discussion in the rate letter in an effort to look at rates more holistically.

Amendment #4

This amendment adds language calling for King County to establish an engagement process with cities throughout rate-making.

Amendment #5

A new paragraph and bullet point are proposed to call for a second affordability summit as a follow-up to the November 2025 Regional Utility Rate Summit. More background on the Summit is included in Appendix 1; SCA staff are currently in conversation with King County to determine what a future Summit could look like. Ideas have included an education series, toolbox for cities, setting legislative priorities, and/or hosting another Summit.

Amendment #6

This amendment removes the request for WTD to present on system needs.

Amendment #7

This amendment would remove the second sentence from the last bullet point, which refers to alternative pathways for regulatory capital projects.

Amendments #8 and #9

Each of these amendments would add a new bullet point to the list of requests. #8 would add a bullet point around advocacy for state and federal investment, while #9 proposes collaborating with regulators and legislatures to switch sewer rates to a structure based on property values.

SCA Rate Response Letter Review & Approval Timeline

Wednesday 5/13
May PIC meeting
Second Touch

The draft letter comes back to PIC for a vote. Proposed amendments are reviewed in succession.

Additional amendments can be made at this time, either by:

- **Introducing individual motions for amendments, or**
- **Live-updating document and moving to recommend it to the Board as shown on screen.**

PIC votes to recommend the final letter to the Board for approval.

Wednesday 5/20
May Board meeting

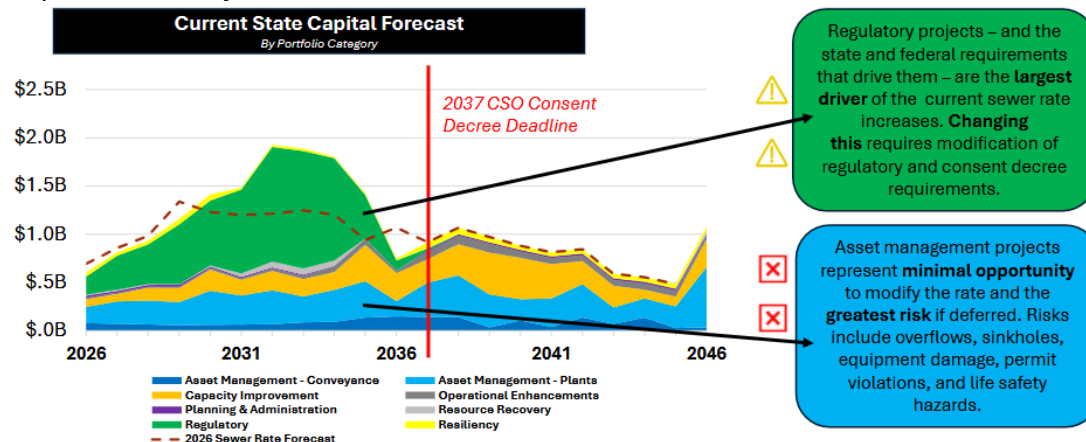
The Board of Directors reviews the letter as drafted and amended by PIC and makes the final decision to adopt the letter.

APPENDIX 1: ISSUE BACKGROUND

Background Information

The proposed monthly sewer rate represents a 12.75% increase, which raises the current monthly rate of \$62.66 to \$70.65. Forecasts also show sharp rate increases in the coming years. Costs are rising significantly, leading to proposed rate increases. Rising costs are driven by regulatory deadlines, aging infrastructure, and a growing system demand. Lower risk projects have already been deferred to reduce rate increases. The capital forecast accompanying the Draft WTD Proposal is shown below, followed by the 20-year rate forecast.

Capital Forecast for the Recommended Rate Scenario



Capital forecast as provided in Regional Water Quality Committee meeting materials for April 2026.

Forecasted Rate Path for the 2027 Proposed Sewer Rate

	Adopted	Proposed									
	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036
Rate Increase %	7.50%	12.75%	12.75%	12.75%	12.75%	11.25%	11.25%	8.00%	8.00%	8.00%	1.75%
Monthly Sewer Rate	\$62.66	\$70.65	\$79.66	\$89.82	\$101.28	\$112.68	\$125.36	\$135.39	\$146.23	\$157.93	\$160.70
Rate Increase \$	\$4.38	\$7.99	\$9.01	\$10.16	\$11.46	\$11.40	\$12.68	\$10.03	\$10.84	\$11.70	\$2.77
All-In Debt Service Coverage	1.62x	1.60x	1.74x	1.68x	1.60x	1.58x	1.61x	1.49x	1.51x	1.55x	1.55x
		2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046
Rate Increase %		1.75%	3.75%	3.75%	3.75%	2.25%	2.25%	2.25%	0.50%	0.50%	0.00%
Monthly Sewer Rate		\$163.52	\$169.66	\$176.03	\$182.64	\$186.75	\$190.96	\$195.26	\$196.24	\$197.23	\$197.23
Rate Increase \$		\$2.82	\$6.14	\$6.37	\$6.61	\$4.11	\$4.21	\$4.30	\$0.98	\$0.99	\$0.00
All-In Debt Service Coverage		1.52x	1.54x	1.58x	1.61x	1.60x	1.63x	1.64x	1.66x	1.67x	1.69x

Forecasted rates provided in Regional Water Quality Committee meeting materials for April 2026.

The rates shown above only represent the wholesale or regional rate, which funds the regional wastewater system. WTD contracts with cities and local sewer districts that deliver customer-facing services and set rates to fund the local portion of the system, called the local or retail component. Therefore, exact rates paid by ratepayers will vary by jurisdiction. Further, increases in wholesale rates limit the ability of local agencies to increase their rates and fund the needs of local systems.

Sewer Rate Proposal Timeline

WTD began presenting rate scenarios to members of the Regional Water Quality Committee (RWQC) and the Metropolitan Water Pollution Abatement Advisory Committee (MWPAAAC) in February. Rate conversations have been ongoing since in the two bodies; MWPAAAC submitted a rate response letter to the King County Executive in March and to King County Council in April; RWQC submitted a rate response letter in April. The rate will be before the King County Budget and Fiscal Management Committee and King County Council. Possible action by the King County Council is expected in June, as the rate must be adopted by July 1.

SCA RWQC Caucus Discussions and Rate Summit

The SCA RWQC Caucus raised significant concerns throughout the 2026 and 2027 sewer rate setting processes about rapidly rising rates and affordability, especially around how multiple double-digit rate increases will compound for ratepayers. This culminated in the SCA RWQC Caucus declaring support for and participating in the Regional Utility Rate Summit in November

2025. At the Summit, local elected officials heard from major regional utilities and discussed the combined impact of rate increases and the drivers of rising rates. SCA members have continued to express concern around the growing rate affordability crisis and included utility rate affordability as a priority area on SCA's County Priorities document. SCA staff have met with city staff to discuss next steps following the November 2025 Rate Summit and are currently working with King County on this. Current ideas include building awareness across SCA membership and working with King County on future legislative priorities related to utility affordability.

The SCA RWQC Caucus recommended SCA send a rate response letter to further raise awareness around the issue of utility rate affordability and relay requests to address their concerns.

Draft SCA 2027 Proposed Sewer Rate Response Letter

Metropolitan King County Council
516 3rd Ave.
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Chair Sarah Perry and King County Councilmembers,

On behalf of the Sound Cities Association (SCA), ~~I am~~ we are writing regarding Proposed Ordinance 2026-0103 2027 Proposed Sewer Rate and Capacity Charge. SCA is ~~deeply concerned about~~ alarmed by the affordability of the sewer rates proposed for 2027 and forecasted in the near-term. Ratepayers are facing the compounding impacts of multiple years of double-digit sewer rate increases and sharp rate increases from other utilities. This trend is unsustainable. We request that WTD continue its Sewer Rate and Capital Work Plan including third-party review and multi-year rate options, incorporate a longer-range financial outlook, provide transparent reporting on system health and policy alignment, and clearly articulate the steps taken to identify and achieve cost savings.

~~We are aware of t~~he 2027 proposed monthly sewer rate of \$70.65 ~~is~~ a 12.75% increase over the current monthly sewer rate of \$62.66. Currently, monthly sewer rates are projected to double by 2033 and triple over the course of the forecasting period. These increases only account for the regional portion of the sewer rate, as cities and sewer districts levy their own rate increases to fund their local systems, further adding to ratepayer burden. In light of this, we encourage WTD to more holistically incorporate an understanding of the significant impact of rates on people living in the County. Sharp wholesale rate increases ~~mean cities need to more acutely track their own ability~~ significantly impact the ability of cities to increase rates to address local system needs. We request that rate examinations not be siloed, such that increases to other utilities' rates, especially by the County, are factored into future sewer rate proposals.

We are committed to the health of Puget Sound and the people living around it. We understand the importance of building and maintaining dependable, adaptable, and sustainable infrastructure to ensure the system continues to protect public and environmental health and acknowledge that rate increases may be necessary to do so. However, rate increases must be balanced with ratepayer ~~needs'~~ ability to pay—both today and in the future.

To address these concerns, we support the recommendations proposed in letters by the Metropolitan Water Pollution Abatement Advisory Committee (MWPAAC) and Regional Water Quality Committee (RWQC). We therefore request WTD:

- Continue the work on the Sewer Rate and Capital Work Plan, including third-party capital program review and work towards multi-year rate options.
- Ensure future rate conversations include a focus on a longer-range view beyond the current 10- to 20-year window.
- Continue to consider and present information on the needs of the system and whether rates have kept up with those needs.
- Articulate steps WTD has taken to find savings across its categories of expenditure and then communicate the amount of those savings.
- Provide clear reporting on how WTD has aligned with its adopted policies and the quantifiable impact on rates for each affecting policy. While we appreciate the inclusion of multiple rate scenarios in this year's process, exact policy levers available to affect sewer rates remain unclear, as does how policy choices made thus far have contributed to rate growth.
- Work with the RWQC to determine policies regarding rate affordability for future cycles.
- Collaborate with regulators to develop a data-informed regulatory approach to achieve meaningful environmental outcomes. Alternative pathways and the feasibility of a pause onfor regulatory capital projects should also be considered to provide relief from the stacking of expensive projects.

Thank you for your increased transparency during this year's sewer rate development process and for your continued partnership. We look forward to continuing to collaborate on ways to address the growing affordability crisis for our ratepayers.

Sincerely,

[SCA Board of Directors]

Cc: Girmay Zahilay, King County Executive

John Taylor, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks

Kamuron Gurol, Director, Wastewater Treatment Division

Sharman Herrin, Government Relations, Wastewater Treatment Division

Regional Water Quality Committee Members

Amendments to the SCA Draft Letter to the Legislature

This list of amendments is slated for approval at the May PIC meeting. PIC members will consider each amendment in succession.

Amendment #1

Sponsor: Redmond

First paragraph, remove last sentence

~~We request that WTD continue its Sewer Rate and Capital Work Plan including third-party review and multi-year rate options, incorporate a longer-range financial outlook, provide transparent reporting on system health and policy alignment, and clearly articulate the steps taken to identify and achieve cost savings.~~

Amendment #2

Sponsor: Redmond

Second paragraph, combine multiple sentences

~~Currently, monthly sewer rates are projected to double by 2033 and triple over the course of the forecasting period. These increases only account for the regional portion of the sewer rate, as Because cities and sewer districts levy their own rate increases to fund their local systems, further adding to ratepayer burden. In light of this, we encourage WTD to more holistically incorporate an understanding of the significant impact of rates on people living in the County. Sharp wholesale rate increases mean cities need to more acutely track their own ability to increase rates to address local system needs. ~~W~~We request that rate examinations not be siloed; local, such that increases as well as increases to other utilities' rates, especially by the County, ~~are~~need to be annually factored into ~~future sewer rate discussions~~proposals.~~

Note: If approved, the striker version of the letter would edit the sentence starting with, "sharp wholesale rate increases". This amendment would remove the sentence from the striker version of the letter.

Amendment #3

Sponsor: SCA SWAC Caucus

Second paragraph, adds a sentence in the middle of the second paragraph

In light of this, we encourage WTD to more holistically incorporate an understanding of the significant impact of rates on people living in the County. Along these lines, due to shared affordability concerns, the SCA Public Issues Committee will also be discussing the solid waste rate at a future meeting.

Amendment #4

Sponsor: Kent

Break the original second paragraph to allow for the addition of a few sentences on the need for the County to engage with cities on rate-setting.

Further, sharp wholesale rate increases mean cities need to more acutely track their own ability to increase rates to address local system needs. We request that rate examinations not be siloed, such that increases to other utilities' rates, especially by the County, are factored into future sewer rate proposals. King County must also establish a more structured and ongoing engagement process with cities throughout the rate-setting cycle. Cities are on the front lines of ratepayer impacts, and early, consistent collaboration is necessary to fully understand local constraints and avoid unintended affordability consequences. Without this level of engagement, it will be increasingly difficult to support this latest proposal or any future rate proposals of this magnitude.

Note: Adoption of Amendment #3 would shorten the original second paragraph, meaning that the new text added here would likely instead be added as its own paragraph rather than breaking up the original version of paragraph 2.

Amendment #5

Sponsor: Kirkland

Add a new paragraph before the paragraph starting with "We are committed..." calling for an affordability summit. Add a corresponding bullet point to the end of the list of requests.

There is an urgent need for a second affordability summit in 2026 to reassess initiatives that increase costs without clear benefits. With decisions looming that could add billions in expenses, like nutrient removal plans for Puget Sound, we must consider households struggling with essentials like food and healthcare. The key finding of the first summit is that a significant majority of the rate increases are caused by regulatory requirements. Pausing or rolling back these requirements should be the purpose of the second summit.

...

- Continue collaboration on the planning of the second affordability summit.

Amendment #6

Sponsor: Redmond

Remove third bullet point from the list of requests

- ~~• Continue to consider and present information on the needs of the system and whether rates have kept up with those needs.~~

Amendment #7

Sponsor: Redmond

Remove second sentence from last bullet point

- Collaborate with regulators to develop a data-informed regulatory approach to achieve meaningful environmental outcomes. ~~Alternative pathways for regulatory capital projects should also provide relief from the stacking of expensive projects.~~

Note: If approved, the striker version of the letter would edit the second sentence. This amendment would remove the sentence from the striker version of the letter.

Amendment #8

Sponsor: Bellevue

Add a new bullet point to the end of list of requests

- Advocate for increased state and federal investment, including grants or low-interest funding, to support local sewer agencies and reduce the reliance on ratepayers and comply with federal regulatory mandates.

Amendment #9

Sponsor: Lake Forest Park

Add a new bullet point to the end of list of requests

- Collaborate with regulators and legislators to make sewer charges more equitable by switching from a uniform charge for each property type to a rate based on property values.

Item 8:

Sound Transit Enterprise Initiative

DISCUSSION/POTENTIAL ACTION

SCA Staff Contact

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

Discussion/Potential Action

At the April PIC meeting, members voted to discuss Sound Transit’s Enterprise Initiative and a potential statement to the Sound Transit Board of Directors at the May PIC meeting.

At the May PIC meeting, SCA Policy Analyst Dax Tate will provide a briefing on the Enterprise Initiative, including background information, updates from the May 7 Executive Committee meeting, next steps, and opportunities for city engagement.

After the briefing, PIC members will be asked to consider whether or not to recommend that the SCA Board provide the following statement to the Sound Transit Board:

SCA supports a regional transit system that strengthens our communities by connecting our families, friends, jobs, large and small businesses, and services. We recognize that Sound Transit is facing significant financial challenges, but fulfilling the commitments made to voters in ST3 is critical for our region’s mobility and for the future success of local and regional transportation measures. Cities are willing to be flexible and look forward to engaging directly with Sound Transit to find potential resources and savings.

Sound Transit Enterprise Initiative Background

In 2016, voters approved [Sound Transit 3 \(ST3\)](#), a 25-year plan to connect 16 cities with light rail, 30 with Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) and ST Express bus service, and 12 with commuter rail. In 2021, the ST3 end date was realigned from 2041 to 2046.

Sound Transit’s Fall 2025 Long-Range Financial Plan identified a roughly \$34.5 billion shortfall through 2046 to fully fund ST3, largely due to cost increases in their capital program projections. In response, the agency launched the Enterprise Initiative in May 2025 to deliver “the maximum benefits of ST3 within available financial resources” ([Achieving long-term affordability | Sound Transit](#)). The tables below identify the four workstreams for the Enterprise Initiative and the four principles established by the Sound Transit Board to guide the work.

Enterprise Initiative Workstreams	
<p>Policy and Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy changes (by Sound Transit or others) that save capital and operating costs, speed project delivery, or expand financial capacity • Updated service assumptions based on modified capital program and ridership projections 	<p>Transit Operations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential new resiliency investments (e.g., modern signal system, existing tunnel upgrades) • Revised operating & maintenance and light rail vehicle costs based on updated service assumptions
<p>Capital Delivery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost savings opportunities • Adjusted phasing and sequencing of project investments • Potential deferral of some projects • Largest share of cost growth and therefore potential cost savings 	<p>Finance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated financial planning assumptions (e.g., federal grant strategy) • Policy changes and exercising existing available revenue authority • Potential third-party funding opportunities

Enterprise Initiative Guiding Principles	
<p>Advance regional connectivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • serve population and job centers • complete the regional transit spine • benefit the whole region and achieve the objectives of ST3 	<p>Support future growth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maintain and grow ridership • align investments with current land use and future growth • engender broad future support
<p>Prioritize the passenger experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prioritize the riders' experience • maximize connections and ridership • keep everyone safe 	<p>Protect public investments with fiscal integrity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be careful stewards of public resources • seek cost savings and efficiencies • maintain strong oversight and accountability • understand trade-offs

At the March 18th Sound Transit Board retreat, Sound Transit staff presented three approaches to demonstrate possible trade-offs:

1. Keep active light rail extension projects moving
2. Advance regional connectivity
3. Phase all light rail extension projects to advance other ST3 elements.

For more information on the approaches, see pages 30-32 of the [Sound Transit Board retreat presentation](#). Please note that these were intended as illustrations of trade-offs, not final options for the Board to select from. The final proposal will likely combine some elements of all three plus additional elements.

May 7 Executive Committee Meeting

At the May 7 Executive Committee Meeting, Sound Transit Board Chair and Snohomish County Executive Dave Somers will present his approach for the consideration of Board members and the public. The proposal is then scheduled to be voted on at the May 28 Sound Transit Board meeting.

More information will be presented at the May 13 PIC Meeting.

Next Steps and Opportunity for Continued Engagement

Between May and November 2026, Sound Transit staff and Board members will work to finalize their budget, using the May proposal to identify specific cost savings in the four workstreams explained above.

Cities can use the following reports from the March Sound Transit Board Retreat to review the specific items under consideration, and may wish to engage with Sound Transit as they identify cost savings to implement the May proposal:

- [Policy and Planning](#)
- [Transit Operations](#)
- [Capital Delivery](#)
- [Finance](#)

Potential Action

At the May PIC meeting, members will be asked to consider whether or not to recommend that the SCA Board present a statement to the Sound Transit Board ahead of their May 28 meeting. The draft statement can be found in Attachment A, and reads as follows:

SCA supports a regional transit system that strengthens our communities by connecting our families, friends, jobs, large and small businesses, and services. We recognize that Sound Transit is facing significant financial challenges, but fulfilling the commitments made to voters in ST3 is critical for our region's mobility and for the future success of local and regional transportation measures. Cities are willing to be flexible and look forward to engaging directly with Sound Transit to find potential resources and savings.

Staff recommendation: Due to the short timeline and complexity of this issue across the region, SCA staff recommend either (1) recommending the statement as is or with minimal adjustments, or (2) voting not to recommend the statement, in favor of individual or subregional engagement around specific asks.

Timeline

Wednesday 4/8
April PIC meeting
First Touch

PIC members voted to discuss Sound Transit's Enterprise Initiative and a potential statement at the May PIC Meeting

Wednesday 5/13
May PIC meeting
Second Touch

PIC members may vote to recommend the draft statement to the SCA Board for review and approval.

Discussion & Amendments: Amendments to the draft policy statement can be made at this time.

PIC votes to recommend the final statement to the Board for approval. A vote of two thirds (2/3) is necessary to advance the policy statement to the Board for approval.

Wednesday 5/20
May SCA Board Meeting
Board Review and Approval

The SCA Board will review, consider any amendments, and vote on the recommended statement.



SCA Public Issues Committee – May 13, 2026 – Item 8 – Attachment A

Draft SCA Statement on Sound Transit Enterprise Initiative

SCA supports a regional transit system that strengthens our communities by connecting our families, friends, jobs, large and small businesses, and services. We recognize that Sound Transit is facing significant financial challenges, but fulfilling the commitments made to voters in ST3 is critical for our region’s mobility and for the future success of local and regional transportation measures. Cities are willing to be flexible and look forward to engaging directly with Sound Transit to find potential resources and savings.

DRAFT

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.

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

- **King County Regional Homelessness Authority (KCRHA) Governing Board**
 - Following the forensic audit of KCRHA’s budget and financial management systems, the Governing Board has approved a Finance Subcommittee and is closely monitoring the Authority moving forward.

- **Sound Transit Enterprise Initiative**
 - Staff are tracking Sound Transit’s Enterprise Initiative and possible impacts to SCA members across the region, with an expected vote at the May 28 Sound Transit Board meeting.
 - At the May PIC meeting, SCA policy analyst Dax Tate will share a briefing on the Enterprise Initiative, opportunities for city engagement, and a draft statement to the Sound Transit Board of Directors for potential action.

- **Regional Water Quality Committee (RWQC): Sewer Rates**
 - RWQC is in the middle of setting the 2027 sewer rate and capacity charge. The King County Executive has transmitted a proposal for a 12.75% increase to the monthly sewer rate which will be acted on by the Council in June.
 - At the April PIC meeting, members voted to move forward with a rate response letter. At the May PIC meeting, members will vote whether to amend the draft letter and recommend it for adoption by the SCA Board of Directors.

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
Regional Policy Committee (RPC)	Caucus Chair: Mayor Nancy Backus, Auburn Caucus Vice Chair: Councilmember Jay Arnold, Kirkland Councilmember Lynne Robinson, Bellevue; Mayor Armondo Pavone, Renton; Mayor	May 13	In-person meeting at Renton City Hall Crisis Care Centers Levy annual report

	Dana Ralph, Kent; Mayor Jim Ribail, Carnation		General briefing on solid waste from the Solid Waste Division Director
Puget Sound Regional Council Executive Board	Mayor Thomas McLeod, Tukwila; Mayor Jeff Wagner, Covington; Councilmember Amy Lam, Sammamish; Councilmember Chris Roberts, Shoreline; Mayor Katy Harris, Yarrow Point; Councilmember Mark Joselyn, North Bend	May 28	PSRC General Assembly Meeting taking place on May 28 th . The General Assembly will vote on the PSRC Annual Budget and the Regional Transportation Plan.
Puget Sound Regional Council Transportation Policy Board (TPB)	Caucus Chair: Councilmember Jay Arnold, Kirkland; Caucus Vice Chair: Council President Susan Honda, Federal Way; Mayor Dana Ralph, Kent; Councilmember Peter Kwon, SeaTac; Council President Ruth Pérez, Renton	June 11	May TPB has been cancelled Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) vote at General Assembly May 28 th .
King County Regional Law, Safety, & Justice Committee (RLSJC)	Caucus Chair: Deputy Mayor Neal Black, Kirkland; Councilmember Zandria Michaud, Kent; Mayor Troy Linnell, Algona; Councilmember Steve Sinwell, Clyde Hill; Mayor Eric Zimmerman, Normandy Park; Councilmember Carmen Rivera, Renton; Councilmember Suzan Torguson, North Bend; Councilmember Lydia Assefa-Dawson, Federal Way	May 28	Presentation from King County Superior Court
King County Regional Transit Committee (RTC)	Caucus Chair: Council President Pro Tem Ryan McIrvine, Renton Caucus Vice Chair: Deputy Mayor Neal Black, Kirkland Council President Susan Honda, Federal Way; Councilmember Toni Troutner, Kent; Councilmember Tracy Taylor, Auburn; Councilmember JC Harris, Des Moines; Councilmember Pamela Stuart, Sammamish; Mayor Jim Ribail, Carnation; Councilmember Larry Goldman, Lake Forest Park; Councilmember Vishal Bhargava, Bellevue; Councilmember Julie Hsieh, Mercer Island; Mayor Jim Mayhew, Snoqualmie.	June 17	May RTC has been cancelled
Local Hazardous Waste Program Management Coordination Committee (MCC)	Councilmember John Boyd, Kent	May 19	Briefings on performance and financial updates. Executive session on long-term study planning around household hazardous waste facilities and capital assets.

Board of Health (BOH)	Councilmember Amy Falcone, Kirkland; Councilmember Victoria Schroff, Maple Valley; Deputy Mayor Hugo Garcia, Burien; Council President Satwinder Kaur, Kent; Councilmember Cheryl Paquette, Carnation	May 21	Briefings on overdose prevention and response, pet business/zoonotic code and rates, innovations in sexual health.
KCRHA Governing Board	Mayor Nancy Backus, Auburn; Councilmember Ed Prince, Renton; Councilmember Kelly Jiang, Issaquah; Mayor Betsy Robinson, Shoreline	May 22	Continuation of forensic audit discussions and accountability measures
King County Flood Control District Advisory Committee (KCFCDAC)	Chair: Mayor Vic Kave, Pacific Vice Chair: Councilmember JC Harris, Des Moines Mayor Henry Sladek, Skykomish; Mayor Troy Linnell, Algona; Mayor Amy McHenry, Duvall; Deputy Council President Kelly Jiang, Issaquah; Councilmember Darcey Peterson, Black Diamond	May 22	Briefing on Flood Control District project process/prioritization
Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC)	Kelli Curtis, Kirkland; Ryan McIrvine, Renton; Melissa Stuart, Redmond; Amy McHenry, Duvall; Jim Ribail, Carnation; Kate Baldwin, Auburn; Annette Ademasu, Shoreline; Mark Joselyn, North Bend; Lisa Wissner-Slivka, Clyde Hill; Marli Larimer, Kent	May 27	Action: Approve GMPC 2026 Work Program State Legislative Session Update Federal Legislative Update Housing Monitoring Program GMPC's Affordable Housing Committee Update
Mental Illness and Drug Dependency Advisory Committee (MIDD AC)	Deputy Mayor Paul Charbonneau, Newcastle; Councilmember Jane Ho, Tukwila	May 28	MIDD 3 Implementation Plan discussions
Regional Water Quality Committee (RWQC)	Chair: Councilmember Laura Mork, Shoreline Vice Chair: Mayor Jessica Rossman, Medina Mayor Sarah Moore, Burien; Deputy Mayor Dave Hamilton, Bellevue; Councilmember Hanan Amer, Auburn; Council President Melissa Stuart, Redmond	June 3	Regional Wastewater Services Plan update discussions, capacity charge methodology code changes
Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)	Councilmember Amy Lam, Sammamish; Councilmember Laura Mork, Shoreline	June 12	2027 Solid Waste Rate discussions and response letter, South County Recycling and Transfer Station, low-income discount program, Waste Acceptance Rule update, long-term disposal discussions



May 13, 2026
SCA PIC Meeting

Item 9.b:

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
2027	TBD	Best Starts for Kids levy renewal	TBD	Scheduled renewal for BSK levy

Tracking Potential Taxes & Levies			
Year	Measure	Proposal	Status Update
2026	King County Transportation District councilmanic sales tax	0.1% sales tax; 100% dedicated to roads SCA advocating for 25% pass-through and cities involved in decision making	Decision delayed until next hearing in May (exact date TBD) KCTD debated the 25% pass-through, proposing additional numbers (20%, 15%, and 12.5%) ultimately deciding to continue work over the next month
2027 or 2028	King County Transportation District voter-approved sales tax	0.2% sales tax focused on Metro	Early stages of informal discussion
2027 or 2028	Housing Levy	Proposal TBD	On March 31, Executive Zahilay issued Executive Order with commitment to “Explore a new dedicated revenue source for housing.”

Newly available by the State	House Bill 2442: Authorizes a new city/county local sales and use tax to fund services for children and families	0.01% sales and use for things such as: workforce development, childcare, after-school programs, client transportation, rental assistance, and more	TBD Counties and cities have non-compounding authority; counties that take the increment must offer a credit to any cities that take the increment. There is no implementation date or requirement for cities to adopt before the county
Newly available by the State	House Bill 2442: Authorizes a new county property tax levy for public health clinic expenses	\$.05/\$1,000 AV authority for the operation, maintenance, and capital expense of public health clinics	TBD Anticipated King County will choose to take it

Upcoming Ballot Measures – SCA Cities			
Election	City	Measure	Proposal
2026/2027	Yarrow Point	Public Safety Levy	TBD

Upcoming Ballot Measures - Special Districts			
Election	Special District	Measure	Proposal
TBD	Covington	Parks District	TBD – Fact-finding stage

Other Renewals – King County		
Year	Renewal	Status Update



May 13, 2026
SCA PIC Meeting

Item 9.c:
2026 PIC Work Plan

This document provides a look ahead at upcoming topics for PIC meetings. The PIC work plan is a living document, subject to change as issues arise or are identified for discussion. **Items listed below are not finalized unless formally listed on an upcoming PIC agenda.**

Month	Agenda Items	Potential Topics
May	<p>DISCUSSION: Potential Affordable Housing Regional Initiative</p> <p>ACTION: 2027 Proposed Sewer Rate Response Letter</p> <p>POTENTIAL ACTION: Sound Transit Enterprise Initiative</p>	<p><i>Countywide Levies/Levy Follow-Up</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MIDD III Implementation Plan • King County Transportation District Tax - 0.2% voter-approved tax for King County Metro <p><i>Utilities/Utility Affordability</i></p>
June	<p>DISCUSSION: Regional Wastewater Services Plan (RWSP) Guiding Principles</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Utility Affordability Rate Summit follow-up • Solid Waste Long Term Disposal Plan
July	<p>POTENTIAL ACTION: Regional Wastewater Services Plan (RWSP) Guiding Principles</p>	<p><i>Environment</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organics Rulemaking • Regional Wastewater Services Plan
August		<p><i>Public Safety</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indigent Defense • Transit Safety • Gun Violence Prevention
September	<p>DISCUSSION: State & County Legislative Agendas</p> <p>DISCUSSION: 2027 Appointments Briefing</p>	<p><i>Emergency Management</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood Response
October	<p>ACTION: State & County Legislative Agendas</p>	<p><i>Regional Committees</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PSRC Representation
November		<p><i>Identified by PIC Members</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land use regulations • Affordable housing • Behavioral health

December	ACTION: 2027 Committee Appointments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protections for immigrant communities • Economic development • Human services • Local areas/regional assets (e.g., SeaTac airport expansion; North Bend trucking facilities) • Surveillance and privacy, related to Flock and Ring cameras • AI and technology • Criminal Justice Sales Tax • Flood response & emergency management • Regional utility rates
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Past 2026 Meetings

Month	Agenda Items
January	**No January PIC Meeting**
February	ACTION: 2026 PIC Schedule DISCUSSION: PIC Orientation & New Member Welcome DISCUSSION: Looking Back & Looking Forward
March	ACTION: Regional Board & Committee Appointments EMERGENCY ACTION: Transportation Benefit District Sales Tax
April <i>In-Person Meeting</i>	ACTION: Regional Boards & Committees Mid-Year Appointments DISCUSSION/POTENTIAL ACTION: 2027 Proposed Sewer Rate Response Letter DISCUSSION: State Legislative Update & Panel Discussion