



SOUND CITIES ASSOCIATION

38 Cities. A Million People. One Voice.

# SCA Board of Directors

## AGENDA

May 20, 2026

Bellevue City Hall

10 AM – Noon

- 1) **Call to Order** – President Pavone
- 2) **Approval of Agenda** 2 Minutes
- 3) **Public Comment**
- 4) **Consent Agenda** 3 Minutes
  - a. Minutes of the April 15, 2026 SCA Board of Directors Meeting [Attachment 1](#)
  - b. Financial Reports of January 2026 [Attachment 2-3](#)
  - c. Financial Reports of February 2026 [Attachment 4-5](#)

***Recommended Action: Approval the consent agenda, including the minutes of the March 18, 2026 SCA Board of Directors Meeting; and the financial reports of January 2026 and February 2026***
- 5) **President’s Report** – President Pavone 5 Minutes
- 6) **Executive Director’s Report** – Executive Director Robert Feldstein 5 Minutes
- 7) **King County Executive Meeting Group Report** - Executive Director Robert Feldstein 10 Minutes
- 8) **Treasurer’s Report** – SCA Treasurer Thomas McLeod 10 Minutes
  - a. Member City Dues Update
  - b. Sponsorship Update [Attachment 6](#)
  - c. Staff Transportation Expenses Policy [Attachment 7](#)

***Recommended Action: Approval of the updated Staff Transportation Expenses Policy within the SCA Personnel Policies, as recommended by the Finance Committee and included in the meeting materials.***
- 9) **PIC Chair’s Report** – PIC Chair Lydia Assefa-Dawson 25 Minutes

May 13, 2026 Public Issues Committee [Meeting Materials](#)

  - a. Potential Affordable Housing Regional Initiative
  - b. 2027 Proposed Sewer Rate Response Letter [Attachment 8](#)

***Recommended Action: To approve the final draft letter as recommended by PIC and direct SCA staff to send the letter to the King County Council.***

- c. Sound Transit Enterprise Initiative [Attachment 9](#)  
**Potential Action: Adopt the Sound Transit Enterprise Initiative SCA policy position as recommended by PIC.**
- d. Updates and Informational Items

**10) City Manager’s Report** – CM/CA Representative Scott MacColl 5 Minutes  
[Attachment 10](#)

**11) Equity & Inclusion Cabinet** 10 Minutes  
**Recommended Action: Appointment of members to the SCA Equity & Inclusion Cabinet** [Attachment 11](#)

**12) Discussion Items/Updates** 40 Minutes

- a. SCA Press Policy [Attachment 12](#)
- b. Built for Zero Leadership Table [Attachment 13](#)
- c. Potential Contact List Swapping with the County [Attachment 14](#)
- d. Call for Nominations Update
- e. Other Updates

**13) For the good of the order** 5 Minutes

**14) Adjourn**

### Upcoming Events

1. Memorial Day – SCA Offices Closed – Monday, May 25, 2026
2. SCA PIC Meeting – June 10, 2026 – 7 – 9 PM – Virtual
3. SCA Board of Directors Meeting – June 17, 2026 – 10 AM – 12 PM – Renton City Hall
4. Independence Day (Observed) – SCA Offices Closed – Friday, July 3, 2026
5. 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



# SCA Board of Directors

## DRAFT Minutes

April 15, 2026

## Bellevue City Hall

### 1) Call to Order

SCA President Armondo Pavone called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. Present were members Troy Linnell; Dana Ralph, Angela Birney, Scott MacColl, Thomas McLeod, Lynne Robinson, Amy McHenry, Annette Ademasu, Tom French, Sean Kelly, Lydia Assefa-Dawson, and Tola Marts, and staff Robert Feldstein, Leah Willoughby, Aj Foltz, Laura Belmont, and Dax Tate. Absent was member Amy McHenry.

Guest present was Alex Zimmerman.

### 2) Approval of the Agenda

President Pavone called for any amendments to the agenda.

### 3) Public Comment

President Pavone asked if there were any written public comments submitted. Hearing none, this portion of the agenda was closed.

### 4) Consent Agenda

SCA President Pavone asked for any questions or concerns regarding the items on the Consent Agenda.

***Ralph moved, seconded by Birney, to approve the consent agenda, consisting of the minutes of the March 18, 2026 SCA Board of Directors meeting, and the financial reports of November 2025 and December 2025. The motion passed unanimously.***

### 5) President's Report

President Pavone reported that appointments to the SCA Legislative Committee will be made at a future Board meeting and encouraged members to consider volunteering to serve. President Pavone also noted positive feedback received regarding the in-person April PIC meeting and highlighted recent and upcoming meetings.

### 6) Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Robert Feldstein provided an overview of ongoing discussions regarding the King County Transportation Department and the Transportation Benefit District sales tax. Feldstein invited feedback from Board members and noted that staff will continue to update the Board regarding ongoing discussions and any potential future actions.

### 7) King County Executive Meeting Group Report

Executive Director Robert Feldstein reported on the recent meeting with the King County Executive. Because the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday was before the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, SCA had not had their April meeting with the

Executive, but he reported that on the agenda were the KCTD, an report out from April PIC (potential Sewer Rate Letter and Sound Transit statement), and questions about what the workgroup looking at a “Dedicated Revenue Source for Housing” would look like.

## 8) Treasurer’s Report

### a. Bad Debt

Treasurer McLeod reported that dues from the City of Bothell were included in the approved 2026 SCA budget under Member Dues revenue. As Bothell has indicated it will not renew membership for 2026, staff recommended writing off the unpaid invoice as bad debt. Pursuant to Board policy, the Finance Committee reviewed the proposed write-off, as the amount exceeded \$1,000, and recommended Board approval of the write-off in the amount of \$25,111.61.

***McLeod moved, seconded by Assefa-Dawson, approval of bad debt write off for member dues invoice, in the amount of \$25,111.61, for the non-returning member city. The motion passed unanimously.***

### b. City Member Dues Update

Treasurer McLeod reported that an additional payment from Kent was received following distribution of the meeting materials. McLeod further reported that the two remaining outstanding invoices have been confirmed by the respective cities as being in process for payment.

### c. Sponsorship Update

Treasurer McLeod reported that, since distribution of the meeting materials, one additional Partner sponsor invoice was issued to Microsoft. As of Tuesday, April 14, total sponsorships invoiced were \$51,500, with \$14,000 received to date. Executive Director Robert Feldstein also noted new and potential sponsors. Staff will continue to provide updates to the Board.

### d. Employee Retirement Program Discussion

Staff updated the Committee on progress toward replacing the retirement benefit program following release from PERS. Staff will continue work on the project and provide updates to the Committee. Executive Director Robert Feldstein noted that staff capacity for the project will increase with the addition of the new Executive and Administrative Coordinator, who will begin next week.

### e. Staff Transportation Expenses Discussion

Treasurer McLeod reported that the Finance Committee reviewed a draft revision to the Staff Transportation Expenses Policy proposed by staff. The proposed changes are intended to better reflect hybrid work arrangements and current operational practices since the policy’s original adoption, and to provide greater clarity, consistency, and equity in the application of travel and mileage reimbursement. The Committee directed staff to discuss the proposed revisions with all staff and expects to continue discussion and consider a recommendation for action at its next meeting.

### f. Other Updates

There were no other updates.

## 9) PIC Chair's Report

PIC Chair Lydia Assefa-Dawson reported on the April 8, 2026 PIC Meeting.

### a. Regional Boards and Committees

Senior Policy Analyst Aj Foltz and Policy Analyst Dax Tate briefed members on appointments recommended by the PIC Nominating Committee. PIC Nominating Committee members also encouraged continued member participation in future appointment opportunities and noted that the Committee expects to reconvene prior to the broader call for nominations in the fall.

***Assefa-Dawson moved, seconded by Ademasu, to appoint the following individuals as members and alternates to 2026 Regional Boards and Committees, including a finding of extraordinary circumstances to allow an exception to the six-year term limit for the PSCAAC appointment, for a shortened term of one (1) year:***

- ***Council President Ryan McIrvin, Renton, as member on the Greater Seattle Partners***
- ***Council President Satwinder Kaur, Kent, as member on the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency Advisory Council, for a term of one (1) year***

***The motion passed unanimously.***

### b. Proposed Sewer Rate Response Letter

SCA Policy Staff reported that information was presented to PIC regarding the proposed 2027 wastewater sewer rate and a draft sewer rate response letter recommended by the SCA RWQC Caucus. Discussion focused on the projected impact of future rate increases on ratepayers, regulatory and infrastructure cost drivers, and opportunities for continued coordination and engagement with regional and state partners. Following discussion, the PIC voted to take the issue up and bring back to a future meeting for possible action.

### c. State Legislative Update & Panel Discussion

SCA Policy Staff provided PIC with an overview of actions taken during the 2026 State Legislative Session related to the SCA State Legislative Agenda, including public safety, housing, sustainability, transportation, and e-bike regulation. Members also discussed coordination and engagement with legislators and partner organizations between legislative sessions, and ongoing challenges related to state mandates, local control, and state funding policies.

### d. Updates and Informational Items

Members were directed to informational items included in the meeting materials.

## 10) City Manager's Report

City Manager Representative Scott MacColl reported on the March 2026 City Managers and Administrators meeting. Topics included a presentation from Dylan Ordonez, FIFA Seattle, regarding regional preparations for the FIFA World Cup; discussion regarding potential impacts related to the King County Regional Homelessness Authority; Day with ICMA activities; and updates from partner organizations including AWC, SCA, and WCMA.

## **11) Discussion Items**

### a. Equity and Inclusion Cabinet

This item will return for discussion at the next meeting of the Board.

### b. Parliamentary Training

Staff reported that it is considering a future training on Robert's Rules of Order and meeting management and will continue to provide updates.

### c. Other Updates

Immediate Past President Angela Birney asked for discussion regarding the August 2026 SCA Board of Directors Meeting. Following the discussion, the Board took the following action:

***Birney moved, seconded by Ademasu, to cancel the August 2026 SCA Board of Directors meeting. The motion passed unanimously.***

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

There were no items for the good of the order.

## **13) The meeting was adjourned at 12:02 PM.**

# Balance Sheet | SOUND CITIES

As of Jan 31, 2026

	Total
1110 HomeStreet Bank	215,374.39
1120 HomeStreet Bank - Money Market	727,133.72
1130 PayPal Bank	0.00
<b>Total Bank Accounts</b>	<b>\$942,508.11</b>
<b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>	<b>\$603,173.92</b>
1140 Investments - Time Value	347,358.55
1145 Accrued Interest Receivable	0.00
1499 Undeposited Funds	193,284.91
1550 Prepaid Expenses	0.00
Other Current Asset	0.00
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<b>\$540,643.46</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$2,086,325.49</b>
Total 1400 Fixed Assets	\$0.00
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
Other Long-term Assets	0.00
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$2,086,325.49</b>
<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>	<b>\$21,804.34</b>
2200 HomeStreet Credit Card	6,671.46
<b>Total Credit Cards</b>	<b>\$6,671.46</b>
2300 Accrued Payroll	15,263.76
2110 Federal Withholding	0.00
2111 Direct Deposit Liabilities	0.00
<b>Total 2140 Medicare</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
2150 SDI	0.00
2405 FUTA	40.49
2410 SUI	1,443.88
<b>Total 2415 FIT, SS, Medicare - 941</b>	<b>\$7,563.85</b>
2420 L&I	695.59
2425 WA Paid Family & Medical Leave	-103.87
2426 WA Cares	421.44
2439 Temporary Retirement Holdings Payable	56,511.14
2440 DCAP / FSA Payable	0.00
2445 DRS DCP Payable	0.00
2450 Medical/Dental/Vision/Life Ins	108.69
2460 Accrued Vacation Pay	17,535.07
2470 w/held Supplemental Life	8.46
2499 Payroll Corrections	173.01
<b>Total 2400 Payroll Liabilities</b>	<b>\$89,956.74</b>
2510 Accrued Liabilities - Contractor Payments	0.00
<b>Total 2500 Accrued Liabilities</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
2600 Deferred Revenue	0.00
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$105,220.50</b>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$133,696.30</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$133,696.30</b>
3110 Equipment Purchase Reserve	15,000.00
3120 Operations Reserves	541,792.00
3130 Contractual Obligations Reserve	34,062.00
3140 Legal Reserves Fund	0.00
<b>Total 3100 Board Designated Reserves</b>	<b>\$590,854.00</b>
3200 Board Designated Contra	-590,854.00
3999 Opening Bal Equity	0.00
3300 Fund Balance (Prior Years)	1,039,295.26
Net Income	913,333.93
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$1,952,629.19</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Equity</b>	<b>\$2,086,325.49</b>

# Profit & Loss Report by Month - SOUND CITIES

January 1-31, 2026

	Jan 2026	Total	Budget	Remaining	% Remaining
1010 Member Dues	988,900.00	988,900.00	988,900	0	0.00%
1020 Membership/Sponsorships	0.00	0.00	90,000	90,000	100.00%
1030 Registration/Dinners income	0.00	0.00	22,500	22,500	100.00%
1040 Interest Income	862.67	862.67	15,600	14,737	94.47%
1150 CC Points Redeemed Credit	0.00	0.00	500	500	100.00%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>989,762.67</b>	<b>\$989,762.67</b>	<b>1,117,500</b>	<b>127,737</b>	<b>11.43%</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>989,762.67</b>	<b>\$989,762.67</b>	<b>1,117,500</b>	<b>127,737</b>	<b>11.43%</b>
<b>Total 5100 Salaries</b>	<b>50,240.62</b>	<b>\$50,240.62</b>	<b>692,892</b>	<b>642,651</b>	<b>92.75%</b>
5210 Taxes-FUTA	70.58	70.58	270	199	73.86%
5220 Taxes-SUTA	938.33	938.33	6,834	5,896	86.27%
5230 Taxes - FICA, Medicare - 941	3,979.40	3,979.40	51,398	47,419	92.26%
5240 Taxes - L & I	24.25	24.25	1,746	1,722	98.61%
5250 Taxes-FMLA	0.00	0.00	4,578	4,578	100.00%
<b>Total 5200 Payroll Taxes</b>	<b>5,012.56</b>	<b>\$5,012.56</b>	<b>64,826</b>	<b>59,813</b>	<b>92.27%</b>
Total 5310 Pension/Retirement Contributions	2,865.43	\$2,865.43	38,600	35,735	92.58%
5320 Medical/Dental/Vision/Life Ins	5,227.20	5,227.20	98,227	93,000	94.68%
5330 Professional Development	0.00	0.00	9,000	9,000	100.00%
5345 ED Car Allowance	250.00	250.00			
5346 Staff Travel Expenses	101.82	101.82			
<b>Total 5340 Travel Reimbursement</b>	<b>351.82</b>	<b>\$351.82</b>	<b>11,000</b>	<b>10,648</b>	<b>96.80%</b>
5350 PFML – Employer Paid Employee Share	416.46	416.46	0	-416	
<b>Total 5300 Staff Benefits</b>	<b>8,860.91</b>	<b>\$8,860.91</b>	<b>156,827</b>	<b>147,966</b>	<b>94.35%</b>
<b>Total 5000 Staff</b>	<b>64,114.09</b>	<b>\$64,114.09</b>	<b>914,545</b>	<b>850,431</b>	<b>92.99%</b>
6100 Rent	2,853.58	2,853.58	34,255.00	31,401.42	91.67%
6200 Office Insurance	0.00	0.00	900.00	900.00	100.00%
6310 Copier/Printer Lease & Maint	243.40	243.40	3,700.00	3,456.60	93.42%
6320 Outside Printing & Publication	234.43	234.43	2,400.00	2,165.57	90.23%
<b>Total 6300 Printing and Publication</b>	<b>477.83</b>	<b>\$477.83</b>	<b>6,100.00</b>	<b>\$ 5,622.17</b>	<b>92.17%</b>
6420 Website Design/Hosting	567.00	567.00	6,800.00	6,233.00	91.66%
6430 IT Equipment	0.00	0.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	100.00%
6440 Software/Subscriptions	1,585.39	1,585.39	8,500.00	6,914.61	81.35%
6450 Incidental IT Consulting	0.00	0.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	100.00%
<b>Total 6400 IT</b>	<b>2,152.39</b>	<b>\$2,152.39</b>	<b>23,800.00</b>	<b>\$ 21,647.61</b>	<b>90.96%</b>
6500 Cell Phone Service	235.66	235.66	4,000.00	3,764.34	94.11%
6600 CC, Banking & Other Fees	107.03	107.03	500.00	392.97	78.59%
6700 Accounting Fees	0.00	0.00	16,800.00	16,800.00	100.00%
6800 Legal Fees	668.25	668.25	10,000.00	9,331.75	93.32%
6900 Office Supplies / Misc.	83.81	83.81	3,000.00	2,916.19	97.21%
<b>Total 6000 Office / Overhead</b>	<b>6,578.55</b>	<b>\$6,578.55</b>	<b>99,355.00</b>	<b>\$ 92,776.45</b>	<b>93.38%</b>
7100 Food/Beverage/Rentals	2,800.00	2,800.00	40,000.00	37,200.00	93.00%
7200 Event Pmts Processing Fee	0.00	0.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	100.00%
<b>Total 7000 Event Expenses</b>	<b>2,800.00</b>	<b>\$2,800.00</b>	<b>41,200.00</b>	<b>\$ 38,400.00</b>	<b>93.20%</b>
8110 D&O Insurance	0.00	0.00	2,200.00	2,200.00	100.00%
8120 Cyber Security Insurance	0.00	0.00	700.00	700.00	100.00%
<b>Total 8100 Liability Insurance</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>2,900.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,900.00</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
8200 Awards / Recognition	0.00	0.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	100.00%
8300 Retreats/Mtgs/Conf/Dues/Events	2,332.84	2,332.84	12,000.00	9,667.16	80.56%
8400 Consultants/Special Projects	24.42	24.42	20,000.00	19,975.58	99.88%
<b>Total 8000 Board / Org Development</b>	<b>2,357.26</b>	<b>\$2,357.26</b>	<b>37,400.00</b>	<b>\$ 35,042.74</b>	<b>93.70%</b>
9000 Contingency Fund	0.00	0.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	100.00%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>75,849.90</b>	<b>\$75,849.90</b>	<b>1,117,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,041,650.10</b>	<b>93.21%</b>
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>913,912.77</b>	<b>\$913,912.77</b>			
Investment returns	-668.84	-668.84			
Processing Fees Recouped	90.00	90.00			
<b>Total Other income</b>	<b>(578.84)</b>	<b>\$(578.84)</b>			
Other Expenses					
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<b>(578.84)</b>	<b>\$(578.84)</b>			
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>913,333.93</b>	<b>\$913,333.93</b>			

# Balance Sheet | SOUND CITIES ASSOCIATION

As of Feb 28, 2026

	Total
1110 HomeStreet Bank	245,099.21
1120 HomeStreet Bank - Money Market	1,027,377.15
1130 PayPal Bank	2,621.31
<b>Total Bank Accounts</b>	<b>\$1,275,097.67</b>
<b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>	<b>\$368,437.83</b>
1140 Investments - Time Value	348,012.71
1145 Accrued Interest Receivable	307.08
1499 Undeposited Funds	51,573.35
1550 Prepaid Expenses	0.00
Other Current Asset	0.00
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<b>\$399,893.14</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$2,043,428.64</b>
1400 Fixed Assets	
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
Other Long-term Assets	0.00
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$2,043,428.64</b>
<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>	<b>\$16,293.15</b>
2200 HomeStreet Credit Card	3,880.58
<b>Total Credit Cards</b>	<b>\$3,880.58</b>
2300 Accrued Payroll	16,235.87
2110 Federal Withholding	0.00
2111 Direct Deposit Liabilities	0.00
<b>Total 2140 Medicare</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
2150 SDI	0.00
2405 FUTA	40.49
2410 SUI	2,396.52
<b>Total 2415 FIT, SS, Medicare - 941</b>	<b>\$7,613.02</b>
2420 L&I	802.74
2425 WA Paid Family & Medical Leave	313.06
2426 WA Cares	657.15
2439 Temporary Retirement Holdings Payable	59,275.70
2450 Medical/Dental/Vision/Life Ins	-327.71
2460 Accrued Vacation Pay	17,535.07
2470 w/held Supplemental Life	25.38
2499 Payroll Corrections	173.01
WA SUI Employer	1,150.69
<b>Total 2400 Payroll Liabilities</b>	<b>\$98,083.11</b>
2510 Accrued Liabilities - Contractor Payments	0.00
<b>Total 2500 Accrued Liabilities</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
2600 Deferred Revenue	0.00
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$114,318.98</b>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$134,492.71</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$134,492.71</b>
3110 Equipment Purchase Reserve	15,000.00
3120 Operations Reserves	541,792.00
3130 Contractual Obligations Reserve	34,062.00
3140 Legal Reserves Fund	0.00
<b>Total 3100 Board Designated Reserves</b>	<b>\$590,854.00</b>
3200 Board Designated Contra	-590,854.00
3999 Opening Bal Equity	0.00
3300 Fund Balance (Prior Years)	1,039,295.26
Net Income	869,640.67
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$1,908,935.93</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Equity</b>	<b>\$2,043,428.64</b>

# Profit & Loss Report by Month | SOUND CITIES

January 1-February 28, 2026

	Feb 2026	YTD Total	Budget	Remaining	% Remaining
1010 Member Dues		988,900.00	988,900	0	0.00%
1020 Membership/Sponsorships	27,500.00	27,500.00	90,000	62,500	69.44%
1030 Registration/Dinners income	4,415.00	4,415.00	22,500	18,085	80.38%
1040 Interest Income	1,478.19	2,340.86	15,600	13,259	84.99%
1150 CC Points Redeemed Credit	250.00	250.00	500	250	50.00%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>33,643.19</b>	<b>\$1,023,405.86</b>	<b>1,117,500</b>	<b>94,094</b>	<b>8.42%</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>33,643.19</b>	<b>\$1,023,405.86</b>	<b>1,117,500</b>	<b>94,094</b>	<b>8.42%</b>
<b>Total 5100 Salaries</b>	<b>52,425.86</b>	<b>\$102,666.48</b>	<b>692,892</b>	<b>590,226</b>	<b>85.18%</b>
5210 Taxes-FUTA	0.00	70.58	270	199	73.86%
5220 Taxes-SUTA	952.64	1,890.97	6,834	4,943	72.33%
5230 Taxes - FICA, Medicare - 941	3,992.66	7,972.06	51,398	43,426	84.49%
5240 Taxes - L & I	24.25	48.50	1,746	1,698	97.22%
5250 Taxes-FMLA	0.00	0.00	4,578	4,578	100.00%
<b>Total 5200 Payroll Taxes</b>	<b>4,969.55</b>	<b>\$9,982.11</b>	<b>64,826</b>	<b>54,844</b>	<b>84.60%</b>
Total 5310 Pension/Retirement Contributions	2,875.03	\$5,740.46	38,600	32,860	85.13%
5320 Medical/Dental/Vision/Life Ins	5,227.20	10,454.40	98,227	87,773	89.36%
5330 Professional Development	0.00	0.00	9,000	9,000	100.00%
5345 ED Car Allowance	250.00	500.00			
5346 Staff Travel Expenses	448.66	550.48			
<b>Total 5340 Travel Reimbursement</b>	<b>787.26</b>	<b>\$1,139.08</b>	<b>11,000</b>	<b>9,861</b>	<b>89.64%</b>
5350 PFML – Employer Paid Employee Share	417.80	834.26	0	-834	
<b>Total 5300 Staff Benefits</b>	<b>9,307.29</b>	<b>\$18,168.20</b>	<b>156,827</b>	<b>138,659</b>	<b>88.42%</b>
<b>Total 5000 Staff</b>	<b>66,702.70</b>	<b>\$130,816.79</b>	<b>914,545</b>	<b>783,728</b>	<b>85.70%</b>
6100 Rent	2,853.58	5,707.16	34,255.00	28,547.84	83.34%
6200 Office Insurance		0.00	900.00	900.00	100.00%
6310 Copier/Printer Lease & Maint	243.40	486.80	3,700.00	3,213.20	86.84%
6320 Outside Printing & Publication	346.66	581.09	2,400.00	1,818.91	75.79%
<b>Total 6300 Printing and Publication</b>	<b>590.06</b>	<b>\$1,067.89</b>	<b>\$ 6,100.00</b>	<b>\$ 5,032.11</b>	<b>82.49%</b>
6420 Website Design/Hosting	567.00	1,134.00	6,800.00	5,666.00	83.32%
6430 IT Equipment	10.99	10.99	6,000.00	5,989.01	99.82%
6440 Software/Subscriptions	1,081.63	2,667.02	8,500.00	5,832.98	68.62%
6450 Incidental IT Consulting		0.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	100.00%
<b>Total 6400 IT</b>	<b>1,659.62</b>	<b>\$3,812.01</b>	<b>\$ 23,800.00</b>	<b>\$ 19,987.99</b>	<b>83.98%</b>
6500 Cell Phone Service	266.63	502.29	4,000.00	3,497.71	87.44%
6600 CC, Banking & Other Fees	34.90	141.93	500.00	358.07	71.61%
6700 Accounting Fees		0.00	16,800.00	16,800.00	100.00%
6800 Legal Fees	364.50	1,032.75	10,000.00	8,967.25	89.67%
6900 Office Supplies / Misc.	86.31	170.12	3,000.00	2,829.88	94.33%
<b>Total 6000 Office / Overhead</b>	<b>5,855.60</b>	<b>\$12,434.15</b>	<b>\$ 99,355.00</b>	<b>\$ 86,920.85</b>	<b>87.49%</b>
7100 Food/Beverage/Rentals		2,800.00	40,000.00	37,200.00	93.00%
7200 Event Pmts Processing Fee	163.53	163.53	1,200.00	1,036.47	86.37%
<b>Total 7000 Event Expenses</b>	<b>163.53</b>	<b>\$2,963.53</b>	<b>\$ 41,200.00</b>	<b>\$ 38,236.47</b>	<b>92.81%</b>
8110 D&O Insurance		0.00	2,200.00	2,200.00	100.00%
8120 Cyber Security Insurance		0.00	700.00	700.00	100.00%
<b>Total 8100 Liability Insurance</b>		<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,900.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,900.00</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
8200 Awards / Recognition	599.39	599.39	2,500.00	1,900.61	76.02%
8300 Retreats/Mtgs/Conf/Dues/Events	1,910.17	4,243.01	12,000.00	7,756.99	64.64%
8400 Consultants/Special Projects	1,831.54	1,855.96	20,000.00	18,144.04	90.72%
<b>Total 8000 Board / Org Development</b>	<b>4,341.10</b>	<b>\$6,698.36</b>	<b>\$ 37,400.00</b>	<b>\$ 30,701.64</b>	<b>82.09%</b>
9000 Contingency Fund		0.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	100.00%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>77,062.93</b>	<b>\$152,912.83</b>	<b>\$ 1,117,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 964,587.17</b>	<b>86.32%</b>
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>(43,419.74)</b>	<b>\$870,493.03</b>			
Investment returns	-273.52	-942.36			
Processing Fees Recouped		90.00			
<b>Total Other income</b>	<b>(273.52)</b>	<b>\$(852.36)</b>			
Other Expenses					
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<b>(273.52)</b>	<b>\$(852.36)</b>			
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(43,693.26)</b>	<b>\$869,640.67</b>			

## 2026 Sponsorship Payment Tracking

Sponsorship Level	Sponsor/Entity	Invoiced Month	Amount Invoiced	Paid Month	Amount Paid
Partner	Amazon	April 2026	\$ 6,000.00		
Regional Associate Member	AWC	February 2026	\$ 500.00	March 2026	\$ 500.00
Regional Associate Member	EMC Research	February 2026	\$ 500.00		
Partner	Ezee Fiber*	May 2026	\$ 6,000.00		
Regional Associate Member	Foster Garvey	May 2026	\$ 500.00		
Regional Associate Member	Gordon Thomas Honeywell	February 2026	\$ 500.00	March 2026	\$ 500.00
Partner	Jenoptik*	March 2026	\$ 6,000.00	April 2026	\$ 6,000.00
Regional Associate Member	KC Dept of Assessments	February 2026	\$ 500.00	February 2026	\$ 500.00
Regional Associate Member	King County Elections	February 2026	\$ 500.00	April 2026	\$ 500.00
Regional Associate Member	King County Library Systems	February 2026	\$ 500.00	March 2026	\$ 500.00
Regional Associate Member	Langton Public Affairs	February 2026	\$ 500.00	February 2026	\$ 500.00
Partner	Lumen	April 2026	\$ 6,000.00		
Partner	Marketing Solutions	n/a	\$ -	In-Kind	\$ -
Partner	Microsoft	April 2026	\$ 6,000.00	April 2026	\$ 6,000.00
Partner	Port of Seattle	February 2026	\$ 6,000.00	March 2026	\$ 6,000.00
Partner	Puget Sound Energy	March 2026	\$ 6,000.00		
Partner	Seattle King County Realtors	February 2026	\$ 6,000.00	March 2026	\$ 6,000.00
Partner	Sound Transit	April 2026	\$ 6,000.00	April 2026	\$ 6,000.00
Partner	Verizon*	April 2026	\$ 6,000.00		
Partner	Waste Management	February 2026	\$ 6,000.00		
<b>Totals</b>			<b>\$ 70,000.00</b>		<b>\$ 33,000.00</b>
	*New Sponsor				

## To Be Invoiced 2026

Sponsorship Level	Sponsor/Entity	Invoice	Amount to Invoice
Regional Associate Member	4Culture	September 2026	\$ 500.00
Partner	Boeing	June 2026	\$ 6,000.00
Regional Associate Member	Cedar Grove	August 2026	\$ 500.00
Partner	Comcast	March 2026	\$ 6,000.00
TBD	Republic Services	February 2026	TBD
Partner	Seattle Metro Chamber	June 2026	\$ 6,000.00
Event - Summer Social	TBD		\$ 2,500.00
Event - Fall	TBD		\$ 2,500.00
Event - Annual Mtg	TBD		\$ 2,500.00
<b>Totals</b>			<b>\$ 26,500.00</b>

## In-Progress Potential Sponsors

Sponsor/Entity	Most Recent Contact
University of Washington	4/20/2026
Alaska Airlines	4/23/2026
Ziplay Fiber	4/21/2026
Kaiser Permanente	4/21/2026
King County Housing Authority	4/28/2026
Monument Advocacy	4/20/2026
Ceis, Bayne, & East	4/20/2026

At their April 28, 2026 meeting, the SCA Finance Committee reviewed and discussed proposed changes to the Staff Transportation Expenses Policy within the SCA Personnel Policies. The Committee recommended to the full SCA Board of Directors approval of the updated policy. The summary, draft, and original policy are included below.

**Recommended Action:** Approval of the updated Staff Transportation Expenses Policy within the SCA Personnel Policies, as recommended by the Finance Committee and included in the meeting materials.

### **Summary of Changes in Draft Updated Policy**

The proposed revision updates the policy to better reflect hybrid work arrangements and evolved operational practices since the original policy was written and adopted. Its purpose is to create greater clarity, consistency, and equity in how travel and mileage reimbursement is applied.

Rather than changing whether commuting is reimbursable, the revision clarifies how “commuting” is defined by establishing a daily “required work location.” This approach ensures the policy is applied fairly whether an employee is working from the office or remotely on a given day.

#### **1. Definition of “required work location” added**

The organization determines the employee’s work location for each day based on operational needs and schedules. Examples clearly defined:

- Required office day – office is the work location
- Designated remote day – employee’s home is the work location
- Voluntary office attendance – office becomes the work location

#### **2. Clarifies when “commuting” applies**

- The draft policy continues to treat commuting as non-reimbursable.
- Commuting is defined as travel undertaken to report to the employee’s required work location for that day.

#### **3. Other Administrative Updates**

- Updates language for clarity and modernization, including approval authority and reimbursement documentation requirements.

## **Revised – Proposed Draft**

### 511 BUSINESS TRAVEL EXPENSES

Employees who are operating private vehicles while conducting SCA business must possess a valid driver's license and must maintain insurance meeting the State's minimum liability standards. Employees who are involved in an accident while traveling on business must promptly report the incident to the Executive Director

SCA will reimburse employees for reasonable business travel expenses incurred while performing approved work-related assignments.

When approved, the actual cost of travel, meals, lodging, and other expenses directly related to accomplishing business travel objectives will be reimbursed by SCA. Employees are expected to limit expenses to reasonable amounts.

For purposes of travel and mileage reimbursement, an employee's required work location for a given day is determined by the organization based on operational needs and established schedules. On days when employees are required to report to the office, the office is the employee's work location for that day. On designated remote-work days, the employee's home is the employee's work location. When an employee voluntarily works from the office on a day they are not required to do so, the office is the employee's work location for that day.

Mileage reimbursement is available for required work-related travel, other than commuting. Employees will be reimbursed at the mileage rate set annually by the Federal IRS. For the purposes of this policy, commuting is defined as travel undertaken for the purpose of reporting to the employee's required work location for that day and is not reimbursable.

Mileage reimbursement must be supported by appropriate documentation, including dates, destinations, and business purpose, and is subject to review.

Employees should contact the organization's designated approving authority for guidance regarding approval requirements, procedures for travel arrangements, expense reporting, reimbursement of specific expenses, or other matters related to business travel.

Misuse of this business travel expenses policy, the submission of inaccurate or unsupported expense reports, can be grounds for disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment.

**Original:**

511 BUSINESS TRAVEL EXPENSES

SCA will reimburse employees for reasonable business travel expenses incurred while on assignments away from the SCA office. All business travel must be approved in advance.

When approved, the actual cost of travel, meals, lodging, and other expenses directly related to accomplishing business travel objectives will be reimbursed by SCA. Employees are expected to limit expenses to reasonable amounts.

Employees, who are operating private cars while on SCA business, must have in their possession a valid driver's license and be insured to the State's minimum liability standards. Employees will be reimbursed at the mileage rate set annually by the Federal IRS. In the event of an accident, the employee's insurance will be primary accident coverage. Daily commute transportation expenses between the employee's residence and SCA office is a personal obligation of the employee and is not reimbursable by SCA. All other miles driven on official SCA business are reimbursable. Employees may be reimbursed for actual miles driven between SCA's office and the remote meeting location, or the employee's residence and the meeting location, whichever is shortest.

Employees who are involved in an accident while traveling on business must promptly report the incident to the Executive Director

When travel is completed, employees must submit completed travel expense reports within 30 days to ensure reimbursement. Reports should be accompanied by receipts for all individual expenses.

Employees should contact the Executive Director for guidance and assistance on procedures related to travel arrangements, travel advances, expense reports, reimbursement for specific expenses, or any other business travel issues.

Abuse of this business travel expenses policy, including falsifying expense reports to reflect costs not incurred by the employee, can be grounds for disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment.

### 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 April PIC meeting, PIC voted in favor of taking up this issue for discussion and possible position. At the May PIC meeting, PIC discussed, amended, and recommended a final draft of the letter to the SCA Board for approval.

At today's SCA Board meeting, the Board of Directors will review and discuss the final draft letter as recommended by PIC and may take action to send the letter to the King County Council.

**Additional background information on this item is included in Appendix 8.1.**

### PIC Amendments

The primary motion at PIC included striker amendments. Then, PIC discussed and approved the following amendments:

#### Amendment #1

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

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.~~

#### Amendment #3

**May 20, 2026 SCA Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Attachment 8: 2027 Proposed Sewer Rate Response Letter**

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Second paragraph, adds a sentence to the second paragraph (*now at the end of the paragraph due to changes in Amendment #2*)

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**

Following changes made by Amendment #2, add a new paragraph (now paragraph 3) on the need for the County to engage with cities on rate-setting.

Further, 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 where ratepayers are impacted. 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.

**Amendment #5**

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 #8**

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.

**Amendments #6, 7, and 9**

Three other amendments were submitted and included in the PIC Packet. Amendment #6 would have removed the bullet point requesting WTD to present on system needs and was pulled by the original submitter, Redmond. Amendment #7 would have removed the second sentence from the regulatory approach bullet point about alternative pathways and was pulled by the original submitter, Redmond. Amendment #9 would have added a bullet point about collaborating with regulators to switch to a rate structure based on property values and was voted down by PIC.

**Other Amendments**

Following the PIC meeting, staff corrected a scrivener’s error, changing the acronym “WTD” to now say “Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD)”. Staff also recommend that the Board consider an amendment to list out the name of the Regional Utility Rate Summit, rather than simply saying “summit” in the third sentence of the fourth paragraph.

**SCA Staff Contact**

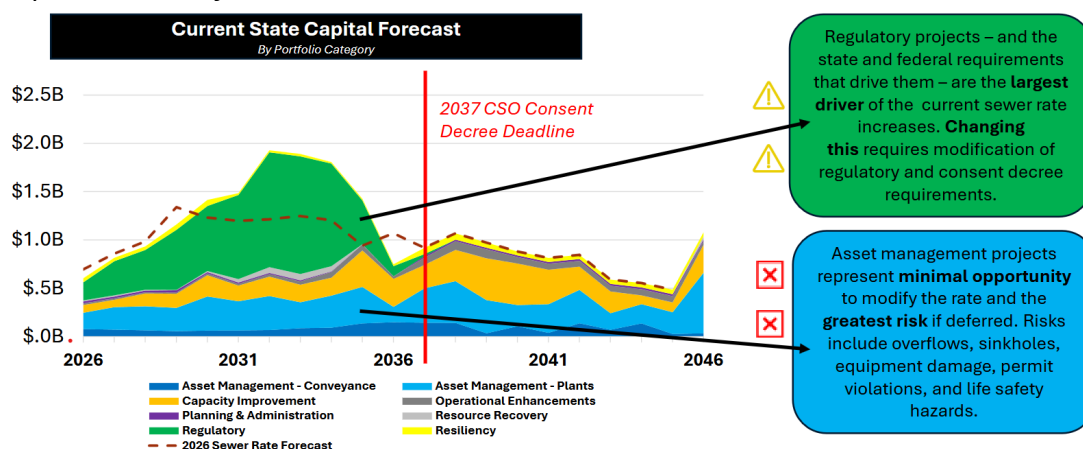
Laura Belmont, SCA Policy Analyst, [laura@soundcities.org](mailto:laura@soundcities.org) , (206) 849-7864

**APPENDIX 8.1: 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 (MWPAAC) in February. Rate conversations have been ongoing since in the two bodies; MWPAAC 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.

Metropolitan King County Council  
516 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave.  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Chair Sarah Perry and King County Councilmembers,

On behalf of the Sound Cities Association (SCA), we are writing regarding Proposed Ordinance 2026-0103 2027 Proposed Sewer Rate and Capacity Charge. SCA is alarmed by the lack of 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.

The 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 2032 and triple over the course of the forecasting period. Because cities and sewer districts levy their own rate increases to address local system needs, we request that rate examinations not be siloed; local increases as well as increases to other utilities' rates, especially by the County, need to be annually factored into sewer rate discussions. 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.

Further, 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 where ratepayers are impacted. 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.

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.

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 ratepayers' 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 the Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD):

May 20, 2026 SCA Board of Directors Meeting  
Attachment 8.A: 2027 Proposed Sewer Rate Response Letter

May 20, 2026 SCA Board of Directors Meeting  
Attachment 8.A: 2027 Proposed Sewer Rate Response Letter

- 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 on regulatory capital projects should be considered to provide relief from the stacking of expensive projects.
- 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.
- 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.
- Continue collaboration on the planning of the second affordability summit.

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

At the April PIC meeting, PIC 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 provided 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 voted to recommend the following statement to the SCA 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 look forward to engaging directly with Sound Transit to find potential resources and savings.*

**Recommended Action: Approve the statement as recommended by PIC.**

### **Discussion**

The Sound Transit Board of Directors is voting on a proposed approach for its Enterprise Initiative, intended to address a \$34.5 billion deficit in the long-range financial plan to deliver ST3. The Enterprise Initiative works across Policy & Planning, Transit Operations, Finance, and Capital Delivery workstreams (the largest source of cost growth and potential cost savings).

At the May 7 Sound Transit Executive Committee meeting, Board chair and Snohomish County Executive Dave Somers presented his proposed approach, which prioritized extensions to West Seattle, Everett, and Tacoma, delayed the 4 Line connecting Kirkland and Issaquah, and deferred the Ballard extension, most parking/park & ride investments across the system, and the Graham St and Boeing Access Road infill stations. The infill stations, among other deferred projects, are funded through final design.

A final vote on this approach is anticipated at the May 28<sup>th</sup> Board meeting, at which point Sound Transit will begin identifying specific cost-saving measures in line with the approach.

**Additional Background Information is included in [Appendix 9.1](#).**

### **Potential Action**

PIC discussed the statement and recommended it as amended (see below). The action before the SCA Board is to consider approval of the statement.

### **PIC Amendments**

PIC made one amendment to the statement:

**Amendment #1**

Cities ~~are willing to be flexible and~~ look forward to engaging directly with Sound Transit to find potential resources and savings.

**SCA Staff Contact**

Dax Tate, Policy Analyst, [dax@soundcities.org](mailto:dax@soundcities.org), 206-321-2353

**APPENDIX 9.1: ISSUE BACKGROUND**

**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.

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

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

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• understand trade-offs</li></ul>
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At the March 18<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **Executive Committee Meetings**

At the May 7 Executive Committee Meeting, Sound Transit Board Chair and Snohomish County Executive Dave Somers presented his [approach](#) for the consideration of Board members and the public. At a high level, the approach:

- Prioritizes West Seattle light rail as a “shovel-ready” project and completing the spine to Everett and Tacoma.
- Delays the 4 Line connecting Kirkland and Issaquah from 2044 to 2050
- Defers most of Ballard extension, Sounder DuPont extension, Graham St and Boeing Access Rd Infill Stations, and parking/park & rides across system until funding is identified (Graham St/Boeing Access Rd stations funded through final design).
- Includes a number of other items:
  - Extends financial plan from 2046 to 2052
  - Calls for development of an adaptive program management plan and project delivery framework by end of year
  - Sounder N Line ceasing operations in 2033
  - \$100m “Regional Parking Fund”

The proposal identifies \$11-13 billion in capital delivery savings and \$6-8 billion in cost savings/increased financial capacity from other workstreams, reducing the total deficit from \$34.5 billion to \$11-13 billion.

An additional executive committee meeting was scheduled for May 14<sup>th</sup> to accommodate additional public comment, and a final vote by the Sound Transit Board is anticipated on May 28<sup>th</sup>.

### **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.

The following reports from the March Sound Transit Board Retreat list many of the specific items under consideration:

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

**KING COUNTY CITY MANAGERS AND ADMINISTRATORS**

Wednesday, May 6, 2026

10:00 to 11:30 AM

VIRTUAL ONLY

**Via Zoom:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81678780695?pwd=fVCfLI7lrzCTjoPgaMPdjSORXGM6NZ.1&from=addon>

**Meeting ID:** 816 7878 0695 **Passcode:** 733547

- 10:00 AM**     **A.     Welcome and Introductions**
- Andrea Lehner, Deputy City Administrator, Issaquah
- 10:15 AM**     **B.     World Cup Update**
- Dylan Ordonez, SVP External Affairs, FIFA Seattle
  - Kristi Rowland, Deputy CAO, Renton
  - Discussion: How cities are preparing/getting into World Cup spirit
- 10:35 AM**     **C.     King County Regional Homeless Authority**
- Overview of issue: Lindsay Masters, Executive Director, ARCH
  - Discussion: What impacts are you anticipating from potential KCRHA dissolution? Desire for more discussion/information on this topic?
- 11:00 AM**     **D.     Day with ICMA**
- June 17, 9am-3:30pm, Issaquah
  - Ice Cream Social: June 16, 6pm Issaquah Senior Center
- 11:15 AM**     **E.     Partner Updates**
- AWC – Candice Bock, Director of Government Relations, AWC
  - SCA – Robert Feldstein, Executive Director, Sound Cities Association
  - WCMA – Laura Philpot, WCMA President, City Manager, City of Maple Valley
- 11:30 AM**     **F.     Adjourn**

## May 20, 2026 SCA Board of Directors Meeting

### Attachment 11: Equity & Inclusion Cabinet

On Tuesday, April 28, the SCA Equity and Inclusion Cabinet (EIC) met to discuss appointments to the Cabinet and related policies.

**Recommended Action:** Appointment of members to the 2026 Equity and Inclusion Cabinet

### EIC Direction

- A Maximum of two (2) members from any one SCA city may be appointed to the EIC at one time. Board Liaison members are included in this count.
  - Each individual city will be responsible for determining which two candidates will apply from that city.
- While there is no formal policy on term limit, the Cabinet will consider six (6) years to be a soft limit, while also taking into consideration participation, applications, equity, and continuity when making appointment decisions.
- For 2026, the EIC recommends the reappointment of existing members who are interested in continuing to serve on the Cabinet:
  1. Lydia Assesfa-Dawson (Board Liaison)
  2. Annette Ademasu (Board Liaison)
  3. Ed Prince, Renton
  4. Bill Boyce, Kent
  5. Hugo Garcia, Burien

In addition, the EIC recommends that all applicants who submitted an application be appointed, subject to the above guidelines, in particularly the limit of two members per city. With that in mind, the Board is considering the following new applicants:

1. Alex Andrade, Burien
2. Sun Burford, Newcastle
3. Julie Hsieh, Mercer Island
4. Andy Jacobs, Newcastle
5. Ruth Pérez, Renton
6. Paul Adair, Issaquah
7. One new applicant from Kent, to align with the suggested city limit of two (2) Cabinet members per city, with Bill Boyce as an existing member. The applicants from Kent are:
  - Sharn Stoker, Kent
  - John Boyd, Kent

## May 20, 2026 SCA Board of Directors Meeting

### Attachment 12: SCA Press Policy

Recent high-profile issues regarding King County Homelessness Authority (KCRHA) have involved members of the press contacting SCA committee members for comment. These events have highlighted the need to review whether the organization's current practices and expectations regarding media communications remain clear and effective. The current SCA Press Policy is included below. Staff is asking for discussion and direction regarding the following:

1. Is the current policy appropriate and sufficient?
2. Do we think there is a shared clear understanding of what the policy means in practice?
3. Are there additional actions needed to support the clarification of, the communication of, and the compliance with the policy?

No action is requested at this meeting. Based on Board direction today, staff will continue discussions with the Executive Committee regarding any potential future policy changes or related actions before returning to the full Board for further consideration.

## Related SCA Bylaws

### **ARTICLE 7. SPOKESPERSONS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ASSOCIATION**

Any elected official or other person who represents the member cities of this Association shall undertake to represent the interests of the group of cities as a whole or of the Association, and not the interests of their individual city. Representatives named by any Regional Caucus for appointment to regional forums and spokespersons identified by the Board or any committees shall represent the interests of the entire class of cities which they are charged with representing.

## Related Documents

[2026 SCA Regional Board and Committee Agreement](#)

[Full SCA Adopted Bylaws](#)

### **Background**

SCA was recently approached by members of the King County Youth and Young Adult (YYA) Collaborative about appointing seats on a new Leadership Table for the Built for Zero initiative. The Built for Zero Initiative is used nationally and in other parts of Washington State as a collaborative approach to addressing youth homelessness that “centers on the use of real-time, person-specific data and proven tools, such as a community By-Name List, to better understand the needs and target resources, thereby reducing the length and frequency of homelessness among young people.” Their 1-page document is attached.

Our understanding is that the Leadership Table will meet quarterly and bring together leaders from across sectors, including “county and municipal government, schools, philanthropy, providers, and youth representatives. This group will help address system-level barriers, align funding and policy, and support shared accountability for measurable progress.”

While we don’t know who else is on the Leadership Table, from our initial conversations, we know that others engaged include:

- Jim Theofolis, Founder of the Mockingbird Society,
- Yvonne-Monique Aviva, Executive Director of the Mockingbird Society
- Kathryn Peterson, Program Officer, Schultz Family Foundation

In the meeting, they discussed that they are also approaching both the Seattle Mayor and the King County Executive.

### **Discussion**

At the May meeting, the board will be briefed on early discussions with this initiative and on potential SCA appointments to the Built for Zero Leadership Table. The first meeting of the Leadership Table will take place in June 2026.

### **SCA Staff Contact**

Aj Foltz, Senior Policy Analyst, [aj@soundcities.org](mailto:aj@soundcities.org), (206) 849-3056

**Making Youth and Young Adult Homelessness Rare and Brief in King County  
Building on Progress and Lessons Learned!**

Already national leaders in elevating the voices of youth with lived experience and in enacting meaningful policies and programs to support young people, Washington State and King County have been advancing innovative strategies to prevent and reduce youth and young adult homelessness. The key to these efforts has been the increased collaboration among service providers, public agencies, philanthropy, and young people, all working toward shared goals.

In King County, we are building on this foundation while also contending with rising housing costs and service gaps in Seattle, Tukwila, Highline, Renton, Kent, Issaquah, and Federal Way, which are actively decreasing access to services for hundreds of young people across the region.

The King County Youth and Young Adult (YYA) Collaborative brings together more than thirty-six organizations across housing, education, behavioral health, child welfare, the criminal-legal, and private sectors, while centering young people with lived experience, to strengthen cross-systems coordination and improve service availability and outcomes for youth and young adults experiencing homelessness in our community.

Aligned with the Office of Homeless Youth, this Collaborative has adopted the Built for Zero model, a scaled approach nationwide that has already been successfully implemented by counties across Washington.

This model is the backbone of coordination, innovation, and a shared best-practice framework. This work centers on the use of real-time, person-specific data and proven tools, such as a community By-Name List, to better understand the needs and target resources, thereby reducing the length and frequency of homelessness among young people.

Over the past year, the Collaborative has laid important groundwork for implementing these efforts, including completing a needs assessment, establishing governance and youth engagement practices, and building a shared data infrastructure. In 2026, the Collaborative will take the next steps to formalize a countywide By-Name List, confirm a backbone agency, launch case conferencing, and stand up a Leadership Table.

The Leadership Table will bring together leaders from across sectors, including county and municipal government, schools, philanthropy, providers, and youth representatives. This group will help address system-level barriers, align funding and policy, and support shared accountability for measurable progress.

We are currently inviting a small group of community leaders to join the inaugural Leadership Table. Given your leadership and commitment to young people, we would value the opportunity to connect and share more about this effort. We hope you or a designee might consider participating. The role includes quarterly meetings, periodic check-ins, and helping identify opportunities, partnerships, and resources to move this work forward.

We would welcome the chance to speak with you and explore how you might support the King County Built for Zero initiative. Together, we can make homelessness rare and brief for youth and young adults in King County.

**May 20, 2026 SCA Board of Directors Meeting**

**Attachment 14: Potential Contact List Swapping with the County**

SCA staff would like to explore whether SCA and King County could work to support each other in keeping up-to-date email and contact lists to better ensure communication both ways. There are times when King County divisions would like to reach all the SCA Member Cities, and times when SCA would like to be better able to reach all King County government relations staff and directors.

Currently, when King County wants to reach cities, one of two things happen:

- **They approach SCA to forward messages on their behalf** (e.g., when Solid Waste was doing info/coordination sessions after the flooding) and we forward to the correct list (often Mayors & City Managers). This increases accuracy, but it also dilutes messages from SCA as we forward messages from the County.
- **They use their own compiled lists.** But we see somewhat haphazard email lists – alias emails (e.g., mayor@...), redundancies, recipients no longer in office, and some cities not included at all. The quality of their mailing lists varies.

Our Board Policies currently state that “SCA may not provide membership contact lists to outside organizations.” However, there may be value in exploring whether SCA and King County could enter into an agreement, as we want the County to be better at reaching all of our cities and SCA may hold tools that could help.

Would it make sense to explore an agreement where SCA and King County exchange email lists – for example, all city electeds, in exchange for a mailing list of all government relations staff, directors, and chiefs of staff?

This is a straw proposal to begin discussion. No action is expected from the board today; rather, staff is asking for thoughts, concerns, and general direction on this possible work.

**SCA Board Policies. 900 EXTERNAL RELATIONSHIPS**

**901 POLITICAL RELATIONSHIPS**

901.1 SCA shall not become involved in partisan political functions.

901.2 The position of Executive Director is non-partisan. No association funds shall be used for attending political fund-raising events.

901.3 SCA may not provide information or contact lists or provide assistance in distributing information for political use.

**902 USE OF SCA MEMBER INFORMATION**

**SCA may not provide membership contact lists to outside organizations, businesses, or individuals.**