



SCA Public Issues Committee: PIC Hot Sheet 7/8/2026

Please review the details in this document for a quick overview of the PIC discussions and actions this month. More details are provided in the associated memorandums for each item.

The purpose of this document is to serve as a quick tool for PIC members to help them communicate with their elected and staff colleagues in your city. Use this document – especially the **Questions for your Colleagues – to try and engage your peers so you can bring a more comprehensive view into the PIC. On some questions, you may also want to ask city staff for their perspective or knowledge.

Associated PIC packet materials can be found on the [SCA website](#).

Item 6: 2027 Solid Waste Rate Response Letter

ACTION

The King County Executive has proposed an 8.5% solid waste rate increase across fee types, which is anticipated to have an average monthly curbside impact of \$0.73. Currently, SWD projects 8.5% increases each year from 2028-2032, which would result in approximately a 63% increase in rates over the period. SCA members have expressed concerns around ratepayer affordability in light of sharp rate increases across multiple utilities, culminating in the recommendation of a sewer rate response letter at the May PIC meeting. The SCA Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) Caucus has suggested SCA submit a solid waste rate response letter to continue discussions on utility rate affordability.

At the June PIC meeting, members voted to discuss a sewer rate response letter at the May PIC meeting. At the July 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. SCA staff have suggested two technical corrections to the letter. One amendment to the letter has been submitted. **Attachment A contains a copy of the draft letter with changes redlined. Please review these amendments before the PIC meeting and be ready to vote on them.**

****Questions for your Colleagues:**

- Do you support SCA sending a letter in response to the 2027 solid waste rate proposal?
- Do you support the amendment provided in the attachment?
- Do you want to see any other changes to the solid waste rate response letter?

Item 7: Affordable Housing Levy Discussion, Part 2

DISCUSSION

At the July meeting, the Public Issues Committee will continue its discussion of a potential regional affordable housing initiative. Following the May 13 PIC meeting, the conversation has

evolved from an advocacy effort led by the Housing Development Consortium to a broader, county-led discussion through King County's Investments & Revenue Work Group. Members will receive an update on these regional efforts, discuss the potential implications for cities across King County, and provide guidance on the questions, priorities, and funding options they would like SCA representatives to raise as the workgroup develops recommendations.

****Questions for your Colleagues:**

- What outcomes does SCA want a regional affordable housing funding initiative to achieve (e.g., new housing production, preservation, supportive housing, emergency shelter, homeownership opportunities)?
- What role should cities have in decision-making and governance for a regional funding program?
- How should a regional initiative complement existing local affordable housing investments and programs?
- What information or analysis would cities need to evaluate a future regional funding proposal?
- How should King County engage with cities throughout the development of this initiative?

Guidance for SCA Representatives on the Investments & Revenue Work Group:

- What key questions should the Investments & Revenue Work Group address as it develops its recommendations?
- What funding options or policy approaches should the Investments & Revenue Work Group evaluate?

Item 8: MIDD III Implementation Plan

DISCUSSION

The King County Council renewed the Mental Illness and Drug Dependency Behavioral Health Sales Tax Fund (MIDD) sales tax in September 2025. The spending of the sales tax funds is governed by an implementation plan which outlines the primary purpose of the fund as well as the strategy areas, goals, and allowable activities for the sales tax. The MIDD Advisory Committee has been involved in the development of the MIDD 3 Implementation Plan. The MIDD 3 Implementation Plan was transmitted on July 1, and will be dual referred to the Health, Housing, and Human Services Committee and the Regional Policy Committee (RPC). SCA staff are highlighting this item for early discussion among PIC members ahead of discussions at RPC later this year.

****Questions for your Colleagues:**

- Do you have any questions or concerns regarding the Implementation Plan?

Item 9: Updates/Informational Items**DISCUSSION****Item 9.a: Regional Boards & Committees Upcoming Issues**

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

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

- **Regional Policy Committee**
 - The King County Council renewed the Mental Illness and Drug Dependency Behavioral Health Sales Tax Fund (MIDD) in September 2025. The spending of the funds generated by the sales tax is governed by an implementation plan.
 - The MIDD 3 Implementation Plan was transmitted to the King County Executive on July 1. Members of the MIDD Advisory Committee have provided feedback on the Implementation Plan, which is dual referred to the Regional Policy Committee.
- **Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC): Solid Waste Rates**
 - The King County Executive has proposed an 8.5% rate increase across fee types, with an average estimated monthly curbside impact of \$0.73.
 - At the June PIC meeting, members voted to move forward with a rate response letter. At the July PIC meeting, members will vote whether to amend the draft letter and recommend it for adoption by the SCA Board of Directors.
- **Regional Transit Safety Task Force**
 - Implementation of the solutions identified in last year's plan is underway, with the Implementation Partners group meeting on June 22 to discuss which solutions to advance, which to advance for further development, and which to not advance. Facilitators are currently working to incorporate feedback and develop working groups to oversee implementation of plan solutions.

Item 9.b: Levies & Ballot Measures

This standing item details upcoming King County and special district levies and ballot measures. **PIC members are encouraged to share upcoming or recently approved city and special districts levies and ballot measures with SCA staff.**

Item 9.c: PIC 2026 Work Plan

This new standing item 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. The items listed on the work plan are not finalized unless formally listed on an upcoming PIC agenda.