



SCA Public Issues Committee

Minutes

June 13, 2012 – 7:00 P.M.

Renton City Hall

Council Chambers, 7th Floor

1055 S. Grady Way - Renton, WA 98057

1. Welcome and Roll Call

Mia Gregerson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Twenty-two cities were represented. See attachment 1 to these minutes. Guests included John Stilin, Redmond, Don Gerend, Sammamish, Maria Wood, Board of Health, Mark Issacson, King County and Darren Greve, King County.

2. Approval of minutes of May 9, 2012 meeting

Chris Eggen, Shoreline, moved seconded by Matt Larson, Snoqualmie, to approve the May 9, 2012 meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Executive Director's Report

Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director, gave a brief update regarding the PIC Operations and Procedures Subcommittee meeting that was held on May 16, 2012. Members have expressed that there is a greater need for transparency at the PIC. In an effort to be more transparent, ED Dawson pointed out that, SCA staff's contact info for is now prominently displayed at the top of each item. Please, feel free to contact Deanna, Monica, or Doreen at any time with any questions you may have before, or after PIC meetings. ED Dawson also encouraged members to use SCA staff as a resource on other topics as well

ED Dawson introduced Ella Williams, the SCA summer intern who will be conducting interviews with the membership and encouraged everyone to schedule a time to meet with her when she contacted them within the next few weeks.

ED Dawson gave an update on Administrative Services Manager Kristy Burwell; baby Cole was born on May 30th and both Kristy and baby Cole are doing very well. ED Dawson shared a card from Kristy thanking members for the flowers sent to her in the hospital on behalf of the PIC.

ED Dawson reported that unfortunately, the Emergency Management Division situation that the PIC took emergency action on last month has not been resolved. Despite a lot of efforts, the state Emergency Management Division is still looking at proceeding with a change in the funding formula. Many of our cities are continuing to work on this issue

ED Dawson also reported that many members have suggested putting together a small subgroup to talk about legislative priorities for suburban cities in King County. At our legislative panel, some of our legislators stressed the need for cities to be on the same page about what their top priorities are. If members are interested in working on this, please contact ED Dawson at Deanna@suburbancities.org.

ED Dawson reminded members the SCA took a position in 2006 in support of the AFIS levy. ED Dawson inquired whether the PIC would be interested in taking a position on the upcoming AFIS levy renewal. If members are interested in taking a position, ED Dawson recommended that the PIC take a position at the July Meeting, prior to the levy being placed on the ballot.

Chris Eggen requested more detail regarding the AFIS levy and suggested that SCA staff could write a report and share it prior to the next meeting.

David Baker, Kenmore, moved that SCA have an opportunity to take a position on the AFIS Levy renewal at the July PIC Meeting. Matt Larson seconded the motion.

Tom Odell, Sammamish, and Dave Hill, Algona, said that they agree. Hank Margeson, Redmond, added that he would like the report to include: how much money has been generated and what is being done with was any monies that have been supplanted. He would also like to know how much the levy renewal will raise and how the money will be spent. David Baker added that SCA's position should include non-supplantation language. Hank Margeson reminded the group to speak with their councils on this issue prior to the July PIC meeting.

The motion to bring the AFIS levy renewal to the July PIC meeting as an action item was approved unanimously.

4. Chair's Report

Mia Gregerson, PIC Chair, reported that more than 70 people registered for the June 6 Networking Dinner which featured King County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Satterberg and King County Sheriff Steve Strachan. Matt Pina gave a detailed report on the presentations given. A number of facts were raised pertinent to cities including that there are fewer offenders being locked up however 70% of prisoners are there for violent crimes. Since 1980, property crime is down 45% and violent crime is down 27%, this is partially contributed to 120% increase in spending throughout the county on criminal justice. There have be increases in assaults with weapons and burglary. Prescription drug abuse is the most challenging and deadly issue that criminal justice system is facing. Sheriff Strachan spoke about the success of the Automated Fingerprint Identification System, which is the County's number one crime fighting tool. They spoke about the fragmentation and to the need to develop partnership with the cities.

5. Report from PIC Operations and Procedures Subcommittee

Hank Margeson, Subcommittee Chair reported on the May 16, 2012 meeting, which was attended by Councilmember Gregerson, Mayor Lewis, and Councilmember Margeson. Discussed were a number of topics: PIC meeting location, the PIC and SCA Board decision-making process, meeting procedures, one city/one vote, issue, what happens if cities do not agree on positions, and the role of SCA staff.

He thanked Marlla Mhoon, Covington, for the suggestion that the SCA Values Statement be included as part of the Agenda..

At their May 16 meeting, the PIC Ops committee reviewed potential locations identified by PIC OPS member Amy Walen of Kirkland. These included three sites. The most feasible option is the Peter Kirk Room in City Hall. There is a farmers market on Wednesdays through October, which could create parking issues. . ED Dawson encouraged suggestions for additional meeting locations that will accommodate the PIC's needs.

The committee discussed the PIC and SCA board decision-making processes. The committee agreed that, in terms of speed and timeliness of decision-making, SCA is quite effective; as long as issues are brought to the group's attention in a timely manner decisions can be made within two weeks. They also discussed that SCA can be flexible on how different issues are handled, for example, forming smaller subgroups to work on specific issues. The PIC Ops committee also suggested that the PIC operating procedures be updated to provide greater clarity and guidance.

The committee discussed what a divisive issue is. The committee members agreed that they believed that divisive in this context meant an issue that would be harmful to a member city. The committee discussed updating the PIC operating procedures to clarify this. The committee discussed how this should best be handled procedurally. The committee noted that there were a number of ways that SCA could ensure that it did not take a position that was divisive, or harmful to a member city or cities. First, they noted that if it was clear that an issue would be divisive or harmful, the Chair could decide not to bring it forward. If an issue was brought forward and then a member city alleged that it was divisive, or harmful to their city's interests, they could contact SCA staff so that they could try to work it out in advance. If the matter came before PIC, a member city could allege that the issue was harmful or divisive, and ask that members not proceed. The committee noted that it would be the responsibility of the member alleging that something was divisive, or harmful to their city, to demonstrate that to the group- a mere allegation would not be enough to block action. A member alleging that an issue was divisive would get a chance for a second bite at the apple, because of the PIC procedure of having issues brought up at one meeting, and voted on at another. That second meeting would give an opportunity for a city to gather facts and evidence about why SCA should not take a position. And finally, the committee noted that the PIC recommends policy positions to the SCA board, but the SCA board is the entity that establishes official SCA policy positions. A city alleging that an issue was divisive, or harmful to their city, would have an opportunity to bring forward additional information to the board as well.

The committee also noted that the discussion of divisive issues had some overlap with the question of what should occur when a member city, or an individual member, had a position that was contrary to the official SCA position. The committee agreed that unless the issue was divisive or affirmatively harmful to the member city SCA representatives on committees had an obligation to vote as directed by the membership as a whole when SCA had an official position. In those instances where there was no official SCA position, SCA committee representatives should caucus with their fellow appointees, and take positions that represent the interests of

suburban cities as a whole. When no position exists, and when the caucus has not established a policy position, members are entrusted with voting as they see fit, keeping in mind the interests of the group as a whole. The committee recommended some clarification and clean-up of the language in the operating procedures.

The PIC Ops Committee also discussed the role of presenters and SCA staff, and the length of presentations. The committee is recommending that SCA staff, in consultation with committee chairs, make presentations to the PIC rather than the committee chair or members.

David Baker voiced a concern that last year SCA sent out a questionnaire asking which cities would be interested in hosting the PIC Meetings and both Kenmore and Shoreline expressed interest. ED Dawson assured him that she would look into this matter.

Hank Margeson reported that the committee also recommended forming Ad Hoc or subcommittees when there are issues that require additional discussion, feedback, and or action. Chris Eggen cautioned that he has been on committees where the committee felt the desire to make a recommendation, even though they didn't have a strong feeling one way or another, requiring the body to vote on issues they may have not otherwise. Ross Loudonback, North Bend, encouraged the committee's staff member to e-mail additional information to the membership, when there are emerging issues that come up so the members can come prepared to provide direction. ED encouraged members to bring issues to SCA staff's attention to get timely information out to the SCA membership.

Dave Hill congratulated Mia Gregerson on her graduation from the Leadership Institute of South Puget Sound.

6. Feedback on the Study Session on Study Session Port of Seattle Century Agenda

Councilmember Barre Siebert, Clyde Hill, provided a synopsis of the Study Session. Port Commissioner Albro talked about the history and the future of the Port. He talked about the Port being an economic development agency. Councilmember Siebert suggested another meeting with SCA members and Port commissioners to provide more detail and additional opportunities to discuss how the Port's Century Agenda will impact King County cities.

7. King County Flood Control District Advisory Committee – King Conservation District Funding

Mark Isaacson, Division Director, DNRP - Water and Land Resources Division, presented on the 2012 Flood Control District WRIA Salmon Recovery grant funding, as well as, current and future funding for the King Conservation District (KCD). A number of member cities were present at the June 12, 2012 regional discussion on Mercer Island highlighting this issue. The next regional discussion will be held on June 26, 2012. SCA staff is closely monitoring this process.

Mark Isaacson provided a brief overview of the funding for the KCD. In light of the recent Mason County v. Cary Washington Supreme Court Decision that invalidated the Mason County Conservation District's special assessment, it appears that the King County ordinance authorizing the collection of a special assessment for the KCD of approximately \$10/parcel in 2012 (yielding approximately \$6 million annually), has the same legal problems as the Mason County ordinance. Conservation district assessments in King County are subject to a separate legal

challenge. Given the legal uncertainties, the KCD is taking steps to place the 2012 assessment into an escrow account until the legal challenge is resolved. On May 14, 2012, the King County Flood Control District Board of Supervisors approved \$3 million in funding for a range of projects to improve water quality, protect and restore habitat, and support salmon recovery efforts in three King County watersheds. The board's action will provide funding grants in the following areas: \$1.2 million for Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 8, \$1.2 million for WRIA 9, and \$600,000 for the Snoqualmie Watershed. In consultation with Sara Hemphill, Executive Director of the KCD, Isaacson reported on three key themes: Less money will be collected, the KCD will be revising how funds are collected, and the KCD is seeking regional collaboration. They want to hear from the cities. Isaacson encouraged SCA to invite Sara Hemphill to speak on behalf of the KCD. The Water Land and Resources Division is happy to visit cities to discuss the current and future funding of the KCD.

Notes from the June 12, 2012 meeting are being written up and will be sent out shortly. A draft legal assessment should be available by the June 26, 2012 meeting. The KCD is required to provide a revised budget to the King County Council by August 1, 2012.

Matt Larson inquired about the allocation principal for Flood Control District and KCD funds, since these two agencies currently apply two different operating principals. Isaacson was unable to answer; however, he did mention that the County will be approving both budgets and is likely to seek a balanced revenue solution.

Chris Eggen questioned whether there is going to be a move to reclaim the monies that a city might not have already spent. Isaacson responded that this question Sara Hemphill would have to answer. Marlla Mhoon shared that Sara Hemphill stated that they would be able to honor all the 2012 WRIA grants that were awarded.

Chair Gregerson suggested that the PIC may want to create a subcommittee to help guide this process. Matt Larson, Dave Hill and Chris Eggen volunteered to participate on such a subcommittee.

8. Transferrable Development Rights

Darren Greve, King County Transferrable Development Rights Program Manager, gave a presentation on how new legislation gives some cities in King, Pierce, and Snohomish counties additional funding tools. See attachment 2 to these minutes. The new legislation gives a number of King County cities (combined population and employment of 22,500 or greater) the ability to fund infrastructure investments through a Transfer of Development Rights (TDR)-Tax Increment program called the Landscape Conservation and Local Infrastructure Program, or LCLIP. Darren provided a brief overview of how transfer of development rights programs generally work in King County; a landowner in the rural area voluntary sells the right to develop property to a developer or King County. In 2011, new legislation was passed that allowed what Darren called, tax increment financing (TIF) for TDRs. There are 18,000 development rights in the tri-county region. Each of the eligible cities may, but is not required to, accept all or a portion of their development right allocation. Each development right sold in the rural or sending area is equal to one house; each development right received in a city is equal to one house or a specific commercial square footage allowance, etc. If cities choose to participate, they must take at least

20% of their allocation and must develop an infrastructure plan, TDR regulations, and adopt an ordinance and TDR district. In exchange for accepting that additional allocation, the city gets a portion of future King County property tax of their TDR district.

Darren answered a number of questions, including explaining how King County buys TDRS from interested sellers and sells those TDRs to interested developers at the same price paid for them; an explanation of the county's TDR program generally; an explanation of how King County markets the TDR program; and an explanation of how King County uses the money raised – solely to purchase additional TDRs from rural areas.

9. King County Board of Health – Medicine Take Back Program

Doreen Booth, SCA Policy Analyst, gave a brief presentation. Doreen, Mayor David Baker, SCA representative on the Board of Health, and Maria Wood, from the Seattle- King County Department of Public Health were available for questions from the audience.

Doreen reported the Board of Health is reviewing the medicine take back issue in the coming months and may consider taking action that would require the pharmaceutical industry to create a medicine take back program in King County. It is similar to a program which was considered statewide in earlier years.

David Baker stated that a big concern of his is that cities not bear the cost of this program. Matt Pina commented that it is a challenge for homebound people to dispose of their drugs; often times it is impossible because it is illegal to carry someone else drugs if they are a controlled substance.

David Baker stated that guidelines for narcotics are supposed to be written soon by the DEA; however, it seems that this may happen after the presidential election is over. At this time, only police departments or DEA drug take back events can accept certain prescriptions.

Hank Margeson encouraged the BOH to follow up on this and encouraged a wide range of options.

Maria Wood stated that the goal is to have a pharmaceutical industry-funded program in a product stewardship. The BOH staff is looking at the Washington state bill as well as Alameda County and British Columbia programs.

10. King County Regional Transit Committee - Refining the Metro Service Guidelines: Future Growth

Monica Whitman reported that by October 31, 2012 the Executive is required to transmit a preliminary results report on the King County Metro Strategic Plan for Public Transportation 2011-2021 and the King County Metro Service Guidelines. This report is to be produced through a collaborative process, defined by the County Executive, incorporating input from local jurisdictions.

Monica inquired whether there is any interest in forming a PIC subcommittee to help guide this process. PIC members suggested that representation by SCA RTC members would be more

appropriate than forming a subcommittee, with assistance from SCA staff. The PIC requested that SCA invite King County Metro to make a presentation during an upcoming PIC Study Session, most likely in September, on the process to date and potential strategies to address future growth.

11. Mental Illness and Drug Dependency (MIDD) Annual Report

Doreen Booth gave a brief presentation on the MIDD Annual Report. Key points included that 26 of the 29 MIDD strategies met at least 85% of their annual metrics; at least 30,704 individuals were served in the year; and jail utilization and inpatient community psychiatric hospital days dropped for measurable strategies.

Councilmember Dennis Higgins, Kent, SCA representative on MIDD, was also available to help answer any questions.

Councilmember Eggen had a question about supplantation. Following is the supplantation discussion from the RPC's staff report:

"The initial 2005 legislation that authorized counties to implement a one-tenth of one percent sales and use tax did not permit the revenues to be used to supplant other existing funding. The statute was revised in 2008 to allow for its use for housing that is part of a coordinated chemical dependency or mental health treatment program.

During the 2009 Legislative session, Washington State Legislators approved a change to the state statute, modifying the non-supplantation language of the law. The modification allows MIDD revenue to replace (supplant) funds for **existing** mental health, chemical dependency, and therapeutic court services and programs, not only new or expanded programs. Beginning in 2010, up to 50 percent of the MIDD tax collected can be used to supplant other lost funds. There is a ten percent reduction to the amount of funds used each year, ending at 10 percent in year 2014."

12. Information Items

In response to feedback from the PIC Operations and Procedures Subcommittee, SCA staff added a new category to the PIC agenda titled "Informational Items". These items are intended to provide members with additional information to take back to their cities regarding key activities and information items that our committees are working on. These are items that don't require a presentation; however, feedback is encouraged. Many of these items will be part of an ongoing discussion.

SCA Committee Information Items for June include:

- (1) King County Regional Transit Committee – Alternative Services Plan
- (2) King County Growth Management Planning Council – Update on Committee Activities, and
- (3) King County Regional Policy Committee – Future Levies and Ballot Measures in King County.

Monica Whitman outlined next steps for providing feedback on the Alternative Services Plan. SCA RTC members and technical staff will have an opportunity to use the feedback gathered from individual cities to draft a letter, as well as most likely collaborate on a draft resolution to the King County Council.

PIC members requested that the Future Levies and Ballot Measures spreadsheet be updated and distributed on an annual basis. See attachment 3 to these minutes.

13. Other

- a) For the good of the order

Rich Zwicker, Renton reported that there is grant money available to cities as part of the National Mortgage Settlement Act and more information is available at:

[http://www.atg.wa.gov/uploadedFiles/Home/About the Office/Cases/National Mortgage Settlement/Request for Proposal-5-22-12.pdf](http://www.atg.wa.gov/uploadedFiles/Home/About%20the%20Office/Cases/National%20Mortgage%20Settlement/Request%20for%20Proposal-5-22-12.pdf). The deadline for this is June 29, 2012.

Dave Hill was pleased to announce that the Algona Police Department received three of six statewide awards by WASPC and WLEEA including Advisor of the Year for 2011, Explorer of the Year for 2011 and a \$1,000 scholarship for an Explorer.

- b) Next SCA Networking Dinner, Wednesday, September 19, 2012 – 5:30 PM Featuring guest speaker Michael K. Young, President of the University Of Washington
- c) Next SCA Public Issues Committee meeting, Wednesday, July 11, 2012 – 7:00 PM

14. Adjourn at 9:08 pm.

Committee Acronyms

BOH	Board of Health	PIC	Public Issues Committee
CEH	Committee to End Homelessness in King County	PSRC	Puget Sound Regional Council
DVI	Domestic Violence Initiative	REPC	Radio Executive Policy Committee
EDDB	PSRC's Economic Development District Board	RPEC	PSRC Regional Project Evaluation Committee
EMAC	Emergency Management Advisory Board	RLSJ	Regional Law Safety and Justice Committee
EMS	King County Emergency Medical Services Task Force	RPC	Regional Policy Committee
ETP	Eastside Transportation Partnership	RTC	Regional Transit Committee
GMPB	PSRC Growth Management Policy Board	RWQC	Regional Water Quality Committee
GMPC	Growth Management Planning Council	SCA	Suburban Cities Association
KCFCDAC	King County Flood Control District Advisory Committee	SCAAC	South Central Action Area Caucus Group
JRC	Joint Recommendations Committee	SCATBd	South County Area Transportation Board
LEOFF 1	Law Enforcement Officers and Firefighters Disability Board	SeaShore	Seashore Transportation Forum
LHWMP	Local Hazardous Waste Management Program	SWAC	Solid Waste Advisory Board
MIDD	Mental Illness and Drug Dependency Oversight Committee	TPB	PSRC Transportation Policy Board