



City of Bellevue

City Manager's Office

DATE: June 9, 2026

SUBJECT: King County Regional Committees Update, May 2026

Regional Policy Committee (RPC)

At its May 13 meeting, the RPC:

- **Approved receipt of the 2024 Crisis Care Center (CCC) Levy Implementation Report.** The committee acted to acknowledge receipt of the report and forwarded the recommendation on to the King County Council for final action. This is the first annual report for the levy that was approved in 2023. There were several questions and a robust discussion about fiscal management and confidence in meeting the goals of the nine-year levy.
- **Heard an update from King County Solid Waste.** The division director provided an update on organizational changes, rates and updating the comprehensive plan. Members expressed interest in extracting revenue from existing assets such as selling old sites, leases for battery storage or recreation on landfills.

The next RPC meeting is scheduled for June 10. Councilmember Lynne Robinson serves on the RPC representing the Sound Cities Association.

Regional Transit Committee (RTC)

The RTC did not meet in May. The next RTC meeting is scheduled for June 17. Councilmember Vishal Bhargava serves on the RTC.

Regional Water Quality Committee (RWQC)

At its May 6 meeting, the RWQC:

- **Heard a briefing on Proposed Ordinance 2026-0066 regarding the capacity charge methodology.** The capacity charge is assessed directly by King County on new sewer system connections and is intended to ensure that new customers pay the growth-related costs of expanding the wastewater system. The proposed updated methodology responds to a 2016 King County Auditor report that recommended simplification to the approach and improved transparency. The proposal was referred to RWQC as a mandatory dual referral and is expected to be voted on at the June 5 meeting. After that vote, it will advance to the King County Council for final approval.

- **Recommended that RWQC draft a letter to the King County Council regarding the proposed 2027 sewer rate and capacity charge, to be considered at the June 5 meeting.** Executive Zahilay proposed a rate increase of 12.75% for 2027. WTD provided information that they are considered "low" or "medium burden" depending on the affordability metrics used. RWQC members discussed affordability concerns and ongoing work to reduce future rate increases. Seattle Councilmember Lin discussed a letter from Seattle requesting a rate of 10.75% percent — 2% lower than the Executive proposed rate — to address affordability for ratepayers. The King County Council must adopt a wholesale sewer rate by June 30.
- **Heard about an updated timeline for the Regional Wastewater Services Plan (RWSP) and was briefed on the policy analysis on Asset Renewal and Replacement options.** RWQC members requested more comprehensive financial information, including who benefits and who contributes financially to the system, as well as the policy options to more fully understand the impacts of proposed policy options.

The next RWQC meeting is scheduled for June 3. Deputy Mayor Dave Hamilton serves on the RWQC representing the Sound Cities Association.

Affordable Housing Committee (AHC)

At its May 7 meeting, the AHC:

- **Received a briefing on committee membership.** There are two vacant seats for organizational (non-governmental) members. Committee members support the staff recommendation to seek members with expertise in revenue for affordable housing and serving extremely low-income households. Several members expressed interest in adding seats to allow for more viewpoints and areas of expertise.
- **Adopted a revised 2026 work plan and meeting schedule.** The meeting dates and work plan have shifted to accommodate the new quarterly schedule for 2026. Some work items have shifted to 2027, but no items have been dropped from the committee's work plan.
- **Discussed the Regional Affordable Housing Task Force (RAHTF) Action Plan Update.** County staff shared proposed principles to guide the RAHTF Action Plan update, including using a data informed approach, lessons learned from the past RAHTF process and focusing on extremely low-income households. There was general support for the principles. Committee members asked for clarity on AHC's role as the update process moves forward.

The next AHC meeting is scheduled for July 9. Councilmember Claire Sumadiwirya serves on the AHC representing the Sound Cities Association.

Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC)

At its May 27 meeting, the GMPC:

- **Heard a federal legislative update.** Puget Sound Regional Council staff provided an update on federal legislation, including reauthorization of Surface Transportation funding, and work to reconcile the House and Senate version on a housing bill. See *the Federal Report in the IA packet for more information.*
- **Heard a state legislative update.** Washington State Department of Commerce staff provided a recap of the 2026 state legislative session with a focus on new state law and funding that impacts long range land use and transportation planning.
- **Supported approval of a revised 2026 work plan.** The revised 2026 work plan was supported by all in attendance but could not be acted upon for lack of quorum. The revised work plan reflects the new meeting schedule — four meetings in 2026 — and defers climate work, tribal coordination and a VISION 2050 check-in to 2027.
- **Heard an update on housing monitoring.** Affordable Housing Committee (AHC) staff provided an overview of housing monitoring work completed and work forthcoming. Bellevue and ARCH provide data annually to participate in the monitoring efforts and meet county requirements.
- **Heard an update from the AHC.** AHC staff provided a recap for the May committee meeting. See *AHC recap on the previous page for more information.*

The next GMPC meeting is scheduled for June 24. Councilmember Jared Nieuwenhuis serves on the GMPC representing Bellevue.