



DATE: March 18, 2024

SUBJECT: February 2024 King County Regional Committees Update

Regional Transit Committee (RTC)

At its February 21 meeting, the RTC:

- **Elected Covington Councilmember Joeseeph Ciamomo as RTC vice chair for 2024.** County Councilmember Teresa Mosqueda will serve as chair. During the Sound Cities Association caucus meeting, Bellevue Councilmember Janice Zahn was elected vice chair of the caucus.
- **Discussed the 2024 RTC work plan.** RTC's anticipated 2024 action items include making a recommendation related to the RapidRide Prioritization Plan, which will be used to select the next candidate RapidRide lines for implementation. The RapidRide K Line, connecting Eastgate, downtown Bellevue and the Totem Lake Transit Center, is in the design phase and is not subject to the Prioritization Plan. RTC members suggested adding informational reports to the work plan, including an update on Metro's Safety, Security, and Fare Enforcement (SaFE) Reform Initiative.

The next RTC meeting is scheduled for March 20. Councilmember Janice Zahn serves on the RTC.

Regional Water Quality Committee (RWQC)

At its February 7 meeting, the RWQC:

- **Selected Councilmember Lee as RWQC vice chair for 2024.** County Councilmember Claudia Balducci will serve as chair.
- **Received an update on the long-term financial forecasting work requested in 2023.** Recommendations on long-term capital forecasting will be presented at the April RWQC meeting. This work will help inform long-term rate forecasting work.
- **Heard about the 2025 rate-setting policy direction and cost drivers.** Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) Director Kamuron Gurol shared that the main cost drivers for the rate proposals are asset management, regulatory requirements, and growth-related demands. The 2025 proposed rate includes moving contingency for specific projects into the forecast period, adds new operations and maintenance staff, addressing regulatory requirements, and increased labor and equipment costs. WTD will present and discuss the 2025 rate proposal at future RWQC meetings; the King County Council adopts the final annual rate proposal by July each year.

The RWQC met on March 6. A meeting summary will be included in the next Intergovernmental Affairs packet. The next RWQC meeting is scheduled for April 3. Councilmember Conrad Lee serves on the RWQC.



Affordable Housing Committee (AHC)

At its February 1 meeting, the AHC:

- **Provided input on potential amendments to the committee charter.** The AHC was briefed on committee feedback gathered at the January 19 charter amendment workshop. Committee staff will further refine the potential committee charter amendments based on member feedback and share them at a future meeting. Any charter amendments proposed by the AHC must be approved by the Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC).
- **Heard an update on the committee's 2024 state legislative priorities.** The AHC was briefed on the status of the committee's state legislative priorities, including additional funding for subsidized housing.
- **Heard a briefing on the housing-related comprehensive plan review program.** The AHC was briefed on a new housing-focused comprehensive plan review program, including review resources for local jurisdictions and timelines for upcoming review.

The AHC met on March 7. A meeting summary will be included in the next Intergovernmental Affairs packet. The next AHC meeting is scheduled for April 4. Mayor Lynne Robinson serves on the AHC.

Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC)

The GMPC did not meet in February.

The next GMPC meeting is scheduled for March 27. Councilmember Jared Nieuwenhuis represents Bellevue on the GMPC.