



DATE: November 7, 2022
TO: Mayor Robinson and City Councilmembers
FROM: Genesee Adkins, Chief of External Affairs
SUBJECT: King County Regional Committees Update

Regional Policy Committee (RPC)

At its October 12 meeting, the RPC:

- Received a briefing on the impact of professional sports in King County communities. Representatives from the Seattle Seahawks and Seattle Mariners provided information on jobs creation and other economic impacts. The Seahawks bring over 2 million visitors annually and over 1 million of those are from outside King County. The Seahawks estimate that visitors spend over \$60 million each year. Approximately 2,000 jobs are supported annually by the Seahawks, either directly or indirectly. The Mariners will bring an estimated 2.5 billion visitors this season. The Mariners employ more than 2,000 people.
- Received a briefing on the Tucson Crisis Stabilization Center. In August, a delegation of south King County elected officials traveled to Tucson to tour its Crisis Stabilization Center. It is a “no wrong door” place for people experiencing mental health crises. The Tucson Crisis Center is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It is a stabilization center that works with patients to create follow-up care plans and connects patients to services. Bellevue staff participated in a similar trip to Phoenix in May, with state legislators, County Councilmembers, and others. Participants toured the recovery response center and met with mobile outreach teams.
- Received a briefing on the Redmond THRIVE suite of behavioral health services. THRIVE includes programs such as a mental health professional who deploys alongside Redmond police, a homelessness response program that helps those who are unhoused and housing insecure, an alternative court for individuals who have committed low level offenses such as shoplifting, a Mobile Integrated Health program providing resources that reduce the need for calling 911, as well as funding support to local non-profit partners who provide a range of supportive services.

The next RPC meeting is scheduled for November 9. Councilmember John Stokes serves on the RPC.



Regional Transit Committee (RTC)

At its October 19 meeting, the RTC:

- **Received a briefing from King County Metro's General Manager Terry White.** Mr. White reviewed the County Executive's proposed 2023-2024 biennial budget related to transit service operations and capital projects.
- **Approved proposed legislation for a \$1.00 ORCA LIFT fare.** ORCA LIFT is a reduced fare transit program for people with incomes at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level. Passengers with an ORCA LIFT fare card receive a reduced fare on many transit services throughout the region. The legislation makes mobility more affordable for ORCA LIFT riders and align Metro's fares with other transit agencies for one year, from January 1, 2023 to January 1, 2024. The proposed ordinance was given a non-mandatory referral to the RTC.
- **Received a briefing on Metro's performance measurement dashboard.** Metro's Strategic Plan for Public Transportation, 2021-2031 (Strategic Plan) outlines goals, strategies to achieve those goals, and measures that Metro uses to determine if they are successful. Previously, performance was tracked through a biennial Strategic Plan Progress Report, which Metro was required to transmit for review by the RTC and Council. The updated Strategic Plan, however, requires that performance measures be tracked through an online dashboard.

The next RTC meeting is scheduled for November 16 Bellevue City Councilmember Jennifer Robertson serves on the RTC.

Regional Water Quality Committee (RWQC)

The October, November and December RWQC meetings are canceled.

The next RWQC meeting is scheduled for January 4, 2023. Councilmember Conrad Lee serves on the RWQC.

Affordable Housing Committee (AHC)

At its September 29 meeting, the AHC:

- Received a briefing on the Community Partners Table's (CPT) reflections on development of affordable housing targets and engagement around this topic. The CPT is an advisory group of stakeholders with lived experience of underrepresented communities, including people with low incomes and Black, Indigenous, and People of



Color (BIPOC). The CPT analyzes Affordable Housing Committee (AHC or Committee) recommendations to address the housing crisis.

- Deferred action on a methodology for establishing jurisdictional affordable housing targets as required by GMPC Motion 21-1. The three options for establishing jurisdictional affordable housing needs include:
 - Option 1. Focus on new growth: Same shares of new housing growth are affordable in every jurisdiction
 - Option 2. Focus on 2044: Same shares of total housing stock in 2044 are affordable in every jurisdiction
 - Option 3: Focus on new growth (Option 1) adjusted for local factors: Same shares of new housing growth are affordable in every jurisdiction and adjusts outputs within each income band by the following factors:
 - Percent share of housing that's currently affordable at 0-80 percent AMI
 - Percent share of housing that's currently income restricted at 0-80 percent AMI
 - Subregional ratio of low-wage jobs to low-wage workers

Committee members raised several questions with the proposed methodology. Members did not reach consensus on a preferred option, opting to allow jurisdictions a question-and-answer period about options and to delay selection of a preferred option to November 3. The Chair directed AHC staff to draft CPP materials using Option 3 in the meantime.

- Took action on providing direction to establish Special Housing Needs. The Committee was briefed on method and process for establishing jurisdictional permanent supportive housing and emergency housing/shelter needs, and provided direction to the King County Regional Homelessness Authority (KCRHA) to project emergency housing/shelter needs and also confirmed the overall revised project schedule.
- Provided direction on responding to 2021 Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC) Member Amendments. The Committee was briefed on a recommended approach for responding to 2021 GMPC member amendments and confirmed the approach and proposed schedule.
- Received a briefing on the draft 2023 legislative priorities. The AHC committed to develop and adopt 2023 state legislative priorities this year as part of its 2022 work plan. In consultation with the Housing Interjurisdictional Team (HIJT), AHC staff drafted priorities to guide the development of priorities that:
 - advance the AHC's Shared Revenue Principles;
 - support implementation of 2022 AHC State Legislative Priorities;



- resurface 2022 AHC priorities that did not pass last legislative session;
- remove references to specific bills that didn't pass due to a new biennium; and
- increase housing stability focus to address concerns about rising rents and other tenant issues.

AHC members can submit proposed amendments and/or other housing-related legislative agendas they would like shared with the Committee for awareness and possible alignment to AHC staff, by October 20 for consideration at the November 3 AHC meeting.

The next AHC meeting is scheduled for September 29. Mayor Lynne Robinson serves on the AHC.

Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC)

At its September 28 meeting, the GMPC:

- Received a briefing on the King County greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions 2019 reporting and inventory. This provided broad regional information on GHG emissions progress but did not further provide information on Bellevue's emissions since the city already completed its own 2019 inventory.
- Received a briefing on the HB 1220 racially disparate impacts analysis and guidance from Commerce. This described the timing and scope of the guidance to be released.
- Concurred with the following proposed Affordable Housing Committee (AHC) member appointments:
 - Russell Joe, Master Builders Association of King and Snohomish Counties
 - Ryan Makinster, Washington Multi-Family Housing Association
 - Maiko Winkler-Chin (on behalf of Mayor Harrell), City of Seattle, Office of Housing
- Received a briefing on the AHC schedule, process, and status on allocating countywide housing needs to the various jurisdictions. Three options, as described under the AHC topic above, were described. While AHC was scheduled to vote on a method for allocating housing needs the following day, several GMPC members including Bellevue's representative voiced questions about the proposed options. It was noted that AHC may require additional discussion and may recommend an option with caveats or proposed changes.

The next GMPC meeting is scheduled for November 30th. Deputy Mayor Jared Nieuwenhuis serves on the GMPC.

**King County Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C) Elected Official Work Session**

At its October 13 meeting, the K4C:

- Received a briefing from Matt Kuharic, King County Senior Climate Program Manager, on the Puget Sound Regional Emissions Analysis project for information purposes. This project involved an update to the King County greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventory for 2019, along with updated GHG inventories for K4C cities. Bellevue already completed its 2019 GHG inventory, however staff will utilize the updated wedge analysis tool for analyzing emissions reductions.
- Received a briefing and discussed approaches for using data and tools in climate action planning from Councilmember Tracy Furutani from the City of Lake Forest Park and Councilmember Sarah Moore from the City of Burien.
- Received a briefing on the 2023 K4C State Climate Legislative Interests, presented by Jenny Lybeck, Environmental Sustainability Program Manager from the City of Redmond. The 2023 K4C Legislative Interests build upon previous K4C interest statements and reflect the recent passage of state legislation and include statements supporting the equitable implementation of the Climate Commitment Act, Clean Energy Transformation Act and other climate and energy state policies. Staff will review the 2023 K4C State Climate Legislative Interests and recommend any appropriate updates to Bellevue's Legislative Interests.

The next K4C meeting is scheduled for the spring of 2023. Councilmember Janice Zahn serves on the K4C.