



City of Bellevue

City Manager's Office

DATE: April 14, 2026

SUBJECT: King County Regional Committees Update, March 2026

Regional Policy Committee (RPC)

The RPC did not meet in March. The next RPC meeting is scheduled for May 13. Councilmember Lynne Robinson serves on the RPC representing the Sound Cities Association.

Regional Transit Committee (RTC)

At its March 18 meeting, the RTC:

- **Adopted the 2026 RTC work plan.** In 2026, the RTC will receive briefings on Metro's three countywide policies and plans in preparation for updating the documentation in 2027 and 2028: *Strategic Plan for Public Transportation*, *King County Metro Service Guidelines*, and *Metro Connects Long-Range Plan*. The draft 2026 work plan also includes briefings, such as preparations for the 2026 FIFA World Cup events.
- **Received a briefing on Metro's Rider Dashboard**, showing a summary of route performance. The Dash focuses on ridership, on-time performance, crowding, and missed stops. This tool originated during the COVID-19 Pandemic at RTC's request. The Dash has become a permanent transparency and accountability tool for the public.
- **Received a briefing on the King County Transportation District (KCTD)**, King County's transportation benefit district. Established in 2014, the KCTD covers all of King County and is governed by a Board of Supervisors comprised of the nine King County Councilmembers. Thus far, the KCTD has not been funded. In February, King County Councilmember Sarah Perry proposed a 0.1% councilmanic sales tax increase to fund King County Roads. County staff estimate that a 0.1% sales tax would generate roughly \$101.4 million per year. At the March 18 Sound Cities Association (SCA) Board meeting, the Board adopted a position on the sales tax proposal. The position states that 25% of the councilmanic sales tax revenues should be provided as pass-through funding to cities which could help support local transportation priorities such as maintenance, safety improvements, and mobility projects. The position also calls for cities to be involved in the decision-making process for allocating funds generated by a KCTD sales tax.

The next RTC meeting is scheduled for April 21; it is a joint meeting with the King County Transportation, Economy, and Environment (TREE) Committee. Councilmember Vishal Bhargava serves on the RTC representing the Sound Cities Association.

Regional Water Quality Committee (RWQC)

At its March 4 meeting, the RWQC:

- **Received an update on the King County Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) Work Plan to Continue to Improve Engagement, Transparency, and Accountability.** WTD will have a third-party consultant conduct a review of their capital program, especially large "mega-projects." Members of the Metropolitan Water Pollution Abatement Advisory Committee (MWPAAC) will participate in the interview process. WTD also shared updates on ongoing work with contract agencies to partner on public messaging around rates.
- **Discussed initial policy options related to separated system conveyance as part of the Regional Wastewater Services Plan (RWSP) update.** WTD presented and solicited feedback from members on policy options to address infiltration and inflow (I/I), population growth, and onsite septic conversion. Financial information for these policy options will be shared later in 2026.
- **Received a briefing on the King County Wastewater Treatment Division's (WTD's) recommended 2027 sewer rate.** WTD recommends a 2027 sewer rate increase of 12.75%, increasing WTD's monthly sewer rate to \$70.65. This rate would allow WTD to "meet regulatory deadlines, proactively replace some of the most critical assets prior to failure, and avoid building moratoria driven by insufficient capacity." Near term costs are largely driven by regulatory requirements, including the combined sewer overflow (CSO) consent decree. The Sound Cities Association Public Issues Committee discussed a draft letter to the King County Council regarding the rate at their April 8 meeting. WTD will present to the Bellevue City Council on May 12.

The next RWQC meeting is scheduled for May 6. Deputy Mayor Hamilton serves on the RWQC representing the Sound Cities Association.

Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC)

The GMPC did not meet in March. The next GMPC meeting is scheduled for April 30. Councilmember Jared Nieuwenhuis represents Bellevue on the GMPC.

Affordable Housing Committee (AHC)

The AHC did not meet in March. The next AHC meeting is scheduled for May 7. Councilmember Claire Sumadiwiryra serves on the AHC representing the Sound Cities Association.