



**DATE:** May 12, 2026

**SUBJECT:** King County Regional Committees Update, April 2026

### **Regional Policy Committee (RPC)**

The RPC did not meet in April. 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 April 21 joint meeting with the King County Transportation, Economy and Environment (TrEE) Committee, the RTC:

- **Received a briefing on transportation planning for the World Cup.** Seattle will host six FIFA World Cup matches this summer between June 15 and July 6 at Seattle Stadium (Lumen Field), as well as nine events at Seattle Center. The FIFA Seattle Organizing Committee (Seattle FWC) has been coordinating with Metro, Sound Transit and local jurisdictions to coordinate transit and transportation planning for the FIFA events. Seattle FWC is expecting every match to be at full capacity, with approximately 63,000 people attending, including foreign dignitaries. Enhanced security protocols will be in effect. Attendees are encouraged to use transit to travel to the games and to fan celebration locations.

The RTC will 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 April 1 meeting, the RWQC:

- **Discussed policy options related to source control and legacy pollution as part of the Regional Wastewater Services Plan (RWSP) update.** Committee members requested additional information on relative costs and possible outcomes of the policy options.
- **Received a briefing on the Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) recommended 2027 sewer rate and capacity charge.** WTD recommended a rate increase of 12.75% for 2027, which would bring WTD portion of the monthly rate to \$70.65. Committee members expressed concern about ratepayers' ability to pay and requested more information be provided around all utility rate increases.
- **Heard about draft proposed changes to the capacity charge methodology.** This

proposal is in response to a 2016 King County Auditor's report recommending a more transparent model for developing the capacity charge. The proposal would align WTD's methodology with industry standards and align with Washington State RCW 35.58.570 principle of "equitable share."

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

### **Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC)**

The GMPC did not meet in April. The next GMPC meeting is scheduled for May 27. Councilmember Jared Nieuwenhuis represents Bellevue on the GMPC.

### **Affordable Housing Committee (AHC)**

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

### **Eastrail Regional Advisory Council (RAC)**

At its April 23 meeting, the RAC:

- **Approved a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to remove the Eastside Greenway Alliance (EGA) from RAC membership.** The EGA was formerly made up of several nonprofit organizations that united as the EGA to support development of Eastrail and engage private sector stakeholders. Since then, the roles of the EGA have been absorbed by other entities and it is no longer operating as a separate entity. The EGA sent a letter to King County asking to be removed from RAC membership. As a next step, each of the RAC members will be asked to sign the MOU.
- **Discussed the March 26 Eastrail Visioning Session.** Eastrail RAC members were invited to participate in a 2035 Eastrail Visioning exercise with the Eastrail Partners Board of Directors. Eastrail Partners staff will summarize the themes of the workshop into a Eastrail Vision 2035 document. Eastrail Partners expects to solicit stakeholder and community feedback on the draft in June. In July, Eastrail Partners plans to present a revised version to the RAC, with the document adoption scheduled for October. Eastrail Partners staff intend this to be a living document that is updated at regular intervals, such as every two years.
- **Received a briefing on Sound Transit's Enterprise Initiative.** Sound Transit is facing an estimated \$35 billion funding gap driven by lower-than-expected revenues, rising construction costs, and continued uncertainty related to tariffs and federal funding commitments. In response, the Enterprise Initiative is a process to update the Sound Transit 3 (ST3) plan and the agency's long-range financial plan. By May, the Sound Transit Board anticipates making decisions on potential cost-containment strategies, including project delays, scope reductions, and other adjustments. The 2 Line and

Stride bus rapid transit program projects are not impacted by the Enterprise Initiative, although the Board could change their operating characteristics like frequency, hours of service, etc. The South Kirkland to Issaquah Link project — also known as the future 4 Line — is vulnerable to delays and scope reductions under the Enterprise Initiative.

- **Discussed 2027-2028 service agreements with Eastrail Partners.** RAC members reviewed a draft scope for the funding agreements, which includes coalition building for trail funding. Trail activation and engagement, and shared communications. Feedback from the RAC was positive. RAC member staff will work with Eastrail Partners to develop the funding agreements.
- **Received a briefing on upcoming RAC co-chair elections.** The current co-chair terms end in October. King County staff requested that any members interested in serving as co-chair for the November 2026 – October 2028 term notify the Co-Chairs before or at the July 31 RAC meeting. Per the adopted MOU between RAC members, one co-chair must be a member of the King County Council and the other co-chair must be an Eastrail owner jurisdiction. Bellevue councilmembers are therefore ineligible to serve as Co-chair.

The next RAC meeting is scheduled for July 31. Councilmember Claire Sumadiwirya represents Bellevue on the RAC.