

**COUNCIL SUMMARY BACKGROUND BRIEFING:
KING COUNTY REGIONAL COMMITTEES AND OTHER ISSUES**
January 25, 2016

This briefing summarizes recent actions taken by the three regional committees formed as a result of the merger of King County and Metro. The three regional committees are the Regional Policy Committee, the Regional Water Quality Committee, and the Regional Transit Committee. We will also include updates on other regional issues (e.g., King County Flood Control District, King Conservation District) as appropriate. This is intended as a summary briefing; staff can provide more details on any of the items below.

REGIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE (RPC)

January 13 meeting summary:

- **Update on Improving Equity in the Juvenile Justice System.** The Committee received a progress report as follow up to the April 2015 briefing by Superior Court Presiding Judge Susan Craighead regarding goals and proposed use of alternatives to detention for youth as outlined in the “Race and Social Justice Action Plan – Interim Report”. The Plan includes a number of commitments to consult with the broader community to implement a broader array of solutions aimed to reduce and eliminate disproportionality.
- **Status Report on the Puget Sound Emergency Radio Network (PSERN).** In April 2015, King County voters approved a nine-year, \$273 million property tax levy to fund PSERN, the replacement of the King County emergency radio communications system. Under the terms of the PSERN Interlocal Agreement (ILA), King County is responsible for leading and implementing the PSERN project on behalf of the four owners of the current emergency radio network through completion of the project. Oversight during the implementation period, which is expected to take approximately five years, will be conducted by a Joint Board, composed of one non-voting chair (the County Executive or his designee) and four voting representatives, one representing each of the current system’s owners. The four voting members of the Joint Board may appoint two additional non-voting participants: a chief of a police agency and a chief of a fire agency. The briefing also included 13 major milestones identified in the report transmitted by the County Executive in September that remain to be completed during the PSERN implementation process, along with their expected date of completion. Future meetings of the RPC will include additional information on implementation activities and issues.

The next meeting of the RPC is scheduled for Wednesday, February 10.

REGIONAL TRANSIT COMMITTEE (RTC)

February 20 meeting agenda:

The Regional Transit Committee will meet on January 20, which is after the time of this writing. A summary of the agenda is provided below, and a summary of the meeting will be included in the February regional issues packet.

At the January 20 meeting, the RTC is expected to:

- Elect a 2016 vice-chair;
- Review the 2016 RTC work program;
- Consider an ordinance to adopt updates to the Strategic Plan for Public Transportation 2011-2021 and King County Metro Service Guidelines; and
- Discuss, and potentially take action on, a motion relating to the King County Metro Transit Strategic Plan for Public Transportation 2011-2021, and King County Metro Transit Service Guidelines and accepting the King County Metro Transit 2015 Service Guidelines Report.

The next meeting of the RTC is scheduled for Wednesday, February 17.

REGIONAL WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE (RWQC)

The RWQC did not meet in January.

December 2 meeting summary:

- **Capital Cost Estimating – Status Update.** In response to an audit report by the County Auditor noting the need for strengthening cost estimating processes in planning level cost estimates for wastewater capital projects, the County Council included a proviso in the 2015-2016 budget to address planning level cost estimating. The proviso required the establishment of a technical working group to make recommendations regarding: (1) the processes to establish and update planning level cost estimates from the time of preliminary design to thirty percent design, and (2) the processes to reconsider projects as they move from project identification to thirty percent design. This agenda item was an update on the project status. The technical working group includes two Metropolitan Water Pollution Abatement Advisory Committee (MWPAAC) representatives, including one from Bellevue, Andrew Lee, Utilities Deputy Director. The group had its first meeting last November. It is expected that the group will finalize technical recommendations by November, 2016.
- **City of Seattle and King County Coordination Efforts – Ship Canal Water Quality Project.** This item was a briefing on an anticipated agreement proposal for a joint project to control Combined Sewer Overflows (CSO) on the Ship Canal in north Seattle. Two County CSO's identified for control in the Combined Sewer Overflow Control Plan (Plan) are located along the Ship Canal and near four City of Seattle owned CSO outfalls. The Plan anticipates potential Seattle/King County joint projects to address CSOs where appropriate. The project includes a 14,000 foot (approximately 2.7 mile) storage tunnel along the north side of the ship canal to receive and hold excess wastewater and stormwater during storm events and to divert flows from the two County outfalls and four City outfalls. Seattle will be the lead agency for design, construction and operation of the facility. The details of cost sharing, operational concerns, liability and similar matters were not available at the meeting but will be shared with the MWPAAC when available.
- **Regional Wastewater Services Plan Policy Review.** The MWPAAC has been participating in the review of the Regional Wastewater Services Plan policies through a Task Force established by MWPAAC. This briefing was an update on the progress of the review. In addition to MWPAAC's

review, the policies still need to be reviewed by the County's Wastewater Treatment Division and the King County Executive. The Chair of RWQC raised questions regarding the timing of completion of the work, stating that he thought the Executive's review should have already been completed. Additional discussions need to occur among the WTD staff, the Executive's office and the County Council staff regarding timing. Bellevue staff has been monitoring and participating in the MWPAAC review, especially as the policies relate to the current discussions regarding a potential new contract. For example, MWPAAC is not proposing any changes to the financial policies regarding the wastewater capacity charge due to the ongoing discussions at the contract subcommittee.

The next meeting of the RWQC is scheduled for Wednesday, February 3.