

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP ON KING COUNTY, REGIONAL & STATEWIDE BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

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INTRODUCTION

Seattle City Councilmembers participate in boards and committees convened by other governing bodies with participation by members from other jurisdictions. This includes King County committees, regional committee and statewide associations. In addition to providing policy direction, a number of these boards and committees make decisions on the distribution of funding.

On a biennial basis, the Council adopts a resolution assigning members to non-City boards and committees.¹ As needed, Central Staff is assigned to provide support through the Council's annual work program. This topic paper provides a brief description of the boards and committees that Councilmembers served on in the 2014-2015 term – falling into the following four categories:

- | | |
|---|------|
| A. King County Boards and Committees | p.11 |
| B. Puget Sound Regional Council Boards and Committees | p.14 |
| C. Other Regional Boards and Committees | p.16 |
| D. The Association of Washington Cities | p.18 |

A. KING COUNTY BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Counties maintain public records, provide court services, build roads, assess property taxes, collect taxes, and conduct elections. State law relating to counties is generally outlined under [Title 36 of the Revised Code of Washington \(RCW\)](#). In addition to providing services to unincorporated areas, county governments also convene boards and committees to set policy and provide guidance on regional issues.

Councilmembers currently serve on eight King County (KC) boards and committees, as described in Table 1.

Table 1: King County-convened Committees

Committee	Description
King County (KC) Regional Policy Committee	The Regional Policy Committee reviews and recommends regional policies and plans, excepting transit and water quality plans. Issues considered include health and human services (not covered by the Board of Health), open space, housing, solid waste management, economic development, criminal justice, jails and district court services, and the siting of regional facilities. This committee also considers regional governance

¹ Board and committee assignments were last updated in 2014 by [Resolution 31498](#).

Table 1: King County-convened Committees

Committee	Description
	<p>transition and consolidation, particularly those involving potential changes in organization and responsibilities with other county, city or regional organizations. Recently, this committee has discussed the proposed replacement of the KC Juvenile Detention facility and County goals for alternatives to detention for youth, as outlined in the recently released "Race and Social Justice Action Plan - Interim Report."</p> <p>Three Councilmembers and one alternate serve on this committee. <i>For more information see:</i> http://www.kingcounty.gov/council/committees/regional_policy.aspx</p>
<p>KC Regional Transit Committee</p>	<p>The Regional Transit Committee reviews and makes recommendations to KC Council on countywide policies for public transportation services operated by the County. The committee’s responsibilities in the Strategic Plan for Public Transportation, establishes guidelines for allocation of transit service throughout the county. Recently this committee has focused discussions on the Metro Transit Long Range Plan update process. The plan will lay out a system of public transportation options that are financially responsible, meet regional transportation goals in Puget Sound Regional Council’s <i>Transportation 2040</i> and <i>Vision 2040</i> plans, and reflect values of the local communities that Metro serves.</p> <p>Two Councilmembers and one alternate serve on this committee. <i>For more information see:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.kingcounty.gov/council/committees/regional_transit.aspx • <i>See also: Transit Service in Seattle Topic Paper</i>
<p>KC Regional Water Quality Committee</p>	<p>The Regional Water Quality Committee develops, reviews, and recommends countywide policies and plans addressing wastewater treatment and sewer service, long range capital facilities plans, rate policies and facilities siting. Additionally, the committee provides a forum for discussion and examination of broader issues of water quality, including pollution sources, surface and stormwater control, water supply and regulatory issues. Recently, this committee has been briefed on asset management as it applies to the County’s Wastewater Treatment Division’s physical assets used to deliver wastewater collection and processing services. A key policy issue is finding ways to maintain and pay for the desired level-of-service as demand for services increase.</p> <p>Two Councilmembers and one alternate serve on this committee. <i>For more information see:</i> www.kingcounty.gov/council/committees/regional_water_quality.aspx</p>
<p>Board of Health – Seattle KC</p>	<p>The Board of Health sets county-wide policies and regulations to protect and promote the health of KC residents. The Board has enacted several measures, including banning trans fats in restaurants, regulating e-cigarettes and requiring the use of bicycle helmets.</p> <p>Three Councilmembers and one alternate serve on this committee. <i>For more information see:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health/BOH.aspx • <i>See also: Health and Human Services Topic Paper</i>
<p>KC Committee to End Homelessness Governing Board</p>	<p>The Committee to End Homelessness (CEH) is a coalition of government, business, faith communities, nonprofits and homeless advocates working together to implement the Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness in King County. The Governing Board provides oversight to the CEH and shapes and sustains the vision and implementation of the plan. Recently, the</p>

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Committee	Description
	<p>committee discussed the draft strategic plan and methods to include metrics that measure how system-level changes make an impact.</p> <p>One Councilmember and one alternate, and the Mayor, serve on this committee. <i>For more information see:</i> http://www.cehkc.org/committees/committeeGB.aspx</p>
<p>Growth Management Planning Council and Executive Committee of KC</p>	<p>The Growth Management Act (GMA), passed by the State Legislature in 1990, requires that counties and cities develop a collaborative set of framework policies to guide development of each jurisdiction's comprehensive plan. The Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC) develops and adopts the Countywide Planning Policies, providing a countywide vision and framework for each jurisdiction to develop its own comprehensive plan.</p> <p>The executive committee of the GMPC meets on an as needed basis to coordinate the GMPC's work program. Recently, the GMPC considered adding new policies to the Countywide Planning Policies to commit jurisdictions within KC to work together to identify future school sites within the urban growth area.</p> <p>Two Councilmember and one alternate, and the Mayor, serve on the GMPC. One Councilmember plus an alternate, and the Mayor, serve on executive committee. <i>For more information see:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.kingcounty.gov/property/permits/codes/growth.aspx • http://www.kingcounty.gov/property/permits/codes/growth/GMPC.aspx
<p>KC Flood Control District Advisory Committee</p>	<p>The KC Flood Control District (FCD) is a special purpose government² created to provide funding and policy oversight for county flood protection projects and programs. KC Council functions as the FCD's Board of Supervisors. The FCD Advisory Committee is charged with providing the FCD Board of Supervisors with expert policy advice on regional flood protection issues, including annual recommendations on the District's work program and budget. In 2014, the FCD reimbursed the City for \$17 million in engineering design expenditures related to the replacement of the Alaskan Way Seawall.</p> <p>One Councilmember and the Mayor serve on this committee. <i>For more information see:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.kingcountyfloodcontrol.org/default.aspx?ID=56 • http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/waterandland/flooding/flood-control-zone-district.aspx

² In Washington, special purpose districts are limited purpose local governments separate from a city, town, or county government. Generally they perform a single function. They provide an array of services and facilities including electricity, fire protection, flood control, health, housing, irrigation, parks and recreation, library, water-sewer service and, more recently, stadiums, convention centers and entertainment facilities that are not otherwise available from city or county governments ([MSRC](#), *Special Purpose Districts in Washington*)

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Committee	Description
SeaShore Transportation Forum	<p>Convened by KC, the SeaShore Transportation Forum serves as an interjurisdictional forum for information-sharing, advocacy and coordination to resolve transportation issues, and to establish priorities for implementing integrated multi-modal transportation projects and programs consistent with the goals of the GMA. Formed in 1993 in response to the KC Metro Transit Long Range Policy Framework Plan, the forum expanded its membership and focus to address cross-county issues in 2001.</p> <p>One Councilmember serves on this committee. <i>For more information see:</i> http://www.kingcounty.gov/transportation/kcdot/PlanningAndPolicy/RegionalTransportationPlanning/Transportation%20Boards/SeaShore_Transportation_Forum.aspx</p>

B. PUGET SOUND REGIONAL COUNCIL ³

The Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) is the regional planning agency for the central Puget Sound region. The PSRC is an association of central Puget Sound counties (King, Pierce, Snohomish, and Kitsap), cities and towns, ports, tribes, transit agencies and the state that serves as a forum for developing policies and making decisions about regional growth management, environmental, economic and transportation issues. The PSRC is also designated under federal law as the Metropolitan Planning Organization⁴ (MPO) and under state law as the Regional Transportation Planning Organization⁵ (RTPO) for King, Kitsap, Pierce and Snohomish counties.

The PSRC selects projects to receive funding from the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration and serves as the pass-through agency for distributing federal funding to local jurisdictions. By federal law, these funds must be approved by the PSRC. Any funding the City receives through these federal programs is via the PSRC process. The criteria used to select projects are based on regional transportation, economic and land use policies adopted by the region’s elected leadership.

The PSRC works with local government, business and citizens to build a vision for the region’s future, expressed through three connected major planning activities: (1) [VISION 2040](#), the region’s growth strategy; (2) [Transportation 2040](#), the region’s long-range transportation plan;

³See PSRC website for more information: <http://www.psrc.org/>

⁴ A MPO is an organization of elected officials in urbanized regions with a population of 50,000 or more. MPOs provide a forum for local decision-making on transportation issues of a regional nature. As a condition for receipt of federal capital or operating assistance, MPOs must be established and have a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process (WSDOT, Metropolitan Transportation Planning: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/planning/metro>).

⁵ An RTPO is formed through a voluntary association of local governments within a county or contiguous counties. RTPOs were authorized as part of [Washington’s 1990 Growth Management Act](#) to ensure local and regional coordination of transportation plans. MPOs and RTPOs serve the same basic transportation planning functions. It develops a long-range plan, coordinate within a region and prepare a transportation improvement program. The federal MPO and state RTPO requirements of these organizations are complementary (WSDOT, Regional Transportation Planning: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/planning/Regional/>)

and (3) the [Regional Economic Strategy](#), the region’s blueprint for long-term prosperity. The PSRC does not duplicate planning efforts carried out by county or local governments, but complements their activities.

The PSRC’s primary decision-making body is the *General Assembly*, which is composed of elected officials from all member jurisdictions — county executives and commissioners, mayors and city and county councilmembers. Seattle Councilmembers currently serve on six County Boards and Committees, as described in Table 2.

Table 2: PSRC-convened Committees

Committee	Description
Executive Board	<p>To oversee routine functions, the PSRC Executive Board meets on a monthly basis. The Executive Board directs the affairs of the PSRC between the annual meetings of the General Assembly and appoints and removes the Executive Director.</p> <p>Three Councilmembers plus one alternate, and the Mayor, serve on this committee. <i>For more information see:</i> http://www.psrc.org/about/boards/exec/</p>
Growth Management Policy Board	<p>The Growth Management Policy Board advises the Executive Board of the PSRC on regional aspects of growth management, reviews local plans and countywide planning policies, and makes recommendations to the Executive Board regarding compatibility with the GMA and consistent with the adopted regional growth and transportation strategies.</p> <p>Two Councilmembers plus one alternate serve on this committee. <i>For more information see:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.psrc.org/about/boards/gmpb • <i>See also: Growth Management Act topic paper</i>
Operations Committee	<p>The Operations Committee reviews and makes recommendations to the Executive Board on the PSRC’s budget and work program, personnel, contracts and other financial issues.</p> <p>One Councilmember serves on this committee. <i>For more information see:</i> http://www.psrc.org/about/boards/ops</p>
Transportation Policy Board	<p>The Transportation Policy Board advises the PSRC’s Executive Board on transportation issues and serves as the Regional Transportation Planning Organization. The South Park bridge is an example of a project that received an allocation of federal funds through PSRC. The new South Park Bridge opened on June 30, 2014, reestablishing an essential link across the Duwamish River for residents and businesses. PSRC contributed more than \$24 million to the new bridge, which connects two manufacturing and industrial centers with about 80,000 jobs.</p> <p>Two Councilmembers plus one alternate serve on this committee. <i>For more information see:</i> http://www.psrc.org/about/boards/tpb</p>
Economic Development District Board	<p>The regional Economic Development District (EDD) is the federally designated economic development district for the central Puget Sound region covering King, Kitsap, Pierce and Snohomish counties. The EDD, through a Memorandum of Agreement, consolidated staff services with the PSRC to increase efficiency and better integrate the EDD’s and PSRC’s work with regional growth management and</p>

Table 2: PSRC-convened Committees

Committee	Description
	<p>transportation planning. Recently, the EDD heard the results of the \$1.3 million i6 Green Challenge Grant, which was awarded to PSRC, the City of Seattle, Seattle 2030 District and other partners. The City partnered with the Seattle 2030 District to demonstrate that there is no need to invest in major retrofits, which disrupt tenants and business, to squeeze energy savings out of building systems.</p> <p>The two organizations retain separate boards to carry out federally mandated responsibilities. Seattle Councilmembers serve on both the EDD and PSRC boards. The EDD brings together public and private interests to coordinate economic development strategies, provide technical assistance and facilitate economic development funding. Its members include representatives from private business, local governments, tribes and trade organizations.</p> <p>One Councilmembers serves on this committee. <i>For more information see:</i> http://www.psrc.org/about/boards/edd</p>
Regional Food Policy Council	<p>The Regional Food Policy Council develops recommendations to promote health and sustain and strengthen the local and regional food system. The council is convened by the PSRC to provide guidance and structure for coordinating and developing strategies and recommendations on food policy. PSRC’s main focus areas include transportation, growth management and economic development. The council provides coordinated food system policy recommendations.</p> <p>One Councilmember serves on this committee. <i>For more information see:</i> http://www.psrc.org/about/advisory/regional-food-policy-council/</p>

C. OTHER REGIONAL BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Councilmembers currently serve on eight other regional boards and committees, described in Table 3. The authority and purpose for these boards and committees derive from a variety of sources.

Table 3: Other Regional Boards and Committees

Committee	Description
Advisory Council on Aging & Disability Services	<p>Aging & Disability Services (ADS) of Seattle and KC plans, coordinates and advocates for a comprehensive service delivery system for older adults, family caregivers and people with disabilities in KC. Establishment of an Advisory Council on Aging is mandated by the federal Older Americans Act of 1965.⁶ The King County and Seattle Advisory Council on ADS was established by an interlocal agreement between the City, KC, and United Way of KC to guide ADS in providing services for older people and people with disabilities.</p> <p>One Councilmember serves on this committee. <i>For more information see:</i> http://www.agingkingcounty.org/advisory-council/</p>

⁶ The Older Americans Act of 1965 established the US Administration on Aging and is considered the major vehicle for promoting the delivery of social services to the aging population. For more information, see: http://www.aoa.gov/AoA_Programs/OAA/index.aspx.

Table 3: Other Regional Boards and Committees

Committee	Description
Economic Development Council (formerly Enterprise Seattle)	<p>The Economic Development Council of Seattle and KC (EDC) is a public-private economic development partnership encompassing KC and its 39 cities. The EDC provides consulting services, free-of-charge, to individual businesses seeking to establish, expand or relocate to Seattle and KC. EDC’s mission is to expand and diversify the economy by retaining and recruiting jobs, promoting global competitiveness and growing strong and sustainable industry clusters.</p> <p>One Councilmember serves on this committee; the Mayor is a member of the executive committee. <i>For more information see: http://edc-seaking.org/</i></p>
Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion Policy Coordinating Group	<p>Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) is a pilot program to divert low-level drug and prostitution offenders into community-based treatment and support services instead of processing them through the traditional criminal justice system. Operating in Seattle’s Belltown neighborhood and Skyway area of unincorporated KC, the program was developed through collaboration between KC Prosecuting Attorney’s Office, Seattle City Attorney’s Office, Seattle Police Department, KC Sheriff’s Office, KC Executive, Mayor’s Office, State Department of Corrections, Defender Association, American Civil Liberties Union of Washington, and community members. It operates through private funding with a long term goal of finding permanent funding from public sources. Evergreen Treatment Services is contracted to deliver services to program participants.</p> <p>A Policy Coordinating Group reviews protocols, approves requests-for-proposals for service providers and evaluators, selects providers, reviews operational reports, publishes data, and provides policy guidance and administrative oversight.</p> <p>One Councilmember and the Mayor serve on this committee. <i>For more information see: http://leadkingcounty.org/</i></p>
Regional Law Safety & Justice Committee	<p>The KC Regional Law Safety & Justice Council (RLSJC) is a law and justice council that coordinates regional public safety initiatives. Every county with legislative authority is required to establish a local law and justice council under RCW 72.09.300. With membership from cities and towns in KC, in addition to the Washington State Department of Corrections, the council works to improve coordination and cooperation among criminal justice agencies. RLSJC meets monthly to share information, identify problems and solutions and monitor the progress of innovative programs.</p> <p>One Councilmember serves on this committee. <i>For more information see: http://www.kingcounty.gov/exec/PSB/RLSJC.aspx</i></p>
Trade Development Alliance	<p>The Trade Development Alliance (TDA) is a private, membership based organization that promotes and addresses international trade issues in the Greater Seattle region and educates the public on topics related to the international economy. As a regional partner, City Councilmembers serve on the TDA’s Board of Director’s.</p> <p>Two Councilmembers and one alternate serve on this committee. <i>For more information see: http://seattletradealliance.com/</i></p>

Table 3: Other Regional Boards and Committees

Committee	Description
Visit Seattle (formerly Seattle Convention and Visitors Bureau)	<p>Visit Seattle is a private, nonprofit tourism and marketing organization serving Seattle and KC as the official tourism marketing organization. As a partner organization, Seattle City Councilmembers serve on the advisory board.</p> <p>One Councilmember serves on this committee. <i>For more information see:</i> http://www.visitseattle.org/</p>
Water Resource Inventory Areas	<p>The State Department of Ecology in coordination with other state natural resources agencies have divided the state into 62 Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs) to delineate major watersheds.⁷ The three WRIA Forums in the Seattle region oversee implementation of WRIA-based Chinook salmon plans, including budget and policy decisions, as part of multi-stakeholder forums.</p> <p>One Councilmember serves on each WRIA. <i>For more information see:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WRIA 7: http://www.govlink.org/watersheds/7/ • WRIA 8: http://www.govlink.org/watersheds/8/ • WRIA 9: http://www.govlink.org/watersheds/9/
Sound Transit Board of Directors	<p>Sound Transit is a regional transit authority that plans, builds and operates light rail, commuter train services, and express buses that connect cities and towns with a regional transit network. Sound Transit is governed by an 18-member Board of Director’s made up of local elected officials and the Secretary of the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT). The Board establishes policies and gives direction and oversight.</p> <p>The Board includes 3 members from Snohomish County, 10 from KC, 4 from Pierce County and WSDOT Secretary. A Councilmember and the Mayor currently serve on the board. These positions are appointed by the KC Council rather than established by resolution that assigns Councilmembers to other county, regional and state boards and committees. <i>For more information see:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.soundtransit.org/About-Sound-Transit/Board-of-Directors • <i>See also: Transit Service in Seattle Topic Paper</i>

D. THE ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITIES

The Association of Washington Cities (AWC) is the only statewide forum on which Councilmembers serve. The AWC is a private, non-profit, non-partisan corporation that represents Washington's cities and towns before the state legislature, the state executive branch and regulatory agencies. The AWC currently has participation from 281 cities and towns. Their mission is to serve these members through advocacy, education and service.

The AWC is governed by a board that is responsible for providing continuing guidance and direction to the CEO and staff. Two Councilmembers serve on the board. *For more information see: <https://www.awcnet.org/>*

⁷ A watershed is a basin-shaped area that drains to a central point where it enters a river, lake or ocean. It can include groundwater and surface water as well as salt water like Puget Sound. Watersheds can encompass small areas draining to a stream and also be part of much larger areas, spanning multiple counties.