



**SCA Public Issues Committee Minutes**  
**March 9, 2011 – 7:00 PM Renton City Hall**  
**Adopted April 13, 2011**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Welcome, Roll Call and Introduction of Guests</b>            PIC Chair, Sonny Putter, called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. 24 cities were represented (Attachment 1 to these minutes). Guests included Diane Yates from King County Solid Waste Division, Kevin Kiernan from King County Solid Waste Division, Rob Gala from City of Seattle Office of Intergovernmental Relations, Bellevue Mayor Don Davidson, Joyce Nichols from the City of Bellevue, Maria Wood from King County Board of Health, Steve Tolzman from King County Wastewater Treatment Division, Mark Buscher from King County Wastewater Treatment Division.</li> </ul>
MSP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Approval of Minutes</b>            To approve the minutes of the February 9, 2011 meeting of the PIC.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Feedback on Metro Strategic Plan Study Session</b>            Sonny Putter introduced Victor Obeso, Service Development Manager and Jim Jacobson, Deputy General Manager from King County Metro prior to the meeting of the PIC. Victor and Jim gave a presentation and provided handouts that focused on the guidelines of the Metro Strategic Plan. A copy of the full strategic plan and service guidelines is available at <a href="http://metro.kingcounty.gov/planning">http://metro.kingcounty.gov/planning</a>. Don Gerend asked Jim Jacobson to include park-and-rides as a “household” when calculating walking distance from a bus stop to households and jobs within ¼ mile. Tola Marts offered a common concern of members that the plan is based on 2000 Census data and much has changed within suburban cities since 2000. Sonny thanked King County Metro staff for their presentation and encouraged members to invite Metro representatives to their individual City Council meetings to understand the plan as it would apply to specific cities.</li> </ul>
MSP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Action Items</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Binding Interest Arbitration</b>                To table the recommendation to the SCA Board of Directors that SCA support amendments to binding interest arbitration criteria that would enhance the qualifications for arbitrators hearing binding interest cases, require the arbitrator consider the employer’s financial ability to pay as the primary consideration in making an award, and expand the definition of comparables to include a variety of fiscal and regional characteristics, until the September, 2011 meeting of the PIC.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
MSP	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. <b>Level/Stable Pension Contribution Rates</b>            To recommend to the SCA Board of Directors that SCA support level/stable pension contribution rates that do not fluctuate with economic “boom/bust” cycles, taking into account unfunded actuarial accrued liability.</li> </ol>
MSP	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. <b>Reclaimed Water Comprehensive Plan – Strategies</b>            To recommend to the SCA Board of Directors that SCA support moving forward from Step 3 to Step 4 on the Reclaimed Water Comprehensive Plan and request inclusion of a cost-benefit analysis of the existing system.             Motion passed with 22 yes and 2 no votes.             The members expressed their concerns through a series of failed amendments.</li> </ol>
MSP	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. <b>Recommendations from PIC Nominating Committee</b>            Jim Haggerton thanked the PIC Nominating Committee members and encouraged members to consider applying for the King County Emergency Medical Services Advisory Task Force (EMS).</li> </ol>
MSP	<p>To recommend to the SCA Board of Directors that SCA appoint Gerald Robison, Councilmember, Burien, to the Joint Recommendations Committee (JRC).</p>
MSP	<p>To recommend to the SCA Board of Directors that SCA move Glenn Rogers to the alternate position on the Flood Control District Advisory Committee and to move Robert Lee from the alternate position to a member position on the Committee.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Presentations/Updates</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Metro Strategic Plan (RTC)</b>                Bob Sternoff gave an update on the work of the Regional Transit Committee (RTC). The caucus had discussed the overview of the Metro Strategic Plan on March 7 and is working to identify key policy and technical questions they need to evaluate and suggest edits to the plan. For example, these may include clarifying the definition of geographic value, scenarios for system growth and cuts, and the methodology for identifying activity centers to be served with transit.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

## **2. *Healthy Eating and Active Living, Healthy Communities (BoH)***

Dave Hutchinson reported on the Healthy Eating and Active Living subcommittee of the Board of Health (BoH). The purpose of this subcommittee is to recommend policies that address chronic diseases and health inequities, to build a healthier King County, extend healthy years lived, and reduce health care costs. At the March 17, 2011 meeting of the BoH, committee members will vote on the Planning for Healthy Community Guidelines produced by the Healthy Eating and Active Living Subcommittee that will inform land use and transportation planners of strategies to improve the health of residents and communities in King County. The intent is that these guidelines will advise and encourage planners and designers to take into consideration access to walking, bicycling, transit and other means of exercise in safe and inviting environments so that residents have multiple options of needed levels of daily physical activity. Members expressed concerns for “guidelines” becoming unfunded mandates.

## **3. *CPP Update (GMPC)***

Bob Sternoff gave an update on the work of the Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC) concerning the Countywide Planning Policies (CPP). At the February 23 meeting of the GMPC, staff presented the final two draft chapters for consideration. The GMPC caucus has not identified any additional policy position statements for PIC adoption related to the update. Staff to GMPC is preparing a public review draft that will be available in April and there will be a public hearing held at Renton City Hall on April 27 with opportunities for extended public comment.

## **4. *Rate Study (SWAC)***

Joan McGilton reported on the work of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) concerning the proposed rate plan for King County Solid Waste. In 2004, the Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee (MSWMAC) was formed to establish a partnership of participating cities, of which there are twenty-two. Currently, thirty-seven cities have signed an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with King County for solid waste services. The Metropolitan King County Council will adopt a one-year landfill disposal rate for 2011 and a multi-year rate in 2012 based on the ILA agreed to term of debt for required bonds. Typically, King County adopts a three-year rate increase. King County Solid Waste Division has proposed a one-year rate to take advantage of a favorable short-term bond market and to allow time for the cities and King County to reach an agreement on the future ILA discussions. The key issues that the SWAC is concerned with include: updating transfer stations built in the 1960s as the current system is not functioning efficiently; ensure continued regional service; increase operational efficiency; meet demand for recycling and household hazardous waste; increase capacity for solid waste; address closure plan for Algona and Houghton transfer stations; solid waste disposal system beyond 2028, and the governance and partnership between cities and King County. See Attachment 2 to these minutes.

## **5. *Solid Waste ILA (MSWMAC)***

Joan McGilton reported on the Solid Waste Interlocal Agreements (ILAs) and the work schedule of the Metropolitan Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee (MSWMAC). ILA member cities and King County review and implement the current ILA and plan future agreements including governance, capital facilities and financing. The system is financed through construction bonds that are repaid from disposal rate charges. King County Solid Waste Division is developing fact sheets to establish the background for the proposed rate increases. Kevin Kiernan clarified that ILAs do provide provisions every five years or sooner if both member cities and King County agree to revisit the agreement. He also added that the capital program established in 2006 is moving forward with direction from the MKCC for term agreements.

## **6. *Hotel/Motel/Restaurant/Car Rental Tax – HB 1997 (JRC)***

Michael Hubner reported on the work of the Joint Recommendations Committee (JRC). King County staff provided an informational handout on House Bill (HB) 1997, which summarized revenue sources of existing visitor taxes to support arts and cultural programs, expansion of the Washington State Convention Center, workforce housing, and community preservation and development programs. The SCA-JRC Caucus did not have a recommendation on this legislation. See Attachment 3 to these minutes.

Michael also gave an update on the Community Development Block Grant program (CBDG), concerning the decrease in funding for affordable housing and community development projects. The federal budget that was passed through the House of Representatives contained a cut to the CBDG funding of almost two-thirds. The JRC would like to freeze the funding at the 2010 level, as the monies for CBDG benefit cities broadly. An example letter that can be used as a model for cities to weigh in with their legislators is being drafted and will be sent to members shortly. Mia Gregerson suggested that cities encourage school boards to submit additional letters.

## **7. *Recommendations for protection, restoration, and reduction of pollution categories (SCAACG)***

Joan McGilton gave a report on the South Central Action Area Caucus Group (SCAACG) and its work plan. Eleven items identify priority actions that will be reviewed and discussed by the SCAACG. The goal of the SCAACG is to advance local priorities for Action Area implementation and support continued integration of local Puget Sound recovery efforts. The four regional priorities include protect and restore ecosystem priorities and functions, prevent water pollution at its source and work together effectively. Current briefs in development are working with local governments to develop and

	implement comprehensive plan policies and development regulations that advance Action Agenda Implementation Vision 2040 and implement habitat protection and restoration recommendations from approved salmon recovery watershed plans.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b><u>For the Good of the Order</u></b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Shawn McEvoy gave an update on George Hadley’s condition. George has resigned from the Normandy Park City Council.</li> <li>2. Don Gerend encouraged elected officials to stress concern with senators regarding HB 1702. The deferral of impact fees was intended to be a temporary program not a mandate for all cities.</li> <li>3. Pete Lewis gave an update on the Regional Policy Committee (RPC), its work plan and the Human Services and Veterans Levy. The SCA-RPC Caucus will be discussing a potential change in format on how the oversight boards operate and providing recommendations to the PIC.</li> <li>4. Amy Ockerlander added to Don Gerend’s comment that there was a floor amendment passed by the House of Representatives on HB 1702. Amy emphasized that the cities and counties should remain in control of impact fees and not be bound by a mandate.</li> <li>5. Dave Hill announced that Glenn Wilson, previous Mayor of Algona, recently passed away.</li> <li>6. Layne Barnes gave an update on the Maple Valley Donut Hole issue. The potential purchaser of the land, Yarrow Bay, has withdrawn its offer and the impasse of the interlocal agreement has ceased. Maple Valley and King County are discussing this issue.</li> <li>7. SCA Networking Dinner – March 23, 2011 at 5:30 PM with US Congressman Jay Inslee</li> <li>8. April 13, 2011 PIC Meeting – 7:00 PM Small Cities Subcommittee – 6:00 PM</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b><u>Adjourn</u></b> Meeting was adjourned at 8:56 PM.</li> </ul>

AFIS – Automated Fingerprint Identification System  
 BoH – Board of Health  
 RTC – Regional Transit Committee  
 CEH – Committee to End Homelessness in King County  
 CPPs – Countywide Planning Policies  
 EDDBD – PSRC’s Economic Development District Board  
 ETP – Eastside Transportation Partnership  
 GMA – Growth Management Act  
 GMPB – PSRC’s Growth Management Policy Board  
 GMPC – Growth Management Planning Council  
 KCD – King Conservation District  
 KCPEC – King County Project Evaluation Committee  
 FCDAC – Flood Control District Advisory Committee  
 LEOFF 1 – Law Enforcement Officers and Fire Fighters Disability Board  
 LHWMP – Local Hazardous Waste Management Program  
 MIDD – Mental Illness and Drug Dependency Plan  
 MKCC – Metropolitan King County Council  
 MPP – Multi-county Planning Policies  
 MSWMAC – Metropolitan SW Management Advisory Committee  
 MVET – Motor Vehicles Excise Tax

PAA – Potential Annexation Area  
 PIC – Public Issues Committee  
 PSRC – Puget Sound Regional Council  
 REET – Real Estate Excise Tax  
 REPC – Radio Executive Policy Committee  
 RPEC – PSRC Regional Project Evaluation Committee  
 RLSJ – Regional Law Safety and Justice Committee  
 RTTF – Regional Transit Task Force  
 RWQC – Regional Water Quality Committee  
 SCA – Suburban Cities Association  
 SCATBd – South County Area Transportation Board  
 SeaShore – Seashore Transportation Forum  
 SWAC – Solid Waste Advisory Committee  
 TPB – PSRC’s Transportation Policy Board  
 UGA – Urban Growth Area  
 WRIA – Water Resource Inventory Area (often called Watershed Resource Inventory Area and/or WIRA)

## 2011 Roll Call –Public Issues Committee Meeting March 9, 2011

<b>City</b>	<b>Representative</b>	<b>Alternate</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Staff</b>
<b>Algona</b>	Dave Hill	Lynda Osborn		
<b>Auburn</b>	Pete Lewis	Sue Singer	Bill Peloza	
Beaux Arts	Richard Leider			
Black Diamond	Rebecca Olness	Bill Boston		
Bothell	Tom Agnew	Patrick Ewing		
<b>Burien</b>	Brian Bennett	Jerry Robison	Joan McGilton	
<b>Clyde Hill</b>	Barre Seibert	George Martin		
<b>Covington</b>	Marlla Mhoon	Mark Lanza		
<b>Des Moines</b>	Matt Pina			
<b>Duvall</b>	Amy Ockerlander	Will Ibershof		
Enumclaw	Liz Reynolds			
<b>Federal Way</b>	Linda Kochmar	Jeanne Burbidge		
Hunts Point	Fred McConkey			
<b>Issaquah</b>	Tola Marts	John Traeger		
Kenmore	David Baker	Allan Van Ness		
<b>Kent</b>	Dennis Higgins	Suzette Cooke		
<b>Kirkland</b>	Amy Walen	Bob Sternoff		
<b>Lake Forest Pk</b>	Sandy Koppenol	Dave Hutchinson	John Wright	
<b>Maple Valley</b>	Layne Barnes	Erin Weaver		
Milton	Bryan Ott			
<b>Newcastle</b>	Sonny Putter	Lisa Jensen		
<b>Normandy Pk</b>	Shawn McEvoy	Doug Osterman		
<b>North Bend</b>	Ross Loudenback	Ken Hearing		
Pacific	Leanne Guier	John Jones		
<b>Redmond</b>	Hank Margeson	Richard Cole		
<b>Renton</b>	King Parker	Denis Law		
<b>Sammamish</b>	Nancy Whitten	Tom Odell	Don Gerend	
<b>SeaTac</b>	Mia Gregerson	Tony Anderson		
<b>Shoreline</b>	Shari Winstead	Will Hall		
Skykomish	Henry Sladek			
<b>Snoqualmie</b>	Matt Larson	Kingston Wall		
<b>Tukwila</b>	Jim Haggerton	Kathy Hougardy		
<b>Woodinville</b>	Bernie Talmas			
SCA				Karen Goroski Michael Hubner Doreen Booth Kristy Burwell

Electeds present are highlighted in gray. Cities represented are **bolded**.

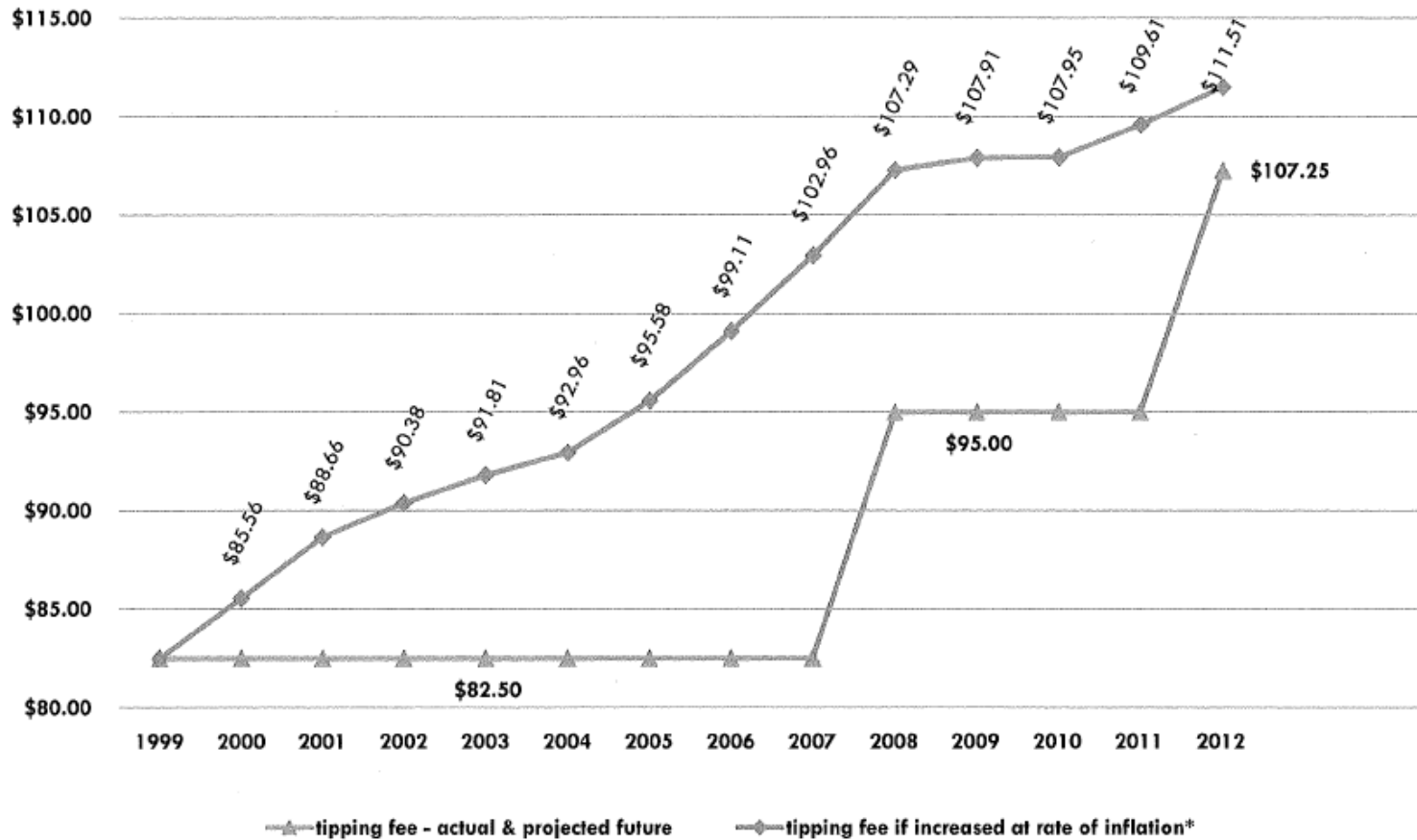
Handout 6 to the March 9, 2011 PIC Agenda

From King County Solid Waste Division

# DRAFT 2012 Rate DRAFT

Objective - *Keep growth in rates below the rate of inflation*

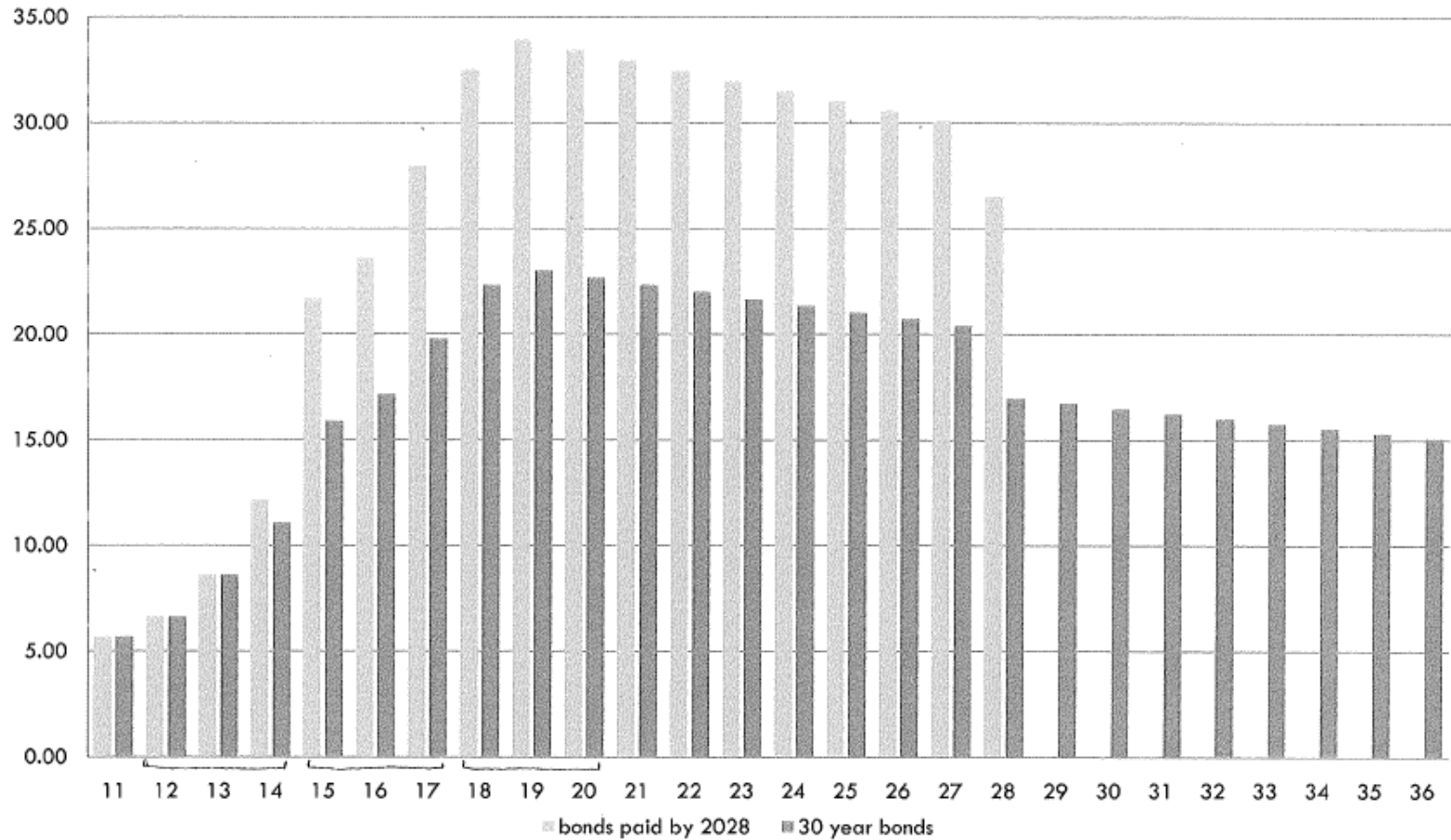
Per ton solid waste tipping fee since 1999 and draft projected fee for 2012



Handout 6 to the March 9, 2011 PIC Agenda

From King County Solid Waste Division

# Debt service



## King County Visitor Tax Legislation: HB 1997

Creating jobs and building prosperity for Washington State through the promotion of tourism, supporting arts and cultural activities, and related workforce housing.

HB 1997 will create jobs and generate significant economic activity for the State of Washington by accelerating the expansion of the Washington State Convention Center, and by funding arts and cultural programs and other activities that draw more visitors and tourists. It will build workforce housing for workers in the hospitality and service industries.

Building an expanded Washington State Convention Center will result in approximately 4,500 direct new construction jobs and 3,000 new permanent jobs. Construction activity alone will also result in nearly \$40 million of tax revenue, 65% of which will go to the State General Fund. In the first 10 years of operations, additional economic output will result in \$1.4 billion of economic activity.

Also, an expanded convention center would draw over 130,000 additional visitors each year, resulting in \$250 million in direct spending to our economy once the expanded facility is fully operational.

This bill will also continue funding for arts, and cultural programs. Without it, funding ceases in 2012. More than 250 heritage and arts organizations are supported by these funds. They in turn leverage critical additional private support.

The direct economic activity spurred by arts and cultural programs is of consequence. A study recently by ArtsFund found that in 2009, \$1.75 billion in business activity was generated in the Washington economy due to spending by King County arts, cultural and scientific organizations and spending by their patrons. 30,000 jobs are supported by this activity. The study found that a significant proportion of the visitors to these organizations came from outside the region.

HB 1997 honors the original intent that supported the enactment of these taxes – that revenues would be used to create jobs by attracting even greater numbers of visitors to Washington State: Hotel/motel and car rental tax revenues would be reinvested for projects and activities that draw visitors and tourists. The extra sales tax paid by bar and restaurant patrons to fund Safeco Field was intended to expire at the end of 2015. Under HB 1997, this tax would still expire at the end of 2015 and its revenues would support tourism-generating projects and programs until its expiration at the end of 2015.

Every visitor we bring to Washington State who spends money helps provide revenues to much needed programs that support human services, housing, public safety, and transportation. And as the economy begins to recover, passage of HB 1997 will help position the region and the State to be more competitive and prosperous.

## **King County Visitor Tax Legislation (HB 1997)**

HB 1997 would continue a set of existing visitor taxes and use the proceeds to support arts and cultural programs, expansion of the Washington State Convention Center, workforce housing, and community preservation and development programs that would bring additional visitors to King County and to the State of Washington. The legislation would support new jobs in the construction, cultural, and service sectors and would bring more out-of-state visitors to the State and region.

### Four specific projects or programs are identified in the legislation:

1. King County's Cultural Development Authority (4Culture) would receive an additional \$3 million annually from 2012 through 2020, with amounts adjusted for inflation. This would supplement funding available from an endowment that has been created in recent years and would allow 4Culture to maintain its current level of programming. After 2020, 4Culture would receive 37.5% of the countywide hotel/motel tax, estimated to be about \$10 million in 2021.
2. Funds would be available to provide a revenue stream that supports approximately \$150 million in bonds to support expansion of the Washington State Convention Center. The Center has developed plans for an expansion that would attract additional visitors to the region, thereby increasing employment and tax revenue. The Center's current revenues do not allow the expansion to begin for several more years. The \$150 million in additional bonding capacity provided under the proposed legislation would accelerate expansion by three or more years.
3. Affordable workforce housing would receive \$5 million annually from 2012 through 2020, with amounts adjusted for inflation. This would be used by non-profit housing developers and public housing authorities to develop affordable workforce housing near transit stations. After 2020, this fund would also receive 37.5% of the countywide hotel/motel tax, estimated to be about \$10 million in 2021.
4. The Pioneer Square – International District Community Preservation and Development Authority would receive \$1 million annually, with amounts adjusted for inflation. This would support economic revitalization, historic preservation, and tourism-related programs in the neighborhoods near Safeco and Qwest fields.

### Four revenue sources are identified in the legislation:

1. The 2% hotel/motel tax within King County would be continued. This revenue is committed to other purposes through 2020 but would be available for the activities described above starting in 2021.
2. The 0.5% sales tax collected at restaurants and bars in King County would continue to its originally-planned expiration date at the end of 2015. Because the bonds for Safeco Field are being repaid early, this tax would otherwise expire later this year.
3. Two car rental taxes totaling 3.00% would be continued, with funds applied to these new purposes once the existing uses of the funds are completed.