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SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

CITIZENS ALLIANCE FOR PROPERTY RIGHTS
LEGAL FUND,

Petitioner,

v.

SAN JUAN COUNTY, et al.

Respondents.

AMICUS CURIAE MEMORANDUM OF
ALLIED DAILY NEWSPAPERS OF WASHINGTON and
WASHINGTON COALITION FOR OPEN GOVERNMENT
SUPPORTING REVIEW

FILED

OCT - 1 2014

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF WASHINGTON

Katherine George
WSBA No. 36288
HARRISON-BENIS LLP
2101 Fourth Avenue, Suite 1900
Seattle, WA 98121
(206) 448-0402/ cell 425 802-1052
Attorney for Amici

ORIGINAL

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I. INTRODUCTION

City and county councils, school boards and other government bodies use committees to shape policies. Frequently, important issues are debated only at the committee level and not when the full body makes the final decision in a regular public meeting.

The critical role of committees is why the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA), Chap. 42.30 RCW, declares an intention for all committees to deliberate openly. That legislative intent will be frustrated - and a major part of the policymaking process will be shrouded from public view - if committees can meet privately simply because they do not have decision-making authority, as the Court of Appeals held. Unless this Court clarifies that committees must be open whenever they play a role in policymaking, including a preliminary or advisory role, government decisions may be developed in secret. Elected officials may use closed committee meetings to hide special-interest influences, political horse-trading or other factors shaping their decisions. Public scrutiny will be at the whim of the scrutinized.

The Court of Appeals decision warrants review because of the strong public interest in open government, and also because it defines the OPMA term “acts on behalf of” for the first time in a manner that is

both legally incorrect and unclear. The OPMA says committees must meet openly if they act on behalf of governing bodies. The Court of Appeals held that committees act on behalf of governing bodies only when they have “actual or de facto decision-making authority.” This contradicts the mandate to construe the OPMA liberally and frustrates the Legislature’s stated intent for all committees to deliberate openly. The decision also creates confusion because it does not explain what constitutes “actual or de facto decision-making authority.” If it means that a council or board must formally delegate its final decision-making authority to a committee in order to trigger open meeting requirements, the practical effect will be that no committees will ever have to meet openly. Open meetings may be limited to ceremonial passage of ordinances developed behind closed doors.

In sum, the Court of Appeals decision jeopardizes meaningful public oversight in every jurisdiction in the state. Accordingly, this Court should grant review.

II. INTEREST AND IDENTITY OF AMICI

Allied Daily Newspapers of Washington (Allied) is a trade association representing 25 daily newspapers across the state. The Washington Coalition for Open Government (WCOG) is a statewide

nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to promoting and defending the public's right to know about the conduct of public business and matters of public interest.

These organizations ("Amici") regularly advocate for public access to government records and proceedings in order to inform the public about matters of public concern. Their members frequently attend government meetings to learn about policy decisions and the considerations behind those decisions. Newspapers routinely report on council, board and committee meetings of public interest, and WCOG members attend meetings so as to participate in democracy. Amici serve as a voice for the general public regarding access to meetings and enforcement of sunshine laws in this state.

Amici are interested in this case because it affects the public's right to know how, why and when governments make decisions affecting the daily lives of citizens. Amici are interested in preserving the vitality of the OPMA so that the public can play a meaningful role in shaping public policies. Amici are concerned that if the Court of Appeals decision stands, county and city councils, school boards and other governing bodies will use private committees to avoid scrutiny of the policymaking process.

III. DISCUSSION

A. **There is Substantial Public Interest in Whether Local Government Committees Must Meet Openly.**

Under RAP 13.4(b)(4), review will be accepted if a petition “involves an issue of substantial public interest that should be determined by the Supreme Court.” Here, the petition involves the scope of the public’s right to observe government decision-making – a matter of interest to any citizen affected by government policies. The substantial public interest in open government meetings is aptly summarized in the OPMA’s legislative declaration, which says:

The legislature finds and declares that all public commissions, boards, councils, *committees*, subcommittees, departments, divisions, offices, and all other public agencies of this state and subdivisions thereof exist to aid in the conduct of the people's business. It is the intent of this chapter that their actions be taken openly and that their deliberations be conducted openly.

The people of this state do not yield their sovereignty to the agencies which serve them. The people, in delegating authority, do not give their public servants the right to decide what is good for the people to know and what is not good for them to know. *The people insist on remaining informed so that they may retain control over the instruments they have created.*

RCW.42.30.010 (italics added). Whether the people’s control of government is weakened is an issue of substantial public interest.

This Court has reviewed similar cases affecting when government bodies must meet openly. *Cathcart v. Andersen*, 85 Wn.2d 102, 530 P.2d 313 (1975) (faculty meetings of the University of Washington Law School are subject to the OPMA); *Salmon For All v. Department of Fisheries*, 118 Wn.2d 270, 821 P.2d 1211 (1992) (state agencies governed by individual directors are not subject to the OPMA); *Miller v. City of Tacoma*, 138 Wn.2d 318, 979 P.2d 429 (1999) (secret balloting constitutes “action” subject to the OPMA). This case has broader ramifications than *Cathcart*, *Salmon for All* and *Miller* because numerous local governing bodies throughout the state routinely use committees to review and recommend proposals as part of their decision-making processes. *Id.*; *See* Attachment 1 (examples of standing policy committees). As an integral wheel in the policymaking machinery, committees must deliberate openly if the public is to understand how and why decisions are made. Therefore, review should be granted based on substantial public interest. RAP 13.4(b)(4).

B. The Court of Appeals Decision Provides Incorrect and Unclear Guidance.

This case deals with an important question not addressed in any prior published decision: when does a committee of a governing body “act on behalf of” that body, so as to be subject to open meeting

requirements under the OPMA? *See* RCW 42.30.030 (“All meetings of the governing body of a public agency shall be open and public”); RCW 42.30.020(2) (“governing body” includes the board, commission, council or other policymaking body of a public agency, as well as “any committee thereof when the committee acts on behalf of the governing body”). The Court of Appeals held that a committee “acts on behalf of” a governing body only “when it exercises actual or de facto decision making authority.” *Citizens Alliance for Property Rights Legal Fund v. San Juan Co.*, -- Wn.App. --, 326 P.3d 730, 737 (2014). This interpretation is too narrow and leaves too many unanswered questions.

1. Review is needed to reverse an incorrect holding.

This Court should grant review to clarify that any committee playing any role in policymaking, advisory or otherwise, necessarily does so “on behalf of” the governing body. In the common law context of agency, the term “on behalf of” refers to one party agreeing to act under another party’s control. Restatement (Third) of Agency §1.01 (2006). When a committee reviews, develops or recommends proposals to be considered by the full body, it is agreeing to act under that body’s control. Quite simply, a governing body’s committee serves that body. There is no other reason for its existence.

The Court of Appeals essentially substituted the term “*acts on behalf of*” for “*acts instead of*” the governing body, as if a committee must actually replace the larger body as the final decision-maker in order to fall under the OPMA. This makes no sense.

The OPMA states that “deliberations,” not just final decisions, must “be conducted openly.” RCW 42.30.010.¹ The OPMA also declares an intent for committees and subcommittees, not just commissions, boards and councils, to deliberate openly. RCW 42.30.010. Thus, the Legislature intended to require openness at every level of policymaking – including preliminary discussions by committees which help to shape larger bodies’ decisions. *Id.*

RCW 42.30.020(2), which defines governing bodies subject to open meeting requirements, does not say that a committee must have its own decision-making authority to trigger the requirements. On the contrary, the statute defines a governing body as a “policy or rule-making body...or any committee thereof...” RCW 42.30.020(2) (emphasis added). Thus, only the parent governing body – and not the “committee thereof” - must have “policy or rule-making” authority to

¹ See also RCW 42.30.030 (all governing body “meetings” must be open); RCW 42.30.020(4) (a “meeting” is where “action” is taken); RCW 42.30.020(3) (“action” includes deliberation, discussion, consideration, review and evaluation as well as final action).

fall under the OPMA. *Id.*; *Clark v. City of Lakewood*, 259 F.3d 996, 1013 (9th Circ. 2001) (the definition of “governing body” is not limited to groups that make policy or rules).

Moreover, RCW 42.30.910 requires liberal construction to promote the remedial purpose of the OPMA. The Court of Appeals construed the OPMA narrowly, inferring a limitation on open meetings which is nowhere in the statute’s language and contradicts the declaration of intent. The proper inquiry is not whether a committee has independent power, but whether it discusses, reviews, considers or evaluates matters at the behest of and under the governing body’s control. RCW 42.30.020. Practically speaking, any time a committee deals with a proposed resolution or ordinance, it is necessarily acting on behalf of the governing body that will decide the matter. No other interpretation is consistent with common sense, liberal construction and the stated intent of the OPMA to require openness at all levels. Because the Court of Appeals incorrectly interpreted the OPMA, review is needed to set the law straight.

2. At a minimum, clarification is needed.

Even if this Court agrees with the Court of Appeals that a committee must have “authority” to be subject to the OPMA, review is

needed to clarify what that means. As it is, there is no certainty as to what actions or circumstances would constitute an exercise of “actual or de facto decision making authority” triggering the open meeting requirement. *Citizens Alliance for Property Rights Legal Fund*, 326 P.3d at 737. The decision raises infinite and seemingly impossible questions for any newspaper reporter or other citizen trying to determine if he or she has a right to attend a committee meeting.

For example, does “decision making authority” include authority to decide preliminary questions such as ordinance amendments or “do pass” recommendations? Or must a committee have complete control of a matter on its agenda in order for a meeting to be subject to the OPMA? How would such control be established? Must the full body pass a resolution ceding final decision-making authority to a committee?² Or can control be inferred somehow?

What if the full body delays its own decision while waiting for a committee recommendation? Does that give the committee “authority” over the process, or must the agency’s code expressly require committee action as a prerequisite? Does a committee have “de

² Amici are unaware of any city or county council, school board, port commission or other governing body in Washington that has formally shifted any of its final decision-making authority to a committee.

facto decision-making authority” if it makes recommendations that the full body later accepts? How often must such rubber-stamping occur before a committee is deemed to have de facto authority? How would the public know when a committee has entered the “de facto authority” realm? These are just some of the questions that will perplex citizens, governing bodies and trial courts unless this Court accepts review and clarifies the law.

IV. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, this Court should grant review. This Court should clarify that committees must be open when they play any role in policymaking, including discussing, considering, reviewing or evaluating matters to be decided by the full governing body.

Dated this 9th day of September, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

HARRISON-BENIS LLP

By: s/ Katherine George
Katherine George, WSBA 36288
Attorney for Amici

ATTACHMENT



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Boards, Panels & Commissions
Seattle Transportation Benefit District
Customer Service Bureau

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Education and Governance
Energy
Finance and Culture
Full Council
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Labor Relations Policy
Parks, Seattle Center, Libraries and Gender Pay Equity
Planning, Land Use and Sustainability
Public Safety, Civil Rights, and Technology
Seattle Public Utilities and Neighborhoods
Select Committee on the Minimum Wage and Income Inequality
Select Committee on Parks Funding
Select Committee on Preschool for All
Select Committee on Utility Strategic Planning
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Full Council

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Council Briefing

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Budget - Select Committee

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Meeting Video Archives
Budget Committee Web Page

Legislative Matters:

- Deliberate and review the Mayor's proposed budget and CIP, make changes as appropriate, to adopt a final Budget and CIP.

Chair: Nick Licata

Members: All Councilmembers

Contact us at: 206-684-8803, nick.licata@seattle.gov

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Central Waterfront, Seawall, and Alaskan Way Viaduct Replacement Program - Select Committee

- Agendas (sign up for Agendas)
Meeting Video Archives
Central Waterfront, Seawall, and Alaskan Way Viaduct Replacement Program Select Committee Web Page

Members: All Councilmembers

Contact us at: 206-684-8807, jean.godden@seattle.gov

Legislative Matters:

- Review, monitor and act on plans, strategies and partnerships for the management, use and programming of new public spaces on the Central Waterfront. The Select Committee will review and act as appropriate on proposed



development or redevelopment of Parks Department's waterfront properties on the Central Waterfront including Piers 57-63, development of the new surface Alaskan Way street and other improvements in the public right-of-way, and development and or redevelopment of adjacent public and private properties. The Select Committee will also review and act on any partnership agreements.

- Review, monitor and act on Central Waterfront, Viaduct and Seawall financing strategies, which may include reviewing and acting on a local improvement district, public-voted levy lid-lift or bond measures, use of other public funding revenues, and leveraging of other public and private funding.
- Analyze, review, and as appropriate, act on proposals and legislation to implement the State Route 99 Bored Tunnel and other projects in the Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Program; agreements between the City and Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), King County and the Port of Seattle; and all mitigation plans and efforts.
- Monitor and review the Advisory Committee on Tolling and Traffic (ACTT)'s analysis of tolling options, strategies to minimize traffic diversion, and approaches for identifying and funding mitigation for traffic diversion. The Select Committee will also provide policy guidance reflecting the City's interests.

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Education and Governance

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- [Education and Governance Committee Web Page](#)

1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m.

Chair: Tim Burgess

Vice-Chair: Sally Bagshaw

Member: Sally J. Clark

Alternate: Jean Godden

The committee will focus on issues relating to public schools and improving student success rates, intergovernmental relations, high-quality universal preschool, ethics and elections, as well as personnel issues and labor-management relations.

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Energy

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- [Energy Committee Web Page](#)

2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m.

Chair: Kshama Sawant

Vice-Chair: Sally J. Clark

Member: Mike O'Brien

Alternate: Bruce A. Harrell

The committee will handle policies relating to Seattle's energy usage, as well issues relating to alternative energy sources, air pollution regulation, energy utility rates, and Seattle City Light finances.

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Finance and Culture

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- [Finance and Culture Committee Web Page](#)

2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 2 p.m.

Chair: Nick Licata

Vice-Chair: Jean Godden

Member: Tim Burgess

Alternate: Sally Bagshaw

The committee will be responsible for reviewing the Mayor's proposed budget and City financial management policies. This committee will also manage issues relating to Seattle's art and culture, which includes nightlife issues and public access television.

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Housing Affordability, Human Services and Economic Resiliency

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- [Housing Affordability, Human Services and Economic Resiliency Committee Web Page](#)

1st and 3rd Thursdays, 9:30 a.m.

Chair: Sally J. Clark

Vice-Chair: Tom Rasmussen

Member: Kshama Sawant
Alternate: Mike O'Brien

The committee will handle issues concerning affordable housing, homelessness, child care, and disability services, local and regional public health, as well as policies relating to economic development and affordability, including the minimum wage.

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Labor Relations Select Committee

For meeting dates & times please call 206-684-8888

Chair: Tim Burgess

Members: Sally J. Clark, Nick Licata, Bruce Harrell, Mike O'Brien

Contact us at: 206-684-8806, tim.burgess@seattle.gov

As provided in Seattle Municipal Code Section 4.04.120, the City Council's Select Labor Committee as created by this memorandum, combined with the Executive Labor Committee appointed by the Mayor, constitute the City's Labor Relations Policy Committee. The purpose of the City's Labor Relations Policy Committee is to plan or adopt strategies or positions to be taken by the City during the course of collective bargaining, professional negotiations, grievance or mediation proceedings, and to review the proposals made in these negotiations or proceedings.

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Parks, Seattle Center, Libraries and Gender Pay Equity

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1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m.

Chair: Jean Godden

Vice-Chair: Bruce A. Harrell

Member: Tom Rasmussen

Alternate: Kshama Sawant

The committee will take up issues surrounding the gender pay gap in Seattle, as well as issues relating to City parks, community centers, and public grounds, including the Seattle Center. The committee will also manage legislation relating to the Seattle Public Library system.

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Planning, Land Use and Sustainability

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1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 2 p.m.

Chair: Mike O'Brien

Vice-Chair: Tim Burgess

Member: Nick Licata

Alternate: Sally J. Clark

In addition handling policies involving City zoning, planning, and land use regulations, the committee will take up matters that relate to climate and environmental protections, conservation programs, and green infrastructure.

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Public Safety, Civil Rights and Technology

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1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 2 p.m.

Chair: Bruce A. Harrell

Vice-Chair: Nick Licata

Member: Sally Bagshaw

Alternate: Tim Burgess

The committee will consider policies relating to law enforcement, crime prevention and criminal justice, civil rights, emergency preparedness and medical services, City information technology planning and implementation, and cable telecommunication services in Seattle.

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Seattle Public Utilities and Neighborhoods

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2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 2 p.m.

Chair: Sally Bagshaw

Vice-Chair: Kshama Sawant

Member: Bruce A. Harrell

Alternate: Tom Rasmussen

The committee will oversee Council's work on issues surrounding services provided by Seattle Public Utilities, including water, drainage, wastewater, and solid waste services. The committee will also consider matters involving Seattle neighborhoods, such as neighborhood outreach and engagement.

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Select Committee on the Minimum Wage and Income Inequality

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The Select Committee will work with the Mayor's Office, The Office of Policy and Innovation, the Department of Finance and Administrative Services, the City Budget Office, and the City Attorney's Office to study current minimum wage standards, enforcement of minimum wage standards, and potential modifications to these protocols. The data assembled by and recommendations from the Mayor and the Mayor's Income Inequality Advisory Committee will inform this work. In order to accommodate broader public engagement, the Select Committee will hold some of its meetings after normal work hours, or on the weekend, and outside Council Chambers as determined by the Select Committee chair.

Chair: Sally J. Clark

Members: All Councilmembers

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Select Committee on Parks Funding

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The purpose of the Select Committee on Parks Funding is to review recommendations from the Parks Legacy Citizen Advisory Committee regarding a package of parks and recreation services (including capital projects, maintenance and operations, and programs) and funding options for implementing that package. The Committee sent a proposal for consideration by voters in the August, 2014 election.

Chair: Sally Bagshaw

Members: All Councilmembers

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Select Committee on Preschool for All

- [Committee Agendas \(Sign up for Agendas\)](#)
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Consistent with Resolution 31478 adopted by City Council in September 2013, the purpose of this Select Committee is to review the Action Plan and recommendations from the Executive (based on consultant analysis funded by the City Council and input from stakeholders). The Executive's proposal will include proposed program design and costs to provide voluntary, affordable, and high quality preschool in Seattle. The Committee will deliberate and make a final decision on whether to send a funding proposal for consideration by voters in the November, 2014 election.

Chair: Tim Burgess

Members: All Councilmembers

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Select Committee on Utility Strategic Planning

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The purpose of the Select Committee on Utility Strategic Planning is limited to evaluation and consideration of approval of Seattle Public Utilities' (SPU's) proposed Strategic Plan and updates to Seattle City Light's Strategic Plan. After considering recommendations from the citizen-based City Light Review Panel, the Committee will decide whether to recommend approval of updates to City Light's 2013-2018 Strategic Plan. The Committee also will consider SPU Customer Panel recommendations while deciding whether to approve SPU's proposed 2015-2020 Strategic Plan and 6-year rate path. It is anticipated that the Committee will undertake review of City Light's plan updates in May and June, and SPU's plan in July through September.

Chair: Councilmember Sally Bagshaw and Councilmember Kshama Sawant. Councilmember Sawant will chair the Select Committee on Utility Strategic Planning during discussions of City Light's Strategic Plan. Councilmember

Bagshaw will chair the Select Committee on Utility Strategic Planning during discussions of the SPU Strategic Plan.

Members: All Councilmembers

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Committee on Taxi, For-hire, and Limousine Regulations

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Legislative Matters:

- The Committee will work with the Department of Finance and Administrative Services to study the existing market for Taxi, For-hire and Limousine services, the current approach to the regulation of these services and potential modifications to this regulatory structure. The Committee plans to coordinate with both King County and the Port of Seattle in this work.

Chair: Sally J. Clark

Members: Mike O'Brien Bruce A. Harrell

Contact us at: 206-684-8802, sally.clark@seattle.gov, council@seattle.gov

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Town Hall Select Committee

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Transportation

2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m.

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- [Transportation Committee Web Page](#)

Chair: Tom Rasmussen

Vice-Chair: Mike O'Brien

Member: Jean Godden

Alternate: Nick Licata

The committee will handle matters pertaining to city-wide and regional transportation policy and planning. These issues range from pedestrian and bicycle programs, traffic control and parking policies, and overseeing the City's coordination with regional and state departments of transportation.

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Seattle, WA 98104
Visiting City Hall

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Seattle, WA 98124-4025

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Council Committees

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Committee Staffing and Information

The County Council functions through the work of its standing committees and regional committees, which scrutinize proposed legislation for consideration by the full Council. Regional committees include elected officials from other jurisdictions. See each [agenda](#) for the time and place of specific committee meetings or call 206-296-1000. **Watch [archived Committee meetings](#).**

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Special purpose governments

Under legislative authority to counties provided by the state Legislature, members of the King County Council also serve as ex-officio members of the Boards of two special purpose governments.

- [King County Ferry District](#)



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Committees of the Board

The Board of Directors has established permanent committees with responsibilities that focus on different areas of agency business:

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee's areas of responsibility include oversight/review of the Board's rules and structure, the Agency's policies, financial plan and budget, legislative plan, government relations and communications strategies, and evaluation of the performance of the CEO.

Meeting Schedule: Executive Committee meetings are held the first Thursday of each month from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Committee Members: Dow Constantine (Chair); Paul Roberts (Vice Chair); Marilyn Strickland (Vice Chair); Fred Butler; John Lovick; Pat McCarthy; Ed Murray; Lynn Peterson; Larry Phillips

Operations and Administration Committee

The Operations and Administrative Committee's areas of responsibility include oversight of operating plans, transit services and customers. The Committee approves the annual service implementation plan and recommends the annual service delivery and agency administration budgets, and operations and administrative policies to the Executive Committee and/or Board. The Board has delegated final approval authority to the Operations and Administration Committee for operating and administration transactions that exceed the CEO's level of authority and under \$5 million.

Meeting Schedule: Operations and Administration Committee meetings are held the first Thursday of each month from 1:00 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Committee Members: Paul Roberts (Chair); John Marchione (Vice Chair); Dave Earling; Dave Enslow; Mary Moss; Dave Uptegrove; Pete von Reichbauer

Capital Committee

The Capital Committee's areas of responsibility include oversight of all capital projects including scope, budget, schedule, and construction activities. The Committee recommends actions related to the phase gate program, capital-related policies and the capital budget to the Executive Committee and/or Board. The Board has delegated final approval authority to the Capital Committee for capital program transactions that exceed the CEO's level of authority and under \$5 million.

Meeting Schedule: Capital Committee meetings are held the second Thursday of each month from 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Committee Members: Fred Butler (Chair); Joe McDermott (Vice Chair); Claudia Balducci; Dave Earling; John Marchione; Pat McCarthy; Mike O'Brien; Dave Uptegrove

Audit and Reporting Committee

The Audit and Reporting Committee's areas of responsibility include oversight/review of the Agency's financial reports, internal and external audits, and internal controls. The Committee also reviews and approves performance audits to be conducted by the Internal Audit Division.

Meeting Schedule: The Audit and Reporting Committee meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of the month on a quarterly basis from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. (with the exception of December, which will be held on the second Thursday)

Committee Members: Larry Phillips (Chair); Dave Enslow (Vice Chair); John Lovick; Joe McDermott; Mary Moss; Mike O'Brien; Josh Benaloh (Citizen Oversight Panel Chair)

search

Schools Students Families & Communities District

« September 2014 »

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11

School Board - Committees

2014-15 Committee Meeting Agendas and Minutes	2011-12 Committee Meeting Agendas and Minutes
2013-14 Committee Meeting Agendas and Minutes	2010-11 Committee Meeting Agendas and Minutes
2012-13 Committee Meeting Agendas and Minutes	

2014-15 Committee Calendar

Audit & Finance

- Monitor financial matters of the District
- Approve the budget timeline and provide oversight of the budget development process
- Coordinate audit work for the board with the district's Internal Auditor and the State Auditor
- Develop, review, and propose audit and financial policies to the Board.
- Meets 2nd Thursday of each month from 4:30 - 6:30 PM
- Meets quarterly on 3rd Tuesday for Audit Review from 4:30 - 6:30 PM
- **Current Committee Members:** Sherry Carr (Chair), Harium Martin-Morris, Sue Peters

Curriculum & Instruction Policy Committee

- Develop and review academic policies
- Review and make recommendations on Teaching & Learning board action reports to the full board
- Meets 2nd Monday of each month from 4:30 - 6:30 PM
- **Current Committee Members:** Marty McLaren (Chair), Stephan Blanford, Sue Peters

Executive Committee

This committee is made up of the president, vice president, and member-at-large; these committee members are elected by the full board.

- Act as liaison to all Board members and provide leadership for Board activities; coordinate legal issues
- Coordinate board work plan and develop meeting and retreat agendas
- Draft superintendent evaluation materials for board and manage the superintendent evaluation process
- Manage government relations on behalf of the board, including federal, state and local jurisdictions; draft an annual legislative agenda; provide representation to all joint City of Seattle committees; coordinate the annual review of board bylaws; and be a sounding board for the Superintendent.
- Meets 2nd Wednesday of each month from 8:30 - 10:00 AM
- **Current Committee Members:** Sharon Peaslee, Betty Patu, Marty McLaren

Operations Committee

- Make operations policy recommendations to the full board
- Make facilities and capital programs policy recommendations to the full board

Additional Links

- About SPS
- Archives
- Board Calendar
- Board Meeting Agendas
- Code of Conduct
- Committees
- Friday Memos to Board
- Government Relations
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- Meeting Dates
- Policies & Procedures
- Public Testimony
- Superintendent
- Procedures
- Strategic Plan
- View Board Meetings

Contact Us

Seattle School District
 Attention:
 Board of Directors
 MS 11-010
 PO Box 34165
 Seattle, WA 98124-1165
 email: schoolboard
 (206) 252-0040

Directions to John
 Stanford Center

Kathie Pham
 ktpham@seattleschools.org
 Administrator, Board
 Office

Website
 Inquiries/Feedback

- Develop and review operations policies
- Meets 3rd Thursday of each month from 4:30 - 6:30 PM
- **Current Committee Members:** Betty Patu (Chair), Sharon Peaslee , Stephan Blanford

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RULES AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Meets Mondays, 10 a.m. *

Dan Roach, Chair

Stan Flemming, Vice Chair

Joyce McDonald, Member

Douglas G. Richardson (Alternate)

Patty Face, Committee Clerk, 798-2687

The Rules and Operations Committee shall consider and make recommendations on matters including, but not limited to: Agenda of the Council and Committees, Animals, Assignment of Ordinances, Resolution, and Other Issues to Committee, Bonds, Confirmations of Appointments to Boards and Commissions, Confirmation of Executive's Appointments of Department Directors, Contracts, Council Budget, County Operations, Data Processing and Communications, Fiscal Issues, Inter-jurisdictional Issues, Intergovernmental Agreements, Purchasing for Council, Rules and Operations of the Council, and Supplemental Budgets.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Meets first and third Mondays, 1:30 p.m. *

Rick Talbert, Chair

Douglas G. Richardson, Vice Chair

Stan Flemming, Member

Connie Ladenburg, Member

Jim McCune, Member

Jenifer Schultz, Committee Clerk, 798-6696

The Community Development Committee shall consider and make recommendations on matters including, but not limited to: Building, Current Use Assessment, Environmental Issues, Growth Management, Parks, Planning, Shorelines, and Zoning.

ECONOMIC AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Meets second and fourth Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m. *

Stan Flemming, Chair

Connie Ladenburg, Vice Chair

Jim McCune, Member

Douglas G. Richardson, Member

Rick Talbert, Member

Kate Kennedy, Committee Clerk, 798-7798

The Economic and Infrastructure Development Committee shall consider and make recommendations on matters including, but not limited to: Capital Facilities, Franchises, Public Utilities, Public Works, Road Improvement Districts, Roads, Sewers, Solid Waste, Telecommunications, Utility Local Improvement Districts, Water Districts, and Water Issues.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Second Mondays, 1:30 p.m. *

Jim McCune, Chair

Joyce McDonald, Vice Chair

Stan Flemming, Member

Connie Ladenburg, Member

Douglas G. Richardson, Member

Cathy Sala, Committee Clerk, 798-6695

The Public Safety & Human Services Committee shall consider and make recommendations on matters including, but not limited to: Assigned Counsel, Corrections, Courts, Criminal Justice, Probation, Prosecuting Attorney, Public Safety, Sheriff, Health, Human Services Issues, Juvenile Services, and Senior Services.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Meets as needed

Dan Roach, Chair

Stan Flemming, Vice Chair

Connie Ladenburg, Member

Jim McCune, Member

Joyce McDonald, Member

Rick Talbert, Member

Douglas G. Richardson, Member

Kate Kennedy, Committee Clerk, 798-7798

The Committee of the Whole may be convened to review and make recommendations on the annual Budget of the County, or for any other purposes as determined by the Chair of the Council or the Rules and Operations Committee.

About Committees: Committee action on any proposed Ordinance or Resolution is strictly advisory to the Council. A majority of a committee constitutes a quorum. No Committee shall transact official business absent a quorum except to take measures to obtain a quorum, recess to a time certain, or adjourn. All recommendations to the Council from a Committee shall be determined by a vote of a majority of members present at the committee meeting.

* Meetings may be canceled. Please refer to the Council Calendar for confirmed meeting dates.

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City of Tacoma

W A S H I N G T O N

City Council Committees

[Print Friendly](#)

The Tacoma City Council created the standing committees to explore new policy recommendations and develop recommendations to the full City Council. On September 30, 2003, the Tacoma City Council adopted Resolution No. 35969 which established the Neighborhoods Committee and Economic Development Committee.

On January 20, 2004, the Tacoma City Council adopted Resolution No. 36084 which established additional Council Standing Committees including the Environment and Public Works Committee, Government Performance Committee, and Public Safety and Human Services Committee. This resolution also renamed the Neighborhoods Committee as the Neighborhoods and Housing Committee.

On June 24, 2008, the Council adopted Resolution No. 37509 renaming the Public Safety and Human Services Committee as the Public Safety, Human Services, and Education Committee. On May 14, 2013, the Council adopted Resolution No. 38672 renaming the Environment and Public Works Committee to the Infrastructure, Planning and Sustainability Committee.

Each Council Committee is composed of four Council Members and an alternate appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Council, and each chair and vice-chair are selected by their respective committee.

The City Council Committees include:

- Committee of the Whole
- Economic Development Committee
- Government Performance and Finance Committee
- Infrastructure, Planning and Sustainability Committee
- Neighborhoods and Housing Committee
- Public Safety, Human Services, and Education Committee

For more information, read the [Council Standing Committee Process Manual](#).

City Council Committees

Effective February, 2014

Public Safety Committee

- Council Member Maureen Adkison
- Council Member Tom Dittmar
- Council Member Bill Lover

Economic Development Committee

- Mayor Micah Cawley
- Assistant Mayor Kathy Coffey
- Council Member Tom Dittmar

Built Environment Committee

- Assistant Mayor Kathy Coffey
- Council Member Tom Dittmar
- Council Member Rick Ensey

Economic Development Committee

- Council Member Maureen Adkison
- Mayor Micah Cawley
- Council Member Dave Ettl

2014 COUNCIL COMMITTEE AND OTHER ASSIGNMENTS

Council President: Cathy Lehman
President Pro Tempore: Terry Bornemann
Mayor Pro Tempore: Gene Knutson

Finance & Personnel Committee

Chair Michael Lilliquist
 Terry Bornemann
 Gene Knutson

Lake Whatcom/Natural Resources

Chair Pinky Vargas
 Roxanne Murphy
 Terry Bornemann

Parks and Recreation

Chair Roxanne Murphy
 Pinky Vargas
 Jack Weiss

Planning

Chair Jack Weiss
 Gene Knutson
 Roxanne Murphy

Public Works/Public Safety

Chair Terry Bornemann
 Michael Lilliquist
 Jack Weiss

Community and Economic Development

Chair Gene Knutson
 Michael Lilliquist
 Pinky Vargas

OTHER ASSIGNMENTS

Airport Advisory	Jack
B'ham School District	Roxanne
Bham/What Tourism Bd	Michael
COG	Roxanne & Michael
Downtown B'ham Partnership	Michael
EMS Oversight Board	Terry
Fire Pension	Michael
Library Board	Jack
Marine Resources Committee	Gene
Mt. Baker Theater	Pinky
Museum Society	Terry
Open Space	PCD Committee
Opportunity Council	Pinky
Parks & Recreation Board	Parks Committee
Police Pension	Cathy
Port Marina Advisory	Terry
Sister Cities	Terry
Sustainable Connections	Michael
Tourism Com- Allocation	Michael
What-Comm 911 Admin	Terry
WTA Board	Jack & Roxanne

Short-term Committee Assignments:

PEG -TV working group	Jack, Gene
LW Policy Working Group	Pinky & alt-Roxanne
Parking Solutions	Terry, Jack
Energy Working Group	Pinky, Michael

Council Committees

Featured Links

- [Agenda Packet for Council meetings](#)
- [Minutes - Council Committees](#)

The Olympia City Council has three standing committees and one ad hoc committee.

Public notice for Council Committee meetings is included on the weekly [Agenda of City Council meetings](#) .

Finance Committee

Members: Jim Cooper, Chair; Nathaniel Jones; Cheryl Selby

Staff Liaison: Jane Ragland Kirkemo, Administrative Services Director, jkirkemo@ci.olympia.wa.us

General Topics: Budget, Revenues, Expenses

Regular Meeting: 2nd Thursday, 5:30 p.m., Olympia City Hall, 601 4th Avenue E

General Government Committee

Members: Jeannine Roe, Chair; Jim Cooper; Cheryl Selby

Staff Liaison: Cathie Butler, Communications Manager, cbutler@ci.olympia.wa.us

General Topics: Public Safety, General City policy, Advisory Committees, Community Relations

Regular Meeting: 3rd Tuesday, 4:30 p.m., Olympia City Hall, 601 4th Avenue E

Land Use and Environment Committee

Members: Steve Langer, Chair; Julie Hankins; Jeannine Roe

Staff Liaison: Keith Stahley, Director of Community Planning & Development, kstahley@ci.olympia.wa.us

General Topics: Community Development, Land Use, Planning, Utilities, Environment and Sustainability

Regular Meeting: 4th Thursday, 5:30 p.m., Olympia City Hall, 601 4th Avenue E

Community Renewal Ad Hoc Committee

Members: Stephen Buxbaum, Chair; Julie Hankins; Nathaniel Jones

Staff Liaison: Keith Stahley, Director of Community Planning & Development, kstahley@ci.olympia.wa.us

Topic: Community Renewal and Economic Revitalization

Meetings: On call / as needed

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that on September 9, 2014, I served a copy of the Motion for Leave to File an Amicus Curiae Memorandum and related memorandum by electronic mail, per agreement, to:

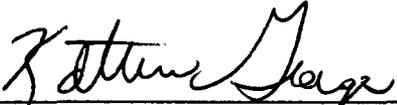
Steven L. Gross
25 West Main Street
Auburn, Wash. 98001
Attorney for Washington State Association of Municipal Attorneys

Michele Earl-Hubbard
Allied Law Group LLC
P.O. Box 33744
Seattle, Wash. 98133
Attorney for petitioner

Dennis Reynolds
Dennis D. Reynolds Law Office
200 Winslow Way W Unit 380
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110-4932
Attorney for petitioner

Stephanie Marshall Hicks
Marshall Hicks Law LLC
PO Box 9147
Bend, OR 97708-9147
Attorney for petitioner

Randall K. Gaylord and Amy Vira
San Juan County Prosecutor
P.O. Box 760
Friday Harbor, WA 98250-0760
Attorneys for respondents



KATHERINE GEORGE