



King County Councilmembers (from left): **Joe McDermott** (District 8), **Pete von Reichbauer** (Dist. 7), Council Vice Chair **Reagan Dunn** (Dist. 9), **Jeanne Kohl-Welles** (Dist. 4), **Larry Gossett** (Dist. 2), Council Chair **Rod Dembowski** (Dist. 1), **Dave Upthegrove** (Dist. 5), **Kathy Lambert** (Dist. 3), and Council Vice Chair **Claudia Balducci** (Dist. 6)

As your Metropolitan King County Council, we oversee the second largest government and the most populous county in Washington State. With over 2.2 million residents, King County is the 13th largest county in the United States in terms of population. There are more people living in King County than in 15 states! At 2,130 square miles, the county covers more territory than the states of Rhode Island or Delaware.

Our dedicated employees provide quality regional services every day to county residents. We are also the local government for approximately 247,000 people who live in unincorporated urban and rural areas, and we provide services by contract to many of the county's 39 cities.

As the legislative branch of county government, the Council sets policies, enacts laws, and adopts budgets that guide an array of services, including:

- The criminal justice system of prosecutors and public defenders, District and Superior Courts, juvenile detention, and adult jails;
- The King County Sheriff's Office, which directly serves residents of unincorporated areas and contracts with many cities to provide police protection;

- Public health and human services;
- Metro Transit bus service, Water Taxi, King County International Airport (Boeing Field), and county roads;
- Wastewater treatment and solid waste management;
- Regional parks, open space, and trails; and
- Elections, records, and licensing.

Each of the nine members of the King County Council represents a geographical district of about 240,000 residents. Councilmembers are elected on a non-partisan basis and serve four-year terms.

The Council has several standing committees that oversee specific functions of county government and a Committee of the Whole that includes all Councilmembers. They also work closely with elected officials from local jurisdictions on three regional committees that address common interests in matters of policy, transit, and water quality.

The Council's review of ordinances, motions, and budgets help ensure that county government operates in an efficient, transparent, and cost-effective manner, with equal access for all county residents.

Get agendas, minutes, and meeting videos online at:  
[www.kingcounty.gov/council](http://www.kingcounty.gov/council)

# Message from the Council Chair and overview of King County budget

The members of the King County Council, and all of the legislative branch, work to serve the 2.2 million people who live in King County. I am honored to have been elected Chair of the Council for 2019 and appreciate the trust my colleagues have placed in me to help guide our work this year.



**Rod Dembowski, Chair**

King County has a tremendous opportunity to improve every community in our region and the tools to make it happen. We are living in times of transformative change in our region, and

increasing economic disparity, where the middle class and our most vulnerable residents face unprecedented challenges. In 2019, we will work hard to continue to make progress on homelessness and affordable housing, expand access to transit and transportation, invest in environmental protection, and develop innovative criminal justice reform initiatives. We will strive to work collaboratively and prioritize investments through an equity and social justice lens, aimed at ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to pursue their full potential and thrive here in King County.

My colleagues and I want you to be a part of the work we do. Please don't hesitate to reach out to your Councilmember with your feedback and suggestions. We need your ideas, your energy, and your help to take the steps toward building better communities for all.

## Understanding the county budget

The county budget is composed of two types of funds: dedicated funds and the General Fund. Dedicated funds are the largest portion, accounting for 84% of the total budget. By law, these funds are restricted to specific purposes, such as transit, sewage treatment, and voter-approved programs like regional Emergency Medical Services.

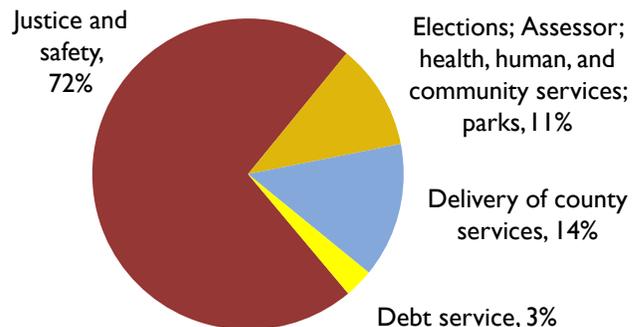
The discretionary portion of the county budget is the General Fund, which amounts to 16% of the total budget. These funds pay for critical day-to-day services not supported by other revenues. Almost three quarters of the General Fund (72%) goes to pay for criminal justice and public safety, as mandated by the state. The remainder must fund other services, such as elections and human services (see pie chart).

The General Fund is supported mostly by property tax, sales tax, and fees. By law, King County collects property taxes on behalf of all taxing districts within the county. However, King County receives only 17 cents of every property tax dollar, with the rest going to other agencies (see bar graph). Similarly, King County receives less than one cent of the sales tax of 10 cents per dollar collected in most of the county.

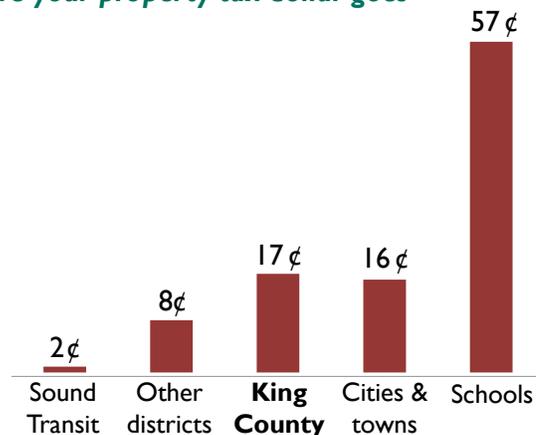
Since Washington State enacted the 1% cap on property tax increases, counties across our state have faced a gap between revenue and the cost of providing services. This structural gap has resulted in the General Fund being cut by several hundred million dollars, with consequent reduction in services to county residents.

The projected deficit in the General Fund for the next biennium is \$24 million. In the fall of 2020, the King County Council will review the biennial budget for 2021 and 2022. To learn more about the King County budget, please visit: [www.kingcounty.gov/council/budget](http://www.kingcounty.gov/council/budget).

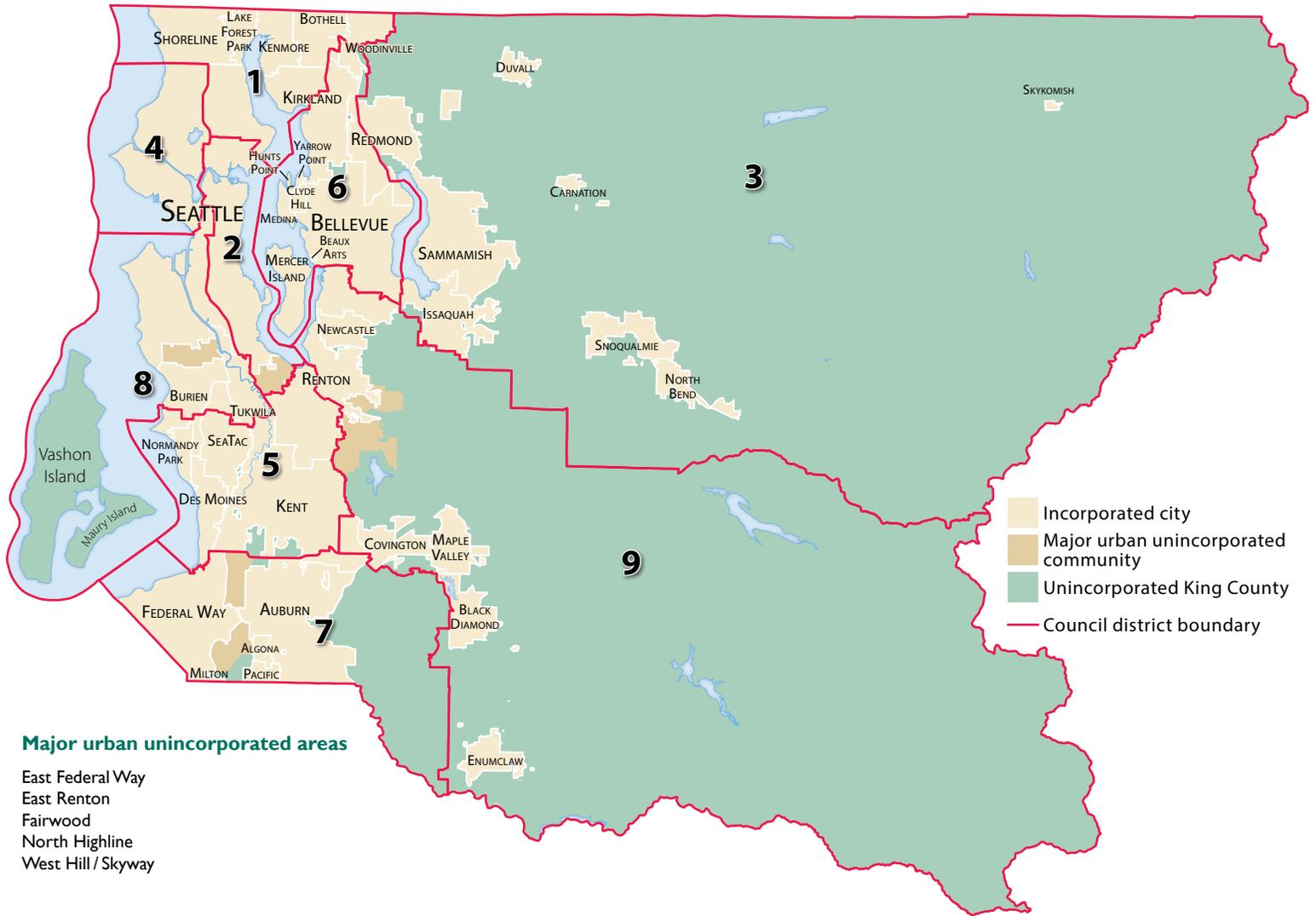
### General Fund expenditures



### Where your property tax dollar goes



# Council districts map



## Major urban unincorporated areas

- East Federal Way
- East Renton
- Fairwood
- North Highline
- West Hill / Skyway

- Incorporated city
- Major urban unincorporated community
- Unincorporated King County
- Council district boundary

## Contact information

The King County Council meets on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. on the 10th floor of the King County Courthouse. All public meetings held in chambers are available live on King County TV (channel 22 Comcast and Wave in SD, channel 322 Comcast and 722 Wave in HD). You can also stream meetings at [www.kingcounty.gov/KCTV](http://www.kingcounty.gov/KCTV). Agendas, minutes, and videos of past meetings are available on the council's website.

### Mailing address

Metropolitan King County Council  
King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue, 12th Floor  
Seattle, WA 98104-3272

### Telephone

(206) 477-1000, Toll-free: (800) 325-6165  
Fax: (206) 296-0198  
TTY/TDD: (206) 296-1024

### Online

Web: [www.kingcounty.gov/council](http://www.kingcounty.gov/council)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/KingCountyCouncil](http://www.facebook.com/KingCountyCouncil)  
Twitter: [www.twitter.com/KCCouncil](http://www.twitter.com/KCCouncil)

### Clerk of the Council

E-mail: [clerk.council@kingcounty.gov](mailto:clerk.council@kingcounty.gov)  
Telephone: (206) 477-1020

### Which council district do I live in?

Enter your address at [www.kingcounty.gov/council/councilmembers/find\\_district](http://www.kingcounty.gov/council/councilmembers/find_district)

Dist.	Councilmember	Phone	E-mail
1	Rod Dembowski	477-1001	<a href="mailto:rod.dembowski@kingcounty.gov">rod.dembowski@kingcounty.gov</a>
2	Larry Gossett	477-1002	<a href="mailto:larry.gossett@kingcounty.gov">larry.gossett@kingcounty.gov</a>
3	Kathy Lambert	477-1003	<a href="mailto:kathy.lambert@kingcounty.gov">kathy.lambert@kingcounty.gov</a>
4	Jeanne Kohl-Welles	477-1004	<a href="mailto:jeanne.kohl-welles@kingcounty.gov">jeanne.kohl-welles@kingcounty.gov</a>
5	Dave Upthegrove	477-1005	<a href="mailto:dave.upthegrove@kingcounty.gov">dave.upthegrove@kingcounty.gov</a>
6	Claudia Balducci	477-1006	<a href="mailto:claudia.balducci@kingcounty.gov">claudia.balducci@kingcounty.gov</a>
7	Pete von Reichbauer	477-1007	<a href="mailto:pete.vonreichbauer@kingcounty.gov">pete.vonreichbauer@kingcounty.gov</a>
8	Joe McDermott	477-1008	<a href="mailto:joe.mcdermott@kingcounty.gov">joe.mcdermott@kingcounty.gov</a>
9	Reagan Dunn	477-1009	<a href="mailto:reagan.dunn@kingcounty.gov">reagan.dunn@kingcounty.gov</a>

# Council's standing and regional committees

The King County Council reviews proposed legislation through standing committees that oversee specific government functions. Councilmembers work closely with elected officials from local jurisdictions on three regional committees that address common interests in policy, transit, and water quality. They also serve as the Board of Supervisors for the King County Flood Control District, a special-purpose government. Additionally, individual councilmembers serve on a variety of external committees, boards, and commissions, such as the Board of Health and the Sound Transit Board.

For more information on the committees below, including descriptions, alternate members, and meeting agendas, please visit [www.kingcounty.gov/council/committees](http://www.kingcounty.gov/council/committees).

## Council committees

### Committee of the Whole

*Meets first and third Mondays at 1:30 pm*

**Chair:** Joe McDermott

**Vice Chair:** Jeanne Kohl-Welles

**Members:** All councilmembers

### Budget and Fiscal Management

*Meets second and fourth Tuesdays at 9:30 am*

**Chair:** Claudia Balducci

**Vice Chair:** Kathy Lambert

**Members:** Rod Dembowski, Jeanne Kohl-Welles, Joe McDermott, Dave Upthegrove

### Government Accountability and Oversight

*Meets second and fourth Tuesdays at 3:00 pm*

**Chair:** Pete von Reichbauer

**Vice Chair:** Larry Gossett

**Members:** Rod Dembowski, Jeanne Kohl-Welles

### Health, Housing, and Human Services

*Meets first and third Tuesdays at 9:30 am*

**Chair:** Jeanne Kohl-Welles

**Vice Chair:** Dave Upthegrove

**Members:** Claudia Balducci, Rod Dembowski, Larry Gossett, Kathy Lambert

### Law and Justice

*Meets second and fourth Tuesdays at 1:00 pm*

**Chair:** Larry Gossett

**Vice Chair:** Kathy Lambert

**Members:** Reagan Dunn, Joe McDermott, Dave Upthegrove

### Local Services, Regional Roads and Bridges

*Meets second and fourth Mondays at 1:30 pm*

**Chair:** Kathy Lambert

**Vice Chair:** Claudia Balducci

**Members:** Reagan Dunn, Larry Gossett

### Mobility and Environment

*Meets first and third Tuesdays at 1:30 pm*

**Chair:** Dave Upthegrove

**Vice Chair:** Pete von Reichbauer

**Members:** Claudia Balducci, Rod Dembowski, Kathy Lambert, Jeanne Kohl-Welles, Joe McDermott

## Regional committees

### Regional Policy

*Meets second Wednesday at 3:00 pm*

**Chair:** King County Councilmember Pete von Reichbauer

**Vice Chair:** Bellevue City Councilmember John Stokes

**County Council Members:** Rod Dembowski, Jeanne Kohl-Welles

**Sound Cities Association Members:** Burien Deputy Mayor Austin Bell, Redmond City Councilmember Angela Birney, Auburn Deputy Mayor Bill Pelosa

**City of Seattle Members:** Councilmember Debora Juarez, Councilmember Kshama Sawant

### Regional Transit

*Meets third Wednesday at 3:00 pm*

**Chair:** King County Councilmember Claudia Balducci

**Vice Chair:** Redmond City Councilmember Dayle (Hank) Margeson

**County Council Members:** Joe McDermott, Dave Upthegrove

**Sound Cities Association Members:** Kirkland City Councilmember Dave Asher, Mercer Island City Councilmember Bruce Bassett, Auburn City Councilmember Claude DaCorsi, Pacific Mayor Leanne Guier, Tukwila City Councilmember Kathy Hougardy, Duvall Mayor Amy Ockerlander, Lake Forest Park City Councilmember John Wright

**City of Seattle Members:** Councilmember Lisa Herbold, Councilmember Mike O'Brien

### Regional Water Quality

*Meets first Wednesday at 3:00 pm*

**Chair:** King County Councilmember Kathy Lambert

**Vice Chair:** Pacific Mayor Leanne Guier

**County Council Members:** Rod Dembowski, Reagan Dunn

**Sound Cities Association Members:** Kirkland Mayor Penny Sweet, Mercer Island City Councilmember Benson Wong, Lake Forest Park City Councilmember John Wright

**Sewer District Members:** Sammamish Plateau Water District Boardmember Tom Harman, Southwest Suburban Sewer District Commissioner William Tracy

**City of Seattle Members:** Councilmember Lisa Herbold, Councilmember Kshama Sawant