



STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, January 28, 2026

Via Zoom

4:00 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

Participating Jurisdictions/Members

City of Arlington	Mayor Don Vanney
City of Darrington	Mayor Dan Rankin
City of Edmonds	Councilmembers Chris Eck, Jenna Nand
City of Everett	Councilmember Ben Zarlingo
City of Granite Falls	Councilmember David Griggs
City of Lynnwood	Councilmember David Parshall
City of Marysville	Councilmember Peter Condyles
City of Mill Creek	Mayor Stephanie Vignal
City of Monroe	Councilmember Jacob Walker, Councilmember Brandi Blair
City of Mukilteo	Councilmember Bob Champion, Jason Moon
City of Snohomish	Councilmember Gabe Jacobs
Snohomish County Council	Councilmember Nate Nehring
Snohomish County Executive Office	Josh Dugan
Community Representative	Allan Giffen

Other Attendees/Presenters:

Snohomish County	Annika Vaughn, Matt Ojala
Employment Security	Toby Paterson
CAB Co-Chairs	Jason Grenn, Taj Sukhija
CAB rep	Tonya Stadlman
City of Edmonds	Councilmember Jenna Nand
City of Everett	Frank Hong
City of Lake Stevens ,PAC Co-Chair	Russ Wright
City of Monroe	Lance Bailey
MBAKS	Natalie Reber
Snohomish County	Mary Jane Brell Vujovic
SCT Manager	Ann Larson
Snohomish County	Taylor Twiford, Jacob Lambert
Community Members	Daniel Lucier

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 4:01 pm by Councilmember Nate Nehring.

2. Introductions/Roll Call

Roll call was taken (as listed above).

3. Citizen Comments

No comments.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes (10-22-25)

Mayor Pro Tem Stephanie Vignal moved to approve the minutes. Josh Dugan seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

5. Update Items

a. PSRC Board Actions and Activities,

Ben Bakkenta, Director of Regional Planning, was unable to attend.

6. Update Items

a. Agenda Bill: Citizen Representative to the Community Advisory Board

Councilmember Jenna Nand moved to approve Tonya Stadlman as the Citizen Representative to the Community Advisory Board and was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Stephanie Vignal. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Agenda Bill: ICC 2024 Regional Project Evaluation Committee (RPEC) Alternate Recommendation for Other Cities/Towns Reps for Snohomish County

Councilmember David Parshall moved to approve David Mach as the ICC 2024 Regional Project Evaluation Committee (RPEC) Alternate Recommendation for Other Cities/Towns Reps and was seconded by Councilmember Ben Zarlingo. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Briefings, Discussion Items

a. 2026 Legislative Session Update

Annika Vaughn, Government Affairs Senior Analyst, gave an update on the 2026 Legislative Session. The 2026 legislative session began two weeks ago on January 12th and is this short 60-day session where legislators adopt their supplemental budgets. This year, they are dealing with a pretty significant budget shortfall. The first policy cutoff is February 4th. The second cutoff is the fiscal cutoff, and that's on February 9th. The budget is a main focus this session. Despite the \$12 billion tax package that the legislature passed last year, they must again fill an estimated \$2.3 billion shortfall.

A couple of bills of interest include:

- House Bill 2134, this bill would require regional transportation planning organizations and their local governments to develop a reduction plan for greenhouse gas emissions and vehicle miles traveled to their regional transportation plan.
- House Bill 2183 would require counties and cities to adopt an extreme heat response plan.
- House Bill 2201 requires county development regulations and

comprehensive planning to conform to the urban growth area's designated city

- House Bill 2266 is the new version of last year's House Bill 1195. This bill aims to encourage siting of permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, emergency housing, and emergency shelters, also called STEP Housing by limiting the ability of local governments to restrict
- Senate Bill 6015 requires cities and counties to approve land use applications that use permit-ready plans published by LNI
- Senate Bill 6026 requires all GMA planning counties and cities to authorize residential uses in areas zoned for commercial or mixed-use development.

b. *Employment Security (ESD) Labor Market Update*

Toby Paterson, North Sound Labor Economist, gave an update on the labor market. He spoke about the labor market and unemployment rates changes due to COVID and the changes since. He gave an overview of current employment statistics.

c. *General Assembly Debrief & SCT Exploratory Committee Recommendations*

Co-Chair Mayor Pro Tem Stephanie Vignal gave a debrief on the General Assembly and Exploratory Committee recommendations. As directed by the 2024 General Assembly, the Committee was established to explore future directions for SCT, balancing an expanded policy focus with its foundational planning mission under the Growth Management Act (GMA) and Countywide Planning Policies (CPPs). Several jurisdictions and entities volunteered to participate, playing a crucial role in developing recommendations for the future of SCT. The committee identified four areas of interest that they wanted to prioritize and drafted three recommendations:

- Housing-Subcommittee Goal: Increase communication and collaboration between jurisdictions and stakeholders to improve housing choices and affordability. Focus: Implement HART Report action goals (with the potential for goals to evolve in the future)
- Economic Development- Subcommittee Goal: Inform, Engage, and Activate to improve economic development conditions and opportunities throughout Snohomish County. Focus: Identify actions to improve economic development, prepare for the new economy and train the workforce for future opportunities
- Transportation - Restructure Goal: Improve planning, coordination, and funding opportunities for all critical infrastructure throughout Snohomish County. Focus: Expand the Infrastructure Coordinating Committee's focus to include other critical infrastructure topics
- Health and Human Services - Formality in the Operating Guidelines to solidify this work.

d. *Community Advisory Board Restructure Recommendation*

Co-Chairs Jason Green and Taj Sukhija gave a Community Advisory Board Update. CAB is a standing committee of SCT. CAB provides feedback, input, and analysis on countywide growth management issues. Current membership of the board is citizens of Snohomish County and bring a variety of professional and personal backgrounds. For more than a year, SCT's Community Advisory Board (CAB) has had discussions about the future director on the board as the larger SCT body has discussed restructuring. For restructuring, CAB Recommends that the purpose of the Board remain focused on topics related to growth management, especially land use,

infrastructure housing and environmental issues. CAB Recommends that the Board deliver a summary of the Board's discussions to the Steering Committee. For Structure & Membership , CAB recommends updating Operating Guidelines to define board structure, membership, term limits, meetings, and administration, Limit membership to Snohomish County residents, Target a board size of 12 members, Set 3-year terms, with a maximum of two consecutive terms, and that Engagement with ports, tribes, and other governments should occur through government-to-government channels, not through Community Advisory Board

- e. *SCT Manager's Report*
 - a. SCT Committee Report

8. Go-Round

9. Next Meeting Date

- a. Wednesday, February 25, 2026

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m. by Councilmember Nate Nehring

All presentations given, discussions held, and actions taken at this meeting are kept on file (via recording) in PDS until six years from December 31st of this year.