



# King County

1200 King County  
Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

## Meeting Agenda Committee of the Whole

*Jorge Barón, Chair*  
*Claudia Balducci, Vice Chair;*  
*Rod Dembowski, Reagan Dunn, Steffanie Fain, Rhonda Lewis, Teresa Mosqueda, Sarah Perry, Pete von Reichbauer*

*Lead Staff: Andy Micklow (206-263-3226)*  
*Committee Clerk: Blake Wells (206-263-1617)*

9:30 AM

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Hybrid Meeting

Hybrid Meetings: Attend the King County Council committee meetings in person in Council Chambers (Room 1001), 516 3rd Avenue in Seattle, or through remote access. Details on how to attend and/or to provide comment remotely are listed below.

Pursuant to K.C.C. 1.24.035 A. and F., this meeting is also noticed as a meeting of the Metropolitan King County Council, whose agenda is limited to the committee business. In this meeting only the rules and procedures applicable to committees apply and not those applicable to full council meetings.

**HOW TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT:** The Committee of the Whole values community input and looks forward to hearing from you on agenda items.

There are three ways to provide public comment:

1. In person: You may attend the meeting and provide comment in the Council Chambers.
2. By email: You may comment in writing on current agenda items by submitting your email comments to [kcccomitt@kingcounty.gov](mailto:kcccomitt@kingcounty.gov). If your email is received before 8:00 a.m. on the day of the meeting, your email comments will be distributed to the committee members and appropriate staff prior to the meeting.
3. Remote attendance at the meeting by phone or computer: You may provide oral comment on current agenda items during the meeting's public comment period by connecting to the meeting via phone or computer using the ZOOM application at <https://zoom.us/join>, and entering the webinar ID number below.



Sign language and interpreter services can be arranged given sufficient notice (206-848-0355).  
TTY Number - TTY 711.  
Council Chambers is equipped with a hearing loop, which provides a wireless signal that is picked up by a hearing aid when it is set to 'T' (Telecoil) setting.



You are not required to sign up in advance. Comments are limited to current agenda items.

You have the right to language access services at no cost to you. To request these services, please contact Language Access Coordinator, Tera Chea, at 206 477 9259 or email [Tera.chea2@kingcounty.gov](mailto:Tera.chea2@kingcounty.gov) by 8:00 a.m. three business days prior to the meeting.

**CONNECTING TO THE WEBINAR:**

Webinar Meeting ID: 872 3341 5187

If you do not have access to the ZOOM application, you can connect to the meeting by calling 1 253 215 8782 and using the Webinar ID. Connecting in this manner, however, may impact your ability to be unmuted to speak.

**HOW TO WATCH/LISTEN TO THE MEETING REMOTELY:** There are several ways to watch or listen in to the meeting:

- 1) Stream online via this link: [www.kingcounty.gov/kctv](http://www.kingcounty.gov/kctv), or input the link web address into your web browser.
- 2) Watch King County TV Comcast Channel 22 and 322(HD), Astound Broadband Channels 22 and 711(HD).
- 3) Listen to the meeting by telephone – See “Connecting to the Webinar” above.

To help us manage the meeting, if you do not wish to be called upon for public comment please use the Livestream or King County TV options listed above, if possible, to watch or listen to the meeting.

1. **Call to Order**

To show a PDF of the written materials for an agenda item, click on the agenda item below.

2. **Roll Call**

3. **Approval of Minutes** p. 5

*November 3, 2025 meeting minutes*

4. **Public Comment**



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TTY Number - TTY 711.  
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## Discussion and Possible Action

5. [Proposed Motion No. 2026-0001](#) p. 8

A MOTION confirming the executive's appointment of Richa Malik, who resides in council district nine, to the Harborview Medical Center board of trustees, as the council district seven representative.

**Sponsors:** von Reichbauer

*Sam Porter, Council staff*

6. [Proposed Motion No. 2025-0340](#) p. 8

A MOTION confirming the executive's appointment of Laura Zaichkin, who resides in council district eight, to the Harborview Medical Center board of trustees, as the district eight representative.

**Sponsors:** Mosqueda

*Sam Porter, Council staff*

7. [Proposed Motion No. 2025-0341](#) p. 19

A MOTION confirming the King County board of health's appointment of Karen Hartfield to serve as an alternate member representing public health, health care facilities, and providers for a three-year term to expire on December 31, 2028.

**Sponsors:** Mosqueda

*Olivia Brey, Council staff*

8. [Proposed Motion No. 2026-0012](#) p. 24

A MOTION making an appointment to fill a judicial vacancy in the West division, West electoral district, judge position number one of the King County district court.

**Sponsors:** Barón

*Erica Newman, Council staff*



Sign language and interpreter services can be arranged given sufficient notice (206-848-0355).  
TTY Number - TTY 711.  
Council Chambers is equipped with a hearing loop, which provides a wireless signal that is picked up by a hearing aid when it is set to 'T' (Telecoil) setting.



9. [Proposed Motion No. 2026-0013](#) p. 32

A MOTION making an appointment to fill a judicial vacancy in the West division, West electoral district, judge position number four of the King County district court.

**Sponsors:** Barón

*Erica Newman, Council staff*

## Other Business

## Adjournment



Sign language and interpreter services can be arranged given sufficient notice (206-848-0355).  
TTY Number - TTY 711.  
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# King County

1200 King County  
Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

## Meeting Minutes Committee of the Whole

*Claudia Balducci, Chair;  
Teresa Mosqueda, Vice Chair;  
Jorge Barón, Rod Dembowski, Reagan Dunn, Sarah Perry,  
De'Sean Quinn, Pete von Reichbauer, Girmay Zahilay*

*Lead Staff: Andy Micklow (206-263-3226)  
Committee Clerk: Blake Wells (206-263-1617)*

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9:30 AM

Monday, November 3, 2025

Hybrid Meeting

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### REVISED AGENDA - DRAFT MINUTES

1. **Call to Order**

*Chair Balducci called the meeting to order at 9:33 AM.*

2. **Roll Call**

**Present:** 9 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski, Dunn, Mosqueda, Perry, Quinn, von Reichbauer and Zahilay

3. **Approval of Minutes**

*Councilmember Barón moved approval of the October 20, 2025 meeting minutes.  
There being no objections, the minutes were approved.*

4. **Public Comment**

*The following people provided public comment:*

*Amos  
Karemeri  
Brian  
Martin*

## Discussion and Possible Action

### 5. [Proposed Motion No. 2025-0287](#)

A MOTION establishing the King County 2026 State Legislative Priorities.

*Mac Nicholson, Director, Government Relations, King County Council, briefed the committee and answered questions from the members.*

**A motion was made by Vice Chair Mosqueda that this motion be passed out of committee without a recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 9 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski, Dunn, Mosqueda, Perry, Quinn, von Reichbauer and Zahilay

## Briefings

### 6. [Briefing No. 2025-B0143](#)

4Culture Budget

*Gene Paul, Council staff, briefed the committee. Brian Carter, Executive Director, 4Culture, and Claire Miccio, Senior Government Relations Manager, 4Culture, answered questions from the members.*

**This matter was presented.**

### 7. [Briefing No. 2025-B0153](#)

Briefing on King County Housing Needs Assessment

*Sunaree Marshall, Director, DCHS Housing and Community Development Division, Morgan Shook, Director, EConorthwest, and Lee Ann Ryan, Senior Project Manager, EConorthwest, briefed the committee via PowerPoint presentation and answered questions from the members.*

**This matter was presented.**

## Other Business

*There was no other business to come before the committee.*

## Adjournment

*The meeting was adjourned at 11:22 AM.*

Approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk's Signature



## King County

# Metropolitan King County Council Committee of the Whole

### STAFF REPORT

<b>Agenda Item:</b>	5 & 6	<b>Name:</b>	Sam Porter
<b>Proposed No.:</b>	2025-0340 2026-0001	<b>Date:</b>	January 27, 2026

### SUBJECT

A Proposed Motion to confirm the appointment of the following individuals to the Harborview Medical Center Board of Trustees:

- Laura Zaichkin, who resides in Council District 8, as the District 8 representative, for a partial term to expire on July 31, 2026<sup>1</sup>, and
- Richa Malik, who resides in Council District 9, as the District 7 representative, for a partial term to expire on July 31, 2026.<sup>2</sup>

### BACKGROUND

Harborview Medical Center (HMC) serves as the Level 1 trauma center in the four-state region of Washington, Alaska, Idaho, and Montana. Harborview prioritizes serving the non-English-speaking poor, the uninsured and underinsured, people who experience domestic violence and or sexual assault, incarcerated people in King County's jails, people with behavioral health illnesses, particularly those treated involuntarily, people with sexually transmitted diseases, and individuals who require specialized emergency care, trauma care, and severe burn care. HMC is owned by King County and operated by the University of Washington.

The hospital is governed by the 13-member Board of Trustees. The Board, as the representative authority of the County, is entrusted to oversee the provision of health care services to assure that the county's priorities are addressed, and high-quality health care is made available to County residents irrespective of their ability to pay. Board membership is comprised of one member from each Council district and four at-large members. Nominees are appointed by the King County Executive and confirmed by the Council by motion.<sup>3</sup> Appointments shall be deemed to have been made on the date the letter of appointment is filed with the Council Clerk; appointments are subject to confirmation or rejection by the Council.

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<sup>1</sup> PM 2025-0340

<sup>2</sup> PM 2026-0001

<sup>3</sup> K.C.C. 2.42.040



In accordance with King County Code 2.42, an effort should be made to assure that diverse geographic, social, cultural, ethnic, racial and economic backgrounds and perspectives are considered for candidate appointments. Candidates should possess demonstrated leadership ability, and recognized experience in management or administration, planning, finance, health service delivery, consumer representation or institutional operation; and the ability to work cooperatively with others of diverse backgrounds and philosophies. During the two years prior to appointment, candidates must not have held a salaried position in County government or any organization that holds a contract with the Hospital. Further, King County Code requires that candidates not be employed in a managerial capacity by, or serve on the board of, a UW Medicine competitor.

### **APPOINTEE INFORMATION**

**Laura Zaichkin.** Ms. Zaichkin currently serves as the Director of Market Competition and Affordability for the Washington Health Benefit Exchange. According to her application materials, she has "more than a decade of passion for and experience in health reform and health systems transformation." Previously, she served as Deputy Chief Policy Officer for the state Health Care Authority and led health benefit purchasing strategy for the state's long-term home caregiving workforce.

**Richa Malik.** Ms. Malik is the Principal Attorney with Malik Law Firm based in Renton which specializes in immigration law. Her application materials indicate that she has "extensive experience advocating for diverse communities, navigating regulatory requirements, and ensuring that organizational decisions prioritize fairness, transparency, and long-term impact."

### **ANALYSIS**

Staff have not identified any issues with the proposed appointments which appear to be consistent with King County Code requirements.

### **INVITED**

- Laura Zaichkin, Appointee
- Richa Malik, Appointee

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Proposed Motion 2025-0340
2. Transmittal Letter
3. Proposed Motion 2026-0001
4. Transmittal Letter
5. HMC Board of Trustees Profile, December 2025

**KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Signature Report****Motion****Proposed No. 2025-0340.1****Sponsors Mosqueda**

1                   A MOTION confirming the executive's appointment of  
2                   Laura Zaichkin, who resides in council district eight, to the  
3                   Harborview Medical Center board of trustees, as the district  
4                   eight representative.

5                   BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

6                   The county executive's appointment of Laura Zaichkin, who resides in council  
7                   district eight, to the Harborview Medical Center board of trustees, as the district eight

- 8 representative, for a partial term to expire on July 31, 2026, is hereby confirmed.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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Sarah Perry, Chair

ATTEST:

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Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_.

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Girmay Zahilay, County Executive

**Attachments:** None



## King County

**Shannon Braddock**

King County Executive

401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800

Seattle, WA 98104

**206-477-3306** Fax 206-296-0194

TTY Relay: 711

[www.kingcounty.gov](http://www.kingcounty.gov)

October 22, 2025

The Honorable Girmay Zahilay  
Chair, King County Council  
Room 1200  
C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Zahilay:

This letter transmits a proposed Motion confirming the appointment of Laura Zaichkin, who resides in council district eight, to the Harborview Medical Center Board of Trustees, as the district eight representative, for a partial term expiring July 31, 2026.

Ms. Zaichkin's application, financial disclosure, board profile, and appointment letter, are enclosed to serve as supporting and background information to assist the Council in considering confirmation.

Thank you for your consideration of the proposed legislation. If you have any questions about this appointment, please have your staff call Tala Mahmoud, External Relations Director, at (206) 477-3306.

Sincerely,

Shannon Braddock  
King County Executive

Enclosures

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff, King County Council  
Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Karan Gill, Deputy Executive, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive  
Stephanie Pure, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive

The Honorable Girmay Zahilay  
October 22, 2025  
Page 2

Tala Mahmoud, External Relations Director, Office of the Executive  
Mylinh Thao, Staff Liaison  
Laura Zaichkin

**KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
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**Signature Report****Motion****Proposed No. 2026-0001.1****Sponsors** von Reichbauer

- 1                   A MOTION confirming the executive's appointment of
- 2                   Richa Malik, who resides in council district nine, to the
- 3                   Harborview Medical Center board of trustees, as the
- 4                   council district seven representative.
- 5               BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:
- 6               The county executive's appointment of Richa Malik, who resides in council
- 7   district nine, to the Harborview Medical Center board of trustees, as the council district

- 8 seven representative, for a partial term to expire on July 31, 2026, is hereby confirmed.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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Sarah Perry, Chair

ATTEST:

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Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_.

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Girmay Zahilay, County Executive

**Attachments:** None



**King County**

**Girmay Zahilay**

King County Executive

401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800  
Seattle, WA 98104

**206-296-9600** Fax 206-296-0194

TTY Relay: 711

[www.kingcounty.gov](http://www.kingcounty.gov)

December 12, 2025

The Honorable Sarah Perry  
Chair, King County Council  
Room 1200  
C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Perry:

This letter transmits a proposed Motion confirming the appointment of Richa Malik who resides in council district nine, to the Harborview Medical Center Board of Trustees, for a partial term expiring July 31, 2026.

Ms. Malik's application, financial disclosure, board profile, and appointment letter, are enclosed to serve as supporting and background information to assist the Council in considering confirmation.

Thank you for your consideration of the proposed legislation. If you have any questions about this appointment, please have your staff call Ames Kessler, Executive Legislative Coordinator, at 206-477-0151.

Sincerely,



Girmay Zahilay  
King County Executive



The Honorable Sarah Perry  
December 12, 2025  
Page 2

Enclosures

cc: King County Councilmembers  
    ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff, King County Council  
            Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council  
Karan Gill, Deputy Executive, Office of the Executive  
Ames Kessler, Legislative Coordinator, Office of the Executive  
Mylinh Thao, Harborview Medical Center Board of Trustees Staff Liaison  
Richa Malik

# HARBORVIEW MEDICAL CENTER BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**DATE:** December 2025

**TOTAL NUMBER OF MEMBERS:** 13 (Nominated by the King County Council with each Councilmember nominating one person to the board – plus four council at-large positions)

**LENGTH OF TERM:** 4 Years

*\* King County seeks to create an inclusive and accessible process for individuals who wish to serve on a King County board or commission. We strive to ensure that King County boards and commissions are representative of the communities we serve.*

## BOARD MEMBERS APPOINTED:

Pos. No.	Name	KCC District	Represents	Date Appointed	Term Expires	Number of Appointed Terms
1.	Sven Peterson (pending confirmation)	1	As the district one representative	7/21/25	7/31/26	1 Partial
2.	Sharon Maeda	2	As the district two representative	3/14/14	7/31/19	1 Partial / 1 Full
3.	David Hadley	3	As the district three representative	3/24/21	7/31/25	1 Full
4.	David T. McDonald	2	As the district four representative	1/15/98	7/31/10	3 Full
5	VACANT	5	As the district five representative		7/31/28	
6.	Sheryl Whitney	6	As the district six representative	11/10/17	7/31/28	2 Full
7.	Richa Malik (pending appointment)	7	As the district seven representative		7/31/26	1 Partial
8.	Laura Zaichkin (pending confirmation)	8	As the district eight representative	10/22/25	7/31/26	1 Partial
9.	Paul Graves	9	As the district nine representative	3/3/25	7/31/28	1 Partial
10	Dorothy Frost Teeter	4	As a Council at-large representative	6/29/23	7/31/26	1 Full
11	Meredith Matthews, MD	2	As a Council at-large representative	4/23/24	7/31/26	1 Partial / 2 Full
12	David Grossman, MD	2	As a Council at-large representative	2/20/25	7/31/28	1 Partial
13	Eileen Cody	8	As a Council at-large representative	7/7/23	7/31/28	1 Partial/1 full



## King County

# Metropolitan King County Council Committee of the Whole

### STAFF REPORT

<b>Agenda Items:</b>	7	<b>Name:</b>	Olivia Brey
<b>Proposed No.:</b>	2025-0341	<b>Date:</b>	January 27, 2026

### SUBJECT

Proposed Motion 2025-0341 would confirm the appointment of Karen Hartfield to the King County Board of Health to serve as the alternate seat representing public health, health care facilities, and providers for a three-year term.

### BACKGROUND

**King County Board of Health.** The King County Board of Health (KCBOH) sets county-wide public health policy, enacts local public health regulations, and carries out duties specified in RCW 70.05.060 including enforcing state public health statutes, preventing and controlling the spread of infectious disease, abating nuisances, and establishing fees for licenses, permits and other services. The KCBOH Code includes but is not limited to, requirements pertaining to food service, pesticides, the handling of solid waste and hazardous materials, on-site sewage, tobacco products, and swimming pools. The 2011 interlocal agreement<sup>1</sup> between King County and City of Seattle regarding Public Health—Seattle & King County (PHSKC) reinforces that the Board provides policy influence over PHSKC pursuant to RCW 70.05.060 and supervises matters pertaining to the preservation of the life and health of the people within its jurisdiction.

In 2025, the KCBOH was restructured in accordance with state law through Ordinance 20019<sup>2</sup> and BOH25-03.<sup>3</sup> The Board consists of King County Councilmembers, City of Seattle Councilmembers, elected members selected by the Sound Cities Association, representatives from the Snoqualmie Indian Tribe, the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, and the Seattle Indian Health Board, and nonelected members. The nonelected members represent the following three categories, as defined by state law: public health, health care facilities, and providers; consumers of public health; and other community stakeholders.<sup>4</sup> The structure of the 20-member Board is shown in Table 1.

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<sup>1</sup> [King County – File #: 2011-0228](#)

<sup>2</sup> [King County – File #: 2025-0284](#)

<sup>3</sup> [BOH25-03](#)

<sup>4</sup> [RCW 70.05.035\(1\)\(a\)](#)

**Table 1. Membership of the Board of Health**

Primary Members	Elected Members	Nonelected Members
	(1) King County	Snoqualmie Indian Tribe
	(2) King County	Muckleshoot Indian Tribe
	(3) King County	Seattle Indian Health Board (SIHB)
	(4) King County	(1) Nonelected category in RCW 70.05.035(1)(a)
	(1) City of Seattle	(2) Nonelected category in RCW 70.05.035(1)(a)
	(2) City of Seattle	(3) Nonelected category in RCW 70.05.035(1)(a)
	(3) City of Seattle	(4) Nonelected category in RCW 70.05.035(1)(a)
	(1) Sound Cities Association (SCA)	(5) Nonelected category in RCW 70.05.035(1)(a)
	(2) SCA	(6) Nonelected category in RCW 70.05.035(1)(a)
Alternate Members	(3) SCA	(7) Nonelected category in RCW 70.05.035(1)(a)
	King County alternate	Nonelected alternate - public health, health care facilities, and providers
	City of Seattle alternate	Nonelected alternate - public health consumers
	SCA alternate	Nonelected alternate - community stakeholders
	SCA alternate	Snoqualmie Indian Tribe alternate
	SCA alternate	Muckleshoot Indian Tribe alternate
		SIHB alternate

**KCBOH Vacancies and Recruitment.** The term for the Boardmember for the alternate position representing public health, health care facilities, and providers ended in 2025, and the Boardmember chose not to serve an additional term; therefore, the Board recruited for the vacant alternate position.

Public Health staff released applications for the vacant alternate position in June 2025 and closed recruitment in July. Public Health staff distributed notices of the vacancy to those subscribed to the Board of Health email distribution list, as well as posting on the PHSKC Blog<sup>5</sup> and advertisements in the local newspapers of record. Applications were made available in English and Spanish and other languages upon request.

A subcommittee consisting of Boardmembers Christopher Archiopoli, Butch de Castro, Lisa Chew, and Mustafa Mohammed volunteered to review applications and interview candidates for the vacant position. The Board received ten applications, four were invited for interviews, and three candidates participated in an interview with subcommittee members of the Board and PHSKC staff in September. Candidate Karen Hartfield was moved forward by resolution at the October 16, 2025, meeting.<sup>6</sup> Ms. Hartfield's appointment would be for a three-year term to expire December 31, 2028.

## **APPOINTEE INFORMATION**

**Karen Hartfield.** Karen Hartfield is a Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Washington School of Public Health and recently retired from a 36-year career with Public Health – Seattle & King County. She has experience planning, implementing, and evaluating a wide range of public health programs, including HIV/STI/HCV, overdose

<sup>5</sup> [Join the King County Board of Health! – Public Health Insider](#)

<sup>6</sup> [BOH Resolution 25-07](#)

prevention, communicable disease epidemiology, chronic disease prevention, and reproductive health. Ms. Hartfield has also worked with community-based organizations and other community partners.

Ms. Hartfield holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Harvard University and a Master of Public Health degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

### **ANALYSIS**

Staff has not identified any issues with the proposed appointment. It appears to be consistent with the requirements of county code and state law.

### **INVITED**

- Karen Hartfield, Appointee to the Board of Health
- Joy Carpine-Cazzanti, Board of Health Administrator, Public Health – Seattle & King County

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Proposed Motion 2025-0341



# KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

## Signature Report

### Motion

**Proposed No.** 2025-0341.1

**Sponsors** Mosqueda

1           A MOTION confirming the King County board of health's  
2           appointment of Karen Hartfield to serve as an alternate  
3           member representing public health, health care facilities,  
4           and providers for a three-year term to expire on December  
5           31, 2028.

6           WHEREAS, in 2021, RCW 70.05.035 was amended to require an equal number  
7           of elected to nonelected members on local boards of health, with nonelected members  
8           described in RCW 70.05.035(1)(a) selected by the King County board of health from  
9           three specific categories of interests: public health, health care facilities, and providers;  
10          consumers of public health; and community stakeholders, and

11          WHEREAS, in accordance with K.C.C. 2.35.024, the board adopted Resolution  
12          25-07, dated October 16, 2025, and subsequently transmitted the requisite materials to the  
13          King County council;

14          NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

15          The King County board of health's appointment of Karen Hartfield, to serve as an

- 16 alternate member representing public health, health care facilities, and providers, for a  
17 three-year term to expire on December 31, 2028, is hereby confirmed.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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Sarah Perry, Chair

ATTEST:

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Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_.

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Girmay Zahilay, County Executive

**Attachments:** None



## King County

# Metropolitan King County Council Committee of the Whole

### STAFF REPORT

<b>Agenda Item:</b>	8	<b>Name:</b>	Erica Newman
<b>Proposed No.:</b>	2026-0012	<b>Date:</b>	January 27, 2026

### SUBJECT

Proposed Motion 2026-0012 would make an appointment to fill a judicial vacancy in position number one of the West Division of King County District Court.

### SUMMARY

There is a judicial vacancy in the West Electoral District of King County District Court Position 1. Under state law, the King County Council, as the county legislative authority, is directed to fill district court vacancies by appointment.<sup>1</sup> The King County Code provides a merit selection process for filling such vacancies.<sup>2</sup> There are two eligible applicants to be interviewed during the January 27, 2026, Committee of the Whole meeting.

In its current form, proposed motion 2026-0012 has a blank for the name of the person being appointed. A verbal line amendment would be needed to insert the name of the selected appointee.

### BACKGROUND

King County District Court is the County's court of "limited jurisdiction" and has responsibility for traffic infractions, small claims, and misdemeanor criminal offenses in the County's unincorporated areas, cities that do not have municipal courts and contract with the court to provide those services, and for the adjudication of "state" offenses (violations of state statute in the county or when the arresting agency is the Washington State Patrol or other state law enforcement agency). The District Court handles approximately 250,000 filings annually throughout the North, South, East, and West Divisions.

Position 1 in the West Electoral District was made vacant by the departure of Judge Lisa Paglisotti. After receiving official notice of the vacancy from District Court Chief Presiding Judge Rebecca Robertson on September 2, 2025, the Clerk of the Council published notice of the vacancy and judicial appointment application process in The Seattle Times. The deadline for the recruitment was October 23, 2025.

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<sup>1</sup> RCW 3.34.100

<sup>2</sup> KCC 2.70



## **ANALYSIS**

In accordance with the merit selection process outlined in KCC 2.70.020, by the application deadline, eligible candidates must submit:

1. A current rating of, at a minimum, “qualified” for a district court judicial position from the King County Bar Association and at least one other eligible<sup>3</sup> bar association operating in King County;
2. A letter of interest and résumé;
3. A copy of the completed responses to questionnaires submitted to the King County Bar Association to obtain its rating; and
4. Any supporting information the individual would like the Council to consider.

In accordance with state law, the judge appointed through this process will fill the remainder of Judge Lisa Paglisotti’s term, which will end December 31, 2026.<sup>4</sup>

Two eligible individuals submitted applications. The applicants are listed in alphabetical order:

- Bardi Martin
- Andrew Repanich

Pursuant to KCC 2.70.020.G.1.b(3) the Chair of the Committee of the Whole (COW) has determined the process by which the committee will receive recommendations for selecting final candidates to be interviewed. There are two eligible applicants for this position, and the process was determined to involve the distribution of the applications to all Councilmembers and interviewing candidates at the COW meeting on January 27, 2026. The Committee would need to make a recommendation for appointment, as provided in K.C.C. 1.24.055.D., to full council through a motion that would make the appointment. In its current form, the motion has a blank for the name of the person being appointed. A verbal line amendment will be needed to insert the name of the selected appointee.

Brief bios for each of the candidates are listed below in alphabetical order.

**Bardi Martin** has served as a Judge Pro Tem in King County District Courts since 2023, where he oversees civil and criminal calendars, including protection orders, infractions, impound hearings, name changes, and small claims trials and pre-trials; and criminal arraignment, pre-trial, motion, disposition, readiness, review, and in-custody calendars. Currently, Mr. Martin serves as a Managing Member for Boyle Martin Thoeny, PLLC where he represents clients in all aspects of civil and criminal litigation. Previously, Mr. Martin served three years as a Public Defender in multiple law firms throughout King County.

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<sup>3</sup> Eligible bar associations must have a judicial evaluation process that is open to any candidate who is eligible under state law for appointment to the district court; and written procedures and criteria governing its judicial evaluation process and makes copies of such procedures and criteria available upon request.

<sup>4</sup> RCW 3.34.100 and RCW 29A.04.321. The judge appointed through this process shall hold office until the next general election in an even-numbered year and until a successor is elected and qualified.

**Andrew Repanich** has served as a Pro-Tem Court Commissioner for King County District Court since 2022, where he oversees civil and criminal matters. Currently, Mr. Repanich is owner/operator of Repanich Law, where he represents indigent clients in Superior Courts across Washington State for resentencing following the Supreme Court's decision in *State v. Blake*. Recently, he was sworn in and is scheduled to preside in Tukwila and Edmonds Municipal Courts in Fall 2025. Previously, Mr. Repanich served the Department of Public Defense in various positions for over twenty years, eight of those years as a Public Defense Attorney. Additionally, he served as the Investigations Monitor for the King County Office of Law Enforcement Oversight for almost five years.

### **INVITED**

- Bardi Martin, Candidate
- Andrew Repanich, Candidate

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Proposed Motion 2026-0012
2. Final Candidate Bar Association Ratings, dated October 24, 2025
3. Judicial evaluation process for the King County Bar Association



# KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

## Signature Report

### Motion

**Proposed No.** 2026-0012.1

**Sponsors** Barón

1 A MOTION making an appointment to fill a judicial  
2 vacancy in the West division, West electoral district, judge  
3 position number one of the King County district court.

4 WHEREAS, a judicial vacancy exists in the West division, West electoral district,  
5 judge position number one of the King County district court, and

6 WHEREAS, RCW 3.34.100 authorizes the county legislative body to fill judicial  
7 vacancies in district court, and

8 WHEREAS, K.C.C. chapter 2.70 provides for the metropolitan King County  
9 council to fill judicial vacancies in district court, and

10 WHEREAS, in accordance with K.C.C. 2.70.020.D., candidates must have a  
11 current rating of, at a minimum, "qualified" for a district court judicial position from the  
12 King County Bar Association and at least one other bar association operating in King  
13 County with an eligible judicial candidate evaluation process, and

14 WHEREAS, a rating of the King County Bar Association is valid for three years,  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, for those eligible candidates, the committee of the whole reviewed  
17 candidate ratings from the King County Bar Association and other bar associations with  
18 an established judicial candidate evaluation procedure, reviewed written materials  
19 concerning each candidate and conducted interviews with the final candidates in  
20 accordance with K.C.C. chapter 2.70, and

21 WHEREAS, the council has carefully considered the qualifications of the final  
22 candidates;

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

24 \_\_\_\_\_ is hereby appointed to fill the judicial vacancy in the West  
25 division, West electoral district, judge position number one of the King County district  
26 court.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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Sarah Perry, Chair

ATTEST:

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Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_.

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Girmay Zahilay, County Executive

**Attachments:** None

Updated October 24, 2025

### Current Bar Association Ratings of West Division, Position 1 KCDC Final Candidates

BAR ASSOCIATION	King County Bar Association	QLaw <sup>1</sup>	Joint Asian Judicial Evaluation Committee <sup>2</sup>	Latina/o Bar Association of Washington <sup>3</sup>	Washington Women Lawyers <sup>4</sup>	Cardozo Society of Washington <sup>5</sup>	Loren Miller Bar Association <sup>6</sup>
REPANICH	Q		WQ	EWQ	EWQ	WQ	WQ
MARTIN	WQ	WQ	Q				

EWQ = Exceptionally Well Qualified

WQ = Well Qualified

HQ = Highly Qualified

Q = Qualified

<sup>1</sup> As described on its website, QLaw "Serves as a voice of LGBT lawyers and other legal professionals in the State of Washington on issues relating to diversity and equality in the legal profession, in the courts, and under the law."

<sup>2</sup> As described in their judicial evaluation committee rules and procedures, JAJEC is "composed of representatives from the Asian Specialty Bars formed to evaluate candidates within the State of Washington."

<sup>3</sup> As described on its website, "The purpose of the Latina/o Bar Association of Washington is to represent the concerns and goals of Latino attorneys and Latino people of the State of Washington."

<sup>4</sup> As described on its website, "WWL is Washington's largest organization dedicated to furthering the full integration of women in the legal profession and promoting equal rights and opportunities for women."

<sup>5</sup> As described on its website, "Cardozo Society integrates legal and Jewish concerns to demonstrate the unique contributions the legal profession can make to improve the Jewish and local communities."

<sup>6</sup> As described on its website, "The Loren Miller Bar Association is a Washington statewide organization and the local affiliate of the National Bar Association, which is the oldest minority bar and the largest organization of African-American attorneys in the United States."

## Judicial Candidate Evaluation Process

This is a brief summary of the King County Bar Association judicial candidate evaluation process for contested judicial elections and appointments.

The KCBA utilizes a representative body of its membership in this 85 member panel, to engage in an objective and comprehensive evaluation process designed to promote a high quality bench, and to assist the public by providing important information on judicial candidates in elections. The KCBA conducts evaluations for election and appointment for King County Courts of Limited Jurisdiction and Superior Court. The KCBA conducts evaluations for contested elections only for the Court of Appeals – Division I and the Washington State Supreme Court.

Several tools are used in the evaluation process including the Governor’s Uniform Questionnaire, the KCBA supplemental questionnaire, a writing sample, an interview of the candidate, and reference checks. All required forms can be downloaded from the KCBA website at <http://www.kcba.org/For-Lawyers/Judicial-Resources/Judicial-Candidate-Evaluation-Ratings>. Candidates are asked to sign a release of information for WSBA disciplinary records as part of the KCBA supplemental questionnaire. For sitting judges, public Judicial Conduct Commission records are reviewed.

A copy of the KCBA Judicial Candidate Evaluation Screening Committee rules and procedures is also available on the website. **It is strongly recommended that you review the rules prior to submitting an application.**

Once you have completed all the evaluation materials, send them electronically to Anne Daly at [AnneD@kcba.org](mailto:AnneD@kcba.org) and Molly Gough at [MollyG@kcba.org](mailto:MollyG@kcba.org). You do not need to mail a hard copy. Once all your materials have been received, you will be scheduled for an interview with the Judicial Candidate Committee. Candidates may request a rating for one or multiple levels of the court.

Evaluation sessions are held two times a month, with 2-3 people evaluated at each session. Typically sessions are filled 2-3 months in advance. This means you should plan on submitting your materials and requesting a rating at least 8-12 weeks in advance of when you need your rating. For those considering an appointment to the bench, it is recommended you obtain a rating in advance a position becoming available. Due to the fairly quick turn-around time of appointments, especially in courts of limited jurisdiction, and the volume of individuals seeking appointment to open seats, ratings for appointment should be sought well in advance of a vacancy occurring.

About three weeks prior to your scheduled interview, committee members will be provided with your materials and assigned references to contact. References are advised of the confidential nature of the inquiry and their responses. All references are contacted by phone. We do not conduct reference checks by email. Because of the time required to contact all listed references, it is not possible to simply “plug” another candidate into a session slot when there is a cancellation.

A quorum of at least 12 committee members will be present at your scheduled interview. The interview will typically last 30 minutes and you will be given the opportunity to make some brief opening and closing comments. The areas of questions asked by the committee will vary from candidate to candidate however, they will focus on the same areas of judicial qualifications (objectivity; temperament; legal/trial/judicial experience; etc.) The committee may ask you to comment on concerns, if any, which have been brought to their attention during the reference check process.

Immediately following your interview, those committee members present at your interview will discuss your qualifications and vote on your rating.

The reference checks, your interview, and the committee deliberations are confidential and the information obtained during the process is not disclosed. During the reference check process, committee members will disclose your name and level(s) of court for which you are seeking a rating.

In issuing a rating, the Committee will take your completed questionnaire; writing sample; reference checks and your interview into consideration. The Committee may also take other sources of information into account, such as published opinions, referrals to other references, or disciplinary action.

Letters of recommendation will not be provided to or considered by the committee nor will supplemental materials such as journal articles other publications, other than the requested writing sample.

It is the candidate's responsibility to provide accurate contact information for listed references and to provide any updates to the submitted questionnaire.

Candidates will be notified of their rating within 24 hours of their evaluation session. A letter confirming the rating will be sent to the candidate as well.

Candidates are encouraged to read the KCBA Judicial Candidate Evaluation Screening Committee rules and procedures and to familiarize themselves with the criteria for each rating, prior to submitting their materials.

The KCBA publishes ratings for any candidate who has filed election paperwork with the state Public Disclosure Commission of the King County Elections Department. Ratings for appointment are shared with the appointing authority, however they are not published or shared publically.

The KCBA Judicial Candidate Evaluation Committee has a diverse membership with regard to gender, race, age, type of practice, size of firm, geographic, and other factors considered relevant. Members at an individual evaluation session are selected ad hoc from the overall committee roster. Additionally, the committee roster includes a dozen non-attorney members and up to 2 non-attorneys may participate in a candidate's evaluation session.

KCBA realizes our process is a demanding one and we appreciate the time and taken by both candidates and committee members to ensure a high quality bench.



## King County

# Metropolitan King County Council Committee of the Whole

### STAFF REPORT

<b>Agenda Item:</b>	9	<b>Name:</b>	Erica Newman
<b>Proposed No.:</b>	2026-0013	<b>Date:</b>	January 27, 2026

### SUBJECT

Proposed Motion 2026-0013 would make an appointment to fill a judicial vacancy in position number four of the West Division of King County District Court.

### SUMMARY

There is a judicial vacancy in the West Electoral District of King County District Court Position 4. Under state law, the King County Council, as the county legislative authority, is directed to fill district court vacancies by appointment.<sup>1</sup> The King County Code provides a merit selection process for filling such vacancies.<sup>2</sup> There are two eligible applicants to be interviewed during the January 27, 2026, Committee of the Whole meeting.

In its current form, proposed motion 2026-0013 has a blank for the name of the person being appointed. A verbal line amendment would be needed to insert the name of the selected appointee.

### BACKGROUND

King County District Court is the County's court of "limited jurisdiction" and has responsibility for traffic infractions, small claims, and misdemeanor criminal offenses in the County's unincorporated areas, cities that do not have municipal courts and contract with the court to provide those services, and for the adjudication of "state" offenses (violations of state statute in the county or when the arresting agency is the Washington State Patrol or other state law enforcement agency). The District Court handles approximately 250,000 filings annually throughout the North, South, East, and West Divisions.

Position 4 in the West Electoral District was made vacant by the departure of Judge Gregg Hirakawa. After receiving official notice of the vacancy from District Court Chief Presiding Judge Rebecca Robertson on September 2, 2025, the Clerk of the Council published notice of the vacancy and judicial appointment application process in The Seattle Times. The deadline for the recruitment was October 23, 2025.

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<sup>1</sup> RCW 3.34.100

<sup>2</sup> KCC 2.70



## **ANALYSIS**

In accordance with the merit selection process outlined in KCC 2.70.020, by the application deadline, eligible candidates must submit:

1. A current rating of, at a minimum, “qualified” for a district court judicial position from the King County Bar Association and at least one other eligible bar association operating in King County;<sup>3</sup>
2. A letter of interest and résumé;
3. A copy of the completed responses to questionnaires submitted to the King County Bar Association to obtain its rating; and
4. Any supporting information the individual would like the Council to consider.

In accordance with state law, the judge appointed through this process will fill the remainder of Judge Hirikawa’s term which will end December 31, 2026.<sup>4</sup>

Two eligible applicants submitted applications. The applicants are listed in alphabetical order:

- Yvonne Chin
- Bardi Martin

Pursuant to KCC 2.70.020.G.1.b(3) the Chair of the Committee of the Whole (COW) has determined the process by which the committee will receive recommendations for selecting final candidates to be interviewed. There are two eligible applicants for this position and the process was determined to involve the distribution of the applications to all Councilmembers and interviewing candidates at the COW meeting on January 27, 2026. The Committee would need to make a recommendation for appointment, as provided in K.C.C. 1.24.055.D., to full council through a motion that would make the appointment. In its current form, the motion has a blank for the name of the person being appointed. A verbal line amendment will be needed to insert the name of the selected appointee.

Brief bios for each of the candidates are listed below in alphabetical order.

**Yvonne Chin** has served as a Judge and Magistrate Pro Tempore for Seattle Municipal Court since 2023, where she presides over criminal misdemeanor cases that includes hearings related to the conditions of release, compliance, protective orders, bail, exclusion, electronic monitoring, drug and alcohol testing, traffic court proceedings, dismissals, fines, and mitigation options. Additionally, Mrs. Chin serves as the Legal Director for the Sexual Violence Law Center, where she litigates a variety of cases, resolve complex issues, provide representation for underserved populations, supervise

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<sup>3</sup> Eligible bar associations must have a judicial evaluation process that is open to any candidate who is eligible under state law for appointment to the district court; and written procedures and criteria governing its judicial evaluation process and makes copies of such procedures and criteria available upon request.

<sup>4</sup> RCW 3.34.100 and RCW 29A.04.321. The judge appointed through this process shall hold office until the next general election in an even-numbered year and until a successor is elected and qualified.

and mentor attorneys and staff. Previously, Mrs. Chin has experience working as an attorney for many firms, including the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU).

**Bardi Martin** has served as a Judge Pro Tem in King County District Courts since 2023, where he oversees civil and criminal calendars, including protection orders, infractions, impound hearings, name changes, and small claims trials and pre-trials; and criminal arraignment, pre-trial, motion, disposition, readiness, review, and in-custody calendars. Currently, Mr. Martin serves as a Managing Member for Boyle Martin Thoeny, PLLC where he represents clients in all aspects of civil and criminal litigation. Previously, Mr. Martin served three years as a Public Defender in multiple law firms throughout King County.

### **INVITED**

- Yvonne Chin, Candidate
- Bardi Martin, Candidate

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Proposed Motion 2026-0013
2. Final Candidate Bar Association Ratings, dated October 24, 2025
3. Judicial evaluation process for the King County Bar Association



# KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

## Signature Report

### Motion

**Proposed No.** 2026-0013.1

**Sponsors** Barón

1                   A MOTION making an appointment to fill a judicial  
2                   vacancy in the West division, West electoral district, judge  
3                   position number four of the King County district court.

4                   WHEREAS, a judicial vacancy exists in the West division, West electoral district,  
5                   judge position number four of the King County district court, and

6                   WHEREAS, RCW 3.34.100 authorizes the county legislative body to fill judicial  
7                   vacancies in district court, and

8                   WHEREAS, K.C.C. chapter 2.70 provides for the metropolitan King County  
9                   council to fill judicial vacancies in district court, and

10                  WHEREAS, in accordance with K.C.C. 2.70.020.D., candidates must have a  
11                  current rating of, at a minimum, "qualified" for a district court judicial position from the  
12                  King County Bar Association and at least one other bar association operating in King  
13                  County with an eligible judicial candidate evaluation process, and

14                  WHEREAS, a rating of the King County Bar Association is valid for three years,  
15                  and

16                  WHEREAS, for those eligible candidates, the committee of the whole reviewed  
17                  candidate ratings from the King County Bar Association and other bar associations with  
18                  an established judicial candidate evaluation procedure, reviewed written materials  
19                  concerning each candidate and conducted interviews with the final candidates in  
20                  accordance with K.C.C. chapter 2.70, and

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25 division, West electoral district, judge position number four of the King County district  
26 court.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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Sarah Perry, Chair

ATTEST:

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Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_.

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Girmay Zahilay, County Executive

**Attachments:** None

Updated October 24, 2025

### Current Bar Association Ratings of West Division, Position 4 KCDC Final Candidates

BAR ASSOCIATION	King County Bar Association	QLaw <sup>1</sup>	Joint Asian Judicial Evaluation Committee <sup>2</sup>	Latina/o Bar Association of Washington <sup>3</sup>	Washington Women Lawyers <sup>4</sup>	Cardozo Society of Washington <sup>5</sup>	Loren Miller Bar Association <sup>6</sup>
MARTIN	WQ	WQ	Q				
CHIN	EWQ		WQ	EWQ	EWQ	WQ	EWQ

EWQ = Exceptionally Well Qualified

WQ = Well Qualified

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X= Not submitted

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