



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, February 24, 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. 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.

	<p>Sign language and interpreter services can be arranged given sufficient notice (206-848-0355). TTY Number - TTY 711.</p> <p>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.</p>	
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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 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, 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. 4

January 27, 2026 meeting minutes

4. **Public Comment**

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Discussion and Possible Action

5. [Proposed Motion No. 2026-0011](#) p. 8

A MOTION confirming the appointment of Stephen Heard as director of the King County department of information technology.

Sponsors: Barón

Terra Rose, Council staff

Briefings

6. [Briefing No. 2026-B0028](#) p. 16

Federal and State Legislative Update

Mac Nicholson, Director of Government Relations, King County Council

7. [Briefing No. 2026-B0029](#) p. 17

Community & County Responses to Increased Immigration Enforcement

Panel 1:

Malou Chávez, Executive Director, Northwest Immigration Rights Project

Shomya Tripathy, Director of Policy & Civic Engagement, Asian Counseling & Referral Services

Vanessa Reyes, Policy Manager, Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network (WAISN)

Panel 2:

Leesa Manion, King County Prosecuting Attorney

Susan McLaughlin, Interim Department Director, Department of Community and Human Services

Michael Bailey, Division Director, Adult Services Division, Department of Community and Human Services

Daphne Pie, Regional Health Services Administrator, Community Health Services Access and Outreach Program, Public Health – Seattle King County

Other Business

Adjournment



Sign language and interpreter services can be arranged given sufficient notice (206-848-0355).
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Meeting Minutes 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

DRAFT MINUTES

1. **Call to Order**

Chair Barón called the meeting to order at 9:32 AM.

2. **Roll Call**

Present: 9 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski, Dunn, Fain, Lewis, Mosqueda, Perry and von Reichbauer

3. **Approval of Minutes**

Councilmember Dembowski moved approval of the November 3, 2025 meeting minutes. There being no objections, the minutes were approved.

4. **Public Comment**

There was no one present to provide public comment.

Discussion and Possible Action

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

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.

Andy Micklow, Council staff, briefed the committee. Dorothy Teeter, HMC Trustee, and Richa Malik, appointee, answered questions from the members.

A motion was made by von Reichbauer that this Motion be recommended do pass consent. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski, Dunn, Fain, Lewis, Mosqueda, Perry and von Reichbauer

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

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.

Andy Micklow, Council staff, briefed the committee. Dorothy Teeter, HMC Trustee, and Laura Zaichkin, appointee, answered questions from the members.

A motion was made by Mosqueda that this Motion be recommended do pass consent. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski, Dunn, Fain, Lewis, Mosqueda, Perry and von Reichbauer

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

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.

Olivia Brey, Council staff, briefed the committee. Joy Carpine-Cazzanti, Board of Health Administrator, Public Health—Seattle & King County, answered questions from the members.

This item was expedited to the January 27, 2026 meeting of the Metropolitan King County Council.

A motion was made by Mosqueda that this Motion be recommended do pass consent. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski, Dunn, Fain, Lewis, Mosqueda, Perry and von Reichbauer

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

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.

Erica Newman, Council staff, briefed the committee and answered questions from the members. Bardi Martin, candidate, and Andrew Repanich, candidate, answered questions from the members.

The chair recessed the meeting into executive session under RCW 42.30.110(h) at 10:58 AM for 12 minutes for the purpose of evaluating the qualifications of a candidate for appointment to elective office. The meeting returned to regular session at 11:10 AM.

Vice Chair Balducci presented a verbal amendment to add the name "Bardi Martin" to the blank space on page 2, line 27. There being no objections, the amendment was adopted.

This item was expedited to the January 27, 2026 meeting of the Metropolitan King County Council.

A motion was made by Balducci that this Motion be recommended do pass substitute consent. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski, Dunn, Fain, Lewis, Mosqueda, Perry and von Reichbauer

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

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.

Erica Newman, Council staff, briefed the committee and answered questions from the members. Bardi Martin, candidate, and Yvonne Chin, candidate, answered questions from the members.

The chair recessed the meeting into executive session under RCW 42.30.110(h) at 10:58 AM for 12 minutes for the purpose of evaluating the qualifications of a candidate for appointment to elective office. The meeting returned to regular session at 11:10 AM.

Vice Chair Balducci presented a verbal amendment to add the name "Yvonne Chin" to the blank space on page 2, line 28. There being no objections, the amendment was adopted.

This item was expedited to the January 27, 2026 meeting of the Metropolitan King County Council.

A motion was made by Balducci that this Motion be recommended do pass substitute consent. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Balducci, Barón, Dembowski, Dunn, Fain, Lewis, Mosqueda, Perry and von Reichbauer

Other Business

There was no other business to come before the committee.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:16 AM.

Approved this _____ day of _____

Clerk's Signature



King County

**Metropolitan King County Council
Committee of the Whole**

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item:	5	Name:	Terra Rose
Proposed No.:	2026-0011	Date:	February 24, 2026

SUBJECT

Proposed Motion 2026-0011 would confirm the Executive’s appointment of Stephen Heard to be the Director of the King County Department of Information Technology and King County’s Chief Information Officer.

SUMMARY

Proposed Motion 2026-0011 would confirm the Executive’s appointment of Stephen Heard to be the Director of the King County Department of Information Technology (KCIT) and the County’s Chief Information Officer (CIO). King County Code requires a candidate for this position to be appointed by the Executive and confirmed by the Council.¹

KCIT is headed by a CIO who is also the Department Director. The Department manages the County’s information technology (IT) infrastructure, resources, and investments, including (but not limited to) support of the County’s network and applications (e.g., Teams, Outlook), IT equipment replacement (e.g., employee workstations, servers), and the central help desk. In addition to managing KCIT, the CIO advises the County on technology planning and project implementation, provides vision and coordination in technology management and investment, and approves the release of incremental project funding. The Department’s 2026-2027 operating budget is approximately \$345.2 million and includes 413 FTEs.²

BACKGROUND

King County Department of Information Technology. KCIT manages the County’s information technology, infrastructure, resources, and investments, and also provides individualized technology services to County departments based on their unique operational needs. KCIT supports services such as the County’s network, plans for and manages equipment replacement, provides project management for technology projects, as well as operates the central help desk. The Department also provides fee-based services to external customers (e.g., Geographic Information Systems (GIS))

¹ K.C.C. 2A.380.020; 2.16.110

² Ordinance 20023; Note the figures provided do not include technology projects budgeted in capital funds.

services, radio services, and I-Net³). In recent years, KCIT has also undertaken efforts toward increasing broadband access and digital literacy skills within King County.

The Department's 2026-2027 operating budget is approximately \$345.2 million and includes 413 FTEs. (Note that this does not include technology projects budgeted as capital projects.)

Responsibilities of the KCIT Director and Chief Information Officer. Under King County Code, KCIT shall be headed by a CIO who is also the Director of the Department.⁴ The CIO reports to the Executive.

The CIO / KCIT Director is responsible with the following duties, as provided by Code:

- Managing and being fiscally accountable for the IT resources within the Executive branch, as well as managing the Divisions of the Department;
- Advising all agencies and departments on technology issues, technology planning, and project implementation, as well as providing vision and coordination in management and investment of technology resources across County government;
- Meeting regularly with business managers for the separately elected agencies to advise on the technology implications of policy decisions;
- Approving countywide information technology standards, policies, and guidelines for Countywide adoption; and
- Assessing all technology project budget requests to be transmitted to the Council as part of the Executive's proposed biennial budget or any supplemental budget ordinance.

Stephen Heard's Qualifications and Experience. The transmittal letter indicates that Mr. Heard has been serving as the Acting Director of KCIT since January 6, 2025, and that his appointment is effective as of January 3, 2026, subject to confirmation by the Council.

Mr. Heard's resume notes that he has worked for the County since 2007, beginning as an application developer for Metro and most recently as the Acting Director for KCIT. Other roles he has held at KCIT include Chief Technology Officer, Software Engineering Manager, and Business Solutions Service Manager. The transmittal letter states that "[h]is background and recognized leadership skills make him uniquely qualified to serve as King County's Chief Information Officer and lead the Department of Information Technology." Specifically, the letter cites that he has been successfully serving as the Acting Director, and that in his tenure at the County, Mr. Heard "partnered with county business leaders to target cost-effective and innovative technology solutions" and that "[h]is teams have consistently executed key technology improvements that strengthened the resiliency of platforms that are foundational to King County's digital public services."

³ I-Net is the County's institutional fiber optic network, which provides high-speed bandwidth for data, voice, video and internet access to King County and public, education, and municipal partners in the Puget Sound region.

⁴ K.C.C. 2A.380.020

He holds an Executive Master of Business Administration from the Quantic School of Business and Technology, as well as a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Washington--Tacoma.

The appointee's confirmation packet includes letters of support from: Joe Todd, Deputy City Manager for the City of Bellevue; Julie Wise, King County Director of Elections; Shelley Gaddie, President and CEO of ProjectCorps, a technology consulting and professional services firm; and Jila Javdani, President of the US West Region for Slalom, a consulting firm.

Additionally, the confirmation packet states that Megan Pedersen, the Interim Director for the Department of Human Resources, reviewed the law enforcement background check conducted on Mr. Heard and has reported that it contains no adverse information, nor reveals any prior criminal record that disqualifies him for this position. No financial or other interests were reported on his financial disclosure form.

Council Confirmation. Under King County Code, the Executive shall appoint the Director of each Executive agency, including KCIT, and the appointment is subject to confirmation by a majority of the Council. Once a motion for confirmation has been transmitted to the Council, the Council has 90 days to act on the confirmation.⁵

Code states that the Council shall base its review on the ability of the appointee to meet the following criteria:

1. A demonstrated reputation for integrity and professionalism;
2. A commitment to and knowledge of the responsibilities of the office;
3. A history of demonstrated leadership, experience, and administrative ability;
4. The ability to work effectively with the Executive, the Council, other management, public agencies, private organizations, and citizens; and
5. A demonstrated sensitivity to and knowledge of the particular needs and problems of minorities and women.

ANALYSIS

Proposed Motion 2026-0011 would confirm the Executive's appointment of Stephen Heard to be the Director of KCIT and the County's CIO. This legislation was transmitted to the Council on January 22, 2026, which means the Council has until April 22, 2026, to act in order to meet the 90-day requirement provided by the Code for Council action.

Staff have not identified any issues with the proposed appointment. It appears to be consistent with the requirements of King County Code for the appointment and confirmation of Executive department Directors.

INVITED

- Stephen Heard, Chief Information Officer / Director Appointee, King County Department of Information Technology

⁵ K.C.C. 2.16.110

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Motion 2026-0011
2. Transmittal Letter, dated January 22, 2026



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Motion

Proposed No. 2026-0011.1

Sponsors Barón

1 A MOTION confirming the appointment of Stephen Heard
2 as director of the King County department of information
3 technology.

4 BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

5 The appointment of Stephen Heard as director of the King County department of

6 information technology is hereby confirmed.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Sarah Perry, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, _____.

Girmay Zahilay, County Executive

Attachments: None


King County
Girmay Zahilay

King County Executive

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 Seattle, WA 98104

206-296-9600 Fax 206-296-0194

TTY Relay: 711

www.kingcounty.gov

January 22, 2026

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

Dear Councilmember Perry:

On January 6, 2026, I transmitted a proposed Motion that would, if enacted, confirm my appointment of Stephen Heard as Chief Information Officer (CIO) and director of the King County Department of Information Technology (KCIT) consistent with King County Code 2.16.110(E)(1)(b). This letter transmits the enclosed materials that comprise the full set of confirmation documents as established by code and practice.

On Friday, December 12, 2025, I appointed Mr. Heard as the CIO and KCIT Director, effective January 3, 2026. Mr. Heard has been successfully serving as the acting director of KCIT since January 6, 2025. During this time, he has supported King County employees, residents, and other government agencies with a wide array of innovative technology services. Prior to serving as acting KCIT Director, Mr. Heard served as Chief Technology Officer for the County. In this role, Mr. Heard partnered with county business leaders to target cost-effective and innovative technology solutions. His teams have consistently executed key technology improvements that strengthened the resiliency of platforms that are foundational to King County's digital public services.

Prior to his county service, Mr. Heard worked in the private technology sector, including technical and leadership roles within the financial services and consumer products industries. His background and recognized leadership skills make him uniquely qualified to serve as King County's Chief Information Officer and lead the Department of Information Technology.

The Honorable Sarah Perry
January 22, 2026
Page 2

It is my pleasure to request the Council's confirmation of Stephen Heard as KCIT Director. If your staff have questions regarding this matter, please contact Megan Pedersen, Chief People Officer, Office of the Executive, at 206-263-2898.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Karan Gill', written over a horizontal line.

for

Girmay Zahilay
King County Executive

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
Jasmine Weaver, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive
Garrett Holbrook, Council Relations Manager, Office of the Executive
Megan Pedersen, Chief People Officer, Office of the Executive
Stephen Heard, Director Designee, Department of Information Technology



King County

Committee of the Whole

February 24, 2026

**Agenda Item No. 6
Briefing No. 2026-B0028**

Federal and State Legislative Update

**Any materials for this item will be available at or after
the meeting.**



King County

Committee of the Whole

February 24, 2026

**Agenda Item No. 7
Briefing No. 2026-B0029**

**Community & County Responses to Increased
Immigration Enforcement**

**Any materials for this item will be available at or after
the meeting.**