



King County

1200 King County
Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Meeting Agenda

Government Accountability and Oversight Committee

Councilmembers:

*Pete von Reichbauer, Chair;
Steffanie Fain, Vice Chair;
Claudia Balducci, Reagan Dunn*

Lead Staff: Melissa Bailey (206-263-0114)

Co-Lead Staff: Gene Paul (206-477-9378)

Committee Clerk: Blake Wells (206-263-1617)

9:30 AM

Tuesday, January 13, 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 Government Accountability and Oversight Committee 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 by 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 (see "Connecting to the Webinar" below).

You may provide oral comment on current agenda items during the meeting's public comment period.



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 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 ID: 871 9559 4726

By computer using the Zoom application at <https://zoom.us/join> and the webinar ID above.

Via phone by calling 1 253 215 8782 and using the webinar ID above.

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: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/kctv>, or input the link web address into your web browser.
- 2) Watch King County TV on Comcast Channel 22 and 322(HD) and 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**

December 9, 2025 meeting minutes

4. Public Comment



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Discussion and Possible Action

5. [Proposed Motion No. 2025-0370](#) **p. 6**

A MOTION related to council adoption of the King County Auditor's Office Work Program 2026-27.

Sponsors: von Reichbauer

Ben Thompson, Audit Director, King County Auditor's Office

Briefing

6. [Briefing No. 2026-B0003](#) **p. 15**

Audit Report: Parks Division

Brooke Leary, Audit Director, King County Auditor's Office

Anu Sidhu, Auditor II, King County Auditor's Office

Basil Hariri, Auditor II, King County Auditor's Office

Other Business

Adjournment



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Meeting Minutes

Government Accountability and Oversight Committee

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Pete von Reichbauer, Chair;

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Claudia Balducci, Reagan Dunn

Lead Staff: Melissa Bailey (206-263-0114)

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Committee Clerk: Blake Wells (206-263-1617)

9:30 AM

Tuesday, December 9, 2025

Hybrid Meeting

DRAFT MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Chair von Reichbauer called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.

2. Roll Call

Present: 4 - von Reichbauer, Dunn, Fain and Balducci

3. Approval of Minutes

*Councilmember Fain moved approval of the September 9, 2025 meeting minutes.
There being no objections, the minutes were approved.*

4. Public Comment

The following people provided public comment:

Kevin Altheimer

Discussion and Possible Action

5. Proposed Motion No. 2025-0370

A MOTION related to council adoption of the King County Auditor's Office Work Program 2026-27.

*Ben Thompson, Audit Director, King County Auditor's Office, briefed the committee
and answered questions from the members.*

This matter was deferred.

Other Business

There was no other business to come before the committee.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:07 AM.

Approved this _____ day of _____

Clerk's Signature

**KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report**Motion**

Proposed No. 2025-0370.1

Sponsors von Reichbauer

1 A MOTION related to council adoption of the King County
2 Auditor's Office Work Program 2026–27.

3 WHEREAS, K.C.C.2.20.040.B. states that the council shall review and approve
4 by motion a work program proposed by the auditor at least every two years, and

5 WHEREAS, the mission of the independent county auditor's office is to advance
6 performance, accountability, transparency and equity of King County government,
7 through objective, independent audits, capital projects oversight, studies and activities
8 that generally assist the council in its oversight function, promote due diligence and serve
9 the public interest, and

10 WHEREAS, the work program shall include the audits, studies and oversight to
11 be conducted and managed by the county auditor's office, and

12 WHEREAS, the 2026–27 county auditor's work program has been developed and
13 is attached to this motion;

14

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

16 The King County Auditor's Office Work Program 2026–27, Attachment A to this
17 motion, is hereby adopted.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

ATTEST:

Sarah Perry, Chair

Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this _____ day of _____, _____.

Girmay Zahilay, County Executive

Attachments: A. King County Auditor's Office - Work Program 2026-27

King County Auditor's Office • Work Program 2026–27

WORK INITIATED IN 2025 THAT WILL CONTINUE INTO 2026–27

911 Communications Center

Medical Examiner's Office

Parks Division

Permits Division

Recruitment and Retention

Stormwater Services

Work Program 2026–27

We commit to completing 12 or more of the projects below in 2026–27, in addition to following up on past recommendations. We are including some flexible audit categories to allow us, with Council engagement, to respond to immediate needs with timely and appropriate audit work. These topics are not listed in priority order.

PERFORMANCE AUDITS

General Audit Topics

Artificial Intelligence Use	Evaluate the use of artificial intelligence — scope may include generative artificial intelligence guidance or application
Assessor	Evaluate the Assessor's Office — scope may include construction capacity, tax abatements, and/or residential appraisal
Business Resource Center	Evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of the work of the Business Resource Center or its successor
Customer Service	Evaluate to what extent King County has implemented county-level customer service leading practices, outlined in our 2021 technical paper and 2025 letter
Environmental Health	Evaluate the Environmental Health Division of the Department of Public Health – Seattle & King County — scope may include the food protection program and/or fiscal sustainability
Extreme Weather Preparedness	Evaluate the extent to which King County is prepared for extreme weather events — scope may include wildfires, smoke mitigation, and/or landslides
Facilities Management Division	Evaluate the Facilities Management Division of the Department of Executive Services — scope may include lease management or other emerging issues

Internal Controls Series	A series of audits that focus on internal controls such as contract management, payroll, accounts payable, reimbursements, and cash handling
Land Conservation Initiative	Evaluate the internal controls framework for the Conservation Futures program
Procurement	Evaluate the Procurement and Payables Section within the Department of Executive Services
Project Management Office	Evaluate the Project Management Office in the King County Department of Information Technology
Regional Homelessness Response	Evaluate King County's regional homelessness response — scope to be defined as the homeless care environment in King County stabilizes



Capital-Focused Audits

Construction Contract Management	Evaluate contract management policies and practices for construction contracts across King County capital projects
Capital Project Cost Growth	Identify causes of consistent county-wide cost growth across King County capital projects



Criminal Legal Audits

Adult Detention	Evaluate adult detention — scope may include discipline and/or classification
Field Training Program	Evaluate the Field Training Program in the King County Sheriff's Office
Sheriff Overtime	Evaluate the status of incomplete recommendations from our 2017 audit and identify key drivers of current overtime costs — <i>This work could be conducted as a study, rather than an audit or the objectives could be incorporated into a different audit</i>
Time to Case Resolution	Evaluate data from criminal legal agencies to provide transparency into legal case timelines and impacts
Emerging Criminal Legal Issues	Monitor criminal legal issues and identify high-risk or emerging areas of policy-maker concern for analysis

Transportation Audits



Paratransit	Evaluate Paratransit — scope may include service area and/or risk and cost management
Rider Experience	Evaluate Metro Transit's rider experience — scope may include system cleanliness and/or safety and security at transit stops and on coaches
EEO Office	Evaluate the Office of Equal Employment Opportunity within Metro Transit
Emerging Issues in Metro Transit	Monitor transportation issues and identify high-risk or emerging areas of policy-maker concern for analysis. Topics may include coach safety, advanced service management, and/or non-fare revenues.

CAPITAL OVERSIGHT

Direct Project Oversight

- Harborview Project Oversight
- Mouth of the Duwamish Wet Weather Facilities Program

General Oversight Activities

- Follow-up of past recommendations
- Monitoring of high-risk capital programs and projects, and communicating concerns
- Project risk scoring
- Solid Waste Capital Program and Long-Term Disposal Options Decision
- Wastewater Treatment Program Planning (Clean Water Plan)

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Council-requested feasibility report on qui tam, inspector general, and contract oversight

Audit follow-ups

Peer review

Grant/Contract Testing

- Public Health – Seattle & King County
- Department of Community and Human Services

Criteria Papers

- Succession planning
- Data collection, management

1

12/29/25

Replaces Attachment A

[G. Paul]

Sponsor: von ReichbauerProposed No.: 2025-03701 **AMENDMENT TO PROPOSED MOTION 2025-0370, VERSION 1**

2 Strike Attachment A, King County Auditor's Office - Work Program 2026-27 and insert
3 Attachment A, King County Auditor's Office - Work Program 2026-27 dated December
4 29, 2025

5 **EFFECT prepared by G. Paul: Would replace the original work program attachment**
6 ***with an updated version that removes the "Clean Water Plan" reference from the***
7 ***Wastewater Treatment Program Planning item found under "Capital Oversight,***
8 ***General Oversight Activities" on page 3.***

King County Auditor's Office • Work Program 2026–27

December 29, 2025

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Government Accountability and Oversight Committee

January 13, 2026

**Agenda Item No. 6
Briefing No. 2026-B0003**

Audit Report: Parks Division

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