

Seattle Community Advisory Group (SCAG) Charter

The **Seattle Community Advisory Group (SCAG)** is a forum for collaboration on preventing and mitigating potential safety and disorder issues between King County, the City of Seattle, and a variety of Capitol Hill and First Hill neighborhood residents, businesses, workers, and institutions related to the opening and operation of the Seattle Regional Crisis Care Center.

This charter outlines the Group's purpose, structure, and responsibilities to support a venue for meaningful collaboration between the crisis care center and the community it serves.

Procedural Background

Former Mayor Bruce Harrell issued a conditional letter of support for the Seattle Regional Crisis Care Center on August 13, 2025, including a condition in which the City of Seattle would appoint a six-person community advisory group to work with King County, the provider, and the City from its formation through the first year of the Center's operation. The letter indicated that the group should be convened following an outreach and education effort on safety and disorder issues within one half mile of the regional crisis care center to be completed at least 60 days prior to the Center's opening.

Subsequently, the King County Council passed two bills allocating up to \$3 million of funds to support the conditions described in letter of support and adopting the concept of the community advisory group: "the moneys... shall be authorized by King County and administered in conjunction with the city of Seattle with concurrence from the six-person community advisory group appointed by the city of Seattle described in item 4 in the letter of support.... Where applicable, the implementation of the specific requirements outlined in the letter of support should be completed before the crisis care center at the Broadway Facility opens." In response, on December 18, 2025, former Mayor Harrell expressed appreciation for the King County Council's adoption of the advisory group and to meet the February 4 deadline, appointed six members to the advisory group. Mayor Wilson confirmed those appointments in 2026.

The timeline described in the City's letter of support indicated that the advisory group should be convened after completion of the education and outreach effort on safety and disorder issues within one half mile of the facility, which was to occur at least 60 days prior to opening. However, the King County legislation indicates that the group has a role in

advising on how King County, in conjunction with the City of Seattle, will spend up to \$3 million to support fulfillment of the conditions of the letter, many of which are to be implemented in advance of opening. To reflect the intent of both jurisdictions, the Seattle Community Advisory Group will be active between April 9, 2026, and the end of the first year of operations of the Seattle Regional Crisis Care Center.

Purpose

The goal of the SCAG is to ensure community members living and working near the location of the Seattle Regional Crisis Care Center have a consistent and open line of communication with King County and the City of Seattle regarding prevention and mitigation strategies and actions to address safety and disorder-related issues that could negatively impact the surrounding neighborhood. In order to achieve that goal, the SCAG will create a collaborative space for members to engage with the City of Seattle and King County and advise on how to achieve the successful opening and operation of the Seattle Regional Crisis Care Center related to the potential safety or disorder impacts on the surrounding neighborhood.

Core Objectives

- **Trust:** Strengthen trust through transparency, open dialogue, and responsiveness, including acting with integrity and in good faith
- **Communication:** Communicate about neighborhood issues and concerns, and maintain open, transparent, and respectful communication internally and externally
- **Accountability:** Responsibly steward public dollars, documenting and communicating decisions in timely and transparent way, and providing oversight over the operator.
- **Sustainability:** Build a foundation for successful operation over the long-term life of the facility

Primary Tasks

- Collaborate on strategies to prevent and mitigate potential public safety and disorder issues in an effort to achieve successful outcomes for clients and the Capitol Hill and First Hill neighborhoods, including brainstorming solutions and gauging buy-in for proposed solutions

- Get to concurrence regarding funding authorized by King County and administered in conjunction with the City of Seattle to support the conditions in City's letter of conditional support
 - Gather feedback and provide input on a Good Neighbor Policy/Agreement, which includes a safety assessment and safe operations plan, as detailed in the City's letter of conditional support
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Membership

The Community Advisory Group is a six-person group, appointed by the City of Seattle. As appointed by former Seattle Mayor Harrell in a December 18, 2025, letter to the King County Council and confirmed by Seattle Mayor Wilson in 2026, the original appointees and roles are:

- Dr. Elizabeth Wako or designated participant (Health Sector Leader)
 - Designee: Dr. David Selander,
- Matt Corsi (Developer)
- Erin Reinhart (Resident)
- Heather Smith (Property Owner)
- Andrew Haas (Community Stewardship Group)
- Scott McClellan (Education Sector Leader)

Members of the group should live, work, or lease or own property in the neighborhood.

Roles & Responsibilities

All:

- Participate in good faith discussions about issues with positive intent
- Respect diverse viewpoints

Group members:

- Elevate any safety and disorder concerns from residents of the neighborhood surrounding the facility
- Provide insight into proposed options and solutions to alleviate such concerns
- Cultivate community feedback and provide input on Good Neighbor Policy/Agreement

- Propose and provide feedback on proposals to spend King County funds on fulfilling conditions in Seattle letter of support
- Actively participate in achieving timely concurrence on spending proposals

King County:

- Prepare agendas for and facilitate meetings in coordination with City of Seattle
- Transparently share information on processes and next steps on raised issues as appropriate regarding timelines, next steps, and any committed-to follow up
- In conjunction with City of Seattle, propose and provide feedback on proposals to spend King County funds on fulfilling conditions in Seattle letter of support

City of Seattle:

- Prepare agendas for and facilitate meetings in coordination with King County
- Share information from and with City departments and leadership related to public safety or disorder issues raised
- Conduct internal departmental coordination to get responses to questions or gain participation as needed and appropriate
- In conjunction with King County, propose and provide feedback on proposals to spend King County funds on fulfilling conditions in Seattle letter of support
- Share information and proposals for spending City of Seattle funds

Structure & Governance

- **Terms:** One initial term from April 9, 2026, through one year after opening. If a community member cannot serve the entire term, resigns, or is removed the City of Seattle will appoint a replacement in consultation with King County within 45 days of resignation or removal. If the City of Seattle does not appoint a community member within the 45-day timeframe, King County will appoint a new member within 45 days after the initial deadline.
- **Meetings:** Monthly, and more or less frequency as determined by the group regarding the next scheduled meeting
- **Quorum:** Minimum 2/3-member attendance for formal recommendations and concurrence

- **Removal:** A member of the group is subject to removal by the City, King County, or by a simple majority vote of remaining group members for reasons including, but not limited to:
 - Violation of the King County Code of Ethics;
 - Violation of the King County Boards and Commissions Code of Conduct;
 - Failure to meet responsibilities, including completion of any required trainings or certifications;
 - Failure to disclose a conflict of interest; or
 - Failing to attend more than two meetings without an excused absence.
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Decision-Making

Decision-making regarding how up to \$3 million of King County funds to support the conditions described in letter of support is subject to a vote by group members. The SCAG operates by **consensus** whenever possible using a consensus continuum model. When consensus cannot be reached, decisions proceed by **simple majority vote**. If a vote is tied, the proposal fails. While primarily advisory in nature, SCAG recommendations meaningfully influence decisions related to the opening of the center by elevating community voices and ensuring County resources are expended to ensure the safety of everyone in the neighborhood to the greatest extent possible.

Conflicts of Interest

Any member or organization that has a conflict of interest concerning any matter before the group shall inform the group, the City of Seattle, and King County, before participating in discussion and shall refrain from participating in any discussions relating to and from voting on the matter. A conflict of interest shall be defined as any issue in which there is conflict between a member's public obligation and private interests including financial, or contracting and procurement interests.

Charter review

The group shall review the charter every six months or as needed to ensure its provisions are still working effectively, including but not limited to whether and how engagement will

continue around preventing and mitigating potential public safety and disorder issues and supporting success of the center after the first year of operations of the CCC.

Attachments:

1. COS Crisis Care Center Jurisdictional Letter of support
2. Ordinance 19983
3. Ordinance 20023 Section 96