

KING COUNTY AGRICULTURE COMMISSION

MEETING NOTICE

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

6:00-8:00 P.M.

ZOOM VIDEO CALL

CALL IN:

One tap mobile: +12532050468,,83633161768#

Land line: +1 253 215 8782, Meeting ID: 836 3316 1768

OR

LOG IN FROM A COMPUTER OR SMARTPHONE:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83633161768>

MEETING AGENDA

The Commission's 2023 Focus is Farmland Preservation

6:00	Call to Order For the public record, please sign in via the chat feature or announce yourself by name and whether you are a commissioner, staff or member of the public <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approval of Agenda• Approval of Meeting Minutes: <i>August</i>	Kevin Scott, Chair
6:05	Public Comment related to a specific agenda item <i>3 minutes/person</i>	Kevin Scott
6:10	Briefing: Proposed Ordinance 2023-0263: Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overview• Q&A for Commissioners	Libby Hollingshead, Chief of Staff to Councilmember Sarah Perry Jake Tracy, Legislative Analyst, King County Council
6:25	First half of Updates <i>approx. 3 min each</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commission Details, Policy, Ag Education & Events• King County Ag Program• King Conservation District• Local Food Initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Patrice Barrentine• Richard Martin• Matt Mega• Mike Lufkin
6:45	Old Business King County 2024 Comprehensive Plan Review: Best Available Science for Critical Areas <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overview• Presentation of proposed changes in relation to Agriculture• Q&A for Commissioners	Chris Jensen, KC PSB, Comp Plan Coordinator Alex Hughan, KC DNRP, STSS BAS lead Eric Beach, KC DNRP, WLRD, Ag Regulatory & Permitting Specialist
7:15	New Business King County 2024 Comprehensive Plan Review: Proposed APD Mitigation Bank <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overview• Q&A for Commissioners	Rey Sugui, King County DLS, Roads, Real Estate Services John Vander Sluis, King County DLS, Roads, Strategic Development Analyst
7:30	2nd half of Updates (approx. 3 min each) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Washington State University CSANR• Food Business Resource Center/BINW• King-Pierce Farm Bureau• Farm Fish Flood	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jordan Jobe/Alyssa Bowers• Henry Wong• Leann Krainick• Richard Martin
7:50	General Public Comment <i>3 minutes/person</i>	Kevin Scott
7:55	Concerns of Commissioners	Kevin Scott
8:00	Adjourn	Kevin Scott

Next Meeting: October 12, 2023



King County
Water and Land Resources Division
 Department of Natural Resources and Parks
 King Street Center
 201 South Jackson Street, Suite 5600
 Seattle, WA 98104-3855
206-477-4800 Fax 206-296-0192
 TTY Relay: 711

King County Agriculture Commission
DRAFT Special Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 10, 2023 – 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm
Zoom Video Conference Call

Commissioners Present (Y/N)					
Kevin Scott-Vandenberg, Chair	Y	Andrew Ely	N	Shelley Pasco	Y
Darron Marzolf, Vice-Chair	Y	Janet Keller	Y	Henry Wong	N
Jessi Bloom	N	Nayab Khan	Y		
Ex Officio Members Present (Y/N)					
Jordan Jobe, WSU	Y	Matt Mega, KCD	N		
County Staff/Representatives Present					
Patrice Barrentine, DNRP	Richard Martin, DNRP				
Chris Jensen, PSB Office	Megan Moore, DNRP				
Guests Present					
Henna Khan	Stacey Smith		Chenelle Tyack		

Meeting Summary

- **Actions: Approval of May & July 2023 Minutes; King County 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update Letter**
- **Old Business: King County 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update Review**

Meeting called to order by Chair Kevin Scott-Vandenberg at 6:02 pm (no quorum); quorum at 6:38 pm

Roll Call/Announcement of Staff & Public (Kevin Scott-Vandenberg)

Roll call of Commissioners and announcement of staff and public guests was completed via Zoom’s chat function.

Approval of Meeting Agenda (Kevin Scott-Vandenberg)

There was no official vote on this item due to a lack of quorum at the start of tonight’s meeting. Chair Scott-Vandenberg made an executive decision to proceed with tonight’s agenda as written.

ACTION: Approval of May & July 2023 Meeting Minutes (Kevin Scott-Vandenberg)

Upon quorum, Janet Keller motioned to approve both the May and July 2023 meeting minutes as written. Darron Marzolf seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Public Comment – Specific Agenda Item (Kevin Scott-Vandenberg)

There was no public comment during this period.

ACTION/Old Business: King County 2024 Comp Plan Review (Richard Martin, Patrice Barrentine)

Patrice Barrentine drafted, on the Commission’s behalf, a letter to the County Executive offering recommendations for consideration in the 2024 Comprehensive Plan’s Public Review Draft. This letter is based on Commission discussion after the comp plan update presentation at July’s meeting and is in tonight’s meeting packet.

Barrentine reviewed the letter line-by-line with Commissioners and asked for their feedback. Most feedback suggested minor revisions to terminology to improve clarity. There was some confusion about an exact definition of the “support” the County is providing to farmers; Richard Martin suggested bringing in agricultural land use coordinator Melissa Borsting to present at next month’s meeting on this topic. There were no further questions or comments from the Commission after the review.

Darron Marzolf motioned to approve the letter and transmit it to the Executive. Nayab Khan seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Barrentine will provide the updated version of the letter to Commissioners.

Other Updates (Richard Martin, Patrice Barrentine)

- Richard Martin gave an update on a USDA grant recently received by the County agriculture program. This grant will allow the program to continue its work relatively intact despite an anticipated shortfall of general funding in the County budget beginning in the 2025 biennium. The focus of the work will be farmland access. The County will work on its own farms, to continue to provide space to new and underserved populations of farmers until they are able to move to their own land. In addition, Melissa Borsting will expand her focus to support land access far more broadly. Martin said the County can never fill the demand for farmland, though there is much privately owned land that could be leased to provide opportunities to expand farm acreage. Borsting expanding her focus will be an opportunity to work with other organizations to allow the County to put more farmers on land and more land into production, to try to address the major demand for farmland. There has been great success on County farms so far, with the County providing farmers support including education and assistance in writing grant proposals. The County has also helped some organizations get funding through the Conservation Futures fund to help them acquire farmland to support their communities. Chair Scott-Vandenberg asked who reaches out to let communities know there's something in place to help them acquire lands. Martin said it's part of the grant project, and Patrice Barrentine will work to help many of these organizations improve their marketing knowledge to know what to do with crops grown on the land they acquire. The project is to begin in January; Martin advised bringing in Borsting to provide the Commission with more details.
- Patrice Barrentine reported the current round of new Commissioner nominations is ongoing, and nominees will be contacted once the Executive's office reviews their information. New Commissioners could be onboard as soon as the Commission's September meeting.
- Commissioners should have received an email this week from Barrentine regarding free Tacoma Rainiers baseball tickets this month through the King-Pierce Farm Bureau.
- WSU's "Cultivating Success" course opens this fall. There is a fee of \$200, but scholarships will be available.
- King County's Solid Waste Division will soon host a webinar on use of compost on County farms and other farms. Livestock program specialist Rick Reinlasoder has also been invited to a future Commission meeting to present on compost application at County farms.

Public Comment – General (Kevin Scott-Vandenberg)

There was no public comment during this period.

Concerns of Commissioners (Kevin Scott-Vandenberg)

There were no Commissioner concerns voiced during this period.

Meeting adjourned at 6:44 pm

Next Meeting(s)

September 14, 2023, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm (Zoom Video Conference Call)



Legislation, Conferences, Events and Key Dates

REGARDING KING COUNTY
AGRICULTURE

SEPTEMBER 2023

Commission Admin



Nominations Progress



Policy Updates



Events and Funding Opportunities

On the Move: Commission Nomination Process

1

Ag Commission selects and forwards nomination to

2

Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) Director for review and approval; upon approval nomination is forwarded to

3

King County Executive for review and approval; *All nominees must complete financial disclosure forms within 2 weeks of this step*; upon approval nomination is forwarded to

4

King County Council-when Clerk receives the nomination, nominee can begin participating as a voting member and then

5

King County Council brings forward the confirming legislation for each nominee in their district first to committee and then full council to complete the process

We are here

Draft Fire Services Interlocal Agreement ordinance

King County is proposing to enter into interlocal agreements ("ILAs") with the Renton Regional Fire Authority and the Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority that would allow these agencies to provide fire inspection services within unincorporated King County. The interlocal agreements provide the opportunity for the local agencies, who have familiarity with the communities they serve, and who provide fire protection services to the same communities, to take the lead on administering inspection services.

The ILAs establish: 1) roles and responsibilities of the County and the fire department; 2) procedures for fee collection, inspections, correcting fire code violations, and permit issuance; and 3) access to County records necessary to carry out the provisions of the agreement.

Public comments on this draft proposed ordinance will be accepted from August 14 through September 14 and may be submitted via email, U.S. mail, or voicemail (see "How to comment" below).

What happens next After the draft is finalized, it will be transmitted to the King County Council in November 2023 for review, refinement, and possible adoption. There will be an additional opportunity for public review and comment on the proposed amendments after the ordinance is submitted to the council for consideration.

Documents for review

- [Draft Proposed Fire Interlocal Agreement Ordinance](#)
 - [Attachment A Interlocal Agreement Renton Regional Fire Authority](#)
 - [Attachment B Interlocal Agreement Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority](#)
- [Draft Proposed Fire ILA Ordinance—Plain-Language Summary](#)

How to comment

- Email: PermittingLegislation@kingcounty.gov
- US Mail: Robin Proebsting King County Permitting Division 919 SW Grady Way, Suite 300, Renton, WA 98057
- Voicemail: 206-263-3000

Proposed Ordinance 2023-0263: Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS)

Briefing: Proposed Ordinance 2023-0263: Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS)

- Overview
- Q&A for Commissioners

With Libby Hollingshead, Chief of Staff to Councilmember Sarah Perry, District 3

Jake Tracy, Legislative Analyst, King County Council

King County 2024 Comprehensive Plan

Best Available Science for Critical Areas

- Overview
- Presentation of proposed changes in relation to Agriculture
- Q&A for Commissioners

With Chris Jensen, KC PSB, Comp Plan Coordinator

Alex Hughan, KC DNRP, STSS BAS lead

Keri Sallee KC DLS, Permitting Division

Eric Beach, KC DNRP, WLRD, Ag Regulatory & Permitting Specialist

King County 2024 Comprehensive Plan

Proposed APD Mitigation Bank

- Overview
- Q&A for Commissioners

With Rey Sugui, King County DLS, Roads, Real Estate Services

John Vander Sluis, King County DLS, Roads, Strategic Development Analyst



PPE

WSU, via WSDA funding, distributed about \$50k (this week!) in PPE to King and Pierce farms who have a high number of employees, or host large numbers of members of the public for agrotourism. This PPE included handwashing stations, hand sanitizer stations, rubber gloves, N95 masks, paper towels, hand sanitizer and sanitizer solution, etc. We are thrilled to be able to pass along these materials and specifically thank our new King Co Extension Director Alyssa Bowers, the interim KC Ex. Dir. Martha Aitken, and the Puyallup R&E Center director Todd Murphy, for assistance in distributing these materials. It was a last minute and unanticipated project that took us by surprise (in a good way) and is a great way to support a large number of farm employees and their visitors with PPE to keep us all healthy and safe.



COMPOST REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

[← Back](#)[HOW TO APPLY](#)[REIMBURSEMENT](#)[SOIL SAMPLING](#)

The Compost Reimbursement Program aims to encourage on-farm use of commercial compost. For eligible farms, the program will pay up to 50% of the cost to obtain, transport, and spread compost, not to exceed \$10,000, per farm per year.

4 Step Application Process

- Part one of application (declaration for 10 years of soil testing by WSDA and description of transport and application of compost.
- Eligibility confirmed and grant contract signed.
- Part two: Reimbursement application due by June 1.
- 10 years of soil samples

NEW!

WSDA Compost Reimbursement Program

Heritage Barns constitute a public good in economic, social, and historic terms. As such, this program will award **grants up to \$75,000 in matching dollars** to support Heritage Barns with emergency stabilization and rehabilitation to barns and associated significant agricultural buildings.

With **\$960,000** in funds from the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) available for this program, we look forward to **awarding several Heritage Barns** across Washington with grant funds.

A few key dates:

- Applications open on September 1, 2023
- Applications close on October 31, 2023
- All applicants will be notified in December 2023
- Grant contracts will be drafted in January 2024
- Grant-supported projects must be completed by June 30, 2025

To participate in this program, barns must:

- Currently listed in either the Washington Heritage Barn Register or the National Register of Historic Places, and
- In need of substantial repair.

For more information about this grant opportunity, interested applicants can visit our website: preservewa.org/heritage-barn-grants/.

For guidance on the application process, interested applicants can view this Application Walkthrough video: <https://youtu.be/eXP6f5ymSv4>.

We will also be hosting “Office Hours” during the application period for interested applicants to ask questions and discuss the application process. “Office Hours” will be hosted by the Grant Administrators on Wednesday, September 20th and Wednesday, October 11th between 5-6:30pm. Register for “Office Hours” below:

- Register for Wednesday, September 20th | <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEsf-mgpjsuE9WBbsoRMQLiOglwWGM38Dkw>
- Register for Wednesday, October 11th | <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMkduGprzwoGd2AQI5XaUQuD-EldrZxh-3x>

New Grant Cycle

Heritage Barn Capital Grant Program



The USDA Announces MPEPP Round Two Grant Program!

Who can apply for this program?

Entities that engage or plan to engage in meat and poultry processing, including private, non-profit, tribal, cooperative, state or local government, among other entities. Private entities must be independently owned and operated. All entities must be domestically owned, and their meat and poultry processing facilities must be physically located and operated within the U.S. or its territories.

How can funds be used?

Grant funds can be used for expenses during the period of performance of the grant award to expand processing capacity by supporting activities such as:

- Building, modernizing, or expanding existing – processing facilities, including mobile slaughter units
- **Purchasing an inoperable facility**
- Developing, installing, or modernizing equipment and technology
- Modifying facilities or equipment to protect food safety
- Offsetting cost associated with becoming an inspected facility
- Staffing or operational costs specifically tied to the proposed project
- Supporting workforce recruitment, training, and retention

What is the maximum grant amount?

The maximum award amount is \$10 million, or 30 percent of total project costs, whichever is less. The minimum award amount is \$250,000. Projects including construction (and equipment associated with the project) are eligible for grants from \$250,000 to \$10 million. Projects that only require equipment purchases are eligible for grants from \$5 million to \$10 million.

Deadline for this grant is November 22nd, 2023.

New Grant Cycle

[Visit the Grants.gov
page here](#)

Resilerator Northwest: Business Skills Intensive for Mid-scale Farms

[Find out more & register here: tinyurl.com/resileratornw23](https://tinyurl.com/resileratornw23)

- **Title:** Resilerator Northwest: Business Skills Intensive for Mid-scale Farms
- **Dates:** 11-week class meets Tuesdays from 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm Pacific from October 10th - December 19th with a break the week of October 31st and November 21st.
- **Location:** Farmer Campus, Zoom
- **Topics Covered:** Business structures, labor, accounting and taxation, credit and cash flow, insurance, and environmental and marketing regulations.
- **Registration:** Priority application deadline September 1st, 2023. Applications will be accepted until the cohort reaches 20 farmers. **Registration closes September 15th. [Apply here.](#)**
- **Max. attendees:** 20 farms. Each farm can have all the principal managers attend.
- **Fee:** \$200 (Fully refundable upon completion of the course)

Presented by the Northwest Agricultural Business Center in partnership with CAFarmLink and Watershed Productions. Questions? Email contact Emily Manke emily@agbizcenter.org (360) 223-2008 to learn more. [REGISTER HERE](#)

New Course
Cycle

NABC's
Resilerator



Tilth Conference

Join us for this year's [Tilth Conference](#) co-hosted by Tilth Alliance, the Washington Organic Recycling Council (WORC) and Washington State University Extension's Regional Small Farms Program!

The Tilth Conference is an annual event bringing together hundreds of farmers, food system professionals, composters, researchers and educators for more than 25 lectures, workshops and panel discussions that highlight Washington's farmers and farm businesses.

Date

Thursday, October 26–Saturday, October 28

Location

Fort Worden, Port Townsend

Registration deadline: Friday, October 6

Scholarships available



Clallam/Jefferson/Kitsap County
WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
Regional Small Farms

