

# KING COUNTY AGRICULTURE COMMISSION

## HYBRID MEETING NOTICE

THURSDAY OCTOBER 10, 2024

3:00-5:00 P.M.

Carnation Public Library and **ZOOM VIDEO CALL**

**CALL IN:**

**One tap mobile: +12532158782,,86346865367#,,,,\*984234#**

**Land line: +1 253 205 0468 US, Meeting ID: 863 4686 5367**

**OR**

**LOG IN FROM A COMPUTER OR SMARTPHONE:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86346865367?pwd=qV13yARFTqs53h3PFRWyGnmXJBeJ9q.1>

### MEETING AGENDA

<b>3:00</b>	<b>Call to Order</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>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.</li><li>Approval of Agenda</li><li>Approval of Meeting Minutes: September</li></ul>	Jessi Bloom, Vice Chair
<b>3:05</b>	<b>Public Comment</b> related to a specific agenda item. <i>3 minutes/person</i>	Jessi Bloom
<b>3:10</b>	<b>Updates</b> (approx. 3 min each) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Commission Details, Policy, Ag Education &amp; Events</li><li>King County Ag Program</li><li>Local Food Initiative</li><li>King Conservation District</li><li>Washington State University CSANR</li><li>King-Pierce Farm Bureau</li><li>Farm Fish Flood</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Patrice Barrentine</li><li>Richard Martin</li><li>Mike Lufkin</li><li>Matt Mega</li><li>Alyssa Bowers, Jordan Jobe</li><li>Leann Krainick</li><li>Richard Martin</li></ul>
<b>3:40</b>	<b>Old Business</b> <b>Battery Energy Storage Systems Ordinance 2023-0263 update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Q&amp;A</li></ul>	Patrice Barrentine, Jessi, Leann, Henna
<b>4:00</b>	<b>Ruling on Ordinance 19030 Winery/Brewery/Distillery/Adult Beverage</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Q&amp;A</li></ul>	Cristy Craig, Senior Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, King County
<b>4:30</b>	<b>New Business</b> <b>Commission Planning for 2025</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Recruitment Timeline<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Personal info/ESJ form</li></ul></li><li>Discussion on what the commission wants to learn + tour follow-up</li></ul>	Patrice Barrentine
<b>4:50</b>	<b>General Public Comment</b> <i>3 minutes/person</i>	Stacey Smith
<b>4:55</b>	<b>Concerns of Commissioners</b>	Stacey Smith
<b>5:00</b>	<b>Adjourn</b>	Stacey Smith

**Next Meeting: November 14, 2024**



**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 Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, September 12, 2024 – 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm**  
**Zoom Video Conference Call**

Commissioners Present (Y/N)					
Stacey Smith, Chair	Y	Andrew Ely	N	Leann Krainick	Y
Jessi Bloom Vice-Chair	Y	Janet Keller	Y	Kevin Scott-Vandenberg	N
Darron Marzolf	Y	Henna Khan	Y		
Ex Officio Members Present (Y/N)					
Jordan Jobe, WSU	N	Matt Mega, KCD	N		
County Staff/Representatives Present					
Patrice Barrentine, DNRP	Richard Martin, DNRP			Jim Chan	
Guests Present					

**Meeting Summary**

- **Actions: Approval of Agenda, July Meeting Minutes, Creating a letter on the topic of BESS**
- **Tasks**
  - Representation survey will be sent out Monday. All commissioners must fill it out before the end of the month (9/30)
  - Create a committee to write a letter on BESS (Patrice Barrentine, Leann Krainick, Stacey Smith, Jessi Bloom – before 9/24)

***Meeting called to order by Chair Stacey Smith at 6:00 pm with quorum***

**Roll Call/Announcement of Staff & Public (Stacey Smith)**

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

**ACTION: Approval of Meeting Agenda (Stacey Smith)**

Moved by Leann Krainick seconded by Henna Khan and passed unanimously.

**ACTION: Approval of Meeting Minutes (Stacey Smith)**

This was approving meeting minutes from July. Moved by Janet Keller, seconded by Henna Khan, and passed, with Leann Krainick abstaining due to her absence from the July meeting.

**Public Comment – Specific Agenda Item (Stacey Smith)**

There was no public comment at this time.

**MOTION: King Conservation District (Stacey Smith, Jessi Bloom, Matt Mega, Patrice Barrentine)**

Every 5 years, KCD’s rate renewal process comes through the executive branch, and then to council for approval.

A letter was made- changes made were:

- Added: members participating in FFF ag caucus, key member in LFI refresh.
- The partnership between KCD and the County will ensure investments and activities remain focused on our local food system and its overall long-term sustainability.

- Ag commission supports KCD's increase, KCD being a huge partner in the work being done for the local food system.

Leann Krainick wants to include something about both large and small farms in the letter (farms of all sizes). Patrice figured out how to add the sentence into the letter.

A motion was made by Jessi Bloom, seconded by Janet Keller, and passed unanimously, to send the letter.

### **Old Business: DLS Permitting Update on Large Events in APD (Jim Chan)**

Jim Chan

- Carnation farms withdrew more complex TUP for larger events, no longer pursuing that. Renewing current TUP for smaller ones, allowing several events that are of smaller venue sizes, which Paul ?? is putting together the pre-application that's required for that, and then they'll go from there.
- Brody (?) Nation: happened while under code enforcement- they appealed the permitting order, going in front of the examiner for a hearing which has yet to be scheduled.
- Remlinger Farms: wrapping up concert series (2-3 left), just had meeting with development, operations, and legal team. Hope that they will enter agreement to resolve their code enforcement cases (including expansion of stage, not using certain permits) should be resolved by the start of next season. The hope is to incentivize them into this, so they don't schedule/contract for anything else before this commitment. They will have to remove illegally permitted items within the disagreement period. In lieu of appealing and going through the Hearing Examiner process and the potential legal struggles, they would just agree to this timeline and resolution, so DLS is working with them on that agreement. They're trying to figure out whether it is possible to legalize the expansion of the stage that is in channel migration. If not possible, they don't have an option to legalize the expansion, and will have to remove that portion of the stage. There continues to be traffic and noise complaints in that area with suggestions of additional flaggers and getting decibel readings. King County has the ability to reconsider the interpretation and impacts of this season moving into next season. If they are unable to meet the agreement, and if there continues to be impacts that they haven't been able to mitigate, King County can modify the interpretation. King County has given them a year to make changes that make things better for everyone.

Darron Marzolf asked about incentives being given- Jim Chan said if Remlinger Farms doesn't help, Chan will have to reconsider the interpretation of how many events, how large an event, and how often the event may occur. Stacey commented that the weather had an impact on the noise levels.

### **New Business: King County Strategic Climate Action Plan 2025 Update (Richard Martin)**

Five years ago, most of the commissioners participated in developing the 2020 update of the SCAP, a blueprint on how the county can address climate change issues and sustainability. There is an update underway for this blueprint.

Richard gives an overview of the 2020 SCAP and current priorities and performance. He then describes criteria for 2025 SCAP actions, identifying agricultural strategies and actions being discussed that could be implemented in the SCAP, and then a discussion on all of these plus figuring out the next steps.

The 2020 update included Greenhouse Gas Reductions in forests and ag, transportation and land use, building/facility use. It also included a community's section (section 2 SRFC)

2020 SCAP Strategies for Ag: accelerate rate of farmland preservation, increase compost use, incorporate regenerative/climate smart practices, assess irrigation water needs, assess climate change impacts on ag production, and address issues that limit farmland access, especially for historically underserved communities.

2025 SCAP Update Priorities

- More strategic: focusing on implementing more impactful actions, carry forward 2020 actions, leverage/integrate with other KC plans, and effectively integrate climate actions.
- Focus on partnerships: engage implementation partners, strengthen frontline community leadership, and build stronger regional alignment.
- Engage community: provide in-person engagement opportunities to support community involvement in climate initiatives, engage frontline communities and youth in SCAP development, and set up survey for public feedback.

#### Overall Outcomes

- Significant reduction of emissions across sectors countywide.
- Climate equity as a central focus throughout climate work
- Communities and partners are empowered to take climate action with adequate resources.
- Residents and infrastructure are prepared for a changing climate.
- Human and environmental health have improved through climate work.

#### Summer Stakeholder Workshops in Ag

- Continue and accelerate rate of farmland preservation.
- Support adoption of regenerative climate smart ag practices on county owned and private farmland.
- Increase opportunities for farmland access.
- Reduce organic waste and increase production/use of compost.
- Increase use of recycled water for irrigation.
- Consider equity and opportunities for green jobs in all we do.

#### 2025 SCAP Criteria

- Impact: the action will have a notable positive impact
- Critical step/catalyst: work on the issue can't proceed (efficiently) without this step.
- Barrier buster: address barriers that limit progress on action.
- Urgency: get work started on it asap
- Scalable/replicable: offers an opportunity to pilot an approach that is well suited to be implemented at scale and/or replicated.

#### Ensuring Staff Priorities: Ag Strategies

- Continue to accelerate protection of LCI priority farmland.
- Expedite ag sectors adoption of practices to enhance resilience/preparedness.
- Increase investment in education, tech support, and financial incentives.
- Consider issues of land access and food security.
- Reduce adverse health impacts from extreme heat and wildfire smoke.
- Accelerate rate of farmland preservation
- Expand education programming and tech support.
- Incentivize adoption of regenerative, climate-smart agricultural practices
- Ensure that conservation plans and farm plans address issues of climate change.
- Ensure reliable delivery of recycled water from Brightwater Treatment center to Sammamish APD

#### New Actions

- Support production of higher quality compost and incentivize expanded commercial use.
- Create network of demonstration farms to demonstrate regenerative, climate adapted practices.
- Focus PBRS/CUT on LCI priority farmland.
- Enhance farmworker safety and support guidelines related to extreme heat and wildfire smoke.
- Identify farmland at greatest risk of extreme flooding and drought and identify alternatives for storage of water for flood risk reduction and irrigation.

#### Equity Actions

- Expand programs focused on farmland access and food security.
- Support NGOs/CBOs to build staff and financial capacity.

#### Discussion Questions

- 1) Do the identified ag actions meet SCAP criteria? Strengths/Weaknesses?
- 2) Gaps in actions?
- 3) Additional Considerations: what can the county do to most effectively help you achieve your goals for ag in KC?

#### Discussion:

- Janet Keller says ag should be encouraged to do more of what they already do: by growing plants and whatever, they reduce temps. She was concerned when talking about reducing GHG in ag sector- which to her means not being able to operate machinery or having livestock. Farms sequester carbon and are a resource for reducing temp due to green growth. She thinks that a farm reducing GHGs is going to be detrimental to farming in KC in general. New tractors that come out (electric and whatnot)- are made with new construction/materials. New materials need to be considered for their emissions based on their own construction compared to older materials (life cycle assessment). Richard Martin agrees with her, looking for new approaches to reducing GHGs. The goal isn't to force farmers to change the way they do things, but to incentivize farmers through education.
- Leann Krainick: this isn't a mandate, but guidance. This needs to be at the very beginning of the plan. As time goes by, people take SCAP regulations and similar things as mandates rather than suggestions, and things can get lost in translation. Things to improve on: KC is great at preserving farmland, but not farmers. We don't know how to address this issue. This all has to be financially incentivized to do. For carbon reduction, farmers can use KC help in being involved in carbon markets. It can be hard to want to be involved in carbon markets if you don't fully understand it. Solar panels may be something to look into incentivize more... (listen to recording...)
- Patrice Barrentine adds- there are many farmers/farm employees but not many traditional farmworkers. Still with farmers/farm employees. Leann Krainick agrees- reference WA Dept of Labor and Industries. Richard will share a survey link with Patrice, and Patrice will release the survey later.
- Leann Krainick asks of stakeholder meetings that are coming up. Richard lists some upcoming ones and encourages sharing the survey link.
- Patrice said to consider the Snoqualmie Agriculture Strategic Plan in relation to heat on farms, particularly for livestock, emergency systems and planning, and more.
- Jessi Bloom discusses how water rights are discussed and the availability of water being a huge issue. KC needs to do better in creating water infrastructure. Farmers are competing with many different people on water.
- Patrice adds that meetings can be attended but Richard is also a good resource for discussing ideas/opinions on the SCAP update.

See presentation online.

#### **Field Trip Recap: Marzolf Meats Grand Opening (Patrice Barrentine, Darron Marzolf, Stacey, Henna, Janet)**

This was a field trip to Marzolf Meats grand opening in July. Most people from the ag commission, as well as other KC staff and politicians, were able to make it to the field trip. Patrice Barrentine shows some photos from the opening, which both Patrice and Darron Marzolf go through in detail.

Patrice asks the commission to start thinking about field trips for October. Janet Keller suggests somewhere with a pumpkin patch. Henna, Kevin, and Andrew of the Field Trip Committee will pull this together.

See presentation online.

**MOTION: Updates (Patrice Barrentine, Richard Martin, Matt Mega, Alyssa Bowers/Jordan Jobe, Leann Krainick)**

**Commission Admin, Policy and Legislation, Events and Funding Opportunities (Patrice Barrentine)**

Commission Admin

- Selection committee/recruitment: adding supplemental questions, especially equity and social justice topics. Patrice needs commissioners to help clarify their own personal info to report how the ag commission is meeting county goals and so that they can have current info for recruitment needs. Survey will be sent out next Monday and will need to be received by the end of the month.
  - o There are 12 questions, takes 20 minutes. Everyone must fill it out. Lyn Tampi will follow up if not received all 8.
  - o Janet Keller asks if this was what the selection committee has been discussing (it is)

Ordinance 2023-0263: BESS

- For 7/17, local services land use committee meet: a call came from council and exec to the commission the morning of the meeting. Jessi Bloom and Leann Krainick testified as private citizens regarding protecting the APD from BESS except as an accessory use. Janet Keller also tried to testify. Jessi Bloom's statement became part of a news story (both on the radio and in print). Jessi Bloom is wondering if they can write a letter to oppose BESS on ag land.
- Stacey Smith was wondering if local people in Carnation would be willing to testify for farmers too. There aren't many people from the land side of things.
- Leann Krainick adds that PSE is pushing hard. An amendment says that if these systems are to go in, there needs to be a public notice and meeting. Officials at PSE were asking for this amendment to be pulled. If a letter is written, it should be mentioned that farms hire a lot of people too. Leann Krainick would be willing to help Patrice Barrentine draft the letter.
- Patrice gives more context about this issue (see recording for more info). She says she will help out with commissioners who want to send a letter.
- Janet Keller comments that this another example of prioritizing farmland over farmers, as BESS would incentivize farmers financially. KC needs to be reminded to support farmers along with farmland.
- Leann Krainick would like to work with Patrice and a few other commissioners to write a letter. Stacey Smith will sign off on the letter, Jessi Bloom will read it. Leann Krainick makes a motion be made and the letter be submitted to council. Jessi Bloom seconds, and it is passed unanimously.
- Can send comments as representing their own business, if with a letter, can say on behalf of ag commission.

Sunflower festivals

**King County Ag Program + Fish Farm Flood (Richard Martin)**

Ordinance 19762 preamble: executive shall transmit a report providing recommendations to strengthen the county's commitment to sustainable farm-to-plate pipelines, advance equity, and support the ag sector in unincorporated KC as the ag sector complies with the hourly minimum wage rate as required by this ordinance. Council Member Perry identifies recommendations to consider, from farmland access to healthcare programs, to food banks- it is a bunch of programs that could benefit ag. A deep dive of the economic side of these things should be done.

There's a new member in the ag team replacing Eric Beach- helping with permitting issue and coordinating FFF. The new member is Bobbi Lindemulder, who has experience in farming and regulatory issues. She's worked in the Snohomish district.

**King Conservation District (Matt Mega)**

- WSCC awarded the Farm Team \$100,000 from the Sustainable Farm and Fields Grant to support a dairy project on Keller Dairy
- KCD had their first ever Community Agriculture Farm Tour at City Soil Garden on composting with the support of the Education Team. It was a huge success, and 25 people turned out.
- Liz Stockton’s Agricultural Drainage field season is firming up, and King County has submitted the permits.
- Jason Mirro applied for the Sustainable Farm and Fields Grant and is waiting to hear back on this \$8,500 project which will renovate a pasture for Jubilee Farm.
- Megan Weldon applied for the Sustainable Farm and Fields Grant and is waiting to hear back on this \$151,151.94 request. This grant will purchase a combination of cover crop seed, and/or pasture seed, and/or lime for Providence Dairy Farm, Wagon Box Farm, and Wallin Heifer Farm.
- We are in the process of applying for the Livestock Technical Assistance Grant for \$20,000.
- In 2025 to date, the farm team has approved 22 Cost Share projects.

**Farm Bureau (Leann Krainick)**

- KPFB annual meeting Oct 28: in Sumner, needs two commissioners who aren’t Farm Bureau members. She will send an invite if someone is available.
- CCA fuel rebate for farmers now available – apply now.
- General election endorsements will be coming out shortly.
- Washington state fair is going on right now!

**Public Comment – General (Stacey Smith)**

There was no public comment during this period.

**Concerns of Commissioners (Stacey Smith)**

Leann asks Patrice to send kudos to John Taylor for stepping in. Patrice will send an email.

***Meeting adjourned at 7:56 pm***

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**Next Meeting(s)**

October 10, 2024, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm (Zoom Video Conference Call)



# Commission Admin, Policy & Legislation, Events & Funding Opportunities

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REGARDING KING COUNTY  
AGRICULTURE

SEPTEMBER 2024



# This Month's Staff Liaison Update

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COMMISSION ADMIN



POLICY UPDATES



EVENTS

# 2 advisory letters sent this month

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- KCD Rates and Charges
- Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) Ordinance 2023-0263





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After 4 years in the courts, a final Washington State Supreme Court ruling No. 1021771 was handed down regarding King County's Ordinance 19030 (first named Winery, Brewery, Distillery and then Adult Beverage Ordinance).

We will have a briefing of this later in today's Commission meeting by Cristy Craig, Senior Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, King County.

# Selection Committee and Recruitment Progress

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As presented in the July mtg, we have taken a deeper dive in getting the recruitment right the first time by aligning our legislation requirements into the supplemental questionnaire, especially ESJ. This work is completed.



Thank you to the commissioners who have helped us clarify your personal information and test the supplemental questions. This will enable us to report how we are meeting County goals, and clarify current info, to establish the baseline for recruitment needs.



Recruitment begins in second half of October

## Selection Committee and Recruitment SURVEY for Current Commissioners

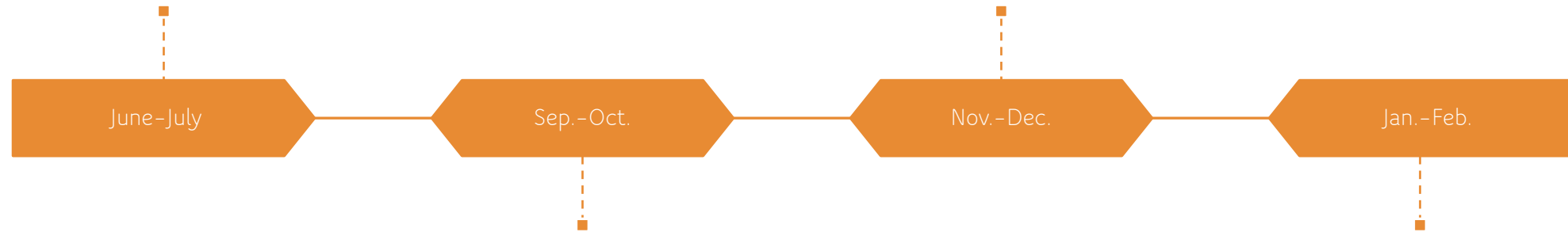
- 12 Questions
- 20 Minutes
- Need everyone to fill out (as much as you're willing) by the end of this month
- Lyn will be following up with you if we've not received all 8

9. The Ag Commission founding legislation specifies the following representation categories - these should make up the skills and experiences of the commissioners. Please choose the skills/experiences you have:
- Producer: includes first generation farmers, farmers leasing property, multigenerational/legacy farmers
  - Real Estate: includes those who do consulting on land, transactions, land use regulations
  - Food and Food Processing: includes value-added food processing, butchery, animal feed production
  - Wholesale and Retail Marketing: includes farmers experienced with wholesaling and retailing ag products to grocery stores, restaurants, institutions, as well as non-farmers that buy ag products such as distributors, grocery stores, etc.
  - Produce Buying: includes farmers with experience in commodity hay purchasing and/or purchasing other ag products (i.e. vegetables/fruit, nursery, livestock) to raise or to resell
  - Direct Marketing: includes farmers markets, farm stands, CSAs, online sales, etc.
  - Supply: includes feedstore, ag retail supply, farmer co-ops, ag equipment

# Selection Committee: Recruitment & Review Timeline

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Committee met and put plan in place.  
Work on updating outreach lists,  
materials including integrating ESJ and  
more personal data began



Recruitment open and applications  
accepted

Survey to current Commissioners was  
conducted to establish baseline needs.  
Finalize materials, committee reviews  
materials, agrees upon recruitment  
needs, recruitment begins

Committee reviews applications,  
conducts interviews as needed, selects  
finalists

# Advisory Letter Protocol

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- ❑ Continuing to finalize
- ❑ DNRP Leadership has provided input on 1<sup>st</sup> draft
- ❑ Input will be incorporated into 2<sup>nd</sup> draft
- ❑ 2<sup>nd</sup> draft will be reviewed internally
- ❑ Should be ready **by end of year**

2025 LOCAL  
FOOD  
Initiative

UPDATE



## King County Food System Community Survey

We invite you to take the **King County Food System Community Survey** and share what's working and what can improve our local food system. Your feedback will shape the **King County Local Food Initiative (LFI)**, which aims to support a healthy, thriving, and fair food system.

The LFI will be a resource for local government, elected officials, community-based organizations, and community members as they take steps and advocate for policies and programs that support everyone's needs in our food system. The LFI is a collaborative effort between King County, King Conservation District, and the King County Food Systems Advisory Council.

**Who this survey is for:** Anyone who eats, farms, fishes, cooks, or otherwise engages with food in King County.

**When to take the survey:** September 20 – December 1, 2024

**Accessing the survey:** Click [here](#) or navigate to <https://bit.ly/LFIsurvey> on a computer, tablet, or smartphone.

You can learn more about the survey here: [Take the King County Local Food Initiative survey to help shape the program's actions in its second decade – Keeping King County Green](#)



# American Farmland Trust

## SAVING THE LAND THAT SUSTAINS US

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Closes October  
17

Hello King County friends,

Farmers support their communities by producing fresh food, supporting ecosystem services, and contributing to the local economy. However, the viability of agriculture is a deep challenge, as reflected in the most recent Census of Agriculture. To address these challenges, American Farmland Trust is conducting [a survey of current, former, and aspiring farmers in the Puget Sound region to understand the needs and challenges they are facing](#). This survey will inform the development of a roadmap and action plan to address Puget Sound agricultural viability, along with a toolkit for county governments to better plan for and serve farmers in their communities. We are offering farmers a chance to win a \$100 VISA gift card or “No Farms No Food” cap for their participation. The survey is available in English and Spanish.

Sincerely,  
Dani Madrone  
PNW Senior Policy and Planning Manager  
American Farmland Trust

[Farmer Perspectives on Agricultural Viability in Puget Sound Survey \(surveymonkey.com\)](#)



# King County Septic System Maintenance Rebate Program



Do you have a septic system in King County? King County is offering a **rebate of up to \$500 per property for regular septic system inspection, pumping, or riser installation.**

The [septic system rebate program](#) is available throughout all of King County (not just unincorporated areas), however there is an income eligibility requirement\* for properties outside of Vashon-Maury Island and the [Poverty Bay Shellfish Protection District](#). Businesses are eligible if they are a small business (the simple definition is in the application).

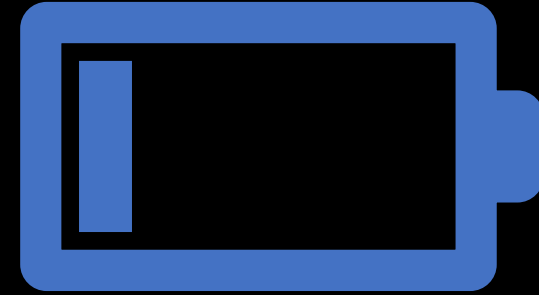
\*For 2023, the AMI for King County is approximately [\\$115,700<sup>1</sup>](#). Therefore, 80% of this amount would be around [\\$92,560<sup>1</sup>](#).

Type of rebate	Rebate amount	Eligible geographical area	Income eligibility requirements	Eligible maintenance activities
Septic system maintenance rebate	Up to \$500	Vashon-Maury Island and within the <a href="#">Poverty Bay Shellfish Protection District</a>	None	Septic system inspection, pumping, or riser installations
		All of King County, EXCLUDING Vashon-Maury Island and the <a href="#">Poverty Bay Shellfish Protection District</a>	Annual household income at or below 80% of King County's area median income.	
Side sewer repair rebate	Up to \$5,000	Lakehaven Sewer District and Midway Sewer Districts	None	Disconnecting illicit connections (ex. roof downspouts or sump pumps), lining sewer pipes, or making repairs to existing side sewers to eliminate stormwater or groundwater inputs.

Visit [www.kingcounty.gov/oss](http://www.kingcounty.gov/oss) to apply for your rebate today!

Update on Passage of Battery  
Energy Storage Systems (BESS)  
Ordinance 2023-0263

10/10/24



# advisory letter sent this month

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- ❑ in support of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) Ordinance 2023-0263 and its protection of A zoned land from BESS except as an accessory use to agriculture.



# *Ag Persona* Testimony: Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) Ordinance 2023-0263

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§ Leann Krainick

§ Nayab and Henna Khan

§ Viva Farms: Micah Anderson, Michael Frazier





# Ag Commission Testimony before Council Sept 24

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- Jessi Bloom, Vice Chair
- Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) Ordinance 2023-0263

# Amendment was introduced and discussed

## Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) Ordinance 2023-0263.2

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This ordinance advances these Strategic Climate Action Plan priorities by making **battery energy storage systems of all scales an allowed use on nearly ninety-seven percent of the county's unincorporated land area.**

E. **The remaining three percent of the county's unincorporated land area is made up of agricultural lands. Being the most urban county in the state, King County has very little agricultural land, nearly all of which is protected as agricultural land of long-term significance for the commercial production of food or other agricultural products under the Growth Management Act and RCW 36.70A.170. That land contains rich agricultural soils, which are a precious and finite resource.**

F. In order to maintain consistency with the Growth Management Act and protect agricultural lands for present and future generations, this ordinance only allows battery energy storage systems in agricultural zones as an accessory use, up to 2 megawatts. The 2-megawatt allowance leaves flexibility for farmers to store energy for their own use and to participate in energy sharing with their neighbors through microgrid applications, while maintaining a small footprint, which is likely less than four-hundred square feet. If there is no feasible alternative to constructing battery energy storage systems on agricultural lands, King County can consider granting special use permit authority for these systems in the next code update to address reliability issues at any substation proximate to agricultural lands.

# Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) Ordinance 2023-0263.2: Amendment was introduced and discussed; lots of CM praise for CM Perry's work!



Brought to the  
table:

- Unions,
- Farmers, and
- Energy



## Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) Ordinance 2023-0263

CM Perry thanked the Ag Commission  
just before the vote (3:11pm)

**METROPOLITAN KING COUNTY COUNCIL**

09/24/24

Ordinance 2024-0263:  
Relating to energy storage systems

 King County TV



# Ordinance Passes 8-1: Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) Ordinance 2023-0263.2

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Passed: 8-1, CM Dunn voting no; Adopted as amended



# Ag Commission Recruitment

Current Representation

10/10/24

# Selection Committee and Recruitment Progress

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- Real Estate: includes those who do consulting on land, transactions, land use regulations
- Food and Feed Processing: includes value-added food processing, butchery, animal feed production
- Wholesale and Retail Marketing: includes farmers experienced with wholesaling and retailing ag products to grocery stores, restaurants, institutions, as well as non-farmers that buy ag products such as distributors, grocery stores, etc.
- Produce Buying: includes farmers with experience in commodity hay purchasing and/or purchasing other ag products (i.e., vegetables/fruit, nursery, livestock) to raise or to resale
- Direct Marketing: includes farmers markets, farm stands, CSAs, online sales, etc.
- Supply: includes feedstore, ag retail supply, farmer co-ops, ag equipment

# Commissioner Info Form - Sector Representation

6

Responses

30:52

Average time to complete

Active

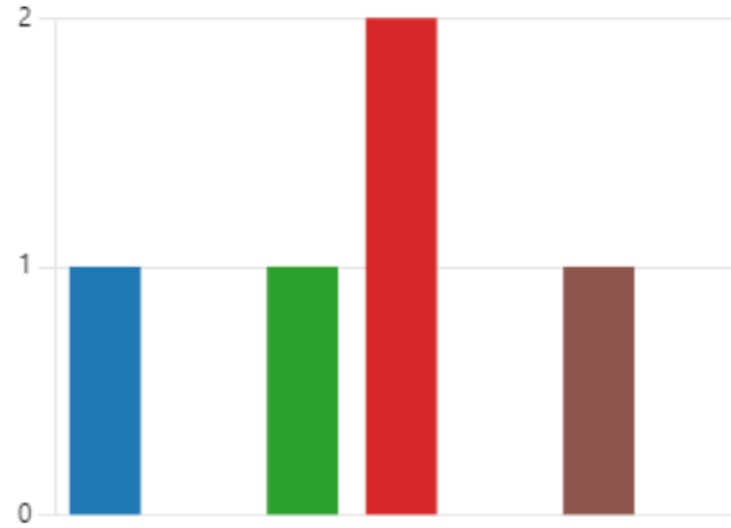
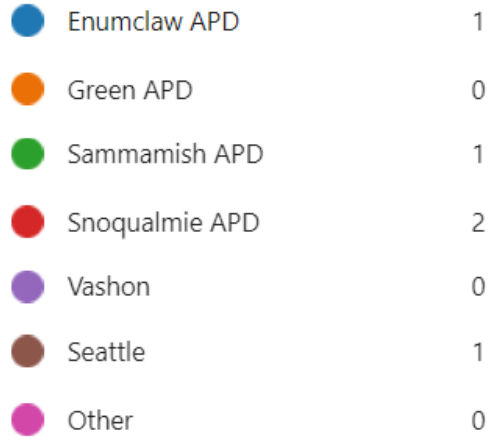
Status

[View results](#)

 [Open in Excel](#) ...

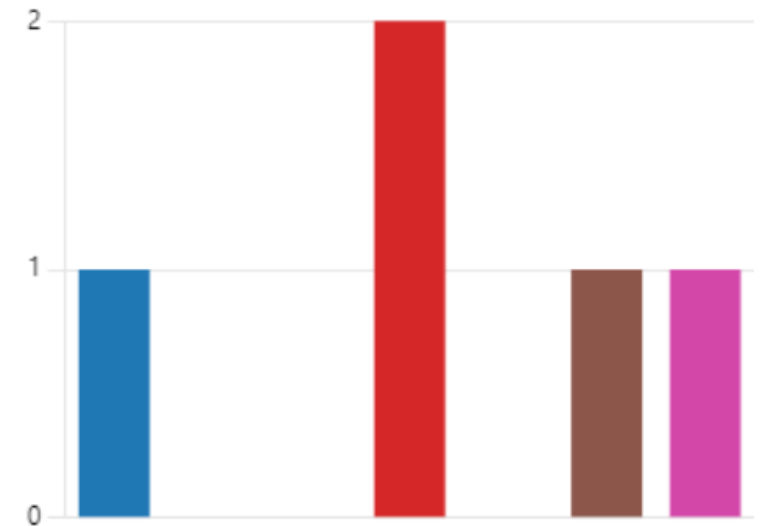
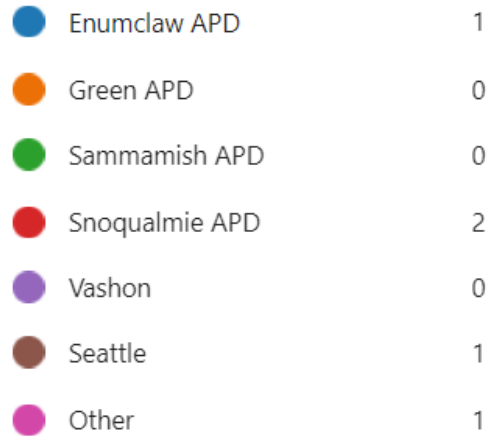
## 1. In which area is your home address?

[More Details](#)



## 2. In which area is your work address?

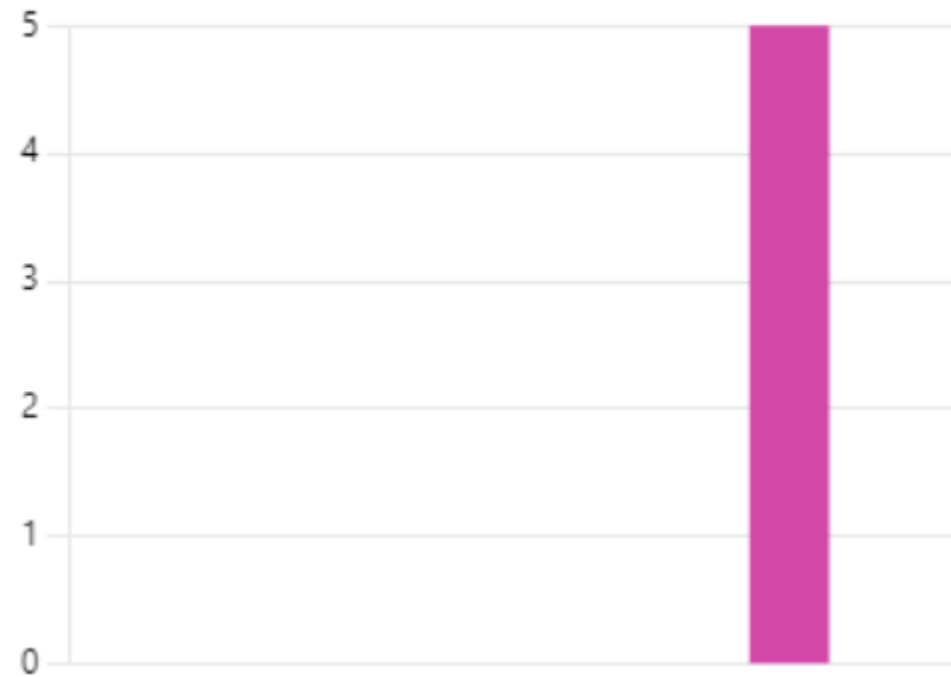
[More Details](#)



### 3. What is your race/ethnicity?

[More Details](#)

<span style="color: blue;">●</span> American Indian/Alaskan Native	0
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Asian	0
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Middle Eastern/North African	0
<span style="color: red;">●</span> Hispanic/Latino of any race	0
<span style="color: purple;">●</span> Multi-racial or other race	0
<span style="color: brown;">●</span> Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0
<span style="color: magenta;">●</span> White	5
<span style="color: gray;">●</span> Prefer not to say	0



#### 4. What is your gender identity?

[More Details](#)

● Male	1
● Female	4
● X ("X" means a gender that is n...	0
● Prefer not to say	0



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#### 5. What is your orientation?

[More Details](#)

● LGBTQ+	1
● Heterosexual	4
● Prefer not to say	0



6. Do you have a disability? As defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act: A person with a disability is someone who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, has a history or record of such an impairment (such as cancer that is in remission), or is perceived by others as having such an impairment (such as a person who has scars from a severe burn).

[More Details](#)

● Yes	1
● No	4
● Prefer not to say	0

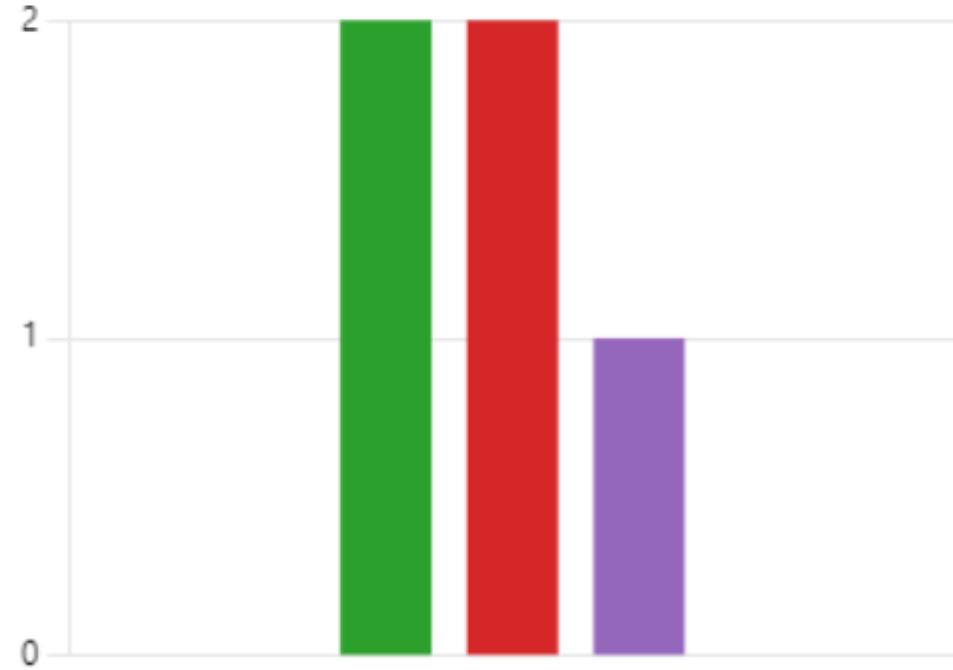




## 7. What is your generational age range?

[More Details](#)

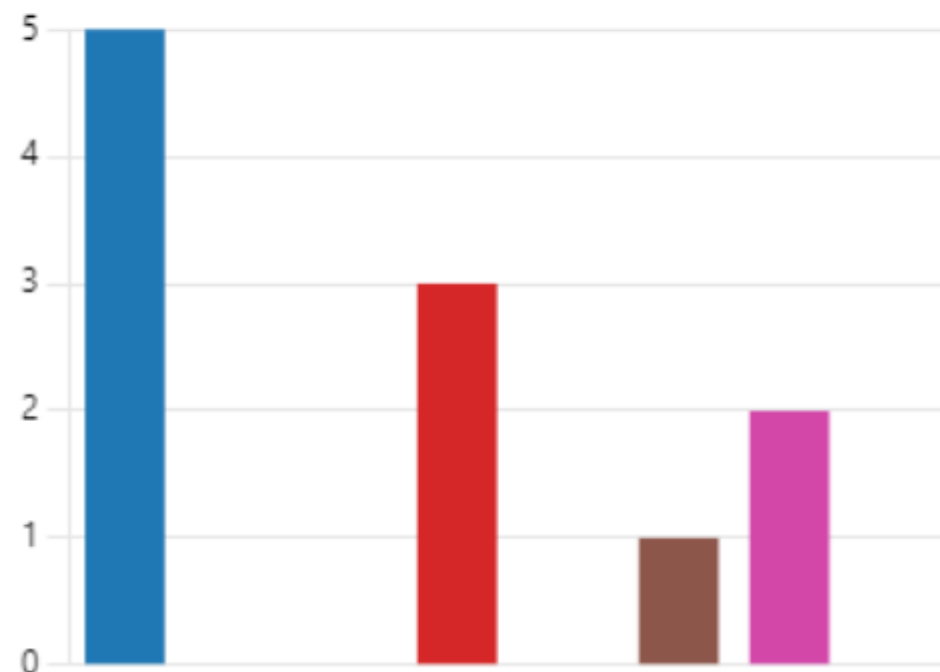
<span style="color: blue;">●</span> 30 or younger	0
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> 31-41	0
<span style="color: green;">●</span> 42-52	2
<span style="color: red;">●</span> 53-63	2
<span style="color: purple;">●</span> 64-74	1
<span style="color: brown;">●</span> 75 or older	0
<span style="color: magenta;">●</span> Prefer not to say	0



8. Please indicate if you identify as or with any of the following

[More Details](#)

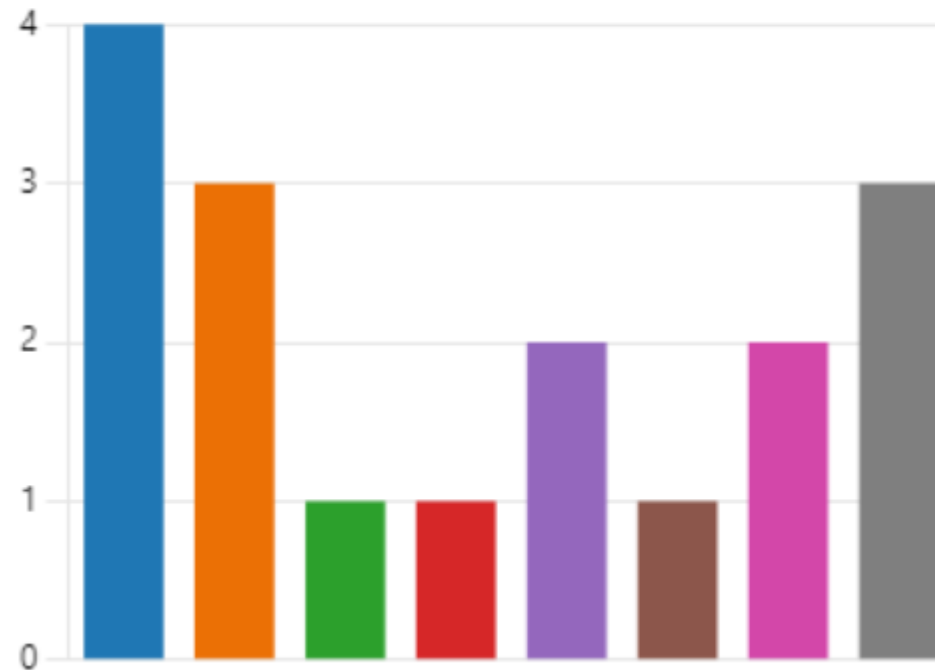
● Born in US	5
● Born outside of US, but immigra...	0
● Employee of an ag business oth...	0
● Own an ag business with emplo...	3
● Employer of historically underse...	0
● Owner of agricultural land	1
● Lease agricultural land for my o...	2
● Own land that I lease to historic...	0



9. The Ag Commission founding legislation specifies the following representation categories - these should make up the skills and experiences of the commissioners. Please choose the skills/experiences you have:

[More Details](#)

- Producer: includes first generati... 4
- Real Estate: includes those who ... 3
- Food and Feed Processing: inclu... 1
- Wholesale and Retail Marketing:... 1
- Produce Buying: includes farmer... 2
- Direct Marketing: includes farm... 1
- Supply: includes feedstore, ag r... 2
- Finance: includes loan operation... 3



# Supplemental Questions added to the application

- These were the same questions in the form
- Is there anything else that should be added?

## SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONS

What are your intentions and/or goals in joining the Commission?

Please share with us what diversity, equity, and inclusion mean to you and why they're important.

What has been your experience in working with historically underserved communities?

Describe how your career has been enhanced by exposure to diverse people, places, and/or experiences. (This can be related to overcoming challenges to a diverse workforce)

Tell us about your commitment to [preserving](#) farmland and protecting commercial farm businesses

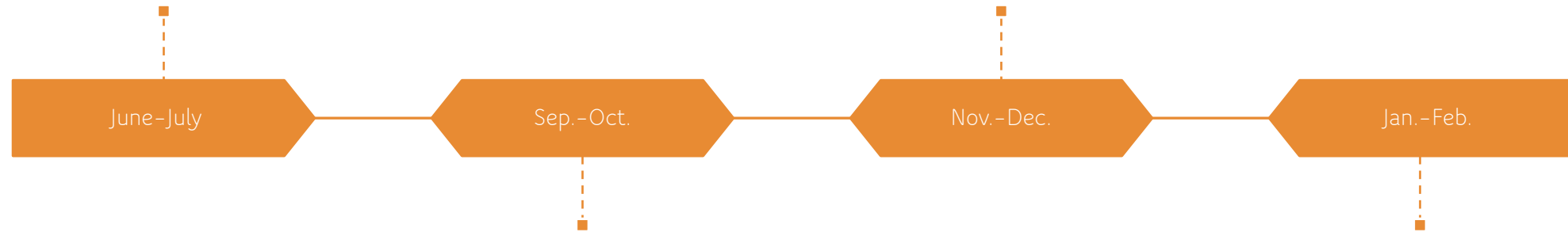
To the best of your knowledge, are you in regulatory compliance with no active nor pending code compliance actions?

Yes  No

# Selection Committee: Recruitment & Review Timeline

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Committee met and put plan in place.  
Work on updating outreach lists,  
materials including integrating ESJ and  
more personal data began



Recruitment open and applications  
accepted

Survey to current Commissioners was  
conducted to establish baseline needs.  
Finalize materials, committee reviews  
materials, agrees upon recruitment  
needs, recruitment begins

Committee reviews applications,  
conducts interviews as needed, selects  
finalists



## King County's Ag Commission is recruiting!

The Agriculture Commission represents the diversity of the King County agricultural economy, giving the agriculture sector the opportunity to take an active role in the development and evaluation of policies, regulations and programs that affect commercial agriculture in King County.



### topics include:

-  Farmland Preservation
-  Local Food Initiative
-  Land Conservation Initiative
-  Farm, Fish, Flood  
and more!

LEARN MORE AND/OR  
APPLY TO THE  
COMMISSION HERE:



For any questions, please contact:

 patrice.barrentine@kingcounty.gov

# Visual recruitment flyer

- Will send to compiled farmer and farm org lists
- Please also share with your social networks

Speed up:  
Applications  
accepted through  
November