

Council Direction on PIC Policy Position
for Puget Sound Clean Air Agency
(PSCAA) Rate Increase
May 12, 2014



PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION

- Provide direction to Councilmember Roberts for SCA's Public Issues Committee (PIC) vote
- PIC Committee meets this Wednesday, May 14th
- PSCAA must pass its 2015 budget in June, 2014

BACKGROUND

- PSCAA is a special-purpose, regional government
- Serves King, Pierce, Snohomish & Kitsap Counties
- Implements and regulates federal clean air mandates
- PSCAA's dues based on combination of per capita & assessed valuation
- Shoreline's current dues are \$28,229

Policy Issue

- PSCAA is proposing to increase its dues for 2015 by \$.25 per capita
- Equates to a 45% increase for Shoreline
- PIC is considering following policy position:
 - *The Sound Cities Association opposes the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency's proposal to increase rates by \$.25 per capita. This proposed increase of 44% or more is too dramatic an increase to be borne by cities in a year, or a biennium.*

DISCUSSION

- 45% is a substantial one-year increase
- Many jurisdictions only found out in April of the increase
- Consider keeping the rate flat; otherwise, smooth the increase over a few years (more than two)
- Consider tying rate increases to tangible measure (CPI, IPD)

RECOMMENDATION

- Support the proposed SCA PIC policy position
- Support tying any Puget Sound Clean Air Agency rate increase to a tangible number such as IPD or CPI.