

SCC Strategic Planning Workshop

Zillah, Washington

Time

Please note that the times listed below are estimated and may vary. [Please visit the SCC website for the most up-to-date meeting information.](#)

Meeting Accommodations

Persons with a disability needing an accommodation to participate in SCC public meetings should call Lori Gonzalez at 360-791-0226 or call 711 relay service. All accommodation requests should be received no later than May 12, 2026, to ensure preparations are appropriately made.

Online Meeting Coordinates

To participate online, please click on [this link](#) to register. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting virtually. You may use your computer audio, or dial into the meeting using the information provided after logging in. Guests will be muted by the host upon login to allow for full discussion by Commissioners.

Strategic planning workshop explanation

This workshop is formatted to allow for dialogue between commissioners to set the strategic direction for the agency. It is not a regular business meeting, and no formal action or public comment will be taken during this workshop.

TIME	ITEM	FACILITATOR
8:30 a.m.	Call to Order/Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roll call and introductions 	Chair Kearney
8:40 a.m.	Agenda overview	Jessica Wilson, Chief Engagement Officer
8:45 a.m.	Section one: the big picture Vision <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>If the State Conservation Commission could achieve one extraordinary thing in the next 5 years, what should it be?</i> <i>What do you believe is our most inspiring strength that we should build upon?</i> 	Commissioner discussion

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- 3) *How would you describe the purpose of our agency in a way that excites future generations of Washingtonians?*

Mission and innovation

- 4) *What bold opportunities should SCC explore that we haven't yet considered?*
- 5) *If we had unlimited resources for one effort at SCC, what would you choose and why?*
- 6) *What emerging trends do you think we need to be mindful of?*

Values

- 7) *What values should guide every decision SCC makes moving forward? (For example, accountability, trust, flexibility, etc.?)*
- 8) *How can we make SCC's community feel more inspiring and inclusive?*

Goals and legacy

- 9) *What's the most meaningful impact we could have on voluntary conservation in Washington?*
- 10) *If SCC disappeared tomorrow, what would people miss most about us?*

10:30 a.m.

15-minute break

10:45 a.m.

Section two: how do we align our work?

Commissioner
discussion

- a) In the absence of specific proviso language directing funds be spent a certain way, how should SCC allocate funding?
1. Should each conservation district receive the same amount?
 - i. If yes, then how do we ensure we can account for how funds were spent back to the legislature/the public? Advocate for more?
 - ii. If no, then how do we prioritize competing local needs?
 - b) How do we make sure our funding is being spent effectively?
 - c) How do we balance the need for flexibility within our funding for conservation districts with the need to promote fairness and equality at the same time?
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1. How do we create more flexibility while balancing the need for transparency and public process when it comes to creating or changing our policies?
- d) How do we balance state priorities for programs with conservation district priorities for programs when they are at odds?
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12:00 p.m. One-hour lunch break

1:00 p.m. Section three: effectiveness and flexibility

Commissioner discussion

- a) Should SCC continue to fund projects with a discrete list of eligible BMPs, or move to an outcomes-based (programs) approach for funding conservation districts?
1. If outcomes-based, what are the key guiding principles for evaluating whether a conservation district is making progress toward their outcome (i.e. subbasin or reach scale, geographical, etc.)?
- b) To increase funding flexibility, we will need to increase accountability to ensure Washingtonians know, understand, and champion the work the State Conservation Commission is accomplishing. What key accountability measures are most important to track?
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2:15 p.m. 15-minute break

2:30 p.m. Section four: Partnerships with agencies and organizations

Commissioner discussion

- a) What is SCC's role in working together with other state and federal partners to accomplish conservation work across Washington?
- b) How can SCC better define the agency's role within the framework of WACD, WADE, and conservation districts?
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3:30 p.m. Section five: SCC's role in supporting district operations

Commissioner discussion

- a) RCW defines SCC's role in providing oversight on district operations; this role is fulfilled by Regional Managers. This role has been shaped over the years as an advisory function.
1. Is the advisory function adequate to support the plans outlined in the earlier part of the day's conversations?
 2. Is there a place for an increased accountability role, especially in the CAPP process?
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4:20 p.m. Overview of next steps and adjourn
