November 6, 2012 General and Special Election

# **King County Official Local Voters' Pamphlet**





### A letter from the Director, Sherril Huff

### Dear King County Voter:

Shewel Jufy

The 2012 general election is anticipated to generate what could be a record breaking turnout. For voters in King County, where almost a million ballots are likely to be returned, it will be the first presidential election voting entirely by mail. The elections office has been gearing up for this event for the past year, but we know that a successful election depends upon what we consider to be a partnership with our voters.

Trust is a fundamental element of working together with voters to make sure we get things right. We verify and count each of your ballots so accountability is essential to maintaining your trust. When King County began voting by mail in 2009, we set standards for accessibility, accountability, trust, and high performance. We adopted quality standards, consistent with private sector excellence, and developed processes and reviews that track our performance. I am very proud to be able to say that we have achieved a track record of full accountability for every election conducted since launching our vote by mail system in February of 2009, delivering a record of twelve consecutive elections with zero reconciliation discrepancies.

Ballot processing takes place in a secure, yet open, viewable environment in a state of the art facility, where layers of security measures are in place to protect the secrecy, movement, and storage of every ballot. Anyone is welcome to come observe from a viewing loop that surrounds the ballot processing floor. Viewers from anywhere in the world can get a glimpse of our operations by going to one of our online webcams activated 24 hours a day while ballots are being processed.

On the voters' side of our partnership, we've also been tracking performance that speaks well for voters who contribute to the success and cost containment of an election each time you carefully read and follow voting instructions. King County voters are improving our bottom line by remembering to sign the return envelopes, using black ink pens to vote, and following up promptly when contacted about a signature issue. We invest in messaging to voters with reminders that help avoid the more common, costly mistakes. Local celebrities have generously helped us get the word out about the importance of following voting directions and how much it helps to get ballots turned in earlier than the Election Day deadline. When voters do their part, our partnership is complete and we can focus on sustaining an excellent track record while looking for new ways to improve and save tax payer dollars.

Service enhancements will be in place for this November's election, from expanded customer service space and staff at accessible voting centers, to ballot drop off vans augmenting options for returning ballots to drop locations. We still expect very high volumes and lines on Election Day, and voters are advised to get ballots voted and issues resolved sooner rather than later.

Working together, we can not only continue to deliver high accountability, but convenience and cost management as well.

Vote early if you can, follow ballot instructions, carefully sign the ballot return envelope and "Pass it on!"

### Content

## Reading the local voters' pamphlet

Why are there measures and candidates in the local voters' pamphlet that are not on my ballot?

Don't worry, your ballot is correct.

The measures and races on your ballot reflect the districts in which you are registered to vote. The local voters' pamphlet may cover multiple districts and include measures and races outside of your districts.

### What is an explanatory statement?

An explanatory statement is prepared by each district's attorney stating the effect of the ballot measure if passed into law.

### How are committees in favor of or in opposition to a measure formed?

Districts choosing to participate in a local voters' pamphlet are responsible for appointing committee members who agree to write statements.

The statements are a way to persuade voters to vote for or against a measure. King County Elections is not responsible for the content or accuracy of the statements.

### What is the order of candidates in the local voters' pamphlet?

Candidates in the local voters' pamphlet appear in the order they will appear on the ballot.

Candidates are given word limits based upon the number of registered voters within each district.

# You will receive **two** voters' pamphlets

King County voters will receive two voters' pamphlets for this election. In addition to this voters' pamphlet, you will receive one from the Secretary of State that includes state initiatives and measures, as well as the state offices.

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### **About the**

### **Top 2 Primary**

Washington uses a "Top 2" system for its primary election. A Top 2 primary allows voters to vote for any candidate running in each race. The two candidates who receive the most votes in the primary election advance to the general election. A candidate must also receive at least 1% of the votes cast in that race to advance to the general election.

The Top 2 primary applies to partisan offices. It does not apply to elections for Precinct Committee Officers. While there are some slight variations, elections for nonpartisan office, such as city council or judge, are conducted in a similar manner to the Top 2 primary. Generally, the two candidates in a nonpartisan race who receive the most votes in the primary advance to the general election.

You may wonder why some offices did not appear on the primary ballot. When only one or two candidates file for a nonpartisan office, there is no primary and the candidates automatically advance to the general election. For partisan offices and some judicial offices, there is still a primary even if only one or two candidates file.

Learn more about the Top 2 primary at: www.sos.wa.gov/elections



### **Contact information**

### **Phone:**

206-296-VOTE (8683) 1-800-325-6165 TTY Relay: 711

### **Email:**

elections@kingcounty.gov

### **Online:**

www.kingcounty.gov/elections

### Mail or in-person:

919 SW Grady Way Renton, WA 98057

### **Voter Registration Annex\***

King County Administration Building 500 4th Ave., Room 311 Seattle, WA 98104

The Voter Registration Annex is open Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

\*Please note, this location only provides services associated with voter registration.

### Register to vote

### Requirements

To register to vote in Washington, you must be:

- · A citizen of the United States
- · A legal resident of Washington State
- · At least 18 years old by Election Day
- Not under the authority of the Department of Corrections

### How to register

- Register online with the Secretary of State, www.sos.wa.gov
- Download a registration form from the King County Elections website.
- Register in person at the King County Elections office or at the King County Voter Registration Annex.

### Registration deadlines

While you may register to vote at any time, there are registration deadlines prior to each election. The deadlines for the Nov. 6, 2012, general and special election:

- October 8 Deadline to register to vote or update voter registration information.
- October 29 In person registration deadline for people not currently registered in Washington. Register in person at the Elections office in Renton or at the Voter Registration Annex in Seattle.

### Keep your voter registration current

Update your registration if you have moved or changed your name, or if your signature has changed. Simply submit a new registration form to update your information.

### Visit our Voter Registration Annex

King County Elections offers convenient, in-person service at the downtown Seattle annex for voter registration related matters only.

### Services offered:

- Register to vote
- Change or update your address or name.
- Voter notification cards
- Information and assistance about nontraditional residential addresses/homeless voters, and mailing address vs. residential address
- · Cancel a voter registration

### Services not offered:

- Replacement ballots
- Accept voted ballots
- Accept voter registration challenges
- Signature challenge resolutions
- · Accessible voting
- Maps or voter data files
- Candidate filings

For these services contact King County Elections at 206-296-VOTE (8683).

### **Voter Registration Annex**

King County Administration Building 500 4th Ave., Room 311 Seattle, WA 98104

Open Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.



### Returning your ballot



### Through the mail

You can vote and return your ballot through the U.S. Postal Service as soon as you receive it.

Ballots must be postmarked by November 6. Mailed ballots require first class postage.

### **Ballot drop boxes**

Return your ballot without using the U.S. Postal Service or a first class stamp at a ballot drop box. Ballot drop boxes are open 24 hours a day beginning October 18.

Ballot drop boxes close on Election Day, November 6, at 8 p.m.

### **Burien City Hall**

400 SW 152nd Street, Burien 98166

### **Crossroads Shopping Center South entrance**

15600 NE 8th Street, Bellevue 98008

### Federal Way City Hall

33325 8th Avenue S, Federal Way 98003

### **Issaquah City Hall**

130 E Sunset Way, Issaguah 98027

### **King County Elections**

919 SW Grady Way, Renton 98057

### **Lake Forest Park City Hall**

17425 Ballinger Way NE, Lake Forest Park 98155

### **Regional Justice Center**

401 4th Avenue N, Kent 98032 Near parking garage entrance

### **Redmond City Hall**

15670 NE 85th Street, Redmond 98052

### **Tahoma School District Office**

25720 Maple Valley-Black Diamond Road SE, Maple Valley 98038

### Seattle ballot drop box locations:

### **Ballard Branch Library**

Corner of NW 57th Street and 22nd Avenue NW, Seattle 98107

### King County Administration Building

500 4th Avenue, Seattle 98104

### **Magnuson Park**

6344 NE 74th Street, Seattle 98115 Use NE 74th Street entrance



### **Ballot drop-off vans**

For the 2012 primary and general elections, return your ballot without using the U.S. Postal Service or a first class stamp at a ballot drop-off van. Vans will be parked at these locations only on the dates and times listed:

# Ballot Drop-off Van

### **Kirkland City Hall**

123 5th Avenue, Kirkland, 98033

### **University of Washington Campus**

Red Square, Seattle, 98105 No parking or vehicle access available

### West Seattle Stadium

4432 35th Avenue SW, Seattle, 98126

### Hours of operation:

Friday, November 2, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday, November 3, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday, November 4, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday, November 5, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Election Day, November 6, 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.

### **Accessible voting centers**

Accessible voting centers are available for voters who need assistance completing their ballot. Trained staff and specialized equipment is available to help voters with disabilities cast a private, independent ballot.

Voters may also return ballots at these locations during their business hours.

### **King County Elections**

919 SW Grady Way, Renton 98057

### Hours of operation:

- Monday Friday, October 19 November 5, from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- Saturday, October 20, 27, and November 3, from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, November 6, 7 a.m. 8 p.m.



### **Bellevue City Hall**

450 110th Avenue NE, Bellevue 98004

### **Green River Community College**

Glacier Room, Lindbloom Student Center 12401 SW 320th Street, Auburn 98092

### North Seattle Community College

College Center Room 1360 9600 College Way N, Seattle 98103

### **Seattle Union Station**

401 S. Jackson Street, Seattle 98104

### Hours of operation:

Friday, November 2, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday, November 3, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday, November 5, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Tuesday, November 6, 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.

### **Duties of offices in this election**

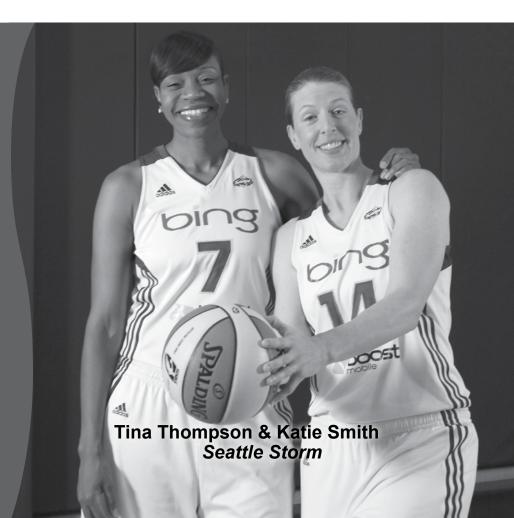
Title	Duties	Term (years)	Salary (2012)
King County Sheriff (elected by all voters in King County)	The sheriff is the chief executive officer and conservator of the peace of the county. The King County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) is responsible for responding to and investigating criminal incidents, preventing crime through proactive policing, and effective management of department resources.	unexpired 1- year term	\$170,159
District Court West Electoral District (elected by voters in this district)	Handles civil and criminal cases for the largest court of limited jurisdiction in the state of Washington.	4	\$141,710

Information on state and federal positions are listed in the state voters' pamphlet, including U.S. Senator and Representative, State Senator and Representatives, Supreme Court Justice, Court of Appeal Judge, and Superior Court Judge.

Be ready to vote and score in this election.

If your ballot is damaged or doesn't arrive at least two weeks before election day, contact us at 206-296-VOTE.

Be an informed voter!



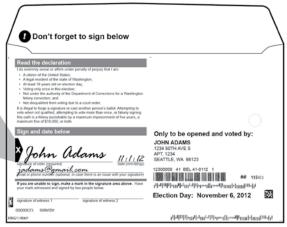
# Your Signature verifies your vote

Sign the declaration on the back of your return envelope before returning it. Take your time and sign carefully.

Before any ballot is counted, state law requires that specially trained Elections staff make sure the signature on the ballot envelope matches the signature on file with your voter registration. If you forget to sign or if the signatures don't match, the Elections department cannot count your ballot. If this happens, Elections staff will

contact you to take care of the issue.





### Why we may call you

Remember the declaration you must sign on your ballot return envelope? You may not realize it, but your signature is critical for your vote to be processed.

The signature on your ballot envelope must match the signature on file with your voter registration. Your ballot cannot be opened and processed until the signature is matched, or "verified."

If your ballot has a signature issue, King County Elections will attempt to contact you by phone and mail. Please follow the instructions and reply promptly.

To update your signature for future elections, fill out a voter registration form, sign it and mail it back to King County Elections. See www.kingcounty.gov/elections for registration forms and more information.

### Lost or damaged ballot?

Spilled coffee on your ballot?

Threw it out with the recycling?

Never received it?

If you need a ballot, contact King County Elections. You can call, email or visit the Elections office, or request a replacement ballot online.

To avoid long lines, don't wait until Election Day!

### Online voter guide

Use "My Voter Guide" on the King County Elections website to:

- View your voter registration information
- See which districts you are eligible to vote in for this election
- Read about the ballot measures and candidates on your ballot

### www.kingcounty.gov/elections



# Returning your ballot early

Return your completed ballot as early as possible.

Not only will more results be available to report on election night, but we'll have more time to connect with you if we have any difficulty verifying your signature. Returning ballots as early as possible also helps us save tax dollars by keeping election costs down.

You can return your ballot through the mail or at a ballot drop box as early as the day you receive it!



As a chef, I seldom follow directions. As a voter, I always do!

Be sure to sign your return envelope and get it back before the deadline.

It pays to be informed!

### **Sheriff**



### Steve Strachan

Occupation: King County Sheriff

**Education:** Sheriff Strachan holds a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and a Master of Public Administration

**Statement:** As your Sheriff, I bring proven experience in law enforcement leadership; I have managed multi-million dollar budgets

and large police forces. I was hired by then Sheriff Sue Rahr and unanimously confirmed by both Democrats and Republicans on the King County Council – for one main reason: they see me as a problem-solver and a much needed change agent for today's Sheriff's office.

I was honored to have the Municipal League award me an "*Outstanding*" rating whereas they rated my opponent just "Good." I have also been endorsed by King County Prosecutor Dan Satterberg and law enforcement leaders across Western Washington.

The Sheriff's office is no more exempt from changes than other agencies: we need to work efficiently within our budget – and can no longer rely on the public for special levies and bonds. Moving forward, you will see changes in the following areas:

**Efficiency.** We have taken cuts – deep cuts – just like other agencies. We need to be realistic and work smarter. I established a strategic business plan in order to protect the public with the available resources.

**Transparency and Accountability.** I welcomed the recent audit of how our internal investigations are handled. The results showed we need to move faster, smarter and better when it comes to police accountability and greater transparency. It is my commitment to *you*.

**Respect and Humility.** It's all about respect – <u>for</u> the community and earned respect <u>from</u> the community. To grow your trust, I'm focused on more open communications, demonstrated humility, and new ideas to partner with communities.

Change is difficult; it is human nature to resist change and struggle to maintain the *status quo*. In this race, I reflect a more approachable Sheriff's office – where training/education, management skills, and listening matter more than the way things have always been done.

#### **Contact Information:**

PO BOX 21251 SEATTLE WA 98111 (206) 446-1403 info@stevestrachanforsheriff.com www.stevestrachanforsheriff.com



### John Urquhart

**Occupation:** Commissioned police officer for 36 years, 24 with Sheriff's Office.

**Education:** UW Business Degree; Graduate of three police training academies; 24 years of Continuing Education classes.

**Statement:** Democrats, Republicans, police officers, firefighters, and community

leaders all agree: *The next King County Sheriff should be John Urquhart*. As a resident of King County for 54 years, and 36 years as a commissioned police officer, John has the experience and values needed to lead the Sheriff's Office. John will bring leadership, accountability, and transparency to the Sheriff's Office, without losing sight of what is most important in law enforcement: reducing crime and the fear of crime, *while also* treating citizens with respect and protecting their constitutional rights.

John has a passion for justice, integrity, and is fiercely dedicated to protecting our communities.

With a \$160 million budget, it is important for the next Sheriff to have strong management experience, and John has a very unique background. He has owned and managed several successful businesses, and developed commercial and residential real estate. The Auburn Area Chamber of Commerce endorsed John, rating him as "highly qualified" and "he truly holds a strong understanding of key business issues."

As a street cop, John investigated everything from shoplifting to homicide, then worked closely with Sheriffs Dave Reichert and Sue Rahr as a trusted advisor. John Urquhart's leadership, values, and experience make him the best choice for Sheriff.

Select Bi-Partisan endorsements:

Organizations: King County Democratic Central Committee and 17
Democratic Legislative Districts; Mainstream Republicans of Washington and 2 Republican Legislative Districts; Firefighters: Bellevue Local 1604, Mercer Island Local 1762, South King County Local 2024; Seattle Building & Construction Trades Council; NARAL Pro-Choice Washington; Chicano/Latino/Mexicano ad hoc Committee

<u>Elected & Community leaders</u>: Congressman Dave Reichert, Fmr. U.S. Attorney John McKay, Chief Anne Kirkpatrick, Sheriff Pat Jones, Judge Anne Levinson (Ret.); <u>Seattle Councilmembers</u>: Bruce Harrell, Nick Licata; <u>Senators/Representatives</u>: Adam Kline, Jamie Pedersen, Chris Hurst, Jay Rodne, Luis Moscoso, Bob Hasegawa, Jim Horn; Estela Ortega, Ruth Woo.

### **Contact Information:**

PO BOX 9100 SEATTLE WA 98109 (206) 618-5504 info@johnforsheriff.com www.johnforsheriff.com

### Judge Position No. 1



### Johanna Bender

Occupation: King County District Court

**Education:** JD, University of Washington School of Law, 1996; BA Magna Cum Laude, Brown University, 1991

**Statement:** The King County Council appointed Judge Bender to the District Court

bench in May of 2012. "Johanna Bender's experience and character make me confident she will serve the residents of King County well as District Court's newest judge," said Councilmember Bob Ferguson following Judge Bender's appointment.

Judge Bender has the depth and breadth of experience necessary to hear the wide variety of cases that come before the court. She has served as a domestic violence advocate, a public defender, a civil attorney in private practice, and a federal law clerk. From 2005 until her appointment to the bench, Judge Bender was a judge pro tem in King County Superior Court, King County District Court, and multiple Municipal Courts.

Judge Bender has a long record of public service. She has been an officer and director of a non-profit organization dedicated to advancing legal rights for women, coached high school students participating in a national mock trial competition, taught at the National Institute of Trial Advocacy, participated on the pro se committee of the statewide Access to Justice Board, and volunteered at the Downtown Neighborhood Legal Clinic.

Her experience as an attorney, judge, and community volunteer has shaped Judge Bender's vision: "Judges must be fair, respectful, and prepared on the bench. Our work can't stop, however, when we leave the courtroom. We have to work with the communities we serve to ensure that our system of justice is accessible, understood, and trusted."

Judge Bender has been rated Exceptionally Well Qualified by the King County Bar Association, Q Law, the Loren Miller Bar Association, and the Latina/o Bar Association of Washington. She is endorsed by dozens of current and retired judges and by community leaders including State Senator Ed Murray, King County Councilmember Larry Gossett, and King County Councilmember Joe McDermott.

### **Contact Information:**

1301 5TH AVE, SUITE 3401 SEATTLE WA 98101 (206) 623-6501 retainjudgebender@gmail.com www.retainjudgebender.com

# Why are there ballot measures and races in this pamphlet that are not on my ballot?

Don't worry, your ballot is correct.

Your ballot includes the measures and races on which you are eligible to vote and reflect the district in which you reside. The voters' pamphlet may cover several different districts and as a result, some items in this pamphlet may not appear on your ballot.

You can find all the measures for which you are eligible to vote by using the online voter guide at:

www.kingcounty.gov/elections

### Proposition No. 1 Regular Property Tax Levy for Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) Services

The King County council has passed Ordinance No. 17381 concerning this proposition for the automated fingerprint identification system (AFIS) levy. This proposition would replace an expiring levy and fund continued operation of the regional AFIS program, which provides enhanced forensic fingerprint and palmprint technology and services to identify criminals and aid in convictions. It would authorize King County to levy an additional property tax of \$0.0592 (5.92 cents) per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for collection in 2013 and authorize annual increases by the percentage increase in the consumer price index or 1%, whichever is greater, with a maximum increase of 3%, for the five succeeding years. Should this proposition be:

ApprovedRejected

The complete text of this measure is available beginning on page 35.

### Statement in favor

It was a horrific crime. A 12-year old girl brutally assaulted in her bedroom by a stranger. Police had no leads, so they called AFIS technicians to the scene. An observant fingerprint examiner spotted a palmprint on a glass dresser top. Because of the Regional Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS), the suspect was identified, arrested, and sentenced to 25 years in prison.

Maintaining essential crime fighting tools is why we ask you to vote yes for AFIS. For 25 years, AFIS has been the preeminent crime-fighting tool for police in King County's 39 cities and unincorporated areas.

DNA may get more attention, but fingerprints remain key to the identification and apprehension of criminals. AFIS catches felons using false names and matches prints collected at crime scenes to unknown suspects. Links to national databases makes for a powerful forensic tool that has solved scores of violent crimes, cold cases, and prolific burglars and car thieves.

A regional AFIS provides services that no local police agency could fund on its own.

Please vote yes to renew the AFIS levy. AFIS is our top local crime fighter; we deserve to keep this marvelous technology that solves and reduces crime in King County.

### Rebuttal of statement in opposition

As a public safety investment, the proposed AFIS levy pays huge dividends, updating an aging system with one that includes new technology, reducing staffing costs, and operating our powerful crime fighting system for approximately the same rate that was passed by voters in 2006. For the past 25 years, AFIS has served the people of King County well, and through this property tax method. AFIS protects the citizens in King County. Vote yes.

Statement submitted by: Steve Strachan, Dan Satterberg and John Diaz

### **Explanatory statement**

This proposition would authorize King County to levy an additional regular property tax to support the continued operation and enhancement of the automated fingerprint identification system (AFIS) program, and would replace the current voter-approved levy that will expire on December 31, 2012. The AFIS program is designed to improve the ability of law enforcement agencies within King County to identify and convict criminal offenders. Among other activities, the AFIS program matches crime scene fingerprints and palmprints to potential criminal suspects.

The proposed levy would be authorized for a six-year period with collection beginning in 2013. During the first year, the tax would be levied at a rate of 5.92 cents (\$0.0592) or less per one thousand dollars (\$1,000) of assessed valuation on all taxable property within King County. Annual increases for each of the succeeding five years would be limited to the percentage increase in the consumer price index or 1%, whichever amount is greater. However, the maximum increase in any of the five succeeding years would be 3%.

### Statement in opposition

Voters were promised that automated fingerprint ID would be "up and running" when last approved but now are told it's going to cost us even more. The Council uses homeowners as its ATM and the fact it conducts business in air-conditioned offices in front of the American flag doesn't make its decisions less odious. Seattle or King County residents now will have been taxed higher for an emergency response system, concert hall, playgrounds, youth offenders, veterans, public housing, sports stadiums, zoological gardens, education and libraries where patrons can view free online pornography during extended hours. If Seattle voters OK rebuilding the waterfront seawall, homeowners will be targeted for the biggest property tax increase yet and still more citizens will find home ownership impossible. Most state legislators outside Seattle believe homeowners also will be liable for cost overruns from the deep-bore tunnel. If homeowners are required to help pay for Seattle's next pro basketball palace, more delinquent accounts will be added to the Assessor's tax rolls, causing additional hardship for those already struggling to pay their assessments timely. Expect little, if any, federal assistance because elected politicians who once favored "earmarks" now respond with deafening ...silence!

#### Rebuttal of statement in favor

Property taxes are too high and going higher because valuations are rising, again! Voter approval of property tax increases has produced more government spending initiatives and insatiable revenue demands. Some Metro bus drivers have earned six-figure annual incomes while some college graduates have six-figure student loan debt. The Council continues saying "yes" to renters and public employee unions, "no" to privatization and property tax relief. Citizens have had to economize, why not government?

Statement submitted by: John H. Shackleford

### Proposition No. 1 Change in the Plan of Government

The City of Black Diamond currently operates as a Mayor-Council plan of government under the provisions of RCW Chapter 35A.12 with an elected mayor as chief executive. Shall the City of Black Diamond abandon its present Mayor-Council plan of government and adopt in its place the Council-Manager plan of government under the provisions of RCW Chapter 35A.13 with an appointed city manager as chief executive?

$\bigcirc$	Yes
$\bigcirc$	No

The complete text of this measure is available at the Elections Office or online at www.kingcounty.gov/elections.

### Statement in favor

It is a democratic right of citizens to choose the way their City is governed. The existing form of government has created gridlock. Residents of Black Diamond voted for a new direction by an overwhelming majority in 2011. The newly elected City Council has been frustrated by a city government which ignores the wishes of our citizens. The Council-Manager government provides strong political leadership from the Council balanced with a professional city manager, who reports to the City Council, and is responsible for daily operations of city government. Decisions on policy and the city's future are made by the entire council, not one individual. Costs decrease because the city is run in a business-like manner, with lower operating costs and increased productivity. The Council-Manager form of government responds more reliably to the public. Black Diamond faces the challenge of land development that would threaten our quality of life, drive up our taxes and degrade our environment. Join us as we complete the job the voters started last year. This is our opportunity to reform City Hall and protect our unique community. Vote YES.

### Rebuttal of statement in opposition

The elected City Council is accountable to the citizens of Black Diamond. As our city grows, outdated methods must be replaced by professional management. The council hires the city manager. Council manager separates policy and politics from administration. Unlike federal and state government, our city has no judicial branch to keep an autocratic Mayor in check. Council-manager government has proven to be adaptable to complex municipal issues. VOTE YES!

**Statement submitted by:** Janie Edelman, Carol Lynn Harp and Ulla Kemman janieedelman@comcast.net

### **Explanatory statement**

Changing the current plan of government from a Mayor-Council plan of government under the provisions of RCW Chapter 35A.12 to a Council-Manager plan of government under the provisions of RCW Chapter 35A.13. If Proposition 1 is approved, the current Mayor-Council plan of government will be abandoned and reorganized as a Council-Manager plan of government. Under the Council-Manager plan of government, the Mayor would no longer be elected and instead would be appointed from among the members of the City Council to serve as the ceremonial head of the City with no administrative duties. The current Mayor would serve out the remainder of his or her term as an additional Council Member and this additional council position would terminate at the conclusion of his or her term. Current Council Members would also serve out the remainder of their terms. The City Council will retain the same powers as granted to the City Council under a Mayor-Council form of government, with the exception of those powers reserved to the City Manager. The City Council would be required to appoint a qualified person to be City Manager as the chief executive officer of the City and head of the administrative branch of the city government. The City Manager would be responsible to the City Council for the proper administration of all affairs of the City. The reorganization would also result in an increase in the size of the City Council from five members to seven members.

### Statement in opposition

Keep your right to vote for mayor. The mayor is elected by and represents all the citizens of Black Diamond and has done so in our city for over 50 years. Our current mayor—council form of government is used in 81% of all Washington cities.

This decision goes beyond any particular administration, issue, or mayor. The wisdom of our founding fathers created a divided government with checks and balances to subdue the passions of the moment and to bring reason and thoughtfulness into the process.

Our current mayor-council government is historically proven and ensures balance of power. The mayor has the administrative responsibilities and the city council acts as the legislative branch; a separation of governmental branches with a balance of powers.

A change in our form of government will grant the council both the legislative and the executive authority. The council will increase from five to SEVEN members through an appointment by the current council. This larger council will have all the power, spearheaded by an unelected bureaucrat who doesn't answer to the citizens of Black Diamond.

Keep a strong mayor who is accountable directly to YOU! Keep democracy vibrant in our city. Vote NO on Proposition 1.

#### Rebuttal of statement in favor

The current council recently attempted a lawsuit which the mayor was able to stop using her executive powers, saving the city potentially millions of dollars. The balance of power worked. There is no evidence that a city manager will save money over our current professional city administrator. Our quality of life, environment and taxation are already protected in our current form of government. Keep your right to vote for mayor. Vote NO.

**Statement submitted by:** William Boston, Kristine Hanson and Johna Thomson; www.votenobdprop1.com

### Proposition No. 1 Levy to Support Kent Parks and Streets

The City Council of the City of Kent adopted Ordinance No. 4042 concerning property taxes to support City parks and streets. This proposition permits the City to increase the regular property tax levy by \$0.37/\$1,000 assessed valuation, for a regular levy of approximately \$1.96/\$1,000, for collection in 2013, to use this levy to compute levies for collection in 2014 through 2018 (with a 101% limit factor), and to use the amount of the levy for collection in 2018 to compute subsequent levy limits, as permitted by chapter 84.55 RCW, to fund improvements to City parks and streets. Should this proposition be:

$\bigcirc$	Approved
$\bigcirc$	Rejected

The complete text of this measure is available at the Elections Office or online at www.kingcounty.gov/elections.

### Statement in favor

The City of Kent is faced with the prospect of closing parks or park facilities as well as creating road restrictions unless necessary infrastructure projects are undertaken. Many of our parks and streets are growing older and need repair to keep them from becoming unsafe liabilities. If we don't take care of these assets, some may have to be closed or restricted until they can be made safe and usable again. The longer we delay, the higher the costs.

Continuous city budget reductions have forced constant reprioritizations. Citizens committees were formed; after which community members reviewed and prioritized the needs of our parks and roads, paring the list down to those most critical. You can see the list of specific projects at www. SaveOurParksAndStreets.org

Public safety carries costs. We know that no one wants higher taxes. However, as citizens, it is our responsibility to maintain the great park system and safe streets that our families and friends enjoy and use on a daily basis. This levy will help maintain this legacy for our children and grandchildren. This is a quality of life decision for our community.

Please join us in voting YES for the Kent parks and streets levy.

### **Explanatory statement**

If approved by the voters, this ballot measure would authorize the city to add to its regular property tax levy rate an additional 37 cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation. This increase would bring the regular property tax rate to \$1.96 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation during a six-year period beginning in 2013 and ending in 2018. The purpose of this increase is strictly to maintain and improve existing city parks and street infrastructure. City Ordinance 4042, which established this ballot measure, absolutely requires that 23 cents of this increase be dedicated each year to maintaining and improving existing parks facilities and 14 cents of the increase be dedicated to maintaining and improving specific streets. Playgrounds, ballfields, trails, and other park amenities will be replaced, refurbished and improved, and about 35 different neighborhood street and local arterial projects will resurface, maintain, and improve pavements, sidewalks, disabled access and lighting. Based on the recommendation of two independent citizen committees, the city council determined that this levy lid lift is necessary "in order to maintain and improve the parks, streets, and related infrastructure to a service level that the citizens of the City deserve and expect." A copy of the ordinance that identifies each specific park and street facility is available at www.KentWA.gov, or a copy can be obtained from the city clerk's office.

### Statement in opposition

Roads: On a \$300,000 home you pay approximately \$2,610 in Bellevue and \$3,969 in Kent in property taxes; over \$1,300 more in Kent because businesses in Kent don't have to pay to repair city roads which commercial trucks do most damage to.

Parks: It's the worst time to ask people to pay to repair assets that could be discarded. Is it more important to repair a dock or to keep money in resident's pockets for food? Residents are already overburdened. \$111.00 for that same \$300,000 homeowner can mean a choice between milk and paying taxes.

This is not the last ask discussed by levy committees. The plan is for a large bond next year if they "sell" this idea for homeowner taxation. If the burden was spread between residents and businesses the solution would be affordable to all, but some council members, pressured by Chamber, would not ask for the help of business. This levy is not good for small business because it takes disposable income from residents who spend it in local restaurants and retail. It's not good for residents because it takes the money residents would spend on necessities or save. This is too much money. <a href="https://www.taxingkent.com">www.taxingkent.com</a>

### Rebuttal of statement in opposition

The Con statement is misleading. Kent isn't Bellevue. Home prices are higher in Bellevue, which also has a much larger retail tax base.

The Property tax levy of \$0.37/\$1000 applies to both residential and business property which includes the large warehouse facilities in the Kent Valley.

The City Council is seeking an additional \$4-6 million in revenue <u>from businesses</u> for road maintenance.

The City Council will determine this revenue source by the end of 2012."

**Statement submitted by:** Mark Prothero, Ken Sharp and Gina Tallarigo www.SaveOurParksAndStreets.org

### Rebuttal of statement in favor

Don't be fooled; parks won't close if the levy doesn't pass. Kent thrives when we work together, citizens and businesses, to solve our community's challenges. We agree that vibrant parks and drivable streets are priorities. However, for too long Kent residents have carried the tax burden while nearby communities have collectively funded their infrastructure needs—with lower taxes for citizens. This proposal is more of the same. It's no wonder it narrowly passed our Council.

**Statement submitted by:** Michelle McDowell and Christine Budell ccduke@hotmail.com

### Proposition No. 1 Levy for City Street Maintenance and Pedestrian Safety

The Kirkland City Council adopted Ordinance No. 4364 concerning a proposition for a street improvement levy rate increase. To fund street maintenance and safety improvements for neighborhood streets and arterials, including resurfacing, pothole repair, pedestrian safety improvements, traffic calming projects, school walk routes, sidewalks and crosswalks, the City's regular property tax levy shall be increased permanently by \$.204 per \$1,000 of assessed value for collection beginning in 2013 and such amount shall be used for the purpose of computing the limitations for subsequent levies provided under RCW ch. 84.55. Should this proposition be:

$\bigcirc$	Approved
$\bigcirc$	Rejected

The complete text of this measure is available at the Elections Office or online at www.kingcounty.gov/elections.

### Statement in favor

Proposition 1 is our opportunity to improve the quality and safety of our streets and pedestrian routes, a key component of keeping Kirkland a vibrant community.

- Deferred maintenance is expensive, and Prop 1 delivers value by reducing the need for more costly repairs later.
- Prop 1 is our only option, given State restrictions, declining general tax revenues, and a lean City balance sheet. Our City leaders have already done everything possible to trim any fat from the budget.
- With Prop 1, families and children will be assured of safe walk routes near schools.
- New technology signals at crosswalks will improve pedestrian safety.
- Because there will be an annual report on how the money is being spent, voters are assured our leaders will be accountable.

Kirkland residents have clearly stated that traffic improvements, the quality of our streets, and safe walking routes are among our top priorities. Prop 1 is supported by community leaders, business leaders, and experts in health and safety, and is endorsed by the Kirkland Chamber of Commerce, Transportation Choices Coalition, For Kirkland, and the Cascade Bicycle Club.

PLEASE APPROVE PROPOSITION 1.

### Rebuttal of statement in opposition

Keeping Kirkland a great community costs money. Our City receives only 1/7 of our total property taxes. Prop 1 is money spent at home, and will increase taxes less than 2%. Kirkland HAS CUT expenses, but our budget grows as our City grows. Prop 1 is the only way to assure roads that Kirkland residents say they want. Running a city is like running a home. Maintenance costs money. Deferred maintenance costs even more.

Statement submitted by: Norman Storme, Charles Pilcher and Tod Johnson 6370storme@msn.com

### **Explanatory statement**

The City of Kirkland is asking voters to decide whether to increase property taxes by a levy rate of 20.4 cents (\$0.204) per \$1,000 of assessed value to raise \$3 million annually to invest in the repair of arterial and neighborhood streets and to enhance pedestrian and traffic safety near schools, in neighborhoods, and along transit routes.

Levy funds will be used to repair potholes, resurface streets, and restore or replace approximately 90 lane-miles of arterial streets and will enable the City to conduct preventive maintenance on 650 lane-miles of local and neighborhood streets. The levy will enable the City to add safe walking routes around Kirkland elementary and middle schools, enhance bicycle routes, and upgrade and add 50 new crosswalks with more visible energy-efficient warning lights throughout the community. Safety improvements on eight key transit corridors and the installation of traffic calming devices to address neighborhood identified needs within Kirkland neighborhoods would be provided. The levy will be used solely to extend the life of Kirkland's street system, reduce maintenance costs, and improve the overall safety of Kirkland's system of pedestrian and bicycle facilities.

If approved by voters, the City estimates that this permanent levy would result in additional property taxes of \$70.58 per year (\$5.88 per month) for a home with a median assessed valuation of \$346,000. Annual increases for collection after 2013 are limited to a maximum of one percent per year as governed by RCW ch. 84.55.

### Statement in opposition

If it's so important to have good roads, then why hasn't the City funded them in the first place?

There's no need for higher taxes. The money is there. This year the Council has access to \$449,372,936 million. This levy is not necessary.

The City's budget grows every year at a rate three times faster than our cost of living. Fixed income people are hurt the most. Wage earners need money to maintain and improve their quality of life. We don't need additional tax burdens in this economy.

Three property levies are on our ballots: One County and two from the City. They add up. Currently our tax money is distributed at the rate of 9.66/1,000 AV. It will go to 10.094 if they all pass, a 4% increase.

The City's budget has never been less than the year before even in hard times. It keeps growing. To fix the problem, all the City needs to do is fund the necessary functions of government first ahead of others. They give away too much of our money.

Let's keep our quality of life. Vote NO to require street funding be giving the priority it deserves without raising taxes.

#### Rebuttal of statement in favor

The Levy is a list of neglected responsibilities, a failure to make responsible decisions regarding streets.

There are millions already in the budget. To save our quality of life, the City needs to fund streets not by raising our taxes but by restoring responsibility.

Streets should not take a back seat. Let's protect and enhance our quality of life. To have good streets and a good quality of life without additional taxes, vote NO.

Statement submitted by: Robert Style

### City of Kirkland

King County Elections is not responsible for the validity or accuracy of the statements, arguments or rebuttals.

### Proposition No. 2 Levy for City Parks Maintenance, Restoration and Enhancement

The Kirkland City Council adopted Ordinance No. 4365 concerning a proposition for a park levy rate increase. To restore and enhance funding for park maintenance and beach lifeguards, to maintain, renovate, and enhance docks, park facilities, trails and playfields and to acquire parkland and open space, the City's regular property tax levy base shall be increased permanently by \$.16 per \$1,000 of assessed value for collection beginning in 2013 and such amount shall be used for the purpose of computing the limitations for subsequent levies provided under RCW ch. 84.55. Should this proposition be:

$\bigcirc$	Approved
$\bigcirc$	Rejected

The complete text of this measure is available at the Elections Office or online at www.kingcounty.gov/elections.

### Statement in favor

### Protect and Enhance Kirkland's Parks

Our parks, trails, and beaches are a big part of what makes Kirkland a special place to live, work and play. We must protect these community assets now. Let's ensure clean, safe, healthy parks so our kids and grandkids can get outdoors and have the same quality of life we enjoy.

#### A Sound Investment

Our city is now the state's 12<sup>th</sup> largest, with population projected to increase 23% in the next 20 years. It's been a decade since the last park levy. Kirkland needs funding now to take care of our existing parks and acquire parks in underserved neighborhoods. It will only cost more if we wait. Opportunities for new parks will be lost forever.

### **Strong Accountability**

Based on recommendations of a diverse citizens committee, your yes vote will:

- · Maintain safe parks, docks, and clean restrooms
- · Provide lifeguards at beaches
- · Upgrade playfields for afterschool use
- Create the Cross Kirkland Trail (rail corridor)
- Acquire key parkland
- Expand Green Kirkland's volunteer restoration program
- Improve Edith Moulton, Waverly Beach, Juanita Beach parks; maintain O.O. Denny Park

Funds will be used solely for parks, audited annually and subject to citizen review.

### Rebuttal of statement in opposition

All agree our parks deserve help. City budgets have had to prioritize public safety, cutting parks maintenance by 20% and improvements 38%. We cannot assume parks funding can be secured.

The levy doesn't add debt—it dedicates ongoing funding for parks maintenance, safety and pay-as-you-go improvements.

Proposition #2 is endorsed by current and former City Council members, and Parks Board and Finn Hill Parks District members. Let's continue the legacy of great Kirkland parks.

**Statement submitted by:** Jay Arnold, Mary-Alyce Burleigh and Scott Morris http://YesForGreatKirklandParks.org

### **Explanatory statement**

The City of Kirkland is asking voters to decide whether to increase property taxes by a levy rate of sixteen cents (\$0.16) per \$1,000 of assessed value to restore parks maintenance and lifeguard services and to invest in the renovation and enhancement of Kirkland's park system.

Levy funds will be used solely to maintain, renovate and enhance Kirkland's park, open space and recreation facilities, including O.O. Denny Park. Funds will be used to restore previously cut park maintenance including restroom maintenance, landscape maintenance and repair of park facilities. The levy will provide beach lifeguards at Houghton, Waverly, and Juanita beaches to improve water safety. Funding would be provided for the Green Kirkland Partnership which restores and preserves natural areas and open spaces. Planned capital improvements include major repairs and improvements to Waverly Beach Park, Edith Moulton Park and the Juanita Beach bathhouse and the improvement of school playfields. Repair of public docks and restoration of shorelines at waterfront parks would be undertaken and an interim bicycle and pedestrian trail within the 5.75 mile Cross Kirkland Corridor would be built. Additional land would be acquired for future neighborhood parks to meet growing needs throughout Kirkland.

If approved by voters, the City estimates that this permanent levy would result in additional property taxes of \$55.36 per year (\$4.61 per month) for a home with a median assessed valuation of \$346,000. Annual increases for collection after 2013 are limited to a maximum of one percent per year as governed by RCW ch. 84.55.

### Statement in opposition

Something is amiss. We love parks so why is the City funding other services before parks? Increasing taxes does not improve our quality of life? We don't need more debt. This levy is proof the city has overextended its budget at the cost of our parks. We've already bitten off more than we can chew. Park doors were locked and garbage pickup was reduced.

We need to restore park funding to its proper place. In this year's budget, the City has access to \$449,372,936 million to pick from. We will give away more than \$3,000,000 to outside agencies some of which have nothing to do with government. History tells us we will still end up with millions in surplus. With all that money, there is no need for this levy.

We don't need higher taxes. Kirkland's tax rate is going up three times faster than our cost-of-living. There's enough money in the budget for parks. It's already there if they would only budget for it.

We love our parks. Now is the time to be heard. Vote NO to insure parks are funded first without raising taxes.

#### Rebuttal of statement in favor

It doesn't make good economic sense to take on more debt right now. Raising taxes is not necessary.

Each year we give away more than three million dollars to outside agencies. Each year the City has more money than the year before. Each year millions are spent on other something else. It's affecting our Quality of Life.

Protect our quality of life. Let's have great parks without more taxes. Vote NO.

Statement submitted by: Robert Style

### Proposition No. 1 Nine Year Levy Lid Lift for City Fire Station and Fire Apparatus

The City Council of the City of Mercer Island adopted Ordinance No. 12-04 concerning property taxes for a fire station and fire apparatus. This proposition increases the City's regular property tax levy by up to \$.086/\$1,000 (averaging approximately \$662,000/year) to a total maximum rate of \$1.517/\$1,000 of assessed valuation for collection in 2013, and increases the levy as permitted in RCW 84.55 for eight years thereafter, to pay, or pay debt service on approximately \$5.2 million of bonds and obligations issued to finance, costs of constructing, equipping, and acquiring a fire station and fire apparatus.

Should this proposition be:

$\bigcirc$	Approved
$\bigcirc$	Rejected

The complete text of this measure is available at the Elections Office or online at www.kingcounty.gov/elections.

### Statement in favor

Our Mercer Island firefighters keep us safe, and we have a responsibility to provide the resources they need to ensure our safety and theirs. The current south-end Fire Station #92, built in 1962, was never designed to meet the current and future needs of our community nor compliment the Island's integrated emergency response system. Limited vehicle garage space, an inadequate patient receiving area, improperly installed support beams and masonry that will not withstand the next major earthquake are just a few of the reasons why this station must be torn down to provide up-to-date services to the entire Island. You are being asked to support a 9 year capital levy of \$5,218,000 to rebuild station #92 as well as fund the replacement of an aging rescue truck (non-water pumping vehicle). The annual cost for a median Island home of \$700,000 would be \$60. We hope you are fortunate enough to ever find need to use our emergency response services; however, if the need should arise, we want to ensure that you and your family get the most rapid and professional response to your emergency. As stewards of our community, please vote with us on this important issue.

### Rebuttal of statement in opposition

The #1 priority in our community is public safety. Emergency Response experts have identified a significant deficiency in our emergency response system: The Southend Fire Station. The proposed new station has been vetted by our Emergency Response professionals as well as by regional experts. In their collective opinion, the size and capacities of the proposed station match the Island's unique needs. This capital levy is a serious request that will address a real community need.

Statement submitted by: Jim Pearman, El Jahncke and Patti Darling

### **Explanatory statement**

This proposition would provide funding for a new South end fire station and a new fire rescue truck.

Each year, the City of Mercer Island can increase the amount of regular property taxes it collects by only 1% (approximately) without voter approval. This limit is called the "levy lid." Under this limit, in 2012, Mercer Island can collect regular property taxes at a rate of approximately \$1.33 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation without voter approval.

With voter approval, this proposition would authorize the City of Mercer Island to collect approximately \$662,000 over the levy lid for each of nine years (2013- 2021). This additional revenue would provide funds to pay debt service on bonds issued to finance the costs of constructing and equipping the South end fire station, and to pay costs to replace a fire rescue truck.

If this proposition passes, the City of Mercer Island will be allowed to increase the regular property tax rate in 2013 by approximately \$0.086 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation (to a total rate not to exceed \$1.517 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation). For example, this proposition would increase the regular property tax bill on a \$700,000 home (median assessed value in 2012) by approximately \$60 in 2013.

For regular property taxes collected after 2021, the maximum tax levy would be determined as if this proposition had not been approved.

### Statement in opposition

The southend fire station serves this community well. We're told it was built in ancient times (1962), so, like our ancient schools, should be demolished, but instead, it should be updated and remodeled. Surrounding houses are of comparable age, but neighbors can't afford to demolish their homes. The City, like its citizens, has other critical needs.

This \$5,200,000 levy nearly doubles the current station's size for an already built-out southend, including features that don't help emergency services, like an added lobby, conference room, and fourth sleeping room for only three firemen. The Council piled on a rescue truck freeing up funds for projects like the "road diet" narrowing Island Crest from four lanes to two, DEGRADING emergency response.

Islanders rejected a wasteful demolition of schools, but the City wasn't listening. The same councilmembers who supported demolishing the schools have, without a public hearing, proposed demolishing the station. The City is also working in the background to demolish City Hall and rebuild in the Town Center.

Vote NO! Defeat this levy. The City's own recent survey shows Islanders losing confidence in the City's fiscal decisions. Demand the Council present a more fiscally sound remodel consistent with real emergency requirements.

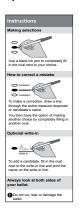
#### Rebuttal of statement in favor

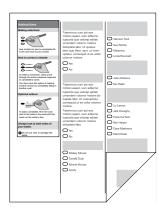
The southend fire station, expanded in 1984, weathered two major earthquakes without damage, and should be remodeled with seismic and other code updates. Council won't consider remodeling, insisting on demolishing public buildings, amassing wasteful debt. The City presents no fire-call volume statistics that justify building a station twice its current size. The truck should be purchased with funds already available. Send a message to the Council – we cannot afford to waste public funds. Vote NO.

Statement submitted by: Ira Appelman, Tom Imrich and Jean Majury appelman@bmi.net

### How to vote by mail

 Carefully read and follow the instructions on the ballot and in the voters' pamphlet.

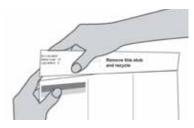




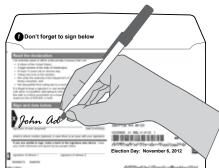
- Read your entire ballot, front and back, before filling it out.
- · Use a black ink pen.



• Remove and recycle the stub at the top of the ballot.



Sign and date the declaration on the back of the return envelope.



 Return your ballot through the mail (using a first class stamp) or at a ballot drop box. Make sure to return your ballot by **November 6**, the election day deadline.



Fictional characters are great, but they do NOT belong on ballots.

Don't write in frivolous names when you vote.

Be an informed voter.

### **City of Normandy Park**

King County Elections is not responsible for the validity or accuracy of the statements, arguments or rebuttals.

### Proposition No. 1 Property Tax Rate

The Normandy Park City Council passed Resolution No. 853 to place the funding of city services before the voters. This proposition authorizes an increase in the regular property tax rate for collection in 2013 of \$0.29246 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, for a total tax rate (if this proposition passes) of \$1.60 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. The 2013 levy amount would become the base upon which levy increases would be computed for future years.

Should this proposition be approved?		
$\bigcirc$	Yes	
	No	

The complete text of this measure is available at the Elections Office or online at www.kingcounty.gov/elections.

### Statement in favor

VOTE YES on Prop 1. Save Normandy Park and our Police Department.

With continuous State cuts to shared revenue, new mandates, minimal retail, and a prolonged economic downturn, our city is fiscally crippled.

Without a YES vote, it may mean the end of the City with no chance for recovery and a devastating fall in your property values.

Your City has essentially no debt, conservative fiscal controls and lean management. Millions in expenses have been cut. Staff and benefits have been drastically reduced, with no pay raises. Essential services are minimal, most maintenance deferred and roads are breaking up. Our Police are reduced by two officers. Inflation increased costs by 26% since 2002 while revenues have been flat and difficult to find. Reserve funds are critically low. Further cuts make the city immediately unsustainable.

We need your help. A levy lid lift is the best immediately available source of new funding to keep Normandy Park viable. It provides an opportunity to search for additional funds, while bringing local taxes on par with surrounding cities. Please keep City Hall open. Permit our Police Department to keep crime out and preserve our home values.

VOTE YES. Save this GEM of a city.

### Rebuttal of statement in opposition

If there was a perfect permanent solution to the City's fiscal emergency, the Council would have selected it. It is irresponsible and reckless to suggest gambling with the future of our city by cutting the budget any further.

The City, at present, is unsustainable. This tax will cost a home assessed at \$500,000 about \$146 per year. It is the best insurance against losing our City and Police Department. Help Save Normandy Park. VOTE YES!

**Statement submitted by:** Karen Steele, Clarke Brant and John Rankin citizenssavingnp@aol.com

### **Explanatory statement**

The City of Normandy Park relies on property taxes to provide basic services such as police protection, street and sidewalk construction, and facility maintenance.

Over the last decade, the City's property tax revenues have not kept up with inflation, mandates by state and federal government, and the demand for services from City residents. Since 2002, inflation has risen by 26% while property taxes have gone up by only 8%. State law limits increases in City property taxes to 1% per year without a public vote.

Normandy Park's 2012 property tax levy rate is approximately \$1.31 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. If this measure is passed into law, the City will be authorized to levy up to \$1.60 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, an increase of approximately 29 cents per \$1,000. This will make Normandy Park's property tax rate approximately the same as in surrounding cities. This increase will allow the City to keep providing services, including police, street and sidewalk construction, and facility maintenance at current levels. Currently 9% of the average household's property tax bill goes to the City of Normandy Park. The proposed increase applies only to the taxes that go to the City, and not to the remainder of the tax bill.

To live within its means, the City of Normandy Park has cut staffing levels, frozen wages, deferred street and facility maintenance, implemented efficiencies, and explored other revenue options. If this measure is not approved, further cuts in police and other City services will be necessary.

### Statement in opposition

Will raising property taxes produce revenue for the City of Normandy Park? Yes. Is this tax increase enough to ensure the City of Normandy Park will become and remain financially solvent? No. The City Manager has identified a \$1.2million budget shortfall, yet this tax increase will generate only about \$300,000. Obviously, something different has to be done in order to preserve our City's independent status now and into the future. Revenue options are limited, so we have to figure out how to spend less. While a property tax increase will "get us by", it will not produce a balanced budget. The City's revenue shortfall is not a new problem. The City has been spending more than its revenue and dipping into reserves for several years, without coming up with a solution. Now City leaders are asking residents of Normandy Park to pay more of their own hard earned money and delaying that solution again, knowing the tax increase still won't be enough to meet the City's needs. This is a permanent property tax increase. Residents of Normandy Park deserve a permanent solution.

Statement submitted by: Stacia Jenkins

### Rebuttal of statement in favor

No rebuttal submitted.

### Proposition No. 1 Advisory Vote on Multi-Purpose Community Center

The City Council of the City of Sammamish has passed Resolution No. R2012-500 concerning an advisory vote on the development of a multi-purpose community center. If approved, this advisory vote would indicate voter approval for the development of a multi-purpose community center, operated by a non-profit entity experienced with recreational facilities, as deemed advisable by City Council. The estimated development cost is \$30 million, and at least \$5 million is expected to come from the non-profit entity and the remainder from available City money. No new taxes are expected to be levied to pay for operations, maintenance or construction costs.

Should this proposition be approved?

Yes

No

The complete text of this measure is available at the Elections Office or online at www.kingcounty.gov/elections.

#### Statement in favor

Years of studies and surveys demonstrate that Sammamish residents support a multi-purpose activity/aquatic center. Now, after much planning and citizen input, the City of Sammamish has designed a facility with gymnasiums, indoor track, meeting rooms, and lap and recreational pools for fun, fitness, and year-round swim lessons – in the heart of our city.

This facility can be built and operated with NO INCREASE IN TAXES, NO NEW TAXES, AND NO DEBT. With a major contribution from the Y, the City can fund the project from reserves, without tapping our fiscal safety net. The Y will manage the new center, providing affordable membership to Sammamish citizens, and will be responsible for annual maintenance and operating costs.

Much more than a fitness center, this facility will be a year-round, multipurpose recreation venue for the whole community, including children, young adults, and seniors. It will serve as a gathering place for our citizens - a place for meetings, classes, lectures, games, fun, and much more.

Vote YES, and with no new taxes, the City and Y will join forces to build and operate a first-class, multi-purpose, recreational facility for our use in our growing community. (This is a non-binding, advisory vote.)

### Rebuttal of statement in opposition

The proposed community/aquatic center is much more than an "athletic club." It will bring families closer together, encourage good health, and foster connections through fitness, sports, fun, and shared interests. Sammamish residents have voiced tremendous support for such a venture, indicating our needs are not being met by local fitness clubs which cater primarily to adults. Other cities have community centers. Why not Sammamish? Let's build a gathering place for everyone to enjoy. Vote yes!

**Statement submitted by:** Hank Klein, Bernie Lucking and Doug Eglington hdklein@comcast.net

### **Explanatory statement**

Proposition 1 is an "advisory" vote intended to give the Sammamish City Council a sense of how the voters in Sammamish feel about the potential construction of a community and aquatic center in Sammamish.

The estimated construction cost of the center is \$30 million, with at least \$5 million of that coming from a non-profit entity that would work with the city in the construction and operation of the center. (The YMCA is the proposed partner.)

No new taxes are proposed in connection with building or operating the center. Based on current estimates, the city's contribution to development costs would be \$25 million or less, a sum that would be drawn from a portion of the city's existing capital funds and financial reserves. The facility would be located on a seven-acre, city-owned parcel just west of the Sammamish Library.

All ongoing operating expenses would be the responsibility of the non-profit operator of the facility.

Among other things, the proposed community and aquatic center would include a leisure pool, lap pool, jogging track, weights, two gymnasiums, cardio and group fitness space, multipurpose rooms, locker rooms, a child-watch area and on-site parking. The estimated building size: 60,000 square feet.

### Statement in opposition

As neighbors and business owners within our City, we strongly urge you to direct the City Council to **not waste \$25 MILLION of OUR TAX DOLLARS** on this project that will benefit less than 10% of the residents and a single non-profit entity. We urge you to **VOTE NO** on this initiative.

Our City's savings have taken over 12 years to establish and for those reserves to be depleted on an unnecessary project appears fiscally unsound and reprehensible by our elected officials.

Our City Council should be presenting us options for our tax dollar savings and yet we have only one, a nonessential publicly funded health club. Our tax dollars should be used for providing improved infrastructure and safety needs, broad community based programs or maintained as a "rainy day" fund

Further, to use our tax money to build a facility that competes with existing private enterprise appears well outside the City charter to provide essential services.

Simply put, our City Council should not spend our tax dollars on this facility. Tell the City Council you feel the same and **VOTE NO**. Learn more at WWW. VOTENO.NET.

Thank You for Your Support.

#### Rebuttal of statement in favor

Enough with government's needless spending! No one moves to a City because of a YMCA. What's important is safety, infrastructure, our environment, parks, ball fields, schools and affordability. If we make this \$25,000,000+ gift of your money, our reserves will be nearly depleted and higher priority community needs that benefit everyone will go unmet. If preserving Sammamish's financial stability and ensuring a healthy future for our City is important to you, then Vote No!

**Statement submitted by:** James W. Wasnick, H. Cyrus Oskoui and Arthur Goldman

### **City of Seattle**

24

### Proposition No. 1 General Obligation Bonds - \$290,000,000 (Alaskan Way Seawall)

The City Council of the City of Seattle, Washington, passed Ordinance No. 123922, concerning funding for the Alaskan Way seawall and associated infrastructure.

This proposition would address public safety risks and seismic hazards by authorizing the City to incur costs related to the design, construction, renovation, improvement and replacement of the Alaskan Way seawall and associated public facilities and infrastructure, including City-owned waterfront piers; issue no more than \$290,000,000 of general obligation bonds maturing within 30 years; and levy annual excess property taxes to repay the bonds, all as provided in Ordinance No. 123922.

Should this proposition be:				
O Ap	•			

The complete text of this measure is available beginning on page 37.

### **Explanatory statement**

### The Existing Situation-

The City of Seattle owns the Alaskan Way seawall and Piers 58 and 62/63 on the City central waterfront. The City Council passed and the Mayor approved Ordinance 123922 (a copy of which is found elsewhere in this pamphlet). That ordinance includes the following statements about the existing situation of these public improvements:

- "[T]he existing Alaskan Way seawall is seriously deteriorated due to aging components and materials, and tidal forces of Elliott Bay, and marine borer damage, with approximately 50 percent of the existing wall currently damaged."
- "[T]he seawall is not designed to withstand earthquakes and there is a one in ten chance in the next ten years of an earthquake leading to liquefaction and Seawall failure."
- "Pier 58 is seismically vulnerable and the structural deficiencies of Piers 62/63 have forced the City to significantly limit activities on the piers in order to protect public safety."

### The Effect of the Measure if Approved –

If approved by the voters, the City proposes to sell no more than \$290,000,000 in bonds to pay for the costs related to the design, construction, renovation, improvement, and replacement of the Alaskan Way seawall and associated public facilities and infrastructure, including City-owned waterfront piers (collectively, the "Project"). The principal and interest on the bonds (the debt) would be repaid by increased property taxes in excess of normal property tax limits.

The bonds must be issued within ten years of the vote and each bond must mature within thirty years of its sale. A portion of the funds raised, equal to 1% of the estimated construction

expenditures on the Project, will be spent on public works for art in accordance with Seattle Municipal Code Section 20.32.030.

The funds raised by the bonds would be used for capital costs of the Project. Section 2 of Ordinance No. 123922 details the nature of those costs. The City also shall seek supplemental, matching or additional funds to pay all or part of the cost of the Project. If the Project is completed and there are remaining funds from the sale of the bonds, those funds may be used for other waterfront improvements or infrastructure construction, repair or replacement, or for the payment of debt service on bonds, all as later determined by ordinance. Should there be insufficient funds from the bonds to complete the Project, the City may delay completion of all or any element of the Project until adequate funding is available, or eliminate any part of the Project.

Property taxes will be raised in excess of regular property tax levies, without limitation as to rate, but only in such amounts sufficient to pay the principal and interest (debt service) on the bonds. The annual debt service for all \$290 million in bonds approved by this measure is estimated to be \$19 million per year over a 30-year period, assuming a 5% interest rate. Once the full \$290 million in bonds have been sold, the impact to property owners is projected to be approximately \$59 annually for a median-value home worth \$360,000.

#### Statement in favor

#### Save Our Sea Wall: A Critical Public Safety investment

This measure is a critical public safety investment first and foremost. Seattle's Waterfront Seawall ranges from 75 to almost 100 years old and has deteriorated to the point where it may completely fail in an earthquake or large storm. This could lead to the collapse of the Alaskan Way surface street, waterfront piers and businesses, the ferry terminal and Port of Seattle facilities. Major utilities including power, sewer and storm water, natural gas and telecommunications are also at risk. It is time to make a needed investment for the safety and future of our waterfront.

Generations ago, Seattle residents built the seawall as an investment in public health and safety and to facilitate growth of a new economy and city. A new seawall will not only protect the safety, mobility and economy of our waterfront and downtown, but allow us to realize future economic and civic potential.

This measure also helps to fund critical improvements to publicly owned piers that right now are unsafe and unusable. While replacing the seawall, we can save money and give new life to these important public spaces on our waterfront.

#### A New Seawall: The Foundation of a Waterfront for All

While this measure is designed to fund the public safety need for a new seawall, the replacement project is the critical first step in a larger vision to revitalize the downtown waterfront. The City Council and Mayor—following significant public input— have approved a framework plan for a new Alaskan Way surface street, new parks, picnic areas, open space and paths for walking, biking and running after the Viaduct is taken down.

The new seawall will be designed to improve and protect salmon habitat and the ecology of Elliott Bay.

### **Accountable and Affordable**

This 30 year measure will cost the average Seattle household less than \$59/ year— just under \$5 per month. Oversight is provided by the Central Waterfront Committee, a citizens group appointed by the Mayor and City Council, assuring accountability to taxpayers.

#### Seattle Agrees: Yes on Prop 1

The Seawall replacement bond measure is endorsed by neighborhood, community and public safety leaders across Seattle, The Greater Seattle Chamber and King County Labor Council, Mayor and City Council, Seattle Aquarium Society and Leonard the Goldfish, Aquarium spokesfish; and many, many more.

### Rebuttal of statement in opposition

When a road or bridge needs replacement, all of us share the costs of critical infrastructure replacement. Similarly, the seawall is a critical public safety priority all of us share.

Seattle's deteriorating seawall threatens public safety regardless of where you live or work. Further decay will impact safety and mobility on our downtown streets, jeopardize citywide utilities that light and heat our homes and offices, and undermine important components of our regional economy.

Seawall replacement is a needed investment to protect safety and restore publicly-owned structures.

Furthermore, waterfront improvements are NOT part of this bond measure. When those amenities are constructed, it will indeed be with creation of a Local Improvement District. Opponents are misleading: downtown property owners who benefit from potential future investments WILL pay their fair share. This measure ONLY concerns the seawall and related safety projects. Please vote yes on Proposition 1.

### Statement submitted by:

Charley Royer, former Mayor and co-chair, Central Waterfront Committee Kenny Stuart, President, Seattle Firefighters Local 27
David Freiboth, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, ML King County Labor Council www.sayetheseattleseawall.com 206-486-4810

### Statement in opposition

#### The Seattle Seawall Bond Measure – An Unfair Property Tax Burden

In the history of Seattle, never have so many properties been taxed so much for the benefit of so few.

As proposed, the Elliott Bay Seawall would be rebuilt with proceeds from a \$290-million bond issue levied against all Seattle property owners. Over its 30-year life, this gift to a few downtown property owners, taking interest into account, could well exceed one billion dollars.

Seattle has almost 85 miles of waterfront property of which only 1.5 percent is bounded by the subject seawall. The majority of waterfront commercial and residential property owners are responsible for maintaining their own bulkheads and shore lands *without* any public subsidy. Many of these privately built and maintained bulkheads also hold back high-volume, principal arterial streets such as Rainier Avenue S. and Westlake Avenue. Accordingly, why should the private business owners along these 1.32 miles of Elliott Bay waterfront property benefit from a public subsidy?

Basically, the downtown and Elliott Bay property owners want **all** Seattle taxpayers to pay for **their** waterfront improvements. This is not only unfair but more troubling is that it raises serious equal protection arguments.

The Seattle Central Business District is the most highly valued real estate in the entire State of Washington. Why should the city's outlying residences and businesses be taxed for a seawall improvement that would give them zero benefits?

With the private landowners of so many highly valued properties poised to gain substantial benefits from the seawall project, it is clear that the fairest, most equitable and least onerous project financing should come from a *Local Improvement District* (LID). LIDs have been used for these exact kinds of property improvements since 1917. *An LID ensures that those who receive the benefits pay for the benefits*.

Please join those who are rejecting this unfair, unjust and excessive bond measure.

### Rebuttal of statement in favor

The Central Waterfront Committee is cloaking the argument for proceeding with this unnecessary bond measure under the pretext that it is "a critical public safety investment". While there may be a pressing need to address the condition of the seawall, there has been no showing to suggest it is a need deserving of a 30-year commitment of over a billion dollars by **all property owners** in Seattle.

Both the WSDOT Ferries Division and the Port of Seattle are able to finance their own seawall improvement with routine maintenance funds.

The alleged "collapse of ... waterfront piers and businesses" is fear-mongering claptrap.

Importantly, the June 1, 2010 study for the city, *Feasibility Analysis of Special Benefits*, shows downtown waterfront property owners gaining up to \$1.95 billion in "Special Benefits".

Logically, a Local Improvement District (LID) should finance this project so those who benefit pay its cost.

### Statement submitted by:

Christopher V. Brown, P.E., Committee Chairman Ed Plute cvbrown.pe@gmail.com

### **City of Shoreline**

King County Elections is not responsible for the validity or accuracy of the statements, arguments or rebuttals.

### Proposition No. 1 Acquisition and Local Control of Seattle Water Services in Shoreline

The Shoreline City Council passed Ordinance No. 644 concerning the City of Shoreline's acquisition and operation of water services of Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) within Shoreline west of Interstate 5.

The Ordinance would authorize Shoreline to acquire SPU water services in Shoreline without increasing projected rates. The \$26.6 million acquisition in 2020 and \$14.2 million in preacquisition improvements (without adjustment for inflation) would be financed by water rates in Shoreline's new service area. The Ordinance would remove the current surcharge and utility tax paid by Shoreline customers to Seattle. Shoreline local control of rates, upgrades, and water supply for firefighting would replace Seattle control.

Should Ordinance No. 644 be:

Approved
Rejected

The complete text of this measure is available at the Elections Office or online at www.kingcounty.gov/elections.

### Statement in favor

The process to acquire the Seattle Public Utility (SPU) water system, located in Shoreline, Washington has been cautious and responsible. The twenty-three member SPU acquisition Steering Committee, a diverse and committed representation of our community, was involved in reviewing multiple staff and independent engineering and financial studies. This indepth analysis resulted in a recommendation to purchase the Seattle Public Utility (SPU) water system located in Shoreline.

Acquiring this utility allows us to plan for our future and assure adequate infrastructure that will support our City's long term needs. The City of Shoreline leadership has proved that they are fiscally responsible and prepared to take this next step to acquire and operate the water services of SPU within Shoreline.

We believe this bold and progressive step will allow Shoreline residents greater control over their rates, charges, and utility taxes. In addition, owning this utility will not affect property taxes.

Please join us in voting YES to keep Shoreline's money in Shoreline to improve the City of Shoreline!

### Rebuttal of statement in opposition

Bottom line, Shoreline water customers should not continue to pay a 14% water rate surcharge to Seattle plus an additional 15% Seattle utility tax.

**Voting yes** means improved efficiencies, our dollars stay in Shoreline and residents have greater local control regarding rates, upgrades and water supply for firefighting.

We can purchase and operate the water system with no increase in property taxes or projected future water rates. **VOTE YES on Proposition 1**.

www.LocalControlForShoreline.org

Statement submitted by: Joseph Irons, David Harris and Sydell Polin

### **Explanatory statement**

Shoreline's vision is to provide high quality public services, utilities, and infrastructure that protect public health and safety, accommodate anticipated growth, and enhance the quality of life. As part of that effort, the Shoreline City Council passed Ordinance No. 644 concerning Shoreline's acquisition and operation of Seattle Public Utilities' (SPU) water services within Shoreline.

The Shoreline City Council found the cost to acquire, operate, and maintain

the system would result in rates equal to or lower than SPU's projected charges. If approved, Proposition 1 would not impact property taxes. Acquisition would occur in 2020 and cost \$26.6 million with an estimated \$14.2 million for pre-acquisition expenses and improvements beginning in 2018 (without adjustment for inflation) as discussed in Ordinance No. 644. Both costs would be financed using water rates in the Shoreline service area. The acquisition would remove the current surcharge and utility tax paid by Shoreline customers to Seattle.

Shoreline acquisition would make permitting for property improvements easier and less expensive by reducing the number of government entities involved. Acquisition would also allow revenues to be reinvested in Shoreline instead of Seattle and enable the City to focus on system improvements to help improve Shoreline's commercial districts and increase water flow for firefighting throughout the City of Shoreline. Currently, decisions regarding rates, upgrades and water supply for firefighting are made by Seattle elected officials. If approved, Proposition 1 would shift local control of these decisions from Seattle to the City of Shoreline.

### Statement in opposition

Proposition 1 is a blank check for City Hall.

This is a scheme to raise utility taxes and water bills.

City Hall will increase those taxes and water rates any time they choose without a vote of the people.

This flawed strategy shifts the costs of increasing city spending onto local businesses, working families, and senior citizens. City Hall has not considered other ideas, like growing our economy to produce more revenues.

Local control does not require total control by City Hall.

Proposition 1 would threaten Ronald Wastewater District and Shoreline Water District, which already provide the best service at the lowest price because they legally must reinvest every drop of revenue to operate, maintain, and improve their systems. City Hall has no such requirement.

Shoreline's ratepayers have already paid for their existing water system. Don't buy it again. No one knows what the final costs will be, or what it will include. If Seattle decides to sell its system, Seattle will set the price. Proposition 1 is a bad investment. We cannot afford to make that mistake.

Don't give City Hall a blank check. Vote NO on Proposition 1.

#### Rebuttal of statement in favor

Proposition 1 means taxes, takeovers, and troubles.

Vote NO and stop City Hall from raising utility taxes. Vote NO and prevent City Hall from taking over Ronald Wastewater and Shoreline Water Districts. Vote NO and stop City Hall from making risky changes to the water system that provides clean, safe drinking water.

This is your last chance to stop a terrible idea.

Don't give City Hall a blank check! Vote NO on Proposition 1.

**Statement submitted by:** John Behrens, Thomas Jamieson and Arthur Maronek; noblankcheck.nationbuilder.com

### Proposition No. 1 Public Safety Operations, Streets and Parks Maintenance Levy

The City of Snoqualmie, Washington adopted Ordinance No. 1097 concerning public safety, and maintenance of streets, parks, and natural areas. This proposition would fund public safety, including operations affecting 911 emergency response times, police officers, firefighters, and emergency medical technicians for Basic Life Support; street maintenance and safety improvements; and preservation of parks, trails and natural areas. It increases the City's regular property tax rate by up to \$0.24/\$1,000 to a maximum rate of \$2.99/\$1,000 of assessed valuation for collection in 2013, as allowed by RCW 84.55. 2013 levy amount will be used to calculate subsequent levy limits.

Should this proposition be:

$\bigcirc$	Approved
$\bigcirc$	Rejected

The complete text of this measure is available at the Elections Office or online at www.kingcounty.gov/elections.

#### Statement in favor

Dear Voters:

Prop. 1 is about keeping Snoqualmie safe and taking care of the basics to help keep and attract more local jobs and businesses right here in Snoqualmie. It's about maintaining Snoqualmie's quality of life and helping preserve what's special about our community.

YES TO KEEP SNOQUALMIE SAFE. Last year, police and fire responded to over 7,000 calls in an average of 4 to 6 minutes. That's a 40% call increase from just ten years ago. Prop. 1 will preserve fast response times and help Snoqualmie maintain the high quality of public safety that residents have come to expect and deserve.

YES TO MAINTAIN "NO CALL TOO SMALL." Prop. 1 will help maintain Snoqualmie's goal to respond in person to every police, fire and medical emergency call. For nearly a decade, the Fire Department has not added any new fire fighters and the police department has only added one officer.

YES TO PRESERVE PARKS, STREETS, & NATURAL AREAS. Prop. 1 will help protect and preserve our parks, trails and natural areas and repair our streets so they don't cost much more to fix in the future. Please vote YES on Prop 1.

Respectfully,

Jim Schaffer, Retired Snoqualmie Police Chief

### Rebuttal of statement in opposition

"THE TRUTH IS you can't outsource a firefighter. The public's desire for topnotch cops, firefighters and parks collides with a slumping economy. Growth can't be relied on to meet needs." (Valley Record)

**FACT:** City already made aggressive spending cuts: no new firefighters (10 years); hiring freezes; no cost-of-living increases; cuts in health insurance, equipment for fire, parks, public works.

**FACT:** Public Safety, 911 response times, and "No call too small" ARE at risk. *Encompass Endorsed*.

**Statement submitted by:** Jim Schaffer, Chelley Patterson and Dave Battey KeepSnoqualmieSafe@gmail.com

### **Explanatory statement**

The City of Snoqualmie is asking voters to decide whether to approve Proposition 1 to fund public safety, streets, parks and natural areas. The proposition addresses the following budget priorities identified by the City Council:

- Public safety, such as maintaining adequate numbers of police officers, firefighters, and emergency medical technicians for Basic Life Support, 911 "No Call too Small" emergency response dispatch operations, maintaining emergency vehicles and police and fire stations, disaster emergency management (including flooding) training, and managing the Snoqualmie Volunteer Fire Fighter Program.
- Preservation of parks, trails and natural areas, such as maintaining parks, playgrounds and playfields to meet basic safety standards, mowing and weed control, street and boulevard trees, trail maintenance, and trash removal and regular cleaning of picnic areas and restroom facilities.
- Street maintenance and safety improvements, such as sidewalk improvements and coordination of road repairs with sewer and water improvements to minimize disruption.

Proposition 1 would provide funding dedicated for public safety, street maintenance and safety improvements, and preservation of parks, trails and natural areas.

The cost for the average homeowner of a \$413,000 home would be about \$99/ year or \$8/month. If approved, Proposition 1 would allow the City to increase its regular property tax rate by up to 0.24/\$1,000 to a maximum rate of \$2.99 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, as allowed by Chapter 84.55 RCW. The amount of the levy collected in 2013 would be used to calculate subsequent levy limits.

### Statement in opposition

VOTE NO. Prop 1 Levy/ Tax increase is unnecessary.

Snoqualmie has the 4<sup>th</sup> highest property tax burden in King County, and Proposition 1 will make Snoqualmie the 2nd highest. Even with a 1% cap, property tax collections have grown an average 10% per year from 2002 to 2011. Taxes are high enough. We just have to spend more wisely.

We support police and firemen. Public safety is not at risk. There's been NO adverse impact to police/fire service or response times. A shell game uses popular programs like public safety to request more funds when there are other reasonable places to prioritize.

Just like families, cities must live within their means. Leaders must sometimes make tough choices.

Cut pet projects and waste.

- A proposed low income housing pet project that we cannot afford would cost nearly \$1million over 12 years by waiving the developer's taxes and fees.
- City health and pension costs have exploded, growing 3 times faster than wages. Snoqualmie fringe benefits of \$39,700 per employee are twice the national employer average of \$19,600.

We urge a no vote. City leaders can rise to the challenge and find reasonable savings without raising taxes.

### Rebuttal of statement in favor

Prop 1 is not about public safety. It's a choice between higher taxes and managing spending.

Public safety is not at risk. Prop 1 does not add a single police officer. Over 10 years, public safety responses are up 40% while property taxes have increased 250%

City leaders must prioritize spending and cut waste.

Higher taxes and wasteful spending make Snoqualmie less attractive to homebuyers and small businesses which hurts our home values and jobs

**Statement submitted by:** Clayton Fong, Jim Renahan and Mark Hawkins Snoqualmie.homeowners@aim.com

### Federal Way School District No. 210

King County Elections is not responsible for the validity or accuracy of the statements, arguments or rebuttals.

### Proposition No. 1 Capital Projects Levy

The Board of Directors of Federal Way School District No. 210 adopted Resolution No. 2012-19 authorizing the capital projects levies. This levy funds the replacement of Federal Way High School, upgrading or replacing elementary playgrounds, improving exterior security cameras and other capital improvements to educational facilities of the District, and authorizes the following excess levies on all taxable property within the District:

	Approximate Levy	
Collection	Rate/\$1,000	Levy
<u>Years</u>	Assessed Value	<u>Amount</u>
2013	\$0.92	\$10,000,000
2014	\$0.92	\$10,000,000
2015	\$0.92	\$10,000,000
2016	\$0.92	\$10,000,000
2017	\$0.92	\$10,000,000
2018	\$0.92	\$10,000,000

Should this proposition be approved?

Yes
No

The complete text of this measure is available at the Elections Office or online at www.kingcounty.gov/elections.

### Statement in favor

Vote YES to frame the future of our community. As residents, we have the opportunity to rebuild the district's oldest school (built in 1929), which is in desperate need of an upgrade, due to the failing of major elements, such as leaky roofs and inadequate heating systems. In addition, aging playground equipment at 19 elementary schools will be replaced or upgraded, and improvements will be made to security cameras at schools throughout the district. The levy will result in property owners paying a little more than half the actual cost of construction, with the remainder coming from School District and State resources.

Federal Way High School was originally designed as an elementary school, with narrow hallways and short ceilings. This new building will be more age-appropriate, energy efficient and have improved air quality, creating a more safe and secure campus for our students and staff. The construction will also support technology enhancements, which are currently unattainable.

By running a capital levy rather than a bond issue, the district will save taxpayers an estimated \$29 million in interest.

Please join local business, parent and community leaders in supporting our students, staff and community by voting YES!

### Rebuttal of statement in opposition

It is disappointing that a factually incorrect attack is offered on Federal Way students to avoid providing a functional, flexible and secure facility. The facts are clear – studies show students attending schools in poor condition score up to 10 percentile points lower on standardized tests. New school planning, from ongoing community input forums to architectural open houses, has been and will be transparent, collaborative and specific. Our students deserve better. Vote YES!

**Statement submitted by:** Kris Milholland, Caroline VanderArk and Pete Shimer; mkmilholland@comcast.net

### **Explanatory statement**

Passage of Proposition No. 1 will allow the levy of property taxes over a six-year period to replace Federal Way High School, upgrade or replace elementary playgrounds and improve exterior security cameras. Originally built in 1929 as an elementary school, Federal Way High School has been expanded and renovated over the last 80 years. While we have been excellent stewards of Federal Way High School, major systems such as roofing and plumbing are now failing and older construction styles are not readily adaptable for technology. New building designs and materials can improve energy efficiency and improve air quality and a new building will create a safer and more secure school for our students.

In addition, to rebuilding Federal Way High School, passage of Proposition No. 1 will update elementary playgrounds at 19 elementary schools and implement a district-wide security camera installation to safeguard our buildings, staff and students. Financing these projects with a capital levy means all funds will be used for building improvements and none for interest payments. Additionally, Washington State will fund approximately 35% or \$38M of the total project costs. More details can be found at www.fwps.org

Exemptions from taxes may be available to homeowners who are 61 or older, or disabled, and who meet certain income requirements. For more information, call the King County Department of Assessments at 206.296.3920.

### Statement in opposition

The current Federal Way High School does not graduate many kids who are either prepared to succeed in college or gain employment in living wage paying jobs. The school district should offer us a plan to change this before we spend our dollars on replacing this facility. Colleges are ranking the current school poorly and there are no employers who are seeking the school's graduates. The School District needs to show the voters a specific plan, with an estimate of its costs, before the voters approve any expenditure for the replacement of Federal Way High School. We urge the School District provide a specific plan for the replacement of this school prior to authorizing the expenditure of our dollars. Simply replacing the buildings without addressing the needs of the community isn't a wise choice for taxpayer's dollars. Let's not put the "Cart before the horse!

#### Rebuttal of statement in favor

The School District continues to refuse to reveal any vision for a new Federal Way High School. This school's graduates are currently below the 25<sup>th</sup> percentile in achievement at the University of Washington and it has no recognized vocational programs. Why would we want a new building for this? There needs to be a more defined vision for this school than simply replacing it. We need a better proposal for the education of our children.

Statement submitted by: Charlie Hoff

### Proposition No. 1 General Obligation Bonds - \$110,000,000

The Board of Directors of Auburn School District No. 408 approved a proposition for bonds. This proposition authorizes the District to reconstruct Auburn High School, including modernizing its Performing Arts Center and Automotive Technology building and modernizing and improving the site, to issue \$110,000,000 of general obligation bonds maturing within a maximum term of 20 years, and levy excess property taxes annually to repay the bonds, as described in Resolution No. 1159. Should this proposition be:

$\bigcirc$	Approved
	Rejected

The complete text of this measure is available at the Elections Office or online at www.kingcounty.gov/elections.

### Statement in favor

### **Auburn High School Needs Our Attention**

Immediate attention is required for degraded infrastructure and physical plant (roofs, heating systems, plumbing, and electrical). New facility will save \$250,000 annually in utility and maintenance costs.

### Citizen's Ad Hoc Committee Recommendation

The bond issue provides resources to reconstruct and modernize Auburn High on the existing site. The project replaces approximately 240,000 square feet of existing buildings, and expands parking for access to facilities used by the community. The current Automotive Technology building and Performing Arts Center will remain and be improved.

#### **New Educational Standards**

Building on Auburn High School's strong program legacy, the new building will provide modern learning environments, improved technology, health, safety, security, and access for disabled individuals while ensuring school taxes remain unchanged. This new facility will be equivalent to other high schools in the district.

The cost of new building, with reimbursement of state matching funds, is equal to the remodel costs, but provides a greater return on the investment for the future.

Vote "Yes" to assure quality education and facilities for all kids now and into their future.

**Statement submitted by:** Ryan Anderson and Kelly McDonald yesforauburnschools@comcast.net

### **Explanatory statement**

Passage of proposition No. 1 will authorize Auburn School District to borrow \$110,000,000 by issuing general obligation bonds. In accordance with Resolution No. 1159 approving this proposition, the bonds will pay for reconstructing Auburn High School, including modernizing its Performing Arts Center and Automotive Technology building, modernizing and improving the site and undertaking facilities upgrades to address educational program needs, safety improvements and asset preservation projects. The bonds would be repaid out of annual property tax levies over a period of 20 years. The exact amount of such annual levies for these bonds would depend on the amount of principal paid each year and on the interest rates available at the time the bonds are sold.

### Statement in opposition

No statement submitted.

### King County Fire Protection District No. 20

King County Elections is not responsible for the validity or accuracy of the statements, arguments or rebuttals.

### Proposition No. 1 Levy of General Tax for Maintenance and Operations

The Board of King County Fire Protection District No. 20 adopted Resolution No. 2012-007, concerning a proposition to finance maintenance and operation costs.

This proposition provides for the support of fire protection and emergency medical services, facilities, maintenance, staffing and operations by authorizing the levy of the following excess taxes as specified in Resolution No. 2012-007:

	Approximate Levy	
Collection	Rate/\$1,000	Levy
<u>Years</u>	Assessed Value	<u>Amount</u>
2013	\$ .60	\$ 650,000.00
2014	\$ .60	\$ 650,000.00
2015	\$ .90	\$ 850,000.00
2016	\$ .90	\$ 850,000.00

Should this proposition be approved?



The complete text of this measure is available at the Elections Office or online at www.kingcounty.gov/elections.

### Statement in favor

Fire District 20 (Skyway) continues to provide essential fire, medical and emergency services. Our personnel are the backbone of our high level of service, twenty-four hours a day, throughout the year. A "YES" vote will ensure these services meet increasing demand as our community continues to grow. Homes and large apartment complexes are being built in Skyway resulting in population growth, while property values have decreased. As tax revenues have decreased, Fire District 20's operating costs have continued to rise due to increased service demands. This levy closes that gap by addressing increasing work load and maintenance of response equipment. Our firefighters have always been there when we needed them—now is the time for us to give them our support. Thanks for voting YES, and for caring about our community.

**Statement submitted by:** Donald S. Sorenson, William L. Bowden and Michael Majeed; MichaelMajeed@gmail.com

### **Explanatory statement**

If approved by the voters, the Fire District will be authorized to levy a maintenance and operations excess levy in the sum of \$650,000.00 per year to be collected in 2013 and 2014 and \$850,000.00 per year to be collected in 2015 and 2016. Such levy will be in addition to the District's regular tax levies for a temporary four year period. Based on current assessed property valuations the District estimates that the tax levy rate necessary to generate these funds in 2013 and 2014 will be approximately \$.60 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation and approximately \$.90 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation in 2015 and 2016. The estimated levy rates will decrease if assessed property values increase during this period.

The costs of providing fire prevention, fire suppression and emergency medical services have increased because of specialized equipment, personnel training, supplies and reporting required by county, state and federal regulations. With declining assessed property values resulting in decreased revenue, the District will not be able to maintain adequate staffing and service levels provided within the limitations of the District's regular tax levy. This maintenance and operations levy will provide the funds necessary to retain firefighters and maintain service levels.

If the levy is approved, the additional maximum tax per \$100,000 assessed valuation is estimated not to exceed \$60.00 per year for the first two years and \$90.00 for the final two years or approximately an additional \$5.00 - \$7.50 per month for fire protection and emergency medical services.

### Statement in opposition

No statement submitted.

### Proposition No. 1 Levy of General Tax for Maintenance and Operations

The Board of King County Fire Protection District No. 45 adopted Resolution No. 368, concerning a proposition to adequately finance maintenance and operation costs.

This proposition provides for the support of fire protection and emergency medical services, facilities, maintenance, staffing and operations by authorizing the District to levy excess taxes in the amount of \$750,000 per year for four consecutive years beginning in 2012 to be collected in each year following at an approximate levy rate of \$.53 per thousand of assessed valuation (the actual rate will be based on assessed values).

Should this proposition be approved?

$\bigcirc$	Yes
$\bigcirc$	No

The complete text of this measure is available at the Elections Office or online at www.kingcounty.gov/elections.

#### Statement in favor

KCFD 45 is seeking voter approval of a Maintenance and Operations Levy of \$750,000 annually to maintain service levels despite catastrophic losses in revenue. This equals approximately \$0.53/1000 of valuation in 2013. A home valued at \$300,000 will see an increase of \$159.60 per year or \$13.29 per month. This is necessary because local assessed valuation (AV) of property has decreased 35% since 2008; resulting in a cumulative revenue loss of \$750,000. Up to now, the District absorbed losses through a collective use of reserve funds, the loss of a firefighter position (through attrition), and program and staffing cuts to the point that service levels (personnel) are the only viable options for additional reductions. With the uncertainty of the economy, there is not any immediate relief anticipated.

Without your help, the capabilities of the District will be reduced significantly. By the end of 2013, forced layoffs will cut available staffing. Fewer available personnel will cause delays in fire and rescue operations and eliminate the District's ability to transport patients to the hospital; resulting in longer response and transport times by private ambulances (that charge for their service). Continued losses in revenue will lead to deeper cuts in personnel and service.

Statement submitted by: Rick Webber, Sean Ansell and Kelly Gattone 425-327-3054

### **Explanatory statement**

If approved by the voters, the District will be authorized to levy a maintenance and operations excess levy in the sum of \$750,000 dollars per year for a period of four years. Such levy will be in addition to the District's regular and EMS tax levies for a temporary four year period. Based on current assessed valuations the District estimates that the tax levy rate necessary to generate these funds in 2013 will be approximately \$.53 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation. In subsequent years the levy rate will decrease if assessed values increase.

The cost of operating a fire department that provides fire prevention, fire protection and emergency medical services has increased because of the specialized equipment, personnel training and supplies now required and by state and federal regulations. With the declining assessed values in the District, the District is not able to maintain adequate staffing and service levels provided within the limitations of the District's regular tax levy. This maintenance and operations levy will provide the funds necessary to retain firefighters and maintain service levels.

If the levy is approved, the maximum tax per \$100,000 assessed valuation is estimated not to exceed \$53.20 each year or approximately an additional \$4.43 per month for fire protection and emergency medical services.

### Statement in opposition

No statement submitted.

### Proposition No. 1 One-Year Operations and Maintenance Levy

The Board of Directors of Si View Metropolitan Park District adopted Resolution No. 2012-03 concerning a proposition for basic safety, maintenance and operations. This proposition would maintain current funding for operations, facilities and programs, including the Si View Community Center and Pool, parks, playfields, playgrounds, sports programs, trails, adult programming, summer camps, and after-school recreation programs for youth and teens, by authorizing the District to levy a one-year excess property tax levy on all taxable property within the District at an approximate rate of \$0.27/\$1,000 of assessed value to provide \$527,719, to be collected in 2013.

Should this proposition be approved?

Yes
No

The complete text of this measure is available at the Elections Office or

### Statement in favor

online at www.kingcounty.gov/elections.

No statement submitted.

Statements in favor of and in opposition to a ballot measure are submitted by committees appointed by the jurisdiction. No persons came forward to serve on the committee and to write a statement in favor. If you would like to be involved with a committee in the future please contact the jurisdiction.

### **Explanatory statement**

The Si View Metropolitan Park District's current property tax levy funds the basic safety, ongoing maintenance and day-to-day operations of park facilities and recreation programs, including the Si View Community Center and Pool, parks, playfields, playgrounds, sports programs, trails, adult programming, summer camps, and after-school recreation programs for youth and teens. Proposition 1 is intended to help maintain – not increase – current levels of funding and services. Local revenues in the District have declined significantly in recent years. Last year voters in the District approved a one-year operations and maintenance levy for 2012 that is scheduled to expire on December 31, 2012. Proposition 1 would authorize the District to levy a one-year excess property tax for collection in 2013 on all taxable property within the District in an approximate rate of \$0.27 per \$1,000 of assessed value. If Proposition 1 is not passed by voters, local funding will be reduced by approximately 51 percent in 2013 (approximately \$527,719) and major cuts will be required in the day-to-day operations, recreational programs, basic safety, and on-going maintenance of Si View Community Center and Pool, parks and facilities. Proposition 1 is a one-year operations and maintenance levy that will help maintain the current level of District funding and services.

### Statement in opposition

No statement submitted.

### Proposition No. 1 Proposed Annexation to the City of Burien

Shall that area of unincorporated King County known as the North Highline Area "Y" Annexation Area as legally described in City of Burien Resolution No. 330 be annexed to the City of Burien?

$\bigcirc$	For annexation
$\bigcirc$	Against annexation

The complete text of this measure is available at the Elections Office or online at www.kingcounty.gov/elections.

#### Statement in favor

Like our firefighters? Like our libraries? Like our utility services? Like our police?

If so, then VOTE FOR A BRIGHT FUTURE – VOTE **YES** TO ANNEX TO **BURIEN!** 

State law says North Highline cannot stay unincorporated. Burien is the only city that has guaranteed us a vote on annexation.

As Burien residents, we will have our own LOCAL government:

- WE will have a greater voice in OUR future
- WE will have a say about what happens here
- OUR growth will be the way WE want it
- OUR tax dollars will stay in OUR city

Burien provides police service through its contract with the King County Sheriff's Office. Burien will increase the number of officers in our community and keep the White Center Store Front Deputy.

Burien has made substantial improvements in the parks and roads in the recently annexed area. Burien will continue to fight to keep the White Center and Boulevard Park Libraries open.

Vote for Burien...local police and fire...better parks...better services...local libraries...smaller government.

Vote **YES** to Annex to Burien – It's the city to join!!!

Endorsed by North Highline Firefighters.

### Rebuttal of statement in opposition

The CON statement is a CON.

**Annexation is state law**. If we decide not to join Burien, we could become part of Seattle without a vote. In the meantime, King County is reducing services. A survey found that our neighbors who voted in 2009 to join Burien are highly satisfied.

Average taxes will increase \$10 a month for better services.

We keep our schools, firefighters, police, utilities, libraries - all public services.

Vote Yes Burien!

**Statement submitted by:** Barbara Dobkin, Ed Dacy and Liz Giba www.vote4burien.org

### **Explanatory statement**

This proposition seeks voter approval of the annexation into the City of Burien of an area commonly known as the North Highline Area "Y" Annexation Area. The area consists of approximately 2,045 acres and 17,392 residents. The area is generally described as lying north of the corporate boundaries of the City of Burien, south and east of the corporate boundaries of the City of Seattle, and west of SR-99 adjacent to the City of Tukwila and the City of Tukwila corporate boundaries. The area is legally described in City of Burien Resolution No. 330.

This proposition will be deemed approved, if a majority of the votes cast by voters in the proposed annexation area are in favor of the annexation. If the annexation is approved, the City Council will determine the effective date of the annexation. Upon the annexation's effective date, all property within the annexation area will be taxed at the same rate and on the same basis as other property within the City of Burien. Local public services currently provided by King County will be provided by the City of Burien. Services currently provided by special purpose districts will continue to be provided by those districts.

### Statement in opposition

Vote NO on annexation-Retain your independence. If you don't join Burien, it does not mean you will be forced to join Seattle. This ballot measure is about whether to pay over \$400 more to Burien in taxes yearly or stay unincorporated King County. Annexation to Burien will increase/ add seven new Burien taxes or fees for residents and businesses (B&O taxes, property taxes, utility and cable taxes, permit fees, underground wiring and fire levies), with no increase in services. Burien land use and zoning changes and ordinances will negatively impact your neighborhood. Burien has parking tickets and requires permits to trim your trees. Burien doesn't have the money to provide more services than what is currently provided by King County. No increase in police or fire and Sales Tax Credits will only cover the cost of police service. Burien does not have the \$77 million needed to improve and maintain roads, sidewalks, or parks. Human services-such as refugee and job services, homeless and senior services-will be reduced. King County Animal Control and medical marijuana dispensaries will be eliminated. If you join Burien, you will get no added services or representation for your increased taxes.

Vote NO on Burien annexation.

### Rebuttal of statement in favor

<u>Vote NO</u>. Stay with King County and keep our firefighters, police, utilities, local business center and libraries just as they are. Burien annexation will increase our taxes and reduce our services. Any informed person knows the pro annexation claims that we will get our own local government are incorrect and misleading. Burien is broke and looking to the short term sales tax credit from North Highline as a quick bailout. <u>Vote NO on Burien annexation</u>.

**Statement submitted by:** Debi Wagner, Peter Levine and Don Malo www.independentwhitecenter.com

### Proposed West Hill Annexation Area

King County Elections is not responsible for the validity or accuracy of the statements, arguments or rebuttals.

### Proposition No. 1 Proposed Annexation to the City of Renton

Shall that area of unincorporated King County known as the West Hill Annexation Area as legally described in City of Renton Resolution Nos. 4061 and 4125 be annexed to the City of Renton?

$\bigcirc$	For annexation
$\bigcirc$	Against annexation

The complete text of this measure is available at the Elections Office or online at www.kingcounty.gov/elections.

#### Statement in favor

West Hill is one of six urban unincorporated areas in King County and includes Skyway, Panorama, Bryn Mawr, Lakeridge, Campbell Hill, Skycrest and Hill Top.

It is increasingly difficult for King County with shrinking revenues to deliver services to urban unincorporated areas. Maintaining mandated services like fire and police while providing a safety net and facilitating economic development is difficult given federal and state budget cuts. Over the years, West Hill has been plagued by economic deterioration and an escalation of crime, while nearby incorporated areas have had visible economic and service improvements. Uncertainty concerning governance of West Hill continues to distance investors.

What the West Hill community needs requires long-term planning. It needs a comprehensive action plan to guide future development. To achieve economic recovery, a partnership with elected officials and residents is necessary to craft a vision, goals and objectives and create a process for implementation efforts. West Hill as part of the City of Renton would represent about 16% of Renton's entire population; it is only about 5 thousandths of 1% of King County's population. Join Senators Kline and Prentice, Representatives Maxwell and Hasegawa, and 11th LD Democrats who support Annexation. Vote Yes!

### Rebuttal of statement in opposition

Now is the time for Annexation! Vital services have already been reduced. King County is concentrated on services to rural areas. West Hill is an urban area. Renton is working with King County to bridge the funding gaps; efforts include:

- Direct annexation funding support
- · Expansion of State sales tax credit
- Allowing utility tax to benefit tax paying area
- State capital budget funding
- Grant funding
- Staffing the Fire Station with career firefighters

**Statement submitted by:** Celeste DaVault, Marc Nordlund and Dian Ferguson; www.WestHillYes.com

### **Explanatory statement**

If this Proposition is approved by the voters, the area known as the "West Hill Annexation Area" could become part of the City of Renton. The exact date that annexation would be effective would be established by the Renton City Council. The City will provide municipal services including police protection, emergency response and fire services, street and storm drainage facility operation, construction and maintenance, traffic management, building and land use permitting, parks and recreation, and neighborhood and economic development programs. Services currently provided that will not change because of annexation include: the Renton School District; Skyway Water and Sewer District; King County Library System;. The local garbage collector will remain Waste Management, although rates and services may change and garbage collection will be mandatory. Upon annexation, all property within the annexation area will be subject to City comprehensive planning and zoning as determined through an open public process prior to the annexation's effective date. Property within the annexation area will not be required to assume the City's existing voting indebtedness, and upon annexation, would be assessed and taxed on the same basis and at the same rate as property within Renton.

The West Hill Potential Annexation Area is approximately 1,857 acres, generally bounded on the north by Rainier Avenue; on the west generally along the Burlington Northern Railroad line (in the vicinity of I-5); on the south along Martin Luther King Junior Way and SW Sunset Highway; and the existing City of Renton to the east.

### Statement in opposition

Under annexation, our vital services will be reduced. Our Fire District goes away and service reduced from nine firefighters, an aid car, and two trucks to three fire fighters and one truck. Decisions on fire service are not made by our directly elected board, but only in the interest of Renton. Police patrols are decreased, with only two units covering a larger area from a less resourced department. Do not be influenced by the claim that not annexing will reduce services; King County won't leave us without services.

New utility taxes mean we pay more. There is no assurance that services like roads, water management, or code enforcement will be any better than now.

Increased taxes result in no benefit to West Hill. The proponents promise funds to magically invigorate our businesses districts but Renton doesn't even have the funding to make any improvements to their existing neighborhoods. Estimated tax losses for Renton under annexation are \$2 million yearly.

Annexation would be irrevocable; we cannot take it back if it doesn't work. Annexation is not inevitable; we can say NO. We should make a change only if it is in OUR BEST interest. It is not.

VOTE NO ON ANNEXATION.

Statement submitted by: Paul Berry, Charlene Noll and Erika Tedin pnberry1@earthlink.net

#### Rebuttal of statement in favor

No rebuttal submitted.

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### Full text of Ordinance No. 17381



AN ORDINANCE providing for the submission to the qualified electors of King County at a special election to be held in King County on November 6, 2012, of a proposition to support continuation of the regional automated fingerprint identification system program by renewing and replacing authorization of an expiring property tax levy in excess of the levy limitation contained in chapter 84.55 RCW, for a consecutive six-year period, at a first year rate of not more than \$0.0592 per one thousand dollars of assessed valuation for collection beginning in 2013, with subsequent maximum levy collections being increased by the greater of one percent or the percentage increase in the consumer price index as long as that amount does not exceed three percent, for the purpose of funding the continued operation of the regional automated fingerprint identification system and related technology and services, which expand crime scene and arrest identification capabilities for all criminal justice agencies in King County.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

### SECTION 1. Findings:

- A. To expand and enhance upon the limited identification services provided by individual city agencies or at the state level, in 1986 the voters of King County approved funding for the purchase of a shared regional automated fingerprint identification system ("AFIS") computer which matches unknown fingerprints to known fingerprints. King County's AFIS database holds over seven hundred thousand fingerprint records, over three hundred thousand palmprint records and approximately thirty-six thousand unidentified crime scene fingerprints. The King County AFIS is a regional system with service available to every city and unincorporated area in King County.
  - B. The AFIS computer is used for two primary purposes:
- To quickly identify arrested individuals, and prevent the wrongful release of those who use false names to evade arrest warrants or hide criminal records; and
- 2. To search fingerprints and palmprints collected from crime scenes to identify unknown suspects and aid in convictions.
- C. The county first purchased the shared AFIS computer after the voters of King County approved a property tax levy for that purpose in November 1986. The ballot measure was authorized by Ordinance 7747. The technology at the time did not include palmprint searching. Since 1986, the voters of King County have continued to endorse this service by approving renewal property tax levies ranging from \$0.0200 to \$0.0665 per one thousand dollars of assessed valuation to support, expand, and enhance AFIS services as needed. The levy history is as follows:
- 1. Five-year renewal levy approved in November 1990. The ballot measure was authorized by Ordinance 9603;
- 2. Five-year renewal levy approved in November 1995. The ballot measure was authorized by Ordinance 11948;
- 3. Five-year renewal levy approved in September 2000. The ballot measure was authorized by Ordinance 13894. Through careful fiscal management, the county accumulated a fund balance, which sustained AFIS program operations through 2006 without a concurrent property tax levy; and
- 4. Six-year renewal levy approved in September 2006. The ballot measure was authorized by Ordinance 15537. Again, careful fiscal management accumulated a fund balance, which this time was returned to taxpayers through reduced levy rates in 2011 and 2012.
- D. The 1986 AFIS computer, partially updated in 1999, was completely replaced with a new system in 2011. This new system introduced palmprint searching for the first time in King County, and has improved matching capabilities and increased storage capacity. Since its installation, nineteen identifications have been made on cold cases and from palmprints left at crime scenes.
- E. On December 31, 2012, the 2006 AFIS levy, which was adopted at a rate of \$0.0568 per one thousand dollars of assessed valuation, will

expire. This ordinance proposes a renewed AFIS levy at a rate of \$0.0592 per one thousand dollars of assessed valuation starting in 2013. Without renewed revenue, funding for this program will run out in June 2013, ceasing operations.

- F. Large cities and metropolitan areas around the country have realized great benefit from having their own AFIS technology. King County is one of only two counties in the state of Washington with its own AFIS computer, and it is the only county with a shared regional model that provides services to all local law enforcement agencies. King County owns the only palmprint database in the state. It is larger than the one used by Washington State Patrol, although King County AFIS staff have the ability to search that database as well. The AFIS program has made one hundred eighty palmprint 'hits' or identifications since the 2011 implementation of the new AFIS computer. In 2011, the AFIS program searched more than seventy-four thousand fingerprint records and processed almost nineteen thousand pieces of evidence. The program identified almost four thousand latent crime scene prints, and over seven hundred thirty individuals who had given false names when arrested.
- G. King County's AFIS program is proven as essential to law enforcement, and is recognized for its exceptional service. The program's regional model has provided excellent and effective crime-solving support to all the criminal justice agencies in King County since its inception in 1988. The current AFIS program provides for many shared services, including:
  - 1. The purchase, maintenance, and staff operation of the AFIS computer;
- 2. The purchase, maintenance, training and support for forty-eight Livescans, which are devices installed at thirty-five law enforcement agencies throughout King County for the purpose of collecting better quality prints and transmitting them electronically for a faster and more efficient response;
- 3. The collection of high quality fingerprints in county jail facilities, and fingerprint examiners available twenty-four hours a day and seven days a week, for the quick identification of arrested individuals;
- 4. Examiners who collect prints from crime scenes, process them chemically and photographically for better clarity, search them in AFIS, and make identifications of unknown potential suspects or store the unidentified prints for continual search as new records are added to the system; and
- 5. Training on fingerprint collection and crime scene processing, and customer support for all law enforcement agencies.
- H. The AFIS program has met all goals set forth in the current levy, well below the budget projections made in 2006. Some of these goals included:
- 1. Procurement, implementation, and support of a new AFIS, replacing the twenty-year-old original system with a more efficient and effective model capable of both fingerprint and palmprint searching and storage;
- 2. Purchase of additional criminal Livescan fingerprint capture stations, and upgrade of image resolution for print clarity, at high volume sites; and
- A pilot for remote hand-held fingerprint capture devices that allow officers to search the regional AFIS from the field, and a study on the benefits and impacts of fingerprint capture stations in the courts.
- I. With the oversight of the AFIS advisory committee, the AFIS program has prepared a new six-year financial and operational plan. The recommended levy maintains current services, streamlines staffing, and replaces an aging regional laboratory, all at a rate that is less than the voters passed in 2006. It also identifies several areas of reductions and efficiencies. The financial plan includes:
- A reduction of eleven positions and other savings equating to approximately \$6.75 million over six years, with no corresponding reduction in services. This was achieved by identifying efficiencies and refining staffing models;
- Continued support for the remote fingerprinting initiatives started under the 2007-2012 levy; and

### Full text of Ordinance No. 17381

- 3. Replacement of the county's latent processing lab, which is substantially undersized to handle the volume of work it supports. The new lab will provide more space to allow different chemical processes to be performed separately and simultaneously without concerns of cross-contamination. It will also address safety concerns that are present in the current laboratory, which resides in an outdated building.
- J. The AFIS program produces publicly available annual reports that provide status updates on program initiatives and accomplishments. The success of the regional AFIS program has been a result of regular collaboration with law enforcement agencies across King County.
- K. Under state law, a levy lid lift is limited to a maximum term of six years if the levy provides for a specified index to be used to determine the limit factor. The proposed levy is limited to six years.

<u>SECTION 2.</u> **Definitions.** The definitions in this section apply throughout this ordinance unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

- A. "AFIS" means automated fingerprint identification system.
- B. "AFIS computer" means the automated fingerprint identification system, which is the computer system that utilizes AFIS as its foundation, and through modular design incorporates other databases of criminal identification records, and related equipment, technology, networks, and interfaces employed by trained staff for capturing, storing, and comparing criminal identification records based on friction ridge analysis, or successor technology.
- C. "AFIS program" means the acquisition, implementation, maintenance and operation of the regional AFIS computer. It also means the countywide effort of trained personnel who, through fingerprints, palmprints, and other identification methods: identify detained persons; identify suspects of crimes from fingerprints and palmprints left on evidence at crime scenes; assist in the conviction of criminals through identifying this crime scene evidence; train law enforcement on crime scene evidence collection and identification methods; support accurate and complete criminal history records; conduct field research aimed at improving and enhancing program services; and otherwise enhance public safety as consistent with this ordinance and permitted by law.
- D. "Levy" means the levy of regular property taxes, for the specific purpose and term provided in this ordinance and authorized by the electorate in accordance with state law.
- E. "Levy proceeds" means the principal amount of funds raised by the levy, any interest earnings on the funds and the proceeds of any interim financing following authorization of the levy.
- F. "Limit factor" means the greater of one percent or the percentage increase in the consumer price index as long as that amount does not exceed three percent. The consumer price index is defined as the ratio of the most recent June Consumer Price Index to the immediately previous June Consumer Price Index (final published CPI-W Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton, as calculated by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, or its successor) expressed as a multiple of one hundred percent to achieve the result of one hundred percent plus inflation.

SECTION 3. Levy submittal to voters. To provide necessary funds for the AFIS program, the King County council shall submit to the qualified electors of the county a proposition to renew and replace an expiring levy and authorize a regular property tax levy in excess of the levy limitation contained in chapter 84.55 RCW for six consecutive years, commencing in 2012, with collection beginning in 2013, at a rate in this first year not to exceed \$0.0592 per one thousand dollars of assessed value, with subsequent years limited by the limit factor as defined in section 2 of this ordinance.

<u>SECTION 4.</u> **Deposit of levy proceeds.** All levy proceeds collected as authorized in this ordinance shall be deposited into and retained in a designated AFIS fund.

<u>SECTION 5.</u> **Eligible expenditures.** If approved by the qualified electors of the county, all proceeds of the levy authorized in this ordinance shall be used

to pay the costs of the regional AFIS program, together with the necessary software and hardware operations and maintenance expenses. Eligible expenditures include the salaries, benefits, training, office and laboratory supplies and equipment, work space, contracted goods and services, related studies and research, administration and other costs incidental to the operation and enhancement of the regional AFIS program. Work space expenditures may include the lease or rental of property, or the purchase of land and any construction or tenant improvements needed to house AFIS program technology, staff, or laboratory functions.

Eligible expenditures shall also include non-bonded debt and finance costs and the reimbursement of extraordinary expenditures incurred by the county after the effective date of this ordinance with regard to the AFIS program.

The AFIS levy is intended as supplemental funding to provide expanded crime scene and arrest identification technology and services on a regional basis. This levy shall not at any time provide general criminal justice funding or fund programs or purposes not otherwise consistent with this ordinance.

SECTION 6. Call for special election. In accordance with RCW 29A.04.321, the King County council hereby calls for a special election to be held in conjunction with the general election on November 6, 2012. The King County director of elections shall cause notice to be given of this ordinance in accordance with the state constitution and general law and to submit to the qualified electors of the county, at the said special county election, the proposition hereinafter set forth. The clerk of the council shall certify that proposition to the King County director of elections in substantially the following form, with such modifications as may be required by the prosecuting attorney:

The King County council has passed Ordinance \_\_\_\_ concerning this proposition for the automated fingerprint identification system (AFIS) levy. This proposition would replace an expiring levy and fund continued operation of the regional AFIS program, which provides enhanced forensic fingerprint and palmprint technology and services to identify criminals and aid in convictions. It would authorize King County to levy an additional property tax of \$0.0592 (5.92 cents) per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2013 and annual increases by the percentage increase in the consumer price index or 1%, whichever is greater, with a maximum increase of 3%, for the five succeeding years. Should this proposition be:

Approved [ ] Rejected [ ]

<u>SECTION 7.</u> **AFIS advisory committee extension.** If the levy is approved by the voters in accordance with section 6 of this ordinance, the AFIS advisory committee previously authorized by the voters shall be retained to review AFIS operations and expenditures and make recommendations concerning the AFIS program.

<u>SECTION 8.</u> **Ratification.** Certification of the proposition by the clerk of the King County council to the director of elections in accordance with law before the election on November 6, 2012, and any other act consistent with the authority and before the effective date of this ordinance are hereby ratified and confirmed.

<u>SECTION 9.</u> **Severability.** If any provision of this ordinance or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the ordinance or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

Ordinance 17381 was introduced on 6/18/2012 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 7/23/2012, by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague, Ms. Patterson, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Dunn and Mr. McDermott

No: 0

Excused: 1 - Mr. Phillips

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### Full text of Ordinance No. 123922



AN ORDINANCE relating to the Alaskan Way Seawall Replacement Project; providing for the submission to the voters of the City, at an election to be held on November 6, 2012, of a proposition authorizing the City to issue general obligation bonds to pay costs related to the design, construction, renovation, improvement and replacement of the Alaskan Way seawall and associated public infrastructure; the principal of and interest on such bonds to be payable from annual property tax levies to be made in excess of regular property tax levies; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts.

WHEREAS, the existing Alaskan Way seawall is seriously deteriorated due to aging components and materials, the tidal forces of Elliott Bay, and marine borer damage, with approximately 50 percent of the existing wall currently damaged; and

WHEREAS, the Seawall is not designed to withstand earthquakes and there is a one in ten chance in the next ten years of an earthquake that would lead to liquefaction and Seawall failure; and

WHEREAS, failure of the Seawall would severely disrupt public transportation and commerce, and could lead to widespread property damage, injury and loss of life, thus, a replacement Seawall is essential both to public safety and to the local and regional economy; and

WHEREAS, a properly designed and built Seawall is expected to protect the City and its residents and workers for the next 100 years; and

WHEREAS, the engineering and design for the Seawall replacement project (also known as the Elliott Bay Seawall Project) has now advanced to the 35 percent stage where cost estimates and timelines for construction have been reasonably established; and

WHEREAS, Pier 58 is seismically vulnerable and the structural deficiencies of Piers 62/63 have forced the City to significantly limit activities on the piers in order to protect public safety; and

WHEREAS, reconstruction of the pilings and decks of Piers 58 and 62/63 can be efficiently completed while Seawall construction occurs thereby reducing disruption to waterfront businesses and activities; and

WHEREAS, the costs of replacing the Seawall, restoring the Piers and making the other infrastructure repairs that are essential to public safety exceed the funding available from existing City revenue sources; and

WHEREAS, Seattle's central waterfront is a unique asset of our community and replacement of the Seawall will ensure that Alaskan Way can be rebuilt on time as part of the Alaskan Way Viaduct Replacement Program and that the necessary structural foundation and seismic protection will be in place for the soon-to-be-redeveloped Alaskan Way recreational, cultural, social, and economic improvements; NOW, THEREFORE,

### BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:

<u>Section 1</u>. If approved by voters, the City is authorized to issue bonds to fund a portion of the costs related to the design, construction, renovation, improvement and replacement of the Alaskan Way seawall and associated public facilities and infrastructure, including City-owned waterfront piers (collectively, the "Project").

Section 2. The City shall incur indebtedness and borrow an amount not to exceed \$290,000,000 on the credit of the City and issue and sell its general obligation bonds or other evidences of indebtedness, which may include but are not limited to, lease obligations ("Bonds"), in an amount not to exceed that principal amount for strictly municipal capital purpose, other than the replacement of equipment, to provide all or part of the funds for the Project. Costs of environmental, engineering, design, architectural, planning, consulting, project and construction management, construction, inspection, testing, financial, audit, legal and other services lawfully incurred incident to the Project, completion of a feasibility study for the Alaskan Way seawall, repayment with interest of interfund loans for project

expenses, costs of issuance (including election costs) and sale of the Bonds, administrative, permit, relocation and mitigation expenses, site and right of way improvement, demolition, road improvement, and other similar activities or purposes, and an apportionment equal to one percent (1%) of estimated construction expenditures on the Project upon public works for art pursuant to Seattle Municipal Code Section 20.32.030, shall be appropriate capital costs to be paid from the proceeds of the Bonds authorized by this ordinance.

The City Council declares that to the extent, if any, the City prior to the date that Bonds or other short-term obligations are issued to finance the Project shall make capital expenditures for the Project from funds that are not (and are not reasonably expected to be) reserved, allocated on a long-term basis or otherwise set aside by the City under its existing and reasonably foreseeable budgetary and financial circumstances to finance the Project, those capital expenditures are intended to be reimbursed out of proceeds of the Bonds or other short-term obligations issued in an amount not to exceed the principal amount authorized by this ordinance.

Section 3. The City shall seek supplemental, matching or additional funds from other sources to pay all or part of the cost of the Project or any component thereof. If the Project shall have been completed and Bond proceeds remain unexpended, then those proceeds may be applied to costs of other waterfront improvements or infrastructure construction, repair or replacement, or to the payment of debt service on Bonds, all as determined by ordinance. Should the funds, including the Bond proceeds, available for the Project be insufficient to complete the Project, the City may delay completion of all or any element of the Project until adequate funding is available, or may eliminate any element.

Section 4. The Bonds shall be issued in one or more series, or as part of a combined issue or issues with other authorized bonds, and shall be issued within ten years of the date of voter approval of the Bonds. The Bonds also may evidence a line or lines of credit. The Bonds shall bear interest (which may be fixed or variable) payable as permitted by law; may mature serially or as term bonds with the longest maturities being within 30 years from their date or within any shorter period fixed by ordinance; and shall be issued and sold in the manner, at the times and in the amounts as shall be determined by or pursuant to ordinance. The exact date, form, terms, options of prior redemption, price, interest rate or rates and maturities of the Bonds and pledges and covenants shall be fixed by or pursuant to ordinance. The Bonds shall be paid by annual property tax levies sufficient in amount to pay both principal and interest when due, which annual property tax levies shall be made in excess of regular property tax levies without limitation as to rate or amount but only in amounts sufficient to pay both principal and interest when due.

Pending issuance of the Bonds and receipt of their proceeds, the City may authorize the issuance of short-term obligations pursuant to chapter 39.50 RCW, and the costs of those short-term obligations shall be included in the cost of the Project for which the Bonds are issued.

Section 5. City Audit Participation. Within sixty (60) days after the end of each Fiscal Year, the City Auditor shall arrange for an audit to examine whether the public revenues, grants, fees, bond proceeds and City funds received during the preceding Fiscal Year were used for the purposes described in Section 1 of this act. City departments shall make available all information reasonably necessary for the City Auditor to perform such audits. The City Auditor shall deliver to the Director of SDOT and the Chair of the City Council's Budget Committee an original, signed copy of each such annual audit by the earlier of (a) thirty (30) days after the completion of such audit or (b) 180 days after the end of the Fiscal Year covered by such audit.

<u>Section 6.</u> The City Council requests that the Director of Records and Elections of King County, Washington, as ex officio Superior of Elections,

### Full text of Ordinance No. 123922

conduct a special election in the City in conjunction with the special election to be held on November 6, 2012, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors of the City for their approval the question of whether or not the City shall be authorized to borrow money in an amount not to exceed \$290,000,000, issue its general obligation bonds or other evidences of indebtedness in that principal amount only for capital purposes other than replacement of equipment, and levy the excess taxes necessary to pay and retire the Bonds as herein set forth.

<u>Section 7.</u> The City Council directs that the City Clerk file this ordinance with the Director of Elections of King County, Washington, as ex officio supervisor of elections, requesting that the Director of Elections call and conduct a special election in the City to be held on November 6, 2012, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors of the City the proposition set forth in this ordinance. The City Clerk is directed to certify to the King County Director of Elections the ballot title approved by the City Attorney in accordance with his responsibilities under RCW 29A.26.071. The following ballot title is submitted to the City attorney for his consideration:

PROPOSITION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS - \$290,000,000

(ALASKAN WAY SEAWALL)

The City Council of the City of Seattle, Washington, passed Ordinance \_\_\_\_\_ concerning funding the Alaskan Way seawall replacement and associated waterfront infrastructure.

This proposition would address public safety risks and seismic hazards by authorizing the City to incur costs related to the design, construction, renovation, improvement and replacement of the Alaskan Way seawall and associated public facilities and infrastructure, including City-owned waterfront piers; issue no more than \$290,000,000 of general obligation bonds maturing within 30 years; and levy annual excess property taxes to repay the bonds, all as provided in Ordinance

Should this proposition be:

Approved

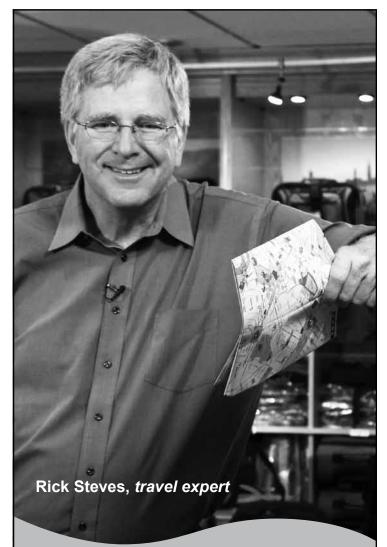
Rejected

<u>Section 8</u>. The Mayor and the Director of Finance of the City and each of the other appropriate officers of the City are each authorized and directed to do everything as in their judgment may be necessary, appropriate or desirable in order to carry out the terms and provisions of, and complete the transactions contemplated by, this ordinance.

Section 9. The provisions of this ordinance are declared to be separate and severable. If a court of competent jurisdiction, all appeals having been exhausted or all appeal periods having run, finds any provision of this ordinance to be invalid or unenforceable as to any person or circumstance, such offending provision shall, if feasible, be deemed to be modified to be within the limits of enforceability or validity. However, if the offending provision cannot be so modified, it shall be null and void with respect to the particular person or circumstance, and all other provisions of this ordinance in all other respects, and the offending provision with respect to all other persons and all other circumstances, shall remain valid and enforceable.

<u>Section 10</u>. Any action taken consistent with the authority of this ordinance, after its passage but prior to the effective date, is ratified, approved and confirmed.

<u>Section 11</u>. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its approval by the Mayor or, if not approved and returned by the Mayor within ten days after presentation, then on the 11<sup>th</sup> day after its presentation to the Mayor or, if vetoed by the Mayor, then immediately upon its passage over his veto.



Following directions gets me where I need to go. Same thing when I vote.

Be an informed voter!

Follow the directions and get your ballot back early.

### **Ballot measure contact information**

If you have questions regarding the measures on your ballot you can contact the district proposing the measure at the information provided below.

at the information provided below.		
King County Proposition No. 1	Carol Gillespie Regional AFIS Manager	206-296-7515 carol.gillespie@kingcounty.gov
City of Black Diamond Proposition No. 1	Pete Butkus Interim City Administrator	360-886-5700 pbutkus@ci.blackdiamond.wa.us
City of Kent Proposition No. 1	Michelle Wilmot Community & Public Affairs Manager	253-856-5709 mwilmot@kentwa.gov
City of Kirkland Proposition No. 1	Ray Steiger Director, Public Works	425-587-3800 rsteiger@kirklandwa.gov
City of Kirkland Proposition No. 2	Jennifer Schroder Director, Parks & Community Services	425-587-3300 jschroder@kirklandwa.gov
City of Mercer Island Proposition No. 1	Noel Treat Deputy City Manager	206-275-7661 noel.treat@mercergov.org
City of Normandy Park Proposition No. 1	Douglas Schulze City Manager	206-248-7603 dougs@ci.normandy-park.wa.us
City of Sammamish Proposition No. 1	Jessi Richardson Parks & Recreation Director	425-295-0500 jrichardson@ci.sammamish.wa.us
City of Seattle Proposition No. 1	Monica Martinez Simmons City Clerk	206-684-8361 monica.simmons@seattle.gov
City of Shoreline Proposition No. 1	Debbie Tarry Assistant City Manager	206-801-2212 dtarry@shorelinewa.gov
City of Snoqualmie Proposition No. 1	Jodi Warren, MMC City Clerk	425-888-1555 x1118 jwarren@ci.snoqualmie.wa.us
Federal Way School District No. 210 Proposition No. 1	Sally D. McLean Assistant Superintendent: Business Services	253-945-2042 smclean@fwps.org
Auburn School District No. 408 Proposition No. 1	Michael Newman Deputy Superintendent	253-931-4930 mnewman@auburn.wednet.edu
King County Fire Protection District No. 20 Proposition No. 1	David Crossen Fire Chief	206-772-1430 dcrossen@kcfd20.org
King County Fire Protection District No. 45 Proposition No. 1	David Burke Fire Chief	425-788-1625 dburke@duvallfire45.com
Si View Metropolitan Park District Proposition No. 1	Travis Stombaugh Executive Director	425-831-1900 tstombaugh@siviewpark.org
Proposed North Highline Area "Y" Annexation Area Proposition No. 1	Mike Martin City Manager	206-248-5508 mikem@burienwa.gov
Proposed West Hill Annexation Area Proposition No. 1	Preeti Shridhar Communications Director	425-430-6569 pshridhar@rentonwa.gov





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### **Local Edition**

You will also receive a voters' pamphlet from the State of Washington

To obtain this pamphlet in an alternate format please contact King County Elections at 206-296-VOTE (8683).

### Voting materials available in Chinese and Vietnamese

To comply with Section 203 of the Federal Voting Rights Act, King County is required to provide voting materials in Chinese and Vietnamese. While Chinese has been required since 2002, Vietnamese was only recently added to King County's required languages. To request voting materials, update your language preference or register to vote, visit www.myvote.wa.gov or call 206-296-VOTE (8683).

Để thực hiện theo Mục 203 của Đạo Luật Liên Bang về Quyền Bỏ Phiếu, Quận King được yêu cầu phải cung cấp các tài liệu bỏ phiếu bằng tiếng Trung Quốc và tiếng Việt. Trong khi tiếng Trung Quốc đã được yêu cầu từ năm 2002, tiếng Việt chỉ mới được thêm vào các ngôn ngữ bắt buộc ở Quận King. Để yêu cầu các tài liệu bầu cử, cập nhật lựa chọn ngôn ngữ của quý vị hoặc đăng ký bỏ phiếu, ghé đến www.myvote.wa.gov hoặc gọi 206-296-VOTE (8683) và bấm số 3.

根據聯邦投票權利法案第203節之要求,金郡需要提供中文和越南文版的選舉資訊。自2002年起,中文已是金郡必須提供的語言,而越南文卻是最近才新增的。欲要索取選舉資訊,更新您的語言選擇或登記投票,請查看網站www.myvote.wa.gov或致電206-296-VOTE(8683),然後按"2"字。

