



CITY OF KIRKLAND
Department of Finance & Administration
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MEMORANDUM

To: Dave Ramsay, City Manager

From: Kathi Anderson, City Clerk

Date: June 25, 2009

Subject: Possible Voted Private Utility Tax Ballot Measure
Voter Pamphlet Statement Pro/Con Committee Appointments

The City Council will hold a public hearing at their July 7, 2009 meeting, and will consider action at subsequent meetings, about whether to place a measure to increase the private utility tax rate on the November General Election ballot. As part of the ballot measure information in the voter pamphlet, the Council must appoint individuals to write statements in favor of, and in opposition to, any ballot measure. On June 25, a press release was issued via newspapers, the City's government cable television channel, website and listservs, for residents to volunteer for these committees, with a deadline of July 2, 2009.

King County Elections' Jurisdiction Manual states that the committees shall have no more than three members. However, a committee may seek the advice of any person or persons. Members shall be appointed from persons know to favor or oppose the measure as appropriate. The committees should each select a spokesperson for that committee. Members of the committees should not be drawn from the legislative authority of the jurisdiction sponsoring the ballot measure, or from members of its staff, in order to avoid any appearance of a conflict of interest. If the jurisdiction is unable to identify persons to serve on either of the committees, the Council must notify King County Elections, detailing efforts made to establish the committees, and they will publish a statement to that effect in the pamphlet.

The committee appointment forms must be submitted no later than August 14, 2009. The committees' statements are due on August 19, 2009. If the Council is not satisfied with any of the submitted names, there is time to extend the recruitment for additional interest and delay the appointments to as late as the Council's meeting in August. If desired, the Council may choose to interview the applicants prior to appointment. The purpose of July appointment is to allow the committees ample time to meet and to construct their arguments.

Applications will be forwarded to Council following the deadline of 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 2nd. Council may make a motion to appoint up to three of the applicants to each appropriate committee at their July 7 meeting, or continue their deliberations or selection process to a subsequent meeting. Following appointments, and if Council's decision is to place the measure on the ballot, the City Clerk will then prepare the appointment form for submittal to King County and contact the individuals to provide them with the information they will need to complete their tasks.