



CITY OF KIRKLAND
Department of Finance & Administration
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MEMORANDUM

To: Dave Ramsay, City Manager

From: Kathi Anderson, City Clerk

Date: July 13, 2009, 2009

Subject: Possible Voted Private Utility Tax Ballot Measure
Voter Pamphlet Statement – Additional Pro Committee Appointment

The City Council held a public hearing at their July 7, 2009 meeting, and will consider action at their July 21, 2009 meeting, 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. As of July 7, 2009 two applications had been received for the Pro committee from Sharon and Tom Sherrard, who were appointed, and a third potential member's intent to apply was noted. The third application has been received and forwarded to Council under separate cover, from Carolyn Hitter.

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 known 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.

Council may make a motion to appoint the third applicant for membership to the Pro committee at their July 21st meeting 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.