## Charter Review Committee 2018-2019

Commission Outreach Plan

## Initial Outreach Structure and Process

Ensure maximum participation of King County residents in the Charter review process.

## Initial Outreach Structure and Process

Prepared and completed by Outreach Subcommittee by 10/ $24 / 18$

- Necessary documents for initial outreach:
- List of groups/ organizations
- Charter 101 presentation
- Demographic presentation
- Charter FAQ
- Introduction letter
- Questions for outreach groups


## Initial Outreach Structure and Process

Initiate 10/ 24/ 18 complete 01/23/ 19

Phase One: Initial Outreach

- Solicit information from diverse groups
- Solicitation packet:
- Background information
- FAQ
- Charter 101

Phase Two: Follow-up

- Initial contact of organizations by Commission within a 2 weeks.
- Additional communication with low resourced groups planned and documented.
- Opportunity for direct feedback.
- Findings are sent to CRC staff.


## Initial Outreach Structure and Process

 Initiate 01/ 23/ 19 complete 02/ 27/ 19Phase Three: Compile Responses

- CRC staff will compile and categorize responses and input receives.
- Trends will likely emerge.

Phase Four: Reevaluation of Respondents

- Reevaluate which populations are represented and which populations are not.
- If necessary, a further round of outreach will be conducted.


## Review of Initial Findings

## Initiate 02/ 27/ 19 complete 03/27/ 19

- As interviews and online tools yield feedback, staff will sort the data into intuitive categories with the goal of helping the CRC to determine areas of common interest.
- Following outreach phase, CRC will review various recommendations and develop an initial set of possible amendments.
- CRC will host three town hall meetings throughout the County, which will serve as an opportunity for the public to comment on CRC work to date.


## Public Review

Initiate 02/27/ 19 complete 03/27/ 19

- Three town hall meetings to review commendations and draft report
- Seattle - North
- South
- East


## Final Report to County Council Delivery Date 05/ 22/ 2019

Delivery date assumes that any proposals will be placed on November 5, 2019 ballot.

##  <br> King County

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION 2018-2019
COMMISSION OUTREACH PLAN

PRESENTED BY: CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION STAFF

## COMMISSION OUTREACH PLAN

COMMISSION OUTREACH DOCUMENTS
The project documents will be updated as needed to reflect the current status of the plan.
COMMISSION OUTREACH DOCUMENTS

| Document | Recipients | Date updated |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Outreach Groups v2 | All Commission | September 25, 2018 |
| Charter 101 | All Commission | September 25, 2018 |
| Demographic Presentation | All Commission | September 25, 2018 |
| FAQ | All Commission | September 25, 2018 |
| Introduction Letter for Outreach | All Commission | September 25, 2018 |
| Questions for Outreach Groups | All Commission | September 25,2018 |

## INITIAL OUTREACH STRUCTURE AND PROCESS

The Charter Review Commission (CRC) has established the attached document titled 'Outreach Groups', dated September 25, 2018 as the list of organizations to be contacted during the initial information gathering phase of the CRC's work. The Commission's goal in conducting this outreach is to establish a base of information from interested parties and those parties not typically included in civic decisionmaking such that the Commission can begin its work of identifying aspects of the County Charter that may be appropriate for amendment.

The Commission will use the following outreach methods to solicit information from the organization and/or individuals identified in the 'Outreach Groups' document:

1. Initial Outreach - Each of the various groups will receive a letter (Document title Introduction Letter for Outreach) from the Charter Review Commission. That letter will include background information about the Charter Review Commission, A notification that they will receive direct contact from one of the Commissioners, a Frequently Asked Questions document, and direction to the Charter Review Commission's website where further background information including the Charter 101 presentation and a list of questions the Commission would like each group to respond to.
2. Phone Call Follow-up - Each Commissioner will conduct outreach to a short list of organizations via telephone. The phone call will, hopefully, serve as an opportunity for that Commissioner to receive direct feedback on specific thoughts and positions from each group. Commissioners should take detailed notes during these conversations and provide that information to County staff who will compile the feedback into a more comprehensive document. At minimum, it serves as an opportunity for direct outreach with the intent to encourage each group to engage in the CRC process.
3. Compilation of Responses - as responses come in either via email or from Commissioner's direct contact with a given organization, County staff will begin to compile and categorize the responses. If this process is similar to the last process, trends will likely emerge.
4. Reevaluation of Responding Groups - prior to finalization of the initial outreach phase, the Commission will reevaluate which groups/organizations are represented and which those that not represented. If necessary, the commission will conduct another round of engagement in an effort to obtain an even more representative sample.

## PUBLIC REVIEW OF INITIAL FINDINGS AND TOWN HALLS

After the initial outreach phase, the Commission will review the various feedback and recommendations collected. Depending on volume and complexity, the Commission may narrow down the larger list of proposals and present an initial set of possible amendments to the public. Once the initial set of potential charter amendments is determined, The Commission will host three town hall meetings throughout the County. Town halls are to take place in different geographic areas of the County and aim to provide an opportunity for the Public to comment and provide feedback on the Commission's work-to-date.

## STAFF ASSIGNMENTS

Once the Commission identifies which methods of outreach will be utilized for each of their efforts, staff will facilitate any necessary scheduling, preparation and documentation of the meetings, as well as consolidation of feedback or proposals received via the outreach phase I process..
Project Name project team

| Name of team | Team leads |
| :--- | :--- |
| Record Keeping | Legislative Clerks (Daly) |
| Online Management | KCIT - Farretta \& Knight |
| In Person Interviews | Nicholson, Hamacher, Knight |
| Focus Groups | Nicholson, Hamacher, Knight |
| Issue Sorting \& Data Mgmt | Hamacher, Nicholson |

## TRACKING AND CONSOLIDATING ISSUES

As interviews and online tools are used to solicit feedback. Staff will attempt to sort the data into intuitive categories with the goal of helping the Commission determine areas of common interest to identify a process for the Commission to start narrowing down areas of interest.
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| Electeds | Lead |
| :---: | :---: |
| KC Executive |  |
| KC Councilmembers |  |
| KC Assessor |  |
| KC Prosecuting Attorney |  |
| KC Elections Director | Alejandra |
| Presiding Judge--Superior Court |  |
| Presiding Judge--District Court |  |
| Mayors/Council from KC Cities |  |
| Sound Cities Association |  |
| Selection of Water \& Sewer District Elected Officials |  |
| Selection of Special Purpose District Elected Officials (KCLS, Fire districts) |  |
| KC Sheriff |  |
| Port of Seattle |  |
| Additional Committees/Officers Per Nixon Email |  |
| King County Agricultural Commission |  |
|  |  |
| Organized Labor Representatives |  |
| Amalgamated Transit Union |  |
| Teamsters 117, 174, 763 |  |
| Public Safety Guilds (KCSO, Corrections, Public Defenders) |  |
| SEIU 925 |  |
| IFPTE Local 17 |  |
| Washington State Council of City and County Local 2 |  |
| Joint Crafts Council |  |
| IBEW Local 17 |  |
| IAFF 2595 |  |
| Technical Employees Association |  |
| Washington State Nurses Association |  |
| King County Labor Council | Alejandra |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| Civic Organizations, Business \& Transportation Organizations |  |
| Municipal League | Alejandra |
| League of Women Voters |  |
| Downtown Seattle Association (County Campus) |  |
| Washington Conservation Voters | Alejandra |
| League of Education Voters |  |
| Washington Coalition for Open Government |  |
| Washington Newspaper Publishers Association |  |
| Greater Seattle Business Association (GSBA) |  |
| Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce |  |
| All Aboard Washington |  |
| The Seattle Foundation | Alejandra |
| Transportation Choices Coalition |  |
| Urban League |  |
| East King County Chambers Coalition |  |


| King County Bar Association |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Seattle-King County Realtors Association |  |
| King-Pierce Farm Bureau |  |
| KC Master Builders |  |
| Allied Daily Newspapers of Washington |  |
| PSRC |  |
| Sound Transit |  |
| Cascade Water Alliance |  |
| Political Parties |  |
| List of Redistricting Commentators |  |
| All Comissions and Boards |  |
|  |  |
| Social Justice, Immigrant and Refugee Related Organizations |  |
| ACLU of Washington |  |
| CAIR Washington |  |
| Equal Rights Washington |  |
| Northwest Immigrant Rights Project |  |
| Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle | Alejandra |
| OneAmerica | Alejandra |
| Casa Latina | Alejandra |
| groups/interests working on homelessness issues | Alejandra |
| groups/interests working on issues related to adult and juvenile legal systems |  |
| groups/interests working on affordable housing |  |
| groups/interests working on issues affecting those with disabilities |  |
| groups/interests working on issues affecting veterans |  |
| groups/interests working on issues affecting those with behavioral health |  |
| groups/interests working on issues affecting children and youth (such and YFSAs or YDEC) |  |
| groups/interests working on issues affecting regional communities (immigrant communities, rural communities, etc. like Somali Health Board) |  |
| Coalition Ending Gender Based Violence \& King County Sexual Assault Resource Center |  |
| Church Council of Greater Seattle | Alejandra |
| Latino Community Fund | Alejandra |
| Para Los Ninos | Alejandra |
| SPAIRC | Alejandra |
| RVC | Alejandra |
| REWA | Alejandra |
| CIRCC | Alejandra |
| Front and Centered | Alejandra |
| Alianza | Alejandra |
| Puentes | Alejandra |
| groups/interests working on issues in the arts community |  |
| Advisory Boards |  |
| Children and Youth Advisory Board |  |
| Juvenile Justice Equity Steering Committee (and the youth subcommittee |  |
| MIDD Advisory Board |  |
| VHSHL Advisory Board |  |


| Behavioral Health Advisory Board |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| Women's Commission |  |
|  |  |
| Other | Alejandra |
| Sightline |  |
| Forterra |  |
| Futurwise |  |
| Previous Initiative Sponsors |  |
| Washington Policy Center |  |
| Washington State Institute for Public Policy | Alejandra |
| The Evans School of Policy and Governance | Alejandra |
| The Ruckelshaus Center | Alejandra |
| MRSC | Alejandra |
| Cascade Bicycle | Alejandra |
| Seattle Foundation | Alejandra |
| Washington Progress alliance | Alejandra |
| Bullitt Foundation | Alejandra |
| Russell Family Foundaation |  |
| Satterburg Foundation |  |
| Gates Foundation |  |
|  |  |

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# King County Charter: 101 

Materials Supporting the 2018-2019 Charter Review Commission
Prepared by King County Staff

## What is the Charter?

- Under Washington State Law, County area allowed to become "Home Rule" Counties by enacting a charter which sets out how the government should be structured and run.
- This document becomes known as a "Charter." The most commonly known way to describe this would be a "constitution" for local governments.
- The King County Charter was first adopted in 1970.
- Every ten years, the Charter Requires a "Charter Review Commission" to review the Charter and recommended changes.


## Preamble

- A preamble is a statement of intent and purpose for the document that follows. The King County Preamble reads as follows:
- "We, the people of King County, Washington, in order to form a more just and orderly government, establish separate legislative and executive branches, insure responsibility and accountability for local and regional county governance and services, enable effective citizen participation, preserve a healthy rural and urban environment and economy and secure the benefits of home rule and self-government, in accordance with the Constitution of the State of Washington, do adopt this charter."


## Sections 110-140 General Provisions

- Section 110 reserves all possible home rule provisions for King County. This means that if state law allows the County to legislative something then the County claims that right.
- Section 120 allows the county to contract or partner with other governments to provide services.
- The County does this in quite a few instances like Sheriff's Services, Historic Preservation, Procurement certifications and District Court Services to name a few.
- Section 130 is similar to Section 110 in that it declares that local laws supersede state or general laws if they are different and if those differences are allowable under state law or the constitution.
- Section 140 Preserves the name, boundaries and County seat of the county and allows for local county branches to be opened.
- Currently most county services are located in Seattle. However, Permittis is in Snoqualmie, Elections is in Renton, Superior Court and the J ail have locations in Kent and there are several District Court locations.


## Sections 210-270 The Legislative Branch

- Section 220.1 creates a nine member County Council, elected by geographic district and on staggered 4 year terms.
- The Council was downsized from 13-9 in 2005. In 2005, prior to the reduction to 9, a council district had about 140,000 residents. Since then, due to the reduction and population increases, a district has increased to approximately 240,000 residents.
- Section 220.2 designates the County Council as the policy making body of the County
- Section 220.3 requires the election of a Council chair, makes the responsible for its own organization and for the employment and supervisor of employees it deems necessary to do its work, also requires appointment of a clerk.
- Section 220.4 Requires the Council to adopt rules of Procedure and requires a verbatim public record and requires all meeting to be open to the public.
- All Council Meetings and almost all Council Committee meetings are currently broadcast on live TV.


## Legislative Branch Continued (220.5230.2)

- Section 220.5 prohibits the Council and individual councilmembers from interfering with the administration of the County and from issuing orders to nonlegislative branch employees.
- This means that the Council issues orders and makes policy only through the passage of legislation. They do not direct Executive employees in individual actions.
- Section 230.1 Limits ordinances to one subject and governs how ordinances come to be introduced and implements a 7 day waiting period between introduction and action on ordinances except in emergencies.
- Section 230.2 creates a line-item executive veto for the County Executive. An executive veto can be overridden with at least 6 votes of the County Council.
- This means that the Executive can veto parts or an ordinance, or the ordinance in full. When it comes to appropriations ordinances the Executive can veto just a single appropriation or the ordinance as a whole.


## Legislative Branch Continued (230.3230.5)

- Section 230.3 allows for ordinances to be passed as an emergency in certain circumstances with at least 6 votes of the County Council. These ordinances become effective immediately and are not subject to veto or referendum.
- Allows for skipping of the Executive Signature and Referendum waiting periods in times of emergency.
- Section 230.4 creates a referendum process for a public vote on any ordinance passed by the County Council except for those dealing with appropriations, emergencies, collective bargaining, compensation or initiatives.
- Section 230.5 creates an initiative process and sets the terms and conditions of what can be run as an initiative and the rules and procedures for the initiative process.


## Legislative Branch Continued(230.5.1230.75)

- Section 230.5.1 creates a Municipal Initiative whereby cities can join together to propose an ordinance directly to the County Council.
- Section 230.6 sets the requirements and process for referendum and initiative petitions.
- These processes are further informed by County Code as it pertains to implementation of the elements of the charter.
- Section 230.7 Specifies the process for how ordinances become effective. In general an ordinance becomes effective ten days after the executive signs.
- Section 230.75 prohibits the County from amending an ordinance approved by the voters for at least two years unless $2 / 3$ of members vote for the change.


## Legislative Branch Continued (240-265)

- Section 240 creates "motions" which are used to confirm or reject appointees, organize the legislative branch, make declarations of policy which do not have force of law and to request information of county agencies.
- Motions can be used to give a policy intent or make a statement on behalf of the Council about County Policies where an ordinance is not needed or not yet ripe. Motions are not subject to Executive veto.
- Section 250 creates a county auditor that is responsible for conducting independent audits of county agencies.
- The County Auditor has an adopted work program that is approved annually by the County Council. All audit reports are made public after being presented to a Council Committee of jurisdiction.
- Section 260 creates the office of citizen complaints, more commonly known as an ombuds to investigate complaints about the operation of the county.
- Section 265 creates the Office of Law Enforcement oversight to investigate, review and analyze use of force by county law enforcement officers among other things.


## Legislative Branch Continued (270.1270.4)

- Section 270.1 - Section 270.4 creates the Regional Policy Committee, the Regional Water Policy Committee and the Regional Transit Committee to deal with specific regional issues. These committee are comprised of County Councilmembers and other elected officials from the region.
- The Regional Policy Committee sets its own work program for the year and has a broad jurisdiction that extends to anything that is both on its work program and is also a countywide policy or plan.
- The Regional Water Quality Committee has jurisdiction to review County plans for the disposition of wastewater generated within the service area for the County.
- The Regional Transit Committee has jurisdiction to review countywide policies or plans related to regional transit.


## The Executive Branch (310-340)

- Section 310 establishes the County Executive and associated offices like the Assessor and County Administrative office as the holders of all executive powers of the county.
- All countywide elected offices are non-partisan.
- Section 320.1 establishes the County Executive a separately elected office with a 4 year term and sets the Executive's salary at 1.5 times that of a Councilmember.
- Section 330 Establishes the position of County Administrative Officer.
- Supervises the Divisions within the Department of Executive Services which are Iargely administrative offices providing internal services to all county departments.
- Section 340 Includes a number of provisions regarding appointment of county officials and members of boards and commissions.
- In short, the Executive or Administrative Officer appoints and either the Council or Executive approves(confirms) in almost all cases.


## The Executive Branch Continued (350)

- Section 350 provides authority for the Council to divide the government into offices and departments. Section 350 includes the following departments and offices:
- Administrative Offices
- Executive Departments
- Department of Assessments
- Department of J udicial Administration
- Department of Public Safety (Sheriff)
- Department of Elections
- Department of Public Defense Duties, Administration, and Advisory Board


## Financial Procedures (405-460)

- Title 4 of the Charter is a section covering, in detail, the financial aspects of operating the government. Not all sections are covered in this presentation.
- Section 405 establishes a biennial or two year budget process.
- Section 410 and 420 cover the process by which the budget is compiled by the Executive branch an presented to the Council.
- Section 425 creates the Office of Economic and Financial Analysis which is an independent office in charge of providing financial forecasting and modeling for the County.
- Both branches of government are required by the charter to use revenue estimates approved by the Forecast Council and developed by the Office of Economic and Financial Analysis.
- Sections 430-460 covers the contents of the budget, budget message and adoption process for the budget.


## Financial Procedures Continued (470495)

- Section 470 covers the process for additional appropriations outside of the budget process. In short it:
- Requires an Executive proposal to amend the budget (unless in an emergency)
- Requires an Executive request in the case of capital expenditures
- Section 480 Declares that operating expenditures lapse or end when the budget period ends. For capital expenditures they appropriation lapses after 3 years of no activity.
- This means that operating expenditures do not carry forward into the next budget year and allows for more accountability and accounting accuracy in matching expenditures to the adopted budget.
- Section 495 provides that any contract in excess of appropriation is null and void.
- This means that officials cannot enter into contracts that exceed the appropriation for their agency.


## The Personnel System (Title 5)

- Section 510-530 establish the personnel system, require creation of personnel rules and require those rules to be approved by ordinance.
- Section 540 establishes the Personnel Board to report on the status of the personnel system and hear appeals from career service employees.
- Section 550 creates career service positions for county employees and exempts specific positions that are deemed not career service.
- Career service positions are insulated from political influence or pressure and are not subject to appointment by elected officials or removable from office because an elected official has changed.
- Section 560 covers political activities of county employees by referencing what is prohibited by state law.
- County Employees cannot use public resources to participate in political activities of any kind. If they participate it must be on their own town using their own personal resources.


## Elections (Title 6)(610-649)

- Section 610 covers the nominating primary process for county elected offices.
- Section 630 sets the qualifications for holding office.
- Section 640-649 establish the following as elected offices of the County:
- Executive
- Assessor
- Sheriff
- Director of Elections
- Prosecuting Attorney


## Elections Continued (650-690)

- Section 650 covers the election of County Councilmembers. Specifically:
- The County Council is comprised of 9 councilmembers representing geographic districts.
- Every 10 years there will be a redistricting commission to set the district boundaries
- Establishes staggered terms. Either 4 or 5 councilmembers are up in the odd numbered years. In 20195 positions will be on the ballot ( 4 were on the ballot in 2017).
- Section 680 covers the process for filling vacancies in elected office. In addition, County elected positions (except for Councilmembers) shall designate someone to continue their administrative activities should the office become vacant.
- Section 690 requires campaign contribution and expenditure disclosure and provides limits on campaign contributions (set by ordinance).


## Board of Appeals (Title 7)

- Title 7 covers the creation, composition and selection process for the Board of Appeals which hears complaints regarding property valuation.
- This is an independent agency that hears appeals from people who believe the Department of Assessments has incorrectly valued their property for tax purposes.


## General Provisions (Title 8) (800-830)

- Title 8 is a bit of catch-all for items that do not have their own title. Not all are included in this overview.
- Section 800 Creates the Charter Review Commission and requires a process at least every ten years.
- Section 815 requires construction of buildings and public works to be done by private contractors except in certain circumstances.
- Section 820 requires establishment of a conflict of interest process for county officers and employees.
- County employees must annually declare any financial or potential financial conflict of interest between their personal financial holdings and their county responsibilities.
- Section 830 provides public access to county records.
- Largely superseded by state law provisions.


## General Provisions Continued (840-843)

- Section 840 is the County's anti-discrimination policy and prohibits discrimination based upon sex, race, color, national origin, religious affiliation, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression or age, except by minimum age and retirement provisions. Additionally, the county is prohibited from entering into contracts with entities or persons who do discriminate based upon the list above.
- Section 843 provides freedom of religion and prohibits, with some exceptions, any county spending from going towards religious practice.


## General Provisions Continued (850-895)

- Section 850 covers how and when a county official can delegate authority.
- Section 870 prohibits salaried employees from receiving compensation for sitting on boards or commissions.
- Section 890 covers enactment of ordinances supporting the right of employees to collectively bargain and designates the County Executive as the bargaining agent for the County in most cases.
- Section 895 requires an inquest any time a law enforcement officer is involved in any death as a result of use of force.


## General Provisions Continued (896-899)

- Section 896 provides for an appeals process for land use decisions.
- Section 897 allows for the designation of properties that have a high value for land conservation.
- Section 898 and 899 discuss how the County deals with collective bargaining with regard to Sheriff's employees and public defense employees.


## Background

In response to a series of scandals involving, in separate events, the Assessor's Office, the Prosecutor's Office and a project to remodel the Courthouse. In response to these scandals, the League of Women Voters and the Municipal League conducted a review of County government. The review led to a request that the election of Freeholders to draft a home rule charter for the County be placed on the ballot. The Freeholders' charter proposal was placed on the fall 1968 ballot and approved by the voters. It took effect on May 1, 1969. As originally adopted by the voters in 1968, the Charter provided that the Executive review it or cause it to be reviewed at least once every ten years and report on any recommended Charter changes to the Council.

## Establishment of Governmental Structure

Executive branch: County Executive, Assessor, county administrative officer, and the officers and employees of administrative offices and executive departments

- Outlines the election or appointment processes for executive branch employees
- Outlines powers and responsibilities of executive branch
- Mandates certain departments: assessments, judicial administration, public safety, elections, public defense.

Legislative: Council, 9 members, designated as policy making body

- Vests certain power in the council-enact ordinances, comprehensive plans, adopt budgets, levy taxes
- Provides for organization: chair, rules of procedure, how to introduce and adopt ordinances
- Provides veto authority and referendum/initiative authority and sets out how those powers can be exercised.
- Establishes certain positions and outlines the roles and responsibilities of those positions: County auditor, office of citizen complaints, office of law enforcement oversight
- Establishes 3 regional committees (policy, transit, water quality) and outlines the composition, powers, and duties of those committees.


## Establishment of Financial Procedures

- Requires biennial budgets and sets out a process for presentation and adoption thereof.
- Establishes forecast council, which adopts forecasts that are used as the basis for budget proposals.
- Sets out a process for emergency appropriations and inter-fund borrowing.


## The Personnel System

- Requires personnel system to assure recruitment, selection and retention of county employees on the basis of merit.
- Executive administers personnel system.
- Personnel board established to report on personnel system and adjudicate personnel actions.
- Explicitly excludes elected officers and certain employees from career service.


## Elections

- Establishes qualifications for elective offices.
- Establishes that executive, assessor, sheriff, and director of elections are nonpartisan.
- Divides county into 9 council districts, and establishes 4 year terms for councilmembers.
- Establishes a districting committee to convene and draw new districts every 10 years.
- Establishes right of recall.
- Establishes provisions to fill vacant offices.
- Establishes campaign contribution limit requirement and provides for disclosure of campaign contributions and expenditures.


## Boards and Commissions

- Establishes 7 member board of appeals to hear and decide appeals from assessor valuation.


## General Provisions

- Charter review process established
- Directs council to adopt conflict of interest ordinance
- Public inspection of public records
- Establishes antidiscrimination policy
- Public works to be performed by independent contractors, with exceptions as outlined in charter
- Contains a freedom of religion clause
- Council may enact ordinance providing for collective bargaining
- Mandatory inquest for any death involving a member of law enforcement in the performance of duties.
- Council may enact ordinance providing for administrative appeal to a hearing examiner
- Council may adopt ordinance establishing an inventory of high conservation value properties and preserve them.
- Council may enact ordinance providing for collective bargaining for public safety employees.
- Executive must consult with county public defender on plans and goals for bargaining.


# Questions to Pose About King County Charter 

Charter Review Commission 2018-2019
Prepared by King County Staff
Background: The Charter acts as a guiding document for King County Government. The Charter provides the basic long-term structure reflecting core values of checks and balances, accountability, and merit, to promote an effective, efficient and responsive government for the residents of King County. Every 10 years, a charter review commission is appointed to solicit feedback on any potential charter amendments. The commission will submit any recommended charter amendments to the King County Council for consideration. The County Council may then elect to place recommended charter changes on a general election ballot.

1. Are there areas where you would like to see King County government structured in a different way? If so, please elaborate below:
2. Does the KC government structure provide adequate checks and balances to ensure government is responsive and accountable to the public? If not, please elaborate below:
3. Does KC government structure provide transparency and accountability? If no, what would increase transparency and accountability?
4. Do you feel local government services in KC could be provided in a more efficient manner? If so, how?
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## The Path to World City

## Forty Years of Demographic and Economic Growth Trends in King County

Prepared by: Chandler Felt, Demographer
Presented by: Rebeccah Maskin, Demographic Planner
King County Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget
Charter Review Commission, September 26, 2018

## Long range trend: steady growth



## King County Population Growth, 2000-2017

- King County now more than 2 million people
- Gained more than 400,000 persons in 17 years
- Gain is more than the pop of Tacoma + Bellevue
- Half of this growth: foreign-born population
- Population grew $15 \%$, while job numbers remained flat ... until 2013
- Data we're reporting are from 2010 Census and American Community Survey


## Big Trend \# 1

- Economic Diversification


## The "good old days"?

- In 1960s, Seattle / Puget Sound was a Boeing "company town"
- Aerospace: 1 in 7 jobs; with suppliers, even more
- Then, SST demise and 747 efficiency reduced jobs
- Boeing Bust in 1971 devastated economy



## Five decades of employment change



## Now, a much more diverse regional economy



- 2.1 million jobs
- 3X as many jobs
- Aerospace: 78,000 - 4\% of job total
- Many more anchors
- Prof / bsns services up 10X from 1968


## Big Trend \# 2

# - Increasing <br> Race and Ethnic Diversity 

## And multiple languages

## The region's population is becoming increasingly diverse: 1990

Purple dots represent Census blocks with more than 40\% persons-of-color in that Census year.

Source: Puget Sound Regional Council 2012


## The region's population is becoming increasingly diverse: 2000



## The region's population is becoming increasingly diverse: 2010



## 20 years of King County growth: increase is mostly persons of color



## Where is our growth coming from?

- Only half of population growth is from natural increase - our own children
- Before 1990, migration - e.g. California
- In recent years, immigration -
- All parts of Asia
- Latin America
- Eastern Europe
- Africa
- Some from these regions, via US states


## More than half of our recent growth is immigration



## Increasing numbers speak other languages



King County Languages Other Than English

|  | 2000 | 2014 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 299,600 | 497,700 |
| Speak other language | Limited English proficiency | 137,700 |
| 201,500 |  |  |

## Three broad subareas of King County:

- Seattle-Shoreline
- Eastside
- South King County


All 3 subareas are becoming more diverse 2015 population by race, in thousands


## A majority of South King County kids are kids of color

## South King County Children by Race/Ethnicity



## Big Trend \# 3

- Increasing

Income Inequality
and Suburbanization of Poverty

## Trend of median household income, U.S., WA and King County



## Median income varies substantially by subarea; increasing disparity by subarea

Median Household Income by Subarea, 2006-8; 2011-15


## Household Income Distribution: where's the middle class growth?



## Income Inequality Persists More recently, somewhat less disparity



About one-quarter of the 16-year growth in households was "middle income" High- and low-income households still dominate the growth, but not as much as 1999-2012.

## Poverty rates jumped up with the Recession



## Numbers of persons below poverty: now primarily in the suburbs



## Poverty by Subarea, King County 2011-15



Population Below Poverty


|  | Population | Below Pov. | \% below Pov. |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| East | 525,200 | 30,900 | $5.9 \%$ |
| South | 738,900 | 99,100 | $13.4 \%$ |
| SeaShore | 752,600 | 96,200 | $12.8 \%$ |
| King County | $2,016,700$ | 226,200 | $11.2 \%$ |

```
POVERTY RATES, 2011-15:
- King Co: 11.2%
- South KC: ~ 13%
- Latinos, countywide: ~ 22%
- Latinos, South KC: ~ 25%
```


## Big Trend \# 4

- Changing Age and


## Household Characteristics

## Since 2010, Growth of Senior Pop Everywhere

 Over-65 pop by subarea, 1990-2016

## Women drive the long-term increase in employment



## Big Trend \# 5

## - Shifting Locations of Growth

- Growth Management Act
- Dwindling unincorporated population


## Population growth: more than 600,000 in 27 years

Growth is shifting FROM South King County TO Seattle


## WA state GMA: shifting locations of growth

- Washington's Growth Mgmt Act
- Requires counties, cities to plan
- Protect farm and forest land
- Designate Urban Growth Area
- In Puget Sound region:
- PSRC and Vision 2040
- Typology of urban and rural geogs
- Each type with "growth target"
- Focusing growth into big centers
- Holding the UGA line



## 20+ years of shifting growth patterns: redirecting growth from rural and fringe into center

## Percent of New Housing Units in Puget Sound Region, 1991-2013



## Unincorporated King County: dwindling share of population

 Change in Jurisdictions, 1980-2016(Population in thousands)


# Five Big Trends in King County since 1970 

- Economic diversification
- Increasing race / ethnic diversity
- Increasing income inequality
- Age and household changes
- Shifting locations of growth within the county


## Data Sources

- US Census and American Community Survey
- www.census.gov click on "American FactFinder" at page bottom
- Washington state Office of Fin. Mgmt (OFM)
- www.ofm.wa.gov click on "population..."
- WA state Employment Security Dept (ESD)
- www.esd.wa.gov look for "data and reports"
- Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC)
- www.psrc.org various data including forecasts

FORECASTS:
www.ofm.wa.gov click on www.ofm.wa.gov/pop/forecasts.asp
www.psrc.org click on www.psrc.org/data/forecasts/

## Thank you !

- Questions...?
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