

April 23, 2013 Special Election

# King County

## Official Local Voters' Pamphlet

as requested by King County Fire Protection District No. 16



For more information call  
206-296-VOTE (8683) or visit  
[www.kingcounty.gov/elections](http://www.kingcounty.gov/elections)



**King County**  
Department of Elections

# Registering 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; and
- Not under the authority of the Department of Corrections.

## How to register

- Register online with the Secretary of State, [www.vote.wa.gov](http://www.vote.wa.gov).
- Download a registration form from the King County Elections website and return it by mail.
- Register in person at the King County Elections office or annex.

## Registration deadlines

While you may register to vote at any time, there are registration deadlines prior to each election. The deadlines for the April 23, 2013, special election:

- **March 25** – Deadline to register to vote online or by mail, or update existing voter registration information.
- **April 15** – 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.

## Accessible voting center

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 business hours.

### King County Elections

919 SW Grady Way, Renton 98057

#### April 5 - April 22

Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

#### April 23

Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

# Returning your ballot for this election

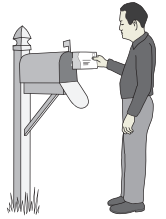
Voting begins as soon as you receive your ballot in the mail. Consider returning it early to be counted in election night results and to have time to resolve any issues with your signature.

## Beginning April 3 through April 23

### Through the mail

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

Ballots require first class postage and **must be postmarked by April 23.**



### At our office

The King County Elections ballot drop box located at 919 SW Grady Way, Renton 98057 will also be open.

## **new** Beginning April 15 through April 23

### Ballot drop boxes

Return your ballot without using the U.S. Postal Service or a first class stamp at a ballot drop box. The following ballot drop boxes are open 24-hours a day **beginning Monday, April 15:**

#### Lake Forest Park City Hall

17425 Ballinger Way NE

Lake Forest Park 98155

#### Tahoma School District Office

25720 Maple Valley-Black Diamond Road SE

Maple Valley 98038

#### King County Administration Building

500 4th Avenue

Seattle 98104

#### King County Elections

919 SW Grady Way

Renton 98057

**By law, ballots cannot be accepted at ballot drop box locations after 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.**



# King County Fire Protection District No. 16

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

## Proposition No. 1 Benefit Charge Continuation

Shall King County Fire Protection District No. 16 be authorized to continue voter-authorized benefit charges each year for six years, not to exceed an amount equal to sixty percent of its operating budget, and be prohibited from imposing an additional property tax under RCW 52.16.160?

Yes

No

*The complete text of this measure is available at the Elections Office or online at [www.kingcounty.gov/elections](http://www.kingcounty.gov/elections).*

## Statement in favor

Citizens of the Northshore Fire District have wholeheartedly supported the work of our fire department, firefighters, and emergency medical technicians. We have one of the finest departments in the Northwest. Its professional team of well-trained staff has proven itself repeatedly in the performance of its duties. For over two decades our citizens have voted to fund a benefit charge to support the department's operating budget.

The combined assessment from property tax and the benefit charge for fire protection would continue to average approximately \$1.50 per thousand. This is not a new tax, but it must be approved by voters every six years, and it is time to renew that commitment once again. By supporting this renewal, the taxation level for the fire district remains constant and provides a vital and reliable source of revenue for planning, equipment maintenance and replacement, and property protection. This is a crucial investment in our community, one which we will be glad we made in case our own family needs emergency assistance, or we face a natural disaster or public safety crisis. Join us in continuing the commitment to maintaining our excellent fire department. Please vote to approve this measure.

**Statement submitted by:** Marella Alejandrino, Kent Sturgis, and Jack Rogers • 206-367-7153

## Explanatory statement

The Northshore Fire Department (King County Fire Protection District 16) is responsible for providing fire protection and emergency medical services in your community. For the last twenty-four years the Fire Department has funded these services primarily through a combination of property taxes and voter approved benefit charges.

Benefit charges are based on risk factors and the cost of providing fire protection services, unlike property taxes that relate to the value of property. Under state law, voters must approve the use of benefit charges every 6 years and the Elected Board of Commissioners is required to hold a public hearing each year to review and establish the amount of the benefit charge. Once established the aggregate amount of the charge is pro-rated to individual properties based on risk factors and collected by the county assessor, together with real estate taxes. The amount of any benefit charge imposed on any given property cannot exceed the measurable benefits of the services afforded to the property by the Fire Department and are subject to appeal.

Under state law, fire districts which collect benefit charges authorized under Chapter 52.18 RCW have reduced taxing authority. Benefit charges can constitute no more than 60 percent of a district's annual operating budget and the maximum property tax rate is reduced from \$1.50 to \$1.00 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

If approved, Proposition 1 would continue the current funding method of providing emergency medical and fire protection services for 6 more years.

For additional questions regarding this measure contact:  
Jim Torpin - Fire Chief  
425-354-1776 • [jtorpin@northshorefire.com](mailto:jtorpin@northshorefire.com)

## Statement in opposition

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 opposition. If you would like to be involved with a committee in the future please contact the jurisdiction.

# 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.

The diagram illustrates the signature process. On the left, a close-up of the signature area shows a box labeled "Sign and date below" with an 'X' in a black square. The signature "John Adams" is written in cursive, followed by the date "4.11.13". Below the signature, the text reads "signature of voter (required)" and "jadams@gmail.com" with a note "(email or phone number (optional, in case there is an issue with your signature))".

On the right, the full return envelope is shown with a "Don't forget to sign below" warning. It includes a "Read the declaration" section with the following text: "I do solemnly swear or affirm under penalty of perjury that I am: • A citizen of the United States; • A legal resident of the state of Washington; • At least 18 years old on election day; • Voting only once in this election; • Not under the authority of the Department of Corrections for a Washington felony conviction; and • Not disqualified from voting due to a court order. It is illegal to forge a signature or cast another person's ballot. Attempting to vote when not qualified, attempting to vote more than once, or falsely signing this oath is a felony punishable by a maximum imprisonment of five years, a maximum fine of \$10,000, or both." Below this is another "Sign and date below" section with the same signature and date. To the right, the voter's name and address are listed: "Only to be opened and voted by: JOHN ADAMS, 1234 50TH AVE S, APT. 1234, SEATTLE, WA 98123". A barcode and the number "12300000 41 BEL 41-0112 1" are also present, along with the date "Election Day: April 23, 2013".

## The security envelope has been redesigned



1 Slip your ballot inside the black and white envelope. The margin of your ballot will stick out from the side, but all your votes will be covered.

Do not make additional folds to your ballot or tape the envelope shut.



2 Now place the black and white envelope with your ballot into the return envelope.

**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. To request voting materials, update your language preference or register to vote, visit [www.myvote.wa.gov](http://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. 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](http://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。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](http://www.myvote.wa.gov)或致電206-296-VOTE(8683)，然後按“2”字。



## Contact us

<b>Phone:</b>	206-296-VOTE (8683) 1-800-325-6165 TTY Relay: 711
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:elections@kingcounty.gov">elections@kingcounty.gov</a>
<b>Online:</b>	<a href="http://www.kingcounty.gov/elections">www.kingcounty.gov/elections</a>
<b>Mail or in-person:</b>	919 SW Grady Way Renton, WA 98057
<b>Voter Registration Annex:</b>	King County Administration Building 500 4th Ave., Room 311 Seattle, WA 98104



Please recycle your voters' pamphlet