

February 11, 2014 Special Election

King County

Official Local Voters' Pamphlet

as requested by the City of Issaquah



For more information call
206-296-VOTE (8683) or visit
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.
- 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 February 11, 2014, special election:

- **January 13** – Deadline to register to vote online or by mail, or update existing voter registration information.
- **February 3** – 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 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 business hours.

King County Elections

919 SW Grady Way, Renton 98057

January 24 - February 10: Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

February 11: Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Bellevue City Hall

450 110th Ave NE, Bellevue 98004

February 10: Monday, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

February 11: Tuesday, 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Returning your ballot

i Ballot return locations and accessible voting centers can change with every election. See below for a list of the ballot return sites for the February 11, 2014 special election.

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 February 11.

Mailed ballots require first class postage.

! First Class postage rates increase to 49 cents as of January 26th, 2014.

24-hour 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 January 23.

Ballot drop boxes close: on Election Day, February 11, at 8 p.m.

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, Issaquah 98027

King County Administration Building

500 4th Avenue, Seattle 98104

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 Senior Center

8703 160th Avenue NE, Redmond 98052



Proposition No. 1

This initiative ordinance to the Council of the City of Issaquah, Washington deals with retail carryout bags.

Currently, City law prohibits retail establishments from providing lightweight plastic carryout bags to customers, requires a minimum 5 cent charge for paper carryout bags, and encourages use of other reusable bags. The proposed initiative ordinance would repeal this law. In addition, the proposed initiative ordinance would require future regulations of retail carryout bags be approved by a majority vote of the City Council and a majority vote of the citizens at an election.

Should this initiative ordinance be enacted into law?

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 reject lies that we don't responsibly reuse our bags! Over 91% of us either reuse or recycle our plastic bags (Seattle 2007). More people litter coffee cups than plastic bags. Shall we ban coffee?

Vote "Yes" because Council insulted our frugality and environmental stewardship. We trusted them so why did they distrust our responsible reuse of any bag of our choosing... and deny us a vote?

Vote "Yes" because ban sponsor and now-Senator Mullet has slipped language into his statewide ban legislation that schemes to keep denying us a vote! If Mullet's SB-5386 had passed in 2013, you would not be reading this or voting your ballot today! When will Senator Mullet justify his attempt to undercut our citizens initiative rights?

Vote "Yes" because Council's ban is poisoning Issaquah's retail economy for shoppers and our wonderful cashiers. Thousands of Issaquah residents and others now shop in "Free" Klahanie, Bellevue and Renton, depressing sales tax revenues vital to city services. Sales tax revenues cratered from \$1,084,000 in February to \$753,000 in March, the first month of ban enforcement. Is this why Council just raised our property taxes by the maximum allowed 1 percent?

Demand respect, vote "Yes."

Rebuttal of statement in opposition

The UK's Environment Agency recently concluded plastic bags have less environmental impact than paper or cloth bags. Studies showed San Francisco's bag ban spiked illnesses and deaths due to bacterial contamination, outweighing any savings from litter reduction.

Issaquah's sales tax revenues have declined as shoppers go elsewhere because of the ban.

This initiative doesn't force anyone to stop using cloth or paper bags. But it does allow for choice. Vote "Yes".

Statement submitted by: Craig Keller and Tim Eaves
www.SaveOurChoice.us

Explanatory statement

This Initiative deals with retail carryout bags and would repeal existing law. In 2012, the Issaquah City Council enacted the existing law (the Ordinance), which prohibits retail establishments from providing lightweight disposable plastic carryout bags to customers.

Lightweight disposable plastic carryout bags are bags made from plastic or bioplastic that are provided at the check-out stand and are not reusable bags. The Ordinance defines reusable bags as bags with handles made of cloth, fabric or other material designed for long term multiple reuse. Bags provided for customers to package items such as fruit, vegetables, frozen foods and meat, as well as bags for dry cleaning and food take-out, are not affected by the Ordinance.

The Ordinance also requires retail establishments to collect and retain a minimum 5 cent charge when providing customers with larger paper carryout bags. Larger paper bags are 882 cubic inches or larger, approximately the size of a typical grocery bag. The Ordinance further encourages the use of reusable bags through public education programs and by making reusable bags available from the City at a low cost or free. The Ordinance became effective on March 1, 2013 for retail establishments 7,500 square feet or over. For retail establishments under 7,500 square feet, the Ordinance goes into effect July 1, 2014.

The Initiative would repeal the Ordinance. In addition, the Initiative would require future regulation of retail carryout bags be approved by a majority vote of the City Council and a majority vote of the citizens at an election.

For additional questions regarding this measure contact:
Wayne Tanaka - City Attorney
425-447-7000 • watanaka@omwlaw.com

Statement in opposition

During the first year of this law, Issaquah has saved over ten million plastic bags. There has been a massive reduction in overall bag usage with people using a tiny fraction of the bags they did before. These bag savings come from Issaquah shoppers bringing their own reusable bags from home or choosing to carry a couple items out to their car rather than waste a bag.

The idea to eliminate plastic bags came from a group of Girl Scouts who live in Issaquah. The girls saw no need for people to use a plastic bag for 60 seconds and then have it sit in a landfill for 600 years. The City Council received a lot of testimony from members of our community supporting this legislation.

Someone who is not a resident of our community, with the support of the plastic bag industry, started this repeal effort after failing to overturn a similar law in a much larger city. He chose Issaquah simply because we are a smaller town.

This law is working. Our community is reducing litter and waste. We are making Issaquah a better place to live for future generations. Please vote no on this initiative.

Rebuttal of statement in favor

The plastic bag industry is not being honest with Issaquah residents.

Sales tax receipts in 2013 were higher than 2012. March of 2013 was 29.1% higher than March of 2012. Issaquah also opened a record number of new businesses. This law is not harming our local economy.

The City Council held numerous public hearings about bags.

This law is working. We are making Issaquah a better place to live by reducing waste. Please vote no!

Statement submitted by: Mark Mullet and Susan Thoman
mark@zeekspizza.com

Voting tips

- Read and follow the instructions carefully when voting.
- Mark your ballot using a black ink pen.
- Sign and date the voter's declaration on the back of the return envelope. Your signature is checked and verified in each election that you vote.
- Return your ballot as early as possible, but no later than election day, Feb. 11.
- If you are contacted by Elections staff (even after election day) follow up promptly so your ballot can be counted.
- Keep your voter registration information and signature up to date.
- See for yourself how we process your ballot! Watch the Elections web cams or take a video tour of King County Elections at www.kingcounty.gov/elections



Rat City Rollergirls

**You can only make a difference if you
get your ballot in on time**

Act fast and be an informed voter!

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 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 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或致電206-296-VOTE(8683)，然後按“2”字。



Contact us

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



Please recycle your voters' pamphlet