



**King County**

## King County Districting Committee

July 7, 2011, 6:30 p.m.  
Highline Community College – Building 7  
2400 S 240<sup>th</sup> Street, Des Moines, WA 98198

### Minutes

Chair: Terrance Carroll  
Members: Rod Dembowski  
John Jensen  
Sally Nelson  
Sally Poliak

Staff: Simon Farretta, Council Staff  
Joanne Rasmussen, Council Staff

**The following members were present:** Terrance Carroll, Chair, Rod Dembowski, John Jensen, and Sally Poliak.

**Excused:** Sally Nelson

#### **I. Call to Order**

Judge Terrence Carroll called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

#### **II. The King County Council redistricting process**

Judge Carroll, Chair of the King County Districting Committee, offered introductory remarks.

Judge Carroll introduced the members of the committee. He acknowledged the attendance of Julia Patterson, Councilmember, King County District 5; Lisa Jensen, Councilmember, City of Newcastle; Dennis Higgins, Councilmember, City of Kent; Katrina Asay, Representative, Legislative District 30; Larry Phillips, Councilmember, King County District 4; and Dan Sherman, Councilmember, City of Des Moines.

Judge Carroll discussed the redistricting process and noted that the Districting Committee's job is to balance district population to ensure each resident has an equal voice in County government. The four draft maps each explore a different way for drawing equally populated districts that meet legal requirements and take into consideration public input the committee has received. Tonight the committee is hoping for further comment on each of the draft maps. He announced the website and the dates of the upcoming public hearings.

### **III. Overview of draft redistricting plans**

John Schlosser, Districting Master, briefed the audience on the four draft maps indicating differences among the maps and with the districts as currently defined.

### **IV. Audience Questions**

John Schlosser, Districting Master, answered questions from Emily Willoughby and Bob Oliver, regarding city boundaries and the annexation area on the West Hill of Kent.

### **V. Public Testimony**

The following people appeared before the committee to offer public comment and to answer questions from the members:

1. **Don Riecks**, supports map 1 because of the placement of Normandy Park together with Des Moines in District 5. He suggested map 1 be modified to keep all of Burien together in District 8. He displayed his own map version for the committee members and audience to view, which divided District 5 and District 8 largely along S. 188<sup>th</sup> Street. He said dividing SeaTac would be acceptable.
2. **Julia Patterson, Councilmember, King County District 5**, requested that Skyway stay with Renton because it is a potential annexation area. The Committee should consider keeping the smaller southwest cities together in order to give them a stronger regional voice.
3. **Larry Phillips, Councilmember, King County District 4**, noted that he represented Shoreline when he was first on the King County Council. He feels Shoreline would like to be in one district and be part of the Northend cities. He suggested that splitting Shoreline could result in the city being represented by two councilmembers from Seattle.
4. **Dennis Higgins, Councilmember, City of Kent**, understands that Kent won't likely be all in one district, but he would like to see it only split into two districts, if possible. He answered questions from Mr. Dembowski and Ms. Poliak regarding boundaries for Kent and Covington.
5. **Paul Willoughby**, noted that Tukwila has more common interests with the valley cities than highline cities.
6. **Katie Kanzeli**, as a Kent East Hill resident, says her area has more in common with Covington than with Kent West Hill. She also has Issaquah friends that said they want to stay as one community, not be split. They

said Sammamish and Issaquah have more in common with each other than with other surrounding communities, such as those in District 6.

**VI. Adjourn**

Chair Carroll thanked the members of the public for attending and sharing their thoughts. The next meeting will be on July 12, 2011 in Seattle at the Van Asselt Community Center. The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.