

COUNTY COURTHOUSE
311 Grand Avenue, Suite #105
Bellingham, WA 98225
Phone: (360) 676-6690
County: (360) 384-6637
TTY: (360) 738-4555
Fax: (360) 738-2550
charter@co.whatcom.wa.us
www.co.whatcom.wa.us/council/charter

Mick Moynihan, Chair
Joe Elenbaas, Vice-Chair
Shannon O'Brien, Secretary

WHATCOM COUNTY CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

July 7, 2005

TO: Whatcom County Council

FROM: Whatcom County Charter Review Commission

SUBJ: 2005 Charter Review Commission Recommended Amendments to Voters

The 2005 Whatcom County Charter Review Commission recommends the following six amendments to the voters for the November 2005 general election. Please forward these amendments to the Whatcom County Auditor, per Charter Section 8.20.

Charter Amendment #1

Shall the Charter be amended to provide for election of Council Members within the jurisdiction from which the candidate was nominated?

Charter Amendment #2

Shall the Charter be amended to remove the salary limitation for Council Members (currently limited to no more than 15% of the County Executive)?

Charter Amendment #3

Shall Charter section 3.52 - Powers and Duties - be amended to add to the duties of the Auditor, "Shall publish and distribute a local voter's pamphlet for all primary and general elections."

Charter Amendment #4

Shall Charter section 1.11- Citizens' Rights - be amended, "The rights of the individual citizen shall be guaranteed under the Constitutions of the United States and the State of Washington. No regulation or ordinance shall be generated **drafted and adopted** without consideration of and provisions for compensation to those unduly burdened."?

Charter Amendment #5

Shall Charter section 2.23- Rules of Procedure - be amended, "...the Council shall meet regularly ~~at least semi-monthly~~ **throughout the year no fewer than 22 times**. All meetings shall..."

Charter Amendment #6

Shall Charter section 4.50 - Vacancies - be amended, "Vacancies in elective office shall be filled at the next November general election, unless the vacancy occurs after the **last** day for filing declarations..."

c: Correspondence File

CRC/jkn