

RESOLUTION NO. 7214



A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A PUBLIC PROCESS FOR THE EVALUATION OF OPTIONS FOR REPRESENTATION BY DISTRICT ON THE CITY COUNCIL, WITH THE OBJECT OF CITY COUNCIL PLACING A DISTRICT REPRESENTATION MEASURE ON THE BALLOT FOR THE NOVEMBER 2018 GENERAL ELECTION.

WHEREAS,

A. All members of the Everett City Council are now elected at large. This at-large representation is established by City Charter and has been in place since the adoption of the City Charter in 1968.

B. The question of whether some or all City Council members should be elected by districts has recently been much discussed in the Everett community.

C. The sense of City Council is that the November 2018 general election is the right time to place a district representation measure before the people, so that the people can decide the matter.

D. The City Council is mindful that at-large election of City Council members has been part of the City Charter for 50 years. How City Council members are elected is a fundamental question of City governance and will have far-reaching effects.

E. The process that City Council uses to develop the proposed ballot measure must allow the City Council to thoroughly and thoughtfully consider different approaches to district representation, with an emphasis on public participation and input throughout the process. The purpose of this resolution is to begin that process.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EVERETT THAT:

1. Basic Principles. The City Council will conduct a public process, with the object of placing a district representation measure on the ballot for the November 2018 general election. The City Council believes that the process should adhere to the following general principles:

i. Public Participation. The process will allow the City Council to hear the views of community members who want to participate.

ii. Expeditious and Orderly Process. The process will move efficiently and reach a conclusion without unnecessary delay.

iii. Consideration of Alternatives. There are many ways of achieving district representation. The process will examine alternative models and receive public input on those alternatives.

2. Key Milestones.

Key Milestone	Target Date
Adoption of Resolution Beginning Process	January 2018
Kickoff City Council Workshop	February 2018
Additional Workshops and Public Meetings	February – May 2018
Completion of Public Process	June 2018
Three Readings of Ballot Measure Ordinance	July 2018
Submittal of Ordinance to County Auditor	July-August 2018
General Election	Tuesday, November 6, 2018

3. Facilitator. The City Council recognizes that the services of a facilitator will help to focus the process and help public participation. The City Council authorizes the City to contract with a facilitator for this purpose.

4. Kickoff Workshop. An initial public City Council workshop is tentatively scheduled for February __, 2018. The City Council will work with the facilitator to determine the agenda for kickoff workshop and its format. The City Council anticipates that part of the kickoff workshop will be the scheduling and format of next steps and public events. The kickoff workshop will also begin discussion and evaluation of models of district representation, such as:

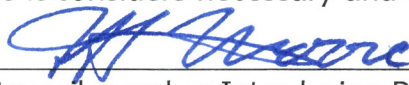
A. 5 by district / 2 at-large. This model would create five districts, with one Council member elected by each district. In addition, two Council members would be elected at large.

B. 4 by district / 3 at large. This model would create four districts, with one Council member elected by each district. In addition, three Council members would be elected at large.

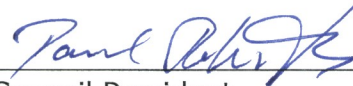
C. District Nomination / At-Large Election. Either of above models could be adjusted so that, for the "district" council positions, each district nominates two district residents in the primary election, but the final selection between those two candidates is made by the City at large.

The three models described above are only examples. The City Council anticipates that additional models may be proposed for discussion. Further, the Council may consider factors for implementing district representation including but not limited to: boundaries, timing, implementation and transition.

5. Flexibility. The purpose of this resolution is to launch the process leading toward a November 2018 ballot measure. The process is intended to be flexible. The City Council may formally or informally adjust the process as it considers necessary and as circumstances require.



 Council member Introducing Resolution



 Council President

PASSED and APPROVED this 31 day of January 2018.