



Agenda
City Council Special Meeting and Regular Workshop
Tuesday, July 22, 2025
Richland City Shops Building
2700 Duportail Street

City Council Special Meeting - 6:00 p.m.

Agenda Items:

- I. Resolution No. 2025-105, Establishing Pro and Con Committees for the Proposed Charter Amendment to Create Voting Districts in the City of Richland
- Heather Kintzley, City Attorney

City Council Workshop - Immediately Following Close of Special Meeting

Agenda Items:

- I. City Shops Tour
- Jon Amundson, City Manager
2. Off Street Parking Regulation: Review of Consultant Findings and Community Engagement
- Joe Schiessl, Deputy City Manager
3. Council Correspondence Policy
- Jon Amundson, City Manager

Future Workshop Agenda Items

Adjournment

Requests for sign interpreters, audio equipment, and/or other special services must be received 48 hours prior to the meeting by calling the City Clerk's Office at 509-942-7389.



COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM COVERSHEET

Council Date: 7/22/2025

Agenda Category: Agenda Items

Strategic Priority I - High Performance Government

Subject

Resolution No. 2025-105, Establishing Pro and Con Committees for the Proposed Charter Amendment to Create Voting Districts in the City of Richland

Department/Office

City Attorney

Ordinance/Resolution Number

2025-105

Document Type

Resolution

Recommended Motion

Adopt Resolution No. 2025-105, establishing pro and con committees for the proposed charter amendment to create voting districts in Richland (names pending Council selection).

Summary

On October 8, 2024, the City of Richland received a citizen petition to amend the Richland City Charter to move from an at-large election system to a mixed election system consisting of five (5) district-based positions and two (2) at-large positions on the Richland City Council. On October 17, 2024, the Richland City Clerk issued a Certificate of Sufficiency confirming that the petition to amend the Richland City Charter to establish five (5) district-based council seats contained the requisite number of valid signatures to advance to a vote per RCW 35.22.120. The proposed amendment to the Richland City Charter will appear on the November 4, 2025 General Election ballot.

If approved by the voters, the amendment will modify Article II of the Richland City Charter to allow election by district for some members of the Richland City Council, and will also divide Richland into five (5) geographical district boundaries established by the petition authors.

As part of the ballot measure process, RCW 29A.32.280 allows cities to seek residents to serve on either the pro or con committee for each ballot measure. To be eligible for appointment, individuals must reside within the jurisdictional boundaries of Richland. Committee membership is limited to three (3) members each per RCW 29A.32.280(3), but each committee is authorized to seek the advice of any person or persons. In the absence of pro/con committees established by the City, state law provides that the Benton County Auditor can solicit for applicants to be appointed on a first come/first serve basis.

Each committee will work independently of the City to prepare a limited written statement (250 words) advocating either approval or rejection of the ballot measure to appear in the Benton County Voter's Pamphlet, along with committee member names. Each committee will also have an opportunity to prepare and submit a rebuttal in response to the statement prepared by the opposition. The deadline for initial pro/con committee statements is August 15, 2025, and the deadline for rebuttal pro/con committee statements is August 20, 2025.

The City advertised for candidates to serve on the pro and con committee beginning Wednesday, July 9, 2025. The deadline to apply was Thursday, July 17, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. During the application period, the City received 21 applications for the pro committee and 26 applications for the con committee. The only eligibility requirement is Richland residency. The selection approach may take any number of forms, including first come/first serve, quality of application, lottery, etc.

Fiscal Impact

None.

Attachments

1. Resolution No. 2025-105
2. RCW 29A.32.280
3. Applications for Pro Committee
4. Applications for Con Committee

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-105

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF RICHLAND, WASHINGTON, ESTABLISHING PRO AND CON COMMITTEES FOR THE RICHLAND CITY CHARTER DISTRICTING CHARTER AMENDMENTS MEASURE APPEARING ON THE NOVEMBER 4, 2025 GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT.

WHEREAS, on October 8, 2024, the City of Richland received a citizen petition to amend the Richland City Charter to move from an at-large election system to a mixed election system consisting of five (5) district-based positions and two (2) at-large positions on the Richland City Council; and

WHEREAS, on October 17, 2024, the Richland City Clerk issued a Certificate of Sufficiency confirming that the petition to amend the Richland City Charter to establish five (5) district-based council seats contained the requisite number of valid signatures to advance to a vote per RCW 35.22.120; and

WHEREAS, the proposed amendment to the Richland City Charter will appear on the November 4, 2025 General Election ballot; and

WHEREAS, if approved by the voters, the amendment will modify Article II of the Richland City Charter to allow election by district for some members of the Richland City Council, and will also divide Richland into five (5) geographical district boundaries established by the petition authors; and

WHEREAS, as part of the ballot measure process, RCW 29A.32.280 allows cities to seek residents to be appointed to serve on either the pro committee or con committee for each ballot measure; and

WHEREAS, to be eligible for appointment, individuals must reside within the jurisdictional boundaries of Richland; and

WHEREAS, by law, committee membership is limited to three (3) members each, but each committee is authorized to seek the advice of any person or persons; and

WHEREAS, each committee will work independently of the City to prepare a limited written statement (250 words) advocating either approval or rejection of the ballot measure to appear in the Benton County Voter's Pamphlet, along with committee member names; and

WHEREAS, each committee will also have an opportunity to prepare and submit a rebuttal in response to the statement prepared by the opposition; and

WHEREAS, the deadline for initial pro/con committee statements is August 15, 2025, and the deadline for rebuttal pro/con committee statements is August 20, 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Richland as follows:

The following individuals, having been determined to be eligible, are hereby appointed to serve on the Pro Committee for the Richland City Charter Districting Charter Amendments measure appearing on the November 4, 2025 General Election ballot:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

The following individuals, having been determined to be eligible, are hereby appointed to serve on the Con Committee for the Richland City Charter Districting Charter Amendments measure appearing on the November 4, 2025 General Election ballot:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committees created by this Resolution No. 2025-105 shall automatically dissolve and terminate upon certification of the 2025 General Election results on the Richland City Charter Districting Charter Amendments ballot measure.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, on or before August 5, 2025, the City Clerk is directed to file with the Benton County Auditor's Office this Resolution No. 2025-105 and any additional documentation necessary to effectively establish pro and con committees for the Richland City Charter Districting Charter Amendments measure appearing on the November 4, 2025 General Election ballot.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Richland, Washington, at a special meeting on the 22nd day of July, 2025.

Theresa Richardson, Mayor

Attest:

Approved as to Form:

Jennifer Rogers, City Clerk

Heather Kintzley, City Attorney

RCW 29A.32.280

Arguments advocating approval or disapproval—Preparation by committees. (*Effective January 1, 2025.*)

(1) For each measure from a unit of local government included in a local voters' pamphlet, the legislative authority of that jurisdiction shall, not later than the resolution deadline, formally appoint a committee to prepare arguments advocating voters' approval of the measure and shall formally appoint a committee to prepare arguments advocating voters' rejection of the measure.

(2) The authority shall appoint persons that reside within the jurisdictional boundaries and are known to favor the measure to serve on the committee advocating approval and shall, whenever possible, appoint persons that reside within the jurisdictional boundaries and are known to oppose the measure to serve on the committee advocating rejection.

(3) Each committee shall have not more than three members, however, a committee may seek the advice of any person or persons.

(4) If the legislative authority of a unit of local government fails to make such appointments by the prescribed deadline, the county auditor shall issue a media release and publish information on the auditor's election website announcing the opportunity to form committees and provide statements. If the legislative authority is unable to make appointments, the auditor shall make appointments on a first-come, first-served basis if qualified committee members contact the auditor by the appropriate deadline.

(5) If no statement is produced, the auditor shall include a statement in the pamphlet stating that no person in the jurisdiction contacted the auditor to provide a statement, and there are no statements for that measure.

[**2024 c 78 s 12**; **2015 c 146 s 3**; **2003 c 111 s 820**. Prior: **1994 c 191 s 2**; **1984 c 106 s 10**. Formerly RCW **29.81A.080**.]

Effective date—2024 c 78: See note following RCW **29A.32.010**.



City of Richland
Application to Pro/Con Committee
2025 Districting Ballot Measure

Materials submitted in connection with the application process will be protected to the extent allowed by law. Information may be subject to release under the Public Records Act, Ch. 42.56.RCW.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Janet Taylor

Address: 462 Palm Drive Richland WA 99352

Email Address:

Primary Phone Number:

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☒ Pro Committee ☐ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I am a retired teacher who has lived in Richland since 2013 and in Washington state all of my life. I have been associated with Allied Arts and some other arts organizations. I believe in representative government and would like our city to be directly responsive to all neighborhoods and people who reside within.

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 
Key: 6b6d6b43-1c5d-40db-9f3a-3a78120d0000

Date: 07-10-2025



City of Richland
Application to Pro/Con Committee
2025 Districting Ballot Measure

Materials submitted in connection with the application process will be protected to the extent allowed by law. Information may be subject to release under the Public Records Act, Ch. 42.56.RCW.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Karyn Hede

Address: 1725 Davison Ave. Richland, Wa. 99354

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

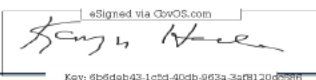
Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☒ Pro Committee ☐ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I have been a resident of the City of Richland since 2018, with a previous stint in Richland from 2003-2007. I am currently an employee of Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. I would like to serve on this committee because I believe the City residents should have the opportunity to clearly understand the choice presented by this upcoming ballot measure. My profession involves providing clear explanations of complex topics to the public. I am a nonpartisan resident who wants to assist the City in providing clear information to voters about their choice. I am familiar with the ballot measure and have the information and background to complete the process quickly and accurately. I am available on the dates of the City meetings. Thank you for considering my application.

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 
eSigned via GovOS.com
Key: 6b6deb43-1c5d-40db-9f3a-3a79120d5000

Date: 07-10-2025



City of Richland
Application to Pro/Con Committee
2025 Districting Ballot Measure

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Ragan Faylor

Address: 315 Spokane St

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☒ Pro Committee ☐ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

Hello my name is Ragan Faylor. I've lived in Richland for 6 years, I'm originally from Spokane. I've served on the Richland code enforcement board as Vice Chair. Richland has very diverse neighborhoods as I saw while on the Code enforcement board. Our government is based on representative system. When a majority of our city representatives on the city council all live in the same area south of the river. That's not a representative government. You have to look far and wide to find any city that has an all at large council. There is a reason for this. District elected council members is the only way to ensure that all of Richland has a voice in their city government.

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 
Key: 6b6deb45-1c5d-40db-9f3a-3a79120d0000

Date: 07-10-2025



City of Richland
Application to Pro/Con Committee
2025 Districting Ballot Measure

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Ronald Melton

Address: 2344 Benton Avenue, Richland, WA 99354

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☒ Pro Committee ☐ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I have been a Richland resident for almost 40 years. I am retired from PNNL where I was a technical manager. When I lived in West Richland between 1980 and 1987 I was a member of the West Richland Planning Commission.

I am concerned that the current "At Large" form of Richland City Council selection does not result in a cross section of Council members who represent the broad interests of all residents of the city. Therefore, I favor the proposed changes and am familiar with them. I believe I can effectively represent the interests of the "A Better Richland" group that has developed the proposal for changing the manner in which we select our Richland City Council members.

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 
Key: 6b6deb43-1c5d-40db-9f3a-3ef9120f0000

Date: 07-10-2025



City of Richland
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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Scott Butner

Address: 1319 Stevens Drive, Richland, WA 99354

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☒ Pro Committee ☐ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I have resided in Central Richland since 1984 and have been involved in community affairs -- as a volunteer (including for the A Better Richland organization), an elected school board member on the Richland School Board, and as a small business owner and Richland Farmer's Market vendor. Together with my wife (a long-time substitute school teacher in the Richland District) we raised two sons in this community.

I am familiar with the issues at hand regarding potential redistricting of the City of Richland, and believe I'll be able to help communicate the "Pro" side of the argument effectively and simply.

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 
eSigned via GovOS.com
Key: 6b6deb43-1c5d-40db-9f3a-3a78120d0000

Date: 07-10-2025



City of Richland
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2025 Districting Ballot Measure

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Tim Taylor

Address: 462 Palm Drive, Richland, WA 99352

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☒ Pro Committee ☐ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I am 74 years old, and a United States Air Force retiree. I've lived in Richland for 17 years. Until last summer I, like most of the people I spoke with while collecting approximately 250 signatures to put this measure on the ballot, was unaware that Richland does not have a district-based city council. I believe this deprives the citizens of Richland of representation in our city government. I believe the only remedy for this situation is to institute a district based city council here in Richland.

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 
eSigned via GovOS.com
Key: 6b6db43-1c5d-40db-9f3a-3ef8120d0000

Date: 07-10-2025



City of Richland
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2025 Districting Ballot Measure

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Douglas Nordwall

Address: 105 BREMMER STRichland, WA 99352

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☒ Pro Committee ☐ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I've been a resident of Richland for 26 years, with the last 20 spent here. My wife and I are raising a teenager here, and I've been actively involved in improving the community through my charity, Giving Greens. I'm an educated and driven individual committed to making Richland the leading city in the region. I've personally experienced the challenges of poverty and the transformative power of education and personal growth.

During my time in Richland, I've had several interactions with the city council, including pushing for various reforms and working to preserve and improve parks, infrastructure, and services for the community. As a computer scientist, I understand the importance of good data and a representative sample of the population in mitigating potential biases that the city council may have.

Despite being from South Richland, I'm eager to be assigned to the Pro committee. Thank you for your consideration.

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 
eSigned via GovOS.com
Key: 6b6deb43-1c5d-40db-9f3a-3a79120d5000

Date: 07-11-2025



City of Richland
Application to Pro/Con Committee
2025 Districting Ballot Measure

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: JoAnn Morse

Address: 1806 Mahan Ave

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☒ Pro Committee ☐ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I've been a resident and home-owner in Richland for over 40 years. We raised our children here and believe it's important to continue to be involved in school and community activities and issues.

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 
Key: 6b6deb43-1c5d-40db-9f3a-3e79120d0000

Date: 07-11-2025



City of Richland
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2025 Districting Ballot Measure

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Margaret Hamilton

Address: 2003 Howell Ave

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☒ Pro Committee ☐ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

We have a great city! I have loved living in Richland for over 40 years and have seen many changes to the city and its government, some of which I liked and some of which I didn't. One thing that has not changed, to the best of my knowledge, is the structure of our city council, and over the years it has evolved to be extremely unrepresentative of the range of demographics in the city by virtue of the fact that all positions are at-large. I strongly believe that the residents of Richland will have better representation if there are council members designated to be from various geographic locations, i.e., districts, with different demographics. District-based council members will be much more familiar with the issues that pertain to different areas of the city, and presumably will bring different backgrounds, skills, and experiences to the table, broadening the range of issues that are considered and the types of solutions that are developed. And I believe that the choice to be represented by district in the city council should be offered to the residents of the city.

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 
eSigned via GovOS.com
Key: 6b6d6b43-1c5d-40db-9f3a-3ef9120d0000

Date: 07-11-2025



**City of Richland
Application to Pro/Con Committee
2025 Districting Ballot Measure**

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Mary Cooke

Address: 132 MacArthur St

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☒ Pro Committee ☐ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I have lived in Richland since 1976. After retiring as a computer services manager at Areva, I volunteered at the McNary Wildlife Refuge, in a Team Read program and in Richland Senior Association activities. I also was in the group that started the Fun, Fit and Over Fifty Club and was the chair of the hiking committee for almost 10 years. My husband and I raised our two sons here and were involved in many school activities at that time.

I was one of the volunteers that collected signatures to get this measure on the ballot. After almost 70 years of the current method of council representation, I think we need to look at more responsive ways to run our city government so our citizens can feel they are heard. That was the message I heard from the people I talked to as I walked in my neighborhood.

A visit from a person campaigning for a council seat a few years ago made me aware of the large area one has to cover to run a campaign in Richland. This person lived on the other side of Richland from me and while she listened to my concerns, I have never heard from her again. It is almost impossible to be a responsible council member and be aware of the issues that 60,000 citizens are concerned about, much less be able to respond to all of them. A division of 5 members elected by district and 2 at-large is very common throughout the U.S. for cities our size. I think this would put our city council in a better position to meet the needs of the city as we continue to grow.

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 
Key: 6b6deb43-1c5d-40db-9f3a-3a79120d0000

Date: 07-11-2025



City of Richland
Application to Pro/Con Committee
2025 Districting Ballot Measure

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Jon O. Erlandson

Address: 322 Seattle

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☒ Pro Committee ☐ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I have lived in Richland since 1952. I graduated from Columbia High in 1967. Taught for 30 years here in Richland SD. That included grades 3 to 7. While teaching 7th grade I taught classes on the history of Richland and the US Constitution.

I was chairman of the Parks Commission and also a member of the Planning Commission.

It's time we as city do a better job of representative government.

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 

Key: 6b6deb43-1c5d-40db-9f3a-3ef9120f0000

Date: 07-12-2025



City of Richland
Application to Pro/Con Committee
2025 Districting Ballot Measure

Materials submitted in connection with the application process will be protected to the extent allowed by law. Information may be subject to release under the Public Records Act, Ch. 42.56.RCW.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Barbara Chen

Address: 2528 Harris Ave

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☒ Pro Committee ☐ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I have been a resident of northeast Richland for over twenty years. I feel strongly that establishing voter districts in Richland for city council elections is essential to making all parts of the city more fairly represented with localized needs addressed. There is a reason other cities our size across the state are districted; it only makes sense.

I was a signature collector in the effort to put this issue on the ballot, canvassing several neighborhoods. I would be pleased and honored to serve on the "Pro" committee to help write the verbiage in the upcoming Voter's Pamphlet.

Thank you for your kind consideration,

Barb Chen

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 
Key: 6b6deb43-1c5d-40db-9f3a-3ef9120d0000

Date: 07-12-2025



City of Richland
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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Robert Brown

Address: 1520 Butternut Ave

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☒ Pro Committee ☐ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I've experience in political action and regulatory issues. 8 years on Benton County Boundary Review Board appointed by Governor Gardner, 12 years Kiona Benton School Board. I collected multiple pages of signatures and had hundreds of discussions with fellow residents. I have been involved in redistricted at the legislator level.

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 
Robert L Brown
Key: 6b6deb43-1c5d-40db-9f3a-3ef9120d0000

Date: 07-12-2025



City of Richland
Application to Pro/Con Committee
2025 Districting Ballot Measure

Materials submitted in connection with the application process will be protected to the extent allowed by law. Information may be subject to release under the Public Records Act, Ch. 42.56.RCW.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Shannon Hubbard

Address: 2297 Morency Drive, Richland, WA 99352

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☒ Pro Committee ☐ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I am a Richland, Washington resident and a marketing and strategy leader with over two decades of experience in communications, stakeholder engagement, and community-focused campaign delivery. In my current professional role, I translate national strategy into clear execution tailored to the needs of the intended audience. I often work directly with small business owners and frontline teams to improve outcomes across diverse markets.

I fully support the "Better Richland" redistricting initiative. Moving to five district-based city council seats (plus two at-large) is a necessary step to ensure every part of Richland has a real voice in city government. Redistricting will restore balance and strengthen trust by making representation more equitable, more local, and more accountable.

I am applying to the pro committee because I believe voters deserve clear, factual, and compelling information in the official Voter's Pamphlet. I have built my career on communicating complex ideas in a way that everyday people can connect with, understand, and act on. I've led national campaigns, coordinated grassroots engagement, and helped bring cause-based programs to communities across the country.

I care deeply about representation and fairness, and am ready to bring my communication skills and community perspective to this process. I respectfully ask for your consideration

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 

Date: 07-12-2025



City of Richland
Application to Pro/Con Committee
2025 Districting Ballot Measure

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Sheila Dwyer

Address: 86 Symons St

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☒ Pro Committee ☐ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I have lived in central Richland for over a decade, and I'm raising my two children here. I support the initiative because I would like to know that someone from my neighborhood is on city council, and that it's not only the most wealthy neighborhoods that have representation on city council. I've collected a few signatures for the ballot initiative, and I'd like to make sure that the advantages of this initiative are explained fairly and clearly to the voters.

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 

Key: 6b6d6b43-1c5d-40db-9f3a-3ef9120d5000

Date: 07-13-2025



City of Richland
Application to Pro/Con Committee
2025 Districting Ballot Measure

Materials submitted in connection with the application process will be protected to the extent allowed by law. Information may be subject to release under the Public Records Act, Ch. 42.56.RCW.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Nancy Doran

Address: 1516 Johnston Ave

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☒ Pro Committee ☐ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I've lived in Richland since 1976 and have been involved in the community in a number of ways: as a rec soccer coach and referee, as Board member and chair of Camerata Musica, on the Boards of Tapteal Greenway, and Columbia Basin Badgers. I served on the Richland Parks and Recreation Commission for 11 years and am currently a volunteer for PRC's Richland Walks, monthly strolls highlighting Richland's history and architecture.

In researching City history, I learned that the question of district representation is not new. When Richland was still a company town, there was a community council, albeit one without authority beyond raising issues with GE and the AEC, but it had district representation. In 1958, when Richlanders faced the issue of becoming an independent first-class city, fifteen freeholders were elected to draw up a charter to be voted on. The question of how councilors would be chosen was a contentious issue - district voting failed to be included on an 8-7 vote. Articles in the TCH at the time record that the deciding vote was cast by a man who changed his view on the topic after being elected as a freeholder. A petition to overturn that decision was deemed to be too late.

Richland's population in 1958 was approximately 23,000 and its area encompassed about 8 1/2 sq.m. We've grown a lot since then but the desire and need for district voting has not gone away.

During the signature gathering stage of this campaign, I was struck by the fact that no one I spoke to thought this was a bad idea. Citizens want to know that Councilors understand how decisions affect the areas where they walk, shop and drive, where their children play, etc. because they share the same neighborhoods. .

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 
eSigned via GovOS.com
Key: 6b6dab43-1c8d-40db-9f3a-3a78120d0000

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City of Richland
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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Marie Philomena Noorani

Address: 327 Columbia Point Drive, Richland, WA 99352

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☒ Pro Committee ☐ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

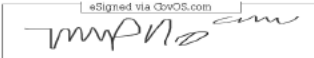
Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

My family has lived in the Tri-cities since 1993 and lived in Richland since 2011. I am a current university adjunct instructor, a former elementary educator, an active participant in local politics, and an involved member of the community. I value public service and responsive governments that create a space for all voices.

I would like to be a part of the "pro" statement committee. I worked collecting signatures for this initiative, and I feel strongly that voters will be able to make an informed decision once they understand the benefits of district based voting, the ways in which the current system harms representative government, and the process that was used to create fair voting districts.

I believe that I would be a productive member of this committee and useful towards meeting its goals.

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

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Date: 07-14-2025



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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Karen Albers

Address: 2513 HARRIS AVE

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☒ Pro Committee ☐ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

Professionally, I was an NRC Licensed Reactor Operator and training instructor at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Stations 2/3. I have also done extensive contract work at the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station (i.e., Quality Assurance), Hanford reservation and Lawrence Livermore (ALARA Engineer determining work related radiation dose-rates.). I was actively involved in volunteer efforts locally, regionally and state-wide with the WA State Parent Teacher Association, where I served as the state vice president and financial director. I have spent time in Olympia testifying in front of the House and Senate Education Committees advocating for the health, welfare, and safety of all children.

I firmly believe that it would be in the best interest for our city to elect council members from geographical districts (similar to Pasco and Kennewick) since they would have a better understanding of the needs of their respective areas. Case in point: Last year the council members wanted to expand Leslie Groves Park to include pickle board courts, nature center, kayak dock, etc. This proposal would have potentially destroyed animal habitats (e.g., Monarch butterflies, beavers, minks, otters), invaded privacy of homeowners by adding parking lots, increased traffic and speeding cars (already an issue), increased noise level and trash (a problem on the weekends in summer). I was one of 50 neighbors that joined forces to speak against these park additions during a council meeting. Had there been a representative from this area on the council during this time, the council members would have been aware of the neighborhood concerns and issues. We are a diverse community, not a one-size fits all. Our representation on the city council should reflect this. For example, South Richland is expanding with the construction of new housing and shopping developments. Central Richland is a mecca for business and healthcare, while North Richland is an older and established residential area along the river. Their issues are different but no less important.

Shir Regev ran for city council on the platform to redistrict the city council several years ago. When the Tri-City Herald interviewed her opponent, Brad Anderson, he agreed that if he was elected that he would promote the redistricting. Unfortunately, when Anderson left shortly after his election, there was no one to champion the cause. I am a member of the group - A Better Richland - that collected signatures for this initiative. I heard many favorable comments. We are no longer a small city of 20,000 people covering eight (8) square miles. Our population is greater than 60,000 covering 35 square miles and growing. It's time to toss out the antiquated system of electing seven at-large members who live predominantly in South Richland. The citizens of Richland deserve equal representation and a more responsive city government which would be achieved by establishing neighborhood districts.

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Date: 07-15-2025



**City of Richland
Application to Pro/Con Committee
2025 Districting Ballot Measure**

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Robert Mendez

Address: 314 Abbot Street, Richland, WA 99352

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☒ Pro Committee ☐ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I have working in local government for the last 22 years and expect to continue on for another 15 years until I retire. I have lived in the Tri-Cities all of my life and the last ten within the City of Richland. In all the time I have lived in the Tri-Cities, I have seen a great amount of growth and development, especially within Franklin County, one of the fastest growing Counties within Washington State. This growth and development are indications of varying prospects and opinion on how our resources should be utilized.

Currently, I am the Transportation Planner for Benton County Public Works, prior to that I was the Maintenance Program Manager for Franklin County Public Works. Additionally, I am on the Planning Commission for Benton County. I obtained my Bachelor of Applied Science in Project Management from Columbia Basin College in June 2015. I am seeking to expand my commitment to improving our local agencies not only in Benton County but also within the City of Richland. Working in local government has required that I be able to find viable solutions to complicated problems with limited resources. Creating a group of individuals with different perspectives is important to find the correct solution to the difficult problems, complex solutions rarely come from group that are not diverse. I would consider it my civic duty to participate on this committee.

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City of Richland
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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: David Harvey

Address: 1931 Harris Avenue

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☒ Pro Committee ☐ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I am applying to be appointed to the Pro Committee to amend the City of Richland's charter to change the election of City Council members from At-Large to District-based. The City of Richland has grown considerably since the adoption of the city charter in 1958. The neighboring cities of Kennewick and Pasco have grown considerably as well, and for the most part select their city council members by districts; as should the City of Richland. The current system favors those candidates with considerable campaign donations to be able to prepare and distribute/mail campaign literature and purchase campaign signs. Thus, the current make-up of Richland's City Council consists of a majority of council members that reside in the more affluent neighborhoods in south Richland, leaving the rest of Richland underrepresented. This would not happen if the city selected its council members by districts.

My professional and educational background includes serving as vice chair on the Governor of Washington's Advisory Council on Historic Preservation for eight years, serving ten years as a member and chair of the City of Kennewick's Historic Preservation Commission, serving five years on Downton Kennewick's Design Review Board, and co-author of the National Register of Historic Places nomination of the Gold Coast Historic District in the City of Richland. I have a BA and a MA in American History, Historic Preservation, and Government and post-graduate work in Urban Design and Planning, Environmental Law, and political science. I was a senior research scientist for Battelle for 12 years at DOE's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory in Richland, and for the past 10 years I have owned, and President of Northwest Cultural Resources Services in Richland, an environmental consulting firm.

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: David Westlake Harvey
eSigned via GovOS.com
Key: 6b6d6b43-1c5d-40db-9f3a-3a7812030000

Date: 07-16-2025



City of Richland
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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Steve Goheen

Address: 2016 Harris Avenue

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☒ Pro Committee ☐ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I have been a resident of Richland for 44 years. During most of that time the city council members have been residents on the far side of town from where I live. I believe this focuses on issues away from N. Richland and potentially forms a "good old boy" network within city politics. N. Richland needs sidewalks where residents exercise by walking, for example. Regional representation would help make citizens familiar with their city council members. My region currently has one city council member with whom I am familiar. I don't know any of the other members nearly as well. I think this is because they are not local representatives. I don't see any downside to regional representation.

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City of Richland
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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Andrew Rice

Address: 1624 Gaillard Pl. Richland, WA 99354

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☐ Pro Committee ☒ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I've lived in TriCities for 18 years; and for the past five years in north Richland. My family has benefited tremendously from the "small town" feel and community orientation of north Richland.

Some of the reasons for moving to Richland were the walking path along the river, the proximity to city parks, the easy access for boating and swimming, and the ever growing list of outdoor events close by.

My background in radiochemistry brought me to the Hanford site in 1993, and I presently work as a chemistry supervisor with Energy Northwest at the Columbia Generating Station. With numerous children and grandchildren living in town, it looks like my wife and I are here for the long haul!

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City of Richland
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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Dean L Gano

Address: 1327 Jubilee St

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

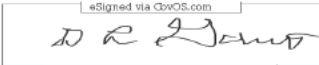
Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☐ Pro Committee ☒ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I am a long time resident of Richland and don't want to see this happen. I spent most of my life teaching effective problem solving to most of the world's Fortune 500 companies and believe that will help me provide good input. I have also published three books so I know how to write.

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Trudy Prince

Address: 446 Cherry Blossom Loop Richland, WA 99352

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☐ Pro Committee ☒ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I have been a resident of Richland for over 17 years. My husband and I are retired, and are staying here for our grandkids. I became aware of the districting ballot measure, initially by a door to door solicitor, who gained my signature by what I now believe to be misleading information. Richland's city council's at large election method is a proven efficient and workable system put in place by our charter. Changing this to a district based election is problematic for several reasons. I want to be represented by all 7 council members - not just 1. The pool of qualified candidates would be limited by their physical address - arbitrary district boundaries. We are experiencing this issue on a smaller level in our HOA. Our committee volunteers must represent 1 of 5 zones, which sounds good on paper, but 2 of the zones are having difficulties providing willing volunteers. I want a unified voice from our city council, not neighborhood favoritism. I want broad-minded leadership and accountability. I am willing to serve on this committee to promote quality government at a local level. Thank you for your consideration. Trudy Prince

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Charles Krause

Address: 61 Park St Richland, WA 99354-2057

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☐ Pro Committee ☒ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I have lived in Richland (middle, then south, now north) for 35 years and had a business in the city before I retired. Having become aware of the issues regarding redistricting, it seems that having a say (vote) on everyone who sits on the council is more advantageous rather than having a vote only on one candidate. The ward model for voting seems more appropriate for a larger city where the population is not as uniformly mixed (regarding socioeconomic status or race or other dividing factor) as the city of Richland is. {I accidentally misspelled my name on the signature} Charles E Krause

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 

Date: 07-16-2025



City of Richland
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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Joe Peterson

Address: 2772 Sawgrass Loop Richland WA 99354

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☐ Pro Committee ☒ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

30 year resident as renter, homeowner, volunteer, business owner and tax payer. I am opposed to gerrymandering districts to affect outcomes and am also aware that other cities have tried and now want to discontinue (Kelso). I expect responsibility and accountability from both politicians as well as the resident/citizen. Getting the best person based on merit is the best way to move forward. Happy to serve if you'll have me. Thanks

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Kathleen Schweiger

Address: 1901 Poplar St

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☐ Pro Committee ☒ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I was born and raised in Richland many years ago. It is home for and I have loved raising my family in this community. Last summer as I was walking in Howard Ammon Park, a woman approached me with the initiative asking me if I was a Richland resident, urging me to sign it. She told me the initiative was about redistricting Richland city Council, but I told her I needed some more information about that. She told me that if I sign it, it would be on the next ballot cycle and that I could get the details there. After hearing more about it later, I felt she was deceptive in having me sign the ballot. If I would have known I would only be able to vote for a city council person in my district, I would not have signed this initiative. I believe that all Richland voters should vote for all city council members not just the one in their district. City matters concern all city residents. Please vote CON against this initiative. We do not need our city divided. Our city is one.

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Mike Weitzel

Address: 425 Columbia Point Drive, Richland

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☐ Pro Committee ☒ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I have been a law-abiding, responsible resident of the City of Richland for 17 years.

I pay my taxes. I love my country. I served in the Marines. I seek to do what's right. I care about good, responsive government.

It's important to look at both sides of the story and check the motivation behind the proposed change. Will the proposed change serve the citizens better, or not?

Is there a good reason to change?

The voters need a fair and honest view of the reason for the proposed change. How will they get it?

It's looking to me that the move to Wards will remove my ability to review and select / vote for all 7 members of the City Council.
I don't want that.

At present, City residents who meet the legal requirements have the ability and opportunity to file and run for the positions on the ballot.

I'm wondering why the person(s) who is / are funding and pushing this change (The Pro Committee) did not run for Richland City Council for the coming November Election?

I am requesting to serve on the Con-Committee.

Respectfully,

Mike Weitzel

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Nathan Reynolds

Address: 421 Shoreline Ct

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☐ Pro Committee ☒ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

As a Richland Arts Committee member and former Portland, OR resident, I've seen vibrant cities thrive and decline. Richland, with under 70,000 residents, is a first-class city, not a sprawling metropolis. Dividing it into wards is a flawed proposal that risks our city's cohesion.

Portland was once a magnificent, well-governed city without wards. Only recently did it adopt geographic districts, and the results have been disastrous—crime, decay, and division. Seattle's shift to districts tells a similar story: governance weakened, not strengthened. Wards don't guarantee better representation; they fragment it.

Proponents claim wards increase ideological diversity, but their logic falters. They suggest certain ideas lack support because they're unpopular citywide, so they push for smaller, manipulable districts. This isn't progress—it's a power grab. Our current system already reflects Richland's diversity. Every commissioner is elected citywide, accountable to all of us. With wards, we'd only vote for one councilmember, diluting our voice.

The involvement of ActBlue, a known progressive group, raises red flags. Their push for "reform" feels like political fragmentation disguised as fairness. Richland's government functions well because it's unified, not splintered by geography or ideology.

Let's learn from Pinocchio's Pleasure Island: tempting promises often lead to ruin. Reject this ward proposal to preserve our effective, inclusive city government. Keep Richland whole, not divided.

—Nathan Reynolds, Richland Arts Commission, film program manager, theatre volunteer, financial account monitor

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Alexia Forbes

Address: 52 Galaxy Lane

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☐ Pro Committee ☒ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I am against any attempts at gerrymandering, no matter what name it takes.

I am a Richland businesswoman. I vote in every election. I love my community and want to keep it unified.

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Bruce A Spanner

Address: 3008 Riverbend Drive

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☐ Pro Committee ☒ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I have lived in Richland more or less continuously since 1959, and am quite familiar with its history and growth. Wards are not necessary or appropriate for the City of Richland, as there are no geographical areas with unique cultures or character. Given the bizarre proposed ward map, it is obvious that there are certain people who desire to be on the council but can't get elected in an at large system. Two thirds of our citizens are conservative. That suggests that the proponents are frustrated liberals. Decisiveness is misguided and can only harm the community.

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2025 Districting Ballot Measure

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Chris Merkling

Address: 231 Greenview Drive

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☐ Pro Committee ☒ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

If I have learned anything in the past few years, it is, nothing is as it appears or explained. My husband and I were approached last summer to sign the petition for the formation of "Wards," to represent neighborhoods on the Richland City Council. It was presented in such a way that it sounded like an OK idea. I signed the petition, "to be nice," knowing I had to do more research. Since then, I have learned that not only should I not have signed that petition, but in NO way do I think this is a good idea.

My family moved here in 1994. Then, most of the representation, I believe, hailed from N. Richland, which seemed to work well. Since then, the town has grown, and it seems that there is a fair representation of the neighborhoods already on the City Council. Maybe, if Richland was a very large metropolis, this would make more sense. but it seems it is hard enough to find interested, qualified applicants as it is.

So, what could go wrong with a ward system?

The cost of implementing and maintaining a ward system. Wards require ongoing maintenance, including redrawing boundaries, conducting censuses, and managing the election process, which involves printing multiple ballots to reflect the candidates within each ward. Who decides the boundaries?

Concerns that council members may prioritize the interests of their ward over those of the city as a whole when voting on decisions.

Council members may advocate for the needs of just a subsection vs the entire city.

Research has shown that there is more conflict between council members in a ward system

With our current system, a sense of unity exists, as all representatives are accountable to the entire population. This can potentially reduce conflicts or rivalries within the city. The Ward system has less value for smaller, more homogenous cities. Richland issues are city-wide, not ward-specific.

I guess the #1 reason why I would discourage this is when a new idea like this is presented, bells start going off in my head as to why. I have not noticed a problem within the community to necessitate such a drastic change. Then, I must look into who is behind this, how it has worked elsewhere... My research leads me to oppose the idea of the, "Ward System."

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 
eSigned via GovOS.com
Key: 6b6dab43-1c5d-40db-9f3a-3af9120d0000

Date: 07-17-2025



City of Richland
Application to Pro/Con Committee
2025 Districting Ballot Measure

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Christian Rhynalds

Address: 920 S 47th Ave, West Richland WA 99353

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☐ Pro Committee ☐ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I have lived in the Richland and West Richland areas of our community for over 15 years. I know the issues, both good and bad, of my area. So why am I against having someone specifically represent my area? I feel very represented now. More money has been spent in areas of Richland that need renovating and areas that are used heavily, like the parks and green belt trails. I have loved the development of Columbia Point and the efforts to route traffic around my area, establish bike lanes and safe pedestrian crosswalks. Under the ward proposal, we will be able to vote for fewer council members, giving us less representation, allowing newer developments to be unconcerned about older areas. the Ward proposal as constructed does not work like it should. It is being driven by a few people who have unsuccessfully ran for city office and been defeated by the majority of voters. Carving up the city into smaller sections and only letting those within those areas vote for only one or two candidates does not represent the overall will of the people. it does nothing for the overall good of the entire city of Richland. it will lead to more division on the city council and will cause harm in the long term to the governing health of the city. I am against having wards in the city of Richland. Please register me as CON against this measure. I own a home in West Richland as well as shared ownership of 168 Bradley Blvd. at Columbia Point, where my mother-in-law also resides.

Thank You
Christian Rhynalds

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: Christian D. Rhynalds
eSigned via GovOS.com
Key: 6b6db42-1c5d-40db-9f3a-3e78120d0000

Date: 07-17-2025



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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Donald Landsman

Address: 60 Proton Ln

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☐ Pro Committee ☒ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

My name is Donald Landsman, and I would be proud to serve on the committee opposing the proposed shift from at-large representation to a district-based city council in Richland.

I've called Richland home since 1977. As a longtime resident, homeowner, parent, and community volunteer, I've seen firsthand how our city has grown, not just in size, but in complexity. I believe this change would divide, not strengthen, our local government.

Under our current at-large system, every councilmember is accountable to every voter in the city. That means each of us has a voice in choosing the full council not just one representative from one neighborhood. It encourages councilmembers to think citywide, build consensus, and work toward solutions that benefit all residents.

Switching to districts may sound like a step toward fairness, but it often results in narrow, political thinking where councilmembers prioritize their specific area over what's best for Richland as a whole. Worse, it opens the door to gerrymandering where district lines are redrawn to favor certain interests or outcomes, undermining trust in the system.

We should be building unity, not drawing lines between neighbors. At-large elections give voters more choices, hold all councilmembers accountable, and support policies that reflect the needs of the entire community.

As someone who believes deeply in servant leadership, I want to keep our city council focused on all of Richland not just pieces of it. I look forward to contributing to a respectful, fact-based discussion and encouraging voters to preserve a system that has served our city well for decades.

Thank you for your consideration.
Donald Landsman

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 
eSigned via GovOS.com
Key: 6b6db43-1c5d-40db-9f3a-3a79120d5000

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Elaine Rice

Address: 1622 Gaillard Pl

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☐ Pro Committee ☒ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I relocated to Richland from Oregon in 2023 and have really appreciated the sense of community here. Like any city, Richland has its share of differences across neighborhoods, and while I may not align with all of them, I don't believe those differences should divide us. I'm concerned that implementing districting could have unintended consequences—it might actually deepen divisions rather than strengthen representation. I'd rather see us work through our differences together than be split apart by them.

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 
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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Janice Hansen

Address: 1116 Pinto Loop

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☐ Pro Committee ☒ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I have been a resident of Richland for 38 Years.
I am a registered Voter
I vote in the elections
I am a retired teacher. I worked for the Richland School District.
I am interested in good and fair government. The form of government we have now works and I want to keep it.
I would like to know what the real agenda is behind the change.

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Jarrett Rice

Address: 1622 Gaillard Pl

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☐ Pro Committee ☒ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

We moved to Richland in '23 from Oregon, and have enjoyed the Richland community aspect as a whole. I understand there are differences across the city, like any city. As differences, many of them I do not agree with. But I do not want to separate and effectively isolate people from me just because they have a difference in opinions. Districting may not provide the result initially intended, and could encourage and make division even more noticeable and worse.

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Jarrod Miller

Address: 1622 Meadow Hills Dr, Richland, WA 99352

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☐ Pro Committee ☒ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

As a long-standing resident and business owner in this city, I have witnessed firsthand the importance of effective and unified local governance. My experiences have deepened my appreciation for a city council that remains accessible to all citizens and responsive to the diverse needs of our community.

Maintaining our current city council structure is essential for preserving the efficiency and accessibility of local governance. Changing to a district-based system introduces an additional layer of governmental bureaucracy that is both unnecessary and counterproductive. It risks complicating decision-making processes and delaying actions that directly impact our community.

The city council, as it stands today, operates in a manner where representatives are accountable to the entire city, ensuring their focus remains on the collective good rather than territorial interests. A shift to districts could fragment our leadership, fostering division and competition rather than collaboration. It might also reduce the ability of council members to address citywide issues uniformly and equitably.

Moreover, the introduction of districts would require additional administrative oversight, logistical planning, and potentially increased costs—all burdens that our community does not need. These changes could detract from the council's ability to focus on pressing issues, redirecting time, energy, and resources toward managing a more complex system rather than serving the residents effectively.

Let us prioritize simplicity and unity. By keeping our current structure intact, we can ensure that our council remains transparent, efficient, and focused on the needs of all citizens, not just those within specific boundaries. This approach avoids unnecessary bureaucratic expansion while continuing to support the values of inclusivity and collaboration that strengthen our community.

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 
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Key: 6b6d6b43-1c5d-40db-9f3a-3ef9120f0000

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Marisa Dunfee

Address: 381 Palm Dr. Richland WA 99352

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☐ Pro Committee ☒ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I am an 18 year old 2025 Hanford High Graduate, and a lifelong Richland resident. I am writing to be on the con committee for this measure because I believe that creating a ward system for our city would create unnecessary issues, and I also believe that the ward system does not actually benefit what the "A Better Richland" group is claiming it will benefit.

My reasons for believing this are as follows:

- Richland issues are city wide. Even if someone resides in one area of the city, they travel through, work in, and interact with areas all over the city. Issues in one ward would affect people from other wards as well.
- The ward system is supposed to increase representation. Yet when people look into the ward system, they will realize that isn't true at all. Richland residents would only get to vote on 3 out of the 7 council members. That dilutes the power of individual votes, which actually decreases representation for the individual voter. Not only that, but residents wouldn't be able to vote for members making decisions that affect them, including safety and taxes. That isn't increased representation, but instead a significant decrease in representation. Also, since residents don't vote on all council members, the majority of members have no electoral accountability to the voter.
- The ward system is supposed to provide a more direct connection between voters and their representative. However, this is clearly not the case as voters would only be able to maintain a connection with their 1 ward representative, and not the representatives from the other 4 wards. Considering that all council members are supposed to be voting in the interests of all wards, voters would have decreased connection with the people voting on issues that affect them.
- Wards might not be equal in population or socioeconomic status, leading to disparities in political power, representation, and access to services.
- The ward system opens up more opportunities for gerrymandering, plus there is a high taxpayer burden of redistricting costs.
- Finally, the ward system creates unnecessary division and competing local interests can overshadow collaboration on the board.

Thank you for your attention to this issue and for considering me for the committee. I would appreciate the opportunity to refine these ideas alongside a committee and ensure that our city has a system of representation that benefits residents.

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 
eSigned via GovOS.com
Key: 6b6deb43-1c03-40db-9d3a-3a7b12049897

Date: 07-17-2025



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2025 Districting Ballot Measure

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Pat Holten

Address: 1522 Hains Ave

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☐ Pro Committee ☒ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I have lived in the core of Richland for over 50 years. I know the issues, both good and bad, of my area. So why am I against having someone specifically represent my area? I feel very represented now. More money has been spent in my area than any area of Richland. I have loved the development of Columbia Point and the efforts to route traffic around my area, establish bike lanes and safe pedestrian crosswalks. Under the ward proposal, I will be able to vote for fewer council members, giving me less representation, allowing newer developments to be unconcerned about older areas.

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Patricia Hubbard

Address: 519 Rome Court

Email Address:

Primary Phone Number:

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☐ Pro Committee ☒ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I moved to the Tri-Cities in the early 70's, grew up in North Richland and graduated from Hanford High. We moved back here in 2000 from the westside, desiring a great place to raise our family - returning home to Richland. I worked at PNNL for 20 years and appreciated the opportunity of working here and serving this community. Over the past 25 years, I have seen many wonderful changes in the city and some challenges, as well.

I believe that our current City Council has done a great job at planning and growing the City. I see this new challenge (the measure) as an opportunity to bring our community together. To take the freedom of being able to vote for ALL of our council members away is a HUGE step backwards. We would have 50% less say in who we desire to represent us as our elected officials. It would be a costly, unnecessary change that takes our rights away for every person in Richland! We are making great progress and do not need to divide - but be one. We need to just say NO to this measure and YES to ONE Richland!!

I love this City and would appreciate the opportunity to help educate folks on why this measure should not be passed. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Patricia Hubbard
519 Rome Court
Richland, WA
(509) 947-1068

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature:

Patricia Jean Hubbard

Key: 6b6d6b43-1c5d-40db-9f3a-3e79120d0000

Date:

07-17-2025



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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Rich Hirano

Address: 2842 Hawkstone Ct

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☐ Pro Committee ☒ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

Long time resident of Richland going on 50 years. This is a great community with safe streets, low crime and great recreation facilities. A great part of the community direction comes from the Richland city council. The election process of the city council members for Richland has worked well. Changing the representation arrangement should only be considered after thorough study and review. I am open to serving on any committee to study any change.

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Richard Holten

Address: 1522 Hains Avenue

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☐ Pro Committee ☒ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I am very satisfied with the way the current access I have to Richland city council and believe my views are well-represented. I fear that changes to the current electoral process could easily bring unintended consequences. I would prefer to see a council that serves the best interests in the city as a whole rather than one that lacks unity due to narrow interests of individual wards.

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 

Key: 6b6deb43-1c5d-40db-9f3a-3ef9120d5000

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Robert Jacobs

Address: 121 Fairwood Ct

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☐ Pro Committee ☒ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I have been a resident of Richland for the last 64 years(except for 4 years at college and 5 years in Washington, D. C. and Los Angeles, CA. employed as a Special Agent for the Federal Government. Since 1979 I have lived in Richland, raised a family here with my wife Mary, and owned private businesses in Richland, Kennewick, Pasco, and Walla Walla. I have recently retired giving me free time to get involved with the community I love. I believe I would be a positive asset if appointed to the Con Committee because of my vast business experience and success. I enjoy working with good people in a team atmosphere. Sincerely, Robert 'Bob' Jacobs

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Sandra Fowler

Address: 322 Columbia Point Drive

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☐ Pro Committee ☒ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

Recent census indicate the population of the City of Richland is approximately 65,000 within a 39.11 square miles including land and water. By any measure our City is relatively small, close-knit community. Proponents of the district measure want to manipulate what they could not achieve in past at-large elections.

Proponents of the districting measure coming from relatively newer developments want to break up our long standing and cohesive City Council to manipulate governing toward their 'districts' rather than focusing on the community as a whole.

Mainly, there will be a loss of citywide perspective, as council members focus on districts, leading to NIMBY.

District systems can lead to worse policies for minorities/limited income families, as they focus on district medians rather than all voters.

Maintaining a citywide focus is the main reason to not switch from at-large.

By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 
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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Suzanne Heaston

Address: 1070 Allenwhite Drive

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☐ Pro Committee ☒ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: Teresa Ann Sharp (Teri)

Address: 2603 Willowbrook Ave Richland, WA 99352

Email Address: [REDACTED]

Primary Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Do you reside in the City of Richland? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Which committee assignment do you prefer? (check one) ☐ Pro Committee ☒ Con Committee

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Please provide brief background information about yourself and why you should be appointed to the Pro/Con Committee. Please limit your statement to 300 words.

I am a native to Richland and cannot imagine living anywhere else. I have served my community in a variety of ways throughout my 74 young years and have lived through it's ups and downs, witnessing the strength of my town. I believe one reason Richland is strong is because we have representatives that care about the entirety of Richland and it's population without breaking it down into special geographical interests. Certainly we do not all agree on everything, but dividing up the representation of it's citizens is a sure way to divide the people.

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Date: 07-17-2025



COUNCIL WORKSHOP COVERSHEET

Council Date: 7/22/2025

Department: Deputy City Manager

Strategic Priority 1 - High Performance Government

Strategic Priority 3 - Focused Development

Strategic Priority 4 - Quality of Life

Subject

Off Street Parking Regulation: Review of Consultant Findings and Community Engagement

Summary

Earlier this year, the City entered into a contract with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. ("Consultant") to conduct an analysis of Richland's existing off-street parking regulations (see Contract No. 36-25). The scope of work included a review of prior City studies, an evaluation of new state legislation, and the development of recommendations to optimize off-street parking. The objective of this study is to determine whether enhanced off-street parking strategies could effectively support revitalization efforts in the Central Business District.

Kimley-Horn is a nationally recognized firm that specializes in engineering, planning, and landscape architecture, with over 8,000 employees. Their dedicated team of more than 100 parking professionals provides parking management consultation services to both public and private clients. Regional offices are located in Bellevue, Boise, Portland, Seattle, and Spokane.

As part of the engagement, City staff participated in three (3) virtual stakeholder meetings with the Consultant on June 3 and June 5, 2025. These meetings included a balanced representation from both public and private interests. Additionally, a virtual workshop with the Richland Planning Commission was held on June 11, 2025, followed by a virtual public open house on June 26, 2025.

The next step in the project is to present the findings and stakeholder feedback to the City Council during a workshop session. This discussion will explore a range of regulatory approaches, ranging from implementing minimum state requirements to establishing a fully managed parking program. Feedback and direction from Council will be incorporated into a technical memorandum prepared by the Consultant. This memorandum may be presented to Council for further review prior to final acceptance as the completed work product.

Attachments



COUNCIL WORKSHOP COVERSHEET

Council Date: 7/22/2025

Department: City Manager

Strategic Priority I - High Performance Government

Subject

City Council Correspondence Policy

Summary

This agenda item presents a draft policy framework for managing requests for letters of support and other official City Council correspondence that represent the City. The policy is designed to ensure a clear, consistent, and accountable process that aligns with the City's priorities and provides appropriate Council oversight.

Under the proposal, all requests for letters of support are submitted in writing or by email directly to the City Manager's Office. The City Manager will then review each request to determine whether it qualifies as a routine administrative matter. Routine matters generally include letters supporting grant applications, administrative procedures, or correspondence consistent with previously adopted Council direction. Importantly, routine letters must not introduce new policy positions or support initiatives outside the City's established priorities, plans, or legislative agendas.

For routine matters, all Councilmembers will be notified in advance by email, including a brief explanation of how the letter aligns with existing City priorities. Councilmembers will have three business days to raise objections. If the letter clearly aligns with adopted policies, an objection from an individual Councilmember will not prevent the letter from being issued. However, if alignment is unclear and objections arise, the matter will be brought before the full City Council for discussion and action.

Non-routine requests, or any routine requests where objections remain unresolved, will require Council consideration and formal authorization for the Mayor to sign the letter on behalf of the City.

The policy also clarifies that individual Councilmembers, including the Mayor, may not send official correspondence representing the City unless expressly authorized by the Council. When expressing personal views, they must clearly state that their opinions do not represent official City positions.

The City Manager is tasked with overseeing compliance and maintaining records of all correspondence requests and actions. The policy may be updated by the City Council as necessary to reflect evolving practices or priorities. A draft policy will be created following Council's consideration of this initial framework.

Attachments