

November 6, 2012 general election

Voters' pamphlet

CLARK COUNTY WASHINGTON



Published by the Clark County Auditor's Office



Auditor's letter

To Clark County Voters

On Election Day 2008 – the previous presidential election – nearly 1,300 people waited in line outside the Clark County Elections Office to get a ballot. Some stood there for three hours.

If you want to help ensure you get a ballot without a lengthy wait, contact us as early as possible before Election Day, Nov. 6.

Contact the Elections Office if you:

- Changed your name.
- Moved to a new address in Clark County.
- Lost your ballot.
- Moved to Clark County from another county in Washington.
- Have never registered to vote.
- Did not receive a ballot for this year's primary.

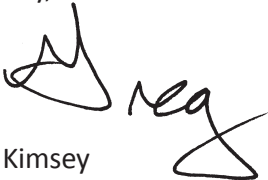
You can:

- Call us at (360) 397-2345.
- Send an email to elections@clark.wa.gov.
- Visit our website at clarkvotes.org.
- Come to our office at 1408 Franklin St., Vancouver. Hours are 8 A.M. to 5 P.M. Monday through Friday and on Saturday, Nov. 3, just before Election Day.

At all levels of government, successful candidates in this election will make decisions that will affect you and future generations. Depending on where you live, you also will find initiatives, a referendum, advisory votes and local issues on your ballot. If passed, they will have a direct and immediate impact on our citizens, community and state. The power of the individual vote in our system of government is a humbling privilege and responsibility.

I urge you to read this pamphlet, but also seek more information. The best decisions are made by informed voters.

Sincerely,



Greg Kimsey
Clark County Auditor
greg.kimsey@clark.wa.gov, (360) 397-2078

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Participating jurisdictions – Clark County Commissioner Districts 1 and 2; Public Utility District No. 1 of Clark County, Commissioner, District 1; City of Vancouver; C-TRAN.

A reminder to vote

Registering to vote

Registering takes only a few minutes, and you may do it by mail or online at

MyVote

register to vote | my voting information

www.clarkvotes.org. You must complete a voter registration form if you are registering for the first time in Washington or if you moved to a new county. Registration forms are available during business hours at public libraries, schools, city and town halls, and the county Elections Department.

If you are not registered anywhere in Washington, you still can register for the November 6 general election, but you must do so **in-person** at the Elections Department, 1408 Franklin St., Vancouver. Registration will end at 5 p.m. Monday, October 29.

If you already are registered and have moved within Clark County, you can update your address by mail, email or phone. However, the ballot you receive will reflect your old address.

Who is eligible to vote

To register, you must be a United States citizen, 18 years or older on November 6, and live in Clark County 30 days prior to the election.

How to vote

Registered Clark County voters will receive their ballots by mail for every election in which they are entitled to participate. Please read the voting instructions on Page 94. We want your vote to count!

Lost or damaged ballot?

If you lose your ballot or it becomes damaged, you can get a replacement ballot by contacting the Elections Department.

Phone: (360) 397-2345

Email: elections@clark.wa.gov

Mailing address: PO Box 8815, Vancouver, WA 98666-8815

Street address: 1408 Franklin Street, Vancouver

Speech to speech relay: (800) 833-6384

Be an informed voter. Here's how.

There are many sources of information for citizens wanting to know more about candidates, issues and coverage of the November 6 general election.

Read all about it

- **The Columbian**
www.columbian.com
- **The Oregonian**
www.oregonlive.com/elections/
- **The Camas/Washougal Post Record**
www.camaspostrecord.com
- **The Reflector**
www.thereflector.com



League of Women Voters

For a schedule of events or candidate forums, see their website at www.washingtonvoter.org or call (360) 693-9966.

Watch cable TV

CVTV Clark-Vancouver Television on Comcast cable channels 21 and 23. Election coverage will include candidate forums and interviews of candidates in various races. See TV listings in The Columbian, cable channel 2 and the CVTV website, www.cvtv.org or call (360) 696-8233.

If you do not have cable TV, you can get video tapes of programs at any Fort Vancouver Regional Library branch or from CVTV.



Look online



- Information about candidates for statewide offices can be found on the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.wa.gov/elections/.
- Election coverage can be found on the Clark County Elections Department website at <http://clarkvotes.org>.
- The Fort Vancouver Regional Library has computers with Internet connections available for public use.

Ballot deposit locations

If you wish to return your voted ballot in person before the general election, November 6, take it to the:

■ Clark County Elections Department

1408 Franklin Street, Vancouver. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.
If you lose your ballot or it becomes damaged, you can obtain a replacement ballot only at this location.

■ Red permanent ballot drop box

West 14th and Esther streets, Vancouver (one-half block east of the Elections Department). *Available 24 hours a day.*

Election Day is Tuesday, November 6, 2012. If you wish to return your voted ballot in person on Election Day take it to the red ballot drop box before 8 p.m.

In addition, election workers will be present to accept completed ballots only on Election Day from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at these locations:

Clark County Elections Department

1408 Franklin Street, Vancouver

Battle Ground City Hall

109 SW 1st Street, Battle Ground

Battle Ground High School

300 W Main Street, Battle Ground

Burton Elementary School

14015 NE 28th Street, Vancouver

Chinook Elementary School

1900 NW Bliss Road, Vancouver

Crestline Elementary School

13003 SE 7th Street, Vancouver

Dorothy Fox Elementary School

2623 NW Sierra Street, Camas

Eleanor Roosevelt Elementary School

2921 Falk Road, Vancouver

Ellsworth Elementary School

512 SE Ellsworth Avenue, Vancouver

Felida Elementary School

2700 NW 119th Street, Vancouver

Fisher's Landing Elementary School

3800 SE Hiddenbrook Drive, Vancouver

Glenwood Heights Primary School

9716 NE 134th Street, Vancouver

Grace Foursquare Gospel Church

717 SE Everett Road, Camas

Hazel Dell Elementary School

511 NE Anderson Road, Vancouver

Helen Baller Elementary School

1954 NE Garfield Street, Camas

Hockinson Middle School

15916 NE 182nd Avenue, Brush Prairie

Image Elementary School

4400 NE 122nd Avenue, Vancouver

La Center Community Center

1000 E 4th Street, La Center

Lincoln Elementary School

4200 Daniels Street, Vancouver

M.L. King Elementary School

4801 Idaho Street, Vancouver

Mill Plain Elementary School

400 SE 164th Avenue, Vancouver

Minnehaha Elementary School

2800 NE 54th Street, Vancouver

Pleasant Valley School

14320 NE 50th Avenue, Vancouver

Prune Hill Elementary School

1601 NW Tidland Street, Camas

Ridgefield Nazarene Church

747 Pioneer Street, Ridgefield

Riverview Elementary School

12601 SE Riveridge Drive, Vancouver

Salmon Creek Elementary School

1601 NE 129th Street, Vancouver

Sarah J. Anderson Elementary School

2215 NE 104th Street, Vancouver

Sifton Elementary School

7301 NE 137th Avenue, Vancouver

Sunset Elementary School

9001 NE 95th Street, Vancouver

Walnut Grove Elementary School

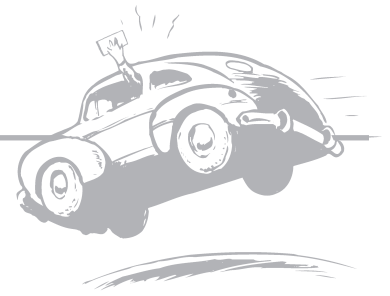
6103 NE 72nd Avenue, Vancouver

Washougal Community Center

1681 C Street, Washougal

Yacolt Primary School

406 W Yacolt Road, Yacolt



Voting instructions

Your ballot packet will be mailed to you about 20 days before the November 6 general election. It will contain:

- An insert explaining Washington's general election.
- An instruction sheet that explains the voting process.
- The official ballot where you will mark your choices (it will be folded).
- A yellow secrecy envelope with instructions printed on it.
- A return affidavit envelope with green stripes that is addressed to the county Auditor.

To make sure your vote is counted please follow the steps below when you receive your ballot package.

1 Read the following instructions that explain how to vote in this election.

2 Unfold and read the ballot. It contains all the races and ballot measures that you can vote.

3 Mark your ballot by completely filling in the box to the left of your choice with a black or blue ink pen.

*Example:
Candidate 2 has been chosen in the city of Vancouver, council race.*

One candidate has been marked and the box is filled in completely.

4 Optional. If you want to vote for a candidate not appearing on the ballot, completely fill in the box to the left of the Write-In choice and use the line provided.

5 Check your ballot to be sure you have voted for all the candidates and measures you intended. Make sure you voted for only one candidate in each race. If you vote for more than one candidate, your votes in that race will be rejected. Your other votes will be counted if they are done correctly.

If you make a mistake marking your ballot, draw a line through the entire candidate's name as shown below. You then have the option of making another choice.

6 Refold the ballot in the same way you received it and place it inside the yellow secrecy envelope. Then seal it. Don't write on this envelope.

7 Place the yellow secrecy envelope into the white affidavit envelope with green stripes.

8 Read the oath on the affidavit envelope, and then sign and date it.

9 Seal the envelope and put a first class stamp (45¢) on the envelope and mail it so it is postmarked no later than November 6.

You may also deliver your envelope in person. Please turn to Page 93 for information about ballot deposit locations.

If you need help, call the Elections Department at (360) 397-2345.

Accessible voting

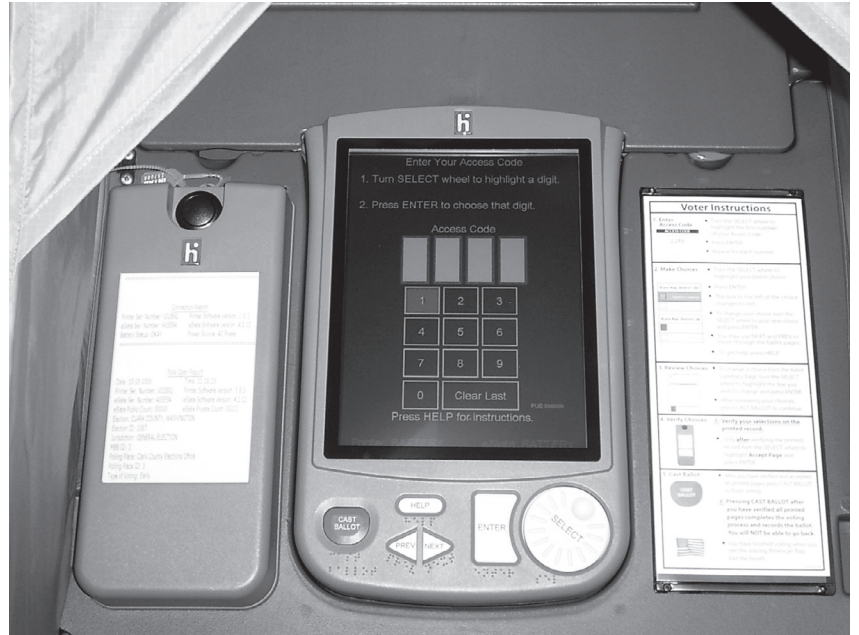
Using the eSlate

Clark County voters with disabilities have the option of casting a truly secret ballot using an accessible voting unit.

The eSlate accessible voting unit is a direct record electronic machine that allows voters with disabilities, including those who are blind, mobility impaired or lack upper-body dexterity, to vote privately and independently. The eSlate is in a booth that is wheelchair accessible. The photos to the right are of the eSlate, encased in its booth.

Beginning 20 days before each election this accessible voting machine is available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Clark County Elections Office, 1408 Franklin Street, Vancouver.

The elections department may be reached by taking C-Tran bus #1 Fruit Valley Route. You will be let off at Franklin Street and Mill Plain Blvd.



The top photograph shows a close-up of the e-Slate. The photograph on the right shows the e-Slate as part of the wheelchair accessible booth.



Continued on next page.

Accessible voting

About the accessible eSlate

The eSlate is accessible in six ways.

- For those who cannot operate the eSlate using the buttons and wheel, special interface devices are available as shown here.
- For those who cannot see or read the eSlate screen, use the headphones with volume control to hear the ballot.

Accessible features

- Those who are blind, visually impaired, or have difficulty reading can listen to the ballot. The SELECT wheel is the trigger to the audio. Turning clockwise moves the listener through the ballot. To hear something repeated, turn the SELECT wheel counterclockwise.

Those using hearing aids with a telecoil mode may use their neckloop rather than the headphones.



- The RED jelly switch is the same as the SELECT wheel. The GREEN jelly switch is the same as the ENTER button.



- Voters with quadriplegia can use their sip-n-puff to move through the ballot. Sip to move through the ballot. Puff to mark your choice.



The accessible eSlate unit is in a wheelchair-accessible booth.

If you are not in a chair but need to sit while voting, a chair can be used with the special booth.

Candidate statements



County Partisan Office

CLARK COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT NO. 1



Tom Mielke

Prefers Republican Party

Tom Mielke, successful retired businessman of 18 years (employing 35 families) and 8-year State Representative, is running to be re-elected your County Commissioner.

Tom has been the only voice for the people on the commission and on the C-TRAN board, *fighting tolls and light rail while demanding a county-wide vote.*

Successful at reducing County regulations and business strangling fee structures, Tom realizes the urgent need for jobs in Clark County and is focused

on economic development.

Decorated Vietnam Combat Veteran, father & grandfather, Tom resides in rural Battle Ground.

Voter tested and approved, Tom is again asking for your vote.

Address: Tom Mielke For County Commissioner, PO Box 2503, Battle Ground 98604

Phone: (360) 608-6201

Email: district18rep@msn.com

Website: www.TomMielke.com



Joe Tanner

Prefers Democrat Party

It's All About Jobs!

Joe Tanner is a longtime local small businessman, decorated Vietnam veteran, Eagle Scout, former State Senator, proud husband of 42 years, father, and grandfather.

Joe delivers results. In the legislature he fought for WSU-Vancouver, to eliminate sales tax on manufacturing, and built a strong bi-partisan reputation. As President of the Economic Development Council, Joe helped land thousands of new family wage jobs.

Put Joe back to work for you, fighting for good jobs, adding taxpayers rather than taxes, protecting private property rights, and enhancing our quality of life.

Joe welcomes your suggestions and appreciates your vote.

Address: 1111 Main Street, Suite 400, Vancouver 98660; **Phone:** (360) 910-1600

Email: Joe@VoteJoeTanner.com

Website: www.VoteJoeTanner.com

Each candidate for partisan office may state a political party he or she prefers. A candidate's preference does not imply that the candidate is nominated or endorsed by the party, or that the party approves of or associates with that candidate.

County Partisan Office

CLARK COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT NO. 2



David Madore

Prefers Republican Party

As founder of US Digital, I built a prospering and thriving debt free business that provides over 100 great Clark County jobs. My desire is for all of our citizens to prosper and thrive. As your Commissioner, I commit to use proven leadership principles to shape a business-friendly environment, free of abusive taxes, burdensome fees, and inappropriate government regulations. Funding for the flawed CRC-light rail project should be withdrawn. We must make it easy and affordable for businesses to create precious jobs.

Vote to elect David Madore for Commissioner and

re-elect Commissioner Tom Mielke. Let's get Clark County working again!

Cell phone: (360) 601-3056

Email: David@DavidMadore.com

Website: www.DavidMadore.com

Public Facebook: www.facebook.com/DavidMadorePublic

Personal/family Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/DavidMadore2

Media site: www.COUV.com



Marc Boldt

Prefers Republican Party

Jobs – A word used by many, but rarely backed by action. I have acted, and I believe we stand at the door of opportunity because of my actions.

First, I have provided needed land zoned for jobs. Also, I have, and will *fight* regulations that take time and money regardless of the outcome through Department of Ecology and other agencies.

I also led for our promising future, creating our WSU/county heritage farm, a regional health

alliance, a plan to make our county a leader for our aging population, and others.

Thank you for your vote of confidence. God bless.

Phone: (360) 256-9025

Email: dawn.boldt@gmail.com

Website: www.marcboldt.com



Jim Malinowski

Nonpartisan

I was raised in Clark County, am active in the community, and have regularly attended PUD Board Meetings for many years prior to this election. As an electric power engineer and Clark College Power Utilities Technology Program Manager and Instructor, I have the background to understand the complex electric and natural gas markets that affect 70% of our power bills. With my strong technical background and knowledge of utility operations, I will be able to represent your interests on the board that

oversees our customer-owned utility district. I will work to keep rates stable and low as possible.

Address: PO Box 127, Amboy 98601

Phone: (360) 247-6404

Email: j.malinowski@ieee.org

Website: <http://jim-malinowski.com/>



Julia Anderson

Nonpartisan

I am running for Clark Public Utilities Commissioner because I care. Count on me to ask constructive questions and get clear answers to preserve low-cost power and water for all utility customers. But my mission is about more than power rates.

With 26 years of leadership experience in your community as a professional journalist covering business, energy, and the economy, I have the skills to get things done. I know how to make decisions that

will balance livability with job creation on behalf of you - the owners of our public-power utility.

I would be honored to have your vote.

Address: Committee to Elect Julia Anderson, Clark County Public Utilities Commissioner, 15211 NE Grinnell Road, Woodland 98674

Phone: (360) 263-0496

Website: www.ElectJuliaAnderson.com

Ballot measure



C-TRAN

PROPOSITION NO. 1

CLARK COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION BENEFIT AREA AUTHORITY (C-TRAN)

Resolution BR-12-009 and RCW 81.104 authorize a proposition to increase the sales and use tax by 0.1 percent, or one penny on a ten dollar purchase, to fund the C-TRAN share of the maintenance and operations costs only of the Columbia River Crossing Project light rail extension between Expo Center and Clark Park & Ride and the local capital share and operations and maintenance costs of the Fourth Plain Boulevard Bus Rapid Transit project.

Should this proposition be:

- ☐ APPROVED
- ☐ REJECTED

Statement for:

Vote Yes: Accountable, Affordable Transit Investments

Business leaders, seniors, people with disabilities, students and commuters agree – we need expanded transit options to fuel our economic recovery, protect access to services, and reduce congestion on our roads and bridges.

For a penny on a \$10 purchase we will be able to dramatically improve transit in Clark County. Investing in new high capacity transit will create hundreds of new jobs and attract more businesses to Clark County. This measure will create a fast and easy way for people to get into and out of Vancouver – expanding access to retail, goods and services.

With a yes vote for transit, Clark County residents will be able to connect into Oregon’s light rail system and build a bus rapid transit line on Fourth Plain. These two investments will make transit more reliable, reduce commute and wait times, make it easier to walk or bike to the bus, and improve the comfort and safety of transit.

Even if you don’t ride the bus or light rail, transit still serves you! Buses in Clark County transport thousands of commuters and students across town, taking countless cars off our roads and highways. Vote yes to reduce your commute to work, make it easier for goods to get to market, ambulances to get to hospitals, and put people in Clark County back to work.

C-Tran is governed by an independent board of elected officials committed to accountability and efficient services. Vote yes for Transit!

Written by:
Committee in Support of C-Tran
Members: Jim Moeller, Chair; Royce Pollard; Tim Kraft

Rebuttal of statement against:

Opponents of buses and light rail are using fear to intentionally mislead voters. This measure has nothing to do with tolls. It asks for one penny on every ten dollar purchase for the operations and upkeep of light rail, to build a faster more efficient bus service along Fourth Plain Boulevard, and for service improvements throughout Clark County to ease congestion and allow more seniors, students, and commuters to get where they need to go.

Explanatory statement

C-TRAN currently levies a voter approved 0.7% sales tax. This measure would increase the sales tax by an additional 0.1% (one penny on every ten dollar taxable purchase) to raise an estimated \$4.6 million annually in order to fund the operations and maintenance cost for C-TRAN’s share of light rail transit through downtown Vancouver; and the local share to build, and help operate and maintain a Fourth Plain bus rapid transit project between downtown Vancouver and Westfield Vancouver Mall. Once these projects are completed, \$1.2 million estimated annual savings from eliminating duplicated bus service will be reinvested in the system.

Statement against:

Vote No – Clark County Cannot Afford Light Rail

Fact: Proposition 1 funds will not benefit Clark County. This sales tax will be paid for by Clark County residents with 100% of the proceeds going to Portland. Portland’s financially troubled Tri-Met will operate the light rail, not C-Tran.

Fact: In addition to this tax increase, tolls will cost \$8.28 per round trip across the bridges. The Columbia River Crossing plan calls for \$8.28 tolls. For a typical commuter, this will cost \$165.60 per month.

Fact: Light rail is not a government required component of the CRC Project. The I-5 Bridge can be replaced without the light rail component.

Fact: Light rail in Portland has not relieved congestion. The CRC’s own research shows that light rail will have no effect on relieving congestion on I-5.

Fact: Light rail is too expensive to operate. Tri-Met currently carries over 1 billion dollars in unpaid debt and continues to lose money every year. C-Tran’s own projections show that in less than 10 years of paying for light rail, they too, will be experiencing significant yearly losses.

Fact: C-Tran users will lose bus service. C-Tran is already planning to cut “redundant” bus service in the light rail corridor. Current users will be forced to use a light rail system that will increase their commute time and cost more than their current service.

Fact: Light rail provides another mode of transportation for crime and gang activity into Vancouver.

Written by:

Don Benton: (360) 574-7369, don@senatordonbenton.com

David Madore: (360) 601-3056, david.m@usdigital.com

Bill Turlay: (360) 608-4689

See www.Prop1Facts.com and www.COUV.com for more information and referenced documents.

Rebuttal of statement for:

Myth: Light rail is faster. *Fact:* According to CRC and C-Tran, they will replace 16 minute express buses with 36 minute light rail rides.

Myth: Light rail is affordable. *Fact:* Light rail is more expensive, \$850 million to build, plus \$4 million to operate each year.

Myth: Light rail will ease congestion. *Fact:* Portland's failed transportation policy, spending on Max trains instead of roadway expansion has created more congestion, not less.

Please vote No.

Ballot measure



City of Vancouver

PROPOSITION NO. 1

METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT

The Vancouver City Council passed Resolution No. M-3777 to allow voters to decide whether to create the "Vancouver Metropolitan Park District," to be governed by the Vancouver City Council as the *ex officio* board of park commissioners. If created, the metropolitan park district would have all the powers under Chapter 35.61 RCW, including the authority to levy a general tax on property not to exceed the statutory maximum to support parks and recreation services.

Shall the Vancouver Metropolitan Park District be so created and governed?

- ☐ For the formation of the metropolitan park district, to be governed by the City Council of the City of Vancouver as the *ex officio* board of parks commissioners.
- ☐ Against the formation of the metropolitan park district.

Statement for:

Keep your Parks Active, Clean, and Safe - Vote Yes

Yes for Vancouver parks! Vancouver's parks, trails, and recreation facilities are a treasured resource that touches each and every one of us. Whether it's families gathering at the park, the crack of a bat at one of our ball fields, a stroll along our trails, or the splash from one of our community center pools, our parks and programs are a cornerstone of our quality of life.

Yes for Healthy Kids - of All Ages! Parks and Recreation programs touch the lives of all our citizens, from activities for our seniors, to after school and sports programs for our kids and classes for those with disabilities. These programs are essential to help keep our community healthy, active and strong.

Save Our Parks and Quality Life! Over the past decade our parks and recreation department has suffered *more* than any other City department - millions have been cut and only half of the employees remain. These cuts mean less access to activities, sports and parks for our kids, seniors and citizens of all ages.

Formation of a Metropolitan Parks District. A Yes Vote will send a message to our elected officials letting them know we care about our parks system and want to protect it from further cuts.

Vote Yes for...

Neighborhood Parks & Recreation Facilities; After School & Youth Sports Programs; Senior Programs like Silver Sneakers; Natural Areas & Trails; Clean Water, Greenways & Parks; Economic Development; A Healthy & Strong Community!

Written By:

The Committee to Save Vancouver Parks
Chris Roper; Roy Heikkala, Chair
Website: www.savevancouverparks.com

Rebuttal of statement against:

The MPD guarantees accountability. Law requires that these monies go directly to protecting our parks and recreation programs, and cannot be used for any other purpose. Only 6% of the City's budget goes to parks and recreation and that is declining. Over 58% of the City's budget goes to police and fire and that is increasing. Let's stop the reduction of parks and recreation. Vote Yes for a healthy community, now and for future generations.

Explanatory statement

Voter approval of Proposition No. 1 will create a "Vancouver Metropolitan Park District" governed by the City Council as the board of park commissioners within Vancouver city limits. The District would have all powers provided in Ch. 35.61 RCW, including, but not limited to, maintaining, improving and acquiring parks and recreational facilities; issuing bonds; and levying general taxes upon real property within the District. The initial property tax levy would be thirty-five cents per thousand dollars of assessed value, and would assist in restoring and preserving existing parks and recreation programs by providing a dedicated funding source.

Statement against:

The new MPD is more than just a park district. It is a taxing district with broad powers and no guaranteed accountability.

The proposed rate is \$.35/1000 but can be permanently hiked to \$.75/1000 *without your vote*. Your no vote will stop this tax hike.

They will have the right to take *your* land by eminent domain to build, add, or change parklands.

They can build boulevards, airstrips and more and put you, the taxpayer into debt *without your consent*.

And, they can create a park police department with full police powers.

Furthermore, the revenue that is raised by this proposal, does not necessarily lead to more money for parks. The money now earmarked for parks in the General Funds could be used for other purposes. The result is a classic Bait and Switch. Vote no.

Written by:

Lynda Wilson: LyndaDWils@gmail.com, TruthBeToldClarkCo.com

Our mayor says public pensions are on an unsustainable curve. Seventy percent (70%) of this department's budget is compensation related. Shouldn't the city be revamping this department's compensation plan to save us money before asking to set up a separate taxing district? If there are existing union contracts in place let's wait until they expire and then revisit this proposal.

Police and fire, jobs required to save lives, probably deserve taxpayer supported retirement plans; most other city employees deserve the same level of compensation their private sector jobs offer.

Do you *want* a tennis center or do you *need* police and fire protection?

Written by:

Kevin J. McCann: kevinmccann@ymail.com

Rebuttal of statement for:

Spending more money on parks is not a necessity like fire and police protection. It's time the City gets frugal with our money. Now is *not* the time to raise *your* property taxes. With the poor economy, the City will continue to need more money for many things. Raising your taxes seems to be the way they want to get it. Neighborhoods can "Adopt a Park" to help. Vote *No* on this tax increase!

Complete text of measures

C-TRAN

PROPOSITION NO. 1 CLARK COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION BENEFIT AREA AUTHORITY (C-TRAN)

BOARD RESOLUTION #BR-12-009

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING the Clark County Auditor to place on the November 6, 2012 general election ballot, a proposition which authorizes the imposition of a 0.1 percent sales and use tax, one penny on a ten dollar purchase, available under Chapter 81.104 RCW to the Clark County Public Transportation Benefit Area (C-TRAN) for the purpose of funding the C-TRAN share of maintenance and operations costs only of the Columbia River Crossing project light rail extension between Expo Center and Clark Park and Ride and the local capital share and maintenance and operation costs for the Fourth Plain Transit Improvement Project.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 36.57A RCW, at the November 1980 election, the voters of the Clark County Public Transportation Benefit Authority (PTBA) district approved a 0.3 percent sales and use tax which was matched by the State of Washington's motor vehicle excise tax (MVET) to fund public transit; and

WHEREAS, following the passage of Initiative 695 in November 1999, the state legislature voted to eliminate MVET matching funds to all state transit systems, which resulted in the elimination of 40 percent of C-TRAN's revenue and 50 percent of its tax support; and

WHEREAS, C-TRAN submitted a ballot measure under Chapter 36.57A RCW for a 0.2% sales and use tax that was approved by nearly 68% of voters within a new and reduced transit district in September 2005 as part of a 5-Year Service Preservation Plan that helped narrow the gap created by the loss of the state match; and

WHEREAS, the C-TRAN Board of Directors in June 2010, adopted the agency's first 20-Year Transit Development Plan, C-TRAN 2030 for fixed route, C-VAN and high capacity transit (HCT) services; and

WHEREAS, C-TRAN submitted a ballot measure under Chapter 36.57A RCW for a 0.2% sales and use tax that was approved by 54% of voters in November 2011 to preserve C-TRAN local fixed route, limited, commuter and Connector service in the City of Vancouver and its 2005 Urban Growth Boundary, and the city limits only of Camas, Washougal, Battle Ground, La Center, Ridgefield, and the town of Yacolt; and to meet the current and projected growth for Paratransit service, C-VAN; and

WHEREAS, the C-TRAN Board of Directors in June 2010, adopted the agency's first 20-Year Transit Development Plan, C-TRAN 2030 for fixed route, C-VAN and high capacity transit (HCT) services; and

WHEREAS, C-TRAN is authorized under Chapter 81.104 RCW to plan, develop, and implement High Capacity Transit (HCT) services; and

WHEREAS, C-TRAN is one of the eight project sponsors of the Columbia River Crossing (CRC) Project and on July 8, 2008, adopted a Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) that endorsed as an HCT mode light rail transit between the Oregon side of the Columbia River and the northern HCT terminus in Clark County; and

WHEREAS, The CRC Finance Plan proposes to fund 100% of the capital cost of the light rail extension with a Federal Transit Administration grant; and

WHEREAS, the July 8, 2008 C-TRAN endorsement of the CRC LPA stipulated that any means to finance operations of the C-TRAN HCT component of the CRC project shall be submitted to impacted voters for approval; and

WHEREAS, the Fourth Plain Transit Improvement Project Locally Preferred Alternative adopted by the Board July 10, 2012 is a Bus Rapid Transit HCT system in mixed traffic; and

WHEREAS, RCW 81.104.030 and RCW 81.104.140 authorize transit agencies in any county of a population of 175,000 or more to impose taxes authorized under this chapter for development and provision of HCT services through a system and finance plan to be approved by the voters; and

WHEREAS, on November 9, 2010 the C-TRAN Board of Directors appointed a Joint Regional Policy Committee (RPC) per RCW 81.104.030; and

WHEREAS, on February 13, 2012 the Chairs of the Washington State Senate and House Transportation Committees, the Washington State Secretary of the Department of Transportation, and the Washington State Governor appointed a C-TRAN High Capacity Transit Expert Review Panel (ERP) for independent oversight of the HCT System and Finance Plan per RCW 81.104.110; and

WHEREAS, on June 29, 2012 the C-TRAN HCT ERP issued its Findings and Recommendations Report; and

WHEREAS, on July 10, 2012, after review of the ERP Report, the RPC and C-TRAN Board of Directors considered and approved the C-TRAN HCT System and Finance Plan; and

WHEREAS, The C-TRAN Board of Directors determined on July 10, 2012 that a 0.1 percent sales and use tax, one penny on a ten dollar purchase, pursuant to Chapter 81.104 RCW is to fund C-TRAN's share of maintenance and operations costs of the Columbia River Crossing light rail extension between Expo Center and Clark Park and Ride, and the local capital share and maintenance and operations costs of the Fourth Plain Transit Improvement Project.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the C-TRAN Board of Directors that the Clark County Auditor accept the following ballot proposition language subject to the County Auditors' approval process for placement on the November 6, 2012 General Election Ballot:

Proposition No. 1

Clark County Public Transportation Benefit Area Authority (C-TRAN)

Resolution BR-12-009 and RCW 81.104 authorize a proposition to increase the sales and use tax by 0.1 percent, or one penny on a ten dollar purchase, to fund the C-TRAN share of the maintenance and operations costs only of the Columbia River Crossing Project light rail extension between Expo Center and Clark Park & Ride and the local capital share and operations and maintenance costs of the Fourth Plain Boulevard Bus Rapid Transit project.

Should this proposition be:

APPROVED _____

REJECTED _____

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the C-TRAN Board of Directors hereby directs staff to provide to the citizens of the C-TRAN transit district a document that describes the services included in the HCT System and Finance Plan as described above and what happens should the ballot measure be approved or rejected.

RESOLVED AND ADOPTED THIS 10th day of July 2012.

Ayes: Marc Boldt, Connie Jo Freeman, Bill Ganley, Bart Hansen, Jim Irish, Tim Leavitt, Larry Smith, Steve Stuart

Nays:

Absent: Tom Mielke

L.J. Smith/s

Larry J. Smith, Chair

Attest: D.Jermann/s

Debbie Jermann, Clerk of the Board

City of Vancouver

PROPOSITION NO. 1 METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. M-3777

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON, PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF A PROPOSITION TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE CITY OF VANCOUVER AT A REGULAR ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 6, 2012, FOR THEIR APPROVAL OR REJECTION OF THE CREATION OF A METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 35.61 RCW.

WHEREAS, RCW 35.61.010 provides that a metropolitan park district ("MPD") may be created for the management, control, improvement, maintenance, and acquisition of parks, parkways, boulevards and recreational facilities, and an MPD may include territory located in all of one city when created; and

WHEREAS, the City of Vancouver ("City"), by and through the Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation Department ("VCPRD"), currently operates, acquires, and maintains its parks lands and recreation facilities funded with City general fund dollars, grants, user fees, and private donations; and

WHEREAS, providing for parks, open spaces and recreational opportunities is required by City Charter Section 8.04; and

WHEREAS, the Vancouver City Council, together with the Clark County Board of Commissioners, convened six area jurisdictions in 2010 to make recommendations on the future funding and governance of local and regional parks and recreation services ("Blue Ribbon Commission"); and

WHEREAS, the Blue Ribbon Commission on parks and recreation recommended to the Vancouver City Council numerous sustainability strategies yielding greater collaboration and consolidation of services, including the formation of an MPD for improved financial stability; and

WHEREAS, the Vancouver City Council has reviewed the recommendations of the VCPRD for the restoration, preservation and enhancement of certain park and recreation programs, activities and services (the "Recreation Services") as well as the repair, restoration, improvement, development, maintenance, construction and equipping of various City parks and recreation facilities (the "Park Improvements"); and

WHEREAS, the City's long-term forecast for general fund and other funding sources indicate that such funding may no longer be able to support the ongoing costs of providing recreation services and programs or the operation, maintenance, and acquisition of parks lands and recreation facilities consistent with the level of services that have been provided in the past; and

WHEREAS, RCW 35.61.020 gives cities the authority to pass a resolution calling for an election on the creation of an MPD and stating the name of the proposed MPD and how it will be governed; and

WHEREAS, RCW 35.61.050 provides that when the boundaries of an MPD will be the same as a city's corporate limits, the City Council may serve as the *ex officio* board of parks commissioners; and

WHEREAS, creation of an MPD would be financially advantageous to the City and its citizens because state law grants an MPD greater financial flexibility than cities possess; and

WHEREAS, an established MPD has the authority to permanently levy a maximum of \$.75 per \$1,000 assessed property value, but a levy rate of \$.35 per \$1,000 assessed property value, together with ongoing general fund and other support, is currently projected to be adequate to pay costs of operations and maintenance as found necessary by the City Council to provide desired parks and recreation services within the City; and

WHEREAS, the combined levies of all taxing entities in a jurisdiction may not exceed the statutory maximum of \$.90/\$1,000 of assessed valuation and in the event that the assessed valuation of real property within the jurisdiction declines sufficiently, the combined levies of all taxing entities in a jurisdiction may exceed the statutory maximum; and

WHEREAS, in such case, certain taxing districts, including MPD's, are required to reduce their levies resulting in a reallocation of tax revenues to other taxing

districts; and

WHEREAS, RCW 84.52.120 provides that with voter approval, \$.25/\$1,000 of assessed valuation of an MPD tax levy may be protected from proration for a period of six years by imposing all or any portion of the district's \$.25/\$1,000 of assessed valuation tax levy outside of the \$.90/\$1000 of assessed valuation limitation; and

WHEREAS, in the event it is estimated that assessed valuations in the proposed MPD may decline enough to trigger proration, the MPD, if formed, may request voter approval as described above to protect all or any portion of \$.257/\$1,000 of assessed valuation of the MPD's projected regular property tax levy of \$.35/\$1,000 for future years if those taxes otherwise would be prorated under RCW 84.52.010(3)(b)(iii).

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF VANCOUVER:

Section 1. Findings. The City Council hereby adopts the foregoing recital clauses as findings in support of this Resolution. The City Council further finds that the best interests of the citizens of the City require the payment of costs associated with the current and future maintenance and operation of the park and recreation system, including recreation services, facilities and parks.

Section 2. Proposed metropolitan park district. The City Council proposes the creation of a metropolitan park district to be called "Vancouver Metropolitan Park District," that its boundaries be the same as the Vancouver, Washington, corporate limits, and that the Vancouver City Council serves as the *ex officio* board of park commissioners.

Section 3. Call for election. Pursuant to RCW 35.61.020, the City Council of the City of Vancouver hereby calls for submission of a proposition to the qualified voters of the City as set forth in Section 4 of this resolution. The Clark County Auditor, as *ex officio* supervisor of elections in Clark County, is hereby requested to conduct this election in the City of Vancouver for the Tuesday, November 6, 2012 general ballot.

Section 4. Ballot Proposition. The proposition to be submitted to the electorate of the City of Vancouver shall read substantially as follows:

CITY OF VANCOUVER
PROPOSITION NO. 1
METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT

The Vancouver City Council passed Resolution No. M-3777 to allow voters to decide whether to create the "Vancouver Metropolitan Park District," to be governed by the Vancouver City Council as the *ex officio* board of park commissioners. If created, the metropolitan park district would have all the powers under Chapter 35.61 RCW, including the authority to levy a general tax on property not to exceed the statutory maximum to support parks and recreation services.

Shall the Vancouver Metropolitan Park District be so created and governed?

[] For the formation of the metropolitan park district, to be governed by the City Council of the City of Vancouver as the *ex officio* board of parks commissioners.

[] Against the formation of the metropolitan park district.

Section 5. Direction to Clerk. The City Clerk shall forthwith certify to the Auditor of Clark County as *ex officio* Supervisor of Elections, the resolution set forth in Section 4 of this Resolution by no later than August 7, 2012, and shall request that the Auditor publish the proposed ballot proposition in accordance with law.

ADOPTED at regular session of the Council of the City of Vancouver, the 18th day of June, 2012.

Timothy D. Leavitt/s, Mayor

Attest:

R. Lloyd Tyler, City Clerk

By: Carrie Lewellen/s, Deputy City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Ted H. Gathe/s, City Attorney