

## CORRESPONDENCE BRIEFING SHEET

**Subject:** 2022 voting precinct alteration package/ordinance

**Originator:** Julie Wise, Director, King County Department of Elections

**Issue:** Each year the Department of Elections GIS Section prepares a Precinct Alteration Ordinance to be submitted to the County Council, pursuant to RCW 29A.16.040-050.

Precincts can be altered for the following purposes:

- King County Council redistricting
- Washington State Legislative and Congressional redistricting
- To accommodate and city annexation activity
- To accommodate population changes (precinct balancing)
- To ease election administration

**Action:** Precinct alterations for the year 2022 are for the most part the result of boundary changes due to mandated redistricting required by Federal and State law following the decennial census. The remaining alterations were to accommodate recent city annexations and precinct balancing. This year the precinct alteration process included input and review by both major political parties in King County and a 10-day public review period. The cost of making the precinct revisions is fully funded as part of the adopted Department of Elections budget.

Precinct alteration highlights include:

- 2,748 current precincts
- 898 wholly moving districts
- 217 altered
- 24 added
- 22 abolished
- 2 net precinct gain
- 2,750 new total number of precincts after ordinance adoption

The 2022 Precinct Alteration ordinance was submitted to the King County Council on February 23, 2022. All precinct changes being proposed must be approved and effective prior to the statutory deadline of May 2, 2022. The county auditor\* is prohibited from making any precinct changes between the fourteenth day prior to candidate filing and the date of the General Election each year, pursuant to RCW 29A.16.040.

\* In King County, the Department of Elections Director performs the Auditor functions related to Elections