

Tom Salzer

From: Tom Salzer
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2021 12:18 PM
To: Tom Salzer
Subject: FW: For action: Draft CD election proposal – comments due 8/18

From: Crouch, Stephanie (SCC) <SCCrouch@scc.wa.gov>
Sent: Monday, July 19, 2021 3:54 PM
Subject: For action: Draft CD election proposal – comments due 8/18

Dear Conservation District Supervisors and Managers,

Members of the Joint Committee on Elections (JCE) request your feedback on our draft proposal for conservation district election reforms. Our proposal is the result of eight meetings and several hours of discussion among the JCE, whose members represent CDs from each region, WACD, and the Conservation Commission. ([see full list of JCE members](#))

As you can imagine, developing a proposal for CD election reforms is no easy task. Of our 45 conservation districts, no two are exactly alike. We serve different communities, address different natural resource issues, and operate with different scales of budget and staff capacity. The CD members of the JCE represent this spectrum.

Our committee is proud to share that, despite the differences between our districts, our members came to consensus on the draft proposal we present today for your review.

One thing we share at the heart of our work is our locally led approach. Our draft proposal gives power to the locally led approach, and we believe it's the best possible option to satisfy the "must-have" criteria that districts have said that they and their communities want in an election process, which are:

- Affordable / Manageable
- Non-partisan
- Flexible (not one-size-fits-all)
- Inclusive / Equitable
- Transparent
- Accessible
- Trustworthy
- True-to-mission

But we aren't ready to make a formal recommendation to the Conservation Commission until we hear from you. We invite you to please:

1. [Review our draft proposal for CD election reform](#)
2. [Submit your feedback and ideas using this form by COB on August 18, 2021](#)

JCE members will review your feedback and consider if potential modifications to our proposal are needed. We'll also include your feedback in our final report to Commissioners.

In the coming months we plan to host an all-CD webinar to have more Q&A time with you before we write our report and recommendation. Webinar details are in the works — please keep an eye out for the detailed announcement.

As a reminder, the JCE committee was formed by a motion from the Conservation Commission in December 2020. Our task is to develop recommended actions for CD elections reform and submit them to the Conservation Commission in September 2021. Any decisions about potential changes to CD elections will be made by members of the Conservation Commission. Learn more about the purpose and background of the JCE from [this bulletin](#) (from Feb. 2020) announcing the formation of the committee.

Thank you for your partnership! We look forward to hearing from you.

Stephanie Crouch (she/her), Administrative Assistant
Washington State Conservation Commission
Office: 360-407-6211
Office hours: 8:00 am – 4:30 pm | scc.wa.gov

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