

## CORRESPONDENCE BRIEFING SHEET

**Subject:** 2023 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:

- Seattle City Council redistricting
- Seattle School director district redistricting
- To accommodate any city annexation activity
- To accommodate population changes (precinct balancing)
- To ease election administration

**Action:** Precinct alterations for the year 2023 are for the most part the result of boundary changes due to mandated local redistricting required by 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:

- 2,750 current precincts
- 288 wholly moving districts
- 116 altered
- 11 added
- 12 abolished
- 1 net precinct loss
- 2,749 new total number of precincts after ordinance adoption

The 2023 Precinct Alteration ordinance was submitted to the King County Council on February 1, 2023. All precinct changes being proposed must be approved and effective prior to the statutory deadline of May 1, 2023. 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