



City Council Meeting Minutes

Vancouver City Hall | Council Chambers | 415 W. 6th St.
PO Box 1995 | Vancouver, WA 98668-1995
cityofvancouver.us

Anne McEnerny-Ogle, Mayor • Bart Hansen • Ty Stober • Erik Paulsen • Sarah J. Fox • Diana H. Perez • Kim D. Harless

June 10, 2024

WORKSHOPS: 3:00-6:00 p.m.

Vancouver City Hall - Council Chambers - 415 W 6th Street, Vancouver WA

Workshops were conducted in person in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Members of the public were invited to view the meeting in person, via the live broadcast on www.cvtv.org and CVTV cable channels 23 or HD 323, or on the City's Facebook page, or www.facebook.com/VancouverUS.

View the CVTV video recording, including presentations and discussion, for workshops at:

https://www.cvtv.org/vid_link/36519?startStreamAt=0&stopStreamAt=10353

Green Building Policy Project

(Approximately 1 hour)

Rebecca Small, Senior Policy Analyst, 360-487-8601

Summary

Staff led Council through a discussion of the Green Building Policy Project.

Councilmember Hansen was absent from the workshop.

2025-26 Biennial Budget

(Approximately 2 hours, to immediately follow previous workshop)

Shannon Olsen, Budget Manager, 360-487-8497

Summary

Staff led Council through a discussion of the 2025-26 Biennial Budget.

Councilmember Hansen was absent from the workshop.

COUNCIL DINNER/ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES (6:00-6:30 PM)

COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

This meeting was conducted as a hybrid meeting with in person and remote viewing and participation over video conference utilizing a GoToMeeting platform. Members of the public were invited to view the meeting in person, via the live broadcast on www.cvtv.org and CVTV cable channels 23 or HD 323, or on the City's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/VancouverUS. Public access and testimony on Consent Agenda items and under the Community Forum were also facilitated in person and via the GoToMeeting conference call.

Vancouver City Council meeting minutes are a record of the action taken by Council. To view the CVTV video recording, including presentations, testimony and discussion, for this meeting please visit: https://www.cvtv.org/vid_link/36521?startStreamAt=0&stopStreamAt=6178 Electronic audio recording of City Council meetings are kept on file in the office of the City Clerk for a period of six years.

Pledge of Allegiance

Call to Order and Roll Call

The regular meeting of the Vancouver City Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor McEnerny-Ogle. This meeting was conducted as a hybrid meeting, including both in person and remotely over video conference.

Present: Councilmembers Harless, Perez, Fox, Paulsen, Stober, and Mayor McEnerny-Ogle

Absent: Councilmember Hansen

Motion by Councilmember Stober, seconded by Councilmember Paulsen, and approved unanimously to excuse Councilmember Hansen.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes - May 20, 2024

Motion by Councilmember Fox, seconded by Councilmember Stober, and carried unanimously to approve the meeting minutes of May 20, 2024.

Proclamations: Juneteenth

Mayor McEnery-Ogle read and presented a proclamation to Miracle Joslin, Administrator at Odyssey World International Education Services, and Karen Morrison, Founder and Senior Executive Director of Odyssey World International Education Services, proclaiming June 19, 2024, as Juneteenth.

Community Communications

Mayor McEnery-Ogle opened Community Communication and received testimony from the following community members regarding any matter on the agenda not scheduled for a Public Hearing:

- Kimberlee Goheen Elbon, La Center, WA
- Carmen DeLeon, Vancouver

There being no further testimony, Mayor McEnery-Ogle closed Community Communication.

Consent Agenda (Items 1-8)

WALK-ON ITEM: Appointments to the Salary Review Commission.

Mayor McEnery-Ogle requested a motion to amend the agenda to add a Walk-On item for the Salary Review Commission Appointments.

Motion by Councilmember Paulsen, seconded by Councilmember Stober, and carried unanimously to approve the Walk-On Item.

Motion by Councilmember Stober, seconded by Councilmember Perez, and carried unanimously to approve items 1-8 and the Walk-On item (9) on the Consent Agenda.

1. **Bid Award - Fourth Plain - Ft. Vancouver Way to Andresen Road NHS Resurfacing Project ITB 24-28**

Staff Report: 106-24

The Fourth Plain Blvd. – Fort Vancouver Way to Andresen Road NHS Resurfacing Project is being constructed as part of the Pavement Management program. This project involves paving with hot mix asphalt

along the Fourth Plain corridor. A total of 11.5 lane miles of street will be paved under this contract.

The attached vicinity map shows where the paving will occur along Fourth Plain.

On May 14, 2024, the City received 3 bids for the subject project. The bids ranged from \$4,409,028.00 to \$5,416,386.72. The low bidder was responsive. The bids are as follows:

SUMMARY OF BIDS	
BIDDER	AMOUNT
<i>Granite Construction Company, Vancouver, WA</i>	<i>\$4,409,028.00</i>
<i>Lakeside Industries, Vancouver, WA</i>	<i>\$4,874,444.00</i>
<i>Brix Paving NW Inc., Sherwood, OR</i>	<i>\$5,416,386.72</i>
<i>Engineers' Estimate</i>	<i>\$3,860,000.00</i>

Due to the federal funding associated with this project, the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) set an Underutilized Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (UDBE) goal of 14%. Granite Construction Company has committed to meet this goal. Although this project has not been assigned a federal training requirement, federal guidelines for grant projects do not allow the inclusion of local agency apprenticeship programs. Consequently, there are no City apprenticeship goals for this project.

Request: On June 3, 2024, award a construction contract for the Fourth Plain Blvd –Fort Vancouver Way to Andresen Road NHS Resurfacing Project to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Granite Construction Company, Vancouver, Washington, at their bid price of \$4,409,028, which includes Washington State sales tax, and authorize the City Manager, or designee, to execute the same.

Ryan Miles, Engineering Program Manager, 360-487-7708

Motion approved the request.

2. **Bid Award - ITB 24-27: Water Station 1 Replace Drinking Water Wells 3-5**

Staff Report: 107-24

The Water Station 1 drinking water wells are a critical infrastructure

component to Vancouver’s water system. The existing Wells 3, 4 and 5 were constructed in 1943, 1944 and 1962, respectively. These outdated wells are low-performing and difficult to maintain. Due to the age and condition of the equipment and structure, these wells were identified for replacement in the most recent Comprehensive Water System Plan.

This project proposes to replace the existing wells within the same wellfield to meet current standards and using modern materials. The wells will be installed within the existing City of Vancouver Water Station 1 at 2103 East Reserve Street. The drilled wells would be completed in the same aquifer as the twelve existing Water Station 1 wells. The planned wells are large diameter to produce the flow rates required for this project. This work was previously advertised under ITB 24-04 with a drilling method restricted to cable-tool drilling equipment. Only one high-cost quote was submitted under ITB 24-04. The City rejected all bids and advertised a second solicitation to include an alternative drilling method to encourage both rotary and cable-tool drillers to bid.

On April 30, 2024, the City received three bids for the project. All bids were above the engineer’s estimate, although it should be noted that this was the first well solicitation in a few decades, and the City continues to build current costs for this activity with the expectation that engineer estimates for drilling will be reflective of actual market costs over time. The costs are deemed reasonable by staff. Two of the bidders were deemed non-responsive or non-responsible.

Holt Services, Inc. provided the required experience criteria of drilling and developing similarly sized community drinking water wells. Thus, Holt Services, Inc. was determined to be the lowest responsive, responsible bidder for this solicitation.

The bids are as follows:

SUMMARY OF RESPONSIVE BIDS	
BIDDER	AMOUNT
JKA Enterprises, Inc., Monroe, WA	Non-Responsible
Tacoma Pump Drilling, Graham, WA	Non- Responsive
Holt Services, Inc., Edgewood, WA	\$ 885,035.40
Engineer’s Estimate with Tax	\$ 755,465.00

Holt Services, Inc. has completed projects of similar size and scope in the past and has met the requested supplemental responsible bidder criteria. The contractor is unable to meet the apprenticeship goal due to the nature of the specialty work in this project. The City has confirmed there are no applicable apprenticeship programs for this project, should the scope change, staff will work with the contractor to see if apprentices can be obtained.

Request: On June 10, 2024, award a construction contract for the Water Station 1 Replace Wells 3-5 project to the lowest responsive

and responsible bidder, Holt Services, Inc. of Edgewood, WA at their bid price of \$885,035.40, which includes Washington State sales tax; and authorize the City Manager, or designee, to execute the same.

Patrick Craney, Water Resources Engineer, 360-487-7167

Motion approved the request.

3. Bid Award - ITB 24-29: SEH Pump Station Improvements

Staff Report: 108-24

The SEH Pump Station was constructed in 1997 and the original pumps and appurtenances are still in use today. Wastewater pumps, valves and appurtenances have an expected useful life of up to 25 years.

The project will replace the aging pump station infrastructure with modern and energy efficient pumps consistent with current City standards for construction of sewage pump stations. The project will also include minor site improvements, including railings and bollards at the pump station to meet state and federal safety standards.

On May 14, 2024, bids were opened for this project (ITB 24-29). Bids were received from one (1) firm:

SUMMARY OF BIDS	
BIDDER	AMOUNT
Stellar J Corporation – Woodland, WA	\$893,726.47
Engineers’ Estimate	\$748,950.00

The low bidder, Stellar J Corporation, was found to be responsive and responsible. They also met the minimum requirements listed in the Supplemental Bidder Responsibility Criteria.

The Contractor intends to exceed the required 3% apprenticeship goal by utilizing 200 apprenticeship hours out of the estimated total 996 project hours.

Request: Award a construction contract for the SEH Pump Station Improvements project to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Stellar J Corporation of Woodland, Washington at their bid price of \$893,726.47, which includes Washington State sales tax, and authorize the City Manager, or designee, to execute the same.

Frank Dick, Wastewater Treatment Engineering Manager, 360-487-7179

Motion approved the request.

4. Contract Approval - C-101650 for Preventative Maintenance, General Repairs, and New Vehicle and Upfitting

Staff Report: 109-24

Fleet Services will be using these services to cover any equipment repairs that would otherwise be delayed due to the shop's workload. Equipment availability is one of Fleet Services key performance indicators, so staff issued a request for proposal to select a qualified firm to fulfill this contract need.

Request: Authorize the City Manager or designee, to enter into a services agreement with Wapiti NW for the provision of preventative maintenance, new repairs and vehicle and equipment upfitting on an as-needed basis for five years in the amount of \$1,000,000.

*Dan Zenger, Equipment Superintendent, 360-487-8205;
Jacob Mahan, Senior Management Analyst, 360-487-8195*

Motion approved the request.

5. Burnt Bridge Creek Land Acquisition

Staff Report: 110-24

Burnt Bridge Creek flows through the city of Vancouver and has been on the 303(d) list of impaired waterbodies for bacteria, pH, DO, and temperature violations of water quality standards since 2004. City Surface Water Management identified twelve parcels (33.8 acres) to acquire for protection and restoration. This project will acquire four of those parcels, protecting 6.56 acres of critical riparian area. In 2023, 8.23 acres were purchased under separate state funding.

Request: Approve the transactions contemplated by the Purchase and Sale Agreement and the Conservation Deed of Right and authorize the City Manager, or designee, to sign the PSA, Deed of Right, and all related documents necessary to facilitate the acquisition of the parcels.

*Kris Olinger, Engineering Program Manager, 360-487-7188;
Mark Hazuka, Civil Engineer, 360-487-7183*

Motion approved the request.

6. Award of grant funds from the PEG Capital Support Fund to public users of the Comcast Business Services, for monthly transport costs

Staff Report: 111-24

A RESOLUTION relating to cable television and to the award of Public, Educational and Governmental (“PEG”) capital contribution funds to designated access providers for the City of Vancouver and Clark County, and for public Institutional Network (“I-NET”) and Comcast Business Services users for certain expenditures.

The current cable franchise agreements between the City of Vancouver, Clark County and Comcast, which expire June 30, 2024, provide for a contribution in the amount of \$1/month per subscriber for support of a Public, Education, and Government (PEG) capital fund. One of the allowed uses of the PEG fund under the existing franchises is to reimburse local government users of Comcast Business Services for monthly transport fees. Local governments utilize Comcast Business Services to provide high-speed connectivity between key facilities and redundant services in the event of emergencies.

In 2018, Clark County and the City of Vancouver approved an annual award from the PEG Capital Support Fund of \$226,200 for the next six and one-half years, effective until the expiration of the Comcast Cable Franchise on June 30, 2024, to be divided among Comcast Business Services users, the City of Vancouver, Clark County, Fort Vancouver Regional Library District and the Clark County Fire District 5, for monthly transport costs.

Due to the impacts of the Federal Communications Commission Order 621, the renewed cable franchise agreements with Comcast Cable Communications Management, LLC, recommended for approval by the City/County Telecommunications Commission (“Commission”), will not allow for future award of funds to public users of Comcast Business Services to offset transport costs from the PEG Capital Support Grant Program. If approved, the proposed cable franchise agreements with Comcast Cable Communications Management, LLC, will commence on July 1, 2024.

On April 10, 2024, the Commission recommended extending the existing PEG Capital Support Grant Program Agreements with local governments through March 1, 2025. Adequate funding reserves in the PEG Capital Support Grant Program, collected under the current cable franchises, would allow one additional grant award to public users of Comcast Business Service.

Request: On June 10, 2024, adopt a resolution, under the terms of the interlocal agreement between Clark County and the City of Vancouver, authorizing \$226,200 of PEG Capital Support Funds to be used to reimburse authorized public subscribers of Comcast Business Services monthly transport fees.

Jim Demmon, Video Services Manager, 360-487- 8706

Motion adopted Resolution M-4277 to approve the request.

7. Amendments to the Procurement Ordinance, Vancouver Municipal Code 3.05

Staff Report: 112-24

AN ORDINANCE of the City of Vancouver relating to the amendment of procurement policies and requirements set forth in Vancouver Municipal Code (VMC) Section 3.05; adopting legislative findings; amending VMC Sections 3.05.040, 3.05.240, and 3.05.330 to reflect recent changes in state law and procurement needs; providing for severability; and setting an effective date of July 1, 2024.

The City updated its procurement ordinance in 2010, 2012, 2016, and 2023. In 2023, the State legislature modified the small works roster program and eliminated the limited works roster process, which requires amendments to the City's procurement ordinance. In addition, staff determined a new special market condition should be added to the ordinance because of the City's specific procurement needs regarding internet service providers. Proposed changes include:

- *Section 3.05.040 Special Market Conditions: Add internet services to market conditions exempt from the procurement process.*
- *Section 3.05.240 When Bids are Required for Public Works and Improvements: Update language consistent with 2023 legislative updates.*
- *Section 3.05.330 Small Works Roster- Limited Works: Update language consistent with 2023 legislative updates.*

Staff recommends approving the amended City Procurement Ordinance, Vancouver Municipal Code (VMC) Chapter 3.05.

Request: On Monday, June 10, 2024, approve the amended City Procurement Ordinance, Vancouver Municipal Code (VMC) Chapter 3.05, on first reading, setting the public hearing for June 17, 2024.

Anna Vogel, Procurement Manager, 360-487-8429

Mayor McEnerny-Ogle read the title of the ordinance into the record.

Motion approved the request.

8. Approval of Claim Vouchers

Request: Approve claim vouchers for June 10, 2024.

Motion approved claim vouchers in the amount of \$6,510,895.48.

9. WALK-ON ITEM: Appointments to the Salary Review Commission

Request:

Motion approved the request.

Public Hearings (Item 9-10)

10. Section 30 Pre-Annexation Development Agreement Amendment 1

Staff Report: 113-24

Section 30 was mostly active rock and gravel mining operations when it was annexed in 2008. To gain the property owners' support for annexation, the City entered into 20-year pre-annexation development agreements (PADAs). The PADAs allow property owners to retain the right to develop land uses that were allowed at the time of annexation and any that were allowed on the Columbia Tech Center (CTC) immediately to the south of Section 30. In 2009, City Council adopted a subarea plan with ECX - Employment Center Mixed Use zoning for Section 30 which envisions a mix of commercial, light industrial, and multifamily residential uses, with the expectation that Section 30 property owners would develop in a manner consistent with the subarea plan or sell to developers experienced in those forms of development. However, property owners under PADAs still retained development rights that were inconsistent with the aims of the subarea plan and still pursue uses that are inconsistent with the City's vision for Section 30.

For several months, staff has been communicating with the two largest property owners with PADA rights who are interested in redeveloping their properties and feel pressured to submit development applications prior to the expiration of their PADA to preserve their vested land uses. In light of the current housing crisis and evolving employment trends which have lessened demand for industrial and office in the area, the City is particularly interested in increasing the allowed housing development rights and limiting large scale monolithic development typologies. To allow time for staff to work with these current property owners to align on preferred land uses and for market conditions to become more favorable to the desired development typology, staff is proposing an amendment to extend the PADA for these two property owners by an additional year. This extension will give the property owners more leeway to work with the City on zoning revisions without risking their vested development rights.

If the 1-year extension is approved, staff will utilize the additional time to develop revised land use codes for Section 30 that reflect the City's current

vision for the region. Additionally, a second PADA amendment will be negotiated with property owners to exclude land uses that are inconsistent with the City's vision for the area in exchange for an additional 2-year extension to the PADA. The proposed code changes and the second amendment will be brought back to Council for approval.

Request: Approve the Section 30 PADA Amendments and authorize the City Manager or designee to finalize and execute the Section 30 PADA Amendments.

Chim Chune Ko, Principal Project Manager, 360-487-7933; Patrick Quinton, Economic Development Director, 360-487-7845; Chad Eiken, Community Development Director, 360-487-7882

Chim Chune Ko, Principal Project Manager, Patrick Quinton, Economic Development Director, and Chad Eiken, Community Development Director, provided an overview of the Section 30 Pre-Annexation Development Agreement Amendment 1.

Council discussed the item briefly with staff.

Mayor McEnerny-Ogle opened the public hearing and received testimony from the following community members:

- Kimberlee Goheen Elbon, La Center, WA

There being no further testimony, Mayor McEnerny-Ogle closed the public hearing.

Motion by Councilmember Fox, seconded by Councilmember Stober, and carried unanimously to approve the Section 30 PADA Amendments and execute the Section 30 PADA Amendments.

11. 2024 Charter Review Committee Recommendations

Staff Report: 114-24

Resolution #1

A RESOLUTION to submit to the voters of the City of Vancouver a proposal to amend Article II, Section 2.06 of the City Charter removing obsolete and non-inclusive language and replacing it with language more aligned with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Resolution #2

A RESOLUTION to submit to the voters of the City of Vancouver a proposal to amend Article II, Section 2.18d of the City Charter clarifying ambiguous

language around the use of the external economic indicator for calculating salary increases and timing by which a biennial salary schedule ordinance be adopted.

Resolution #3

A RESOLUTION to submit to the voters of the City of Vancouver a proposal to amend Article III, Section 3.03 of the City Charter removing language that does not reflect the two-year fiscal biennium budget cycle mandated by RCW 35.34.040 and as presently provided for by city ordinance.

Resolution #4

A RESOLUTION to submit to the voters of the City of Vancouver a proposal to amend Article X, Sections 10.03 and 10.04 of the City Charter removing language referencing physical paper and indelible signatures that would prevent the acceptance of electronic signature on petitions.

Resolution #5

A RESOLUTION to submit to the voters of the City of Vancouver a proposal to delete Article XI, Section 11.05 of the City Charter, eliminating an administrative burden that is no longer necessary.

The City of Vancouver's charter requires a committee of 15 residents be appointed at least every five years to review the charter and make recommendations to the City Council on potential changes. The 2024 Charter Review Committee held seven meetings between October 2023 and April 2024 and is recommending five amendments to the charter for consideration by the City Council.

The proposed amendments, in the order they appear in the charter, include:

- **Section 2.06 Vacancies Defined** - Removing identified non-inclusive language and replacing it with language that is more aligned with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- **Section 2.18d Citizens' Commission on Mayor/City Council Salaries** – Clarifying ambiguous language around the use of the external economic indicator for calculating salary increases and timing by when a biennial salary schedule ordinance be adopted. This is a staff proposal.
- **Section 3.03 Powers and Duties** – Removing language that does not reflect the two-year biennium budget cycle mandated by RCW 35.34.040 and as presently provided by city ordinance. This is a staff proposal.
- **Section 10.03 Petitions and Committees and 10.04 Filing and Certifying** – Removing language referencing paper and indelible signatures that would prevent the acceptance of electronic signature

on petitions.

- **Section 11.05 Contracts Beyond One Year – Removing this section in its entirety as it creates an administrative burden and is no longer necessary because of more recent changes to the Vancouver Municipal Code. This is a staff proposal**

Request: On June 10, 2024, adopt resolutions placing some or all of the proposed amendments to the City of Vancouver's charter on the November 5, 2024, general election ballot.

Aaron Lande, Policy & Program Manager, 360-487-8612

Aaron Lande, Program and Policy Development Manager, provided an overview of the 2024 Charter Review Committee Recommendations.

Council discussed the item briefly with staff.

Mayor McEnerny-Ogle opened the public hearing and received testimony from the following community members:

- Kimberlee Goheen Elbon, La Center, WA
- Greg Kimsey, Vancouver

There being no further testimony, Mayor McEnerny-Ogle closed the public hearing.

Resolution 1

Motion by Councilmember Paulsen, seconded by Councilmember Fox, and carried unanimously to approve Resolution M-4278.

Resolution 2

Motion by Councilmember Perez, seconded by Councilmember Stober, and carried unanimously to approve Resolution M-4279.

Resolution 3

Motion by Councilmember Paulsen, seconded by Councilmember Harless, and carried unanimously to approve Resolution M-4280.

Resolution 4

Motion by Mayor McEnerny-Ogle, seconded by Councilmember Fox, and carried unanimously to remand the resolution back to staff to update the language.

Resolution 5

Motion by Councilmember Stober, seconded by Councilmember

Paulsen, and carried unanimously to approve Resolution M-4281.

Unfinished Business (Item 11)

12. Charter Review Recommendation - Districting Work Plan

Request: At the June 10 Council meeting, under Unfinished Business, Council is requested to:

- Identify the three councilmembers who will serve on the ad hoc committee
- Identify the preferred 2025 election date

Aaron Lande, Program and Police Manager, 360-487-8612

Councilmember Stober, Paulsen and Fox were selected as the ad hoc committee.

Council chose the November 4, 2025, election as their preferred date.

Communications

A. From the Council

B. From the Mayor

C. From the City Manager

Apprenticeship Policy Update

Anna Vogel, Procurement Manager, discussed the Apprenticeship Policy Update.

EXECUTIVE SESSION RE: PERSONNEL - RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) (1.5 HR)

Mayor McEnerny-Ogle announced the Council would be entering into executive session from 8:11-9:41 p.m. to discuss Personnel.

Adjournment

9:41 p.m.

DocuSigned by:

Anne McEnerny-Ogle

6C89D9089EC5424...

Anne McEnerny-Ogle, Mayor

Attest:

DocuSigned by:

Natasha Ramras

493E940414AE4BD...

Natasha Ramras, City Clerk

The written comments below are those of the submitter alone and are not representative of the views of CVTV or the City of Vancouver, its elected or appointed officials, or its employees.

From: [City Council](#)
To: [Dollar, Sarah](#)
Subject: FW: Agenda Comments 6-10-24
Date: Monday, June 10, 2024 11:42:31 AM

From: Francis Scroggins-Ocansey [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 10, 2024 11:30 AM
To: City Council <council@cityofvancouver.us>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Agenda Comments 6-10-24

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CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Vancouver. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

My name is Francis Scroggins-Ocansey and I'm a student at Clark Community College. I'm currently in enrolled in the Global Climate Change course and wanted to engage in current policy proposals that will have an effect on climate change on a local level.

I'm in full support of the Green Building Policy. It addresses the future growth of the city in a energy efficient manner. The success of this policy can show other cities in the state or throughout the country that development can be thorough, efficient and clean.

I also appreciate the consideration of wildlife and vegetation in the policy (example, Bird friendly-design and Tree, Vegetation, and Soil Conservation).

I appreciate the effort in the reduction of GHG. It's nice to know that I get to live in an area that cares about our emissions and is taking initiative to do something about it.

Kind Regards,

Francis

From: [KAREN FRED GARMIRE](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: For Council: Budget Considerations for NatureSpaces Funding
Date: Monday, June 10, 2024 9:01:11 AM

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CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Vancouver. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I urge City Council to support the NatureSpaces Program during the Budget process with funding allocated for a full time staff person.

I have been a volunteer team leader for this program for restoration of Behrens Woods, one of three Parks in the program and have seen firsthand the multiple benefits of NatureSpaces.

Just one year ago, Behren's Woods, a two acre urban forested park, was overrun with Ivy and other invasive species. Work is still underway, but the transformation of this Park has been amazing and is a model for similar efforts around the City. The removal of invasive species has allowed the large conifer and deciduous trees, and their understory to thrive. There is still work to be done but Behrens Woods is well on its way to being a healthy natural ecosystem within the City of Vancouver.

As Council evaluates the many competing priorities in the Budget Program, please consider the following in evaluating NatureSpaces funding:

1. Last year (2023) over 1500 volunteer hours were donated and 2400 native species were planted. 2024 is on track to exceed the 2023 statistics and this only includes direct volunteerism for NatureSpaces. The program has attracted interest from other groups including a partnership with Washington Trails Association (WTA) for construction of Accessible trails which are currently about 50% complete and anticipated to be completed in 2024.
2. The NatureSpaces program is consistent with the City's Climate Action Framework and in particular the goals for a Carbon Rich Natural System and native and climate resilient planting. Strategy NS-1 is to increase carbon storage in trees, vegetation and soil. Restoring existing areas is a much more cost effective approach to carbon storage by maximizing existing potential in these urban ecosystems, many of which are currently stressed. NatureSpaces is focused on restoration of these urban areas that will increase carbon storage
3. Behrens Woods is located directly across the street from a large apartment complex and within a half mile of two other large apartment complexes and is heavily used by these residents. The Park contains a trail system with educational signs and ready access to a natural space consistent with the City's goal to provide equitable access to urban green space. The completion of the Accessible Trails by WTA will further increase access to this urban forested park.

NatureSpaces is a program that advances multiple City's goals with a reliance on volunteerism; it has a high return on investment. The bottom line is that this Program cannot exist without City Staff support ; it would not be feasible for volunteers to

perform the myriad of tasks and coordination necessary for this Program. Without the dedicated City Staff support, NatureSpaces will not exist in its current form. This is a strong, viable program that needs a dedicated staff member. I strongly encourage you to include funding for a dedicated NatureSpaces staff member in City of Vancouver Budget.

Karen Garmire

From: [Kate Altenhof-Long](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Please Fund Naturespaces Program
Date: Monday, June 10, 2024 10:23:31 AM

[You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Vancouver. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Esteemed City Council Members,

I'm asking you today to consider continuing to fund a city coordinator for the Naturespaces Program.

I have lived in the neighborhood with the Behrens Woods green space since before it was a designated green space. Yes, quite possibly now you know I'm old!

Before it was donated to the city, the woods were honestly a scary hazard. The property was a place to dump trash and strip cars and kids met to drink. Kids most definitely still meet up in the woods...but it's more like a high school picnic lunch spot now, I think, and a nice place to walk through with great paths instead of just an empty place with trash which inspires others to dump larger items. The dumping used to be a much larger and more regular problem when there were less folks walking in the woods!

As a neighbor of the woods and then a member of our Bella Vista Neighborhood Association Board, I was so proud of us when we would gather twice a year to pull ivy off trees. Well...flash forward about 20 years and guess what? Our effort may have saved some trees from dying but the ivy is still very much entrenched...we didn't even make a dent in the invasive English Ivy.

Having a Naturespaces coordinator to keep Behrens Woods on the schedule to invite folks from around the city to come and help us in the local green spaces is huge. I know when you look at a budget, it's rough as there are many worthy programs. So I will add that in the financial arena, having a staff member invite and coordinate volunteers pours in so many hours of work that the city does not have to directly fund. Having the woods be clean and accessible has definitely changed the tone from unappealing to inviting to folks just walking or driving through the neighborhood. Taking the next step to actually committing to eradicate the ivy I now understand will require work parties twice a month and not just our original efforts twice a year.

The city coordinating work parties and posting online to invite in volunteers from around our area is wonderful. It's so uplifting to pull ivy next to a new volunteer. I've met some very nice folks pulling ivy and I like to think that the camaraderie and the great feeling of working together to pull the huge piles of ivy gives the spirit a boost which resonates with the volunteers beyond our two-hour time of volunteering. I also hope that the volunteers come back to walk in the woods and enjoy them, and watch for our local resident owls.

Thanks for listening and for considering funding the wonderful Naturespaces program.

Kate Altenhof-Long
Bella Vista Neighborhood
Vancouver, Washington

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Greg Kimsey](#)
To: [Dollar, Sarah](#)
Cc: [Amanda Migchelbrink](#); [Cathie Garber](#); [Young, Jonathan](#); [Cook, Nena](#)
Subject: RE: Elections calendar and deadlines for 2025
Date: Monday, June 10, 2024 11:31:05 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image009.png](#)

Hi Sarah, Jonathan Young suggested I send you this email where I request that the proposed amendment to Section 10.03 remain unchanged from the current language except for the addition of a sentence at the end that says “ Electronic signatures on petitions will be accepted when Washington law authorizes electronic signatures on petitions.”

I intend to testify in support of the above request at this evening’s council meeting.

Regards,
Greg

From: Amanda Migchelbrink <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, June 10, 2024 7:28 AM
To: Cathie Garber [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Elections calendar and deadlines for 2025

Please see the email below.

From: Young, Jonathan <Jonathan.Young@cityofvancouver.us>
Sent: Friday, June 7, 2024 2:10 PM
To: Cook, Nena <Nena.Cook@cityofvancouver.us>; Amanda Migchelbrink <[REDACTED]>
Subject: FW: Elections calendar and deadlines for 2025

Hi Amanda,

Thanks for reaching out. Resolution 4 would simply remove an impediment to collecting electronic signatures that currently exists within the Vancouver City Charter – it would not authorize the actual use of this method yet. If Resolution 4 is adopted by the Vancouver City Council, the City would invite the voters of Vancouver to change a charter provision that currently prevents the City from authorizing collection of initiative signatures in anything other than ink or indelible pencil. With that said, the Vancouver City Council has observed that the actual change to accepting electronic signatures cannot occur unless/until state law allows it. If/when that happens, the City Council also expects that City Staff would collaborate with Clark County Elections Officials to ensure that the County is ready for implementation of this change before formal adoption. I’m copying our Deputy City Attorney Nena Cook who advises the Charter Review Commission and may have additional thoughts to share.

I hope this helps!

Jonathan

Jonathan Young | City Attorney
CITY OF VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON
P: 360-487-8511 **TTY:** 360-487-8602
www.cityofvancouver.us
Pronouns: he/him



Please note: The Vancouver City Attorney's Office provides legal advice and representation to the Vancouver City Council, City Manager, Department Directors, Managers and Employees. The information above is intended to be general in nature and should not be construed to be legal advice from an attorney to a client. The Clark County Bar Association maintains a Southwest Washington lawyer referral service should you be in need of individual legal advice or representation. Emails to and from public email accounts, and any related attachments, may be subject to public disclosure under state law. Thank you.

From: Amanda Migchelbrink <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, June 7, 2024 12:11 PM
To: Young, Jonathan <Jonathan.Young@cityofvancouver.us>
Subject: FW: Elections calendar and deadlines for 2025

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

Jonathan,

I'm not sure which City Attorney is representing the City's charter review commission, so I sent this email to you. Elections received the below email on Tuesday and there are some big concerns with Resolution 4 regarding electronic signatures. I have attached a court decision that clarifies that these types of measures cannot be done. The Clark County Elections Department cannot do anything with electronic signatures and cannot accept them because the state does not allow it.

Can you give me more information on this resolution? It does not appear to be legally possible.

Thank you,

Amanda

From: Peck, Kerry <Kerry.Peck@cityofvancouver.us>

Sent: Tuesday, June 4, 2024 11:19 AM

To: Sharla Comastro <[REDACTED]>

Cc: Cathie Garber <[REDACTED]>

Subject: RE: Elections calendar and deadlines for 2025

Hello Sharla,

Attached are our resolutions. We might have one for a special elections next year. Also, we are going to council on June 10th for final approval, hopefully. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Until next time,
Kerry

Kerry Peck | Administrative Assistant
City of Vancouver
City Manager's Office
Office: 360-487-8616
cityofvancouver.us



From: Sharla Comastro <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Tuesday, June 4, 2024 9:21 AM

To: Peck, Kerry <Kerry.Peck@cityofvancouver.us>

Cc: Cathie Garber <Cathie.Garber@clark.wa.gov>

Subject: RE: Elections calendar and deadlines for 2025

Hi Kerry,

We would like to request a copy of the language of these charter amendments so that we may review them in case we had any questions or needed clarification of them. Is this something that you can forward to us please?

Thanks,
Sharla



Sharla Comastro

Office Supervisor and Signature Verification Lead
CLARK COUNTY ELECTIONS
564.397.4526

From: County Elections General Delivery <elections@clark.wa.gov>

Sent: Monday, June 3, 2024 9:59 AM

To: Peck, Kerry <Kerry.Peck@cityofvancouver.us>; Sharla Comastro

[REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Elections calendar and deadlines for 2025

Hi Kerry,

The deadline for the November 2024 election is to provide the complete signed resolution with the ballot language included, an explanatory statement written by the city attorney for the voters' guide, and members of the community who would like to be on a committee to write statements for and against the propositions. This deadline is August 5th.

The deadline for the 2025 elections are:

Last day to file resolutions and other materials for the February 11, 2025 special election is Dec. 13

Last day to file resolutions and other materials for the April 22, 2025 special election is Feb. 21

Last day to file resolutions and other materials for the August 5, 2025 election is May 2

Last day to file resolutions For the November 4, 2025 election is August 5

Costs for jurisdictions are allocated based on how many jurisdictions are placing something on the ballot and how many voters you will have participating. So, an election that has many jurisdictions placing something on the ballot (such as a November) will be cheaper than if you

are the only jurisdiction having an election (such as a very small February or April).

Sincerely,
Cathie Garber

From: Peck, Kerry <Kerry.Peck@cityofvancouver.us>
Sent: Monday, June 3, 2024 9:40 AM
To: Sharla Comastro <[REDACTED]>; County Elections General Delivery
<elections@clark.wa.gov>
Subject: RE: Elections calendar and deadlines for 2025

Hello There,

I am following up on our questions below about due dates for special elections in 2025. We are gathering information for council and our deadline is tomorrow. Any information would be helpful.

We are getting close to having consensus from council on what we would like to go onto the 2024 November ballot. We believe that there will be 5 or 6 items. Though, there might be one item that will need to be held over to 2025. Could you tell me the deadlines for Special (Feb?), Primary (Aug?), General (Nov) elections? Also, is there a difference in cost to placing something on the different 2025 ballot?

Until next time,
Kerry

Kerry Peck | Administrative Assistant
City of Vancouver
City Manager's Office
Office: 360-487-8616
cityofvancouver.us



From: Peck, Kerry
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 10:04 AM
To: Sharla Comastro <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: Elections calendar and deadlines for 2024

Hi Sharla,

We are getting close to having consensus from council on what we would like to go onto the 2024 November ballot. We believe that there will be 5 or 6 items. Though, there might be one item that will need to be held over to 2025. Could you tell me the deadlines for Special (Feb?), Primary (Aug?), General (Nov) elections? Also, is there a difference in cost to placing something on the different 2025 ballot?

Until next time,
Kerry

Kerry Peck | Administrative Assistant
City of Vancouver
City Manager's Office
Office: 360-487-8616
cityofvancouver.us



From: Sharla Comastro <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, April 30, 2024 11:32 AM
To: Peck, Kerry <Kerry.Peck@cityofvancouver.us>
Subject: RE: Elections calendar and deadlines for 2024

Hi Kerry,

We do not accept thumb drives, however, we can accept the paperwork electronically (preferred method) or in person. When you submit, please include the Resolution Cover Sheet, the resolution that contains the ballot language, the explanatory statement as well as the pro/con statement committee member names. Also, please provide a Word version of the resolution and explanatory

statement. By providing us the Word version, it allows an easier transfer to our VoteWA system.

I would like to invite you to explore the important information to jurisdictions that is available on our website. Here is the link for your convenience: <https://clark.wa.gov/elections/jurisdictions> . Please use the Resolution Cover Sheet as well as the Committee For and Against appointment form that are listed.

I hope this answers your question. Please let me know if you need anything else.

Thanks,
Sharla



Sharla Comastro

Office Supervisor and Signature Verification Lead
CLARK COUNTY ELECTIONS
564.397.4526

From: Peck, Kerry <Kerry.Peck@cityofvancouver.us>
Sent: Monday, April 29, 2024 3:56 PM
To: Sharla Comastro <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: Elections calendar and deadlines for 2024

One last question. The last time. I brought items to the elections office for the ballot it had to be on a thumb drive. Can we now email them to you or do we have to come in in person?

Until next time,
Kerry

Kerry Peck | Administrative Assistant
City of Vancouver
City Manager's Office
Office: 360-487-8616
cityofvancouver.us



From: Sharla Comastro [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, April 29, 2024 3:41 PM
To: Peck, Kerry <Kerry.Peck@cityofvancouver.us>
Cc: Cathie Garber <[REDACTED]>
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Elections calendar and deadlines for 2024

Hi Kerry,

Yes, I would have to stick with my original estimate. This, of course, would change if other jurisdictions decide to file a resolution.

Thanks,
Sharla



Sharla Comastro
Office Supervisor and Signature Verification Lead
CLARK COUNTY ELECTIONS
564.397.4526

From: Peck, Kerry <Kerry.Peck@cityofvancouver.us>
Sent: Monday, April 29, 2024 3:36 PM
To: Sharla Comastro [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Elections calendar and deadlines for 2024

Thank you, Sharla. Is the cost the same as below?

Until next time,
Kerry

Kerry Peck | Administrative Assistant
City of Vancouver
City Manager's Office
Office: 360-487-8616

cityofvancouver.us



From: Sharla Comastro <Sharla.Comastro@clark.wa.gov>

Sent: Monday, April 29, 2024 3:30 PM

To: Peck, Kerry <Kerry.Peck@cityofvancouver.us>

Cc: Cathie Garber [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Elections calendar and deadlines for 2024

Hi Kerry,

Yes, the deadline to submit ballot resolutions for the November 5, 2024 General Election is August 6th.

Pro and con statements do not appear on the ballot. Each Charter amendment would count as one.

Thanks,
Sharla



Sharla Comastro

Office Supervisor and Signature Verification Lead

CLARK COUNTY ELECTIONS

564.397.4526

From: Peck, Kerry <Kerry.Peck@cityofvancouver.us>

Sent: Monday, April 29, 2024 1:56 PM

To: Sharla Comastro [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Elections calendar and deadlines for 2024

Hello There,

I would like to confirm the due date and cost for items on the ballot for the November election.

Due date is August 6th, 2024

Cost per item (I think we will have between 4 and 6 Charter items) and if there are pro and con statements, does that count as one or two items?

- For one item on the ballot, your estimated cost would be approximately \$30,000-40,000.
- For seven items (as appeared on the 2019 ballot), your estimated cost would be approximately \$60,000-70,000.

Until next time,
Kerry

Kerry Peck | Administrative Assistant
City of Vancouver
City Manager's Office
Office: 360-487-8616
cityofvancouver.us



From: Sharla Comastro <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Friday, July 14, 2023 1:26 PM

To: Peck, Kerry <Kerry.Peck@cityofvancouver.us>

Subject: RE: Elections calendar and deadlines for 2024

You don't often get email from s [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

Good afternoon Kerry,

As with any election cost estimate, election costs are based on active registered voters, how

many jurisdictions as well as the number of issues per jurisdiction, wages/salaries, paper costs, office costs, postage changes, etc. At any time, a jurisdiction can provide a levy or bond to appear on a ballot which could lower costs. Based on previous elections, to appear on the General 2024 ballot, I **estimate** your share of the cost is as follows:

- For one item on the ballot, your estimated cost would be approximately \$30,000-40,000.
- For seven items (as appeared on the 2019 ballot), your estimated cost would be approximately \$60,000-70,000.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks,
Sharla



Sharla Comastro

Office Supervisor and Signature Verification Lead

CLARK COUNTY ELECTIONS

564.397.4526

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From: County Elections General Delivery <elections@clark.wa.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2023 4:00 PM

To: Peck, Kerry <Kerry.Peck@cityofvancouver.us>

Cc: Sharla Comastro <[REDACTED]@v>

Subject: RE: Elections calendar and deadlines for 2024

Kerry,

May 10th would be the deadline to put it on the August Ballot and August 6 is the deadline for the November ballot.

Sharla can give you a rough quote but election costs vary, and your portion is dependent on the number of charter amendments submitted to us for placement on the ballot, I have copied her on

this email.

Thank you,
Rich



Richard Cooper

Assistant Manager
CLARK COUNTY ELECTIONS
Direct: 564.397.5176
Office: 564.397.2345

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From: Peck, Kerry <Kerry.Peck@cityofvancouver.us>
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2023 12:09 PM
To: County Elections General Delivery <elections@clark.wa.gov>
Subject: Elections calendar and deadlines for 2024

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Clark County. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi There,

The City of Vancouver is preparing to for our 5 year Charter Review and will most likely have items for the 2024 ballot. I am gathering information on the elections calendar and deadlines for 2024. Would you be able to provide that information? Also, the cost of items to put on the ballot.

Until next time,
Kerry

Kerry Peck | Administrative Assistant (she/her)



CITY OF VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON

City Manager's Office/Administrative Assistant

P: (360) 487-8616

www.cityofvancouver.us | www.cityofvancouver.us/socialmedia



TO the Clerk or whoever is in charge of the on-line application for submitting a PROCLAMATION to the City of Vancouver. I tried many times to get through the "captcha" pictures with no success; so I am scanning the enclosed two pages. The first page is directing staff to put both pages on PUBLIC RECORD and to Please deliver to all City Council Members.

Thank You for looking into the problem with the on-line submission application and have a Great Day.

Kimberlee Goheen Elbon and Carmen De Leon-resident of Vancouver WA USA
peolacenter522@aol.com

THIS IS AN OFFICIAL SUBMISSION to The City of Vancouver and the City Council members for
A PROCLAMATION of INDEPENDENCE MONTH for the month of JULY 2024

Total pages included are three; this page, the directives and the Proclamation.

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PUT THESE DOCUMENTS ON PUBLIC RECORD FOR the next CITY COUNCIL meeting
and Please deliver copies to all Council members.

DATED this 28th day of May 2024.

TO: The City Council Members

WE THE PEOPLE are submitting a PROCLAMATION to be proclaimed by the month
of JULY 2024.

Signed ~ Kimberlee Goheen Elbon and Carmen De Leon Citizens of Clark County
WA USA.

1 ~ 2

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PROCLAMATION

Whereas ~ In the year of Our Lord 1776 congress declared its Freedom from Great Britain. That these colonies are Free and Independent States and are absolved from the British crown and

Whereas ~ In the year of our lord 1776 Independence Day will be the most memorable Epocha, in the History of America; Celebrating with Parades, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one end of this Continent to the other from this Time forward forever more." John Adams wrote and

Whereas ~ Congress approved the actual DECLARATION of INDEPENDENCE document on July 4, 1776 and in September 17, 1787 drafted in secret by delegates to the Constitutional Convention during the summer of 1787 establishing The Government of The United States and guarantying our Right to abolish any government or alter them if they become destructive, and institute new government. And

NOW THEREFORE ~ Keeping with the rich Heritage, Patriotism and History of the largest Celebration this side of The Mississippi River at The Historical Fort Vancouver Barracks for Generations to come here in Clark County WA USA ~ WE THE PEOPLE hereby Proclaim with the Vancouver City Council ~ JULY as

~~~~~ INDEPENDENCE MONTH ~~~~~

In Clark County "We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness Amen.

Signed this 29<sup>th</sup> day of May 2024

VANCOUVER CITY COUNCIL

Kimberlee Goheen Elbon

Carmen De Leon

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