

COUNCIL GENERAL GOVERNMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

August 31, 2016

5:00 P.M. TO 6:15 P.M.

EVERETT CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

In attendance: Council member Paul Roberts, Chair, Council member Cassie Franklin, Council member Scott Bader, David Stalheim, Deb Williams.

Audience: Council Vice President Judy Tuohy, Council member Jeff Moore. Guests: 3.

After introduction, Chair Roberts stated purpose of tonight's meeting is a continuation of the discussion on council representation, looking at the recommendations and looking further at issues associated with the discussion Charter Review had on Council Representation and districts. At previous meeting the Committee talked about pulling together data and information that they can review that really gets down into the details of the community. (Packets including the FTP link were provided to all in the audience and are available through the clerk's office.)

David Stalheim, the city's long range planning manager working with Paul Roberts continued discussion and presented data regarding districts. He provided maps showing some socio-economic and voting data for the city of Everett. The socio-economic data used is from the 2010-2014 American Community Survey (ACS).¹ These 5-year estimates are available at the "block group" level,² which are at a scale that most closely approximates voting precincts.

Data and maps³ provided include:

- Race and ethnicity
- Educational Attainment (25 and over)
- Household Income
- Age

The voting data includes a 2016 precinct map and voter turnout from the August 2, 2016 Primary. This information was obtained from the Snohomish County Auditor.

Everett Voters

According to the most recent Snohomish County election results, there were:

- 51,971 registered voters
- 15,917 ballots cast in the August 2, 2016 primary

For this primary election, Everett voter turnout was 30.6%. Reviewing precinct data, the highest precinct turnout was 52.54% (Everett 1) and the lowest was 12.00% (Everett 92).⁴

City-wide maps can be downloaded on our websiteFTP site at:

<https://everettwa.gov/1555/Demographic-Maps><https://everettwa.gov/1555/Demographic-Maps>

<https://ftp.everettwa.gov/?ShareToken=C8E3E514554A038CD55EA4A801FFCA50DF55D>

<https://ftp.everettwa.gov/?ShareToken=5256BC0658855CC429B22EA5C5953D5720934223>

Wrap up:

- A map showing voter turnout with an overlay map indicating the city Neighborhoods to compare citizen participation and voter representation.
- A comparable of voter turnout in other cities before and after the city went to districts.
- Data available to show voter turnout in high ethnic concentration areas of the city.
- Further discussion needed on how to encourage citizen participation and voter turnout.

Chair Roberts stated he will contact Municipal Research Services Center for who can provide a meaningful analysis looking at information on hopefully the last 10 years. He asked the committee what other information the committee would like to address to come to a consensus before they are prepared to come to full council with a recommendation?

Council member Franklin questioned is Districting a solution to the problem? What did other cities do to increase voter turnout and participation? How did they get citizens more engaged in boards and commissions?

The topic of the next Council General Government Committee will focus on the Transit discussion topic brought forward from the Charter Review Committee. Chair Roberts has requested Paul Kaftanski be part of the discussion. Council member Bader requested representation from the Transportation Advisory Committee be invited to the discussion.

Council member Franklin asked the Council General Government committee asked that Representatives of the Community Streets Initiative and Safe Streets come back to give a report on the low barrier housing discussion from previous meeting. She would like to see where are we and what are we looking to do in the future.

Adjourn