Thank you for subscribing to my monthly newsletter!

Charter Review Commission

The Washington State Constitution grants counties the option of adopting a Home Rule Charter for their own form of government. Snohomish County is one of seven charter counties in Washington State. The Snohomish County Charter was adopted in 1980 and amended in 1986, and every ten years after that.

The Commission may propose amendments to the charter, study and make recommendations regarding charter provisions that are in conflict with current state law, do not reflect current practices, or are outdated and obsolete. They are also charged to make recommendations to the County Council and to the Public.

The Commission is comprised of three members from each of the five Council Districts. They each serve a one year unpaid term.

On Thursday, February 17th the Commission invited me to speak at their meeting to share my thoughts and the following recommendations:

- Keep communities together. Full cities should be
Keep Informed On Neighborhood Development Projects
Building Permit and Land Use Activity Reports
Construction Traffic Alerts
Volunteer Opportunities
Who represents you?

Keep communities together. Full cities should be contained inside one council district and not split in two. This allows the full city to be represented by one councilmember and makes for the communication between city and county more effective.

- Consider the long term financial impacts of changes. In the 2016 budget, Snohomish County had to find $2.4 million dollars in cuts. With 75% of the county budget taken up with Criminal Justice departments such as the Sheriff, Courts, Prosecuting Attorney and Public Defense, any cost increase caused by changes to the charter will have a direct impact on public safety.

- Give the voters choices. Even if a particular proposal may have a majority of commissioners in opposition to the idea, put it forward to the voters to make the ultimate decision.

- Propose that the County Executive and the County Council positions become non-partisan like the Auditor, Judges, Treasurer, Sheriff and Assessor. Local government is no place for partisan politics. This proposal improves voter choice because candidates will not be forced into a box allowing voters to choose the best candidate, not a political party. It will increase competition by reducing barriers to candidacy. It makes government accountable to the people, not to political parties. Finally it strengthens partnerships between Snohomish County and city councils, fire, sewer, hospital and water districts, which are all non-partisan. There is no such thing as a Republican pothole or a Democrat stop light. The day-to-day responsibilities of county government have nothing to do with partisan ideologies and everything to do with service.

If you would like to watch the discussion, please visit February 17, 2015 Charter Review Commission Meeting.

If you would like to voice your opinion to the Charter Review Commission, please email them at by Contact.Council@snoco.org by April 1, 2016.

**Snohomish County Call to Artists for Temporary Sculpture Exhibit**

The Snohomish County Arts Commission has put out a call to artists to submit images of free-standing sculptural works to be considered for temporary installation and exhibition in an open air setting on the Snohomish County Plaza in Everett, WA.

Submissions must be for freestanding sculpture that is suitable for an outdoor setting. The artwork should also be durable, vandal resistant, and pose no safety threats. Sculptures will
need to be ready for installation in May and available to the County until the end of 2016. A fee of $1,000 will be paid to each artist that is selected to exhibit work. Application packets are due to the Snohomish County Office of Economic Development by 5:00pm on Monday, April 4th. For more information, please feel free to contact Wendy Poischbeg by phone at 425.388.3186 or by email at Wendy.Poischbeg@snoco.org.

Go, See, Do!

Treasure Trove Antique Appraisal Show

Marysville Parks and Recreation is hosting its popular "Treasure Trove Antique Show at the Marysville City Hall Council Chambers. Get up to two items verbally appraised for market value and history by professional appraisers. Pre-registration in advance is highly advised to guarantee an appointed time with the appraiser. Drop-ins (cash only) are welcome if time allows.

**Date:** Saturday, March 12th  
**Time:** 10:00 am - 2:00 pm  
**Location:** Marysville City Hall, 1049 State Ave., Marysville 98270  
**Cost:** $10 per item  
**Registration:** Treasure Trove Antique Appraisal Show!  
**Contact:** For more information, please call 360.363.8400 or email mburgess@marysvillewa.gov

Granite Falls Neighborhood Crime Watch with the Chief

Join the Granite Falls Sheriff's Office at the Granite Falls Fire Hall to find out what is going on with local activity and to share your experiences.

**Date:** Wednesday, March 16th  
**Time:** 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm  
**Location:** Granite Falls Fire Hall, 116 S. Granite Ave., Granite Falls 98252  
**Contact:** For more information, contact Suzi Quillen at 425.273.5563

3rd Annual Camano-Port Susan Home and Garden Show

The show is designed to provide a wealth of inspiration and information about home and garden possibilities! The show will feature speakers, demonstrations and local vendors in the home and garden industries. There will be food served all day.

**Date:** Saturday, March 19th  
**Time:** 10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
**Location:** Camano Center, 606 Arrowhead Road, Camano Island 98282  
**Cost:** Free!  
**Contact:** Please call 360.629.7136 or email chamber@camanoisland.org  
**Website:** Port Susan Home & Garden Show

McClinchy Mile Bicycle Ride

B.I.K.E.S. Club of Snohomish County invites you to explore the peaceful river valleys, rolling hills and quaint towns of the Snoco inland plateau on the return of the 3rd Annual McClinchy Mile Bicycle Ride. This 20 mile ride will have a reduced pace and multiple stops for refreshments. The route will start and finish at the Marysville City Hall Council Chambers, travel through the Marysville City and Snohomish County Parks, and take in the sights of the rural communities along the way. Sign up for the end of May 2016 ride for a fun family bike ride in the country.

**Date:** Saturday, May 21st  
**Time:** 10:00 am - 1:00 pm  
**Location:** Marysville City Hall Council Chambers, 1049 State Ave., Marysville 98270  
**Cost:** $10 per rider  
**Registration:** McClinchy Mile Bicycle Ride!  
**Contact:** For more information, please call 425.553.8400 or email mburgess@marysvillewa.gov

**Website:** McClinchy Mile Bicycle Ride
hills and picturesque farms of Snohomish County. Ride a 34-mile flat and scenic loop or choose from two more challenging loops - 48 miles through Granite Falls or 52 miles through Stanwood when you add on the north-end extension. Ride both and make an early-season century! The first 200 registrants will receive a reflective McClincy backpack!

**Date:** Sunday, March 20th  
**Time:** Riders can register between 8:00 am and 10:00 am  
**Location:** Begins at Haller Middle School. 600 E. Street, Arlington, WA 98223  
**Cost:** $35 day of ride, $ if postmarked by March 12th, BIKES Club members save $5  
**Details:** For more information, please visit [bikesclub.org/mcclinchy](http://bikesclub.org/mcclinchy)

**Marysville - Mayor's Gala**

Mayor Nehring is thrilled to welcome you to the Mayor's Gala for light refreshments and a no host bar provided by Kiwanis to celebrate Marysville's 125th Birthday! We will enjoy music from Tiller's Folly and a chance to explore the historic Marysville Opera House.

**Date:** Sunday, March 20th  
**Time:** 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm, doors open at 1:30 pm  
**Cost:** $20.00  
**Location:** Marysville Opera House, 1225 3rd St., Marysville, WA 98270

**Marysville Easter Egg Hunt**

More than 10,000 plastic eggs filled with candy and prizes will be hidden in and around Jennings Memorial Rotary Ranch. Participants are asked to bring a canned food item for the Marysville Food Bank. There is a limit of eight eggs per child. Please leave pets at home!

**Date:** Saturday, March 26th  
**Time:** 10:00 am  
**Location:** Jennings Memorial Park, 6915 Armar Road, Marysville, WA 98270  
**Cost:** Free! Please bring a canned food item to donate to the Marysville Food Bank  
**Contact:** Please call 360.363.8400 or email akingsford@marysvillewa.gov

**Arlington - Whiskey Ridge Brewing Co. Celebrates One Year in Arlington**

Whiskey Ridge Brewing Co. is excited to be celebrating their one year anniversary in Arlington! They will have live music and discounts on beers. Mayor Barb Tolbert will be visiting at 2:00 pm and Aaron English will be performing at 2:30 pm! They are kid and dog friendly. Whiskey Ridge does not serve food, but they encourage their customers to bring in food from local restaurants.

**Date:** Saturday, March 26th  
**Time:** 2:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
**Location:** Whiskey Ridge Brewing Co., 116 E 5th Street, Arlington 98223  
**Contact:** 360.913.0425  
**Website:** [Whiskey Ridge Brewing](http://www.WhiskeyRidgeBrewing.com)

All the best,

Ken Klein

**Phone:** 425.388.3494  
**Email:** ken.klein@snoco.org

I hope you found this eNEWSLETTER to be informative and useful. You can make it even more
valuable by suggesting topics and issues for future newsletters. Please contact me at 425-388-3494, or e-mail. If you would like to share this newsletter, select the **Forward email** link below.

_Sincerely,_

Ken Klein  
Snohomish County Council