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FROM: Andy Cherullo, Finance Director, GPFC Executive Liaison
COPY: Government Performance & Finance Committee; D'Angelo Baker, Management Fellow
PRESENTER: Kyle Haugh, Elections Manager, Pierce County Auditor's Office
SUBJECT: Informational Briefing on Rank Choice Voting
DATE: December 3, 2024

PRESENTATION TYPE:
Informational Briefing

SUMMARY:
Staff from the Pierce County Auditor's Office will present an informational briefing on Rank Choice Voting.

BACKGROUND:
In November of 2006, Pierce County voters adopted a charter amendment for Rank Choice Voting. The new rules went into effect for the July 2008 elections for certain county offices (County Executive, Sheriff, Assessor-Treasurer, County Council). Educational efforts to inform voters of the process included enhanced website, billboards, ballot inserts, enhanced voter pamphlet, mailers and PSAs. After the 2008 elections, voters were surveyed and over 66% responded that they did not like rank choice voting. In 2009, Peirce County voters repealed rank choice voting by a margin of 70.65% to 29.35%.

In 2022, the City of Seattle, passed a Rank Choice Voting amendment with 51% support. Rank Choice voting efforts in Clark County and San Juan County failed.

ISSUES:
This is an informational briefing.

ALTERNATIVES:
This is an informational briefing.

FISCAL IMPACT:
This is an informational briefing.

RECOMMENDATION:
This is an informational briefing.