



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Bill Fosbre, City Attorney, City Attorney's Office
COPY: Government Performance and Finance Committee
SUBJECT: Resolution – Appointing “For” and “Against” committees for Measures No. 1 and No. 2 concerning Landlord Fairness Code, and Rental Housing Code amendments in TMC 1.95, respectively, being submitted to the voters at the General Election on November 7, 2023.
DATE: July 25, 2023

SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:

A resolution appointing individuals to committees that will prepare statements “for” and “against” Measure Nos. 1 and No. 2 concerning the Landlord Fairness Code, and Rental Housing Code amendments in TMC 1.95, respectively, which will appear in the voters’ pamphlet for the November 7, 2023, General Election.

BACKGROUND:

This resolution request is based on the statutory requirement that the City appoint members to a “for” and “against” committee when it seeks to place a measure on the ballot. There are two measures on the ballot in November, the citizen’s Landlord Fairness Code submitted by Tacoma for All, and the City’s Rental Housing Code amendments in TMC 1.95. These are being sent to the voters on the November 7, 2023, ballot, via Resolution Nos. 41237 and 41238, respectively. Each initiative is required to have “For” and “Against” committee members.

The Government Performance and Finance Committee reviewed letters of interest for these committees at their regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, July 18, 2023, and provided recommendations. This resolution would formalize those appointments.

Per RCW 29A.32.280, for each measure from a unit of local government that is included in a local Voters' Pamphlet, the legislative authority of that jurisdiction shall formally appoint a committee to prepare arguments advocating voters' approval of the measure and shall formally appoint a committee to prepare arguments advocating voters' rejection of the measure.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:

The City reached out to the community to look for those interested in serving on the “For” and “Against” committees. The City notified anyone who expressed interest in the past about the topic, and notified those on the agenda notification lists, the contacts for the Neighborhood Councils, and posted the request on the City’s notices page.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Equity and Accessibility: (Mandatory)

Appointing a “For” and “Against” committee is required by state law. It will allow formal support and opposition to both Measures No. 1 and 2, the Citizens’ Landlord Fairness Initiative, and the City’s Rental Housing Code amendments, respectively.



Livability: Equity Index Score: Very High Opportunity

Improve access and proximity by residents to diverse income levels and race/ethnicity to community facilities, services, infrastructure, and employment.

Select an indicator.

Explain how your legislation will affect the selected indicator(s).

Allowing members to participate in the “For” and “Against” committees for both initiatives will increase community participation and input.

ALTERNATIVES:

Presumably, your recommendation is not the only potential course of action; please discuss other alternatives or actions that City Council or staff could take. Please use table below.

Alternative(s)	Positive Impact(s)	Negative Impact(s)
1. Not appoint individuals the “For” and “Against” committees.	None	Will require the County to search for members.

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:

Once the City Council appoints “For” and “Against” committees, the City can submit all the required information to the County so that this proposition may be placed on the November 7, 2023, ballot.

STAFF/SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

The Department recommends the Council approve a resolution to appoint the “For” and “Against” committees for Measure Nos. 1 and 2 which will be in the voters’ pamphlet for the November 7, 2023, General Election. The deadline for the City to send all required information to the County, including the appointment of the “For” and “Against” committees, is August 1, 2023.



FISCAL IMPACT:

Please provide a short summary of the fiscal impacts associated with the grant, agreement, policy action, or other action.

NONE

Fund Number & Name	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	Cost Element	Total Amount
1. N/A			
2.			
TOTAL			

What Funding is being used to support the expense?

Are the expenditures and revenues planned and budgeted in this biennium's current budget?

NO, PLEASE EXPLAIN BELOW

THERE IS NO FISCAL IMPACT

Are there financial costs or other impacts of not implementing the legislation?

No

Will the legislation have an ongoing/recurring fiscal impact?

No

Will the legislation change the City's FTE/personnel counts?

No

ATTACHMENTS:

None.