

## **46<sup>th</sup> District Democrats Resolution on Redistricting**

The 46<sup>th</sup> District Democrats have deep roots in the community of Northeast Seattle, and have unique experience and role in the community, which provides us with significant insight for purposes of commenting to the Washington State Redistricting Commission:

- The 46<sup>th</sup> District Democrats have a long tradition of holding major forums for candidates seeking citywide office in Seattle, King County offices, Seattle School Board seats (chosen by District) and for other races. These are widely attended by community members.
- The 46<sup>th</sup> District Democrats are comprised of several hundred members and Precinct Committee Officers (PCOs), who have a unique role in the community walking their precincts to encourage voter participation. The 46<sup>th</sup> District has more PCOs than any other district in the State.
- The Sample Ballots distributed by PCOs and members, following endorsement by a two thirds vote of the membership, is widely used in the District and looked for by citizens seeking information on candidates and ballot proposals at the City, County and State levels.
- The 46<sup>th</sup> District Democrats' members reflect a cross section of the community of Northeast Seattle, and are individually involved in almost every community effort.
- As a result of our close connection to the community through our doorbelling, voter registration and encouraging voter turnout, we are very well qualified to comment on the highly negative impact of any proposal to split communities and neighborhoods of Northeast Seattle between two different Congressional Districts.

The comments of the 46<sup>th</sup> District democrats were adopted following full discussion of the membership at two full membership meetings.

Any redistricting proposal that moves the 46<sup>th</sup> to include areas outside the City of Seattle or move significant portions of the 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional District into the 46<sup>th</sup> Legislative District South of the City of Seattle boundary would weaken the bonds of citizens to their elected representatives and separate neighbors from their common community, as shown by the increased difficulty in organizing forums for the public to meet candidates, or the confusion resulting from splitting neighbors between Congressional Districts.

Based on our experience, the 46<sup>th</sup> District Democrats urge the Washington State Redistricting Commission to utilize the following criteria for legislative and congressional districts for North Seattle and Northern King County:

## 46<sup>th</sup> District Democrats Resolution on Redistricting

The 46<sup>th</sup> District Democrats urge the Washington State Redistricting Commission to utilize the following criteria for legislative and congressional districts for North Seattle and Northern King County:

- A. The 46<sup>th</sup> Legislative District should coincide with the following community lines and political boundaries, which recognize the strong community of interest that exists in Northeast Seattle:
  - B. The City of Seattle;
  - C. recognizing the community of interest in Northeast Seattle, the 46<sup>th</sup> District should continue to represent the communities of Northeast and North Seattle, rather than being redrawn to include Northwest Seattle, which has stronger community ties to Ballard and the 36<sup>th</sup> District;
  - D. 2<sup>nd</sup> County Council District and Seattle School Board district boundaries.

The following chart provides our review of how each of the four legislative district proposals from members of the Redistricting Commission meet these criteria and prioritization:

Plan by Author:	Meets Criteria for 46 <sup>th</sup> Within City Boundary, and Northeast Seattle community	Does <u>Not</u> Meet Criteria for 46 <sup>th</sup> Within City Boundary, and Northeast Seattle community
Derham LD	4 (NE Seattle, East of Aurora) However, has 43 <sup>rd</sup> District North of Wallingford to Green Lake and over Phinney Ridge)	
Foster LD		4 46 <sup>th</sup> slightly oversize; extends 46 <sup>th</sup> West to Puget Sound, and no area of 46 <sup>th</sup> would be south of 65 <sup>th</sup> St. Breaks up communities of interest in Northeast Seattle.
Giese LD		4 Close, but, irrationally extends 46 <sup>th</sup> slightly North into Lake Forest Park along Lake Washington. Otherwise, along City line.
Krebs-McMullen LD		4 Would extend portion of 32 <sup>nd</sup> District into Seattle; irrationally extends 43 <sup>rd</sup> District North into Roosevelt, while excluding portion of Westlake and Seattle Center area. If adjusted, 36 <sup>th</sup> would be able to extend to City of Seattle limit.

**B. Principles That Should Govern the 7<sup>th</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional Districts Redistricting :**

1. The 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District should not extend North of Seattle into areas of North King County where the 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional District could continue logical community representation. For instance, the 1<sup>st</sup> District should not extend into Seattle while excluding portions of Shoreline and Lake Forest Park from the 1<sup>st</sup>. (E.g.: Krebs-McMullen Plan BKM.0.1.C)
2. The 46<sup>th</sup> District should not be split between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional Districts. (E.g. Foster DF.0.1.C, which would put most of the 46<sup>th</sup> into the 1<sup>st</sup> CD under most maps, and especially under DF.0.1.L which moves the 46<sup>th</sup> North of 65<sup>th</sup> Street; and, which, literally splits Northeast Seattle neighborhoods apart between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> CDs.)
3. The 7<sup>th</sup> CD should extend North to the Seattle City line, rather than including Vashon Island (E.g.: Derham).

Congressional Plan by Author:	Does Plan Meet Criteria of 46 <sup>th</sup> LD Within the 7 <sup>th</sup> CD?
Derham	YES
Foster	NO (puts most of 46 <sup>th</sup> into 1 <sup>st</sup> CD, extends 1 <sup>st</sup> South into Seattle. Extends 7 <sup>th</sup> South to cover Vashon and Kent - has narrow strip of 7 <sup>th</sup> going North to City line along Lake Washington. Dividing line between 1 <sup>st</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> CDs in Northeast Seattle does not follow any neighborhood or other community lines)
Giese	YES
Krebs-McMullen	YES (but the 7 <sup>th</sup> extends North of Seattle in this plan; while Ballard is split between 7 <sup>th</sup> and 1 <sup>st</sup> )