Clark County

Initiatives and Referenda Handbook

A reference manual for petitioners of initiatives and referenda in Clark County

Clark County

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Introduction

In November 2014, the voters of Clark County voted to adopt the home rule charter form of government. This change gave the registered voters in the county the power to propose initiatives and referenda.

An initiative is a proposal put forth by citizens that are registered voters for specific legislation to be added to existing law. It is called an initiative because it allows the voters to initiate legislation. An initiative proposal may be adopted by the County Council or submitted to the people for a vote.

A mini-initiative proposal is a request to the County Council to hold a public hearing on the proposed ordinance and modify, enact, or reject the ordinance.

A referendum allows citizens, through the petition process, to refer acts of the County Council to the people before they become law.

The initiative and referendum process gives voters the right to legislate. Petitioners of initiative or referendum measures must obtain a substantial number of petition signatures from registered voters in order to propose their measures to the ballot or to the County Council.

The information provided here does not take the place of local, state or federal laws. This handbook is designed to inform citizens about the initiative and referendum process and to serve as a guide to those who wish to exercise their rights of initiative and referendum.

Special thanks to the San Juan County Auditor for sharing their handbook and for assistance with the content, layout and design of this document.

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This handbook is for informational purposes only and does not take the place of local, state or federal laws.

Procedures for Initiatives

The procedures for filing proposals for initiatives, mini-initiatives and referenda are addressed in Article 7 of the Clark County Home Rule Charter and included on page 15 of this handbook.

A petitioner is a registered voter of Clark County, who may, or may not be designated by a group of voters, to act on their behalf when submitting an initiative or referendum proposal. Any communication delivered to the petitioner is considered delivered to the entire group of voters. The petitioner's name, street address, mailing address, phone number and email address all need to be included with the proposal.

The initiative proposal must be filed with the Clark County Auditor, who will transmit a copy to the Prosecuting Attorney. Within 10 business days of receiving the proposal, the Prosecuting Attorney will formulate a true and impartial ballot title, posed as a positive question not exceeding 50 words.

The Prosecuting Attorney will evaluate the petition and provide the petitioner and Auditor with the following statement: "In the opinion of the Clark County Prosecuting Attorney, the subject of this initiative is within the scope of local initiative powers. Yes [ ] No [ ] No opinion at this time [ ]." The Prosecuting Attorney will mark the box that reflects his or her opinion. The petitioner may include this statement on the petition.

The Prosecuting Attorney will transmit the initiative petition to the Auditor, who will give the proposed initiative a number that will be the identifying number. Within an additional five business days, the Auditor will meet with the petitioner to review and establish the form and style of the initiative petition and inform the petitioner of the number of signatures needed for validation as required by the Auditor or ordinance.

The Auditor will provide the petition to the County Council. The petitioner will have 120 days after conferring with the Auditor to collect signatures of registered county voters. Valid signatures collected will number no less than 10 percent of the number of votes cast in the county in the last gubernatorial election. Each petition will contain the warning clause prescribed by state law, the full text of the proposed measure, ordinance or amendment to an ordinance, and the ballot title.

The Auditor will verify the number of signatures on the petition, and if a sufficient number of valid signatures has been submitted, place the proposal on the ballot for the next General Election.

Signatures on the petition must be submitted to the Auditor no less than 150 days before the date of the next General Election.

If the council enacts the proposal not less than 60 days prior to said election, without change or amendment, then the proposal shall be removed from the ballot.

If the council does not adopt the proposed measure but adopts a substitute measure not more than 15 days after petition validation, the substitute measure shall be placed on the same ballot with the initiative proposal.

When a ballot contains an initiative petition, substitute measure or multiple initiative measures on the same topic, the voters shall be given the choice of rejecting or accepting each initiative.

If the voters accept more than one initiative on the same topic, and the measures are incompatible, the initiative receiving the highest number of affirmative votes shall be approved.

If there are multiple measures on the same topic, compatible with one another, they may all be approved.

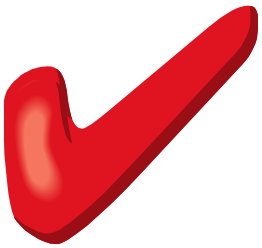
If the voters reject all initiatives, none shall be approved.

If the voters approve one initiative and reject the others, the approved initiative shall be approved.

Checklist for Initiatives

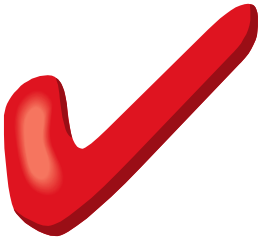
- ☐ Petitioner files an initiative proposal with the Clark County Auditor.
- ☐ Petitioner contacts the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission if he or she expects to receive funds or make expenditures in support of the proposal.
- ☐ Auditor transmits a copy of the proposal to the Prosecuting Attorney.
- ☐ Prosecuting Attorney develops, within 10 business days of the filing date, a concise statement which will be the ballot title, and provides a statement as to whether, in the opinion of the Prosecuting Attorney, the subject of the initiative is within the scope of local initiative powers.
- ☐ Prosecuting Attorney transmits the initiative petition to the Auditor, who assigns an identifying number to the proposed initiative.
- ☐ Petitioner reviews the proposal with the Auditor within an additional five business days.
- ☐ Petitioner starts collecting signatures of registered voters in the county after conferring with the Auditor. The number of valid signatures collected should not be less than 10 percent of the votes cast in the county in the last gubernatorial election. It is recommended that a petitioner collect at least 25 percent more signatures than necessary as it is not uncommon for signatures to be found to be invalid because they are duplicates or the signer is not a registered voter.
- ☐ Petitioner submits signatures to the Auditor within 120 days after conferring with the Auditor. The signatures must be submitted not less than 150 days before the date of the next General Election. The Auditor validates signatures and if sufficient, places the proposal on the ballot for the next General Election.

Checklist for Mini-Initiatives



- ☐ Petitioner files a mini-initiative proposal with the Clark County Auditor. Auditor reviews the proposal as to style and form before the petitioner gathers signatures.
- ☐ Petitioner contacts the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission if he or she expects to receive funds or make expenditures in support of the proposal.
- ☐ Petitioner starts collecting signatures of registered voters within the county. The number of qualified signatures collected should not total less than three percent of the votes cast in the county in the last gubernatorial election. It is recommended that a petitioner collect at least 25 percent more signatures than necessary as it is not uncommon for signatures to be found to be invalid because they are duplicates or the signer is not a registered voter.
- ☐ Petitioner submits signatures to the Auditor.
- ☐ Auditor has 30 business days to validate signatures.
- ☐ Auditor transmits the initiative petition to the County Council if a sufficient number of signatures is verified.
- ☐ County Council holds a public hearing on the proposed ordinance within 60 days, and enacts, rejects, or modifies the proposed ordinance within 30 calendar days of the hearing.

Checklist for Referenda



- ☐ Petitioner collects at least 100 signatures of registered Clark County voters on the proposed referendum petition. It is recommended that a petitioner collect at least 25 percent more signatures than necessary as it is not uncommon for signatures to be found to be invalid because they are duplicates or the signer is not a registered voter.

- ☐ Petitioner contacts the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission if he or she expects to receive funds or make expenditures in support of the proposal.

- ☐ Petitioner files a referendum proposal with the Clark County Auditor within 10 days after the council passes an ordinance.

- ☐ Auditor verifies signatures on the referendum petition within 10 calendar days. After 100 signatures are validated, the ordinance or portion of the ordinance subject to referendum is suspended until:
  a. Sufficient valid signatures are collected within the time prescribed by this section to place the measure on the ballot and voters have voted on the measure.
  b. Valid signatures are not collected within the time prescribed by this section to place the measure on the ballot.

- ☐ Petitioner reviews the referendum petition with the Auditor within five business days of filing the petition.

- ☐ Auditor assigns an identifying number to the referendum petition and transmits a copy to the Prosecuting Attorney.

- ☐ Prosecuting Attorney develops, within 10 business days of receipt, a concise statement which will be the ballot title. The Prosecuting Attorney transmits the referendum petition to the Auditor who registers the petition.

- ☐ Petitioner begins to collect signatures. The petitioner has 120 calendar days from registration to collect signatures of registered Clark County voters. The number of valid signatures collected should not be less than 10 percent of the votes cast in the county in the last gubernatorial election. It is recommended that a petitioner collect at least 25 percent more signatures than necessary as it is not uncommon for signatures to be found to be invalid because they are duplicates or the signer is not a registered voter.

- ☐ Petitioner submits signatures to the Auditor no less than 150 days before the date of the next General Election. The Auditor validates signatures and if sufficient, places the proposal on the ballot for the next General Election.

Example of Proposed Referendum Measure

When filing a referendum proposal with the Auditor, it is important to include the following contact information.

Petitioner's Name

Organization Name (if pertinent)

Petitioner's physical address

Petitioner's mailing address

Petitioner's phone number

Petitioner's email address

I, (name)_____ am a legal registered voter or am

an organization of legal voters, (name of organization)_____ , all of whom are legal registered voters in Clark County.

I or we herewith submit a proposed Referendum Measure on Ordinance #_____. This referendum proposal is being submitted to the Auditor within 10 days after the County Council adopted the ordinance.

This proposal seeks to repeal enacted ordinance #_____
This proposal seeks to repeal a portion of ordinance #_____

as described here

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

I request that the Clark County Auditor assign the proposed referendum measure a number and transmit a copy to the Clark County Prosecuting Attorney.

Petitioner Contact Information

_____
Name

_____
Physical Address

_____
Mailing Address

_____ _____
Phone Email Address

X _____ _____
Signature of Petitioner Date Signed

Example of Proposed Initiative Measure or Mini-Initiative Measure

When filing an initiative proposal with the Auditor, it is important to include the following contact information.

Petitioner's Name

Organization Name (if pertinent)

Petitioner's physical address

Petitioner's mailing address

Petitioner's phone number

Petitioner's email address

I, (name)_____ am a legal registered voter or

am an organization of legal voters, (name of organization)

_____ ,

all of whom are legal registered voters in Clark County.

I or we herewith submit this proposed initiative measure as described below:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

I request that the Clark County Auditor assign the proposed initiative measure a number and transmit a copy to the Clark County Prosecuting Attorney.

Petitioner Contact Information

_____
Name

_____
Physical Address

_____
Mailing Address

_____ _____
Phone Email Address

X _____ _____
Signature of Petitioner Date Signed

Ballot Titles

The Prosecuting Attorney will develop the statement of subject and the concise description for an initiative or for a referendum measure. The statement of subject and the concise description as provided must be included as part of the ballot title unless changes are made on appeal.

The ballot title for an initiative or referendum measure consists of three parts:

1. **A statement of the subject of the measure**

The statement of the subject of a measure must be sufficiently broad to reflect the subject of the measure, sufficiently precise to give notice of the measure's subject matter, and must not exceed ten words.

2. **A concise description of the measure**

The concise description must contain no more than 75 words, be a true and impartial description of the measure's essential contents, clearly identify the proposition to be voted on, and not, to the extent reasonably possible, create prejudice either for or against the measure.

3. **A ballot measure question**

The ballot measure question for an initiative or mini-initiative is written as:
Should this measure be enacted into law?
☐*yes or* ☐ *no*

The ballot measure question for a referendum is written as:
Should this bill be:
☐ *Approved or* ☐ *Rejected*

Ballot Titles Continued

For an initiative to the people for which the County Council has not proposed an alternative, the ballot title must be displayed on the ballot substantially as follows:

Initiative Measure No. ___ concerns (statement of subject). This measure would (concise description). Should this measure be enacted into law?

Yes ☐
No ☐

For an initiative to the people for which the County Council has proposed an alternative, the ballot title must be displayed on the ballot substantially as follows:

Measure Nos. ___ and ____B concern (statement of subject).

Initiative Measure No. ___ would (concise description).

As an alternative, the legislature has proposed Initiative Measure No. ___B, which would (concise description).

Should this measure be enacted into law?

Yes ☐
No ☐

For a referendum measure on an ordinance that the County Council has adopted, the ballot issue must be displayed on the ballot sustantially as follows:

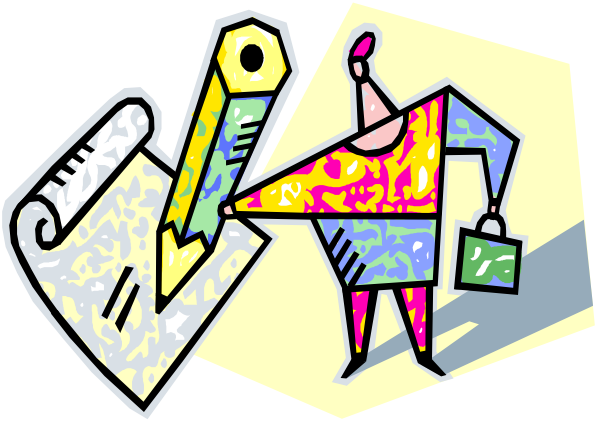
The Clark County Council adopted Ordinance No. ___ concerning (statement of subject) and voters have filed a sufficient referendum petition on this bill. This ordinance would (concise description). Should this bill be:

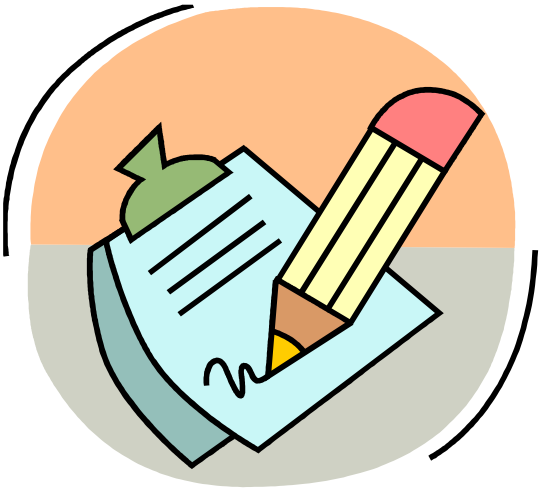
Approved ☐
Rejected ☐

Petitions & Signature Gathering

Once the proposal for an initiative or referendum has been filed with the Auditor, a number has been assigned to the measure, and the Prosecuting Attorney has formulated a concise statement, the petitioner will then begin the signature gathering process.

The reverse side of the petition will contain the full text of the proposed ordinance and will clearly show any portion of the ordinance to be amended. The front of the petition will show the ballot title and a warning prohibiting unlawful signing of the petition. It will also include a space for each signer's printed name, street address, signature and date of signing. Before the petitioner can gather signatures, the Auditor must approve the form of the initiative petition or the referendum petition and must provide written notice informing the petitioner of the approval and the number of signatures required to validate the petition. Only signatures submitted on the approved forms will be counted. Any signatures or petition pages that have been altered will not be counted. A signature can only be valid if the signer is a registered voter in Clark County. The signature must match the signature on file at the Elections Office to count.





The petitioner will have 120 days from the date the petition form is approved to collect the required number of signatures. The number of signatures needed will equal 10 percent of the number of votes cast in Clark County in the last gubernatorial election or in the case of a mini-initiative, three percent of the number of votes cast in Clark County in the last gubernatorial election. It is recommended that a petitioner collect at least 25 percent more signatures than necessary as it is not uncommon for signatures to be found to be invalid because they are duplicates or the signer is not a registered voter.

Upon timely submission of the signed petitions, the Auditor will certify in writing the number of valid signatures submitted. Copies of the certification will be provided to the petitioner and to the County Council. If the signatures are valid and sufficient, the initiative proposal or referendum proposal will be submitted to the people at the next General Election that occurs at least 150 days after the signed petition was delivered to the Auditor for certification.

Clark County Local Voters' Pamphlet

Ballot titles, explanatory statements and advocacy statements for initiatives and referenda are published in the local voters' pamphlet. For the General Election, the local voters' pamphlet is published in conjunction with the Washington state voters' pamphlet and is mailed during the same week ballots are mailed to voters.

It is important to submit material for the local voters' pamphlet in a timely manner because the Elections Office has a strict deadline to submit its pamphlet pages to the state to be published. Visit clarkvotes.org for voters' pamphlet specifications and deadlines.

The County Council will appoint committees of no more than three people to prepare arguments advocating for and against the voters' approval of the initiative or referendum measure. If the County Council fails to make such appointments, the Auditor will make the appointments whenever possible.

The advocacy statements will be limited to 200 words written in paragraph style. The advocacy committee's name, the name of each committee member and the contact person's address, telephone number, email and website address (if applicable) should appear at the top of the statement. The names of the committee members and their titles will be printed in the voters' pamphlet as well as at least one method of contact. The committee members may decide what contact information they would like published.

The local voters' pamphlet can be found at clarkvotes.org or at the Elections Office.

Public Disclosure Commission

Washington state political committees that raise and spend money to influence certain elections must register and report in accordance with the Public Disclosure Law. According to the disclosure law, an organization becomes a political committee when it has the expectation of receiving contributions or of making expenditures in support of, or opposition to, a candidate or a ballot proposition.

Within two weeks of forming a committee or expecting to receive or spend funds (whichever occurs first), every political committee must file a registration statement (C-1pc) with the Public Disclosure Committee (PDC) and the Auditor. Whether additional forms need to be filed will depend on the dollar amount the committee expects to receive or spend.

Filing can be done electronically. Form templates, brochures and manuals are available on the PDC website at pdc.wa.gov under the *Filer Resources* section.

For more information, contact the PDC at:

Public Disclosure Commission
711 Capitol Way Room 206
PO Box 40908
Olympia, WA 98504-0908
(360) 753-1111
Toll Free 1-877-601-2828
pdc@pdc.wa.gov
pdc.wa.gov

Circulating Petition Tips

Circulating Petitions on Public Property

Before circulating petitions on public property, such as parks or post offices, it is good practice to talk to the governmental department that oversees the property about whether there are any permit requirements or other special considerations. There might be legitimate restrictions or concerns involved, such as making sure that petitioners do not block traffic or interfere with other activities that are taking place at the same time.

Circulating Petitions on Private Property

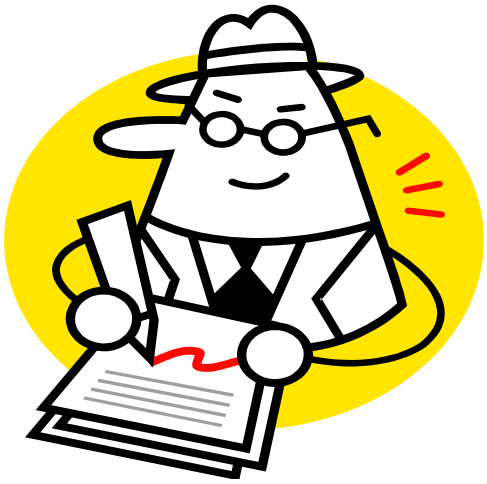
It is a good idea to ask permission before circulating petitions on private property, such as grocery stores or retail businesses. Private property owners have a right to determine whether or not they will permit signature gatherers on their premises. Washington courts have explained that when initiative or referendum supporters collect signatures on private property, there might be limitations imposed on the activity to prevent it from interfering with other activities on the property. The limitations will depend on circumstances unique to each property such as the size of the area and if the collection of signatures may block traffic or interfere with business on the property. The Supreme Court has indicated that most private property owners can decide whether or not to permit petition circulation on their property, with one exception. The court determined that signature gatherers have a right to collect signatures at large regional shopping malls.

Signature Tips

The voter has the right to read a petition before signing it. Most signature gatherers attach the petition to a clipboard or other hard surface to make it easier for the signer to produce a legible signature. Each signature collected will be compared to the signature on file at the Elections Office. It is good practice to ask the signer to provide his or her physical address as opposed to a post office box or private mail box. The signer has the right to read the text of the petition, even if this means removing the petition from a clipboard.

Opponents

Opponents of an initiative or referendum have the right to express their opinion as protected by the First Amendment. An opponent does not have the right to interfere with the petition process. In fact, it is a gross misdemeanor to interfere with a citizen's right to sign a petition.



Clark County Home Rule Charter
Article 7— Initiative and Referendum

Section 7.1 Direct government
The people of Clark County reserve the power to make certain proposals at their option and to approve or reject them at the polls, independent of the council.

Section 7.2 Initiative
The people reserve the power of initiative. An ordinance or amendment to an ordinance, except as limited by state or federal law or court interpretation, may be proposed by filing an initiative petition with the auditor. No ordinance enacted as a result of initiative shall be amended or repealed within two (2) years after enactment, except as a result of a subsequent initiative or referendum or as required by state or federal law.

A. Initiative Limitations.
The following are limited by state or federal law or court interpretations and may not be proposed or adopted by initiative.

1. Ordinances providing for compensation or working conditions of county employees or elected officials.
2. Redistricting council districts.
3. Authorizing or repealing an appropriation of money or any portion of the annual budget.
4. Authorizing or repealing taxes or fees.
5. Authorizing or repealing any provision of a service or program provided by the county.
6. Amending or repealing this charter.

B. Initiative Requirements.

1. Initiatives that require new or additional sources of revenue shall include a recommended revenue source adequate to finance the result of the initiative.

C. Initiative Procedures.

1. Any registered voter of Clark County may file an initiative proposal with the auditor, who shall transmit a copy to the prosecuting attorney. Within ten (10) business days of the filing date, the prosecuting attorney shall formulate a true and impartial ballot title, posed as a positive question not exceeding fifty (50) words.
2. The prosecuting attorney shall transmit the initiative petition to the auditor, who shall give the proposed initiative a number that will be the identifying number. Within an additional five (5) business days, the auditor shall confer with the petitioner to review and establish the form and style of the initiative petition as required by the auditor or ordinance. The prosecuting attorney shall evaluate the petition and provide the petitioner and auditor with the following statement: "In the opinion of the Clark County Prosecuting Attorney, the subject of this initiative is within the scope of local initiative powers. Yes [ ] No [ ] No opinion at this time [ ]."The prosecuting attorney shall mark the box that reflects his or her opinion. The petitioner may include this statement on the petition.
3. The petitioner shall have one hundred twenty (120) days after conferring with the auditor to collect signatures of registered county voters. Valid signatures collected shall number no less than ten (10) percent of the number of votes cast in the county in the last gubernatorial election. Each petition shall contain the warning clause prescribed by state law, full text of the proposed measure, ordinance or amendment to an ordinance, and ballot title.
4. The auditor shall verify the number of signatures on the petition, and, if a sufficient number of valid signatures has been submitted, place the proposal on the ballot for the next general election.

a. Signatures on the petition must be submitted to the auditor no less than one hundred fifty (150) days before the date of the next general election.
b. If the council enacts the proposal without change or amendment not less than sixty (60) days prior to said election, the proposal shall be removed from the ballot.
c. If the council does not adopt the proposed measure but adopts a substitute measure not more than fifteen (15) days after petition validation, the substitute measure shall be placed on the same ballot with the initiative proposal.

5. When a ballot contains an initiative petition, substitute measure or multiple initiative measures on the same topic, the voters shall be given the choice of rejecting or accepting each initiative.
   a. If the voters accept more than one (1) initiative on the same topic, and the measures are incompatible, the initiative receiving the highest number of affirmative votes shall be approved.
   b. If there are multiple measures on the same topic, compatible with one another, they may all be approved.
   c. If the voters reject all initiatives, none shall be approved.
   d. If the voters approve one (1) initiative and reject the others, the approved initiative shall be approved.

Section 7.3 Mini-initiative

The people reserve the power of mini-initiative, except as limited by state or federal law and subject to Article 7, Section 2(A). Ordinances or amendments to an existing ordinance may be proposed to the council by transmitting the proposal to the auditor. An initiative petition shall bear signatures of qualified voters totaling no less than three (3) percent of the number of votes cast in the county in the last gubernatorial election. The auditor shall have thirty (30) business days to validate signatures. If a sufficient number of signatures is verified, the auditor shall transmit the initiative petition to the county council. The council shall hold a public hearing on the proposed ordinance within sixty (60) days, and enact, reject or modify the proposed ordinance within thirty (30) calendar days of the hearing.

Section 7 .4 Referendum

The people reserve the power of referendum. Referendum may be ordered on any ordinance, or any part thereof, passed by the council, except as limited by state or federal law or court interpretations.

A. Referendum Limitations.

The following ordinances are limited by state or federal law or court interpretations and are not subject to referendum:

1. Emergency ordinances.
2. Ordinances providing for compensation or working conditions of county employees or elected officials.
3. Ordinances authorizing or repealing an appropriation of money or any portion of the annual budget.
4. Ordinances authorizing or repealing taxes or fees .
5. Ordinances required by state or federal law.

B. Referendum Procedure.

A referendum shall be filed within ten (10) days after the council passes an ordinance. Except as set forth in this section, a referendum may be filed against an ordinance or any portion of an ordinance. Any registered Clark County voter may file with the auditor a referendum petition signed by at least one hundred (100) registered voters of Clark County.

1. The auditor shall verify signatures on the referendum petition within ten (10) calendar days. After one hundred (100) signatures are validated, the ordinance or portion of the ordinance subject to referendum is suspended until:
   a. Sufficient valid signatures are collected within the time prescribed by this section to place the measure on the ballot and voters have voted on the measure.
   b. Valid signatures are not collected within the time prescribed by this section to place the measure on the ballot.
2. Filing a referendum petition against a portion of an ordinance shall not delay the remainder of the ordinance from taking effect.
3. Within five (5) business days of filing the referendum petition, the auditor shall confer with the petitioner to review the proposal as to form and style, as required by the auditor or ordinance. The auditor shall give the referendum petition an identifying number and transmit a copy of the petition to the prosecuting attorney. Within ten (10) business days after receipt, the prosecuting attorney shall write a ballot title not to exceed fifty (50) words and posed as a positive question, which shall express a true and impartial statement of the measure. The prosecuting attorney shall transmit the referendum petition to the auditor.
4. The petitioner shall have one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from registration to collect signatures of registered Clark County voters. The number of valid signatures collected shall equal no less than ten (10) percent of the total votes cast in the county in the last gubernatorial election. Each petition shall contain the full text of the referred measure and ballot title. The auditor shall verify the number of signatures on the petition and, if valid, submit the measure to voters at the next general election. Petition signatures must be submitted to the auditor for verification no less than one hundred fifty (150) calendar days before the date of the next general election.

Section 7 .5 Recall

The people reserve the power of recall, as provided in the constitution and laws of the state of Washington.

Example of Initiative Petition Form
Initiative Petition
Warning

Every person who signs this petition with any other than his or her true name, knowingly signs more than one of these petitions, signs this petition when he or she is not a legal voter, or makes any false statement on this petition may be punished by fine or imprisonment or both.

Initiative Petition for Submission to the Clark County Council

TO: The County Council of Clark County:

We, the undersigned registered voters of Clark County, Washington, residing at the addresses set forth opposite our respective names, being equal in number to at least ten percent of the number of votes cast in the county in the last gubernatorial election, respectfully request that the following ordinance be enacted without alteration by the County Council or, if not so enacted, be submitted to a vote of the residents of Clark County. The title of said ordinance is as follows:

[Insert ballot title here.]

A full, true and correct copy of the ordinance is reproduced on the reverse side of this petition.

Each of us for himself or herself says:

I have personally signed this petition; I am a registered voter of Clark County, state of Washington; and my residential address is correctly stated on this petition.

	Signature	Printed Name	Physical Address (Number, Street and City)	Date Signed
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				

Example of Mini-Initiative Petition Form
Mini-Initiative Petition

Warning

Every person who signs this petition with any other than his or her true name, knowingly signs more than one of these petitions, signs this petition when he or she is not a legal voter, or makes any false statement on this petition may be punished by fine or imprisonment or both.

Mini-Initiative Petition for Submission to the Clark County Council

TO: The County Council of Clark County:

We, the undersigned registered voters of Clark County, Washington, residing at the addresses set forth opposite our respective names, being equal in number to at least three percent of the number of votes cast in the county in the last gubernatorial election, respectfully request that the following ordinance be enacted without alteration by the County Council. The title of said ordinance is as follows:

> [Insert proposed ordinance here, ensuring that the proposed ordinance does not contain more than one subject and that the subject is clearly expressed in the title.]
>
> **A full, true and correct copy of the ordinance is reproduced on the reverse side of this petition.**

Each of us for himself or herself says:

I have personally signed this petition; I am a registered voter of Clark County, state of Washington; and my residential address is correctly stated on this petition.

	Signature	Printed Name	Physical Address (Number, Street and City)	Date Signed
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				

Example of Referendum Petition Form
Referendum Petition

Warning

Every person who signs this petition with any other than his or her true name, knowingly signs more than one of these petitions, signs this petition when he or she is not a legal voter, or makes any false statement on this petition may be punished by fine or imprisonment or both.

Referendum Petition for Submission to the Clark County Council

TO: The County Council of Clark County:

We, the undersigned registered voters of Clark County, Washington, residing at the addresses set forth opposite our respective names, being equal in number to at least ten percent of the number of votes cast in the county in the last gubernatorial election, respectfully request that (the entirety) or (designated sections) of Ordinance No. _____be repealed by the County Council or, if not so repealed, be referred to a vote of the residents of Clark County for their approval or rejection. The title of said ordinance is as follows:

[Insert ballot title here.]

A full, true and correct copy of the ordinance is reproduced on the reverse side of this petition.

Each of us for himself or herself says:

I have personally signed this petition; I am a registered voter of Clark County, state of Washington; and my residential address is correctly stated on this petition.

	Signature	Printed Name	Physical Address (Number, Street and City)	Date Signed
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				