

To: Clark County Council
From: Lindsey Shafar
Date: May 11, 2018
Re: November 2013 – Clark County Advisory Vote re Fireworks

Below is additional background information and analysis regarding the November 2013 advisory vote regarding fireworks in Clark County.

Question:

The ballot question read: “Should Clark County enact a local ordinance, consistent with state law, which would limit the use of fireworks in the unincorporated areas of Clark County to July 4 of every year, and limit the sale of fireworks in the same area to July 2, 3, and 4?”

Vote Results:

Yes: 60.26%
No: 39.74%
Non-voting: 3,647 of the ballots cast did *not* vote on this advisory vote (3.9% of ballots)

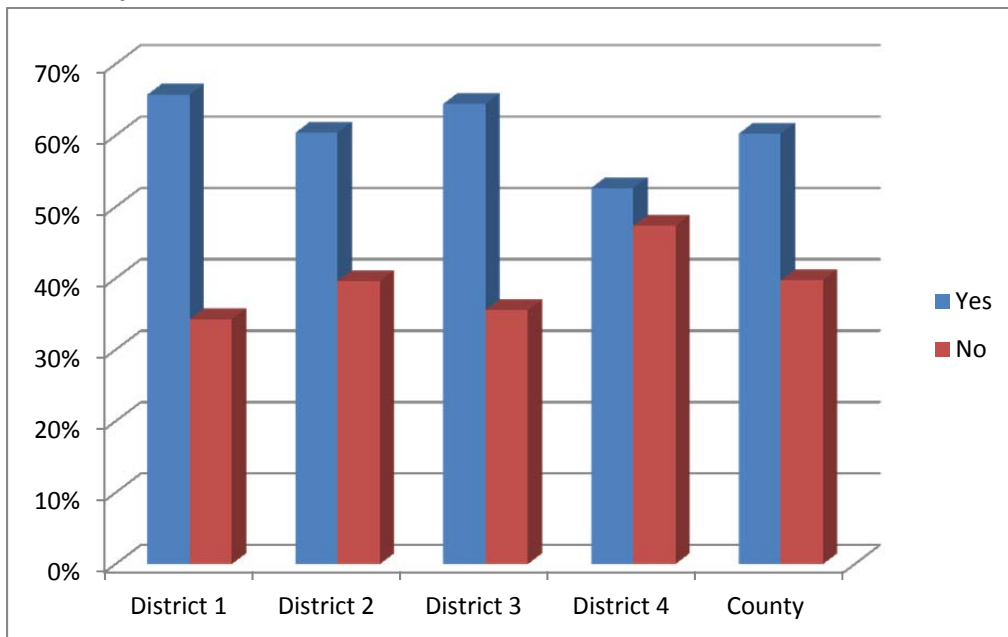
Voter Turnout:

At the time, there were 246,865 registered voters in Clark County; there were 92,863 ballots counted, for a voter turnout of 37.6%.

Here is how that voter turnout compares to other November odd-year elections:

- 2017: 30.9%
- 2015: 34.0%
- 2013: 37.6%
- 2011: 48.1%
- 2009: 43.6%

Results by Council District – NOT SCIENTIFIC:



District 1:

- Yes: 13,078 – 66%
- No: 6,823 – 34%

District 2:

- Yes: 15,072 – 60%
- No: 9,887 – 40%

District 3:

- Yes: 12,330 – 64%
- No: 6,801 – 36%

District 4:

- Yes: 13,282 – 53%
- No: 11,943 – 47%

Other Items on the November 2013 Ballot:

Here are the other items on the November 2013 ballot – I've **bolded** the ones of note that typically generate voter turnout:

- Statewide Initiatives:
 - **I-517 → penalties for interfering with signature-gatherers and petition-signers;**
 - **I-522 → labeling of genetically modified foods.**
- Statewide Advisory Votes:
 - There were 5 advisory votes regarding bills passed by the legislature: (1) elimination of a leasehold excise tax credit; (2) imposition of an aircraft excise tax; (3) extension of the insurance premium tax; (4) elimination of a retail sales tax exemption for certain telephone and telecommunications services; and (5) extension of an estate tax on certain property transfers.
- County Advisory Votes:
 - In addition to the fireworks vote, there were also county advisory votes on:
 - **A new west county toll-free bridge;**
 - **A new east county toll-free bridge;**
 - Opposing every Bus Rapid Transit project in Clark County – unless first supported by an advisory vote;
 - Opposing any light rail project in Clark County – unless first supported by an advisory vote.
- County Non-Partisan Offices:
 - **All of the Freeholder Commissioner races**
- Local Non-Partisan Offices:
 - Woodland Swimming Pool and Recreation District Commissioner → Pos. 4 and 5;
 - Ridgefield Port District Commissioner → District 2;
 - Camas-Washougal Port District Commissioner → Districts 1 and 3;
 - Vancouver Port District Commissioner → District 3;
 - Clark Regional Wastewater District Commissioner → Pos. 1;
 - Cemetery District No. 6 Commissioner → Pos. 2;
 - Cemetery District No. 4 Commissioner → Pos. 2;
 - Cemetery District No. 1 Commissioner → Pos. 2;

- Fire Protection District No. 13 Commissioner → Pos. 1;
- Fire Protection District No. 10 Commissioner → Pos. 1;
- Fire Protection District No. 6 → Pos. 2;
- Fire Protection District No. 5 → Pos. 2;
- Fire Protection District No. 3 → Pos. 1;
- Fire Protection District No. 2 → Pos. 3;
- Fire Protection District No. 2 → Pos. 1 and 2;
- East County Fire & Rescue Commissioner → Pos. 2 and 4;
- Clark County Fire & Rescue Commissioner → Pos. 1 and 5;
- Mt. Pleasant School District → Pos. 1, 4, and 5;
- Green Mountain School District → Pos. 2 and 3;
- Woodland School District → Districts 4 and 5;
- La Center School District → Districts 2 and 3;
- Hockinson School District → Districts 1, 2 and 5;
- Ridgefield School District → Districts 1 and 4;
- Washougal School District → Districts 3 and 5;
- Camas School District → Districts 1 and 2;
- Battle Ground School District → Districts 1, 3 and 5;
- Evergreen School District → Districts 1 and 5;
- Vancouver School District → Pos. 2 and 3;
- Yacolt Council → Pos. 1, 2, and 3;
- Woodland Council → Pos. 1, 2, 3 and 6;
- La Center Council → Pos. 1, 2, and 3;
- Ridgefield Council → Pos. 1, 4, 6, and 7;
- Washougal Council → Pos. 1, 3, and 6;
- Washougal Mayor
- Battle Ground Council → Pos. 1, 4, 5, and 6;
- Camas Council → Ward 1, 2, and 3, Pos. 2;
- **Vancouver Council** → Pos. 1, 2, and 3;
- **Vancouver Mayor**;
- Local Measures:
 - City of Washougal → Adoption of Council/Manager form of government;
 - East County Fire and Rescue → Equipment bonds.

Other Municipalities' Advisory Votes:

In 2015, four cities in King and Snohomish counties also had advisory votes regarding fireworks: Brier, Kent, Maple Valley, and Marysville. All four supported bans of fireworks by significant margins.