



Office of the City Attorney
City of Bellingham

August 2, 2021

Whatcom County Auditor Diana Bradrick
311 Grand Avenue
Suite 103
Bellingham, WA 98225

RE: Explanatory Statement for Proposed Charter Amendment 2021-02

Dear Madame Auditor,

The City Attorney's Office has drafted the following explanatory statement regarding City of Bellingham's Proposed Charter Amendment 2021-02 to be included in the local voter's pamphlet:

The Charter of the City of Bellingham establishes the form of the City, and the manner and mode in which the City exercises its powers, functions, and duties, including the power to direct legislation by initiative. Currently, an initiative may be exercised on petition of a number of qualified voters equal to not less than 20% of the total number of votes cast for Mayor at the last preceding election. This proposed amendment would reduce the signature requirement to propose an initiative from 20% of the total number of votes cast for Mayor at the last preceding election to 10%.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. Please let know if you have any questions.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James Erb".

James Erb
Sr. Asst. City Attorney