

**Annexation and White Center:  
In Search of a Community-Based Solution**

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# Annexation and White Center: In Search of a Community-Based Solution

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA) requires that all unincorporated areas within the Urban Growth Boundary be annexed or incorporate into a new city.<sup>1</sup> Annexation will take place in White Center. For White Center, the question is not if, but when and how annexation will take place. Many of the residents are only now becoming aware of this pending change in their governance and there are many good questions that will need to be answered. No other area in the state poses such large barriers to public participation. A unique analysis of the issues, barriers, and potential solutions to White Center annexation is warranted.

### **PROBLEM**

According to Washington State law, White Center must be annexed by Seattle or Burien or become its own city. The biggest problem with regards to the annexation of White Center is determining which legally recognized method of annexation provides for the greatest degree of community input. Given the cultural, economic, and educational disparities that exist between White Center and the rest of King County, getting a majority of these residents to understand the issue of annexation and how it relates to them is at the heart of the problem.

### **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

This analysis will look specifically at four different legal and feasible methods available for annexation, provide a recommended method, and examine what further steps may be necessary to ensure that as many members of this diverse community as possible have an opportunity to shape the future of White Center.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

According to the needs of White Center residents, the Election Method Initiated by Petition is recommended. This method allows White Center residents the greatest opportunity for community participation and self-determination regarding annexation. In addition, this method is the only option that allows the community the ability to control the process from start to finish.

### **LIMITATIONS**

There are limitations with the recommended annexation method specific to White Center's population that should be recognized. This study finds three populations that have barriers to participating in this particular method for annexation:

- Residents who are registered voters but tend not to turn out to vote.
- Residents who are eligible to vote but are not registered.
- Residents who are not eligible to vote.

This study acknowledges these limitations and proposes ways to directly deal with the obstacles to resident participation in the White Center proposed annexation area through:

- Get Out the Vote Efforts and Voter Registration Drives.
- Recruiting community leaders or spokespersons from as many uniquely identifiable communities as possible.
- Community Education and Community Meetings.

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<sup>1</sup> RCW 36.70A Growth Management -- Planning by Selected Counties and Cities

## **Annexation and White Center:** **In Search of a Community-Based Solution**

The Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA) requires that all unincorporated areas within the Urban Growth Boundary be annexed or incorporate into a new city.<sup>2</sup> For White Center, the question is not if but when and how annexation will take place. Many of the residents are only now becoming aware of this pending change in their governance and there are many good questions that will need to be answered. Which city offers the best deal for residents? How will annexation affect taxes? How will annexation affect schools, police, and fire departments? These are only a few of many different questions that will need to be addressed for the White Center community to adequately address the issue of pending annexation. But what exactly is the White Center community? Data clearly indicate that the area is more ethnically diverse and lower income than the rest of King County but these numbers alone do not tell the complete story. White Center is really a collection of linguistically and culturally distinct communities with their own interests that have come together to share the common geography of White Center. Whether you look at one of the Cambodian small business owners, an East African immigrant living in subsidized housing, an immigrant from Central America or Mexico who spends their day working at hard physical labor, or a Caucasian home owner, one thing becomes instantly clear with regards to an important issue such as annexation; that communication is going to be a significant challenge. Indeed, the Highline School District, which includes White Center, reports that they have 48 different languages spoken on a primary basis.<sup>3</sup> No other area in the state poses such large barriers to public participation. A unique analysis of the issues, barriers, and potential solutions to White Center annexation is certainly warranted.

Regional policies such as the State of Washington's Growth Management Act, as well as King County's Annexation Initiative, have set up requirements and goals that are in the interest of the region as a whole. These requirements and goals cannot however be accomplished without the cooperation of the residents of individual communities. The interests and goals of this particular community are likely to be different than the rest of King County. This analysis will look specifically at the different legal methods available for annexation, provide a recommended method, and examine what further steps may be necessary to ensure that as many members of this diverse community as possible have an opportunity to shape the future of White Center. The question as to which different city offers the residents of White Center the best deal is extensive and the subject for a separate analysis.

### **Overall Problem**

While the issue of White Center annexation presents many components that could each be classified as unique problems, it is important to identify the overarching problem in an attempt to serve all stakeholders in a manner that may address the smaller related problems.

The bottom line is that according to Washington State law, White Center must be annexed by Seattle or Burien or become its own city. Annexation is on the horizon whether the

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<sup>2</sup> RCW 36.70A Growth Management -- Planning by Selected Counties and Cities

<sup>3</sup> White Center Community Development Association. 14 Dec. 2005 <<http://www.wccda.org/>>

people who live there think it is a good idea or not, or whether they know anything about it at all. That is why the biggest problem with regards to the annexation of White Center is determining which method of annexation provides for the greatest degree of community input, followed up by a sufficient campaign for soliciting such input, both from residents who have a legal voice in the process, as well as, those who are disenfranchised by the process. This could be done by providing adequate information, multiple forums for communication, and community-wide participation that will successfully unite these different communities on this issue of mutual importance. Given the cultural, economic, and educational disparities that exist between White Center and the rest of King County, getting a majority of these residents to just understand the issue of annexation and how it relates to them is at the heart of the problem.

## **Background**

White Center is the most densely inhabited unincorporated area in King County that has yet to be annexed. The community of White Center is most accurately represented by the boundaries as determined by the U.S. Census, White Center “Designated Place.”<sup>4</sup> This makes up only one portion of the larger unincorporated area known as the North Highline Unincorporated Area which also includes the neighborhood of Boulevard Park. Annexation could take place throughout the entire area at one time, or piecemeal depending on which city residents want to annex to and by which method. Currently the most viable candidates for annexation are north to the City of Seattle, and south to the City of Burien. Incorporation into a new city is also a technical possibility, however the community is severely deficient of the resources to make this a viable alternative. Some of the key stakeholders and their concerns include:

- **King County** – King County has developed an annexation initiative where unincorporated areas will be targeted for annexation by 2012.<sup>5</sup> The County wants to comply with GMA but needs buy-in from residents. As annexations occur, the County has less of a tax base to provide services. The County is highly motivated in facilitating annexation.
- **Cities of Burien and Seattle** – In general, a city will be interested in annexation if the area provides new opportunities and resources. They will generally be less interested in annexation if it restricts opportunities and drains existing resources. The White Center area is a mixed bag of both and consequently, both cities remain uncommitted to annexation.
- **Residents and Property Owners** – Each annexation option has its benefits and drawbacks and is subjective depending on how you look at the issue. As will be demonstrated, methods of annexation involve the public in different ways. Some give more weight to property owners and some more to registered voters. None of the methods of annexation is designed to specifically involve all residents of a community with this level of diversity, particularly those whose legal residency status may make them ineligible to vote, yet whose futures are currently tied to White Center.
- **Community Organizations** – Organizations such as the White Center Community Development Association (WCCDA) among others play an instrumental role in informing different members of the community about the issue of annexation. Another organization, the North Highline Unincorporated Area Council (NHUAC), is an elected

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<sup>4</sup> Appendix A

<sup>5</sup> King County Annexation Initiative. 2004. King County. 14 Dec. 2005 <<http://www.metrokc.gov/exec/annexinit/>>.

group that represents the larger North Highline area (including White Center) and represents community interests with King County and other governments. The NHUAC is currently taking an active role in assessing the values of annexation to Burien vs. Seattle and have just recently recommended Burien as their preferred alternative.

**Analysis of Annexation Methods**

Of the seven methods of annexation available four should be considered feasible options for White Center. Two are categorized as petition methods and two are elections methods. The requirements are different according to the annexing city’s classification. Seattle is a first class city. A first class city is defined as a city with a population of ten thousand or more at the time of its organization or reorganization that has a charter adopted under Article XI, section 10, of the state Constitution (there are five first class cities in Washington).<sup>6</sup> Burien is a code city. Code cities were created by the state legislature in order to grant the greatest degree of local control to municipalities possible under the state constitution and general law (this classification has been adopted by the majority of municipalities).<sup>7</sup> For context, the two major differences according to city classification are the percent of signatures needed for annexation to succeed using the Direct Petition Method, and the percent of registered voters required to initiate the Election Method by petition. The intent of this section is to briefly describe the four methods of annexation focusing on initiation and realization of annexation, as well as, evaluate the methods according to the client’s needs.

**1) Direct Petition Method, (Seventy-Five Percent Seattle/Sixty Percent Burien)**  
RCW 35.13.125

This method, generally referred to as the “old petition method,” is the most commonly used. An annexation proposal is initiated by giving notice to the City Council by at least ten percent of the residents of the area to be annexed, or by owners of not less than ten percent of the

value of the property <sup>8</sup> for which annexation is petitioned. <sup>9</sup> If the City Council accepts	<b>Strengths</b>	<b>Weaknesses</b>
	Most commonly used.	Solely based on property owners desire to annex.
	<b>Opportunities</b>	<b>Threats/Constraints</b>
	If a calculated approach is used, and annexation is expected to receive more than the required level of support in the area (75% or 60%), proponents can actually propose more area to be annexed leveraging their support to the minimum required threshold.	Property owners rather than actual residents can decide the direction of the community. Property owners can cherry-pick areas leaving the least valued properties out of consideration. Whole communities in unincorporated areas can be divided. Residents who are not property owners are excluded.

<sup>6</sup> RCW 35.01.010

<sup>7</sup> Wikipedia contributors. "City government in the state of Washington ." Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia. 2005. 14 Dec. 2005 < [http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=City\\_government\\_in\\_the\\_state\\_of\\_Washington&oldid=16075328](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=City_government_in_the_state_of_Washington&oldid=16075328)>.

<sup>8</sup> For this paper property value for all annexations is computed according to the assessed valuation of the property in the proposed annexation area for general taxation purposes

<sup>9</sup> RCW 35.13.125

the proposal a petition is drafted and circulated. There are a plethora of rules the petition must comply with, but the most important one for consideration is that it must be signed by a percentage of the owners of the value of property in the proposed annexation area to succeed (no less than seventy-five percent in Seattle or sixty percent in Burien).

**2) Alternative Petition Method**

RCW 35.13.410

The alternative petition method, commonly referred to as the “new petition method,” was derived in response to a State Supreme Court ruling that declared the old petition method unconstitutional. However, because of pending court proceedings, both can still be legally used.

“The legislature also recognizes that on October 11, 2002, the Washington state supreme court granted a motion for reconsideration of this decision. The legislature intends to provide a new method of direct petition annexation that enables property owners and registered voters to participate in an annexation process without the constitutional defect identified by the court.”<sup>10</sup>

This method is best described by identifying the major differences from the Direct Petition Method in two distinct ways. First, to initiate, while the ten percent resident requirement option remains the same, the second option to initiate is concerned with owners of no less than ten percent of the acreage in the area rather than assessed property value. Secondly, instead of the seventy-five or sixty percent requirements of the property owners, the petition must be signed by “owners of a majority of the acreage of the area proposed for annexation; and a majority of the registered voters residing in the area proposed for annexation; but, if there are no residents in the area proposed for annexation or no registered voters, by the owners of a majority of the acreage of the area.”<sup>11</sup>

<b>Strengths</b>	<b>Weaknesses</b>
Tries to take into account the needs of both residents and acreage owners.	Requires a broad-based coalition, and since dual approval is required (for White Center this assumes the significant difference of property owners and residents) either party can work to defeat it.
<b>Opportunities</b>	<b>Threats/Constraints</b>
Resident and acreage owners could collaborate to decide the best direction for their community.	Community could be divided up according to different levels of support and coalitions in different areas.

<sup>10</sup> "RCW 35.13.410." Alternative direct petition method. Washington State Legislature. 2 Dec. 2005 <<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=35.13.410>>.

<sup>11</sup> "Annexation Handbook-Report No. 19." Annexation Handbook. Nov. 2004. Municipal Research & Services Center of Washington. 30 Nov. 2005 <<http://www.mrsc.org/Publications/textah.aspx#6>>.

**3) Election Method, Initiated by Petition (Twenty Percent Seattle/Ten Percent Burien)**  
 RCW 35.13.030

This method is initiated by a petition signed by a required number of the voters living in the area to be annexed who voted in the last election.<sup>12</sup> The percent required is determined by the classification of the city. The petition is then submitted to County Prosecuting Attorney for review and then filed with the City Council who can accept or reject it. The City Council may also decide “whether property in the area proposed for annexation will be assessed and taxed at the same rate and on the same basis as is

<p><b>Strengths</b></p> <p>Focuses heavily on residents of the area to make the decision for their community. Allows for more community input by the people who reside in White Center. Allows community to control the process from start to finish.</p>	<p><b>Weaknesses</b></p> <p>The election method can be extremely cumbersome. Propensity to vote and voter registration is correlated to factors such as home ownership, education levels, income, race, and ethnicity so an election will not necessarily represent the views and needs of the whole client population. Does not allow for direct participation of non-resident property owners.</p>
<p><b>Opportunities</b></p> <p>Allows residents to actively self-determine the direction of their community as key players rather than have some other entity, legislative body or small group decide their future. Provides an opportunity to community build and organize around an important issue which can draw community closer and build resident political capital. Gives voice to residents.</p>	<p><b>Threats/Constraints</b></p> <p>Non-resident property owners could rise up to work in opposition because they feel they are not represented in the process. Property owners may work to defeat the proposal that may not be in their own best interest.</p>

property in the annexing city and will be required to assume all or any portion of existing city indebtedness.”<sup>13</sup> The cost of the election is born by the city annexing, and the approval for annexation requires a simple majority. One consideration of interest is a residency requirement, “The statute provides that only registered voters who have resided in the area proposed to be annexed for 90 days immediately preceding the election may vote in the election.”<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> Ibid  
<sup>13</sup> Ibid  
<sup>14</sup> Ibid

#### **4) Election Method, Initiated by Resolution**

RCW 35.13.015

This method is identical to the method above except during the beginning of the process. In this option the City Council can initiate an election on a proposal for annexation by putting forth a resolution and then following the same steps in the previous method.

<b>Strengths</b>	<b>Weaknesses</b>
Elected officials responsible to the community, initiate the proposal.	The election method can be extremely cumbersome.
<b>Opportunities</b>	<b>Threats/Constraints</b>
A municipal body, with more resources, can fully evaluate the needs of the community and explain benefits of annexation to residents. Same opportunities regarding election as previous option.	Community direction and motives may not parallel desire of annexing city. City may divide the community up. Non-resident property owners could rise up to work in opposition because they feel they are not represented in the process.

#### **Recommendation**

For the residents of White Center, the “Election Method Initiated by Petition” is recommended. **This method allows White Center residents the greatest opportunity for community participation and self-determination regarding annexation. In addition, this method is the only option that allows the community the ability to control the process from start to finish.** While cumbersome, the election method is becoming more frequently invoked. In King County alone, two annexations were passed on November 8<sup>th</sup> of this year (2005) enjoying super-majorities.<sup>15</sup> As previously discussed, successful annexation using this method would require a percentage of voters living in the precincts in the proposed area who voted in the last election (See Appendix B). In the last election, 3990 people voted in the proposed annexation area. To initiate the annexation process to Seattle, 20% or 798 valid voters signatures are needed to sign the petition, and for Burien, 10% or 399 voters (See Appendix C for a full precinct analysis from the November 8, 2005 election). As noted above, all proposals are subject to the acceptance of the City Council of the annexing city.

This method focuses heavily on residents of the area to make the decision for their community. This is an extremely involved process (see Appendix D for a condensed timeline). It allows residents the opportunity to grasp control of their community’s future. This choice also allows the community a unique chance to build and organize around an important issue. This process can draw the community closer and build resident political capital, which can have long-term positive benefits for White Center.

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<sup>15</sup>King County General Election 2005. 29 Nov. 2005. King County Elections. 5 Dec. 2005 <<http://www.metrokc.gov/elections/2005Nov/resPage49.htm>>.

## **Limitations**

There are limitations with all legally recognized methods of annexation specific to White Center's population that should be recognized. The discussion on limitations to the recommended method can be broken into three areas of concern:

- Residents who are registered voters but tend not to turn out to vote
- Residents who are eligible to vote but are not registered
- Residents who are not eligible to vote

In addition to the previous limitations which are largely a result of the law, a significant limitation or barrier specifically for this community is the inherent complexity of annexation in the first place. It is difficult enough for residents of any county to completely understand the multiple issues related to annexation, let alone a community that is linguistically isolated and less educated than average.

## **Voter Turnout**

It is important to consider voter turn out when trying to evaluate if the true voice of the community will be conveyed using this annexation method. In the last election, almost 54%<sup>16</sup> of registered voters turned out in King County compared with more than 45%<sup>17</sup> in the White Center proposed annexation area. Understanding how factors like home ownership, education levels, income, race, and ethnicity affect voting is crucial to comprehending how the true community's voice might be underrepresented in the recommended annexation process. Renter occupied housing consists of a population that can be generally characterized as more transient and less engaged with regards to community involvement. In White Center, 44% of the housing units are renter occupied.<sup>18</sup> A common argument correlates voting with educational level, "formal education is almost without exception the strongest factor in explaining what citizens do in politics and what they think about politics."<sup>19</sup> In White Center, only just over 13% of the population has attained a bachelor degree or higher education.<sup>20</sup> Income also has an effect, wealthier people are more likely to vote regardless of their educational background.<sup>21</sup> Background data showed income levels for White Center as lower than the King County average. It is more difficult to determine the effects of race and ethnicity, but important to acknowledge them as indicators of low voter turnout. As noted in the background section, White Center is a racially and ethnically diverse area. According to a Federal Election Commission report on voter registration and turnout in federal elections between 1972-1996, minorities have

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<sup>16</sup> King County General Election 2005. 29 Nov. 2005. King County Elections. 5 Dec. 2005  
<<http://www.metrokc.gov/elections/2005Nov/resPage2.htm>>.

<sup>17</sup> Statement of Votes Cast for Jurisdiction Wide, All Counters, King County, Cumulative Canvass – Official Final. King County Elections. 30 Nov. 2005.

<sup>18</sup> "White Center & Boulevard Park Community Data ." Chart. 2000. U.S. Census Bureau. 5 Nov. 2005  
<<http://www5.metrokc.gov/reports/health/>>.

<sup>19</sup> Nie, Norman. Education and Democratic Citizenship in America. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996.

<sup>20</sup> "White Center & Boulevard Park Community Data ." Chart. 2000. U.S. Census Bureau. 5 Nov. 2005  
<<http://www5.metrokc.gov/reports/health/>>.

<sup>21</sup> Wikipedia contributors. "Voter turnout." Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia. 2005. 12 Dec. 2005  
<[http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Voter\\_turnout&oldid=30986775](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Voter_turnout&oldid=30986775)>.

consistently voted at lower levels.<sup>22</sup> Out of the total population in White Center, 45% is minority.<sup>23</sup>

To ensure the will of the community is better represented in this process, there needs to be an effective voter education drive coupled with an effort to “get out the vote.” This could consist of grassroots efforts that engage some or all of the following tactics: community meetings, phone banking, literature drops, door knocking, and mailings. To strategically work to boost representation of those who tend to participate less, a focus could be placed on the lowest performing precincts (Bernice, White Center, Heights, and Sylvan according to November 8, 2005 turnout). Voter registration lists and phone numbers can be purchased from the King County Elections Department. The advantage in this effort is that there is known information when trying to identify concentrations of registered voters who are less likely to vote. Voters are credited when they vote and vote history is public record which can allow for a very targeted and strategic effort.

### **Voter Registration**

Many of the statistics described above also ring true for another population that would be underrepresented in this process, White Center residents who are eligible to vote but not registered. This group is defined as citizens over the age of eighteen, in the designated annexation area. Those who aren't registered cannot fully engage in this method for annexation currently. Therefore it would be encouraged that to best represent the community an effort should be made to register voters. Those supporting inclusion in the annexation process could organize voter registration drives and target populations that tend to be less participatory in the process. When considering race, minority voters have lower registration numbers. In the same Federal Election Commission report discussed above, data shows that the total 1996 White population was registered at 67.7%, Black 63.5%, and Hispanic 35.7%.<sup>24</sup> White Center has a 6.4% Black population and a 12% Hispanic population.<sup>25</sup> Proponents of inclusiveness could use the White Center census data to target concentrated areas of minority populations to focus on registering new voters, affording them the opportunity to have their voices heard in the recommended annexation process.

### **Residents Ineligible to Vote**

But how about those residents of White Center for whom there is no established mechanism in the process for engagement? For many residents in this community who are recent immigrants, White Center represents hope and possibilities for future generations. Certainly they should not be completely disenfranchised from the process simply because they are neither a property owner, nor eligible to vote. While it is very unlikely that the State Constitution could be modified with a new method of annexation that recognizes residents who

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<sup>22</sup> Voter Registration and Turnout in Federal Elections by Race/Ethnicity 1972-1996. Federal Election Commission. 2 Dec. 2005 <<http://www.fec.gov/pages/raceto.htm>>.

<sup>23</sup> "White Center & Boulevard Park Community Data ." Chart. 2000. U.S. Census Bureau. 5 Nov. 2005 <<http://www5.metrokc.gov/reports/health/default.asp?Geography=blkgrp00&mapX=&mapY=>>>.

<sup>24</sup> Voter Registration and Turnout in Federal Elections by Race/Ethnicity 1972-1996. Federal Election Commission. 2 Dec. 2005 <<http://www.fec.gov/pages/raceto.htm>>.

<sup>25</sup> "White Center & Boulevard Park Community Data." Chart. 2000. U.S. Census Bureau. 5 Nov. 2005 <<http://www5.metrokc.gov/reports/health/>>>.

may not currently be eligible to vote, this does not necessarily preclude them from making their needs known to those whose voice is included in the process.

One key recommendation that addresses these residents in particular would be to recruit community leaders or spokespersons from as many uniquely identifiable communities as possible. It is necessary to engage these leaders as they are the catalysts between the process and the community. A focused attempt to get a great deal of participation from as many people as possible in community meetings will be a key part of the annexation process for residents who are ineligible to vote or who do not own property. Regardless of whether the law recognizes every resident in the annexation process, their presence at meetings is the most effective indirect method of influencing those whose voice is formally recognized in the legal process.

### **Overall Education**

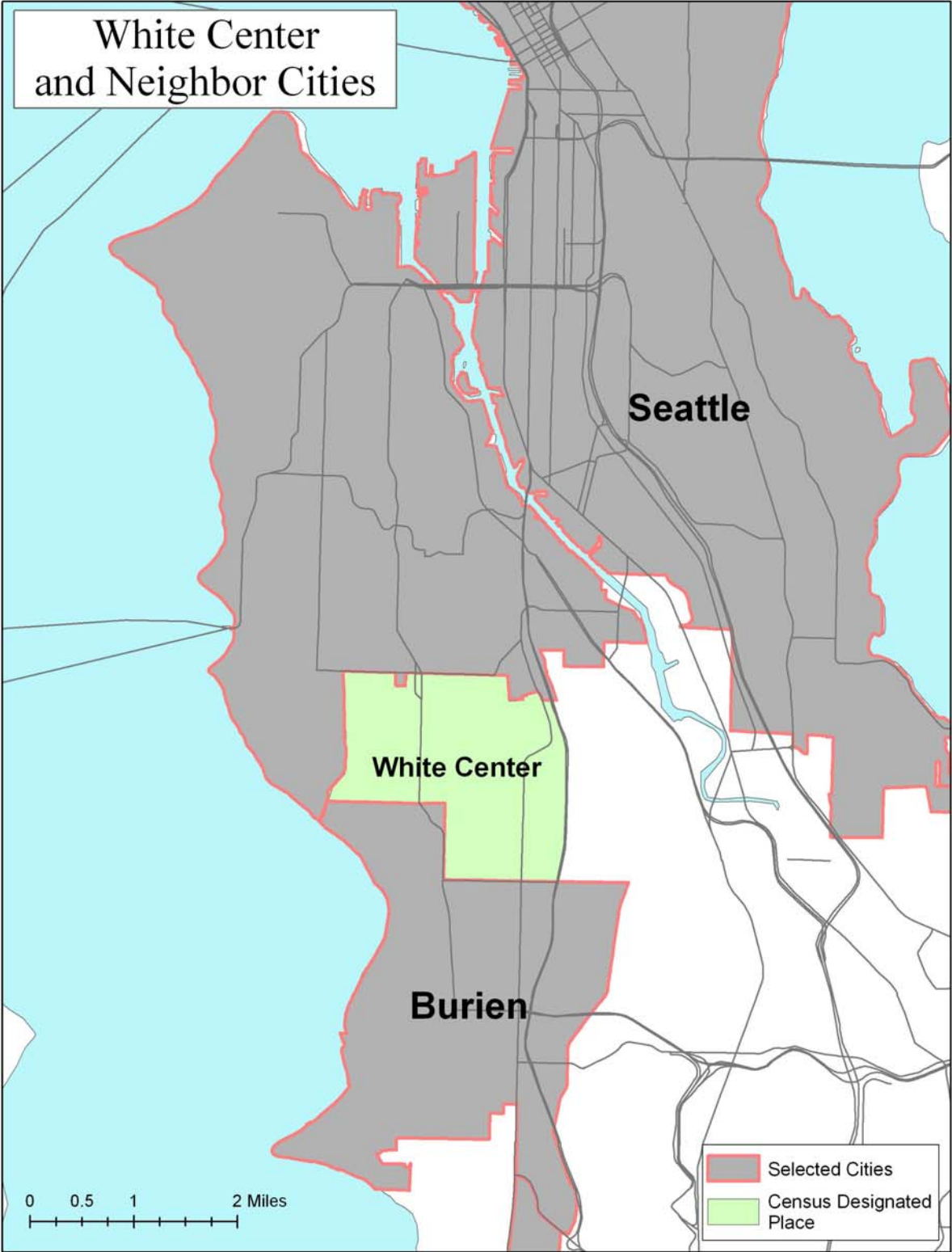
As an important component of our recommendation, as well as any future attempt to address the limitations outlined above, there should be an emphasis on a clear and concise explanation of annexation. What is it and what does it mean for the individual? How will it affect taxes, businesses, schools, and police and fire departments? Annexation is a complex enough subject for a native English speaker with a formal education. Careful attention needs to be given to an honest and thorough effort to educate the residents of White Center as to what is at stake with this decision.

### **Conclusions**

It has become clear that the issue of annexation in White Center is beginning to command the attention that such an important decision deserves, simply by the sheer amount and frequency of public meetings and workshops being held on the topic, as well as, the fact that the NHUAC has formally adopted Burien as their favored city for annexation. This recommendation is only very preliminary in nature and by no means is any indication that a particularly meaningful decision has been made.

There is still plenty of time to make sure that an important opportunity is not overlooked. That is the opportunity to get it right by making a real and determined effort to involve all members of the White Center community at every step of the process. Even though this community may indeed feel like 48 different communities or one for every language, the return for a comprehensive effort to involve everyone will be a result that represents the true desire of the White Center community.

**Appendix A: White Center Regional Context**





## Appendix C

### November 8, 2005 Election Data for Precincts in Proposed Annexation Area

Precinct	Registered Voters	Turnout	Turnout %
Aquaview	488	296	60.66%
Arbor Lake	386	178	46.11%
Bernadette	255	111	43.53%
Bernice	527	173	32.83%
Beverly	383	196	51.17%
Evergreen	653	277	42.42%
Glasgow	320	136	42.50%
Greene	311	182	58.52%
Heights	524	193	36.83%
Juniper	428	201	46.96%
Kingston	194	80	41.24%
Marian	474	225	47.47%
Patricia	277	151	54.51%
Plato	414	206	49.76%
Regal	463	213	46.00%
Salmon Creek	442	203	45.93%
Seaview	377	171	45.36%
Sunnywood	542	266	49.08%
Sylvan	555	226	40.72%
White Center	189	67	35.45%
Wynona	534	239	44.76%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8736</b>	<b>3990</b>	<b>45.67%</b>

#### Validation Requirements Initiative Petitions

#### # of Signatures of Registered Voters Required

#### For Seattle, First Class City

20% multiplied by Number of Votes Cast for King County Executive in the last Election

<b>0.2</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>3990</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>798</b>
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#### For Burien, Code City

10% multiplied by Number of Votes Cast for King County Executive in the last Election

<b>0.1</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>3990</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>399</b>
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Source: Statement of Votes Cast for Jurisdiction Wide, All Counters, King County, Cumulative Canvass – Official Final. King County Elections. 30 Nov. 2005.

## Appendix D<sup>i</sup>

### Timeline: Election Method Initiated by Petition

1. **Draft Petition**
2. **Signing of the Petition**
3. **Review by Prosecuting Attorney**
4. **Filing of Petition with City and Determination of Sufficiency of Petition**-The officer whose duty it is to determine petition sufficiency must file with the city officer who received the petition a certificate stating the date on which the determination was begun.
5. **Approval by City Council**-Once the petition has been certified by the prosecuting attorney, it is to be filed with the city council. The council must approve or reject the proposed annexation by resolution within **60 days of the date it was filed and, also within this 60-day period,** notify the petitioners of its action. A formal public hearing is optional.
6. **Petition Filed with County Governing Body and Review Board**-After city council approval, the petition is to be filed in the office of the county governing body. Notice of the proposed annexation must be given to the boundary review board, if one has been established in the county. Otherwise, the ad hoc annexation review board is to be **convened by the mayor within 30 days after the filing of the petition with the county.**
7. **County Governing Body - Hearing on Petition**-Upon the filing of the approval by the applicable review board, the county governing body at its next meeting is to set a date for the hearing on the petition. **The hearing must be held not less than two weeks nor more than four weeks from the date of the meeting. The petitioners must give notice of the hearing by publication once each week at least two weeks prior to the hearing in a newspaper of general circulation in the area proposed to be annexed.**
8. **Hearing and Determination**-The county governing body is to conduct the hearing on the date scheduled. If the petition complies with legal requirements and has been approved by the review board, the county governing body must grant the petition.
9. **Election on Annexation/Date of Election**-If the petition is granted and is certified as sufficient, the law requires that the city council indicate its preference to the county auditor for an election date on the annexation. The date must be one of the special election dates and is to be held **60 or more days** after the date the city's preference is indicated
10. **Notice of Annexation Election**-**Notice must be posted for at least two weeks prior to the election date in four public places within the area proposed to be annexed, and notice must be published in compliance according to requirements.**
11. **Effective Date of Annexation**-The annexation is effective on the date fixed in the annexation ordinance. The statute does not specify any date by which the annexation must be made effective.

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<sup>i</sup> This information was compiled from the Municipal Research and Services Center of Washington *Annexation Handbook*, Report No. 19, Revised November 2004.