

## King County Elections

---

From: Wilson, Dave  
Sent: Friday, September 29, 2006 8:28 AM  
To: Hail, Laird; Sanders, Harry  
Subject: RE: Ballot build

So should we cease and desist the work we have ben doing?  
We have many other things to work on.

David Wilson  
GIS Analyst  
206.296.1472

-----Original Message-----

From: Hail, Laird  
Sent: Friday, September 29, 2006 7:33 AM  
To: Sanders, Harry; Wilson, Dave  
Subject: Fw: Ballot build

Noticed neither of you were included, yet deeoly involved in this effort.

Laird

----- Original Message -----

From: Huff Menees, Sherril  
To: Hail, Laird; McConnell, Sandy; Fell, Garth; Valderas, Nathan; Bruskland, Anne;  
Huennekens, Bill  
Cc: Elsom, Travis; Buck, Jim  
Sent: Fri Sep 29 07:28:49 2006  
Subject: Re: Ballot build

Good Morning All,  
After reading Laird's message last night and spending a fitful night remembering all the possible problems we can experiece. Probllems that jeopardise the ability to have a preparation process free of the issues experienced in the primary, (long sentence) I keep coming back to Laird's question yesterday, Is it worse to answer questions about why we have not yet made poll changes than experiecing the resultant risks making these changes cause? I am much more willing to respond to any questions and concerns that might arise about no changes than putting all of you through the stress of taking this action and the potential problems that we know are likely. I believe we can more easily make the case for starting the changes identified in the spring election months.

I have a Dr's appt this morning and will be in after noon. Please check in with each other and call me ~~206.296.1472~~ or ~~206.296.1472~~ before 9 am or message back asap.  
Thanks

----- Original Message -----

From: Hail, Laird  
To: Huff Menees, Sherril; McConnell, Sandy; Fell, Garth; Valderas, Nathan; Bruskland, Anne; Huennekens, Bill  
Cc: Elsom, Travis  
Sent: Thu Sep 28 20:13:49 2006  
Subject: Ballot build

Travis and I have discussed options to the ballot build process in light of the complicating factor of potential polling place changes. We had hoped to begin the ballot build process tomorrow (Friday) in order to meet the deadlines surrounding military and absentee mailings. The schedule that Garth, Sandy, Sophia, Diebold Everett, Travis, and I discussed yesterday to accomplish everything that needs to be done is extremely tight and a day or two delay to wait for the polling place data to be entered puts us in an extremely risky position. Further complicating the situation is that after certification

tomorrow afternoon, we also need to run a process that will take anywhere from 15 to 20 hours to credit voters. This process needs to be run before the database can be unlocked for Voter Services to enter voter updates. Voter Services already does not have sufficient time needed to do their work. We can not delay starting this long crediting process in order to enter polling change data.

Before the potential polling place changes were raised, all the steps necessary to prepare the DIMS database for the new election were able to be done while the database is locked without effecting anything for the current election. This would have allowed us to do the export necessary to start the ballot build process before starting the above discussed crediting process. However, we can not do the change to polling place data until after certification without effecting the current election. Normally we would want to wait for the polling place data to be updated before doing the export from DIMS to GEMS. This is a lesson learned from the last election. However, given the circumstances we are facing, we feel we can do the export without the polling place data being updated. This will have no impact on the ballot build itself. However, it means that we will need to enter the same polling place changes that are entered into DIMS into GEMS separately at a later time. It will not need to be done before the database is sent to the printer (if we get done with other ballot build activity early, we may be able to update before sending to printer). Given the fact that we've had some unexpected changes with GEMS in the past, there is some risk. The greater risk is being sure that DIMS and GEMS are in synch after all changes are made since it will be done in each database separately. That will require a diligent QC effort. Tech Svcs will do an initial QC, but I may want a second QC by Election Ops or EDC. I've also asked that Travis investigate a possible automated QC effort.

Travis and I are comfortable with this approach. Because of the increased risks to this approach, I want to be sure each of you are also comfortable. I feel the schedule risk of waiting until late Saturday or Early Sunday to get started with the ballot build is greater. It will cause us all to rush to meet deadlines. The more we are rushed, the greater the potential for embarrassing mistakes.

If any of you have concerns with this approach, please discuss with me prior to noon Friday.

Laird