

# Clark County, WA Charter Review Commission

## Amendment Proposal Intake Form

**Date Submitted:** 2/24/2026

### **Sponsor Information**

- Primary Sponsor: Dorothy Gasque
- Optional Co-Sponsor(s): Kim Hamlik

### **Amendment Proposal Overview**

- Title: ETHICS
- **Brief Description of Proposed Amendment:** This amendment would clarify that the county code of ethics should supplement, not merely reference, state ethics laws, and declare that the policy's purpose is to ensure our county government serves all residents equally. It would clarify the role of the independent ethics commission to include recommending changes in legislation to the County Council, managing and coordinating training and education of local officers and employees in state and local ethics, and authority to refer ethics matters to appropriate enforcement agencies. It would establish the office of the Inspector General, which shall oversee the use of public funds. The office shall have jurisdiction to investigate, audit, and provide contract oversight while promoting efficiency, improving agency operations, and preventing and deterring waste, fraud, and abuse. The office of the Inspector General and the Oversight office would share resources when advisable to avoid redundancies and inefficiencies.
- **Purpose and Policy Intent of Proposed Amendment:** This amendment would create a more robust and independent system of accountability, ensuring that the ethics provisions in our charter are clear and effective. The addition of an Inspector General's office would establish an investigative body with law enforcement capabilities that the current policy lacks. In addition to its role in ethics enforcement, the IG would also create cost savings for taxpayers through the auditing process and reductions in fraud, waste, and abuse.
- **Charter Section(s) Affected:** Section 8.12 Code Of Ethics and Section 8.13 Ethics Review Commission and Oversight Office

## **Acknowledgement**

By submitting this form, the sponsor acknowledges that this proposal is subject to the Commission's amendment deliberation and adoption process.

Commissioner Dorothy Gasque  
Printed Name

2/23/2026  
Date