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Subject: Public Testimony for Charter Review Commission Meeting
To: <public.testimony@kcmo.org>

Public Testimony for Charter Review Commission Meeting

Ordinance for changing to ranked choice voting for Mayor and City Council. No longer need primary and general, just one election.

Benefits of RCV Listed

Ensures elected officials have support of 50% or more of voters
Candidates need more support than just their base to get elected

No more vote splitting or wasted votes
Gives voters of ALL political persuasions more say in who gets elected
Better information on what the electorate wants from candidates due to more debates, broader coverage, and more polling data

Campaign strategies change to less divisive campaigns because they have to appeal to more than 50% of voters and become a second or third choice for voters that initially choose someone else

The amount of money the larger campaigns spend does not keep less funded candidates from getting coverage and support because electoral races are no longer automatically down to the top two candidates

The issues that the candidates support get discussed more in depth since voters decide their 2nd and 3rd choices primarily based on issues and values

More third-party and independent candidates enter the race giving voters more choices

Media coverage becomes broader to cover all of the candidates instead of just the main two or three candidates

Third-party and independent candidates get accurate tally of support due to no more split votes or fear of wasting a vote

More information here:

<https://www.betterballotkc.org/>

<https://fairvote.org/our-reforms/ranked-choice-voting-information/#the-impacts-of-rcv>

Thanks,

Elizabeth "Beth" Jones
(In KC District 2)