

From: [Marie Ramirez](#)
To: [Contact Council](#)
Subject: Written Public Comment for 07.08.26 General Legislative Session
Date: Wednesday, July 8, 2026 10:42:44 AM
Attachments: [WrittenPublicComment07.08.26GenLegSession.pdf](#)

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Hello,

I provided verbal public comment at the 07.08.26 General Legislative Session today. However, based on a few questions addressed to Civic Genius (Jillian Youngblood), there appeared to be a need for me to submit my public comment made in writing which will help clarify my commentary made to the Council. Please find the written version of my verbal public comment attached to this email. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Marie Ramirez
Snohomish County Resident
Voting Member of the recent Snohomish County Civic Assembly on Artificial Intelligence.

Public Comment for the Snohomish County Council at the General Legislative Session held on July 8, 2026 at 9 am in Everett, Washington (Written Version):

Hello, my name is Marie Ramirez. I am a resident of Snohomish County. And I was a member of the 2026 Snohomish County Civic Assembly on Artificial Intelligence.

The Snohomish County Civic Assembly was made up of 40 assembly members. Only 32 members appeared on the first day. Further member attrition resulted in a total of 29 assembly members who created and voted upon the recommendations presented here today. Civic Genius wrote the final report and provided it to both assembly members and the council. And I am here today to speak of my concern that the final report excluded one very important vote – the vote regarding member's perception of the integrity of the assembly process. The outcome of that split vote had been 20:9. Or in percentages, 69% of assembly members had affirmed the integrity of the assembly process. And 31% of assembly members had rejected the integrity of the assembly process. And I just find it to be critically significant that nearly a third of the civic assembly members, including myself, had all perceived a lack of integrity to the civic assembly process and that this was left out of the final report.

While there are still many good recommendations to be found in the final report, I still believe that the Snohomish County Council, and the greater public, need to be provided full information about the assembly member's perception of the assembly process as it relates to the final report. This full information should be available to anyone who may be reviewing the final report and/or relying upon the final report as a foundational support for any governmental use, any literature reviews, any pilot project(s) or other related endeavors.

Finally, the impact of my participation in the Snohomish County Civic Assembly has been a reduced trust in my local government. I now question what role, if any, that my local government had in a process that appeared to be more in line with the concept of manufactured consent. Moreover, my civic assembly experience was not any better than the traditional citizen formats that already exist. And at the reported cost range of \$150k to 750k per civic assembly, it is just too high of a price to pay for a process in which nearly a third of assembly members voted as having lacked integrity of process. So going forward, I would ask that the council consider both the tangible and intangible costs of using the civic assembly process as a tool in our local government – and the damage that can occur when an assembly is not able to live up to the collective deliberative process that it has claimed itself to be.

Thank you for your time.