



September 14, 2020

Ms. Julie Door, Mayor
and City Council Members
Puyallup City Hall
333 S. Meridian
Puyallup, WA 98371

Dear Mayor Door and Members, Puyallup City Council:

At your September 1, 2020 City Council meeting, there were a number of constituents who asked the City to make a strong unified public statement regarding racial justice by the end of September and to establish a commission to study racial justice in Puyallup this Fall.

Having become aware of those requests, the League of Women Voters of Tacoma-Pierce County supports them and urges you to move forward on these two items.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan organization that does not support or oppose any candidates; but we do take action on issues where a position has been established through study and consensus. Our national League of Women Voters position, which local Leagues are encouraged to act upon, is that we are fully committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in principle and in practice. The League believes that diversity, equity, and inclusion are central to engaging all individuals, households, communities, and policy makers in creating a more perfect democracy. There should be no barriers to living equally in every community. That is the basis of our urging you to act on these requests.

We recognize that developing a public statement is a challenge; and we offer to assist with that if we can be helpful to you. The commission, if you form it, could be very helpful in bringing the community together around these tough issues. We would be happy to support you in putting such a group together as well, should that be helpful to you. Over the years, we have engaged in a number of civic processes around difficult issues and have expertise in how to make those processes work well for all involved.

Thank you for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me at stewdahl@comcast.net if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cynthia Stewart". The signature is written in a cursive style. The signature is placed over a faint, light blue background that appears to be a watermark or a very light stamp.

Cynthia Stewart, President