

**REVIEW  
OF  
CASCADE COUNTY  
GOVERNMENT**

**FINAL REPORT**

**by:  
CASCADE COUNTY  
STUDY COMMISSION**

**October 1986**

CERTIFICATE  
ATTESTING TO THE FILING OF THE  
FINAL REPORT  
TO THE CLERK & RECORDER  
OF CASCADE COUNTY

The attached Final Report, adopted by the Cascade County Study Commission on August 20, 1986, is hereby certified and deposited with the Clerk & Recorder of Cascade County, pursuant to section 7-3-187 (4) M.C.A.

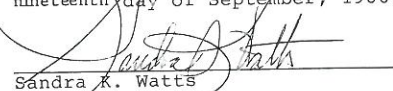
We, the Study Commissioners of Cascade County, do hereby certify that this attached report is a true and accurate copy of the Final Report adopted by the Study Commission of Cascade County.

In testimony whereof, we have hereunto set our hands.

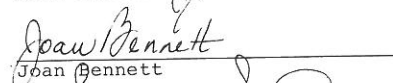
ATTEST:

  
Clerk & Recorder


Done at Cascade County this nineteenth day of September, 1986.

  
Sandra K. Watts

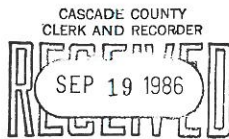
  
R.K. Haffner

  
Joan Bennett

  
Larry Strizich

  
Susan Rice Quinn

Cascade County Study Commissioners

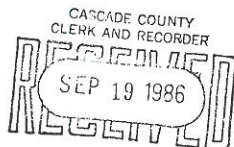


AMENDMENT  
TO CERTIFICATE

ESTABLISHING THE DATES OF  
PRIMARY AND GENERAL ELECTIONS IN 1988  
IF THE ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL IS APPROVED

The members of the Cascade County Study Commission agree to amend pages 19 and 39 of their Final Report which refer to November 1, 1988 as being the date of the General Election for Cascade County.

The intent of the Study Commission was to schedule the Primary and General Elections of 1988 in accordance with State Statute. Therefore, the General Election date listed on pages 19 and 39 of the Final Report should now read November 8, 1988.




I, Bradford K. Clark, assistant to the Cascade County Study Commission do hereby certify that all members of the Study Commission were polled, and unanimously agreed to the above described amendment.

In testimony whereof, I set my hand.

ATTEST:

  
Clerk and Recorder

Done at Cascade County this nineteenth day of September, 1986.

  
Bradford K. Clark,  
Administrative assistant to the  
Cascade County Study Commission.

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# CASCADE COUNTY GOVERNMENT COMPARISON CHART

CHARACTERISTIC:	PRESENT FORM OF GOVERNMENT:	PROPOSED FORM OF GOVERNMENT:	EVALUATIVE COMMENTS:
FORM OF GOVERNMENT:	COMMISSION FORM: <b>Merges</b> legislative, administrative and executive functions in Commission.	CHARTER WITH EXECUTIVE FORM. <b>Commission determines</b> policy. Elected County Executive administers county government.	The Charter <b>separates</b> legislative and administrative responsibilities.
POWERS:	GENERAL GOVERNMENT POWERS. <b>State Law</b> defines what government may do, and specifically how it shall do it. Little power to pass ordinances.	SELF-GOVERNMENT POWERS. <b>County government</b> shall exercise any power which is not denied by the Constitution, state law or the Charter. Commission gains ordinance-making authority.	Self-government powers bring to the County the right to act in its <b>own best interest</b> , and greater flexibility in shaping government's structure.
GOVERNING BODY:	Commission consists of <b>3 full-time members</b> nominated by district, elected at large.	Commission consists of <b>5 part-time</b> members nominated by district, elected at large.	Increase in the size of the Commission will allow greater and more <b>diverse representation</b> . District representation assures the Commission viewpoints from all sections of the County.
TERM OF OFFICE OF GOVERNING BODY:	<b>6 year</b> overlapping.	<b>4 year</b> overlapping.	Shorter terms should cause the Commission to be <b>more responsive</b> to the voters.
ELECTION:	<b>Partisan.</b>	<b>Partisan.</b>	<b>No change.</b>
PRESIDING OFFICER OF COMMISSION:	Chair elected from own members.	Chair elected from own members.	<b>No change.</b>

CHARACTERISTIC:	PRESENT FORM OF GOVERNMENT:	PROPOSED FORM OF GOVERNMENT:	EVALUATIVE COMMENTS:
DUTIES OF GOVERNING BODY:	Commission is responsible for executive and many administrative functions. Administrative powers are <b>shared</b> with other elected officials.	Commission is the legislative and policy-making body. The <b>County Executive</b> carries out policy.	The <b>Commission</b> is freed from administrative responsibilities to concentrate on the <b>policy-making</b> role.
COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND TERM OF OFFICE:	None. Administrative responsibilities <b>shared</b> by Commissioners, elected officials and various boards, etc.	County Executive, who is elected for a 4-year term, <b>directs and supervises</b> the administration of all departments, except those of other separately elected officials. County Executive has veto power, but Commission can override the veto.	Better overall <b>coordination</b> is possible. There are clear lines of authority and responsibility. Responsiveness of the County Executive is maintained through elective accountability.
OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS:	<b>10</b> separately elected officials: Auditor, Clerk & Recorder, County Attorney, Sheriff-Coroner, Clerk of Court, Surveyor-Assessor, Public Administrator, Treasurer, and Superintendent of Schools.	<b>6</b> separately elected officials: Auditor, County Attorney, Sheriff-Coroner, Public Administrator, Clerk of Court, and Superintendent of Schools.	The number of other elected offices is <b>reduced</b> from 10 to 6. Qualifications are set for these positions by state statute.
TERMS OF OFFICE OF SEPARATELY ELECTED OFFICIALS:	<b>4-year</b> terms.	<b>4-year</b> terms.	<b>No change.</b>
APPOINTED OFFICIALS:	Administrative assistants, and program heads.	Clerk & Recorder, Treasurer, Assessor, Public Works Director, Health & Human Services Director, Director of Agriculture, and program heads.	These offices are brought under the <b>direct supervision</b> of the County Executive. Qualifications for these positions can be established by ordinance by the Commission.

CHARACTERISTIC:	PRESENT FORM OF GOVERNMENT:	PROPOSED FORM OF GOVERNMENT:	EVALUATIVE COMMENTS:
APPOINTMENT POWERS:	<p><b>Commission appoints</b> department heads and other employees who are not elected. The Chairman of the Commission appoints members of boards and committees with the consent of the Commission.</p>	<p>The <b>County Executive appoints</b> department heads who are not elected. The Commission also appoints members of boards and committees. All appointments of department heads are subject to conformation by the Commission.</p>	<p>Department heads are <b>appointment</b> on the basis of qualification and are responsible to the County Executive.</p>
BUDGET PREPARATION:	<p><b>Clerk &amp; Recorder prepares budget</b> with officials and departments. It is modified and/or approved by the Commission.</p>	<p><b>County Executive prepares budget</b> and submits to Commission. Commission must adopt a balanced budget.</p>	<p>County Executive can <b>balance priorities</b> set by the Commission with county-wide revenues. Also can <b>balance needs</b> individual departments and functions with overall needs and resources of the County.</p>
TAXATION:	<p>Counties may levy property taxes by fund, up to the <b>maximum limits</b> specified by state law.</p>	<p>The total maximum mill levy for property taxes would be limited. There would be one all-purpose mill levy not earmarked for any special funds. <b>No increase</b> in the property tax beyond the mills set in the Charter could be authorized without a majority vote of County electors. Fees could be raised or lowered by Commission ordinance.</p>	<p>The Charter <b>limits and freezes</b> the total amount of property taxes that can be levied. Any increases for any reason must be approved by County voters. Additional flexibility is granted by designating part of the levy an all-purpose mill levy. Citizens will have the right to vote on a property tax plan after a mandatory study.</p>
SERVICE DELIVERY:	<p>Performed by <b>elected officials</b> and appointed boards, commissions and special districts.</p>	<p>Service delivery <b>reorganized</b> on the basis of function. For example: all financial duties will be consolidated into one centralized office under the Treasurer.</p>	<p>Provides greater <b>flexibility</b> of function and structure under a single County Executive and still provides for specialized functions of separately elected officials.</p>

CHARACTERISTIC:	PRESENT FORM OF GOVERNMENT:	PROPOSED FORM OF GOVERNMENT:	EVALUATIVE COMMENTS:
AMENDMENT OF CHARTER:	None.	Charter amendments could only be authorized by a vote of the County electors voting on the amendment. Amendments could be placed on the ballot by <b>15% petition</b> or by resolution of the Commission.	Charter amendments could be authorized by vote of the people of the County, by citizen initiative (direct democracy), or by Commission majority (representative democracy). Insures greater <b>ease of change</b> when necessary, retains the right of self-determination for people of the County power and structure requirements are set by state law.
REQUIRED ADMINISTRATIVE ORDINANCES:	None.	County Plan of Operations. Purchasing and Inventory Policy and Procedures. Personnel Policy and System. <b>Commission Rules of Procedure.</b>	Creates <b>mandated requirements</b> for efficient County government operation. Allows citizens, through ordinance process, to voice opinions.

CHARTER

for

CASCADE COUNTY

PREAMBLE - We the people of Cascade County in recognition and grateful appreciation of our heritage of the past 100 years, our equality of opportunity, and our freedom to change, by adopting this Charter, pledge our total commitment to a self-determined government established by and for the people of our County.

ARTICLE 1 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1.01 - Charter Government

The County of Cascade, Montana establishes this Charter form of government in accordance with Article XI, Section 5 of the 1972 Constitution of the State of Montana.

Section 1.02 - Name, Boundaries and County Seat

The corporate name of this county shall be Cascade County, Montana. The boundaries and county seat shall not be affected by this Charter.

Section 1.03 - Definition of Rights

The rights of the people shall be as defined in the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of Montana. Nothing in this Charter abridges any of those rights.

Section 1.04 - General Powers of the County

(1) Cascade County has all powers that a self-government powers county may have under the Constitution and laws of the United States and the State of Montana as fully and completely as though they were specifically enumerated in this Charter.

(2) It is intended that this Charter confer the greatest power of local self-government consistent with the Constitution and laws of the State of Montana. Specific mention of a particular power or authority shall not be construed as a limitation on the general power of the County, but shall be considered as additional to and supplementary to, or explanatory of, the powers conferred in general terms by this Charter.



#### Section 1.05 - Charter Supremacy

As provided by Article XI, Section 5 of the Constitution of the State of Montana, provisions establishing executive, legislative and administrative structure and organization of this Charter are superior to statutory provisions.

#### Section 1.06 - Intergovernmental Cooperation

(1) Cascade County may engage in, and should encourage, intergovernmental cooperation as provided in Article XI, Section 7 of the Constitution of Montana.

(2) The qualified electors of the County may, by initiative, require or prevent such intergovernmental cooperation.

#### Section 1.07 - Oath of Office

Before entering upon the duties of office, all elected county officials shall take and subscribe to the oath of office as prescribed in Article III, Section 3 of the Constitution of the State of Montana.

#### Section 1.08 - Severability

The provisions of this Charter are severable. If any provision of this Charter is held invalid, the other provisions of the Charter shall not be affected thereby. If the application of the Charter, or any part of its provisions, to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the application of the Charter and its provisions to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

## ARTICLE 2 - SPECIFIC POWERS AND LIMITATIONS

### Section 2.01 - Limitation on Property Taxes

The Commission may not levy more than 61.2 all purpose mills valued at \$92,168.00 per mill on all county residents, 12 mills valued at \$92,168.00 per mill on all county residents for the sole purpose of state-administered public assistance, 11 mills valued at \$38,474.00 per mill on all county residents outside of Great Falls, and 17 mills valued at \$37,327.00 per mill on all county residents outside of incorporated cities and towns.

These limits may not be increased except by an affirmative vote of the simple majority of the electors voting on this question.

Within this limitation, the Commission may consider the mills levied upon all county residents, except the 12 mills for public assistance, as an all-purpose mill levy. All other categories of levies set out above shall remain earmarked as set out in State statute.

All non-tax revenue sources should, whenever possible, reduce the property tax liability of the residents of Cascade County.

### Section 2.02 - New Taxes Limitations

No new taxes not now permitted for self-government counties may be imposed, even though authorized by law, except by affirmative vote of the simple majority of the electors voting on this question.

### Section 2.03 - Fees

All licence fees, user fees, sewer fees, permit fees, or utility fees must be levied by ordinance.

ARTICLE 3 - LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

Section 3.01 - General Power

The legislative power of the County government is vested in the Board of County Commissioners and may be exercised only by ordinance or resolution. The legislative power of the County not reserved to the people shall be vested in the Commission.

Section 3.02- Composition

The Commission consists of five part-time Commissioners, each of whom must reside in a district as defined in this Charter. Members of the Commission shall be elected for four-year overlapping terms, must reside within their district during the term of office for which they are elected, and must be qualified voters of Cascade County.

Section 3.03 - Nomination and Election

The Commission shall be elected at large and nominated from districts under a plan of nomination that may not preclude the possibility of the majority of the electors nominating candidates for the majority of the seats on the Commission from persons residing in the district or districts where the majority of the electors reside.

Section 3.04 - Compensation

The Commission shall establish by ordinance the annual compensation of its members.

Section 3.05 - Presiding Officer

The Commission shall annually elect from its members a chair and a vice-chair to preside over meetings of the Commission. The chair and vice-chair may vote as other members of the Commission.

Section 3.06 - Powers and Duties

(1) The County Commission is the policy determining body of the County and has all the legislative powers of the County that are not otherwise reserved to the people and state law.

(2) The Commission, acting as a body:

(a) shall have the power to levy taxes, appropriate revenue and adopt budgets for the County under the terms of this Charter;

(b) shall provide, by ordinance, for a Plan of Operations which shall include the administrative structure and procedures necessary to carry out the provisions of this Charter and the obligations imposed on the County by state law. Such ordinance must be designed to promote efficiency in County operations, eliminate duplications and overlapping responsibilities, and respond to the changing needs and priorities of County government.

This Plan of Operations shall be reviewed as necessary, but not less than every five years, for effectiveness, completeness and accuracy, and amended as required. This review shall be conducted by a four-member Committee consisting of one County Commissioner, the Auditor, one citizen appointed by the County Commission and one citizen appointed by the County Executive;

(c) shall establish and maintain, by ordinance, a personnel policy and system for the County which shall assure recruitment, selection, and retention of county employees on the basis of knowledge, skill, and ability. Compensations shall be based on job evaluation of skill, effort, responsibility and working conditions. The County Executive shall administer the personnel system of the County in accordance with the policy adopted by the Commission. This Charter shall not apply to or affect any provision of state law with regard to labor contracts, collective bargaining for public employees, unemployment compensation, or workers' compensation except that, subject to those provisions, the County may exercise any power of a public employer with regard to its employees;

(d) shall exercise fiscal control by maintaining a balanced budget for the County in which appropriations shall not exceed anticipated revenue;

(e) shall, by ordinance, adopt county purchasing policies and procedures, and inventory controls;

(f) shall, by ordinance, establish the compensation to be paid to all county officials and employees;

(g) may establish, by ordinance, subordinate service districts in the County to enable more than one service to be provided in a district under a single administrative and financing system;

(h) may establish, by ordinance, the qualifications, duties and responsibilities of each department head, and, until the adoption of such ordinances, the laws of the State of Montana regulating the function of such department shall apply, except as otherwise set forth in this Charter;

(i) shall confirm or reject appointments by the County Executive Officer within thirty days of the date the name or names are submitted to it.

### Section 3.07 - Relationship with Other Branches

Except in the performance of its legislative functions under this Charter, the Commission, its members, staff and presiding officer shall have no power to direct, either publicly or privately, any officer or employee subject to the direction and supervision of the County Executive Officer or other elected official. Neither the Commission, its members, nor the presiding officer may in any manner dictate the appointment or removal of any County administrative officer or employee whom the County Executive or other elected official or subordinate is empowered to appoint.

### Section 3.08 - Rules of Procedure

The Commission shall enact, by ordinance, Rules of Procedure governing the time, place and conduct of its meetings and hearings and the introduction, publication, consideration and adoption or rejection of ordinances: Provided, That the Commission shall meet regularly at least semi-monthly. All meetings shall be open to the public, except as authorized by law and a verbatim record shall be kept of each meeting by electronic or mechanical means for a reasonable period of time as provided by state law and, in addition, written minutes shall be promptly recorded and properly logged. The minutes shall include a summation of the actions and discussion at each Commission meeting, as well as a record of the vote of each Commission member. An agenda shall be provided to the public within a reasonable time before each meeting and members of the public shall always be allowed to come before the Commission.

### Section 3.09 - Quorum

A majority of the Commission constitutes a quorum for the transaction of Commission business, but a lesser number may meet and, in a manner prescribed by the Rules of Procedure of the Commission, compel the attendance of absent members, under the powers of subpoena if necessary.

### Section 3.10 - Advisory Boards, Commissions, and Committees

(1) The Commission may, by ordinance, create such advisory boards, commissions, and committees as in its judgement the interests of the County require.

(2) Members of the boards, commissions, and committees shall be appointed by the Commission, unless otherwise provided by ordinance or interlocal agreement.

### Section 3.11 - Ordinances

Every legislative act shall be by ordinance. The subject of every ordinance shall be clearly stated in the title and no ordinance shall contain more than one comprehensive subject. Ordinances, or summaries of them, the places where copies are filed, and the time when they are available for inspection, shall be published when the ordinances are proposed and again upon enactment. The procedures shall be, that:

(a) no ordinance shall be amended unless the new ordinance sets forth each amended section or subsection at full length;

(b) ordinances may, by reference, adopt Montana Statutes, or any recognized printed codes or compilations in whole or in part;

(c) at least thirteen days shall pass between the introduction and the final passage of every ordinance, except emergency ordinances. Every ordinance shall be introduced in its entirety in writing;

(d) every ordinance which is adopted by the Commission must be presented to the County Executive. If approved by the County Executive, the ordinance shall be signed by the County Executive and become law as provided in this section. If not approved by the County Executive, the entire ordinance shall be vetoed and returned with written objections, which shall be entered in the record of Commission proceedings. If, within thirty days after being returned to the Commission, the ordinance receives

the affirmative vote of a majority plus one of the entire Commission, it shall become law. If the County Executive does not either sign or veto an ordinance within ten days, Saturdays, Sundays and County holidays excepted, after presentation of the ordinance by the Commission, it shall become law without the County Executive's signature;

(e) except as otherwise provided in this Charter, all ordinances shall take effect thirty days after the date they are signed by the County Executive or otherwise enacted or at a later date if stated in the ordinance.

### Section 3.12 - Emergency Ordinances

An ordinance necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health or safety, or support of the County government and its existing institutions may be passed by a majority plus one affirmative vote of the Commission, which shall be effective immediately when approved by the County Executive, with the following provisions:

- (a) no emergency ordinance may levy taxes;
- (b) no emergency ordinance may grant, renew or extend a franchise;
- (c) no emergency ordinance may authorize the borrowing of money for more than one hundred twenty days.

An emergency ordinance shall be introduced and passed or rejected in the manner prescribed for ordinances generally, except that the emergency and the facts creating it shall be stated in a separate section of the emergency ordinance.

The provisions of every emergency ordinance, except one making appropriations from an emergency reserve for one hundred twenty days, or less, shall remain in effect for no more than ninety days following the date on which the ordinance became law.

### Section 3.13 Resolutions

The Commission may, by resolution:

- (a) organize and administer the legislative branch;
- (b) make declarations of policy which do not have the force of law;
- (c) request information from any department of county government.

Resolutions may be submitted and adopted at a single meeting of the Commission and shall not be subject to the veto power of the County Executive.

Section 3.14 - Codification of Ordinances

All ordinances of the County which are of a general and permanent nature or impose any fine, penalty, or forfeiture shall be codified in a code which shall be known as the Cascade County Code. The code shall be kept current to reflect newly adopted, amended or repealed ordinances. A current copy shall be placed in the main regional library and in the office of the Executive and wherever else the Commission deems appropriate.



## ARTICLE 4 - EXECUTIVE BRANCH

### Section 4.01 - Composition and Powers

(1) The Executive Branch shall be composed of the County Executive Officer, and the departments of Finance, Public Records, Public Works, Property Development and Evaluation, Health and Human Services, and Agriculture.

(2) The Executive Branch shall have all executive powers of the County under this Charter. Any other offices, boards or departments established by this Charter or created by the Commission, except those with quasi-judicial powers, shall be part of the Executive Branch.

(3) The activities under the direction and supervision of the County Executive shall be organized on the basis of function and distributed among such departments and agencies as are established by this Charter and by ordinance.

### Section 4.02 - County Executive Officer

The County Executive Officer shall be the chief executive and administrative officer of the County. The County Executive shall be responsible for the administration of all County affairs placed in this officer's charge by this Charter, by law, by ordinance or by resolution.

### Section 4.03 - Election, Term of Office and Compensation

The County Executive shall be elected for a four-year term. The County Executive shall receive compensation as determined by the Commission, which compensation shall not be diminished during the current term of office.

### Section 4.04 - Powers and Duties of the County Executive

The County Executive shall:

- (1) direct, organize, supervise and administer all departments, divisions, agencies, bureaus, boards and offices of the County;
- (2) execute and enforce all laws, ordinances, and resolutions;
- (3) have the power to veto any ordinance adopted by the Commission, as prescribed in this Charter;
- (4) perform duties required of the Executive by law, ordinance, or resolution;
- (5) administer affairs of the local government;

- (6) carry out policies established by the Commission;
- (7) recommend measures to the Commission;
- (8) report annually to the Commission on the affairs and financial condition of the County;
- (9) execute bonds, notes, contracts, and written obligations of the Commission, subject to the approval of the Commission;
- (10) prepare and present to the Commission comprehensive plans including capital improvement plans for the present and future development of the County;
- (11) report to the Commission as the Commission may require;
- (12) attend Commission meetings and may take part in the discussions;
- (13) prepare and present an annual budget to the Commission;
- (14) make available to the public and the Auditor a document detailing the proposed budget in comparison with estimated and actual expenditures for the two preceding fiscal years;
- (15) execute the budget adopted by the Commission;
- (16) make recommendations to the Commission for the appointment of citizens to boards, commissions, or committees;
- (17) administer the personnel system of the County and shall appoint and be a part of any negotiating team on behalf of the County;
- (18) perform any other duties required by the Commission, or required in the execution of the County Executive's responsibilities.

#### 4.05 Appointments by County Executive Officer

(1) The County Executive shall appoint the department head of each executive department, subject to confirmation by a majority of the Commission. Appointed department heads shall serve at the will of the County Executive Officer, subject to annual review. The County Executive may appoint one department head to administer more than one executive department.

(2) The department heads and their general duties shall be as follows. The head of the:

(a) Finance Department shall be the Treasurer. The duties of Treasurer shall be the same as set forth in state law for the Treasurer except that the Treasurer shall serve as chief officer of the centralized finance office which consolidates all the financial functions of the County, including those previously administered by other County departments;

(b) Public Records Department shall be the Clerk and Recorder whose duties shall be the same as those set forth under State Law for the Clerk and Recorder except those duties regarding financial or budgetary functions. The Clerk and Recorder shall continue to be the administrator of the Elections Department;

(c) Public Works Department shall be the Director of Public Works and shall have the same duties as those set forth under state law for the Surveyor. The management and maintenance of all County property shall be assumed by this office;

(d) Property Development and Evaluation Department shall be the Assessor who shall have the same duties as set forth under state law for the Assessor, together with the responsibility of planning, zoning, licensing and permitting in regard to land development and real property improvement. The City-County Planning Department shall be under this department to the extent that County authority so authorizes;

(e) Department of Health and Human Services shall be known as the Director of Health and Human Services and shall be responsible for all public health and social services including, but not limited to, aging services, public assistance, veterans burial, nursing home, alcohol services, mental health, emergency medical services, civil defense and City-County Health to the extent County authority so authorizes;

(f) Department of Agriculture shall be known as the Director of Agriculture and shall be responsible for the promotion of agricultural interests as they affect Cascade County. Under this department are included services of County Extension, Consolidated Pest Control, Air Pollution and State Fair Board Operations.

(3) Other and more specific duties of these and other offices shall be set forth in the Plan of Operations of the Commission.

(4) Compensation of each of the executive department heads shall be established by the Commission.

(5) All other inter-local agreements shall continue in full force and affect.

Section 4.06 Appointments by Department Heads

The head of each executive department shall appoint the employees of that department. The department head shall comply with the rules of the Personnel System when appointing such employees except that the employees' right to labor contracts, collective bargaining for public employees, unemployment compensation or workers' compensation as provided by law shall not be abridged or denied.

Article 5 - SEPARATELY ELECTED OFFICIALS

Section 5.01 - Election, Term of Office and Compensation

The officials nominated and elected by the voters of Cascade County shall be as follows:

- a) County Attorney;
- b) Sheriff-Coroner;
- c) Public Administrator;
- d) Clerk of Court;
- e) Auditor;
- f) Superintendent of Schools.

These officials shall be elected for four-year terms and shall receive compensation as determined by the Commission, which compensation shall not be diminished during their term of office.

Section 5.02 - Powers and Duties

The County Attorney, Sheriff-Coroner, Auditor, Public Administrator, Clerk of Court, and Superintendent of Schools shall be elected in accordance with procedures set forth in this Charter and shall have the powers and duties of their respective offices as provided by the Constitution of Montana, Montana State Statute, this Charter and County ordinance, except that the Auditor shall be responsible for accounting compliance auditing and program compliance auditing.

Section 5.03 - Appointments by Separately Elected Officials

Each elected official shall appoint the employees of that office. The official shall comply with the rules of the personnel system when appointing such employees except that the employees' right to labor contracts, collective bargaining for public employees, unemployment compensation or workers' compensation as provided by law shall not be abridged or denied.

## ARTICLE 6 - ELECTIONS

### Section 6.01 - Procedure

The procedure for nominating and electing all county officials shall be in the manner prescribed by Montana State Statute for the nomination and election of partisan county officials.

Independent candidates may be nominated and elected in the manner prescribed by Montana State Statutes for any elected office under this Charter.

### Section 6.02 - Qualifications

Qualifications, duties and responsibilities for all elected County officials shall be defined elsewhere in this Charter. In addition, the official shall:

- (a) be a registered voter of the State of Montana;
- (b) be a resident of Cascade County;
- (c) and Commissioners shall reside in the districts from which they are nominated for their full term of office.

### Section 6.03 - Term of Office

All elected officials shall be elected for four-year terms.

### Section 6.04 - Recall Provision

An elected officer of the County may be recalled in the manner and with the effect prescribed by Montana State Statute.

### Section 6.05 - Initiative and Referendum

The powers of initiative and referendum are reserved to the electors of Cascade County and shall be as provided by state law.

Section 6.06 - Vacancies

(1) An elective office shall become vacant upon the incumbent's:

- (a) death,
- (b) recall,
- (c) total permanent incapacity as determined by a panel of physicians,
- (d) absence from the County for thirty days without being excused by a majority of the Commission,
- (e) failure to maintain residency requirements.

(2) A Commissioner's absence from three consecutive regular meetings of the Commission without being excused by a majority of the Commission shall cause that office to be vacated.

(3) The Commission shall fill a vacancy in the interim before the next County election from a list of three people, submitted by the County Central Committee of the political party represented by the official in office immediately prior to the declaration of vacancy. In the event that this official was elected as an Independent, the vacancy shall be filled by the Commission with an individual who certifies to be of the same affiliation.

(4) Vacancies in an elective position shall be filled at the next November general election, unless the vacancy occurs after the last day for filing declarations of candidacy, in which case the vacancy shall be filled at the next succeeding November general election. The person elected shall take office upon certification of the results of the election and shall serve the unexpired term of the vacated office. Until a successor has been elected and certified, a majority of the Commission shall fill the vacancy by appointment. All persons appointed to fill vacancies shall meet the qualifications set forth in Section 6.02 of this Charter.

## ARTICLE 7 - DISTRICTS AND APPORTIONMENT

### Section 7.01 - Boundaries

The boundaries of each of the five Commission districts shall correspond as nearly as practicable with boundaries of election precincts and shall be drawn to produce districts with compact and contiguous territory, composed of geographic units and natural communities. Until modified in accordance with provisions of this Charter, Commission districts shall be as shown on the accompanying Certificate Plan of Apportionment.

### Section 7.02 - Reapportionment

(1) The County shall reapportion itself every ten years so as to comply with the provisions of Article 3, Sections 3.02 and 3.03. A five-member reapportionment committee shall be appointed after the publication of the federal decennial census and within sixty days after the effective date of the final plan for redistricting and reapportioning the state into legislative districts. The Commission shall appoint four persons of whom two shall be from each major political party. Those four shall appoint the fifth member, who shall serve as the chair. In the event the four cannot agree on a fifth member, the Chief Judge of the Eighth Judicial District Court shall appoint the chair.

(2) The officials responsible for preparing a Districting and Apportionment Plan shall consider the problems of conforming present precinct boundaries to the new districts as well as existing boundaries of wards, school districts, and other districts.

(3) The County Reapportionment Committee shall submit its plan to the Commission at a regularly scheduled meeting within ninety days from the date the chair of the County Reapportionment Committee is selected. Within thirty days after submission, the Commission shall return the plan to the County Reapportionment Committee with its recommendations. Within thirty days thereafter, the County Reapportionment Committee shall file its plan with the elections administration and it shall become law. The County Reapportionment Committee is then dissolved.

### Section 7.03 - No Changes

No reapportionment is necessary if the County Reapportionment Committee determines that there has been no significant change in the population or distribution within the County since the last reapportionment review.



## ARTICLE 8 - AMENDMENTS TO CHARTER

### Section 8.01 - Authorized by Right to Petition

An amendment to this Charter may be proposed by a resolution of the Commission or by initiative petition signed by the registered electors of the County in a number equal to fifteen percent of the number of votes cast for the successful County Executive Officer candidate in the previous general election.

### Section 8.02 - Resolution or Petition to Set Out Section

The resolution or initiative petition shall set out fully the section or sections sought to be amended and the proposed amendment.

### Section 8.03 - Election on Amendment

An election on the amendment proposed by resolution or initiative petition shall be held at a special election or the next general election of the County.

### Section 8.04 - Election Conducted as Provided by State Law

The election on the question of amendment shall be conducted as provided by state law.

### Section 8.05 - Repeal of the Charter

Any proposal to repeal this Charter shall include provisions for an alternative plan of government authorized by law and shall be processed as provided by law.

## ARTICLE 9 - TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

### Section 9.01 - Purpose

The provisions of this article relate to the transition from the existing form of government to the form of government established by this Charter, and where inconsistent with other articles of this Charter, the provisions of this article shall constitute exceptions.

### Section 9.02 - Repeal of Transition Article

All the terms of this transition article must be met on or before December 31, 1991. The provisions of this transition article shall automatically be repealed and not published after that date.

### Section 9.03 - Effective Date and Election

The effective date of this Charter is January 1, 1989. The nominating primary and general election shall be held June 7, 1988 and November 8, 1988 respectively, to elect five County Commissioners and the County Executive Officer.

The County Attorney, Sheriff, Auditor, Superintendent of Schools, and the Public Administrator, on the effective date of this Charter, shall continue their current terms of office under this Charter. The Clerk of Court shall be elected in the general election of 1988. Those department heads formerly elected whose positions are now appointed under this Charter, shall continue serving in those positions until their successors are appointed.

The nominating primaries and general election shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Montana State Statute.

All state laws, ordinances, resolutions, policies, and other rules in force at the time this Charter takes effect, to the extent they are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Charter, shall remain in force until amended or repealed.

All rights, claims, obligations, proceedings, and liabilities, either in favor of, or against the County, including all labor contracts, and any criminal proceedings existing on the effective date of this Charter, shall not be affected by the adoption of this Charter.

#### Section 9.04 - Initial Qualifications

Each county officer holding an elective office shall be, at the time of appointment or filing for election, and at all times while holding office, a citizen of the United States and a resident and registered voter of Cascade County.

Commissioners shall maintain residency in their respective commission districts during the term for which they were elected. No commission district boundary change shall disqualify the Commissioner from holding office during the remainder of the term of office.

#### Section 9.05 - Commencement of Term of Office

(1) The incumbent, full-time Commissioners elected in the general elections of 1982, 1984, and 1986 shall serve as County Commissioners of their then respective districts from the effective date of this Charter until their successors are elected at the general election in 1988, have qualified, and have commenced their terms of office.

The newly elected County Commissioners shall take office thirty days after certification of election. The Commissioners' terms of office shall be staggered and initially be as follows:

Commissioner A: elected 1988 - serves through 1992,

Commissioner B: elected 1988 - serves through 1992,

Commissioner C: elected 1988 - serves through 1990,

Commissioner D: elected 1988 - serves through 1990,

Commissioner E: elected 1988 - serves through 1990.

Thereafter, the terms of office shall be four years and elections held on even numbered years, the same as federal and state elections.

(2) The County Executive Officer shall be elected in the general election of 1988. The County Executive's first term of office shall begin thirty days from certification of election and continue through 1992. Thereafter, the position shall have four year-terms.

#### Section 9.06 - Compensation of County Officials

(1) The initial compensation of part-time County Commissioners shall be \$500 per month and thereafter the salary per month shall be established by ordinance, which compensation shall not be reduced during a current term of office.

(2) The initial compensation of the County Executive Officer shall be \$3,000 per month and thereafter the salary per month shall be established by ordinance, which compensation shall not be reduced during a current term of office.

(3) During the three year transition period, the total compensation of the five member part-time Commission, together with the County Executive Officer, shall not exceed the total compensation of a three member full-time County Commission, as specified in Montana Code Annotated.

(4) The initial compensation of the appointed department heads shall be \$2,200 per month and thereafter the salary per month shall be established by ordinance.

(5) An individual administering more than one department may receive additional compensation.

(6) The initial compensation of the separately elected officials shall be the same as set out in Montana Code Annotated. Thereafter, the salary shall be established by ordinance, which compensation shall not be reduced during a current term of office.

#### Section 9.07 - Compensation of County Employees

All other county employees shall receive not less than the same rate of compensation and benefits which they were receiving on the effective date of this Charter. Thereafter, County employees shall be covered by the personnel policy, unless appointed to a management position, and shall be subject to all its rules, except the rules concerning initial employment, if any, taking into consideration the laws as applied to labor contracts, collective bargaining for public employees, workers' compensation, and unemployment compensation.

#### Section 9.08 - Advisory Boards, Commissions and Committees

During the three year transition period, all advisory boards, commissions, and committees in existence when this Charter takes effect shall be validated, modified or abolished.

#### Section 9.09 County Budget

(1) The budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1989 shall remain in effect until revised or superceded by the Commission.

(2) The Commission or a committee at its direction, shall, within 60 days after election and qualification, cause a study to be made of all County finances. As a result of this study and by the general election in 1992, the Commission by resolution shall present a proposed amendment to Article 2, Section 2.01 of this Charter authorizing and establishing the use of one equitable, all-purpose mill levy on all real and personal property within Cascade County for tax revenue to fund County services.

#### Section 9.10 - Required Ordinances

The following ordinances are required by this Charter. The County Commission shall:

- (a) establish the Rules of Procedure by February 1, 1989 (Section 3.08);
- (b) establish a County Plan of Operations by June 1, 1989 (Section 3.06 (2)(b));
- (c) establish a County Purchasing Policy and Procedures, and Inventory Controls by January 1, 1990 (Section 3.06 (2)(e));
- (d) establish the County Personnel Policy and System by June 1, 1990 (Section 3.06 (2)(c)).

## CASCADE COUNTY STUDY COMMISSION MINORITY REPORT

We, the undersigned members of the Cascade County Study Commission, after due consideration of the existing form of the County government and the procedures for delivery of local government services and after performing the comparison with other forms available under the laws of the State of Montana hereby submit this report of an opinion of the minority of the study commission for Cascade County.

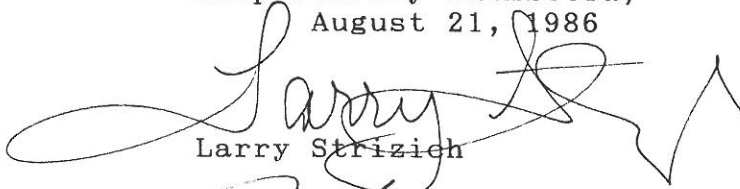
The majority report reflects considerable effort on the part of the entire study commission and represents a dramatic improvement in the overall structure of county government. While we substantially agree with the Majority report, several sections could be improved even further with the following modifications.

Specifically, Article 4, section 4.03 of the Majority Report does not provide for the selection of a qualified professional in the position of Chief Executive Officer. The appointment of this position, in lieu of election, is the only method of insuring that the individual chosen to serve the county as its chief administrator is the most qualified and capable of the field of possible candidates. The selection of the CEO by the Commissioners insures that the person selected is, in fact, responsive to the voters due to the control exerted by the elected County Commissioners. Coupled with this, the removal of the executive veto, granted by sections 3.11 (d) and 4.04 (3) would allow the position of Chief Executive Officer to function wholly without involvement in policy making and therefore concentrate on the task of day to day operations.

Another area of concern in this minority report is the question of partisan versus non-partisan elections. While partisan elections offer the best method of recruiting and promoting good candidates for elected positions and, in fact, under current state law and as stated in the Majority Report, allows for persons without political party affiliation to run for and be elected to these offices, there appears to be a perceived need for non-partisan elections. Holding the belief that the electorate can indeed choose the alternative most desired, it is felt that the question of partisan vs. non-partisan elections should be placed on the ballot of a general election and that the proponents of each form should then educate and inform the voters at large of the true meanings and ramifications involved in each form of election that the voters should select the form of election for County Commissioners and election of the 'Seperately Elected Officials' covered in Article XX of the Majority Report.

There is no question that the form of government offered by the proposed charter of the Majority Report offers not only distinct improvement in the form of County Government, but also the forms the bulwark of potential change to a Commission-Manager form, allowing for an appointed Chief Executive.

Respectively submitted,  
August 21, 1986



Larry Strizich



R. K. Haffner

CERTIFICATE  
ESTABLISHING THE PROPOSED PLAN OF GOVERNMENT  
FOR  
CASCADE COUNTY

Upon approval of the majority of voters, the government of Cascade County shall be organized under the following provisions of Title 7, Chapter 3, Part 7 of Montana Code Annotated and shall be governed by the following sections:

- (a) 7-3-701;
- (b) 7-3-702;
- (c) 7-3-703;
- (d) 7-3-704 (1) and (2)(d)
- (e) 7-3-705;
- (f) 7-3-706;
- (g) 7-3-707;
- (h) 7-3-708;
- (i) 7-3-709.

And, Title 7, Chapter 3, Part 2 of Montana Code Annotated and shall be governed by the following sections:

- (a) 7-3-201;
- (b) 7-3-202 (2);
- (c) 7-3-203;
- (d) 7-3-211;
- (e) 7-3-212 (2);
- (f) 7-3-213 (3);
- (g) 7-3-214 (1);
- (h) 7-3-215 (1);
- (i) 7-3-216 (2);
- (j) 7-3-217 (2);
- (k) 7-3-218 (3);
- (l) 7-3-219 (1);
- (m) 7-3-220 (1);
- (n) 7-3-221 (1);
- (o) 7-3-222 (2);
- (p) 7-3-223 (2);
- (q) 7-3-224.

These sections establish the following form of government which shall be called a CHARTER form in this county.

7-3-701. Charter form. (1) The purpose of this part is to comply with Article XI, section 5(1), of the Montana Constitution, which provides: "The legislature shall provide procedures permitting a local government unit or combination of units to frame, adopt, amend, revise, or abandon a self-government charter with the approval of a majority of those voting on the question. The procedures shall not require approval of a charter by a legislative body."



(2) Charter provisions establishing executive, legislative, and administrative structure and organization are superior to statutory provisions.

7-3-702. Nature of government. A charter form of government shall possess self-government powers.

7-3-703. Charter required. (1) Charter form of government shall be established by a charter which is a written document defining the powers, structures, privileges, rights, and duties of the unit of local government and limitations thereon.

(2) The enumeration of powers in a charter shall not be construed as a limitation or prohibition on the residual or self-governing powers granted by the constitution.

7-3-704. Legislative body. (1) The charter shall provide for an elected legislative body (called a commission or council) or shall provide for a legislative body comprised of all qualified electors. For elected legislative bodies, the charter shall specify the number of members thereof, their term of office, election on a partisan or non-partisan basis, the grounds for their removal, and the method for filling vacancies.

(2) The charter shall provide for the nomination and election of commissions: (d) elected at large and nominated by a plan of nomination that may not preclude the possibility of the majority of the electors nominating candidates for the majority of the seats on the commission from persons residing in the district or districts where the majority of the electors reside.

7-3-705. Officials and personnel. (1) The charter shall specify which official of the local government will be the chief administrative and executive officer, the method of his selection, his term of office (except that it may be at the pleasure of the selecting authority if such officer is not elected by popular vote), the grounds for his removal, and his powers and duties. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the charter may allocate the chief executive and the chief administrative functions among two or more officials specified as above or the charter may provide that chief executive and administrative functions of the local government will be performed by one or more members of the legislative body.

(2) A charter form of government shall have such officer, departments, boards, commissions, and agencies as are established in the charter, by local ordinance, or required by state law.

7-3-706. Effective date. The charter shall specify the date on which the charter will take effect, except that provisions may be made for temporary partial effectiveness consistent with an orderly transition of government.

7-3-707. Other charter provisions. (1) The charter may establish other legislative, administrative, and organizational structures.

(2) The charter may contain prohibitions on the exercise of power by a unit local government.

(3) The charter may include such provisions as may be necessary to permit an orderly transition to the new form of government.

(4) The listing of charter provisions in this part shall not be construed to prevent the inclusion of additional provisions in charters.

7-3-708. Limitations on charter provisions. (1) Charter provisions may not conflict with the provisions of part 1, chapter 1, which establish statutory limitations on the powers of self-government units.

(2) Charter forms are subject to state laws establishing election, initiative, and referendum procedures.

(3) The charter shall not contain provisions establishing or modifying local court systems.

7-3-709. Amendment of charter. A charter may be amended only as provided by state law.

\* \* \*

7-3-201. Commission-executive form. The commission-executive form (which may be called the council-executive, the council-mayor, or the commission-mayor form) consists of an elected commission (which may be referred to as the council) and one elected executive (who may be referred to as the mayor) who is elected at large.

7-3-202 (2) Nature of government. The plan of government submitted to the qualified electors shall determine the powers of the local government unit by authorizing: (2) self-government powers.

7-3-203. Duties of executive. The executive shall:

- (1) enforce laws, ordinances, and resolutions;
- (2) perform duties required of him by law, ordinance, or resolution;
- (3) administer affairs of the local government;
- (4) carry out policies established by the commission;
- (5) recommend measures to the commission;
- (6) report to the commission on the affairs and financial condition of the local government;
- (7) execute bonds, notes, contracts, and written obligations of the commission, subject to the approval of the commission;
- (8) report to the commission as the commission may require;
- (9) attend commission meetings and may take part in discussions;
- (10) execute the budget adopted by the commission;
- (11) appoint, with the consent of the commission, all members of boards; except the executive may appoint without the consent of the commission temporary advisory committees established by the executive.

7-3-211. Structural suboptions. The plan of government submitted to the qualified electors shall further define the structural characteristics of the form by including one item from each of the choices listed in 7-3-212 through 7-3-224.

7-3-212 (2). Administrative assistants. The executive: (2) may appoint one or more administrative assistants to assist him in the supervision and operation of the local government, and such administrative assistants shall be answerable solely to the executive.

7-3-213 (3). Supervision of personnel. The executive may: (3) appoint, with the consent of a majority of the commission, all department heads and remove department heads and may appoint and remove all other department employees.

7-3-214 (1). Veto power. The executive may: (1) veto ordinances and resolutions, subject to override by a majority plus one of the whole number of the commission.

7-3-215 (1). Preparation of the budget. The executive may: (1) prepare the budget and present it to the commission for adoption.

7-3-216 (2). Administrative supervision and control. The executive may: (2) exercise control and supervision of all departments and boards to the degree authorized by ordinance of the commission.

7-3-217 (2). Financial officer. A financial officer (who may be called the treasurer): (2) shall be appointed by the executive with the consent of the council.

7-3-218 (3). Selection of commission members. The commission shall be: (3) elected at large and nominated by a plan of nomination that may not preclude the possibility of the majority of the electors nominating candidates for the majority of the seats on the commission from persons residing in the district or districts where the majority of the electors reside.

7-3-219 (1). Type of election. Local government elections shall be conducted on a: (1) partisan basis.

7-3-220 (1). Chairman of the commission. The commission shall have a chairman who shall be: (1) elected by the members of the commission from their own number for a term established by ordinance.

7-3-221(1). Presiding officer of commission. The presiding officer of the commission shall be: (1) the chairman of the commission, who may vote as other members of the commission.

7-3-222 (2). Terms of commission members. Commission members shall be elected for: (2) overlapping terms of office.

7-3-223 (2). Size of commission and community councils. The size of the commission, which shall be a number not less than three, shall be established when the form is adopted by the voters, and: (2) community councils to advise commissioners may be authorized by ordinance.

7-3-224. Terms of elected officials. The term of office of elected officials may not exceed 4 years and shall be established when the form is adopted by the voters.

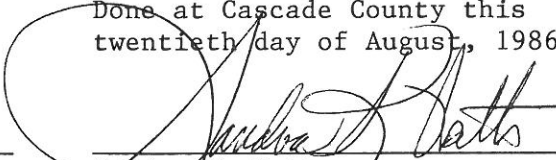
We, the Study Commissioners of Cascade County, do hereby certify that this is the Proposed Plan of Government approved by the Study Commissioners of Cascade County.

In testimony whereof, we set our hands.

ATTEST:

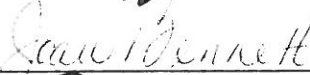
Done at Cascade County this  
twentieth day of August, 1986.

  
Clerk & Recorder

  
Sandra K. Watts

*J. Dosssett  
deputy*

  
R. K. Haffner

  
Joan Bennett

OK  


  
Larry Strizich

  
Susan Rice Quinn

Cascade County Study Commissioners

CERTIFICATE  
ESTABLISHING THE EXISTING PLAN OF GOVERNMENT  
FOR  
CASCADE COUNTY

If retained by the voters, the government of Cascade County shall be organized under the following provisions of MCA 7-3-111 which organizes the elected county official form of government:

7-3-111, Statutory basis for elected county official government.

(1) For the purpose of determining the statutory basis of existing units of local government after May 2, 1977, each unit of local government organized under the general statutes authorizing the elected county official form of government shall be governed by the following section:

- (a) 7-3-401;
- (b) 7-3-402;
- (c) 7-3-412 (3);
- (d) 7-3-413 (1);
- (e) 7-3-414 (1);
- (f) 7-3-415 (2);
- (g) 7-3-416 (2);
- (h) 7-3-417 (2);
- (i) 7-3-418;
- (j) 7-3-432 (1);
- (k) 7-3-433 (1);
- (l) 7-3-434 (1);
- (m) 7-3-435 (1);
- (n) 7-3-436 (1);
- (o) 7-3-437 (1);
- (p) 7-3-438 (1);
- (q) 7-3-439 (1);
- (r) 7-3-440 (1);
- (s) 7-3-441 (1);
- (t) 7-3-442 (1).

(2) This form has terms of 4 years for all elected officials except commissioners who are elected to 6-year terms. The commission consists of three members.

These sections establish the following form of government which shall be called the COMMISSION form.

7-3-401. Commission form. The commission form consists of an elected commission (which may also be called the council) and other elected officers as provided in this part. All legislative, executive and administrative powers and duties of the local government not specifically reserved by law or ordinance to other elected officers shall reside in the commission. The commission shall appoint the heads of departments and other employees, except for those appointed by other elected officials. Cities and towns which adopt this form may distribute by ordinance the executive and administrative powers and duties into departments headed by individual commissioners.

7-3-402. Nature of government. Local governments that adopt this form shall have general government powers.

7-3-412 (3). Selection of commission members. The commission shall be elected at large and nominated by a plan of nomination that may not preclude the possibility of the majority of the electors nominating candidates for the majority of the seats on the commission from persons residing in the district or districts where the majority of the electors reside.

7-3-413 (1). Type of election. Local government elections shall be conducted on a partisan basis.

7-3-414 (1). Chairman of commission. The chairman of the commission shall be elected by the members of the commission from their own number for a term established by ordinance.

7-3-415 (2). Administrative assistants. The commission may appoint one or more administrative assistants to assist them in the supervision and operation of the local government.

7-3-416 (2). Terms of commission members. Commission members shall be elected for overlapping terms of office.

7-3-417 (2). Size of commission and community councils. The size of the commission, which shall be a number not less than three, shall be established when the form is adopted by the voters, and community councils to advise commissioners may be authorized by ordinance.

7-3-418. Terms of elected officials. The term of office of elected officials may not exceed 4 years, except the term of office for commissioners in counties adopting the form authorized by Article XI, section 3(2), of the Montana Constitution may not exceed 6 years. Terms of office shall be established when the form is adopted by the voters.

7-3-432 (1). Legal officer. A legal officer (who may be called the county attorney) shall be elected.

7-3-433 (1). Law enforcement officer. A law enforcement officer (who may be called the sheriff) shall be elected.

7-3-434 (1). Clerk and recorder. A clerk and recorder shall be elected.

7-3-435 (1). Clerk of district court. A clerk of district court shall be elected.

7-3-436 (1). Treasurer. A treasurer shall be elected.

7-3-437 (1). Surveyor. A surveyor shall be elected.

7-3-438 (1). Superintendent of schools. A superintendent of schools shall be elected.

7-3-439 (1). Assessor. An assessor shall be elected.

7-3-440 (1). Coroner. A coroner shall be elected.

7-3-441 (1). Public administrator. A public administrator shall be elected.


7-3-442 (1). Auditor. An auditor shall be elected.

We the Study Commissioners of Cascade County do hereby certify that this is the existing Plan of Government as established by Section 7-3-111 MCA.

In testimony whereof, we set our hands.

ATTEST:

Done at Cascade County this twentieth day of August, 1986.

  
*Joe Mizzella*  
Clerk & Recorder  
*J. D. Smith*  
*disput*

*Sandra K. Watts*  
Sandra K. Watts

*R. K. Haffner*  
R. K. Haffner

*Joan Bennett*  
Joan Bennett

OK *Joe Mizzella*

*Larry Strizich*  
Larry Strizich

*Susan Rice Quinn*  
Susan Rice Quinn

Cascade County Study Commissioners

CERTIFICATE

ESTABLISHING THE DATE OF THE  
SPECIAL ELECTION AT WHICH THE  
ALTERNATIVE FORM OF GOVERNMENT  
SHALL BE PRESENTED TO THE ELECTORS  
OF CASCADE COUNTY

The alternative form of government proposed by the Local Government Study Commission shall be submitted to the voters of Cascade County at a special election to be held with the general election on November 4, 1986.

We, the Study Commissioners of Cascade County do hereby certify that this is the date of the special election approved by the Study Commissioners of Cascade County.

In testimony whereof, we set our hands.

ATTEST:

Done at Cascade County this  
twentieth day of August, 1986.

*Joe Propola*

Clerk & Recorder

By *R.E. Bateman*  
Chief Deputy

*Sandra K. Watts*

Sandra K. Watts

*R. K. Haffner*

R. K. Haffner

*Joan Bennett*

Joan Bennett

*Larry Strizich*

Larry Strizich

*Susan Rice Quinn*

Susan Rice Quinn

Cascade County Study Commissioners



CERTIFICATE

ESTABLISHING THE OFFICIAL BALLOT

FOR THE NOVEMBER 4, 1986, SPECIAL ELECTION

Instructions to voters: Place an "X" in the box which expresses your preferences.

OFFICIAL BALLOT

BALLOT ON THE ALTERNATIVE FORM OF GOVERNMENT

VOTE FOR ONE

For adoption of the charter form of government proposed in the report of the Cascade County Local Government Study Commission.

For the existing commission form of government.

We, the Study Commissioners of Cascade County do hereby certify that this is the official ballot approved by the Cascade County Study Commission.

In testimony whereof, we set our hands.

ATTEST:

Done at Cascade County this Twentieth day of August, 1986.

*Joe Propola*  
Clerk & Recorder  
By *R.E. Bateman*  
Chief Deputy

*Sandra K. Watts*  
Sandra K. Watts, Chair

*R. K. Haffner*  
R. K. Haffner

*Jean Bennett*  
Jean Bennett

*Larry Strizich*  
Larry Strizich

*Susan Rice Quinn*  
Susan Rice Quinn



OK *Joe Propola*

CERTIFICATE

ESTABLISHING THE DATES OF  
THE FIRST PRIMARY AND GENERAL ELECTIONS  
OF CASCADE COUNTY  
IF THE ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL IS APPROVED  
AND ESTABLISHING THE EFFECTIVE DATE  
OF THE PROPOSAL IF APPROVED

The date of the primary election for officers of the new government of Cascade County shall be held at a special election on June 7, 1988.

The date of the general election for officers of the new government of Cascade County shall be held at a special election on November 8, 1988.

The effective date of the alternative plan of local government of Cascade County takes effect January 1, 1989. ASKL

We, the Study Commissioners of Cascade County do hereby certify that these are the dates of the special primary and general elections and the effective date of the alternative plan of local government of Cascade County approved by the Study Commissioners of Cascade County.

In testimony whereof, we set our hands.

ATTEST:

*Joe Propola*  
Clerk and Recorder  
*I August death*

Done at Cascade County this twentieth day of August, 1986.

*Sandra K. Watts*  
Sandra K. Watts

*R. K. Haffner*  
R. K. Haffner

*Joan Bennett*  
Joan Bennett

*Larry Strizich*  
Larry Strizich

*Susan Rice Quinn*  
Susan Rice Quinn

OK  
*Joe Propola*

Cascade County Study Commissioners

CERTIFICATE  
FOR THE APPORTIONMENT  
OF COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS

Districts are described by census division (C.C.D.), enumeration district (E.D.), tract, and block group (B.G.) with population shown.

District A

Belt Division CCD 005	1626
Cascade Division CCD 010	1559
Eden-Stockett Division CCD 015	862
Malmstrom Tract 0012 BG 8	6675
Vaughn-Great Falls Division Tract 0102.01P ED 009	344
Great Falls North Division Tract 0101 P ED 0001 (Vaughn)	1287
Great Falls North Division Remainder Tract 0101	766
Monarch-Neihart Division CCD 040	277
Sun River Valley Division CCD 045	<u>3258</u>
 TOTAL POPULATION	 16,654

Description:

All of Cascade County external to the boundary of Greater Great Falls plus Malmstrom Air Force Base. Because of the sparse population in Cascade County external to Greater Great Falls, dividing that external portion would greatly dilute the rural county vote.

District B

Remainder Great Falls Division - not in a place	7317
Great Falls Division Tract 0015	3807
Tract 0016	4661
Tract 0017	<u>1522</u>
 TOTAL POPULATION	 17,307

Description:

All districts within the Greater Great Falls boundary not within the city limits plus those areas internal to the city limits, but not part of the city, plus the tracts west of the Missouri River and south of the old CMSP&P Railroad (the north boundary of census tract 16). Because there is a certain commonality among those people within Greater Great Falls, but external to the city (they have chosen to not be in the city), this area was kept as a unit and combined with a portion of the west side to achieve adequate population. The west side was chosen because its genesis is not unlike other areas adjacent to, but not part of the city. Much of the area still consists of acreages, small farms and sparse housing.

District C

Great Falls Division

Tract 0018	3892
Tract 0019	3855
Tract 0005	2410
Tract 0004	1986
Tract 0003	3563
Great Falls North Tract 0101 BG 7	<u>461</u>

TOTAL POPULATION 16,167

Description:

At the NE corner of District 3, which is the junction of 25th St. and the city limits proceed south to Central, west on Central to 10th, north on 10th to 2nd Ave. No., west on 2nd Ave. No. to 1st St., south on 1st St. to 1st Ave. No., west on 1st Ave. No. to 3rd Ave. NW, north on 3rd Ave. NW to the CMSP & P Railroad, west on CMSP & P Railroad, to the city boundary along the city limit in a north westerly direction to Valley View Drive and return to the point of origin following the city limits. District 3 lies wholly within the city.

District D

Great Falls Division

Tract 0001	1767
Tract 0002	4099
Tract 0011	4984
Tract 0010	3749
Tract 0013 Block Group 1	926
Block 910	467
Block 911	<u>252</u>

TOTAL POPULATION 16,244

Description:

From a point of intersection of the north end of 25th St. No., and the city limits along the city limits to 32nd St. So., north along the city limits to 13th Ave. So., north on 32nd St. So. to 10th Ave. So., west on 10th Ave. So. to 25th St. So. and north to the point of beginning. District 4 lies wholly within the city.

District E

Great Falls Division

Tract 0006	772
Tract 0007	2184
Tract 0008	1857
Tract 0009	3752
Tract 0013 Block Group 2	609
Tract 0013 Block Group 3	41
Tract 0013 Blocks 911	400
Tract 0013 Blocks 912	204
Tract 0014	<u>4505</u>

TOTAL POPULATION 14,324

Description:

From a point of beginning where 1st Ave. No. crosses the Missouri River, east on 1st Ave. No. to 1st St., north on 1st St. to 2nd Ave. No., east on 2nd Ave. No. to 10th St., south on 10th St. to Central Ave., east on Central Ave. to 25th St., south on 25th St. So. to 10th Ave. So., east on 10th Ave. So. to 32nd St. So., south to the city limits. Follow the city limits in a westerly direction to the Missouri River, then north following the Missouri River to the point of beginning. District 5 lies wholly within the city.

We, the Study Commission of Cascade County do hereby certify that this is the official apportionment plan for commissioner districts approved by the Study commission of Cascade County.

In testimony whereof, we set our hands.

Done at Cascade County this 29th day of August, 1986.

ATTEST:

*Joe Propola*

Clerk & Recorder of Cascade County

*By R.E. Bateman*  
Chief Deputy

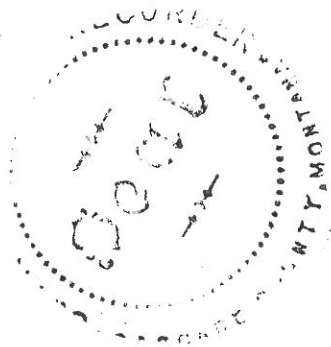
*Sandra Watts*  
Sandra Watts, Chair

*R.K. Haffner*  
R.K. Haffner

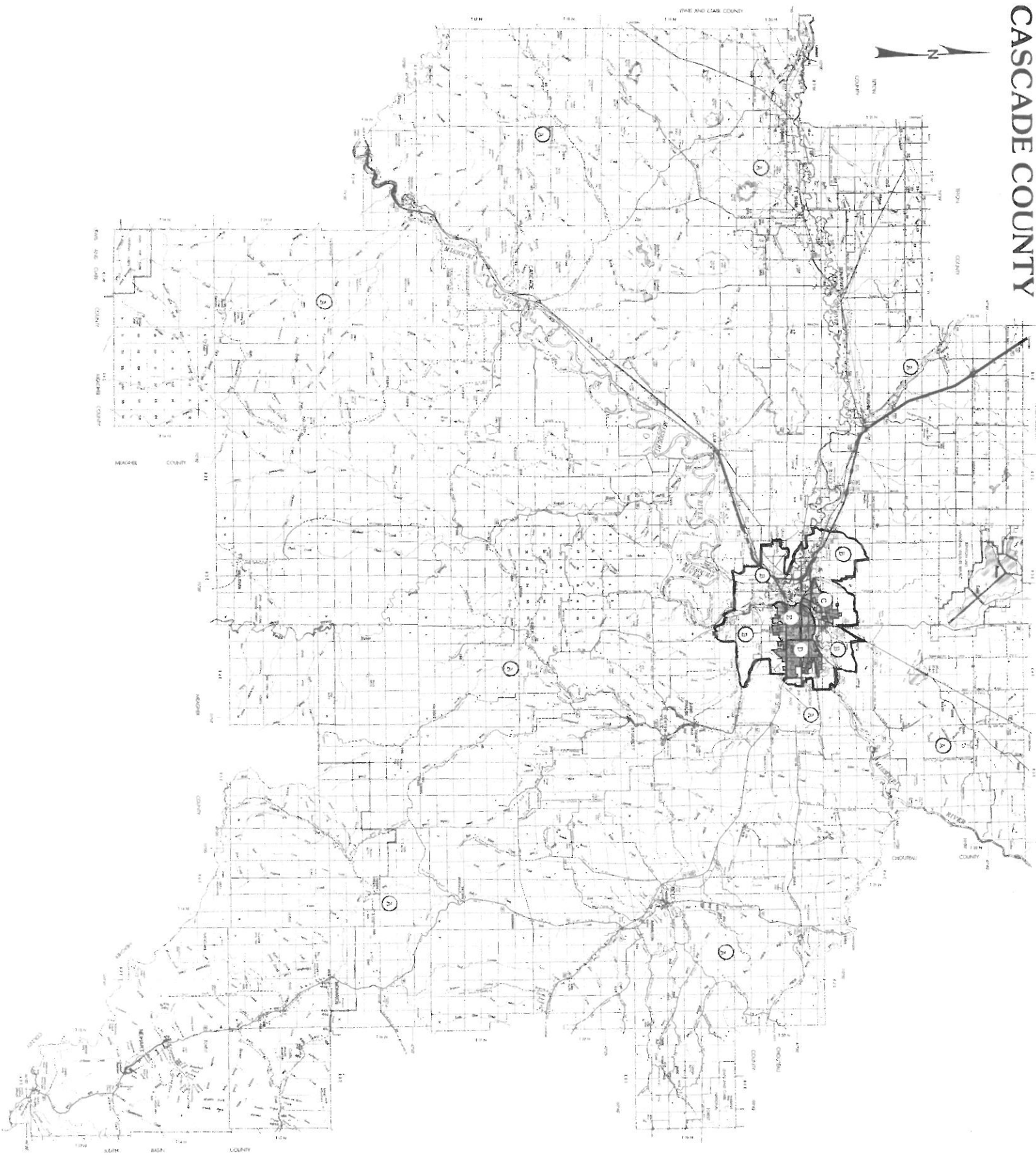
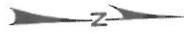
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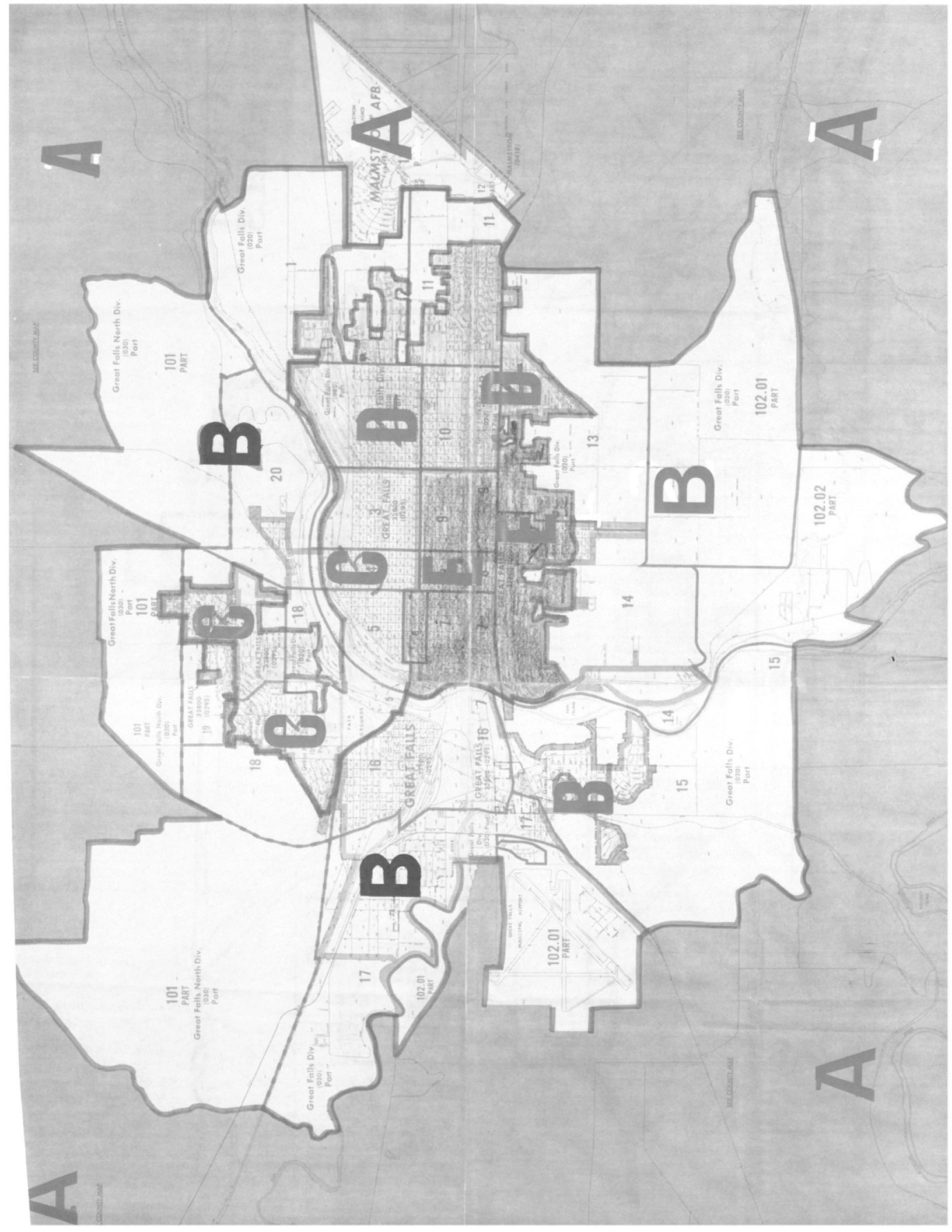
*Larry Strizich*  
Larry Strizich

*Susan Rice Quinn*  
Susan Rice Quinn



# CASCADE COUNTY





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