Public Comment Logistics

- **May 21st, 6-9pm at Daybreak Star Indian Cultural Center**
- Public meetings typically allow for 1to 2 minutes of public comment (about 200-300 words written)
- Show up early!
  - 1-2 hours before the start of the meeting
- Written (emailed) comments is also important—different priorities
- Speak clearly, at a measured pace
- Practice your comments beforehand
- There's a chime with 10 seconds left

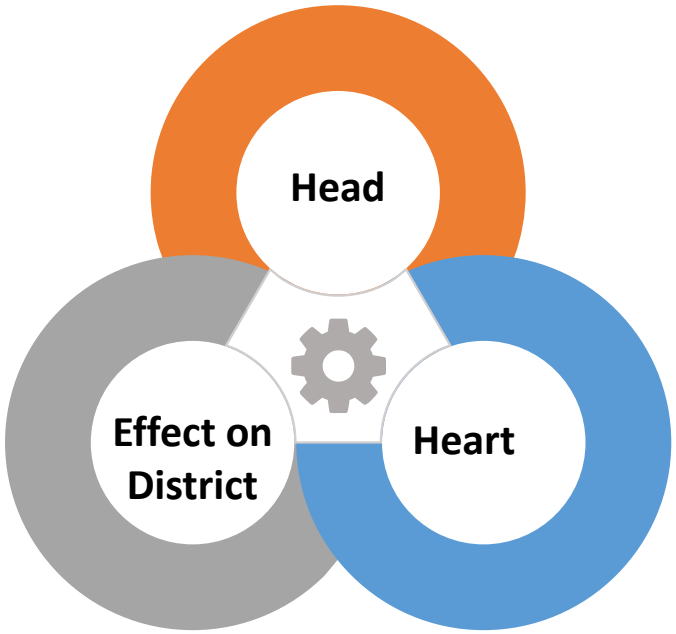
Why Sharing Your Story Matters

- ✓Personalizes the issue.
- ✓Makes you and your issue stand out.
- ✓Completes the trifecta!

Keys to Good Advocacy

Logic, quantitative information, Data

IE: 1 in 7 Households in Washington State spend half or more of their income on housing



What will your proposal accomplish

IE: More people with stable housing will increase quality of life, property values, and make a dent in the racial wealth gap.

Your personal connection to the issue at hand

IE: My next door neighbor in Las Vegas – impact of unstable housing on a kid

Keys to a Good Story

- ALWAYS be truthful!
- Have a clear conflict and outcome
- Doesn't always need to have a happy ending
- You don't need to know everything

Putting Your Own Story Together

- What is the issue you want to raise?
- How does your personal experience connect to the problem?
- What's the action?
- Distill it down into 4 or 5 sentences

Comment Structure Tips

1. Greeting and Introduction
    - Good morning/afternoon/evening
    - Your name and organization, if any
    - Short description of your identity relating to the issue (e.g. I am a renter living in Roosevelt; I am a homeowner in Magnolia)
2. **State your position**
    - Important to do this as early as possible
    - Clear and concise, one or two sentences at most

Comment Structure Tips

3. Tell your story
    - Get creative, but make sure to continue to be concise
    - Connect your story to your position
4. Provide concrete policy suggestions
    - Echo policy suggestions from allies
    - Bring up less common suggestions you haven't heard spoken about yet
5. Restate your position
    - Call to action
    - Skip to this section at the 10 second timer

Fort Lawton Talking Points

- What does affordable housing do for YOU?
- Emphasize that the parcel is *near* Discovery Park, not *inside* it
- Refer to the site as "parking lots and abandoned buildings"
  - Correct the assumption that parts of Discovery Park will be cut down for development
- Support **equitable** development—this is the first chance to build affordable housing north of Queen Anne
- Applaud the increase in density that this version of the plan allows