

2025 Questionnaires

February Special Election

King Conservation District

County Offices

<u>County Officer</u> (King County Council & King County Executive) <u>Port of Seattle Commissioner</u>

Judicial Offices

Municipal Court Judge Superior and District Court Judge

Municipal & Regional Offices

City Council and Mayor (for all jurisdictions except Seattle) School Board Director Seattle City Attorney Seattle City Council and Mayor Local & Regional Commissioners, to be used for all local commissioner races, such as: Fire and Fire and Rescue Commissioners Public Hospital Commissioner Pool Commissioner Parks and Rec Commissioner Airport District Commissioner Water/Sewer/Utility/Cemetery Commissioner

State Legislature

State Representative and State Senator



Every questionnaire begins with these three common Democratic Party alliance questions. Judicial races are exempted from this section.

- 1. Are you a Democrat? (required by bylaws)
- 2. Have you ever been a member of another political party?
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King Conservation District, position 2

NOTE to KCDCC: 2025 begins the new districted voting and representation plan as approved in 2024. Position #2 represents District 2 in King Conservation District. King Conservation District includes all registered voters in King County (excluding the cities of Enumclaw, Federal Way, Milton, Pacific, and Skykomish who do not participate in the districts) Only eligible voters in District 2 will participate in the 2025 King Conservation District voting. Eligible candidates must reside in District 2 in order to run for Position #2.

- 1. If elected, what talent or passion would you bring to the position?
- 2. Have you been involved in the King Conservation District before? Tell us about your experience.
- 3. As Democrats, one of our values is to make services equitably available to all. How should King Conservation District ensure it is continuing to improve in its support of underserved populations?
- 4. One of the important services provided by King Conservation District is community education and environmental disaster preparedness for homeowners, renters, and other land users. What programs specifically would you like prioritized and why?
- 5. What would you like to see the King Conservation District accomplish if you are elected?
- 6. How have you prepared for this position? Some things you could include: are you engaged with community organizations? Have you 'knocked on doors' to campaign and meet with constituents? Are you fundraising? Do you hold environmental certifications that prepare you for this role?
- 7. What specific challenges do you see for King Conservation District in the coming three year term?



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County Officer (County Council & County Executive)

- 1. What motivated you to run for this position and how would you evaluate your success?
- 2. King County is in the top 15 counties in the country for area and population with amazing diversity across cultures, ethnicities, languages, and other factors. Please share with us how you've prepared yourself to represent this diverse population. For instance, what experience or training have you had in preparation for this role?
- 3. Knowing that the County Strategic Climate Action Plan will be updated in 2025, what priorities do you bring to that important plan?
- 4. We understand the tension between the Growth Management Act, achieving climate goals via mass transit, and supporting rural areas with roadway maintenance and development. How do you propose to balance these priorities?
- 5. Harborview is an important level 1 trauma center and healthcare safety net for the region. Please share with us how you propose augmenting current funding sources to ensure its viability and prepare it for future needs.
- 6. Behavioral healthcare remains a top priority and a growing problem. Knowing that Medicaid falls short of funding the cost of behavioral health care services, how do you propose meeting this need?
- 7. For the County Executive: King County has committed to pro-equity contracting with minority- and women-owned businesses (MWBEs) and reported that 7% of total 2021 contracting dollars went to MWBEs. What actions will you take to reduce systemic discrimination against MWBEs and expand the participation of MWBEs in county contracts of all sizes and across our communities?
- 8. **For County Executive:** King County has many open job positions. Staffing targets reflect the county's expected level of service. Please tell us your plan for the open job positions and the factors that drive it.



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Port of Seattle Commissioners

- 1. What motivated you to run for this position and how would you evaluate your success?
- 2. There is more demand for air travel than the current SeaTac capacity. How is the commission planning to meet the needs of travelers?
- 3. What air and water pollution control facilities are within the control of the Port Commission? Tell us about them.
- 4. Human trafficking and illegal cargo remain issues. What more can the port do to reduce and eliminate these problems?
- 5. The Port of Seattle has committed to pro-equity contracting with minority- and women-owned businesses (MWBEs). What actions will you take to reduce systemic discrimination against MWBEs and expand the participation of MWBEs in Port contracts of all sizes and scope?
- 6. King County ports commonly manage the ingress and egress of dangerous materials, such as nuclear, chemical, biological, and radioactive. Within the scope of the Port Commission, how would you reduce the risk from these materials dangerous to people, land, water, and air?



Common Judicial Questions

- 1. How does your lived experience inform your understanding of justice?
- 2. What role do you see for the judiciary in addressing injustices from the criminal justice system?
- 3. How do you balance adherence to precedents against changes in society?
- 4. How will you make sure racial, sexual, gender, and other implicit and explicit forms of discrimination are not responsible for guilty pleas or excessive sentences in criminal cases in your jurisdiction?
- 5. What public interest work have you done in the last five years?
- 6. As a member of the legal profession, what accomplishments are you most proud of?

Municipal Court Judges

- 1. What motivated you to run for this position and how will you evaluate your success over time?
- 2. A large percentage of people do not show up for municipal court proceedings. What improvements can be made to ensure greater compliance or address root causes?
- 3. Virtual attendance for court proceedings enables more seamless participation. What other technology applications do you recommend for continued improvement?
- 4. Pre-hearing communication can educate offenders about the court system and their rights. What is working well in terms of pre-hearing services in your court system? What additional priorities would you identify?
- 5. Given the breadth of diversity and languages spoken in the region, how effective are interpreter services for defendants and what else can be done to ensure equal access to justice.



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- 5. How will you ensure people have equal access to the law, considering the prohibitive cost of civil litigation?
- 6. What public interest work have you done in the last five years?
- 7. As a member of the legal profession, what accomplishments are you most proud of?

Superior & District Court Judges

- 1. What conditions compel you to sentence below the minimum standard?
- 2. Fines and fees present an obstacle for many people seeking justice. How can you address that issue?



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City Council and Mayor

- 1. What motivated you to run for this position and how will you evaluate your success over time?
- 2. The current supply of housing across King County does not meet the region's needs, resulting in high housing prices and exclusive communities. How will you increase available housing, stabilize rent, and protect tenants in your city?
- 3. All people deserve their basic human needs to be met. What is the state of social services in your community, and what will you advocate for?
- 4. Our party platform calls for cities to ensure that contracts are awarded equitably, ensuring that women, minority-owned and LGBTQIA+ businesses are not excluded. What actions will you take to reduce systemic discrimination in your city's awarding of contracts?
- 5. King County set record high summer temperatures in each of the last four years. Given our party's mandate to prevent catastrophic climate change, how would your community support the county's environmental goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, ensure sustainable and resilient frontline communities, and prepare for climate action.
- 6. Crime statistics and the role of the police varies across our county. What is your perception of the effectiveness of public safety services in your community? How could it be enhanced or improved?



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School Board Director

- 1. What are your views on charter schools and voucher systems?
- 2. What are your top three priorities for allocating limited dollars in your district?
- 3. What are the major barriers to effective learning in the classroom in your district?
- 4. What is the role of religion in public schools?
- 5. What are the primary issues with school capacity in your district and how would you like to see them addressed?
- 6. Describe a time professionally or personally when you've led through conflict or controversy. How did you reach a conclusion and how did it advance the issue being addressed?



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Seattle City Attorney

- 1. What motivated you to run for this position and how will you evaluate your success over time?
- 2. The Seattle City Council passed legislation for Stay Out of Drug Area (SODA) and Stay Out of Prostitution Area (SOAP) laws that went into effect last year. How would you rate the effectiveness of this legislation to crack down on drug users and sex workers? What other actions would you take?
- 3. In 2023, the city attorney disbanded the Community Court diversion program for low-level, non-violent misdemeanors. What approach do you support in addressing these types of crimes?
- 4. One of the things that makes the city attorney a powerful position is prosecutorial discretion. Which kind of cases would be your top priority and why?
- 5. In the event that the views of City Council members and/or the mayor do not align with your own views, how would you plan to work effectively with those individuals to promote strong Democratic values?
- 6. The Seattle Police Officers Guild (SPOG) approved a new contract in 2024. How do you feel about the contract and how would you like to influence future negotiations with SPOG if elected?
- 7. In July 2024, Monsanto agreed to pay Seattle \$160 million to settle a lawsuit over the contamination of the Duwamish River. What priorities would you pursue for the leadership of the civil division of the city attorney's office?
- 8. The city attorney's office expanded access to more beds at the downtown county jail and through the for-profit SCORE facility in Des Moines to accommodate more low level offenders. Would you advocate for continued expansion in the number of beds?



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Seattle City Council and Mayor

- 1. What motivated you to run for this position and how will you evaluate your success over time?
- 2. In 2024, the Seattle City Council adopted 14 pieces of public safety legislation the most since 2015. How do you rate the effectiveness of Council's efforts to reduce crime and improve public safety? What other actions do you support?
- 3. As Democrats, we believe that everyone deserves the dignity of shelter and security. What are your ideas around creating the diverse types of housing that are needed across all housing types in Seattle?
- 4. What additional actions should the city take to safeguard residents from federal policy initiatives that may challenge the rights and livelihoods of our residents?
- 5. Many cities have made commitments to reducing the impact of climate change. What are your ideas for ensuring Seattle residents have access to healthy environmental conditions? [examples might include tree canopy, infill housing, bike lanes]
- 6. Communities across the city continue to face behavioral health issues. What actions are making a positive impact and what else will you advocate for?
- 7. What actions should the city take to strengthen its commitment to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging and promote an inclusive work environment to set an example for all employers in Seattle?
- 8. For City Council Candidates only: In 2015, Seattle voters enacted Initiative Measure No. 122, widely known as the Democracy Voucher program. Do you support the renewal of the 10-year property tax levy that funds Seattle's Democracy Voucher program?
- 9. For Seattle Mayor: What is the best approach to reducing the Fentanyl crisis in the city?
- 10. For Seattle Mayor: Cities thrive when they have a vibrant downtown core. What is needed to sustain continued revitalization of the downtown core of the city?



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Local and Regional Commissioners

- 1. Please describe your background (education, employment, community and civic activity, union affiliation, and political activity).
- 2. What motivated you to run for this position and how would you evaluate your success?
- 3. How will you engage all of your constituents in the decision making process?
- 4. Tell us about a time you stood up for someone else's rights.
- 5. If elected, how will you address inequalities experienced among BIPOC, LGBTQIA+, or other marginalized communities and advance an agenda of equality?



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State Representative and State Senator

- 1. What policies and actions do you support to reform Washington's regressive tax structure?
- 2. How will you support high quality public education?
- 3. How will you increase the supply of affordable housing in the state?
- 4. What actions will you take to reduce discrimination against LGBTQ+ people, historically marginalized groups, and other vulnerable populations?
- 5. How will you seek to eliminate privately run prisons and detention centers?
- 6. What will you do to promote equitable access to quality healthcare for all?
- 7. What will you bring to the Washington Legislature that would not otherwise be there?