

King County Democrats 2025 Endorsement Questionnaire

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What type of position are you running for?

City of Seattle

Which position are you running for?

Seattle Mayor

Are you a Democrat?

Yes

Have you ever been a member of another political party?

Yes

Does your campaign have a code of conduct for staff and volunteers?

Yes

Will you share a link to your code of conduct?

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mK3dk0EUDeweQRTI33aOnoRYNYy2LkMt/edit?usp=sharing&oid=115079849133072701678&rtpof=true&sd=true>

What motivated you to run for this position and how will you evaluate your success over time?

Seattle is at a crossroads. Housing is unaffordable, childcare is inaccessible, public safety isn't meeting our needs, and worker protections are under threat. I'm running for Mayor because I refuse to accept a city where only the wealthy thrive while working people struggle. We need leadership that puts people first — not corporate interests, not the status quo, but real solutions that make life better for everyone.

As a trans person in today's world, I know what it means to be told to step aside, to let fear dictate your future. But we will not disappear into the darkness of fear. We will lead with courage, with compassion, and with a vision that centers those who have been pushed aside for too long.

I will measure success by outcomes, not rhetoric — more social housing, expanded childcare, a public safety system rooted in crisis response and prevention, and stronger protections for workers. Seattle should be a city where every person has a safe place to live, reliable childcare, and the ability to work with dignity. My success will be defined by delivering real, lasting change — not just for today, but for generations to come.

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?

Seattle's public safety policies must be measured by real outcomes, not performative legislation. The City Council passed a record number of bills in 2024, but many, like the SOAP and SODA laws, were more about optics than effectiveness. Political pressure led to policies that have rarely been used this year and have already been proven not to work. Instead of criminalizing poverty and addiction, we need to invest in real solutions that address the root causes of crime.

We must expand non-police crisis response teams, including the CARE team, to ensure trained professionals, not armed officers, respond to behavioral health crises. Public safety means fully funding mental health services, housing programs, and youth violence prevention, not relying on outdated punitive measures. Seattle needs progressive revenue solutions to support these services long-term. As Mayor, I will push for real investments in safety because people deserve policies that work not just laws that pretend to look good on paper.

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?

Seattle's housing crisis demands urgent action. Everyone deserves safe, stable, and affordable housing, yet too many are being displaced or priced out. I support scaling up social housing — publicly owned, permanently affordable homes protected from speculation. We must also expand renter protections and invest in land trusts, co-ops, and mixed-income developments to prevent displacement.

To address homelessness, I propose building 1,000 units of micro-studio or private shelter housing immediately in our first 100 days, offering dignified, transitional spaces with on-site support services. We need more low-barrier shelters and permanent supportive housing, not criminalization.

Seattle must build housing for all needs — family-sized units, accessible homes for disabled residents, and deeply affordable options. Public investment is key to ensuring housing is a right, not a privilege. As mayor, I will fight to make that vision a reality.

What additional actions should the city take to safeguard residents from federal policy initiatives that may challenge the rights and livelihoods of our residents?

Seattle must be a shield against harmful federal policies that threaten our communities. I will push for stronger sanctuary city protections, ensuring no collaboration with ICE and expanding legal aid for immigrants. We must also fully fund gender-

affirming healthcare access, protect reproductive rights, and enforce city-level safeguards against transphobic and anti-LGBTQ+ legislation.

Workers need stronger protections against federal rollbacks — I support raising wages, expanding union rights, and enforcing fair labor standards to defend against corporate exploitation. Additionally, Seattle must invest in public safety beyond policing, funding community-led crisis response, mental health services, and anti-discrimination initiatives to protect BIPOC and marginalized communities.

We cannot wait for State leadership. Seattle must take bold, local action to safeguard democracy, fight extremism, and ensure no resident is left behind. As mayor, I will work to make our city a national model for resilience and justice.

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]

As Co-Executive Director of Sustainable Seattle, I have led community-driven solutions for climate resilience, sustainable urban development, and environmental justice. Seattle must now take decisive steps to ensure every resident — regardless of income or neighborhood — has access to clean air, safe water, and healthy communities. This includes expanding tree canopy coverage, prioritizing neighborhoods facing heat and pollution, and protecting green spaces balanced with building affordable housing.

Building on my experience, I will advance climate-friendly infill housing, ensuring affordability and reducing urban sprawl, while requiring new construction to be energy-efficient. We must also improve transit accessibility and air quality by expanding bus-only lanes, protected bike paths, and pedestrian-first infrastructure.

Additionally, Seattle must decarbonize buildings by transitioning away from fossil fuels and investing in affordable energy retrofits. As mayor, I will ensure communities most affected by pollution and displacement lead the way toward environmental justice.

Communities across the city continue to face behavioral health issues. What actions are making a positive impact and what else will you advocate for?

Seattle has made progress by investing in mobile crisis response units, peer-support programs, and expanding access to overdose prevention. But more is needed. I will advocate to dramatically scale up community-based mental health and addiction treatment, creating 24-hour crisis stabilization centers as safe, non-carceral alternatives to jail or emergency rooms.

Additionally, I support expanding funding for culturally-responsive mental health services, prioritizing QTBIPOC communities disproportionately impacted by behavioral health crises. Seattle must also strengthen permanent supportive housing programs that provide stability alongside healthcare. As mayor, I will fight to ensure behavioral healthcare is universally accessible, compassionate, and rooted in dignity.

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?

Seattle must model equity and inclusion by actively dismantling systemic barriers within its workforce, and we must remain steadfast in our values—no matter what the federal government demands. As mayor, I will prioritize equitable hiring and promotion policies, invest in anti-racism training, and ensure accountability through transparent equity audits. The city must expand recruitment from historically marginalized communities, creating pipelines for leadership positions.

Additionally, Seattle should establish clear protections for LGBTQ+, disabled, immigrant, and BIPOC employees, embedding DEI principles into workplace policies. I support creating empowered DEI advisory roles to guide ongoing reforms. Seattle's values of equity, inclusion, and belonging are non-negotiable, and we will never compromise who we are in the face of federal pressure.

What is the best approach to reducing the Fentanyl crisis in the city?

Seattle's fentanyl crisis demands a compassionate, evidence-based response. Criminalization has failed, worsening outcomes and perpetuating harm. Instead, we must invest deeply in harm-reduction strategies, expanding overdose prevention sites, providing widespread access to Narcan, fentanyl testing strips, and other life-saving interventions.

We must also dramatically increase funding for community-based addiction treatment and recovery programs, prioritizing culturally responsive services. Additionally, tackling root causes—like housing insecurity, mental health, and poverty—through comprehensive support and stable housing options is critical.

If an individual is violent or poses a clear danger to themselves or others, we must promptly intervene and leverage appropriate resources to ensure public safety and protect public spaces—but this should never be our default response. Seattle needs leadership that values human dignity, public health, and evidence over stigma and punishment. As mayor, I will advocate for solutions that heal rather than punish.

Cities thrive when they have a vibrant downtown core. What is needed to sustain continued revitalization of the downtown core of the city?

Seattle's downtown core thrives when it's vibrant, safe, inclusive, and buzzing with the creative energy that once defined our city. To sustain revitalization, we must activate artist co-op housing and invest in spaces where creators, entrepreneurs, and community-builders can flourish. Seattle once pulsed with grassroots arts, culture, and independent small businesses, particularly since the 1990s — energy we've lost as large tech corporations reshaped the city.

We can reclaim that vibrancy by prioritizing affordable artist studios, live-work spaces, and incubators for exciting local businesses and experiences. By reducing barriers and supporting community-driven events, markets, and nightlife, we'll restore the authenticity and soul that makes downtown irresistible.

As mayor, I'll champion a downtown that balances economic growth with thriving communities — ensuring our city is not just livable, but joyfully alive.

Certification

- The candidate hereby certifies that, to the best of their knowledge, the provided information is true and accurate.

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