



Your candidate questionnaire submission

KCD Web Services <infrastructure@kcdems.org>
Reply-To: endorsements-help@kcdems.org
To: info@teamteresa.org

Fri, Feb 20, 2026 at 1:32 PM

Thank you for submitting your candidate questionnaire to the King County Democrats for consideration. A copy of your submission is at the bottom of this message for your reference. If you have any questions about this email or the process, please reply to this email or reach out to endorsements-help@kcdems.org. Thank you for participating! Your submission:

King County Democrats 2026 Endorsement Questionnaire

Candidate name

Teresa Mosqueda

Candidate name pronunciation

Mo-skay-da

Candidate pronouns

she/her

PDC Filer_name

People for Teresa

Campaign phone

206-643-5634

Number we can text or call if we have questions about this form

908-268-2087

Campaign email

info@teamteresa.org

Campaign website

<https://www.teamteresa.org/>

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/TeresaCMosqueda/>

Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/teresacosqueda/>

X/Twitter/Bluesky/Threads/etc.

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Campaign manager name

Marilyn Miquel

Campaign manager email

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908-268-2087

Consultant name

Erin Schultz

Consultant email

erin@nwpcconsulting.com

Jurisdiction of office sought

County

Specific office

County Council District 8

Are you a Democrat?

Yes

Have you ever been a member of another political party?

No

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/1i4TMyh_KJIGhAD5ANI5Tdem4Vs3c1Q/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=104754484763679995646&rtpof=true&sd=true

Please describe your background (education, employment, community and civic activity, union affiliation and political activity).

I was elected at-large to the Seattle City Council in 2017, reelected in 2021, and elected to the King County Council (KCC) in 2023. I led passage of the JumpStart Progressive Payroll Tax, Seattle's largest progressive revenue source for affordable housing and essential services, and championed the Seattle Housing Levy along with investments in public health, transit, climate resilience, and strong labor standards. On the KCC, I chair the Board of Health and the Health, Housing, and Human Services Committee, advancing protections for immigrants, workers, and housing and health stability.

Before elected office, I spent nearly eight years at the Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO advancing workers' rights and healthcare access. I helped pass Initiative 1433 to raise the minimum wage and guarantee paid sick leave statewide, supported implementation of Apple Health for Kids, and served as a consumer advocate on the Washington Health Benefit Exchange Board. I am a proud member of OPEIU Local 8.

As a third-generation Mexican American raised in a union household—and now a working mom and partner to an immigrant—I am proud to serve as the first Latina elected to the King County.

What motivated you to run for this position and what essential skills will you bring to the role?

I ran for this position to ensure that working families, renters, immigrants, and communities historically excluded from power have a strong voice in county government and that public policy delivers real, measurable results in their lives. Throughout my career – in labor, healthcare advocacy, and elected office – I have been motivated by the belief that no one should be left out or left behind.

I bring essential skills in coalition-building, budget leadership, and policy implementation. I have successfully built broad alliances among labor, community organizations, and business stakeholders to pass complex legislation, including major progressive revenue measures and housing investments. I have deep experience overseeing multi-billion-dollar budgets, strengthening labor standards tied to public dollars, and ensuring accountability and measurable outcomes. I also bring the ability to navigate complex regional systems, stabilize partnerships, and turn bold policy goals into durable, implementable law. I believe I am a damn good legislator and accountable to community.

A key partner funded by the county is the King County Regional Homelessness Authority. Since its inception in 2021, the organization has been led by 5 different executives and county leaders continue to express dissatisfaction. What actions would you recommend for the future of this organization?

KCRHA was created to improve coordination, accountability, and regional alignment in our response to homelessness. Leadership instability is concerning, and I believe the path forward requires strengthening governance clarity, performance metrics, and transparency – and most importantly securing actual revenue to ensure successful regional coordination. I support clear outcome benchmarks tied to housing placements and system flow, stable executive leadership with strong operational experience, and regular reporting to both the Council and the public – benchmarks that also ensure that contracting human service providers are getting paid on time and accurately. We must maintain a housing-first, evidence-based approach while improving fiscal oversight and coordination with cities, service providers, and behavioral health systems to ensure public dollars are translating into measurable reductions in homelessness.

Traffic safety has surpassed property crime as a top issue in surveys of county residents. What actions do you support to reduce traffic safety concerns?

Traffic safety is a public health issue, and the data shows preventable crashes are costing lives. I support a Vision Zero approach that prioritizes infrastructure investments proven to reduce harm – road diets, protected bike lanes, safe crossings, traffic calming, and speed management in high-injury corridors. We should accelerate investments in safe routes to schools, expand automated enforcement in dangerous areas, and pair infrastructure changes with education and equitable enforcement strategies. Designing safer streets – not just increasing penalties – is the most effective long-term solution. And now that I am a member of the Sound Transit Board, finally, I can bring this public health lens to Sound Transit to advocate for more protections and modifications for pedestrians to be protected from at-grade crossings.

In 2025, the Council approved a Safe and Stable Communities Sales Tax to protect public safety and preserve essential services amid budget challenges. What other new taxes do you support to offset budget shortfalls for the county if cuts from the federal government continue?

I will continue to support progressive revenue options for the county so we are not solely reliant on sales and property tax. The legislature is making moves this session to give local jurisdictions additional tools. We are desperate for state authorization to allow for more progressive revenue tools so we can ask those with the greatest ability to pay to contribute more. I've advocated for state authorization for the county to have a progressive payroll-tax, for a progressive REET – real estate excise tax on mansion sales to shift the burden toward those who can pay, a CEO pay-ratio tax and more local options. In the meantime, I will continue to pursue utilizing our bonding and creditor capacity to build more housing and first time homeownership units. I do not support austerity cuts that destabilize public health, safety, and human services; we must protect essential services through progressive, sustainable revenue.

As part of its public safety mandate, the council is responsible for preparing for and mitigating risks from natural disasters and other hazards through its 2025-2030 Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan. What are your top three priorities highlighted within the plan and how would you show support for them?

My top three priorities are:

1. Climate resilience and extreme weather preparedness, including flood mitigation, wildfire smoke response, and heat response infrastructure, which I led on including within the King County Parks Levy in 2025.

2. Earthquake readiness and infrastructure hardening, especially for hospitals, transit systems, utilities, and vulnerable housing.
3. Equitable emergency response planning, ensuring frontline and historically underserved communities have access to preparedness resources and recovery support.

I would support these priorities through sustained capital investments, cross-agency coordination, and ensuring hazard mitigation funding is prioritized in the capital budget and grant-seeking strategies.

Historically, King County has led in services for survivors of gender-based violence including trans survivors. Its new budget allocates nearly \$2 million for sexual assault and domestic violence services. What additional actions would you take to support survivors?

Much of this I helped advocate for in the budget. I support maintaining and expanding funding for survivors, including trans and nonbinary survivors. Beyond current allocations, I have prioritized stable, multi-year funding for community-based providers, human service workers and housing-first models for survivors fleeing violence. I have helped lead efforts to include funding for legal assistance programs as well. We must also ensure coordination between public health, housing, and the courts so survivors are not retraumatized navigating fragmented systems. Protecting survivors requires stable funding, strong partnerships, and survivor-informed policy design.

In 2025, Council passed a \$20 billion budget for the 2026-2027 biennium. About 17% of the budget makes up the general fund and is flexible to fund local priorities like public health, public safety and elections. How do your priorities align with the designated general fund spending over the next two years?

My priorities are protecting core public services: public health, behavioral health, housing stability, public safety rooted in prevention, and worker protections. Given that the general fund is limited and flexible, it must prioritize services that prevent long-term costs – such as housing stability, violence prevention, worker wage stability, and crisis response – rather than reactive spending alone. I support maintaining strong labor standards within county government and ensuring that general fund investments reflect equity, fiscal responsibility, and measurable outcomes.

Attestation

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