

King County Democrats 2026 Endorsement Questionnaire

Candidate name

Miriam Mboya

Candidate name pronunciation

Mi-ri-am

Candidate pronouns

she/her

PDC Filer_name

Friends of elect Miriam

Campaign phone

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

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Consultant name

Matthew Lang

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Jurisdiction of office sought

County

Specific office

County Council District 2

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?

No

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

Education: I have a Bachelors Degree in Political Science with Specialization in Legal Studies and Minor in History and a Masters in Communications.

Employment: I work in and have held several roles within King County Government.

Community and Civic Activities: I have been active in the social justice community for over 10 years and have fought for the child welfare system in assuring proper funding for kids in the Foster Care System. I have worked with Mockingbird Society here in Washington for my activism within the State and have worked with the National Foster Youth Institute for activism at the Federal level in Washington D.C., and I am extremely active in the local Kenyan/African Diaspora and faith communities.

Union Affiliation: I have been a Protec 17 Union member and come from a Union household that has been in the IUPAT DC5 Local 300 Painters.

Political Activity: I have volunteered for Campaigns in the past with Executive Zahilay's Campaign being the most recent. I am also very involved when it comes to protesting against or for policies that honors society being inclusive for all people.

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

I decided to run for King County Council because I have lived through the systems this County controls, and I know both how deeply they can impact people's lives and where they are falling short. I grew up in Skyway, which is in District 2 and have watched many of our communities struggle with rising housing costs, homelessness, addiction, and public safety challenges. These issues are not abstract to me. I have personally experienced housing instability, food insecurity, depression, lived in foster care, and know the long-term impacts incarceration can have on families and communities.

At the same time, I know what community support and opportunity can make possible. That is why I believe government must focus not only on responding to crisis, but on helping people build stability before they reach it.

As a current King County employee with seven years of internal experience, I bring a practical understanding of how County systems operate, including budgeting, contracting, and partnerships. I understand where systems are succeeding, where gaps exist, and how we can build a more responsive, accountable, and people-centered County government that truly works for residents.

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?

I believe the King County Regional Homelessness Authority was created with the right intention: building a coordinated regional response to homelessness. But years of leadership turnover, operational instability, and reports of millions in unaccounted-for spending have damaged public trust and raised serious concerns about accountability.

We cannot continue investing large amounts of public money without clear oversight, measurable outcomes, and transparency around how funds are being used. At the same time, dismantling the Authority without a serious replacement plan could create even more instability during an ongoing crisis.

I support immediate structural reforms, including stronger financial oversight, independent audits, clear public benchmarks, and regular transparent reporting to both the County and the public. Leadership stability and accountability must become priorities.

If the Authority cannot demonstrate transparent operations, stable leadership, and measurable progress under a reformed structure, then King County must seriously evaluate whether the current model is sustainable long term.

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 has become a major concern across King County, especially in communities like Skyway that have long dealt with dangerous road design, limited sidewalks, and underinvestment in infrastructure. As someone who primarily relies on transit and walks regularly, I experience these challenges firsthand. I know what it feels like to navigate unsafe crossings, inconsistent sidewalks, and limited transportation options.

We need a balanced approach that includes targeted enforcement for impaired and distracted driving, while also investing in safer infrastructure that prevents harm before it happens. I support expanding Metro routes, improving last-mile transit connections, and increasing pedestrian safety improvements in underserved communities.

Skyway in particular deserves a strong voice on traffic safety, and as the District 2 Councilmember, that would be my direct purview. I will advocate for safer crossings, better lighting, sidewalk expansion, traffic calming measures, and infrastructure investments that reflect how people actually move through the community, not just how cars move through it.

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 believe government has a responsibility to fund the essential services people rely on, especially during times of economic uncertainty and federal instability. But we also need to recognize that many working families, renters, and homeowners are already being squeezed by rising costs, and King County's heavy reliance on sales and property taxes as some of the only ways we can raise revenue places a disproportionate burden on everyday people.

Before asking residents to contribute more, King County must strengthen transparency, accountability, and long-term financial resilience within its existing budget. That means improving oversight, evaluating program effectiveness, and making sure departments have the support needed to sustainably manage rapid growth and new funding streams. Accountability should not be framed as austerity, it is how we protect public trust and preserve support for the

services our communities depend on.

I support progressive revenue options that protect essential services, including investments in housing, transit, and public health, while prioritizing approaches that reduce regressive impacts on low and middle-income residents whenever possible.

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?

King County faces growing risks from earthquakes, severe weather, flooding, and other disasters, and we need to prepare with urgency and realism. One of my top priorities is infrastructure resilience, especially because our region is overdue for a major earthquake event. That means making sure buildings, bridges, utilities, and transportation systems are updated to modern safety standards and prepared to remain functional during emergencies.

My second priority is equity-centered mitigation. Communities across King County experience disasters differently, and underserved areas are often hit hardest and recover slowest. We need preparedness plans that are rooted in the actual needs of each community, not a one-size-fits-all approach.

Third, we must strengthen regional preparedness and coordination. King County should work closely with cities, fire districts, schools, hospitals, transit agencies, and community organizations to build a truly connected emergency response system. Given recent federal instability and the possibility of delayed disaster support, we must also prepare as though our region may need to operate independently in the immediate aftermath of a major disaster.

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?

As a woman, and as someone with a transgender sister, this issue is deeply personal to me. Survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence deserve to be supported, protected, and treated with dignity at every stage of their healing journey, including trans survivors who too often face additional barriers when seeking care and safety.

King County has already built important infrastructure through programs like the Crisis Care Centers model, and we should build on that success by expanding survivor-centered crisis response, mental health care, culturally competent care, housing support, and long-term recovery services. Survivors in acute crisis need immediate access to trauma-informed and right sized care that is responsive to their individual experiences. We also need to provide prevention on the side of those who perpetrate violence through education, behavioral health, and rehabilitation.

Coordination between healthcare providers, shelters, advocacy organizations, and public safety systems so survivors are not forced to navigate complex systems alone is vital. Supporting survivors must be a community-wide commitment rooted in compassion, safety, and long-term stability.

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 align closely with the County's core general fund responsibilities because I see every day, through my work inside King County government, how important these investments

are to community stability and public safety. My experience working directly with County systems, budgeting, contracting, and external partnerships gives me a practical understanding of where programs are working and where gaps still exist.

I strongly support continued investment in housing stability and homelessness prevention, especially strategies that keep people housed before they enter crisis. That includes affordable housing, youth homelessness prevention, and stronger coordination between agencies and providers.

I also support deeper investment in behavioral health infrastructure, including Crisis Care Centers, addiction treatment, and community-based mental health services that help reduce emergency room strain and prevent people from cycling through the criminal legal system.

On public safety, I support investments in violence prevention, diversion programs, reentry support, and neighborhood-specific safety strategies that improve outcomes and build long-term community stability.

Attestation

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

Created on May 6th, 2026.