

#1

COMPLETE

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Q1

Candidate Information

Name	Kevin Schilling
Position	Burien City Council Position 4
Email Address	schillingforburien@gmail.com

Q2

If you advance to the General Election, do you intend to attend the 2023 Candidates & Elected Officials Night Reception from 5:00pm to 7:00pm on Wednesday, September 27, 2023?

Yes, I intend to attend the event and have blocked out the time on my calendar

Q3

Do you currently hold elected office? If so, what office do you hold?

Yes, Burien City Council Position 4

Q4

What motivates you to serve?

It has been a privilege to serve Burien's residents on the City Council. Over the past four years, I've dedicated myself to delivering meaningful results for our home. As a third-generation Burien resident and graduate of St. Francis of Assisi School and Aviation High School, I deeply care about our community's future. My parents, a Navy veteran and lifelong Boeing SPEEA engineer, and a school accountant, instilled in me the values of hard work, responsibility, and compassion. These principles have guided my work on the City Council, where I've built strong relationships with representatives in D.C. and Olympia, advocating for Burien's best interests. Today, experienced and no-nonsense leadership is needed more than ever. While Burien is an incredible place to live, we must address pressing challenges, especially homelessness and public safety. These issues must be our top priorities. I'm fully committed to confronting obstacles head-on and tirelessly working for positive change.

Q5

What are the most important issues facing your community today?

Thriving local businesses are the backbone of cities, offering employment, amenities, and community engagement. I am fully committed to streamlining permitting processes, allowing office spaces and light manufacturing in commercial zones, and creating an environment where businesses can thrive. Adequate funding for first responders is paramount as Burien grapples with increasing crime rates. We must prioritize the safety of all residents. Community policing is vital, and I have spearheaded the implementation of the Downtown Core Police Co-Responder model. Effectively addressing homelessness requires collaboration with regional governments and improving coordination of shelter beds in Burien. We must tackle both housing and services to effectively combat homelessness. As the chair of the Airport Committee, I will advocate for regulations that minimize negative environmental and health impacts, ensuring Burien's concerns are heard.

Q6

What are your top policy priorities?

Fully funding first responders. Having compassionate, effective solutions to the homelessness issues of the city that include long term assistance through shelter and services, but short term solutions like handling the encampments. Increasing Burien's office space and multi-use zoning for commercial investment. Supporting businesses and workers.

Q7

In your opinion, what are the most important issues facing businesses today?

Growing up in Burien and working at local businesses has given me a deep understanding of the challenges our community faces and the importance of supporting it. I embarked on my journey at the age of 13 as a student employee at the Highline Performing Arts Center. Throughout my teenage years, I proudly bussed tables at Mick Kelley's Irish Pub and 909 Coffee and Wine restaurants. While Burien has witnessed rising property values, it is important that we leverage the economic growth of neighboring Seattle and attract more investments to further expand our workforce and increase revenues. However, we cannot ignore the challenges faced by our businesses, particularly those located in downtown Burien. It is imperative that we prioritize the safety and accessibility of our business community for the benefit of all stakeholders involved. Together, we must implement effective measures to ensure a secure environment that allows businesses to thrive.

Q8

How do you see yourself partnering with the Chamber and local businesses on these issues?

The chamber has been a partner with me over the last four years, and I hope to continue that partnership. During the pandemic, I worked with the chamber to create a program for young teens to explore entrepreneurship. That program still exists today. I've worked with the chamber on the creative district, as well as on potential minimum wage legislation. I've built a good relationship with the CEO of the chamber, and hope that we continue to communicate about the issues of the day. I also have been making a priority after COVID to come to the in person chamber events. My phone line is always open to the chamber, and I look forward to continue partnering with the chamber and local businesses as we work through issues on the ground level in Burien.

Q9

What is the City's/County's role in promoting and supporting economic development and business growth?

There's two areas, initially, the city has direct control over: zoning and policing. The first thing Burien can do to better attract investment and economic activity is by enhancing zoning laws to allow for more multi-use, office, and higher building heights in our commercial areas. Developers want to construct buildings that pencil, but also that will bring back investment. I've spoken with some, and they want more multi-use opportunities. The second is maintaining a police presence to keep the downtown area safe and accessible for all. Burien right now has 13 open police positions. We need to work with the county sheriff's office to get those filled. But more than that, we need to continue our downtown core officer co-responder model to ensure there is a presence daily. By keeping the area safe, and by continuing to allow flexibility by investors, we can grow economic development in Burien.

Q10

What role should local government play in ensuring an adequate workforce is available to meet employers' needs?

Local governments are limited in this regard. I'd like to see us continue to advocate at the state level for more funding for workforce development opportunities. I'd like to see a city council that responds more effective and efficiently to the goals of investment and economic development. But more than that, I think we need a city council and city administration that continues to work with business to attract long-term, good paying jobs to our area. That requires direction of council that believes that that is important, and it requires a common vision for bringing more investment into the community.

Q11

What are your strategies to address homelessness in your community and regionally?

Collecting comprehensive data: We must gather extensive data on social service programs and invest in those that can prove their effectiveness. Building on successes: We should prioritize listening to and learning from individuals who have successfully overcome homelessness, mental health challenges, and addiction. Their experiences should guide our approach to providing effective services that break these cycles. Demanding measurable results: Local programs should focus on transforming lives and improving public spaces, going beyond providing referrals. We must motivate individuals to utilize available resources and demand measurable outcomes. Criticism has arisen for being "tough" on service providers and officials, but I believe it is essential to ensure our resources are effectively allocated for tangible results. We can create a community where social services make a difference in breaking the cycle of homelessness, addressing mental health issues, and combating addiction.

Q12

Please describe the top public safety concerns in your community.

I'm often asked whether Burien's biggest issue is public safety or homelessness. I'm not sure that's the right question. The Seattle region is facing an intersectional crisis between public safety, homelessness, and addiction.

Q13

How would you work to address those concerns?

To address public safety, fully funding our first responders must be a priority. While some oppose increased funding for the police or enforcement in tent camps, I disagree. It is crucial to fund our first responders to protect vulnerable community members. However, not every situation requires an armed response. Some cases require police intervention, while others can be addressed by non-police responders. I am committed to equipping both groups with the necessary tools and resources. I led the implementation of a co-responder model in our downtown core, pairing police officers with social service workers to address concerns. Burien needs increased investment in our justice system, and I will advocate for adequate funding for our local courts. I am grateful for the support of local law enforcement and being recognized as a Moms Demand Action on Gun Sense Candidate. People recognize my dedication to tackling the challenges Burien faces, even amidst disagreements.

Q14

Do you believe the city/county has enough revenue to address our most critical issues?

The city does not, the county and state does. We need our partners at the higher levels of government to step up and help local communities more.

Q15

What can the city/county do to support affordable housing availability in our community?

Our zoning and permitting needs to change to meet the needs of builders. HB1110 was a good start. And we need to ensure that our city has codes and zones that meet the needs of the folks putting investment into the community to grow the housing supply. Alongside this, the city has made opportunities for incentives to increase affordable housing, like the affordable housing demonstration program. I'm excited to see our city both incentivize the construction of new market rate housing, as well as use the levers available to us to steer affordable housing projects into our community as well.

Q16

What can our city/county do to better support small businesses?

We can simply prioritize opportunities for folks who want to start small businesses to know that their city is here to help them. Small business owners are brave and passionate, they're taking risks to provide products and services to their community not knowing if they will succeed or fail. It's up to the city government to provide a framework for support to these businesses so that they know they can succeed. More than that, small businesses make up the majority of tax paying entities in our city. Without them, we wouldn't have revenues to fund government programs that in turn would help a strong business climate flourish. I believe that we can offer opportunities to streamline the business permitting process, help with opening opportunities and advertising, and create better connections from the business to the larger community so consumers know it's available.

Q17

Is there anything else that you would like our members to know about you?

During my teenage years, I worked in Burien's small businesses, shaping the person I am today. From bussing tables at 909 Coffee and Wine and Mick Kelley's Irish Pub to serving as a stagehand at the Highline Performing Arts Center and a courtesy clerk at PCC, I understand the challenges of balancing work, education, and life commitments. My experience fuels my desire to ensure equal opportunities for all. I want to connect young people to early workforce opportunities that provide fair wages and valuable life lessons. Small businesses in Burien are not just sources of tax revenue; they contribute to the unique character of our community. I appreciate their hard work and dedication. Building a strong, long-term partnership between the city and businesses is crucial. With another four years on the City Council, I aim to foster this partnership and create an environment where businesses thrive, young people flourish, and Burien continues to grow vibrantly.

Q18

Please list any endorsements you have received.

King County Councilmember Dave Upthegrove, State Senator Joe Nguyen, State Senator Karen Keiser, State Rep Tina Orwall, former Governor Christine Gregoire, King County Assessor John Wilson, Congressman Adam Smith, Port Commissioner Sam Cho, Northwest Carpenters, ATU Bus Drivers, LIUNA 242, UFCW 3000, Sailors' Union of the Pacific, Ironworkers Union, LGBTQ Victory Fund, Seattle Building Trades, Moms Demand Action on Gun Sense, Highline Educators Association, Teamsters Joint Council 28, Fraternal Order of Police

#2

COMPLETE

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Q1

Candidate Information

Name	Thomas McLeod
Position	Mayor of Tukwila
Email Address	info@thomasmcleod.org

Q2

If you advance to the General Election, do you intend to attend the 2023 Candidates & Elected Officials Night Reception from 5:00pm to 7:00pm on Wednesday, September 27, 2023?

Yes, I intend to attend the event and have blocked out the time on my calendar

Q3

Do you currently hold elected office? If so, what office do you hold?

Tukwila City Councilmember

Q4

What motivates you to serve?

A passion to serve and see that all members / stakeholders in Tukwila are heard and feel represented

Q5

What are the most important issues facing your community today?

1) Public Safety - Ensuring everyone feels safe living, working and visiting Tukwila. 2) Housing - we need more middle income and affordable housing units.

Q6

What are your top policy priorities?

Public safety policies and zoning for housing.

Q7

In your opinion, what are the most important issues facing businesses today?

Retail crime, feeling safe in working environment, and a fair system of taxation

Q8

How do you see yourself partnering with the Chamber and local businesses on these issues?

I see my role as Mayor of Tukwila to collaborate with business community to understand their concerns and working together toward solutions. I can see hosting regular meetings to create a platform for businesses to address their concerns.

Q9

What is the City's/County's role in promoting and supporting economic development and business growth?

Tukwila should be promoting our city as a destination for commerce. Providing a landscape of public safety and fair taxation.

Q10

What role should local government play in ensuring an adequate workforce is available to meet employers' needs?

Seeing adequate public transportation getting to and from work is one way government can support the workforce.

Q11

What are your strategies to address homelessness in your community and regionally?

Currently we have erected two Tiny Home Villages to assisted the homeless community move from encampments into more stable house, which will lead to more permanent housing. I think this program should be extended.

Q12

Please describe the top public safety concerns in your community.

Retail and property crime, drug use, and speeding throughout neighborhoods.

Q13

How would you work to address those concerns?

Start with Tukwila Police to see how we are prioritizing crime prevention. We could shift priorities to give more attention to these concerns.

Q14

Do you believe the city/county has enough revenue to address our most critical issues?

I think we are challenged with enough revenue. We need to spend carefully and reprioritize available funds.

Q15

What can the city/county do to support affordable housing availability in our community?

Entice developers to build in Tukwila. This will require zoning codes that allow for flexibility and creative with developers.

Q16

What can our city/county do to better support small businesses?

Make sure taxation is not suppressive, and promote use of small businesses.

Q17

Is there anything else that you would like our members to know about you?

I am a Tax Accountant by trade, I feel I can collaborate and understand the needs of the business community, and build a budget that reflects our values.

Q18

Please list any endorsements you have received.

Joint Council of Teamsters No. 28, Fair Vote Washington, Rep. Steve Bergquist, Senator Karen Keiser, Mayor Nancy Backus (Auburn), Mayor Dana Ralph (Kent), Mayor Armondo Pavone (Renton), former and current members of Tukwila City Council.

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Q1

Candidate Information

Name	Sofia Aragon
Position	King County Council District 8
Email Address	sofiaforkingcounty@gmail.com

Q2

If you advance to the General Election, do you intend to attend the 2023 Candidates & Elected Officials Night Reception from 5:00pm to 7:00pm on Wednesday, September 27, 2023?

Yes, I intend to attend the event and have blocked out the time on my calendar

Q3

Do you currently hold elected office? If so, what office do you hold?

Mayor, City of Burien

Q4

What motivates you to serve?

I'm the result of the diversity, challenges, and promise that King County has to offer. I emigrated with my parents from the Philippines when I was three. They believed that, with a good education and hard work, their children could achieve anything. By following their beliefs, I became a nurse, a lawyer, and the Mayor of Burien. Each role has given me the tools I need to become the first Asian King County Councilmember in nearly 40 years. Nursing taught me how to be an advocate for others and to find the root causes of a problem, not just their symptoms. I became a lawyer when poor legislative decisions turned my clinic upside down. I was convinced that more nurses in the legislature would lead to better, more informed health policy decisions. I spent a decade advocating for public health, quality health care for all and improved working conditions for healthcare workers. Now, as the Mayor of Burien, I advocate for the needs of an entire city.

Q5

What are the most important issues facing your community today?

The most important issues facing our community is public safety, homelessness and affordable housing.

Q6

What are your top policy priorities?

Keeping Neighborhoods Safe: I support common-sense public safety measures to reduce crime and protect our residents and businesses. I will work with communities and law enforcement to make our district safer. This includes increasing the presence of health professionals to address mental health crises appropriately, enabling officers to prioritize community safety. Prevention and Solutions to Drug Addiction: Drug addiction fuels crimes and homelessness and worsens mental health. Washington State now has the fastest-rising drug deaths in the nation. We must improve prevention efforts for our children and adults in addition to providing services to those struggling with addiction recovery. Addressing Homelessness: We must care for all our residents. As Mayor, I voted to increase affordable housing and passed laws to both protect tenants and support small landlords. We need more emergency shelter to ring the unhoused inside and redirect them to treatment or stable housing.

Q7

In your opinion, what are the most important issues facing businesses today?

Public safety and workforce shortages.

Q8

How do you see yourself partnering with the Chamber and local businesses on these issues?

I value building a relationship with the Chamber CEO so that there is open communication regarding the needs of members. I would establish more regular communications with the CEO and members to understand top of mind issues with the goal of collaborative problem solving.

Q9

What is the City's/County's role in promoting and supporting economic development and business growth?

The County's role in supporting commerce in the region is maintaining a strong infrastructure to include public safety, public health, transportation, and parks. More specifically, public safety, public health, and transportation can both positively and negatively impact economic activity. As King County Councilmember, I would establish regular communication and collaboration with Chambers across the region to identify challenges and collaboratively find solutions. I would be interested in establishing something similar to Burien's Economic Development Department to provide technical assistance and grants to businesses as well as something similar to the Business Economic and Development Partnership, which includes labor.

Q10

What role should local government play in ensuring an adequate workforce is available to meet employers' needs?

Local government can fund workforce development programs for specific skill training for jobs, including high demand fields. The county could support job placement services to connect businesses with job seekers. Because only cities and counties provide law enforcement, this workforce development in this area should be a priority. The number of officers in the state of Washington is now the lowest rate in its history, putting Washington at the 51st lowest rate among all US states and Washington, DC for the 13th year in a row (Seattle Times July 2023). I would make it a priority of the county to bring together the King County Sheriff's office and community to create a strategy for culturally competent workforce development in law enforcement. In addition, we know that law enforcement often responds to mental health crises. I support partnering mental health professionals with law enforcement to address mental health crises, allowing law enforcement to focus on criminal justice.

Q11

What are your strategies to address homelessness in your community and regionally?

Working through a homelessness crisis in Burien, it is apparent to me that there is a major gap in emergency housing. Over the last four years, I supported more affordable housing through the Affordable Housing Demonstration Project. What is apparent is that construction of affordable housing that would provide a stable residence takes years. Affordable housing for residents at 50% AMI or below require government subsidies. I have observed these projects take the longest to build. At King County, I would work with communities to provide equitably distributed emergency housing throughout the region. Drug addiction worsens the homelessness crisis. The unhoused for the most part must voluntarily seek and accept housing. Substance use disorders get in the way of decision making. I will work to increase substance use disorder prevention programs as well as treatment so that unhoused persons have the self-determination to accept housing.

Q12

Please describe the top public safety concerns in your community.

The number of officers in the state of Washington is now the lowest rate in its history, putting Washington at the 51st lowest rate among all US states and Washington, DC for the 13th year in a row. Meanwhile, the state saw an increase in homicides and other violent crimes in 2022. (Seattle Times July 2023). This means we have less of an ability to address crimes and less justice for victims. Burien businesses have experienced property damage and theft and less customer traffic. In Seattle, storefronts remain empty. Vehicle thefts are on the rise, hurting residents.

Q13

How would you work to address those concerns?

I would make it a priority of the county to bring together the King County Sheriff's office and communities to create a strategy to increase the number of officers per person so that we are no longer at the bottom but at least at the average. In addition, I would also work with communities and law enforcement to identify strategies for a diverse, more culturally competent law enforcement workforce that reflects the communities we serve. In addition, law enforcement is often called upon to respond to mental health crises. I support partnering mental health professionals with law enforcement to address mental health crises, allowing law enforcement to focus on criminal justice.

Q14

Do you believe the city/county has enough revenue to address our most critical issues?

How the County distributes revenue should be reviewed to see whether dollars are distributed to the most critical areas in order to answer this question. Factors like population growth and economic indicators such as inflation also need to be taken into account.

Q15

What can the city/county do to support affordable housing availability in our community?

King County substantial resources to support affordable housing in the various cities and unincorporated areas through grants or providing funding outright. As a King County Councilmember, I would work with cities and unincorporated areas to develop a plan for equitable distribution of affordable housing throughout the region, prioritizing communities that need it the most.

Q16

What can our city/county do to better support small businesses?

The County's role in supporting commerce in the region is maintaining a strong infrastructure to include public safety, public health, transportation, and parks. Small business owners aim for the same high quality of life for their families as any resident. The county can support small businesses by focusing on its role in providing foundational infrastructure and basic services to unincorporated areas and in partnership with municipalities. How well these services are provided determine whether communities thrive or merely survive.

Q17

Is there anything else that you would like our members to know about you?

As Mayor of the City of Burien, I know the greatest challenges of our city mirror the greatest challenges of King County. Strengthening public safety and addressing the homelessness crisis supports economic stability and growth. As a nurse, I am extremely concerned about how fentanyl has worsened the opioid epidemic and am eager to bring to the table my experience and clinical perspective. Policies resulting from ideological and knee jerk reactions like Defund the Police hurt everyone. I value and am committed to well-informed, collaborative, and deliberate governance.

Q18

Please list any endorsements you have received.

Northwest Women's Political Caucus, Associated General Contractors of Washington, Fraternal Order of Police- King County, Fmr. Governor Gary Locke, State Representatives Tina Orwall, Mia Gregerson, Cindy Ryu, Eileen Cody (Fmr.), Mayors of Bellevue, Kent, Normandy Park, Redmond, SeaTac, and Tukwila, Burien Mayor Brian Bennett (Fmr), Burien Mayor Jimmy Matta (Fmr.); Councilmembers Kim Khanh Van (Renton), Jason Moon (Mukilteo), David Della (Fmr. Seattle), Tracy Buxton (Des Moines), Conrad Lee (Bellevue), Corina Pfeil (Kenmore)

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COMPLETE

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Q1

Candidate Information

Name	Patricia Hudson
Position	Burien City Council position #4
Email Address	patriciahudson@patricia4burien.com

Q2

If you advance to the General Election, do you intend to attend the 2023 Candidates & Elected Officials Night Reception from 5:00pm to 7:00pm on Wednesday, September 27, 2023?

Yes, I intend to attend the event and have blocked out the time on my calendar

Q3

Do you currently hold elected office? If so, what office do you hold?

Not currently

Q4

What motivates you to serve?

I am a results-driven individual who believes Burien can be so much more. I am determined to make a difference in my community. I have become disillusioned with the apathy I am seeing from our city council, who are allowing my neighbors to suffer; those neighbors may be business leaders who are struggling due to theft and vandalism or they may be the unhoused who have no place to go - we need solutions that make things better for the whole community. I want to collaborate with my fellow council members and community to drive increased economic development opportunities, develop realistic transportation solutions, increase available affordable housing by income, find scalable solutions for our unhoused neighbors, and ensure climate change is always part of the discussion.

Q5

What are the most important issues facing your community today?

Public Safety Our residents need to have a sense of safety. Arrests don't create a safe community, and unnecessary arrests drain our revenue. We can develop a neighborhood policing model where we have accessible neighborhood centers that will house social workers and mental health professionals to support those in need. Climate Change We need to address climate change urgently by taking action in all areas and ensure that the environmental impacts of our decisions are considered on all topics. Homelessness Burien doesn't have enough housing, and especially affordable housing. The result is increasing numbers of people living unhoused in the city. We need to provide temporary housing options coupled with wrap-around services that meet the needs of the individuals. We need to work with our partners to solve this problem long term by building more housing.

Q6

What are your top policy priorities?

Community safety - meeting the needs and providing for all by expanding current programs and finding creative ways to address low level criminal activity. Council productivity - We need to address the infighting and lack of action. My leadership and conflict resolution training and experience can help us. Economic development - create opportunities for new and existing businesses to thrive in the city by reviewing requirements and zoning and making changes to allow flexibility and bring services to all areas of the city. Managing growth - we need to be careful not to overburden any neighborhood or concentrate too much growth in just a few. We need to increase density city-wide - where infrastructure will allow it and update infrastructure where possible. Climate change - as we update the comprehensive plan and zoning in the city, we need to ensure that we can work environmentally friendly/climate action into that document. We should consider creating minimum standards for builders.

Q7

In your opinion, what are the most important issues facing businesses today?

Continued recovery from the pandemic The disruptions and cost associated with petty crime and vandalism The ability to hire and maintain staff

Q8

How do you see yourself partnering with the Chamber and local businesses on these issues?

We need to come together and create listening sessions and or do surveys with business owners and staff so that we can learn from them how the city can both support current local businesses and how we can attract new businesses. A good start is having chamber of commerce and union representation on the Burien Business and Economic Development Partnership and a council member attending meetings, but I think we can do more to reach out and learn how we can provide more support and assistance to business owners who don't already have a seat at the table and create those seats for them.

Q9

What is the City's/County's role in promoting and supporting economic development and business growth?

We can advertise what Burien has to offer to attract people to work, shop, and eat here, maintaining focus on existing businesses while attracting and encouraging new businesses to set up shop throughout the city. At the city level, we need to consider adjusting our zoning and the requirements (such as parking). At the county level, we can work with our partners to create more business grants for start ups and for businesses struggling through a slow period or other type of disruption. While we definitely want to develop a diversified business core, we need to also work to make it easier for businesses to operate outside the core and find ways to support them once they are here. I would like to look into how the city could support and encourage mentorship programs between existing and new businesses as well as offer assistance with start up paperwork and licensing. This is not only helpful for new businesses but also will develop community and camaraderie among the business community.

Q10

What role should local government play in ensuring an adequate workforce is available to meet employers' needs?

The Burien government can work to increase housing and transportation options so that people can live near where they work, cutting down on commutes and increasing employee satisfaction. We can also encourage partnerships, such as internships for local businesses and local schools. This encourages young workers by teaching them skills and gives them the support of their local community. We can also set a minimum wage that makes Burien competitive with neighboring cities, bringing more workers to fill our jobs. We can also accomplish this by working together with the Chamber to provide training and other resources to local businesses, especially smaller businesses for whom pooling resources for important training would save them money.

Q11

What are your strategies to address homelessness in your community and regionally?

Homelessness is a housing problem. We must partner with all levels of government and with NGOs to provide solutions to address our current crisis, while working to incentivize the production of more housing. Short term, we need to get people off the streets and into appropriate, temporary housing (like tiny homes) with wrap-around services. We must also begin immediate work to create more housing by adjusting our zoning code to make building in Burien more streamlined for developers. We need to find ways to ensure that the increased housing is primarily used for long term housing ownership and rentals and disincentivize large real estate investment in Burien. We need to ensure that all Burien residents have housing they can afford. Because so many of our unhoused neighbors find themselves in some level of crisis that we as a city are struggling to resolve, we must also work toward a goal of bringing one of the five new King County Crisis Care Centers to our region.

Q12

Please describe the top public safety concerns in your community.

Slow police response rates Behavioral health crisis and addiction behaviors on the street. Theft and vandalism

Q13

How would you work to address those concerns?

To compensate for police officer shortages, we can expand community based programs, freeing up our police force to respond to violent, dangerous calls. We need to partner regionally to create crisis response teams that work alongside police to respond to non violent, needs based calls. We also need to look into providing community hubs so that people feel the police and response team presence in their neighborhoods and near their businesses and know where to go for help. To address the theft and vandalism, we should provide grants to businesses to provide enhanced security (cameras, locks, or alarm systems - we can ask what they need) and/or to help pay for damage and loss. We can also look at making changes in the business core, like increasing lighting, and working with individual businesses to make business specific changes in their shops that will reduce crimes of opportunity. Finally, we can work to bring in more events and activity overall to our business district.

Q14

Do you believe the city/county has enough revenue to address our most critical issues?

No, we are facing a fiscal cliff and being the closest city to the South of Seattle we have big city problems with small city revenue and resources. We need to rely as much as we can on building partnerships and working together with neighboring cities and with the county and state in order to keep any tax increases minimal. But we will also need to look at all options for increasing revenue.

Q15

What can the city/county do to support affordable housing availability in our community?

We can expand and extend the affordable housing development program by voting to implement the changes that were proposed by city staff (based on feedback from developers) in late 2022. This would allow us to increase housing while learning lessons about what works best for Burien. Additionally, the city can provide incentives and make exceptions to some requirements when reasonable. We can get rid of single family zoning city wide, allowing increased density where the infrastructure can support it. We can work to streamline our processes, making permitting simpler, and offer assistance to new or smaller developers. The city can also look city-wide to identify areas where growth would be favorable, but our infrastructure won't support it, and begin to look for grants to update the infrastructure. The county can make financial investments into the city to build the housing by partnering with developers, and by financially assisting the city in identifying and upgrading infrastructure.

Q16

What can our city/county do to better support small businesses?

We need to look at our permitting requirements and update them to make the process less cumbersome to business owners trying to get started. One specific area to consider is the parking requirements for businesses. We also need to work together, city and county, to increase transit options and provide incentives for small businesses, especially food service and grocery businesses, to open in all areas of town, we need to create multiple “city centers” or hubs within the city to alleviate food deserts and lessen the need for people to drive single occupancy vehicles. I like the idea of having a city sponsored trolley type system that allows for “jump on jump off” that goes around the city as well, bringing people to the existing businesses that they may not frequent if they didn’t have reliable transportation.

Q17

Is there anything else that you would like our members to know about you?

I am running for council because I believe we can and must find solutions that meet the needs of our community. I will bring my leadership and conflict resolution skills to help us make decisions that take into consideration all voices and I will take action to help our community thrive. In my work I frequently collaborate and negotiate with stakeholders with varying interests to achieve mutually agreeable results. I understand that our goal must always be to work to understand the needs for our community and to find solutions that suit our city. I understand that policies often require analysis and adjustment over time, and know how to build policies that are strong enough to make a difference and flexible to grow over time. My experience and training have prepared me to be a productive member of our diverse council. I have the skills and willingness to do the work as a contributing member of a team, and to help build those skills for my colleagues, making us a stronger body overall.

Q18

Please list any endorsements you have received.

King County Democrats, Working Families Party, SEIU 775, National Women’s Political Caucus, FUSE Progressive Voters Guide recommendation, Senator Karen Keiser, Representative Tina Orwall, Representative Mia Gregerson, Former Burien Councilmember Stephen Lamphear, King County Executive Dow Constantine.

#6

COMPLETE

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Q1

Candidate Information

Name	Dennis Martinez
Position	Position 4
Email Address	dennismartinez.tukwika@gmail.com
Phone Number	

Q2

If you advance to the General Election, do you intend to attend the 2023 Candidates & Elected Officials Night Reception from 5:00pm to 7:00pm on Wednesday, September 27, 2023?

Yes, I intend to attend the event and have blocked out the time on my calendar

Q3

Do you currently hold elected office? If so, what office do you hold?

No

Q4

What motivates you to serve?

Continue to serve my community

Q5

What are the most important issues facing your community today?

New housing stock, public safety, taxable income sources and infrastructure concerns

Q6

What are your top policy priorities?

Workforce housing and public safety issues

Q7

In your opinion, what are the most important issues facing businesses today?

Increase taxes that are being applied to business to make up the shortfall of local government

Q8

How do you see yourself partnering with the Chamber and local businesses on these issues?

Stay in contact with business leaders in our community as well as the chamber

Q9

What is the City's/County's role in promoting and supporting economic development and business growth?

Cities should work with business to help promote free enterprise by promoting ventures such as build mix use development housing and business. 5 over 2's commercial first two floors and residential the next five floors.

Q10

What role should local government play in ensuring an adequate workforce is available to meet employers' needs?

It all begins with workforce housing and some must be affordable as well as market share

Q11

What are your strategies to address homelessness in your community and regionally?

Working with King County because they have the resources that our community does not have.

Q12

Please describe the top public safety concerns in your community.

Crime

Q13

How would you work to address those concerns?

Hire more law enforcement officers, we're are not fully staffed and must find way to recruit new officers

Q14

Do you believe the city/county has enough revenue to address our most critical issues?

Not our city but the county has enough resources

Q15

What can the city/county do to support affordable housing availability in our community?

Streamline the permitting process

Q16

What can our city/county do to better support small businesses?

Pull back on the B&O tax and slow some of the proposed taxes that would affect the communities purchasing ability

Q17

Is there anything else that you would like our members to know about you?

I am a six year member of Tukwila's planning commission

Q18

Please list any endorsements you have received.

King Country Democratic's

#7

COMPLETE

Page 1

Q1

Candidate Information

Name	Alex Andrade
Position	Burien City Council Position 6
Email Address	info@alex4burien.com

Q2

If you advance to the General Election, do you intend to attend the 2023 Candidates & Elected Officials Night Reception from 5:00pm to 7:00pm on Wednesday, September 27, 2023?

Yes, I intend to attend the event and have blocked out the time on my calendar

Q3

Do you currently hold elected office? If so, what office do you hold?

N/A

Q4

What motivates you to serve?

The love I have for my city. I live here, I raised my kids here, through Discover Burien I volunteer at almost all events, and I've built a small business here. Because of all of this I want to help raise Burien up in any manner that I can.

Q5

What are the most important issues facing your community today?

Currently, we are faced with crime, public safety issues, homelessness and affordable housing, and economic development.

Q6

What are your top policy priorities?

A few immediate policy properties would be: 1-Ensuring there is proper funding for police to aid in the presence of our community police officer(s), 2-Working towards re-instating the No Trespass Ordinance, and 3-As an advocate for increasing minimum wage, I want to ensure that small businesses are heard to help them succeed to ensure we're working with them instead of against them by placing them all into the same business category/group.

Q7

In your opinion, what are the most important issues facing businesses today?

Depending on the size of the business, this might vary in order of importance, but rising costs of materials/food (if restaurant), staffing (finding/retaining), cash flow, and crime against businesses.

Q8

How do you see yourself partnering with the Chamber and local businesses on these issues?

I'd love to participate and engage in the activities with the Chamber and other businesses, including in being active in activities at the state level. As Burien's Chamber, you continuing to encourage Hiring Expos, hosting of Police Roundtables, and other small business events for our community are vital for our business community. Burien becomes more vibrant when cash registers ring with more foot traffic, police presence, and addressing the homelessness issue.

Q9

What is the City's/County's role in promoting and supporting economic development and business growth?

Our city's current Economic Development Department, although small, is mighty. What they can't achieve in house, rely on the Seattle Southside Chamber or Discover Burien (where I have been a board of for the last four years). Currently, Chris/Lorraine at the City, make regular visits to check-in throughout the year to local businesses, they spearheaded the Shop Local website, and continue to work with other regional tourism campaigns in partnership with the Port of Seattle.

Q10

What role should local government play in ensuring an adequate workforce is available to meet employers' needs?

Safety with policing and enforcement, making it a place for employees to feel safe in coming in to work but also leaving work, which then includes well-lit lots, addressing homelessness and of course infrastructure as being a on-going element.

Q11

What are your strategies to address homelessness in your community and regionally?

By acknowledging that homelessness is not all the same nor should it be placed into one category and address each individually. We need to get those with addiction issues, mental health issues into the right facilities to get them the help they need. We need to make sure we hire the correct people/group to work with individuals who are homeless because of job loss or lack of affordable housing. Priority should be working with these individuals as a daily thing and on the ground, making sure that we are securing the 30 beds promised from DESC will actually be used for our Burien residents.

Q12

Please describe the top public safety concerns in your community.

Like in other areas, homelessness is affecting us by not having a shelter, crime increase as we lack a fully staffed police department.

Q13

How would you work to address those concerns?

Again, acknowledge that homelessness is not all the same. Addressing the needs of each individually, and have a system that we can track not only the individuals but also the success of a tailored program but also community centered policing.

Q14

Do you believe the city/county has enough revenue to address our most critical issues?

No, but I believe we may have adequate money but I feel it's not being spent efficiently nor held accountable for what is being spent. What we currently are doing will not be sustainable.

Q15

What can the city/county do to support affordable housing availability in our community?

Burien has been active in this and continues to work with and partner with groups like DESC, the new Habitat for Humanity project, and we are implementing new renter laws to protect the tenant.

Q16

What can our city/county do to better support small businesses?

Having continued police partnership, the safer people feel, the more shoppers a business / restaurant will have. By also promoting our small community that includes activities and businesses, is important being so close to the airport and Seattle.

Q17

Is there anything else that you would like our members to know about you?

I am a Latina small business owner with a physical store location in Downtown Burien on 152nd Street. I have seen the struggles of this location firsthand, but also the benefits. I work hard for my family and my business and want success for all of us. 90% of the products I sell in my store are done by either BIPOC, LGBTQ+, Small, Local, Independent and/or Women-owned businesses. Some fit all of those categories and I want to support in the way that I can by selling and promoting these items. The other 10% are made up of organizations who give back to causes like Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault and look for companies/individuals that fit this ethos.

Q18

Please list any endorsements you have received.

Mayer Sofia Aragon, Deputy Mayor Kevin Schilling, CM Jimmy Matta. King County CM Dave Upthegrove, Congressman Adam Smith, Normandy Park: Mayor Sue-Ann Hohimer, CM Mike Bischoff, Eric Zimmerman, and Shawn McEvoy, Sammamish Mayor Kali Clark, LGBTQ+ Victory Fund Qualified, Moms Demand Action Gun Sense, and Humane Voter of Washington.

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COMPLETE

Page 1

Q1

Candidate Information

Name	Senayet Negusse
Position	City of SeaTac, Position 1
Email Address	senayetforseatac@gmail.com

Q2

If you advance to the General Election, do you intend to attend the 2023 Candidates & Elected Officials Night Reception from 5:00pm to 7:00pm on Wednesday, September 27, 2023?

Yes, I intend to attend the event and have blocked out the time on my calendar

Q3

Do you currently hold elected office? If so, what office do you hold?

I currently serve as the Deputy Mayor of the City of SeaTac.

Q4

What motivates you to serve?

My personal and professional experiences motivate me to serve. Every day, I work toward creating a more accessible government in my role at King County. Far too many of our neighbors cannot access the services they are entitled to because of language and structural inequity. I ran for office to create a government system that prioritizes people and accessibility in decisions. Throughout my tenure, I have made substantial strides toward accomplishing this goal. However, more work must be done to ensure that the government truly works for all people in SeaTac. I am running for re-election to empower and work alongside neighbors to create lasting and meaningful change.

Q5

What are the most important issues facing your community today?

SeaTac is still recovering from the extensive implications of the COVID-19 pandemic. As a city impacted heavily by the airport's operations, the reduction in visitors reverberated on those living and working in SeaTac. Many people lost loved ones, businesses, homes, and so much more. Addressing learning loss, creating career pathways for youth, housing our neighbors, prioritizing inclusivity, and revitalizing our economy in a manner that uplifts those most impacted by the pandemic are all key issues facing our community today.

Q6

What are your top policy priorities?

My overarching top priority in office is to create a safe and welcoming place for all who live in, visit, and travel through our city. SeaTac is the first and last impression for many visitors to the Pacific Northwest. We have the opportunity to continue to show the world that we prioritize accessibility, protect our environment, equitably engage our community, and provide ample opportunities for personal and professional growth. My priorities as a City Councilmember are rooted in these principles.

Q7

In your opinion, what are the most important issues facing businesses today?

I visited several businesses to ask this exact question--what are the most important issues facing your business--to understand our community's needs directly. Four key themes stood out in these conversations. I heard about challenges in retaining and hiring staff. I also heard concerns about public safety. Businesses shared challenges with visibility and efforts to bring visitors to SeaTac independently instead of just passing through our city. Finally, I heard primarily from immigrant-owned businesses about difficulties in accessing technical assistance. This impacts their businesses as many are unable to access valuable resources, stay up to date on market trends, and have a website to drive traffic to their businesses.

Q8

How do you see yourself partnering with the Chamber and local businesses on these issues?

Throughout my first term as a City Councilmember, I employed direct engagement with impacted communities--such as asking businesses what their needs were--in many of my decisions. I delivered PPE to businesses, connected smaller entities with the resources the Southside Chamber network provided, and worked with the city's economic development staff to understand opportunities for growth in partnership with the Chamber. I recently spearheaded a Business Watch program in the city with the police and human services departments. The program will employ a community service officer to work with businesses to reduce the key public safety concerns that local businesses told me about, such as vandalism and theft. The model has been effective in other cities, and I look forward to its implementation in the upcoming months. I hope to partner with the Chamber to promote the program and help ensure that the free resources and training are fully utilized so our business community can thrive.

Q9

What is the City's/County's role in promoting and supporting economic development and business growth?

The city plays a significant role in supporting economic development and business growth. Navigating SeaTac through the pandemic was an encompassing part of my first term. I fought hard to support small businesses, community-based organizations, city employees, and the community--all while maintaining a healthy city budget. I was proud of the city's effort to offer small businesses one-time grants to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19. I have prioritized being a proactive legislator by proposing measures that invested in the future of our city and increased our resiliency. I am currently working on a partnership with the African Community Housing Development to create a farmer's market in SeaTac. The intent behind the farmers market is to drive traffic to South SeaTac, support small businesses and foster a sense of community. These efforts demonstrate the necessary role that the government plays in ensuring equitable economic development to bolster the quality of life in our city.

Q10

What role should local government play in ensuring an adequate workforce is available to meet employers' needs?

Local government plays a significant role in creating pathways to job opportunities and workforce development. In my capacity as a city Councilmember, I increased funding for workforce development initiatives as demonstrated by my work to support SeaTac residents through the Home Childcare initiative and the ANEW apprenticeship program. I currently am spearheading the effort to invest \$1.2M in workforce development in our communities. These investments help promote skills development and job opportunities. I am committed to partnering with our businesses and organizations to promote career and technical education among our youth and young adults so that we can help increase access and support them in exploring different careers.

Q11

What are your strategies to address homelessness in your community and regionally?

Addressing homelessness in our community and regionally requires an intergovernmental approach that prioritizes the needs of our most vulnerable neighbors. As a Councilmember, I worked to expand affordable housing options through a partnership with Mercy Housing, resulting in the development of 130 units of permanently affordable housing including 24 units specifically designated for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. This is an example of my commitment to addressing the crisis on a local level while also understanding that regional partnerships are critical for ensuring that all our neighbors are sheltered.

Q12

Please describe the top public safety concerns in your community.

SeaTac, like other communities across the country and in line with national trends, has experienced public safety concerns. The top public safety issues that I heard from businesses when discussing public safety were theft and vandalism. Our city also completed a SeaTac business synergy report with participation from over 200 businesses. Of those surveyed, 60% said the impact of non-violent crime such as theft and drug-related behavior have intermittently created disruptions to business operations.

Q13

How would you work to address those concerns?

The Business Watch program that I spearheaded will help address the public safety concerns of businesses in our city. As part of the business watch program, our Police will be providing free Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) assessments to help reduce the chance of criminal activity. The CPTED assessment will offer guidance to business owners to better understand how to lower or prevent environmental factors from creating an opportunity for crime. Eventually, I would like if our City could offer our small businesses grants to make additional safety upgrades necessary to improve the overall exterior or interior environments. This effort will help reduce crime in our communities and hopefully, create more visibility for businesses hoping to bring people to SeaTac. I will continue to work with the city's economic development staff to understand the implications of the business synergy analyses to ensure these programs effectively address the needs of SeaTac.

Q14

Do you believe the city/county has enough revenue to address our most critical issues?

Many of the most critical issues facing SeaTac cannot be solved by the city government alone. Housing, environment, education, and the many other critical issues that we are experiencing are systemic and require an intergovernmental approach. Addressing these issues go beyond just funding, however. We must tackle these issues through partnerships with the private sector and community to create lasting change. I have demonstrated my ability to work with various stakeholders throughout my tenure. I am committed to continuing this bridge-building work to create a SeaTac that works for every person.

Q15

What can the city/county do to support affordable housing availability in our community?

I am incredibly supportive of encouraging additional housing capacity--such as ADUs, townhouses, or apartments--with the goal of creating more affordable housing to support our communities. I will continue to invest in building affordable housing, partnering with regional stakeholders and community organizations to create more availability.

Q16

What can our city/county do to better support small businesses?

I am optimistic that our Business Watch program will both support small businesses and improve the relationship between the city and the business community. I want small businesses to know that the city government is listening to their concerns, is available to support them, and has resources to support their work.

Q17

Is there anything else that you would like our members to know about you?

I am a dedicated educator, advocate, and member of the SeaTac community. I was born to Ethiopian refugees in South King County and have lived in the area for my entire life. Growing up, I worked to support my parents' small business and personally understand the intricacies of small businesses. I hold a Master of Education in Education Policy and Leadership, a Bachelor of Science in Speech and Hearing Sciences, and a Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood and Family Studies from the University of Washington. I currently work as a language equity program manager for the King County Executive Office of Equity and Social Justice. I have over seven years of experience working cross-collaboratively internally and externally with historically underserved populations in various institutions, including higher education, small business, early childhood education, government, and community-based non-profits. I live in SeaTac with my husband, Lukas, and our twin boys.

Q18

Please list any endorsements you have received.

King County Young Democrats, 33rd District Democrats, National Women's Political Caucus of Washington, Highline Education Association (HEA), Teamsters 117, One America Votes

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COMPLETE

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Q1

Candidate Information

Name

Kate Kruller

Position

Tukwila Mayor

Email Address

Kate@Kate4Tukwila.com

Q2

If you advance to the General Election, do you intend to attend the 2023 Candidates & Elected Officials Night Reception from 5:00pm to 7:00pm on Wednesday, September 27, 2023?

Yes, I intend to attend the event and have blocked out the time on my calendar

Q3

Do you currently hold elected office? If so, what office do you hold?

Tukwila City Council, Position 6 (for 12 years)

Q4

What motivates you to serve?

Our current Mayor will not be running for another term (it is an open seat). I am about to complete 12 years serving Tukwila as a City Councilmember. I will differentiate myself in this race by offering myself to voters as the candidate who is the city leader with greater experience, strong fiscal judgement, plus solid experience in organizational management, operations management, and cost management. I have managed staff in a variety of career disciplines and been responsible for multi-million-dollar budgets. I know how to navigate administrative and legislative processes (locally, regionally, statewide and nationally), offer strong political networks at the same levels. I am action-oriented to what is possible. I really enjoy making a difference in my city by listening to and working together with those that live work and visit Tukwila. I thrive on being immersed in our community, solving problems people encounter, making positive change and protecting what is good about Tukwila.

Q5

What are the most important issues facing your community today?

Affordable housing and safe neighborhoods; Reliable public safety services; Improved transportation options and Responsible city budgets. These are priorities we all agree upon.

Q6

What are your top policy priorities?

I'm interested in restoring peace and order to our communities and business districts. Tukwila must build up its police department and I will work with the Chief to innovate new strategic ways on how they are deployed. I know infrastructure and transportation are vital to a thriving city - and foundational to our Central Business District. Federal funding for infrastructure projects is available for another 3 years and Tukwila needs to apply for grants as much as possible. Housing stock is limited and land available to support multi-family housing projects can be concentrated with a eye toward creating flourishing new communities around the mall area and further south in Tukwila.

Q7

In your opinion, what are the most important issues facing businesses today?

Still recovering from the impacts of the pandemic. Getting out from under loans taken to sustain businesses during the pandemic. Money management problems. As technology is evolving rapidly, keeping up with tech innovations has become challenging for enterprises. Building back to where things were pre-pandemic (while capitalizing on emerging markets such as online and delivery models). As technology is evolving rapidly, keeping up with tech innovations has become challenging for enterprises. Risk management and managing company workflows.

Q8

How do you see yourself partnering with the Chamber and local businesses on these issues?

Being a consistent Chamber member. Work together on navigating or changing bureaucratic process such as problems with zoning, licensing, permitting, etc. Review and collaborate on zoning changes that may help businesses. Work to provide letters of support for business grant requests.

Q9

What is the City's/County's role in promoting and supporting economic development and business growth?

The City plays a key role - starting with a strategic plan and economic development plan that includes input/feedback from businesses. Use events, LTAC funds and websites the City has to support economic development. Establishing a mutually beneficial legislative agenda. Provide incentive and incubator programs for new development and businesses the city needs to attract.

Q10

What role should local government play in ensuring an adequate workforce is available to meet employers' needs?

Local governments are key employers and can anchor institutions within their local economies by providing assistance, helping with grants or sharing resources. They can play an important role in the overall approach to workforce and skills planning in their regions, alongside other tiers of government, representatives of industries, businesses and major employers, educational institutions and training providers. Assist businesses or connect them with organizations that can: Provide advice, toolkits and consultancy support for workforce planning. Training or retraining the unemployed/under-employed and embedding a culture of improvement/career development at all levels. Redesigning jobs to remove non-essential requirements and allow optimal use of available expertise. Leveraging infrastructure investment/public procurement to fund and provide local jobs/apprenticeship opportunities. People Plan for branding. Outreach into schools and universities.

Q11

What are your strategies to address homelessness in your community and regionally?

Tukwila Police Department has established a Community Policing Team that has expertise in making contact with unhoused people in our community. Tukwila has already taken critical steps to provide emergency shelter through its two Tiny Home Villages, complete with full time support and caseworker services. The Confluence was constructed to address providing more permanent housing options for unhoused people and those below 30% AMI. Regionally, Tukwila participates in South King County Housing and Homelessness Partners (SKHHP) with Auburn, Kent, Burien, Federal Way, Des Moines, Maple Valley, Normandy Park and Renton. This is a coalition of jurisdictions sharing resources to create a coordinated approach to increasing housing stability, reducing homelessness and creating housing security in South King County. My strategy matches the regional mindset of minimizing the numbers living with no housing by providing emergency shelter and offering ever-increasing stability in housing.

Q12

Please describe the top public safety concerns in your community.

Well-intentioned policing reforms in recent years gave way to overconfidence in criminal activity. In Tukwila, residents are concerned about car prowls, vandalism and car theft. Car jackings turn in to "smash and grabs" where stolen vehicles are used to smash the front doors of everything from 7-11s to Mall front doors. Incidences of brandishing guns and shootings are up in our area. Retailers and grocers are experiencing high-level inventory losses due to shoplifting. Mail and home thefts are happening whether residents are home or not. Criminals are operating at a state of high confidence, while police are asked to take a restrained and de-escalated approach as first responders to everything from petty activity to shootings in public spaces. Police ranks are at an all-time low, due to high attrition rates and low new recruiting rates. Our own mall operators are requesting specially assigned officers to bring down the number of crimes there.

Q13

How would you work to address those concerns?

Tukwila has already begun to restore its ranks to a state during pre-pandemic time. There is a potential to add five officers and work four more through the police academy in the next year. I would support and continue an increase of police officers to our ranks - and enough so as to be able to provide two officers to a unique assignment to the mall full time. We've added two Behavior Health Professionals (BHP) in our first step toward providing services where they are needed for mental health crisis situations in substitute for law enforcement. I also support coordinated efforts such as SWAT, stolen vehicle taskforce, gang intervention taskforce teams.

Q14

Do you believe the city/county has enough revenue to address our most critical issues?

Federal funding has provided a path towards meeting critical needs over recent years, but there is definitely growing pressure to remodel what city revenues are authorized. Tukwila has been extremely innovative in how it finds enough funds to operate up until the last budget process. I am definitely one Tukwila City Councilmember that rejected the idea to implement a new B&O Tax on top of the Business License Tax (often called a "head tax") already in place. No other city in the state of Washington has done this. Always going to the business sector for the solution to every budget problem is not a trend that is required or good for businesses still recovering from economic downturns. It is definitely time to examine all alternatives Tukwila need to diversify how it pulls in revenues and stop placing the burden exclusively at the feet of businesses.

Q15

What can the city/county do to support affordable housing availability in our community?

Just like food, I believe housing is a basic human right. We need new ways to build places to live: Low and modest-income housing, townhouses, apartments, senior housing and assisted living facilities. "Villages at South Station and Riverton" Terrace" stabilizes the prices,"The Confluence" featuring 101 affordable apartments, "Tukwila Village "- with 193 income qualified senior apartment homes. I supported the "Wadajir Market" providing housing for up to 450 and a community marketplace for 85, Additioal Dwelling Units (ADUs) are allowed, Tukwila is addressing the "missing middle" with the "Southard.," and we have two Tiny Home Villages- 50 units to house individuals and families until they can move into permanent housing. Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) near transit!

Q16

What can our city/county do to better support small businesses?

Listen, listen, listen to what small businesses say they need! Survey small businesses to evaluate any impacts new policy may have on them. Offer pathways and resources that can help them obtain grants and incentives to start up. Provide support to businesses applying for SBA loans.

Q17

Is there anything else that you would like our members to know about you?

Kate Kruller has lived and worked in Tukwila for more than three decades and has been a homeowner in the community since 1992. Her family has lived in the Puget Sound region for five generations. Kate currently works in Information Technology at King County. She has a BA degree in Communications, an MBA in Engineering/Technology Management - and a Project Management Professional (PMP) credential from the Project Management Institute. Kate has been a Tukwila City Council member for three terms (12 years). She is on the Board of Directors for the National League of Cities (NLC). Chair of the NLC Transportation, Infrastructure and Services Steering Committee (TIS), Association of Washington Cities (AWC) Federal Advocacy Committee and represents AWC on Puget Sound Partners Ecosystem Coordination Board. Kate is the Sound Cities Association Representative to the Puget Sound Regional Council/Transportation Policy Board Member and SCA – Public Issues Committee.

Q18

Please list any endorsements you have received.

Elected Officials: Mohamed Abdi - Tukwila City CM, Sen. Bob Hasegawa - 11 LD, Rep. David Hackney –11LD, Rep. Steve Bergquist 11th LD, Sen. Claire Wilson – 30 LD, Rep. Tina Orwall – 33 LD, Rep. Tana Senn – 41LD, Rep. Javier Valdez - 46 LD, Rep. Joe McDermott – King County CM, Girmay Zahilay - King County CM, Jeanne Kohl-Welles - King County CM, Rod Dembowski - King County CM, John Arthur Wilson - King County Auditor, Sam Cho - President, Port of Seattle Commissioner Fred Felleman - Port of Seattle Commissioner Toshiko Hasegawa - Port of Seattle Commissioner Hamdi Mohamed - Port of Seattle Commissioner
Organizations: Tukwila Teacher's Union (WEA-PAC), National Women's Political Caucus of Washington, MLK Labor Council (representing 154 affiliate unions), Teamsters Local 117, International Association of Machinists & Aerospace Workers District Lodge 751 (Boeing employees +) LiUNA Laborers Amalgamated Transit Union Local

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COMPLETE

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Q1

Candidate Information

Name	Armen Papyan
Position	Tukwila City Council Pos. 2
Email Address	mailpapyan@gmail.com

Q2

If you advance to the General Election, do you intend to attend the 2023 Candidates & Elected Officials Night Reception from 5:00pm to 7:00pm on Wednesday, September 27, 2023?	Yes, I intend to attend the event and have blocked out the time on my calendar
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Q3

Do you currently hold elected office? If so, what office do you hold?

N/a

Q4

What motivates you to serve?

This is an incredible community with beautiful diversity, and I'm honored to call it home. I grew up in Tukwila, attended Tukwila Elementary and graduated from Foster High. I have seen Tukwila change overtime and I am committed to ensuring that it thrives in the future. I want to pursue innovative ideas that serve both new and long-term members of the community, making our common humanity the driving principle of every decision.

Q5

What are the most important issues facing your community today?

Housing: I believe that Tukwila needs to continue building and providing a range of homeownership opportunities. I would like to see more density, especially in the Southcenter District. In addition, Tukwila should continue to work regionally to address lack of housing and middle housing, and affordable housing. It is vital to encourage long-term residency by providing a range of home ownership options for persons in all stages of life. I believe that we should work regionally to implement home buying programs that would support people purchasing homes and building home equity. This will allow POC and working families to build a future by creating generational wealth. We should decrease parking requirements for housing. We should not segregate affordable housing with market rate housing instead incorporate them together to make our community more inclusive. We should work with our large retail owners to incentivize building mixed use housing and development.

Q6

What are your top policy priorities?

Transportation: As the City of Tukwila continues on a growth trajectory we must also build the infrastructure necessary to host new and current residents. I will work with King County Metro and sound transit to expand services with green friendly fleets. Access to food: You might not see this priority from any candidate because the issue in itself sounds so basic that most people forget about it. However, Tukwila is a food desert, and this is absurd when we have the largest mall in the NW, but yet, our residents don't have any reliable grocery stores to shop. I will work with coalitions and a private grocery store to bring one to Tukwila close to where residents live. Public Safety and Theft: We need to address public safety, gun violence and housing. I really believe investing in our youth and directing our kids to succeed in K-12 education and persuading them to attend secondary institutions is the long term solution to this issue and the way of getting people out of trouble

Q7

In your opinion, what are the most important issues facing businesses today?

There are a number of issues that the business community is facing in the region, such as high interest levels, the high cost of doing business, supply chain problems causing shortages and the consumer strength weakening, unable to afford goods and services. The most concerning issue of them all is Public Safety. Tukwila is a major business hub and theft is not only unappealing, but also brings in other dangers with it in terms of public safety, such as gun violence. The rampant theft from retail businesses is making business expensive and difficult.

Q8

How do you see yourself partnering with the Chamber and local businesses on these issues?

We have an opportunity to define the trajectory of the city for the next 20 years. I would like the business community to not only provide input, but also work together in alignment with the city to grow to serve the needs of residents, guests, startups and businesses. One place that I would need the direct support from the Chamber is to see how we can bring a grocery store to serve the needs of residents in Tukwila. Although Tukwila is a business district, we belong to one of the largest food deserts. Our community deserves a decent, clean, grocery store with healthy food options. Your connection in this matter would be very beneficial.

Q9

What is the City's/County's role in promoting and supporting economic development and business growth?

The City should be in a constant working partnership and communication. There are always opportunities to work together to bring the interest of the residents, business and guests all together.

Q10

What role should local government play in ensuring an adequate workforce is available to meet employers' needs?

I advocated to boost financial aid to students throughout the state, winning millions increase in State Need Grant (SNG) funding for income-eligible students to earn secondary education. Education is very much affordable and accessible to most low income families. This bill not only opened doors to colleges and universities, but also apprenticeships and certain certification programs to ensure we have a highly qualified workforce. From a city perspective, to provide adequate workforce we need to understand trends, and the needs of the business community then address the challenge through adequate channels.

Q11

What are your strategies to address homelessness in your community and regionally?

Provide intervention care, housing with 24/7 mental health and rehabilitation services. Homelessness is a regional or even a national crisis. Unfortunately, King County Regional Homelessness Authority has not lived up to its promise, but I really believe that after the problems are resolved we should work with the authority. Tukwila can address some of the homeless population within its community, however, it will not be enough because of our transient community we will see more people experiencing homelessness move into Tukwila and the resources will run short.

Q12

Please describe the top public safety concerns in your community.

The biggest concern in terms of public safety is theft, homelessness, the overdosing on drugs and gun violence. We need programs to take people into rehabilitation services, provide housing, and quickly respond to gun violence, there should be no tolerance for any gang violence in our community.

Q13

How would you work to address those concerns?

I would work with each city department, non-profit, businesses, unions and communities affected to use their expertise on each of these challenges. Our biggest struggle is limited funding, however, sometimes there are cost effective solutions or funds available from the state, county and federal level to support innovative solutions.

Q14

Do you believe the city/county has enough revenue to address our most critical issues?

Not at all, the city is having difficulty balancing its budget let alone providing additional services which requires more revenue. I have personally reached out to the county and they are experiencing similar budget shortfalls.

Q15

What can the city/county do to support affordable housing availability in our community?

I am a major advocate for affordable housing and Tukwila has added a significant number of affordable housing. However, I do believe this puts a strain on the city budget. We must carefully manage our growth and we need to balance the project portfolio of development and also ensure that we have market rate housing to pay for city services.

Q16

What can our city/county do to better support small businesses?

I will engage with the business communities to problem solve issues and work on potential projects as partners. For example we can be addressing lack of housing, by working with contractors and property owners to build mixed use housing.

Q17

Is there anything else that you would like our members to know about you?

n/a

Q18

Please list any endorsements you have received.

Congressman Adam Smith 11th LD State Senator Bob Hasegawa 11th LD State Representative David Hackney 11th LD State Representative Steve Bergquist King County Councilmember Dave Upthegrove King County Councilmember Girmay Zahilay Tukwila Councilmember Verna Seal Tukwila Councilmember Cynthia Delostrinos Johnson Tukwila Councilmember De'Sean Quinn Tukwila Councilmember Kathy Hougardy Fmr. Tukwila Councilmember Joe Duffie Fmr. Tukwila Councilmember Pam Carter Tukwila School Board Member Dave Larson Tukwila School Board Member Edna Morris Fmr. Tukwila School Board Member Mary Fertakis Fmr. Tukwila School Board Member Ron Lamb Organizations IAFF Local 1747 11th Legislative District Democrats IBEW Local 46 MLK Labor Council King County Democrats

#11

COMPLETE

Page 1

Q1

Candidate Information

Name	Damiana Merryweather
Position	SeaTac City Council, Position 7
Email Address	damianaforseatac@gmail.com

Q2

If you advance to the General Election, do you intend to attend the 2023 Candidates & Elected Officials Night Reception from 5:00pm to 7:00pm on Wednesday, September 27, 2023?	Yes, I intend to attend the event and have blocked out the time on my calendar
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Q3

Do you currently hold elected office? If so, what office do you hold?

no

Q4

What motivates you to serve?

Safer, healthier community for my family and neighbors

Q5

What are the most important issues facing your community today?

Traffic and pedestrian safety, affordability for working families, quality of life issues

Q6

What are your top policy priorities?

All aspects of public safety

Q7

In your opinion, what are the most important issues facing businesses today?

opportunities to grow local business are challenged by historical zoning and development emphasis on the airport and travelers

Q8

How do you see yourself partnering with the Chamber and local businesses on these issues?

As a small business owner I have first hand insights into what conditions foster opportunities for independent business to succeed.

Q9

What is the City's/County's role in promoting and supporting economic development and business growth?

Local governments can play a pivotal role through their planning and development, zoning, permit and licensing, promotion of public safety, and strategic investment in public infrastructure.

Q10

What role should local government play in ensuring an adequate workforce is available to meet employers' needs?

Actively protecting and promoting housing capacity and affordability is a pivotal way that local government can and should support workforce capacity.

Q11

What are your strategies to address homelessness in your community and regionally?

Housing affordability and capacity are major factors in pushing people into housing insecurity and homelessness. Local governments must strive to create safe and affordable housing options for working people as well as providing resources to keep people from being pushed into homelessness by economic forces. I support participation in coordinated response to homelessness including short and medium term shelter capacity that matches people's needs as well combined with support systems to help people address the underlying issues that have led to their homelessness.

Q12

Please describe the top public safety concerns in your community.

Traffic volume and speed and insufficient pedestrian safety. Pervasive property crimes that contribute to as sense of unsafe neighborhoods.

Q13

How would you work to address those concerns?

Increase speed enforcement, addition of traffic calming tools in residential and cut through areas, fast track pedestrian safety projects

Q14

Do you believe the city/county has enough revenue to address our most critical issues?

While there are many demands on resources, SeaTac has funds that could be utilized to address these issues as well as previously unpursued opportunities for state and federal funds.

Q15

What can the city/county do to support affordable housing availability in our community?

We can increase capacity for infill in our historically single family neighborhoods, promote higher density transit oriented redevelopment.

Q16

What can our city/county do to better support small businesses?

Promote the development of urban villages within our neighborhoods, creating capacity for local and small businesses to develop and thrive serving nearby residents. Maintaining affordable housing capacity that supports the ability of working families to live, work and shop locally.

Q17

Is there anything else that you would like our members to know about you?

As a successful small business owner I would bring unique experience and insights to city and regional leadership.

Q18

Please list any endorsements you have received.

State Senator Karen Keiser, State Representative Mia Gregorson, County Councilmember Dave Upthegrove, Port Commissioner Hamdi Mohamed, Mayor Jake Simpson, Deputy Mayor Senayet Negusse, Councilmember Mohamed Egal, Councilmember Iris Guzman, IBEW 46, ILU 117, SEIU NW 1199, King County Democrats, Young Democrats, 33rd District Democrats, Working Families Party, Planned Parenthood, National Women's Political Caucus, Alliance for Gun Responsibility

#12

COMPLETE

Page 1

Q1

Candidate Information

Name	Patricia Hudson
Position	Burien City Council - position 4
Email Address	pehud206@gmail.com

Q2

If you advance to the General Election, do you intend to attend the 2023 Candidates & Elected Officials Night Reception from 5:00pm to 7:00pm on Wednesday, September 27, 2023?

Yes, I intend to attend the event and have blocked out the time on my calendar

Q3

Do you currently hold elected office? If so, what office do you hold?

No

Q4

What motivates you to serve?

I am motivated to serve as I am disillusioned by the inaction I see in my city. As a business leader, I am accustomed to finding sustainable solutions, as a council member I will work collaboratively with my fellow council members to arrive at solutions that fit best for the City of Burien. look forward to working with my colleagues to "hear" the concerns of our constituents and work hard to meet their needs.

Q5

What are the most important issues facing your community today?

There are a number of important issues, the first is the homeless crisis in Burien, affordable housing, community safety and crime, climate justice and energy sustainability, transportation, mental health and behavioral health , economic development and education.

Q6

What are your top policy priorities?

Housing, Safety/crime, Economic development, Climate and Transportation.

Q7

In your opinion, what are the most important issues facing businesses today?

Many business are always looking at cash flow, supply chain disruptions, balancing quality and business growth, customer acquisition, labor shortages and economic trends.

Q8

How do you see yourself partnering with the Chamber and local businesses on these issues?

In my current role, I am not only a HR professional while managing the facilities operations as well. I see myself partnering with businesses to create new opportunities for growth as well as partnering to create develop programs to attract customers and entice new businesses into our city.

Q9

What is the City's/County's role in promoting and supporting economic development and business growth?

Both the city and county can promote economic development by: Keeping your community members informed and include community when possible in the decision making and marketing of the community. Promote the growth of all economic sectors in the region. Industrialize sectors that are suffering or lacking in the community. They can encourage business incubator programs where new businesses can grow and thrive. Lastly, it is important to encourage sustainable business practices.

Q10

What role should local government play in ensuring an adequate workforce is available to meet employers' needs?

Local government should focus on workforce development systems that serve both adults and youth while working to fill gaps in varying industries. The city can partner with local business by supporting their search for labor by developing job fairs that will assist employers meet their staffing needs. They can also assist employers identify job candidates through prescreening, and provide post-placement services to retain skilled employees.

Q11

What are your strategies to address homelessness in your community and regionally?

Housing first with wrap around services to assist the mentally ill and those suffering from substance abuse to get treatment and rehabilitation and afterwards provide training and workforce development.

Q12

Please describe the top public safety concerns in your community.

Crime (property), crimes (assaults, against persons), vehicle theft and fraud.

Q13

How would you work to address those concerns?

I'd like to propose neighborhood policing where law enforcement know the business and their neighbors and are on foot and walking among the businesses and community. law enforcement needs to partner and expand diversion programs.

Q14

Do you believe the city/county has enough revenue to address our most critical issues?

No

Q15

What can the city/county do to support affordable housing availability in our community?

Build multi-family housing units, rent controls, provide a livable wage.

Q16

What can our city/county do to better support small businesses?

Both the city and county should provide grants (i.e., ARPA) for small businesses. Provide and develop business economic recovery support grants.

Q17

Is there anything else that you would like our members to know about you?

I am an HR professional who taught as an adjunct college business professor for ~12 years. Owned and operated a small catering company for a time. Collaborate and negotiate daily with stakeholders of varying interests.

Q18

Please list any endorsements you have received.

SEIU 775, SEIU 925, KC Democrats, Working Families Party, Dow Constantine, Sen Karen Kaiser, Rep Tina Orval, Rep Mia Gregerson, 33rd LD democrats, 34th LD democrats, FUSE Washington, National Political Caucus of Women, and Steven Lamphear.

#13

COMPLETE

Page 1

Q1

Candidate Information

Name	Linda Akey
Position	Burien City Council Position 2
Email Address	lindaakeyforburien@gmail.com

Q2

If you advance to the General Election, do you intend to attend the 2023 Candidates & Elected Officials Night Reception from 5:00pm to 7:00pm on Wednesday, September 27, 2023?

Yes, I intend to attend the event and have blocked out the time on my calendar

Q3

Do you currently hold elected office? If so, what office do you hold?

No

Q4

What motivates you to serve?

I am running for City Council because I love Burien and want to make it a safe and livable community for everyone. I am a lifelong Democrat and have worked in the nonprofit world for years. I have experience with bureaucracy and understand how to have the hard conversations necessary to help find solutions to Burien's challenges. I am committed to listening to the public and being a voice of the people. My top priorities are Public safety, economic development, infrastructure improvements, and climate action. I will also work to address the root causes of crime, such as addiction, mental health resources, and lack of opportunity. I am asking for your vote on November 7th. Together, we can make Burien a better place to live for everyone.

Q5

What are the most important issues facing your community today?

Public safety, economic development, infrastructure improvements, climate action. I will also work to address the root causes of crime, such as addiction, mental health resources, and lack of opportunity.

Q6

What are your top policy priorities?

Public safety: I will work to keep our community safe. This includes addressing the root causes of crime, such as addiction and mental health resources. Economic development: I will support our small businesses and create a vibrant economy. Infrastructure: I will invest in our roads, bridges, and public transportation. Climate action: I will work to protect our environment.

Q7

In your opinion, what are the most important issues facing businesses today?

Hiring and retaining staff, Rising costs, Regulations, Cyber Security and Climate Change can lead to extreme weather events, disruptions to supply chains, and damage to property. In addition to these challenges, businesses in Burien also need: Technical support and access to resources: Businesses need help with things like marketing, financing, and compliance. Police and government support for vandalism, theft, and safety: Businesses need to feel safe and secure in their communities. Educated, quality workers: Businesses need workers who are skilled and have the right attitude. A sound infrastructure: Businesses need roads, bridges, and other infrastructure that is in good condition.

Q8

How do you see yourself partnering with the Chamber and local businesses on these issues?

I will work with the Chamber to promote policies that support small businesses, create good-paying jobs, and protect the environment. Attract and retain businesses Help businesses grow and succeed Protect businesses from crime and vandalism. Invest in infrastructure Be responsive to businesses By working together, the Chamber and the City Council can create a strong economy that benefits everyone.

Q9

What is the City's/County's role in promoting and supporting economic development and business growth?

To create an environment that is conducive to business growth. I will support policies that provide access to capital, technical assistance, and training, ensure businesses have a voice in decision-making, and invest in infrastructure essential to businesses and residents alike, such as roads, bridges, and public transportation.

Q10

What role should local government play in ensuring an adequate workforce is available to meet employers' needs?

Invest in education Provide job search assistance Make it easier for people to get to work Attract and retain businesses Promote entrepreneurship

Q11

What are your strategies to address homelessness in your community and regionally?

I will support housing-first approaches that get people into housing regardless of their other needs and permanent supportive housing, which includes wraparound services such as mental health care and addiction treatment. I will also support policies that prevent homelessness in the first place, such as affordable housing, job training, and mental health care. I will support laws against public camping loitering and policies that move people toward housing and healing, not stuck in a dangerous encampment with no stability and safety. I believe that we can solve homelessness if we work together. I am committed to supporting policies that make a difference.

Q12

Please describe the top public safety concerns in your community.

The top public safety concerns in Burien are vandalism, personal safety, theft, break-ins, drug use and addiction, and mental health. These concerns can be addressed by increasing police presence, providing more support for people with mental health issues, investing in affordable housing, creating more opportunities for people to get involved in their communities, and working with businesses to prevent crime and vandalism.

Q13

How would you work to address those concerns?

To make Burien a safer place for everyone, I will advocate that council: Work with the Burien Police Department to prioritize community and business safety. Support work on helping businesses have safer spaces, including the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) program. Reach out to other organizations to understand the needs and ways to support safer communities and businesses. Advocate for funding for the Storefront Reimbursement program and work to ensure that it is accessible to businesses that need it. Work to raise awareness of mental health issues and provide resources for people who need help.

Q14

Do you believe the city/county has enough revenue to address our most critical issues?

No. Burien has a limited budget and the current budget does not cover the staffing needs of the city. We need to address the budget shortfalls in the city budget.

Q15

What can the city/county do to support affordable housing availability in our community?

The city/county can support affordable housing availability by: Funding affordable housing development. Waiving or reducing development fees for affordable housing projects. Providing tax breaks for developers who build affordable housing. Working with community organizations to identify and develop land for affordable housing.

Q16

What can our city/county do to better support small businesses?

The city should continue to learn about the needs of small businesses and meet them where possible. The city currently has regular events they put on for small businesses, a newsletter emailed regularly to businesses, and regular social media posts. The city works hard to share the message with all the businesses and including communication in multiple languages. I support the continued outreach to the business community to learn and meet their needs including efforts to: Provide financial assistance, such as loans and grants. Offer training and technical assistance. Help businesses navigate regulations. Promote small businesses through marketing and advertising. Create a business-friendly environment.

Q17

Is there anything else that you would like our members to know about you?

I am committed to working together to address issues affecting the region and Burien.

Q18

Respondent skipped this question

Please list any endorsements you have received.

#14

COMPLETE

Page 1

Q1

Candidate Information

Name	Peter Kwon
Position	SeaTac Council Pos.3
Email Address	PeterSeaTac@gmail.com

Q2

If you advance to the General Election, do you intend to attend the 2023 Candidates & Elected Officials Night Reception from 5:00pm to 7:00pm on Wednesday, September 27, 2023?

Yes, I intend to attend the event and have blocked out the time on my calendar

Q3

Do you currently hold elected office? If so, what office do you hold?

Current SeaTac Councilmember, Position 3

Q4

What motivates you to serve?

Continuously improving our city and positively impacting the lives of everyone who lives, works, and plays in SeaTac.

Q5

What are the most important issues facing your community today?

Crime, increasing cost of living, insufficient workforce, and community engagement.

Q6

What are your top policy priorities?

Improve public safety, maintain cost of living, increase job training opportunities and public participation.

Q7

In your opinion, what are the most important issues facing businesses today?

Local businesses need better protection from career criminals, require increased workforce availability, and better promotion.

Q8

How do you see yourself partnering with the Chamber and local businesses on these issues?

I have been a strong partner with our local businesses over my 8 years on the council. I've voted to provide a city-funded shuttle service from our hotels to local area businesses, voted to hire more police officers to reduce crime, and voted to provide more job training programs to increase our local workforce. I regularly promote our local businesses and volunteered to deliver food, groceries, and medicine from local businesses to our residents for free during the pandemic.

Q9

What is the City's/County's role in promoting and supporting economic development and business growth?

Economic development has always been one of my top priorities

Q10

What role should local government play in ensuring an adequate workforce is available to meet employers' needs?

SeaTac has partnered with various local workforce training organizations such as Partners in Employment, REWA, and ANEW as well as the airport and Highline College to directly increase and improve workforce availability.

Q11

What are your strategies to address homelessness in your community and regionally?

One of the best ways to address homelessness is to prevent it in the first place. SeaTac spends more per capita on direct human services than any other city towards this approach on things like rental assistance, home repair programs, and job placement. Success from this approach means it has been extremely rare for anyone in SeaTac to become homeless.

Q12

Please describe the top public safety concerns in your community.

Automobile theft as well as smash-and-grabs have increased during the pandemic. Robberies have also increased alarmingly as well as property theft and related property crimes.

Q13

How would you work to address those concerns?

We need to hire more police officers so that we can increase local patrols and improve response times.

Q14

Do you believe the city/county has enough revenue to address our most critical issues?

Yes absolutely, we need to work better at prioritizing revenue spending.

Q15

What can the city/county do to support affordable housing availability in our community?

I have directly spearheaded incentivizing development of more housing including affordable workforce housing so that people who work in SeaTac can live in SeaTac. I'm happy to say that people have already started moving in to the first of such buildings in SeaTac in a true transit-oriented development with ground floor commercial space that will bring in more new local businesses. Notably, SeaTac is currently the most affordable city in King County with the lowest cost of living.

Q16

What can our city/county do to better support small businesses?

Small businesses need to be celebrated, promoted, and protected. Our focus should always prioritize shopping local.

Q17

Is there anything else that you would like our members to know about you?

I'm happy to have a decade-long history of partnering, working with, and supporting our local small businesses and proud to be endorsed by most of our local business owners.

Q18

Please list any endorsements you have received.

As an independent non-partisan, I am regularly endorsed by our local business owners as well as hundreds of local residents and elected officials on both sides of the political aisle. More info on PeterKwon.com

#15

COMPLETE

Page 1

Q1

Candidate Information

Name	Krystal Marx
Position	Burien City Council, Position 6
Email Address	krystal4burien@gmail.com

Q2

If you advance to the General Election, do you intend to attend the 2023 Candidates & Elected Officials Night Reception from 5:00pm to 7:00pm on Wednesday, September 27, 2023?	Yes, I intend to attend the event and have blocked out the time on my calendar
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Q3

Do you currently hold elected office? If so, what office do you hold?

I was previously on the Burien City Council (2018 - 2021)

Q4

What motivates you to serve?

I am motivated to serve by the amazing diversity of our community, and how we all want the same things: safety, the ability to thrive, and to raise our families in a beautiful environment.

Q5

What are the most important issues facing your community today?

Public safety that works for everyone, more support needed for working families, and environmental protections as an airport city.

Q6

What are your top policy priorities?

Working regionally to address homelessness, support for working families, improve public safety, and protect the environment.

Q7

In your opinion, what are the most important issues facing businesses today?

The increasing costs of doing business, as it relates to keeping their business, staff and customers safe, and attracting/retaining a skilled workforce.

Q8

How do you see yourself partnering with the Chamber and local businesses on these issues?

I would love to work with the Chamber on creating a workgroup to address the issues local businesses are facing instead of just talking. We could invite other elected officials (as applicable), the police chiefs from the cities being served by the Chamber, business owners and employees, and actually formulate a plan on how we will address the same problems all of our cities are facing.

Q9

What is the City's/County's role in promoting and supporting economic development and business growth?

The City's role in promoting and supporting economic development and business growth is to pass and maintain policies that make Burien an attractive and safe place to start/run a business. It's also crucial that there is an engaged Economic Development office that proactively and regularly communicates with businesses (both potential and existing), and keeping the Council informed on business needs and successes.

Q10

What role should local government play in ensuring an adequate workforce is available to meet employers' needs?

Local government should make sure there is a fair, competitive minimum wage that keeps workers in their city, and should help fund workforce training programs that help workers develop the skills needed for businesses in their jurisdiction.

Q11

What are your strategies to address homelessness in your community and regionally?

If elected, I would work tenaciously with our community (including those experiencing homelessness), neighboring cities, King County and service providers to provide a wide portfolio of housing options that allow for multiple entry points for housing. Whether safe parking (with services), tiny homes, a 24/7 shelter or permanent supportive housing, we have options... and we can make those options a reality if we fund them.

Q12

Please describe the top public safety concerns in your community.

People are concerned about the visible aspects of homelessness, as well as untreated mental illness and drug use. These issues can often be intertwined and confused for one another, but they are concerns none the less.

Q13

How would you work to address those concerns?

If we want to have a direct impact on crime in our community, we have to focus on the cause of - and rehabilitation from - it, not just how we punish. This is why I helped bring diversion programs, such as Community Court and LEAD, to Burien during my first term in office (2018 - 2021), and look forward to working with the Burien Police Department and organizations such as CHOOSE 180, VOCAL-WA, Public Defender Association and others to address these issues.

Q14

Do you believe the city/county has enough revenue to address our most critical issues?

Burien does not have enough revenue to address our most critical issues, especially if we want to address them in a way that will actually meet the root causes (instead of a constant cycle offend, arrest, jail, release). Burien is currently spending 48% of its budget on police services, and we aren't even fully staffed due to staffing shortages within the King County Sheriff's Office.

Q15

What can the city/county do to support affordable housing availability in our community?

Burien can look for ways to increase efficiencies in our permitting process, helping to remove some of the roadblocks to housing development. Additionally, we need to modify our zoning to allow for more housing types within Burien instead of relying almost entirely on single family zoning to address our affordability crisis.

Q16

What can our city/county do to better support small businesses?

Burien should be looking for ways to empower its residents - many of whom are immigrants - to own and operate their own businesses, or to be seen as a friendly place to start an immigrant-owned business. Existing small businesses who agree to a mentorship program for these businesses could then receive tax breaks/refunds, have their Chamber membership covered, etc.

Q17

Is there anything else that you would like our members to know about you?

I am ready to get to work on behalf of Burien's community of residents, workers, business owners, and customers, and have the experience and commitment to solutions to get the job done!

Q18

Please list any endorsements you have received.

Joe McDermott (District 8 Councilmember, King County Council), Tina Orwall (Representative, 33rd Legislative District) Hugo Garcia (Councilmember, City of Burien) Sarah Moore (Councilmember, City of Burien), Cydney Moore (Councilmember, City of Burien), De'Sean Quinn (Councilmember, City of Tukwila), Amy Falcone (Councilmember, City of Kirkland), Jake Simpson (Mayor, City of SeaTac), Lynne Robinson (Mayor, City of Bellevue), Nigel Herbig (Mayor, City of Kenmore), Corina Pfeil (Councilmember, City of Kenmore), Mason Thompson (Mayor, City of Bothell), Teresa Mosqueda (City of Seattle). More can be found here:
<https://www.krystal4burien.net/support>

#16

COMPLETE

Page 1

Q1

Candidate Information

Name	Cydney Moore
Position	Burien City Council, Position 2
Email Address	Votecydney@gmail.com

Q2

If you advance to the General Election, do you intend to attend the 2023 Candidates & Elected Officials Night Reception from 5:00pm to 7:00pm on Wednesday, September 27, 2023?

Yes, I intend to attend the event and have blocked out the time on my calendar

Q3

Do you currently hold elected office? If so, what office do you hold?

Burien City Council, Position 2

Q4

What motivates you to serve?

I have always been driven to serve my community. Even as a child, I had a strong urge to help others, and dreamed of becoming involved in public service as an elected official someday. I love our city, and have a deep commitment to creating a better future for all the people in it. I have spent many years volunteering for a variety of organizations, investing my time into making Burien a better place. Being a city councilmember is an extension of that. It gives me an opportunity to serve the community at a broader level, and I believe we need leadership who hold that kind of passion and dedication for meeting the diverse needs of our city.

Q5

What are the most important issues facing your community today?

I believe some of the biggest issues we are dealing with right now are a lack of housing, and balancing our budget to maintain operations. We are facing a fiscal cliff, and need to find ways to increase our revenue to avoid cutting the level of service we currently provide - including maintenance for parks and roadways, permitting, and more. We must find ways to improve our economy, and generate more tax revenue to keep the city running. We also have a housing crisis, which is not specific only to Burien, but across the region. We must increase development of housing at all levels, with an emphasis on building affordable housing, in order to sustain the growth we are seeing in our community. Providing stability for our people through housing ensures we have a population that can sustain our local businesses, both as patrons and as part of the workforce, and improves the overall quality of life for our community.

Q6

What are your top policy priorities?

My top policy priorities are: Public Health, Sustainability, and Housing for All. Focusing on public health means ensuring our people have access to the essentials: food, healthcare (including mental health), and education. Ensuring we have safe neighborhoods is also key to keeping our community healthy. When it comes to sustainability, we must be planning for our future: investing in economic growth, improving city infrastructure to accommodate our growing population, practicing good environmental stewardship to protect our lands and waterways, and addressing impacts of climate crisis. Burien is a beautiful city, and we need to ensure it stays that way for generations to come. Housing is essential, and housing for all means we acknowledge the diverse needs of our people and accommodate them through development tailored to our population. Policies that encourage and incentivize housing development will ensure the people who live, work, and shop here will be able to stay here.

Q7

In your opinion, what are the most important issues facing businesses today?

In speaking with business owners, and reviewing the outreach Burien's Economic Development team has done to learn more about concerns of business owners, some of the issues most frequently mentioned are crime, homelessness, and maintaining/attracting customers. Addressing these issues benefits all of our community, and these issues are interconnected. For example, by addressing homelessness, we can reduce the amount of time police spend dealing with people in crisis, which frees them up to respond more quickly to crime. By enabling officers to better address crime, we can reduce business costs for dealing with theft or repairs from vandalism. Reducing crime also helps retain customers, and makes the city more welcoming for those looking to start new businesses or support existing businesses. These are just a few ways we can work to address the concerns of our local businesses, and our community as a whole.

Q8

How do you see yourself partnering with the Chamber and local businesses on these issues?

I believe it is vital to have leaders who are eager to learn about the concerns of our local community, and work collaboratively to address them. Organizations like the Chamber help provide insight into the wants and needs of our business community, which helps offer our elected officials a well-rounded perspective when considering new policy proposals or changes. I appreciate the Chamber facilitating this type of communication and conversations within our community, and value partnership with the Chamber in supporting our local businesses.

Q9

What is the City's/County's role in promoting and supporting economic development and business growth?

I believe the city has an important role in fostering an environment that promotes economic development, and supports growth of business. I am proud of the work Burien has done in this regard, and glad to have been able to play a part in that over the last few years. Offering training for businesses owners to improve marketing is one of the ways our city has worked to support business, as well as seeking out new businesses to invest in and join our community. I have supported proposals to provide businesses reimbursement for repairs, and to create grant programs to sustain small businesses. I proposed the emergency grant funding Burien provided to businesses during the pandemic, and I believe ensuring our city is a partner for businesses during times of hardship is an important way to keep our economy strong. Continuing to seek out new ways to improve the level of support and service our city provides is an important part of creating a city that is welcoming to business.

Q10

What role should local government play in ensuring an adequate workforce is available to meet employers' needs?

I believe local government should prioritize the safety and stability of its people, which in turn ensures a strong workforce is in place to meet the needs of businesses. This means making sure people are healthy, have access to secure housing, promoting and investing in education and training programs, meeting the need for childcare services, and investing in a robust public transportation system to facilitate people commuting to work or school. All of these are areas a local government can put focus and resources into, and I have been a strong supporter of doing so during my time on council.

Q11

What are your strategies to address homelessness in your community and regionally?

I believe in data-driven approaches to solving complex problems like homelessness. Proven strategies that address homelessness include a housing first approach, which immediately gets people off the street and into housing, with support to help them address underlying issues like mental or physical health concerns, addiction, etc. This approach requires us to invest in emergency housing and shelter, along with services like outreach and case management. Another factor that is vital to addressing homelessness is the development of affordable housing; by ensuring we have enough affordable housing, we reduce the likelihood of people losing their housing to begin with, and minimize barriers for those who are transitioning from homelessness back into housing. Maintaining programs that provide rent assistance for people facing eviction is another way to reduce the number of people that end up out on the street.

Q12

Please describe the top public safety concerns in your community.

Some of the top public safety concerns people have expressed in our city include the shortage of police officers we are seeing across King County, traffic and pedestrian safety in high traffic areas, gun violence, and a lack of housing.

Q13

How would you work to address those concerns?

We have a Community Response Team, which deploys mental health specialists to serve as co-responders for emergency calls. Other cities have expanded on this model to create independent crisis response teams that only call police when necessary, which has cut back the strain on officers, reducing police response times and freeing them up to address violent crime. This system could benefit our community immensely as we struggle with policing shortages. In order to address concerns for pedestrian safety, we have to invest in essential infrastructure like sidewalks that make the city more walkable, and reduce traffic-related injuries and fatalities. Reducing gun violence requires an approach that centers education and prevention. Investing in our youth and creating opportunities that support their development keeps them off dangerous paths that too often lead to gangs and gun violence. Addressing poverty also minimizes the likelihood that people will fall into criminal activity.

Q14

Do you believe the city/county has enough revenue to address our most critical issues?

I believe the city does not have enough revenue to address all of our pressing issues. It is vital that we seek collaborative partnerships with our neighboring cities to pool our funds so we can address issues we face regionally, and work to garner financial support from the county, state, and federal governments.

Q15

What can the city/county do to support affordable housing availability in our community?

Our city can work to spur affordable housing development by taking steps like expanding our multi-family tax exemption areas, offering more flexibility for creative development proposals such as allowing variations from our zoning code through Burien's Affordable Housing Demonstration Program, and providing more opportunity for housing density through adjusting zoning (for example, allowing up-zoning).

Q16

What can our city/county do to better support small businesses?

I believe one of the ways our city can better support small businesses is continuing the effort to improve outreach with business owners to solicit feedback, get input, and communicate about opportunities. I am excited about the grant program that is rolling out to provide thousands of dollars from the city to support small businesses, and I want to continue this type of effort. I also believe we need to make it easier for businesses to get through permitting processes, and I would like the city to invest in improvements to neighborhoods that will help draw customers to our local businesses.

Q17

Is there anything else that you would like our members to know about you?

As someone with experience as a small business owner, I understand how much of a struggle it can be to start a company and build it from the ground up. I want Burien to be a place that welcomes new businesses, supports existing businesses, and allows these ventures to thrive. I want a community where we can raise our families, and find opportunities to grow. I want our city to be safe for all our people, somewhere people are proud to call home - and I am committed to doing the work it takes to make this happen. I love this city, and I believe together we can build a brighter future for Burien.

Q18

Please list any endorsements you have received.

I have received endorsements from several organizations, elected officials, community leaders, and local business owners, including, but not limited to: Organizations: King County Democrats, 33rd District Democrats, King County Young Democrats, MLK Labor, SEIU 925, IBEW LOCAL 46, SEIU Healthcare 1199NW, Highline Education Association, Transit Riders Union, OneAmerica Votes, Washington Housing Alliance Action Fund, Alliance for Gun Responsibility Victory Fund, Planned Parenthood Alliance Advocates, Humane Voters of Washington, National Women's Political Caucus. Elected Leaders: King County Executive Dow Constantine, King County Councilmember Joe McDermott, King County Councilmember Dave Upthegrove, Senator Karen Keiser, State Representative Mia Gregerson, State Representative Tina Orwall, Burien City Councilmember Sarah Moore, Burien City Councilmember Hugo Garcia, Seatac Mayor Jake Simpson, Seattle City Councilmember Teresa Mosqueda, Bellevue City Councilmember John Stokes.
