



34th District Democrats State Representative Appointment Questionnaire

Name	Kimberly A. Becklund	Phone Number	206-938-3487
		E-mail Address	Kimbecklund_seattle@yahoo.com
Precinct	1445	Web Page	NA

Present Occupation How Long?	Transportation Policy Advisor; 8 years.
Current Employer	City of Bellevue
Union Affiliations	None presently, though I was a union employee when I worked for Washington State Dept. of Transportation and City of Renton.

**PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS
(YOU MAY USE A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER FOR ANSWERS)**

1. What are the main messages of your campaign?

- The state must play a more direct financial role in transportation, particularly transit. This is essential for realizing the benefits of the state Growth Management Act and ensuring the quality of life of our district and region.
- Ensuring a broad range of affordable housing should be a state role for existing and developing urban areas. This will require ongoing coordination and incentive-based programs with local governments who control zoning decisions.
- I support universal health care for all citizens, specifically a single-payer system. Washington State is in a unique position to address this and lead the country in positioning us for the next federal administration.

2. What are the three most pressing issues facing our District? How do you propose to address these issues in Olympia?

The three most pressing issues facing our district are: (1) transportation/improved mobility, (2) affordable housing, and (3) environmental stewardship.

I will work with House and Transportation leadership to ensure that if the Roads and Transit ballot measure (Prop 1) fails, that Sound Transit can proceed immediately in 2008 with a revised ballot measure. This must include all the projects for West Seattle as they appear in Prop 1. This may also present a good opportunity to advance light rail to West Seattle sooner rather than later. Complimentary to this effort, I will also work with legislative leadership and the Governor to advance new legislation to create new sources of funding for local transit (King County Metro) since we're reached our legal limit on sales tax for local transit. Further, I will introduce legislation that will allocate new state resources to light rail and other modes of regional transit.

Regarding affordable housing, I will introduce legislation that creates a series of affordable housing demonstration projects throughout the state. The bill will list White Center as identified as pilot area. Any new legislation will include supplemental budget resources to support this new program. The purpose of these demonstration projects is to test various local zoning, financial trust development, developer-incentive and partnership tools. State financial incentives will be needed to encourage local participation. The results of the pilot projects to deploy a statewide affordability program. Pilot projects would be required to green development standards, similar those in Portland, OR and Austin, TX.

My environmental agenda includes promoting sustainable energy development [wind, solar, tidal and



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bio-fuels]. I will also push for new requirements for carbon reduction through new aggressive transit targets for urban areas where auto emissions account for nearly half of the environmental degradation. I will also work with our delegation to recruit statewide support to block mining on Maury Island. And finally, I will hold the Governor accountable on her forthcoming recommendations associated with climate change and cleaning up Puget Sound.

3. How have you been involved in the local 34th District Democratic Party? Have you contributed financially to any Democratic Organization or Candidate? Have you been a Precinct Committee Officer? When/Where?

I am a PCO (#1445) and member of the 34th District Democrats. I have served as a voter registrar in Whatcom and King County counties, volunteered for a Democrat seeking re-election in the State House, managed a successful city council campaign in Thurston County for a fellow Democrat and have worked on several democratic campaigns over the years and contribute regularly to non-profit organizations and Democrats that reflect our democratic agenda and values.

4. Have you ever supported or given money to a candidate from another party in a partisan race? If so, to whom and why?

I contributed a small amount to Sam Reed several years ago in his bid for Secretary of State. I did so at the urging of a high-level colleague of mine. He ran successfully against Laura Ruderman. This statewide office is largely non-partisan in its orientation.

5. What is your involvement in the communities that make up the 34th District that shows you are the best candidate for appointment as our State Representative? What would you like us to know about your past experiences and achievements that make you the best candidate for appointment? What distinguishes you from your opponents?

Community Involvement:

I served as my neighborhood association President (Friends of the Junction Neighborhood Assn (Alaska Junction), which included a very successful community outreach and needs assessment process and development of a community plan with specific projects that continue to be implemented, e.g., streetscapes, transit services and cultural activities. This required one-to-one work with citizens, area businesses and property owners. I am working currently with the Delridge Neighborhood Association to help provide additional local and state legislative advocacy in order to advance the organization's goal to develop more affordable housing in the 34th. This work is critical to providing affordable housing for our citizens. I have also joined the Rotary Club of West Seattle and expect to be formally approved by their Board for membership this month. The Rotary provides many civic services in the 34th, especially for underprivileged youth.

Accomplishments:

- Helped form the Washington Transportation Alliance, a statewide coalition of labor and business leaders focused on improving the funding, efficiency and governance of our transportation systems. As the Executive Director, I helped craft and implement state laws governing industry efficiency measures related to design and contracting, helped increase state funding for transportation and form new mechanisms for regional funding;
- As Governor Gregoire's appointee to the Commute Reduction Board, I chaired the Legislative Committee in 2005 and 2006. In 2006, we were successful in passing the CTR Efficiency Act of 2006. This has led new targets for transit for in cities within Urban Growth Boundaries. Adhering to these new requirements will directly improve mobility and air quality. As part the 2007 legislative session, I was successful in securing an additional \$12 million for this program that will help cities grow their transit and non-solo travel services.
- Over the last three years, I played a pivotal in the extension of Sound Transit's light rail program



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that is part of Prop 1 coming to voters on November 6. This was especially significant work for East King County given decades of organized resistance.

- As a lead staff on public transportation matters for the state, I led the creation of a new state program aimed at providing a range of public transportation services for seniors and people with disabilities.
- I created and implemented a state program aimed at making the Washington State Ferries more accessible to people with disabilities.
- I have overseen significant grant programs for municipal governments and have helped to bring millions of new dollars into communities focused on transit and roadway safety projects.
- I have helped prepare numerous state legislative bills, have successfully defeated bad legislation and have developed very productive legislative relationships at the federal, state, regional and local levels over the last 20 years in public service.
- I have been awarded numerous leadership awards for outstanding service. Please see my resume for details.

My Distinguishing Characteristics:

I have the most public policy professional experience of any of the candidates—20 years. Furthermore, my long-time expertise in transportation policy means that I'm uniquely qualified to make tangible contributions to our district immediately. Finally, I have the most significant regional experience in public policy in transportation and land use, which will allow me to clearly translate our needs to legislators in Puget Sound and all corners of the state. I am also very much a "people person"—my ability to communicate and connect with all people and to make long-lasting, mutually productive relationships is certainly a significant asset.

6. What are your views on spending taxpayer money and fiscal responsibility?

I believe that elected officials and citizens alike must view taxes as an investment in our society. There needs to be a clear nexus between what the public pays in taxes and the return they receive on their investment from their government. Moreover, access to government spending and benefit information should be more transparent to the public. I am troubled by Washington state's regressive tax structure and am committed to working on comprehensive reforms. I am equally concerned about the sustainability of our tax structure in the face of very challenging future needs associated with a growing and aging population.

7. How would you balance continued growth with the quality of the environment? What is your strategy for accomplishing this balance as a State Representative?

I am a strong supporter of the state Growth Management Act that requires that infrastructure to support growth be deployed concurrently with development. While we have made some strides in ensuring the livability of our growing communities, we have much more to do in several areas—smart growth, urban design/planning, reducing our carbon footprint and air and water quality. I will work very hard to develop new tools that require development to pay for the impacts associated with that growth. Critical to community vitality and environmental sustainability are state and local requirements for green building. I will support new legislation that, over time, requires more stringent green building requirements for cities and supplemental state resources for advancing new technology for energy production.



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8. What role should State government play in providing adequate healthcare to all residents of the State of Washington?

The legislature should enact a law allowing Washington State to be a test state for a single-payer system. This could lead what could eventually be a national single-payer, universal health care system. It is not good enough that citizens are insured. We must have a government that is committed to prevention of illness and is responsive to demand for health services that its citizens require. Cost containment is a very significant goal of the single-payer system. I support this approach over any other models. Key to this approach is breaking the influence of corporations dictating health policy.

9. What is your position on equal rights for same-sex couples when it comes to benefits, civil unions, marriage and parental rights?

I am strongly supportive of equal rights for same-sex couples when it comes to benefits, civil unions, marriage and parental rights.

10. What creative solutions within State government can you offer to address the problems of the economically disadvantaged? How do you propose to create quality family-wage jobs within our District?

A fundamental change that would assist economically disadvantaged citizens is an overhaul of our highly regressive tax structure. The single most important factor for individuals' economic success is education. I support significant increases in state support for schools at all levels, long-overdue increases in teacher pay and simple majority for local levy votes. Much of this could be accomplished by a reformed tax structure. I also support the good work of the Puget Sound Regional Council's Prosperity Partnership. In order to create more family-wage jobs within our district, I will make a full assessment of the needs of our residents and then determine how to leverage state resources to stimulate targeted job growth.

11. Given the issues that arose in the 2004 Washington State Gubernatorial election, what changes would you seek in statewide voting and/or election processes? What changes would you make, if any, to State laws regarding restoration of voting rights for ex-felons?

I am convinced there must be printed record of each vote cast. We've seen so many abuses and inadequacies with our voting accuracy around the country in recent years. I am very concerned about this and would whole heartedly support measures to ensure greater accuracy and enhance public confidence in voting system. I will support legislation for those who have paid their debt to society to have full voting privileges.

12. What have you done to support workers' rights to collectively bargain? Would you co-sponsor a card check neutrality bill as State Representative?

I have been a union member and fully support collective bargaining and would be comfortable co-sponsoring card check neutrality bill similar to that passed by the U.S. House of Representatives earlier this year (Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA)). Similar state legislation should guarantee workers the right to organize through card-check recognition procedures. This legislation is essential to make sure that workers can organize, free from employer interference and coercion.

13. What is your position on the Alaskan Way Viaduct? What are the fundamental transportation challenges facing the 34th District and what solutions would you propose or support in Olympia?

The viaduct is unsafe and must have a remedy for its replacement to ensure adequate travel capacity. Before I offer a specific plan, I am awaiting the results from Seattle's pending study of downtown circulation improvements. We will have much better information early next year. That said, I am more in favor of transit solutions and will support efforts bring more transportation choices to this corridor and surrounding transportation systems, including bus, rail and ferry modes. My proposed legislative actions concerning transportation are shown above under questions 1 & 2.



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14. Do you have any ideas on how State government can advance civil rights and expand opportunity for all people regardless of race, gender, age, or religious views?

I am in favor of strengthening Washington's civil rights laws; especially in the areas of police practices, privacy, racial justice, reproductive rights and women's rights. I will seek to reinstate Washington's affirmative action laws repealed by I-200. I will also work to expand the role and oversight of the Human Rights Commission to constructively assess and propose specific legislative changes to strengthen our laws.

15. By most measures, our children are way behind other industrialized countries in academic test scores and generating high-quality graduates that are ready for the workforce. How should the legislature best address this?

The state legislature can address this through a host of strategies as offered by the Governor's Washington Learns initiatives and the Prosperity Partnership's education recommendations. Many of these proposals will require significant new state resources that might require commensurate tax reform. For example, the state can play a direct role in developing finely focused sectors of the economy that will best meet future global and local demands.

16. Where do you stand on public financing of campaigns in Washington?


I whole heartedly support public financing of elected official campaigns within Washington State and for all national races. This is the only way to create a true level playing field and break the grip of big corporate and special interests. I believe public opinion in Washington state supports this approach and I will work to bring about legislative change to this end.

17. What specific proposals do you have to improve our criminal justice system in this State? What can the legislature do to address domestic violence? More generally, what policy initiatives would you support to reduce gun violence?

To strengthen our criminal justice system, I will support legislation aimed at effective treatment programs and rehabilitation over imprisonment. There's much evidence from around the country that this approach can significantly reduce crime and recidivism. Some of these approaches are being implemented by King County. That said, our demand for jail capacity is increasing dramatically, and the state will likely need to play a role in funding treatment options and new correctional facilities. As mentioned before, education is the single most important factor for improving our overall quality of life, including reducing criminal activity. I will look at strategies being tried in several jurisdictions, many of which have shown real promise. Massachusetts apparently has the most stringent gun control laws in the nation and I am particularly interested in assessing their efficacy and suitability for implementation here in Washington. I will support a ban on assault weapons and closing gun show loopholes.



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<p>Signature</p> 		<p>October 15, 2007</p>	
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Please attach your resume.