

<b>Candidate Name</b>	Jon Grant	
<b>Position Sought</b>	Seattle City Council, position 8	
Home Legislative District	37th LD	
<b>Are you a Democrat?</b> Are you known as a Democrat?	I am running as an independent democratic socialist	
<b>Campaign Name</b>	People for Jon Grant	
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Consultant(s)	WinPower Consulting	

## Part I – Candidate Background

Please briefly describe your qualifications, education, employment, community and civic activity, union affiliation, and other relevant experience. Attach a resume with more complete history.

I have ten years of experience as an advocate and organizer for housing affordability. I served for five years as the Executive Director of the Tenants Union and before that worked at Solid Ground as a tenant advocate. Last year I served as Outreach Director for Raise Up Washington, a coalition of small businesses, community groups and labor organizations working to raise the statewide minimum wage and pass paid sick and safe leave.

Describe your history of involvement in Washington state politics. What offices have you previously sought election or appointment to? What campaigns have you worked on?

I previously ran for Seattle City Council, position 8 in 2015 against Tim Burgess. Despite being outspent 8:1, I received 45% of the vote in a citywide race. Last year I served as Outreach Director for Initiative 1433 to raise the statewide minimum wage and pass paid sick and safe leave. I was the top signature gatherer in the state, personally collecting 3,000 signatures to help put I-1433 on the ballot. In November, the initiative passed by nearly 60% statewide.

What prompted you to run for this office? What priorities are you seeking to address with your campaign?

I am running for Seattle City Council because in the Donald Trump era it will be up to local movements to create models of change for the rest of the country to follow. We have an opportunity to win a progressive majority on the Seattle City Council, and I have over ten years of experience building power in our community through grassroots organizing to win progressive policy. I am running for city council on a bold platform for housing affordability, police accountability, climate justice, immigrants rights and gender pay equity. I believe that the affordable housing crisis is the biggest issue facing our city. As a housing activist I have seen too many families priced out of Seattle. I know that we need bolder leadership if we hope to truly address the housing affordability crisis.

List the notable endorsements you have received to date. Who are you planning to ask for an endorsement?

We have received endorsements from SEIU Local 6 and Our Revolution Ballard. We are seeking endorsements from all major labor unions, community groups like APACE, the Sierra Club, etc. and Democratic legislative districts that allow for endorsements of non-Democrats.

Describe the progress of your campaign and campaign goals. For instance, how many doors have you knocked on? What earned media has your campaign received? How much money have you raised?

To date, our campaign has raised the most money of any candidate in the position 8 race. We are refusing all donations from corporations, CEOs and developers and are fundraising entirely through the new Democracy Voucher program. To date, we have raised nearly \$100,000. Our average donation is just \$19, and almost 95% of our donations are sourced from publicly financed Democracy Vouchers. Over 90% of our donors live in Seattle.

Our campaign is focused heavily on field outreach. We have four paid field staff to reach voters all across Seattle. Our goal is to knock 25,000 doors before the August 1 primary. We have knocked 2,000 so far and will be gearing up quickly to reach our goal.

We have received regular earned media since announcing. The Seattle Times featured our campaign in a January story about the Democracy Voucher program. Our campaign has been involved in organizing alongside homeless residents to stop the sweeps and has been featured in multiple stories by the Stranger and Seattle Weekly about the sweeps. We were recently profiled in the South Seattle Emerald.

Have you ever been a member of any other political party? If so, what party? Have you ever given money to a candidate from another party in a partisan race? If so, to whom and when?

In 2015, I ran as a Democrat. I am currently filed as an independent and my values align with democratic socialism.

Please answer the following questions.		Yes*	No
1	Have you ever failed to pay any taxes or court ordered judgments?		No
2	Have you ever been found in violation of a Public Disclosure Commission, Federal Election Commission or Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission regulation?		No

\* If you answered "Yes" to any of the above, please explain your answer:

## Part II – Local and State Issues

#	Question	Yes	No	Qualify your response
1	Do you support amending the U.S. Constitution to lessen the influence of money in politics, and declare that corporations do not have the rights of natural persons?	Yes		I am participating in the new Democracy Voucher program because I believe it is critical to reduce the role of private money in politics. That's also why I am refusing to accept any donations from corporations, CEOs or developers.
2	Do you support the right of public workers, excluding military, to bargain and strike?	Yes		Yes, absolutely. Collective bargaining is an important and fundamental tool for workers. I know from firsthand experience. As a former member of the OPEIU Local 8 there was a dispute between our labor negotiation team and management at a former employer over the stagnation of our Cost of Living Adjustment. Workers pushed back and got a lot of help from our Local against the proposal, and ended up with a more equitable COLA that did not rely exclusively on a percentage increase based on salary. We would have been completely taken advantage of by the administration if we had not been unionized. Out of that experience I volunteered to be trained by my union to become a Shop Steward in order assist my co-workers in asserting their Weingarten rights.

3	Do you support increasing the minimum wage in your jurisdiction to \$15/hr or higher?	Yes	<p>Last year, I served as Outreach Director for Initiative 1433 to raise the statewide minimum wage and pass paid sick and safe leave. I collaborated with labor activists, workers and volunteers to win higher wages for 730,000 Washingtonians and expand sick and safe leave to 1 million workers in the state.</p> <p>I strongly support our \$15 minimum wage alongside robust enforcement of wage laws. Unfortunately, we know that even with the new wage levels workers will struggle. I believe workers should earn a living wage, and support increasing wages further since the average Seattle worker would need to earn \$29/hour to afford an average two bedroom apartment.</p>
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4	Do you support legislation at the local and state level to require equal pay for women and people of color?	Yes	<p>My platform includes robust support for gender pay equity policies, including paid family leave. I support the city's current proposal that is being considered to provide up to six months paid family leave to all workers in Seattle. The plan will provide 26 weeks of paid leave for workers to care for a new child or a family member with serious medical condition. The policy also builds on the city's current paid sick leave policy, expanding it to 12 weeks of paid leave for employees facing a serious medical condition.</p> <p>Additionally, I believe the city must prohibit the employer's use of a job applicant's previous pay rate in determining future compensation. It is a standard practice for employers to require job applicants to disclose their previous salary in making compensation decisions for their potential employment. However, because there is an existing pay gap between men and women, and between white people and people of color, this perpetuates the cycle of pay inequity. Compensation should be determined by previous experience (not previous wages), credentials, and the demands of the job.</p>
5	Are you willing to undergo and ask your staff and peers to undergo training to understand and combat institutional racism and implicit bias?	Yes	<p>As Executive Director of the Tenants Union, I mandated all-staff anti-racism training conducted by the People's Institute for Survival and Beyond. For my current campaign, we are planning an all-staff anti-racism training as well. I would continue this commitment to on-going training as City Councilmember.</p>

6	Do you support raising revenue at the city level to expand transit service?	Yes		The \$930 million Move Seattle levy is providing crucial funding to transportation infrastructure in our city. Yet if we want to fully fund Vision Zero, complete the full-20 year Bicycle Master Plan and invest in complete streets across the city, we need to identify other more progressive funding sources such as a Corporate Employee Tax (Head Tax) and impact fees.
7	Do you support development impact fees to pay for schools, roads, and parks, as allowed under the Growth Management Act?	Yes		<p>Growth should pay for growth. Under the Growth Management Act (GMA), any transportation project that is necessitated by new growth and development can be funded by an impact fee. In areas such as far north and far south Seattle which lack adequate sidewalk infrastructure, impact fees associated with new development can support construction of safer streets.</p> <p>Developers profit off of Seattle's rapid growth, but do not pay their fair share through mechanisms like the impact fee. For well over a decade, the city has had the authority to enact developer impact fee legislation, but it has failed to do so. This has a lot to do with the fact that our City Council is too cozy with downtown developers. This creates a conflict of interest, and we need to demand that developers pay their fair share.</p>
8	Do you support building a municipally owned and operated broadband system in your city?	Yes		The Comcast/CenturyLink duopoly on broadband service is failing our city. Access to internet is an equity issue. In 2014, a city report found that nearly 20% of Seattle households lack any internet access. We can act for equity in our city by supporting a municipal broadband program.
9	Do you agree that municipal government should use its borrowing capacity to fund additional units of affordable housing?	Yes		We are in a critical housing crisis. We must explore every option available to the city to increase the supply of affordable housing, including using bonding capacity to build affordable housing.

10	Do you support protecting what is left of our urban tree canopy with strong tree ordinances that require property owners to consult with city government prior to cutting down trees?	Yes		Having an expansive tree canopy is critical to ensuring equitable access to green space and mitigating the impact of emissions in our city.
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11	Do you support infrastructure to make it easier to walk and bike on your city's streets?	Yes	<p>We need to fully fund the Bicycle Master Plan, invest in Vision Zero and identify more progressive funding sources instead of continually relying on regressive property taxes.</p> <p>Rates of bicycle commuting are essentially flat from two years ago, even as the share of commuters taking public transportation continues to rise. Access to safe, connected and well-designed bicycle infrastructure is an equity, environmental and affordability issue. If we are serious as a city about reducing traffic deaths and increasing the rates of cycling in the city, we must get the Bicycle Master Plan back on track.</p> <p>Additionally, I support the Basic Bicycle Network campaign to prioritize connectivity and safety in downtown Seattle. Currently, the City of Seattle is designing the One Center City plan to integrate all modes of transportation downtown. Unfortunately, the current draft neglects cycling and pedestrian infrastructure. Integrating a Basic Bicycle Network into the One Center City plan will help the city meet its goals for mode share, climate change and Vision Zero.</p> <p>Every year, 20 people in Seattle die in traffic collisions and 150 more are seriously injured. Nearly 50% of traffic deaths are pedestrians and cyclists. Investing in safe streets will increase rates of walking and biking in our city and protect all Seattle residents.</p> <p>The City of Seattle has committed to Vision Zero, with a goal of achieving zero traffic deaths and serious traffic injuries by 2030. This is a plan with major equity implications, given the disproportionate number of traffic deaths and injuries in the South End. I support the city's commitment to Vision Zero. I support increasing funding for the Vision Zero in this year's budget and establishing a multi-year funding program to fully implement Vision Zero.</p>
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12	Do you support allowing coal or oil to be exported from Washington State's ports?	No		Climate change is happening and happening quickly. We need to draw lines in the sand to prevent new fossil fuel infrastructure being built and hasten the transition to renewable energy.
13	Do you support requiring police officers in your jurisdiction to wear body cameras?	Yes		<p>One of the big problems that we saw come out of the consent decree was when the Department of Justice investigation found over 200 cases of excessive force and racial discrimination existed, not a single one of those police officers was fired. Implementing the use of body cameras can be a useful tool but will ultimately be insufficient until we reform disciplinary processes for officers.</p> <p>To address this, I support eliminating the Discipline Review Board (currently comprised of three people, two officers and one civilian chosen by the police department). Instead, the Community Police Commission needs to be given the authority to set department policy and also to discipline officers after OPA found there was an incident of excessive force of racial profiling.</p>
14	Do you support repealing Tim Eyman's I-747, which artificially limits property tax increases to 1% per year, regardless of population growth, inflation, and need?	Yes		Tim Eyman has been illegally profiting off of campaigns for years and it's time to repeal his toxic tax proposal which hamper our ability to levy appropriate local taxes.
15	Once elected, will you work to get diverse candidates elected to office?	Yes		Representation matters. Diverse candidates bring essential perspectives lacking in many elected bodies. I would support diverse candidates willing to stand up to power and demand progressive change in our communities.

16	Do you support women's right to reproductive freedom?	Yes		I absolutely and unequivocally support a women's right to reproductive freedom. We must also work for reproductive justice to ensure that all individuals have access to the reproductive care that they need. We must be especially cognizant and proactive about protecting and expanding the rights of trans and gender-nonconforming individuals to receive the needed healthcare.
17	Do you support all municipalities in King County implementing a "Ban the Box" program as is already in place in Seattle and Spokane?	Yes		Yes. It is unjust and illogical to continue to punish offenders after they have paid their debt to society. Ban the Box supports reintegration of felons into our society and helps reduce recidivism rates.
18	Will you form a task force to gather input from disabled persons to identify and remedy hazards for pedestrians, and will you work to have these suggestions implemented?	Yes		A 2015 lawsuit filed against this city of Seattle on the basis of ADA violations for curb ramps demonstrates the necessity of including disabled persons in decision making processes. I would support forming a task force and working to implement their recommendations.
19	Do you support "Gender Neutral" bathrooms throughout the city?	Yes		Absolutely. We must also ease the permitting processes for businesses who want to put in specially designed gender neutral bathrooms (for example, the "toilets" and "urinals" style bathroom at Optimism Brewing).

### Part III – Free Response Questions

Please review the 2016 King County Democratic Platform, approved by the delegates to the King County Convention and available from KCDCC's website. List which planks, if any, you disagree with, and why.

My only concerns with the King County Democratic Platform is a few planks that I feel do not go far enough. First, the civil rights plank does not explicitly express support for civilian oversight of police departments. I believe strongly that the police cannot police themselves. Second, I would support building on part 17 in the Education plank to more explicitly support restorative justice programs in schools. Finally, under the government and political reform plank, I would support adding the right of non-citizens and undocumented immigrants to vote in municipal elections.

As an elected leader, what will you do to promote increased awareness of the climate crisis, and what public policy would you endorse to reduce emissions and penalize producers of pollutants?

The climate crisis is fundamentally a justice issue. Poor communities and communities of color feel the impact of climate change first and worst, both in the Seattle community and around the world. South Park and Georgetown, two diverse low-income areas, have the worst air quality in the city because of burning fossil fuels. Life expectancy in those neighborhoods are a full 13 years shorter than wealthier communities. Asthma and respiratory infections rates in this area are the highest in the county. We are already home to refugees fleeing drought-stricken countries.

First, I support building on our divestment from Wells Fargo to demand the city divest from any companies invested in fossil fuel projects. The city currently has its pension fund invested in the fossil fuel industry. I think that the next step we take to show solidarity with indigenous rights movement and the climate crisis is to fully divest.

Second, I support increasing density in Seattle without contributing to displacement. As Seattle adds over 100,000 new residents in the next 20 years, it is critical that we find equitable balance between inviting new members of our community and protecting against displacement of low-income families and communities of color. Displacement due to skyrocketing housing costs is a real and growing problem in Seattle. When low and middle wage workers and families are forced to move farther away from their job, the long commute times and reliance on personal vehicles contributes to Seattle's carbon footprint and the suburbanization of poverty. We can address these issues by focusing on increasing density without displacement and equitable transit-oriented development (TOD).

Describe your vision for tax reform and tax fairness. What changes to the state's tax system would you ask the Legislature to make? If you were in charge of putting together a budget proposal for your city or district, what would it look like? Would you be willing to raise revenue to avoid harmful cuts to public services?

In Seattle, we have several untapped sources of revenue that we should be leveraging to pay for public services. I believe that growth should pay for growth. I support raising taxes on Seattle's largest corporations to reduce the reliance on regressive property and sales taxes to pay for city services. The mayor recently proposed two different initiatives to pay for homeless services, first a property tax and then a sales tax. I believe we need to demand that corporations who are contributing to the housing crisis pay their fair share to pay for housing and homelessness. Additionally, I support impact fees from new developments to pay for schools and sidewalks. I believe we should implement Corporate Employee Tax (Head Tax) to help pay for transportation investments.

I would ask the state Legislature to revisit the ban on income taxes. I support Transit Riders Union campaign to pass a 2.5% tax on earned income, applying to Seattle households with gross incomes of more than \$250,000 a year. This tax would impact only 5-10% of Seattle households, yet would generate up to \$100 million in city funding per year. Too often Seattle and Washington state rely on regressive taxes like sales taxes to fund necessary social services. It's time that Seattle's wealthiest households pay their fair share.

I definitely support raising revenue to avoid cuts to public services. We have enough in our city to pay for our resources if only we are willing to demand that those making the most pay their fair share.

What important state and local issues have you worked on (or taken an interest in) that you feel aren't getting enough attention from elected leaders and the media?

I believe that how elected officials approach the housing and homelessness crisis is crucial in whether or not we can adequately serve all residents in our city. Different levels of government have outsized influence on different policy areas. The federal government has tremendous influence on immigration policy. The state government has tremendous influence on education. Local government has tremendous influence in one critical area: land use. This is why developers 'invest' enormous sums of money to buy seats on the city council, and Mayor's office. For this reason I believe the true test of whether you are actually a progressive at the city level falls on your politics regarding land use.

Many elected leaders in Seattle spout rhetoric about housing affordability. Yet yesterday, when faced with the proposal to raise mandatory affordability requirements for new development in downtown and South Lake Union from 2% to 5%, only two city council members voted in favor of more affordability. At the same meeting, council members were silent when addressed from community members facing sweeps by the city of their homeless encampment. The sweep of hundreds of individuals, including many who were displaced by the city just a month ago from another encampment, is not being adequately addressed by elected leaders or covered by the media. While housing affordability is getting attention from both elected leaders and the media, I believe strongly that neither are approaching it from the right angle.

What would you do to address social justice issues?

I am incorporating a social justice lens to every aspect of my platform. My housing platform takes a radical approach to affordability by empowering tenants to collectively bargain for their rents. My climate justice platform focuses on prioritizing indigenous rights over private profit and my racial justice platform calls for civilian oversight of the police, ending youth detention and investing in restorative justice. I support gender pay equity and paid family leave. I support empowering immigrants to vote in municipal elections and creating a legal defense for immigrants in Seattle. I oppose sweeps of the homeless in Seattle.

**I affirm that all the information provided in response to this questionnaire is true, complete and correct, to the best of my ability, and that no relevant matter has been omitted.**

Signature	Jon Grant	Date: 4/11/2017
Printed Name	Jon Grant	