



34DEMS.ORG

34TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT DEMOCRATS

WEST SEATTLE ★ WHITE CENTER ★ BURIEN ★ VASHON AND MAURY ISLANDS

Chair’s Message...

As we approach the end of 2019 and my first year as Chair, I’ll be reaching out to members individually to ask for feedback and thoughts on how the 34th Democrats can better fulfill our mission. If you have ideas for how we can improve our community outreach, advocacy, events, or election efforts going into 2020 – or if you have other thoughts or concerns you’d like to discuss-- please email me at chair@34dems.org to schedule a time to meet. Whether you’ve been a longtime member and leader with the 34th Democrats, or are newly involved, I look forward to hearing your insights.

While we’re already planning for 2020, we aren’t there yet! Ballots come out this month for our local elections, and the 34th Democrats is supporting a strong slate of progressive candidates – including two Burien City Council candidates running tight races against conservatives. This month is the perfect time to canvass our precincts and deepen our neighbor-to-neighbor relationships with voters (and register new ones) in advance of next year. Check out our upcoming canvasses and phone banks for our endorsed candidates at www.34dems.org/events/ or email Nick Bonazza at pco@34dems.org to get your precinct turf.

If you’re not a Precinct Committee Officer (PCO) for your neighborhood, I hope you’ll check out the map and list below which shows where we still need folks. PCOs are the face of the Democratic Party in our communities – they are the neighborhood captains charged with knocking on folks’ doors to register them to vote, talking to them about why we should support progressive candidates, and reminding them to turn in their ballots. You can enter your address here at www.kingcounty.gov/depts/elections/elections/maps/find-my-districts.aspx to see which precinct you live in, and learn more about PCOs here at www.34dems.org/get-active/pco/

Now, let’s rock the vote!

Gina Topp
Chair, 34th District Democrats

Renew or Become a Member at
34dems.org
www.34dems.org/contribute

Wednesday, October 9, 2019

Meeting Notice

**The Hall at Fautleroy, 9131 California Ave SW
9131 California Ave SW (Across from the YMCA.)
On the “C” Metro Line**

6:30 Potluck Social Time. Please bring a dish to share

7:00 Call to Order

Opening Ceremonies

Pledge of Allegiance

VIP Acknowledgements

Review and Approval of the Minutes and Agenda

Approval of the Minutes

Adoption of the Agenda

Report of Officers and Standing Committees

Chair’s Report

Membership and Treasurer’s Report

State Committee Report

PCO Committee Report

Events Committee Report (Holiday Party Invitation)

7:30 Our Climate Crisis

We’re excited to announce that we will host Alec Connon from 350 Seattle at our October 9th meeting! Alec is a dynamic speaker and will provide an engaging program for us about climate. 350 Seattle is an international movement of ordinary people working to end the age of fossil fuels and build a world of community-led renewable energy for all.

8:00 New Business

Endorsement of the Vashon-Maury Hospital District

Endorsement in Opposition to Initiative 976

Endorsement in Support of Referendum 88

School Board Endorsements

Appointment of PCOs

8:30 Good of the Order

8:45 Adjourn to Whiskey West

In This Issue

Chair’s Message..... Page 1
KCDCC Report Page 2
Bulletin Board..... Page 3
September Meeting Recap..... Page 4
I-976 and R88..... Page 6
Vashon Prop. 1..... Page 7
Recognition Award Nominations Page 7

Executive Board

Elected Officers

Gina Topp | Chair
chair@34dems.org

Rachel Glass | First Vice Chair
vicechair1@34dems.org

Sophia Aragon | Second Vice Chair
vicechair2@34dems.org

Chris Porter | State Committee Person 1
wsdccc@34dems.org

Ann Martin | State Committee Person 2
wsdccc@34dems.org

Max Brown | King Co. Committeeperson 1
kcdccm@34dems.org

Leah Griffin | KC Committeeperson 2
kcdccw@34dems.org

Ted Barker | KC Committee Alt. 1
kcdccma@34dems.org

Martha Koester | King Co. Committee Alt. 2
kcdccwa@34dems.org

Carla Rogers | Secretary
secretary@34dems.org

Ben Reilly | Treasurer
treasurer@34dems.org

Committee Chairs

David Ginsberg | Bylaws
bylaws@34dems.org

Rachel Glass | Caucus and Elections
vicechair1@34dems.org

Carla Rogers | Communications
digcomm@34dems.org

Sofia Aragon | Diversity & Inclusion
inclusion@34dems.org

Jacqui Morris & Lacey Watson | Events
events@34dems.org

Dawn Rains | Membership
membership@34dems.org

DeLancey Lane | Fundraising
fundraising@34dems.org

Jesse Greene | Hospitality
hospitality@34dems.org

Les Treall | Leadership Development
future@34dems.org

Jordan Crawley | Legislative Action
lac@34dems.org

Dawn Rains | Finance
finance@34dems.org

Steve Butts & Karen Richter | Outreach
outreach@34dems.org

Nick Bonazza | PCO Coordination
pco@34dems.org

Gina Topp | Program
chair@34dems.org

Other Roles

Steve Butts | Newsletter Editor
newsletter@34dems.org

Allan Munro | Parliamentarian

KCDCC Meeting - September 25, 2019

At KCDCC this month, much was achieved. The group voted to endorse Mason Thompson for Bothell City Council, Barbara de Michele for Issaquah City Council, Carol Barber for Public Hospital District 1, Tam Dinh for Mercer Island School Board, Damiana Merryweather for Seatac City Council position 3, and Mohamed Egal for Seatac City Council position 7.

Chair Shasti Conrad reminded the group that there are many opportunities for canvassing, and encourages everyone to knock on doors.

We received an update from the DNC on the challenges in running a climate change focused Presidential Debate, the creation of a new DNC Environmental and Climate Council, and a resolution recommitting the DNC to upholding civil rights.

The Committee also voted to allocate just over \$3,000 to support candidates in the Seatac City Council races. With minority owned businesses being pushed out of a majority minority city, the committee felt that the contribution dollars were most needed in Seatac.

There were several committee reports.

The Infrastructure and Elections Committee is in need of help documenting KCDCC's history. If you have any materials (agendas, paperwork of any kind) from KCDCC, please forward that material to hanna.floss@gmail.com. Unfortunately, much of the organization's history was lost during a transition.

The Policy and Program Committee, led by our own Max Brown, reported on a fantastic Census event where 2/3 of the attendees were non party members. Great outreach! We can all look forward to future ballot parties in conjunction with canvases, and a lobbying training.

The communications committee is reaching out to young people on Instagram. They have over 400 followers, and you can be one if you follow @kingcountydems

The committee passed a number of resolutions.

The committee passed; a resolution opposing state initiative 976, a resolution condemning "Safe Seattle" as a hate group, a resolution opposing big money PAC influence in Seattle elections, a resolution opposing new and expanded gas infrastructure in Washington State, a resolution in support of the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission's Draft Tree and Urban Forest Protection Ordinance, and a resolution in support of restoring the state's overtime threshold.

Submitted by Leah Griffin, KCDCC Committee Person



New PCOs! DeLancey Lane and Mike Mattmiller were appointed at our September meeting.

34th District Bulletin Board

Executive Board

Open to all of our members

Ann Martin's Home (This month only)
3618 SW Orchard
Wednesday, October 16, 7:00 p.m.

Other Meetings or Events:

West Seattle Drinking Liberally
Pizzeria 22, 4213 SW College St.
Every 1st Tuesday, 6:00 pm

Evergreen Democratic Club
Angelo's Italian Restaurant
601 SW 153rd St., Burien
Tuesday, October 8, 12pm

Metropolitan Democratic Club
Gethsemane Lutheran Church
911 Stewart St., Seattle 98101
2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 12-1:30 pm

Burien Drinking Liberally
Angelo's Italian Restaurant
601 SW 153rd St.
Wednesday, October 23, 6:30pm

West Seattle Democratic Women
For more information regarding upcoming meetings check:
www.westseattledemocraticwomen.org
Or inquire at: contact.wsdw@gmail.com

King County Democrats Monthly Meeting
Carpenters Union Hall
231 Burnett Ave N
Renton, WA 98057
Tuesday, October 22, 7:00 pm

Re-Elect Leslie Harris

Seattle School Board Position # 6

Transparency - Trust - Equity

PASS THE HAT KICK-OFF for GOTV
(get out the vote!)

Tuesday, October 8, 6-8pm

at The Bridge

6301 California Ave SW
(21 and older only)

Endorsed by *The Seattle Times* and *The Stranger*



**NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC
TRAINING COMMITTEE**

NDTC BLUE BENCH TRAINING

The Washington State Democrats have partnered with the National Democratic Training Committee (NDTC) to offer a free, in-person training in Seattle. You will receive instruction from the NDTC's professional training staff in the essential elements of campaigning, including fundraising, messaging, digital communications, and voter contact strategy and tactics.

Three tracks are available: Local party-building, Running for office or Volunteer skills.

Saturday, October 19, 9:00am to 4:30pm

At the Seattle Machinist Hall, 9125 15th Place S, Seattle
Cost is FREE (and lunch is included)!

Register [HERE](#)

Or Contact Chris Carter, WA Dems chris@wa-democrats.org

A Reception for

**JAY INSLEE
FOR GOVERNOR**

Thursday, October 10th 6:00 – 7:30pm

At the home of Maryanne Tagney and David Jones
Co-hosted by Oscar Velasco-Schmitz

9343 Fautleroy Way SW, Seattle

Suggested Contribution: Co-host \$2,000 | Champion 1,000
| Advocate \$500 | Friend \$250 | Guest \$100

Online RSVP [HERE](#) or

to Lily Eriksen at (206) 328-2969 or Lily.Eriksen@jayinslee.com



**Postcards
to
Voters**

Every Thursday morning at 10:00-noon

At C&P Coffee

5612 California Ave SW

A great way for us to help out-of-state districts that need help with GOTV efforts!

Contact Information and Committee Assignments for Our Legislators

Senator

Joe Nguyen

Human Services,
Reentry & Rehabilitation (Vice
Chair), Environment, Energy &
Technology
Rules
Transportation

213 John A. Cherberg Building
PO Box 40434
Olympia, WA 98504
(360) 786 - 7667



Representative Eileen Cody

Chair, Health and Wellness
Appropriations

303 John L. O'Brien Building
PO Box 40600
Olympia, WA 98504
(360) 786 - 7978



Representative Joe Fitzgibbon

Environment & Energy (Chair)
Appropriations
Rural Development, Agriculture,
& Natural Resources

305 John L. O'Brien Building
PO Box 40600
Olympia, WA 98504
(360) 786 - 7952



Letters and Submitted Articles

We are Democrats, and like most Democrats we have strong opinions and like to express them. We welcome letters and articles.

All submissions are subject to editing. If submissions need to be shortened, you will be given the option of editing your own work.

Photos and notices of upcoming events are always welcome.

The deadline for the November newsletter will be Thursday October 31, 2019.

Mail to Steve Butts,
10254 36th Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98146
or email to newsletter@34dems.org

In Case You Missed Our Last Meeting...

The September meeting began again with recognition of first-time attendees, and they were given the opportunity to rise to introduce themselves. One man from Burien came to the meeting after speaking with Nick Bonazza, who met him with canvassing. Highline School Board candidate Aaron Garcia, and several of his supporters also addressed us. And a gentleman, also from Burien, rose to inform us that he was attending his first political assembly since 1968.

In her Chair's Message, Gina Topp spoke about the work of several committees to revise our processes. Chris Porter is leading a group to update our Code of Conduct. Art Chippendale has taken charge of revamping our Bylaws, changes to which began to be contemplated last year. And Jordan Crawley is working to better define our procedures for presenting resolutions to the body. The final drafts of these committees are to be presented at our November meeting.

A program on homelessness was kicked off by Sofia Aragon. A two-person panel consisted of Robin Koskey, the Public Information Officer for the Seattle Office of Housing, and Daniel Malone, who is the Executive Director of the Downtown Emergency Services Center, gave the presentation.

Koskey presented what the city is doing to increase affordable housing and laid out a series of statistics. Overall about 35 percent of Seattle households are "cost burdened", meaning that they are spending more than 30% of their income on housing. Two-thirds of low-income households are so burdened, with 4 in 10 spending more than 50 percent on housing. Cost burdens are disproportionately borne by households of color. The current stock of 30,000 cost-restricted units is but a fraction of the need of such.

Mayor Durkin's plans includes:

- Using \$78 million from the sale of the city-owned "Mercer Mega Block" Properties in South Lake Union for housing purposes, such as acquiring property for affordable



Sen Joe Nguyen speaks about the short session in Olympia coming up.

development and providing loans for the construction of accessory dwelling units, i.e. backyard “mother-in-law” cottages.

- \$50 million for permanent supportive housing to serve the most vulnerable adults
- Permanently Affordable Homeownership through assistance to modest income families allowing them to purchase starter homes that when sold, will go to another low-income family.
- Updated Tenant Protections
- Multi-Family Tax Exemption Renewal that provides exemptions to developers to set aside a percentage of their properties for rent to low- and modest-income renters.

Malone’s organization seeks to stabilize homeless with supportive housing, a “come as you are” low barrier approach. With housing, the individual is in a position solve substance abuse dependency or work get mental health issues addressed. DES operates 6 shelters and provides mental health services, with a crisis response team in the streets.

It was noted that homelessness was flat during the recession, and when rents started to rise with the improved economy, homelessness spiked. Rent control isn’t possible until the state changes laws. Criminal records are a major hurdle, but studies have shown that once in stable housing, ex-offenders are no more likely to cause problems than the general population.

Sofia is a board member of the Washington Low Income Housing Alliance. She gave us a handout listing highlights of 2019 legislative wins:

- Money to build nearly 5,000 permanently affordable homes state-wide. Communities can have the option to retain local sales tax for affordable housing,
- The Housing and Essential Needs Program received the first rise in funding, and will go to help avoid displacement,
- Renters will have longer to catch up on late rent, and more notice prior to having rent raised.



Robin Koskey from the Seattle Office of Housing and Daniel Malone from Downtown Emergency Services present a program on homelessness

- A bill to look at regulations that unnecessarily raise the cost of building affordable housing.

We also endorsed additional candidates for the General Election. Seattle’s School Board election method allows us to vote for candidates in other districts and we were asked by 2 candidates for our endorsement. We endorsed Rebeca Muniz in the 3rd district, and Eric Blumhagen in the 1st. Aaron Garcia, running for a spot on the Highline School Board, was also endorsed.

A resolution in support of a draft tree and urban forest protection plan authored by Steve Zemke was presented and was passed. Jordan Crawley, our Legislative Action Committee Chair, provided us with background information. In the future he is planning to provide impartial information about the resolutions we vote on as part of resolution procedure updates to be announced in November.

Campaign donations of \$500 each was given to Burien City Council candidates Sofia Aragon and Kevin Schilling. After table group discussions, it was agreed that the money would go the furthest in those races.

Meeting Photos by Jon Shields



Art Chippendale speaks about the Impeachment Workshop recently held by Pramila Jayapal



Highline School Board candidate Aaron Garcia



Jesse Scott Kandoll gives a union perspective on building affordable housing. With him is his wife Amanda

I-976 Funding Impacts for King County

Initiative 976 repeals critical transportation funding, eliminating our ability to fix dangerous highways, retrofit bridges and overpasses, fund transit, build voter-approved projects, improve freight corridors, and invest in the Washington State Patrol.

Washington State Funding at Risk -\$4 Billion

Highway Safety Improvements • Washington State Patrol • Ferry Improvements • Freight Mobility Projects • Amtrak Cascades Service

Regional Projects at Risk

I-976 would cut **\$20 billion** of voter-approved funding for Sound Transit, delaying light rail and bus rapid transit expansion. I-976 would cut **\$134 million** of King County Metro services (2020-2025) and **\$30 million** of vanpool improvements.

Sound Transit Link Light Rail, Bus, and Sounder Expansions • 300,000 Hours of Bus Service • 14,000 Bus Passes for Low Income Families • I-405 Highway Widening • SR 167/SR 509 Highway Expansion • State Route 520 West End Project

Local Funding at Risk

Local Funding at Risk for 62 cities would lose an average of \$60 million per year for local transportation projects over the next 10 years.

- \$36 Million/Year Seattle Transportation Benefit District
- \$919,000/Year Des Moines Transportation Benefit District
- \$834,000/Year Shoreline Transportation Benefit District
- \$767,000/Year Burien Transportation Benefit District
- \$919,000/Year Des Moines Transportation Benefit District
- \$376,000/Year Mercer Island Transportation Benefit District

Local funding for street and traffic maintenance such as pavement repairs, crack sealing, lane striping, street lighting, signals, and pedestrian improvements such as crosswalks, ADA ramp work, and sidewalk repairs.



— from *Keep Washington Rolling* www.no976.org

The Case to Approve I-1000/R88

Initiative 1000, which will appear on Washington's 2019 November ballot under Referendum 88 will restore fairness for veterans, small business owners, women, and people of color seeking to succeed in public employment, contracting, and university admissions – without the use of caps or quotas.

Why is the Approval of I-1000 / R-88 Important?

The 1998 passage of Tim Eyman's Initiative 200 made Washington one of only two states in the nation to explicitly ban outreach to historically marginalized communities to help determine outcomes in public education, contracting, and employment. The Approval of I-1000 via Referendum 88 would allow Washington to rejoin the 42 other states in the country that hold themselves accountable to creating more equitable outcomes for all citizens. Since 1998, Washington's most vulnerable communities have experienced serious and deleterious consequences with respect to access of public resources and educational opportunities:

According to the Washington's Office of Women and Minority Business Enterprises, since the passage of I-200, state spending with certified minority and woman-owned businesses has dropped from 10% to 3%, resulting in a devastating \$3.8 billion, 20-year loss of revenue.

Since I-200 passed, diversity in Washington's public university and college populations has declined in proportion to the population as a whole. The number of Black, Native-American, and Pacific Islander students enrolled in all four-year public universities has decreased statewide.

How Would Approving I-1000/ R-88 Create Opportunities for all Washingtonians Succeed?

The Approval of I-1000/ R-88 would begin the process of reversing the inequitable trends resulting from the passage I-200. More economic opportunities would be afforded to veterans, small business owners, women, and people of color through public employment and contracting. The population of Washington's public universities would begin to better reflect the state as a whole. Finally, the passage of I-1000/ R-88 sends a critical message about how our shared values and beliefs should be codified into state law. We can take tangible, collective action to level the playing field for working families with the most urgent unmet needs, and we should strive to make Washington a place where someone's race, ethnicity, gender, or other status isn't a generational determinant of their ability to thrive or share equitably in the prosperity afforded to our region.

— from *The Washington Fairness Campaign* <https://wafairness.org/>



Prop. 1, Proposed Public Hospital District No. 5 - Vashon Island

Vashon's current clinic isn't financially viable and will not be able to continue to operate on the island. Without a public funding mechanism, island residents could lose local access to health care.

The public hospital district is a tool for funding ongoing care for the island. The taxes collected from the island would be spent only on island care. Over 60 other communities in Washington have created hospital districts to provide sustainable funding for their local health care services.

By approving Proposition 1, Proposed Public Hospital District No. 5, island voters will:

- Keep a clinic open and available to all;
- Provide services better aligned with island needs;
- Safeguard the quality of life for seniors, children and vulnerable populations.

If the island loses local health care access, they risk losing the seniors, families and businesses in the community. They lose local jobs and the services they support. They lose critical time in a health care emergency, and the convenience of staying on-island for non-life-threatening injuries or care.

The Public Hospital District is already supported by our legislative delegation.

Wanted: Nominations For 2019 Recognition Awards

Do you know someone who has made outstanding contributions to the 34th this year, a PCO who has gone above and beyond, or an elected official whose advocacy has inspired you? Nominate them for the 34th Democrats Annual Awards, to be announced at our holiday party on December 11th.

The Categories are:

Cherise Luxa Lifetime Achievement - Awarded to an individual who's made a tremendous contribution to the 34th over the course of a lifetime.

E-Board Member of the Year - Awarded to an Executive Board member who's made an outstanding contribution to the 34th over the past year.

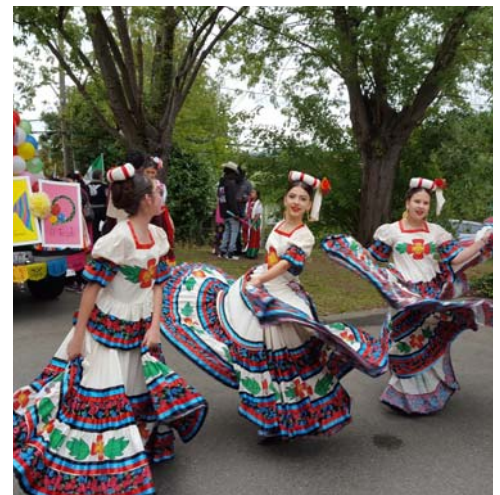
Committee of the Year - awarded to a Committee that's made an outstanding contribution to the 34th over the past year.

Rising Star - Awarded to an individual with lots of potential to contribute to the 34th and beyond.

PCO of the Year - Awarded to a PCO who's been an exemplary PCO over the past year.

Elected Official of the Year - Awarded to an elected official who's made a tremendous contribution to the 34th and beyond over the past year.

Read more about the awards and make nominations here: <http://bit.ly/34demsawards>



Democrats had a strong contingent in the Fiestas Patrias Parade in South Park on September 14th. Members of the 34th were joined the campaigns of Lisa Herbold and Joe McDermott. Also joining us was George from the 11th LD. We ranged in age from 80 to 8 months.



Newsletter Editor
10254 36th Ave. SW
Seattle, WA 98146

Return Service Requested



Join the 34th District Democrats!

Sign up by filling out this form and mailing it with a check made payable to:
The 34th District Democrats, 6523 California Ave SW, Box 183, Seattle, WA 98136-1879

Or join at online www.34dems.org/contribute/

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Zip _____

If you use a P.O. Box, do you live in the 34th District? Yes ___ No ___

Email _____ * Occupation _____

*Employer _____ * Employer City _____

* Required by Washington State Public Disclosure Commission/ Contributions are not tax deductible.

Please consider paying your dues in monthly installments...Go online to www.34dems.org/contribute

- \$3 Living Lightly \$34 Friend of the 34th \$50 Sponsor \$1,000 Endowment
- \$100 Benefactor \$250 Sustaining \$500 Underwriter

In the interest of protecting our environment and building funds to support endorsed candidates, the 34th District Democrats wish to communicate electronically.

Please check this box if you do not have access to electronic communications and need to receive a mailed newsletter

Paid for and authorized by 34th District Democrats. 6523 California Ave SW Box 183, Seattle, Washington 98136. Contributions to this committee are not tax deductible. State campaign finance law requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, occupation, employer and city and state of employment for each individual whose contribution exceeds \$100 in the election cycle.