



34DEMS.ORG

34TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT DEMOCRATS

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

Dear fellow Democrats,

2020 is almost here and the Executive Board is already planning how we can kick Trump and his cronies out of the State Legislature, Congress, and the White House – and we wanted to let you in on the plan.

Coming up quickly in February, for the first time, Washington State will be sending out ballots for a Presidential Primary to pick our Democratic nominee. On April 26th we'll be hosting the Democratic Caucus where you can run to represent our state at the Democratic National Convention in Wisconsin next year.

In 2020, all 435 congressional seats are up for election, including Washington's 3rd Congressional down in Vancouver, which has been selected by the Democratic Party as a top target to flip!

We also have 123 local Legislative District seats up. And, of course, we need to show Trump the door. While Washington's electoral votes are safe, we will be planning phone banks, doorbelling opportunities, and even out-of-state field trips to knock on doors in swing districts!

In solidarity,

Gina Topp

Chair, 34th District

December 11th, 2019, 6:30pm Holiday Party

There will be no official meeting on December 11th. Instead, we will have our annual Holiday Party!

We will be giving out our Annual Awards and celebrating the work we've done in 2019 to advance Democratic values, register new voters, and make the Burien City Council solidly blue!

There will be turkey, cocktails, cookies, and more. Please bring a dish to share!

If you picked up a Navos donation card at our last meeting, please return it with a gift card inside to Joy Pakulak at our Holiday Party.



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

In This Issue

- Chair's Message Page 1
- Joe Fitzgibbon Named to DLCC..... Page 2
- Discount Husky Basketball Tickets..... Page 2
- Bulletin Board Page 3
- November Meeting Recap..... Page 4
- Election Notes..... Page 7
- Member Photos 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
kcdccc@34dems.org

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

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

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

Carla Rogers | Secretary
secretary@34dems.org

Ben Reilly | Treasurer
treasurer@34dems.org

Committee Chairs

Art Chippendale | 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 | Events
events@34dems.org

Dawn Rains | Finance
finance@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 | Membership
membership@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

Joe Fitzgibbon Named to the Board of the National Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee

Representative Joe Fitzgibbon has demonstrated his campaigning abilities here in Washington State by helping to increase the Democratic majority in the state legislature. His skills have been recognized by the Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee, which has announced that Joe will be one of two new additions to the committee's board of directors. Also joining the board is Adrienne A. Jones, the first African-American and first woman speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates.



"I'm thrilled that Speaker Adrienne A. Jones and Representative Joe Fitzgibbon are joining the DLCC board," said DLCC President Jessica Post. "Their experience electing Democrats and fighting for progress in their states will be an enormous asset as we prepare for the 2020 elections and build new Democratic majorities across the nation."

"In 2017, the DLCC played a pivotal role in helping Washington Democrats win full control of our state Legislature," Fitzgibbon said. "We've made incredible progress in the majority, and I'm excited to join the national effort to help Democrats across the country flip their state legislatures blue."

The DLCC is the official Democratic organization dedicated to winning state legislative seats. Since President Donald Trump's election in 2016, the committee has flipped more than 430 state legislative seats and ten chambers from red to blue. After successfully flipping both chambers of Virginia's General Assembly and blocking a Republican supermajority in Louisiana this month, the DLCC is preparing to replicate its victories across the country in 2020.

"The 2019 elections have proved that Democrats understand the importance of state legislatures and are fired up to flip them blue before the crucial redistricting cycle," Post added."

With content from

<https://www.dlcc.org/press/dlcc-announces-new-board-members>

Discounted UW Basketball Tickets



The PAC12 again has extended a discount ticket program offer to our organization. They make their "Local Government Appreciation" games available for members of the 34th. Enjoy a UW Mens Basketball game at reduced price on **Saturday, February 1st at 7:30pm** against Arizona State. The second game included in the offer is on **Friday, February**

28th at 6pm. This will not only be a great way to get discounted seats, but it will also be early access to single game seats before they go on sale to the general public on December 3rd. The WSU game is one of four premium games this season!

To buy tickets, visit this link: <https://fevo.me/2CcY68P>

34th District Bulletin Board

Executive Board

Open to all of our members

No Executive Board Meeting is scheduled for December.

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, December 10, 12pm

Burien Drinking Liberally

Angelo's Italian Restaurant

601 SW 153rd St.

Meetings for November & December are being combined:

Wednesday, December 4, 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

No KCDCC Executive Board Meeting is scheduled for December.

Annual Metropolitan Democratic Club Holiday Party

Sunday December, 15th at 5 pm

at the lovely **Colman Mansion** in Fautleroy.

Peggy Maze Johnson, vice president, is coordinating the function. It will be a potluck, so please plan to bring a delicious dish. Peggy will be asking for volunteers to help with the tasks. Please invite friends, family, politicians, and potential new members. We want to celebrate our MDC successes in 2019 and in the future.

Peggy's email is pmjconsultants@gmail.com



House On Fire: Sunrise Movement Demonstration for Climate Justice

Join **PSARA** members and stand with the youth of the **Sunrise Movement** to demand that our Senators Cantwell and Murray take action in support of the Green New Deal. We will have our **PSARA** banner and our Green New Deal Banner to help create a presence.

Monday, Dec 16th, 11 am -12 pm

at the

Henry M. Jackson Federal Building, 915 2nd Ave



Our house is on fire. We've already lost so much, and if we don't take action fast, we're going to lose more. But our senators are not taking urgent action to put this fire out, save our planet, and ensure a livable future.

Sunrise calls on the senators to immediately sign on to the Green New Deal, a plan to mobilize every aspect of American society to 100% clean and renewable energy by 2030, a guaranteed living wage job for anyone who needs one, and a just transition for both workers and frontline communities.

The West Seattle Democratic Women

have changed their communication method on Facebook from a Group to a Page. It's not a big difference; the name doesn't even change; if you've been a member or have shown interest in our organization, we especially wanted to invite you to take a peek.

Please click the "Follow" button to join us, fellow Democrat, as we work our way through 2020.

Happy New Year...It should be great!

Karen Chilcutt,
Incoming 2020 Chair
West Seattle Democratic Women

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 January newsletter will be Friday December 27, 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 November meeting featured a Legislators Town Hall Meeting that brought together our Representatives **Eileen Cody** and **Joe Fitzgibbon** and State Senator **Joe Nguyen** to answer questions from their constituents. **Rachel Glass** and **Jordan Crowley** moderated. They selected questions from online submissions and from meeting attendees, who were asked to deliver their questions directly.

What can be done to incentivize private landowners to eradicate invasive plant species from their property?

Rep. Fitzgibbon said there is a bill in the works that will stop the sale of English ivy from nurseries.

What are the chances of getting a graduated income or capital gains tax system in the state?

Sen. Nguyen responded that in the last session they passed legislation for a tax structure work group to study taxation, with a report due in 4 years. He noted that even the Chamber of Commerce recognizes the need for a less regressive system. But he said we should still try to do things like a capital gains tax, if it can get through the senate, that would be structured so only to affect around 2,200 people in the state. "If you're one of those people, congratulations, you're very wealthy!" Joe quipped. Small business owners and most property and farm owners would be exempt. Rep. Fitzgibbon added that we already have an estate tax, but it's tied to the federal tax rate and we need to lower the state limit down from the current \$11 million threshold.

What can be done to get dealers to sell more electric vehicles in Washington?

Rep. Fitzgibbon told us that the state will be adopting a zero-emissions vehicle mandate requiring dealers to sell EVs. Many dealers can't sell EVs in the state even though EVs are part of the product line of the car manufacturer they represent. Those manufacturers won't sell EVs into



Steve Richmond of Garden Cycles asks what can be done to encourage property owners to combat invasive plants.

this state because they are not required to do so. California, New York and other states do have such a requirement.

Why doesn't WA use a depreciation schedule for car tab valuation, like Kelly Blue Book?

The state is unable to use Kelly Blue Book because it's a private company. The legislature has been unable to pass adjustments to the car tab fees, in part due to obstruction from Republicans who wish to keep the issue alive to use as an election issue against Democrats.

Additionally, there hasn't been another option presented yet to the cover the billion-dollar shortfall the change would create.

How can we help pass clean fuels bill HB1110.

Fitzgibbon said this was his "top priority bill" for the 2020 short session. Washington is the outlier on the West Coast, including Canada. Energy producers would be required to gradually shift to renewable resources such as forest product waste, canola oil, dairy manure – all can be turned into clean fuel. Not only would this limit greenhouse gases, but also reduce pollution. Poor air quality impacts those who live near areas with lots of traffic...typically those of low income. The best strategy to pass this bill would be to lobby suburban legislators.

Can the state of Washington do anything to support DACA recipients?

Sen. Nguyen responded that although DACA is in the



Reps. Joe Fitzgibbon and Eileen Cody along with Sen. Joe Nguyen prepare to answer questions and listen to suggestions for the upcoming 2020 session in Olympia.

federal realm, the Keep Washington Working act bans state and local agencies from collaborating with ICE. The sole state database shared with ICE cannot list citizenship status. (It was noted that a few schools with high populations of undocumented pupils had brought in ICE employees as translators for students. And there has been a recent instance of a state licensing agency sharing information with ICE, this collaboration was shut down). As a tangent to the general issue of privacy, Sen Nguyen said he is writing a bill to protect the misuse of facial recognition, and to provide other personal data protection.

If the city and county sue to turn over I-967, will it look to the rest of the state that Seattle and King County are dictating laws to the rest of the state?

The YES vote of 52% in an off-year election is not a mandate to dictate transportation funding for decades. King County, and especially the 34th, voted overwhelmingly against the initiative. Cities state-wide voted to raise transportation funds using license tab fees. It was noted that Garfield County in Eastern Washington is the lead plaintiff on the current lawsuit. It voted heavily for Trump but voted by an even larger percentage in 2016 to fund a bus system. Other counties should not decide for us how to tax ourselves, particularly because King County is a donor county while other more conservative counties are the recipients of much of the revenue we send to the state.

What is the status of assault weapon and high capacity magazines bans, and their priority in the legislature?

There is as high a chance of passing bans now that Laurie Jenkins will be speaker of the House. She has made it a goal to see such laws passed. A high capacity magazine



Claire Yurdin has a question regarding possibility of the state adopting an income or a capital gains tax.

Continued on next page...

Continued from previous page...

ban will probably happen first. The past session passed several new gun safety regulations.

Other questions and comments included:

Are there any plans to engage the Russian American community in state public policy?

Are there any remediations for the discharge of jet fuel?

The 60% rule for school bonds needs to be changed to a simple majority.

Cable and internet providers need more regulation to prevent price gouging.

We need truth in advertising on social media sites.

State needs to fund outreach to educate the public on climate change.

Can we get the Feds to issue waivers that would allow a state single payer insurance system?

Can the state fund a study to determine what amount of screen time is too much for children?

Youth violence and organized gang activity need to be differentiated and each addressed appropriately.

What can the leg do to stem the spread of white nationalism?

Can the state provide Vashon Island with solar-powered vehicle sensors to help prevent accidents?

Why does it take 4 months to license nurses and medical professionals?

Will the panel support a ban on forced arbitration in consumer contracts?

What are the best ways to contact legislators about their specific issues they want to push?

The Chair of the Washington State Democrats, **Tina Podlodowski**, also came to speak to us. Local races



State Party Chair Tina Podlodowski



Gloria Acosta asks for volunteers to help at an informational picketing event in support of workers at the Highline Medical Center as they seek to raise staff wages, the quality of their health insurance, and retirement benefits.

matter...state-wide there were over 700 candidates coming out of the “Rise and Run” program, with most running in Central and Eastern WA. 80% of them cleared the Primary, with 60% winning the General, putting Democrats in office in places where they never have been before.

The coordinated campaign has identified 3 million voters as to party preference, and we should have 500-600K new voters for 2020 that also need to be so identified. We’ll get all the names from the March 10th primary who voted on the Democratic side of the ballot – this is valuable information for us, as WA doesn’t have party registration—and 98% of Primary voters vote in the General. We will work to retain our hold on the governorship and protect freshman legislators. There will be Republican money coming into the state, looking for payback for our 2018 successes. Once we pick a presidential nominee, we need to be unified. She thanked the 34th for being a strong Democratic LD.

Newly elected Burien City Council members **Sophia Aragon** and **Kevin Schilling** (who defeated a 15-year incumbent) thanked us for our help with their campaigns...and especially praising PCO Chair **Nick Bonazza** for his work in organizing canvass events.

Meeting Photos by Jon Shields



Can’t make the monthly meeting?

We are now live-streaming our meetings and archiving the video on our Facebook page. See what you missed at:

<https://www.facebook.com/34dems/>



KC Councilperson Joe McDermott and Heather Barker at Joe's election night party.



Gina Topp helps Sabrina Constantine with her "I Voted" button at Joe's gathering.



US Rep. Pramila Jayapal and former Seattle Councilperson Nick Licata celebrate with Lisa Herbold on election night.

The 2019 Election Outcomes — Most of our Endorsements Come Out on Top

The GOOD Despite heavy spending, all but one of the corporate-backed candidates were defeated. Those big bucks did little to affect the make up of the Seattle City Council, and **Lisa Herbold** will return to office for four more years. Meanwhile in Burien both of our endorsed candidates, our own 2nd Vice Chair **Sofia Aragon** and **Kevin Schilling**, won their races as did progressive independent **Cydney Moore**. They will join the four other progressive candidates we worked to elect in 2017. **Sam Cho** won a place on the Seattle Port Commission, while **Fred Felleman** retained his position. **Leslie Harris** will continue to represent us at Seattle Public Schools, and **Aaron Garcia** in the Highline School District. And **Joe McDermott** has been given another term to serve us on the King County Council.

The BAD We did have a couple of disappointments statewide with the defeat of R88/I-1000 to reinstate affirmative action, and with the passage of Eyman's I-976, the 7th attempt for his \$30 dollar car tab scheme since 1999 – We'll see you in court again Tim!



Our Secretary, Carla Rogers, poses for a picture with Jay Inslee along with other volunteers at his Brunch Fundraiser on November 24. Stacey Abrams who narrowly lost her exciting 2018 race for Georgia Governor was guest speaker. Carla is second to the right of the Guv.



Leah Griffin, our female representative to the King County Democrats, gives remarks at Attorney General Bob Ferguson's Annual Luncheon December 3 at the Washington State Convention Center.



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.