



Chairs Message for June

I'm struggling to focus on work this morning. My thoughts keep shifting to the multiple crises facing our nation and world right now.

The continued killings of African American men at the hands of those sworn to uphold justice is unconscionable. How a police officer could so willingly crush the life out of a man is simply beyond my ability to comprehend. But the hard truth is that injustice and overt racism are a daily experiences for many of our neighbors and we must work together to end it.

I know many of us are feeling a call to action. I think it is important that we take this opportunity to hear and learn directly from those members of the community who—for years—have been at the forefront of efforts to bring about change. I am honored we will be joined next week at our monthly meeting by Andre Taylor, founder of “Not This Time,” a community organization focused on reducing fatal police shootings, changing the laws that govern the use of force, and rebuilding trust in our communities. This is the first of many conversations over the coming weeks and months about how we, as an organization, rooted in our democratic values, can meaningfully contribute to ending systemic racism.

At the same time over 100,000 Americans have died from the corona virus and thousands more are dying every day. Here again we are seeing the inequities of our health care system and economy as the virus disproportionately impacts communities of our color. And we continue to see a disjointed response from the federal government. We still do not have enough test kits or the ability to effectively track the virus. And one of our region’s major hospitals, a leader in researching and testing of COVID-19, has had to furlough thousands of staff while professional sports teams qualify for federal relief.

Instead of leading us through this critical moment in our nation’s history the President has once again put his politics above the interests of the rest of us. But there is something we can do about that. We must redouble our efforts to organize, to recruit and support candidates committed to change, to engage and listen to our neighbors, and importantly, to get out the vote this August and November.

This is a difficult time and we must also take care of one another. We need to give each other space to express our anger, to ask questions, and to be supported. Please reach out to fellow members of the 34th and offer your support. And join us for our next membership meeting on June 10th—you can register [HERE](#). I look forward to seeing you.

Gina Topp, Chair
34th Legislative District Democrats

June 10, 2020

**Online Meeting Notice
You Must Register to Attend**

<https://bit.ly/34thDems-June>

6:30 pm - Virtual Potluck: Miss the opportunity to connect with other 34th members? Grab your favorite snack and beverage and log on to the meeting at 6:30pm for a chance to catch up with friends from the 34th as we have an informal discussion about the events of the past few weeks.

7:00 pm - Call to Order

Opening Ceremonies - Chris Porter, Reflections on the Killing of George Floyd, Moment of Silence

- VIP Acknowledgements
- Adoption of January Minutes
- Adoption of Agenda

7:15 pm - The Movement for Police Reform - Andre Taylor, founder of Not This Time and an organizer of Seattle rallies

7:45 pm - How to Get Out the Vote in 2020

- Precinct Phone Banking
- 34th Legislative District Phone Banking
- 26th Legislative District Phone Banking
- North Carolina Candidates

7:55 pm - How to Virtual Phone Bank- Phone bank training and questions and answers- Cat Floate, King County Field Director, Washington State Democrats

8:25 pm - Meet the Democratic Candidates for Lt. Governor

8:45 pm – Precinct Committee Officers Confirmation

9:00 pm - Adjourn

In This Issue	
Chair’s Message.....	Page 1
Sister Districts	Page 2
The 2020 Coordinated Campaign	Page 3
Wanted: Events Chair.....	Page 3
May Meeting Recap	Page 4
KCDCC Report	Page 7
34th LD Delegates	Page 7

Executive Board

Elected Officers

Gina Topp | Chair
chair@34dems.org

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

Jesse Greene | 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

Art Chippendale | Bylaws
bylaws@34dems.org

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

Carla Rogers | Communications
digcomm@34dems.org

Currently Vacant | Diversity & Inclusion
inclusion@34dems.org

Currently Vacant | 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

GOTV Across Our Region...and the Country

November is fast approaching, and the Trump campaign has already started airing TV ads blitzes. Although times are odd, it's time for us to kick our organizing efforts into gear to win back the White House and flip red seats in 2020.

This year we are excited to be adopting a swing district in Washington and two swing districts in North Carolina! On June 10th we will meet the candidates we are supporting in their races to FLIP seats blue.

We will also highlight ways to get involved, including phone banking, postcarding, and even traveling to swing states to get out the vote! Finally, the last hour of our meeting will be dedicated to a Virtual Phone Bank training provided by the Washington State Party so that we can start now organizing from our homes. Register now for our June 10th Zoom meeting [HERE](#)

Introducing Our Sister Districts in North Carolina:

While Washington is safely blue, North Carolina is key to winning the White House, flipping a U.S. Senate seat, and breaking the Republican-held State House majority. These are the same Republicans who passed the anti-trans "bathroom bill" in 2016. In 2020 we are adopting Brian Farkas in District 9 and Dr. Frances Jackson in District 45 -- these two candidates are the Party's top priority races to flip, and their districts are key to flipping the state as well.



Help turn North Carolina Blue

Learn more about Brian and Frances, and how to get involved in supporting them, here: <https://bit.ly/farkasjackson>



Brian Farkas



Dr. Frances Jackson

West Seattle Democratic Women are going viral.



Henceforth, their monthly membership held on the 4th Thursday of the month will be via Zoom.

Look to www.westseattledemocraticwomen.org for more info.

Become a Part of the 2020 Coordinated Campaign

With the November elections coming up fast, we are faced with the challenge of defeating a president and his surrogates in the Republican Party that do not believe in the rule of law; that denies science; and that encourages violence and racism through outpourings of vitriol. We've learned that we are not immune not just to physical disease but to deep divisions here in Washington State. We are home to 30 identified hate groups as identified by the Southern Poverty Law Center.

We have neighbors within the 34th community and across Washington State that are underrepresented at the table. At our June 10th membership meeting we'll be introducing PCOs for appointment, many of whom filed and are unopposed for 2021-22 and are ready to start now.

King County Regional Field Director Cat Floate will attend the June 10th meeting to talk about the 34th District LD and the Coordinated Campaign and the work she is doing with PCO team that will lead this initiative, Max Brown, Leah Griffin, Colleen Hinton, Carla Rogers, Jeff Sbaih, Gina Topp, and myself. As PCOs continue to contact their own precincts, there'll be opportunities for PCOs and 34th Dems volunteers to GOTV across the 34th LD.

We need to reach out to make sure our communities of Burien, West Seattle, White Center, Vashon and Maury Island stand together to elect leaders with vision, that reach out instead of lashing out; that respect and value human rights instead of fomenting hate and exclusion.

Cat Floate (she/her/hers) is the regional field director for King County with the Washington Democrats Coordinated Campaign. Her primary goal is focused on turning out Democrats across the county for Democrats up and down the ballot. We know that in order to elect Democrats up and down the ballot (especially at the statewide and national levels) Democrats have to turn out in force from King County. Cat Floate and the King County Field Team are focused on working with all legislative district organizations and active Democrats across our county to make that happen.

You can help do that by going to www.wa-democrats.org/organizingevents

Wanted: Your Leadership Skills to Direct Our Events Committee

Unfortunately Jacqui and Wes Morris have moved out of state. We'll miss Jacqui's enthusiasm in planning our various events. We'll also miss her husband Wes, and the technical management he has provided at our meetings to make them run smoothly the past several years.



Now we are in need of someone to take the reins coordinate our special events. The events committee seeks to bring our community together outside of our monthly membership meetings. From Earth Day clean-ups to our annual Fundraising event, we are working to build a stronger and more inclusive local party, from the grassroots! You will work with the other committees and our members to plan and execute fun and important gatherings.

Contact Gina Topp at chair@34dems.org



WEAR WITH PRIDE

Order your
IGNITE CHANGE
34th District Dems T-Shirt!

\$25 Available in S-M-L-XL-2XL
<https://bit.ly/ignitechangegetshirt> or
email secretary@34dems.org to
arrange delivery.

[Click to Order!](#)

Renew or
Become a Member
click

34dems.org

www.34dems.org/contribute

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

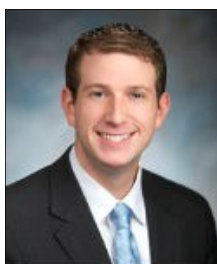
303 John L. O'Brien Building
PO Box 40600
Olympia, WA 98504
(360) 786 - 7978



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 July newsletter will be Thursday June 25, 2020

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 34th District Democrats met with the reality of COVID-19. By the direction of Governor Inslee and his ban of face-to-face gatherings, we were forced to forgo two meetings in this especially important year for Democrats. And so, the March and April general meetings were cancelled.

The fact remains that there is much work to do this year across the state and in the country, and we could not be idle indefinitely. We came together in May from all areas of our LD with our first virtual meeting. **Chair Gina Topp** told us that meeting remotely may be the norm for a few months. She mused: "How do we get out the vote in this new environment?"

109 members joined on this initial Zoom and phone meeting. We heard from our elected officials from across the district, including Rep. Pramila Jayapal and County Executive Dow Constantine. They gave us updates on the things they are doing in this time of great uncertainty. A common theme shared by them was that as we emerge from our current crisis, we must strive to make the "new normal" better than the one we knew before...as Dow expressed: "A normal that is closer to our ideals".

Rep. Pramila Jayapal led off with the grim statistics: 85,000 are dead due to COVID-19, with 142,000 cases. Among those numbers we find that African Americans are hit the hardest, three times more likely to be infected.

35 million unemployment claims had been filed, causing huge burdens on states. Many lower income workers are unable to collect unemployment benefits, due to factors such as working in the gig economy outside of traditional employment.



Rep. Pramila Jayapal addressed us from home

She said we must make sure to protect paychecks, and access to healthcare. Much more resources need to go to state and local governments to maintain existing services and keep first responders and essential government employees on the job. Our economic support packages must be pro worker instead of handouts to corporations. During this crisis we must expand Medicare, and we need mortgage and rent relief. ICE must release detainees to prevent hot spots at their facilities.



A few of the members at our first Zoom Meeting

Jayapal was Bernie Sanders pick for of the Biden/Sanders Unity Task Force, which will have a direct hand in shaping Democratic policy and the party's agenda in 2020, and going forward. She is serving on the healthcare committee.

She is working on a second CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) package. Her main priority is to get funds to state and local governments. It must be of the scale to provide real security. It will be a tough vote. (The original bill proposal included \$500 billion in direct payments to Americans, \$208 billion in loans to major industry, and \$300 billion in Small Business Administration loans. As a result of bipartisan negotiations, the bill grew to \$2 trillion.)

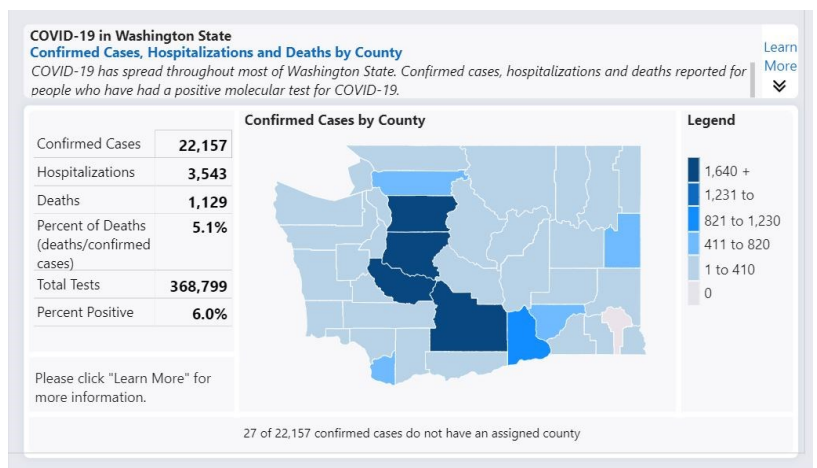
She is proud of our district, and state. We must win up and down the ballot to ensure a "WE first, not a ME first" society. She is looking forward to seeking our endorsement.

Sen. Joe Nguyen said that Washington has seen over 1 million apply for unemployment the past month, the normal is about 15 thousand. While Gov. Inslee was forced to veto major legislation due to the new budget pressures Nguyen is against any increased austerity measures. He and 44 legislators have signed on for a paycheck security plan for the state.

Rep. Eileen Cody gave a legislative update largely on healthcare legislation. Items that passed this year: A healthcare price transparency bill, legislation to protect reproductive rights, death

with dignity in Catholic hospitals, a patient safety bill for psychiatric hospitals, and a \$100 Million COVID-19 response bill.

The Department of Health has a COVID-19 Dashboard that is updated daily listing coronavirus cases, deaths and in which counties. Statewide, 5K tests are given daily, but 10-20K are needed, the lack of swabs is the deterrent factor. The state has also trained nearly 1,400 Contact Tracers to follow up on each new positive test result to track those individuals' associations. Yakima County is currently surging with cases. See <https://bit.ly/C19-Tracker>



One of the six data pages on the Washington COVID-19 Dashboard

Rep. Joe Fitzgibbon spoke to his strength on environmental legislation. Passed was a bill to increase the number of zero emission vehicles, increased maintenance requirements for NG pipelines was established, and a state-wide ban on plastic bags.

Continued on page 6...

...Continued from page 5

A requirement for public schools to teach comprehensive sex education also passed.

Washington will face a \$7 Billion shortfall over the next 3 years. Joe will push for an increase in revenue to help offset the cuts that are to come. There may be a special session later this year to deal with the aftermath of the COVID crisis.

Democrats enjoy a diverse majority caucus in the house and currently hold 57 seats. Joe thinks we can increase that this year.

County Executive Dow Constantine feels we have been remarkably successful in dealing with the COVID crisis. We were first...and action was quickly taken. There were only 42 new cases in King County the day of the meeting. He stressed we must continue our vigilance by avoiding contacts, wearing masks, and maintaining distance in public. He is concerned about other states and their rush to reopen without regard to their current status. We must make this hardship a "one-step" period.

King County Councilperson Joe McDermott was elected chair of the King County Board of Health. He said King County has begun tracking COVID cases by race. Special facilities that have been put in place in response to the COVID pandemic include a deintensification center to provide more space for sheltering homeless relieving the tightness of the regular shelters. An isolation and quarantine site has been set up in White Center, but it has yet to be used.

Funds have been set aside to facilitate businesses, to help with accessing state and federal moneys with a special emphasis on minority-owned businesses. Money will be available to help county chambers of commerce to use for economic development, and for childcare for essential workers so they can continue working.

McDermott was disappointed that rent relief did not advance at the county level.

City Councilmember Lisa Herbold talked about our bridge situation. She recently was part of a virtual town hall event that hosted 4,600 viewers. Some of the improvements that will be done immediately to facilitate traffic flow include new signals on Highland Parkway and Roxbury. Paving will also be done on Roxbury in conjunction with the county. She also has reached out to the Seattle Fire Department to increase their presence on the peninsula.

There will be real-time monitoring of the bridge, and there will need to be some fixes to stabilize the structure prior to a fix or replace solution. Rep. Jayapal is going to help with federal funding.

A moratorium on evictions will be in place until into June. Rent relief is to extend six months after the COVID crisis, and landlords must accept a time payment plan for past-due rents.

Paid sick leave will be extended. Hazard pay will be mandated for Uber, Lyft, Grub Hub and other such gig workers as they are to be considered essential workers. A cap will be placed on delivery fees.

She is also working to see that small businesses and non-profits receive rent control and B and O tax relief. She wants increased PPE for non-professional service providers, with expanded Covid-19 testing though the SFD. Like the county, the city is working to provide childcare for health care and other essential workers. She is also working to reduce the number of incarcerated to lessen inmate density.

The city is looking at a \$180-\$320 million short fall and it will need new financial resources. One possibility, a payroll tax, is on hold until the council can hold face-to-face meetings again.

Burien Mayor Jimmy Matta informed us that the city had at that time 194 COVID-19 cases and 7 deaths. The city is using \$200K from its budget to assist those in need. Many in Burien are persons of color with low-wage jobs and struggle with rent and childcare. The city is providing increased shelter for homeless. Matta is working with the city manager to fill the funding gap.

He also talked about some of the violence the city has experienced. They are holding bilingual meetings to help people and businesses with anxiety and other issues resulting from the pandemic effects.

Matta has three goals this year: Seeing that people complete the census, registering new voters...and to get rid of Trump.

Gina finished up the meeting by announcing that the next couple of meetings will also be virtual. June we will get information on virtual canvassing, and in July we will be holding our endorsement meeting. And it has been decided that we will be unable to hold our annual fundraising "garden party" this year given our pandemic restrictions and uncertainty of the future.

Notes From the May 26th King County Democrats Meeting

A presentation highlighted issues and actions relating to the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities. Special Guests included Toshiko Hasegawa from the Washington State Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs, and Yasmin Trudeau, from Attorney General Ferguson's office. They noted that the AAPI communities have been disproportionately impacted by COVID related issues...Asians are facing outright racism and are suffering economic impacts.

Amy Nguyen, Asian Pacific Islander Americans for Civic Empowerment (APACE) Board President also spoke about the activities of that organization. They are currently hiring and training a youth organizer and will be running outreach programs to low-propensity voters. They also working to better communicate with different communities in their own languages, currently involving census outreach. In addition they are expanding their endorsement process to include judicial system, along with lobbying and policy advocacy. Rick Polintan gave the background on APACE, an organization formed to fight against the 1998 I-200 affirmative action ban.

Endorsements:

U.S. Congress

Rep. Suzan DelBene – CD 1
Rep. Kim Schrier – CD 8
Rep. Adam Smith – CD 9
Rep. Pramila Jayapal- CD 7

Statewide Positions

Jay Inslee – Governor
Denny Heck - Lt. Gov
Gael Tarleton – Secretary of State
Mike Pellicciotti – State Treasurer
Bob Ferguson - Attorney General
Hilary Franz - Commissioner of Public Lands

Supreme Court

Raquel Montoya-Lewis, Charles W. Johnson and G. Helen Whitener

King County Superior Court

Nelson Kao Hwa Lee, Melinda Young, David Keenan, Cindi Port, Kevin Peck and Hillary Madsen

State Legislature

Sen. Derek Stanford - 1st
Sen. Hasegawa - 11th
Rep. Tomiko-Santos - 37th
Rep. Bill Ramos - 5th
Kirsten Harris Talley - 37th
Sen. Lisa Wellman - 41st
Rep. My Linh Thai - 41st
Rep Pollet - 46th
Rep Valdez - 46th
Rep Walen - 48th



34th District CD-07 Caucus and State Convention Delegates

Biden Delegates

Arthur Chippendale
Earl Godt
Ted Barker
Chris Porter
Scott Schubert
Nicholas Bonazza
Moti Krauthamer
Joe Fitzgibbon
Leo Lazo
John Murphy
Danny Pinsker
Kristian Nilssen
Carla Rogers
Dawn Rains
Ann Martin
M Olivia Robinson
Lauri Hennessey
Annie Phillips
Janine Anzalota
Saubhag Brantley
Sofia Aragon
Tania Kinnear
Shellea Allen
Tyna Ek

Sanders Delegates

Steve Itano
Jesse Scott Kandoll
Michael Bunney
Steven Butts
Norman Sigler
Steve Rubicz
Jeff Sbahh
John Dolan
Paul Huss
Kieran Enzian
Dan Schueler
Brooks Salazar
Zachary Ramels
Elizabeth Rockett
Rachel Glass
Bunny Hatcher
Hailey Hiner
Krystal Marx
Theresa Crecelius
Colleen Hinton
Jamie Margolin
DeLancey Lane
Alexandra Vekich
Martha Koester
Lylianna Allala

These are the delegates who were selected at the originally scheduled April 26th LD Caucus to take part in the 7th Congressional Caucus and the June 13th State Convention.

In lieu our cancelled LD Caucus, the PCO's of the district voted electronically for the delegates for each candidate, who in turn voted online for the national delegates at the virtual CD Caucus on May 30th, and will also "attend" the state convention from home.

Biden Alternates

Adrienne Forest
Pamela Godt
Debra Gussin
Krista Painter
Karthik Jaganathan
Ben Johnson
Conrad Knudtson
Phillip Tavel

Sanders Alternates

Hannah Crabtree
Gaye Detzer
Pamela Johnson
Maria Guadalupe Ramirez
Grace Stiller
Kat Tacheron
Roxanne Thayer
Julie Whitaker

105 Persons will be PCO's to begin 2021, most of whom were elected at the end of the May filing period as they stood unopposed. Those with opposition will be picked in the August Primary. (Included in the 105 are 25 PCO's that will represent previously unoccupied precincts!)

A note about filing week: It was quickly discovered by the Democratic State Party that the Secretary of State neglected to have a party pledge as part of the online filing process. Fortunately the mistake was caught in time. However many early filers had to resubmit their candidacy application causing some confusion...

...The moral to this tale is to elect a Democrat to Secretary of State. The Republicans have owned that office for 56 years...that's long enough!



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

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 _____

\$ 180 Suggested Membership Donation Recurring Monthly Donation* \$ _____ One-Time Donation \$ _____

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

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.