



Hello, candidates!

Congratulations on filing for office!

You are receiving this message as you are one of the candidates who has begun raising money and declared an intention to run for office in 2021 with either the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) or Seattle Ethics and Elections (SEEC) in a jurisdiction which is either partially or fully covered by the boundaries of the 46th Legislative District.

We used the contact info from your filing to send this message, so if you are a treasurer or campaign manager, please be sure to pass this invitation on to your candidate.

We have three upcoming activities and actions for 2021 candidates in which you may wish to participate:

- Candidate Forums
- 2021 Endorsement Meeting
- Endorsement Questionnaires

Everything that you need to know about the 46th District Democrats' endorsement process, **including our endorsement rules**, can be found on our 2021 Endorsements page on our website: https://www.46dems.org/2021_endorsements

2021 Primary Candidate Forums:

The Program for the April and May meetings in odd years are candidate forums for our membership to get to know the Democratic candidates they will be evaluating for the 46th District endorsements.

We have divided the races into groups for the meeting nights:

Wednesday, April 21, 7:00pm:	Wednesday, May 19, 2021, 7:00pm:
Seattle Mayor Port of Seattle Districts 1, 3, 4 Seattle City Attorney Seattle City Council District 8 Judicial Introductions	King County Executive King County Council District 1 Seattle City Council District 9 Kenmore City Council Lake Forest Park City Council

Who can participate in the candidate forums?

All candidates who consider themselves to be Democrats and are willing to be publicly identified as such (except for judicial candidates, whom we recognize must not express partisan affiliation under Canon 7) are welcome to participate in our candidate forums.

How are the candidate forums run?

We have a qualified moderator chosen from among the membership of the 46th to lead the discussion. We customarily have a lightning round consisting of "yes, no, it depends" questions, several substantive questions, and a couple of fun questions to break the tension. The questions are chosen by a committee from advance submissions; we do not have unvetted questions. We ask some hard-hitting current topical questions, but no "gotcha" questions designed to embarrass one specific candidate. All questions are posed to all candidates, no candidates are singled out for a topic, and we do not allow *ad hominem* attacks.



RSVP, please!

We sincerely hope that you will participate in the candidate forum for your office. Please RSVP to chair@46dems.org, and elections@46dems.org, so that we know how many candidates to allocate time for when we build the run of show for the forums. *We hope to see you at the candidate forum for your ballot race!*

2021 46th LD Democrats Endorsement Meeting

The 46th District Democrats will be meeting on Sunday, May 23, starting at 11:00am, in an online Zoom meeting, for our annual post-filing week endorsement meeting. Please mark your calendar, as this is the meeting at which the bulk of our endorsements for the year are made. Everything that you need to know about the 46th District Democrats' endorsement meeting, **including our endorsement rules**, can be found on our 2021 Endorsements page on our website:

https://www.46dems.org/2021_endorsements

Am I eligible for endorsement by the 46th District Democrats?

If you are all of these things, you are eligible:

1. You are running for office in a jurisdiction wholly or partially covered by the 46th Legislative District.
2. You consider yourself a Democrat and are willing to be publicly identified as a Democrat (unless you are running for a judicial office which is required to remain neutral). This is a requirement in our rules even for offices that are technically non-partisan.
3. You have submitted a copy of your KCDCC endorsement Questionnaire to the 46th District by May 2nd, 2021. If your questionnaire is late, we MAY be able to consider you if the membership votes to suspend the rules regarding the questionnaire receipt date, but under our rules we cannot consider you for endorsement at all without a questionnaire on file.

You may submit your questionnaire on our endorsements page on the website.

https://www.46dems.org/2021_endorsements

Why is the questionnaire so important?

Unlike many local Democratic Party Organizations, we do not have an endorsements committee. We do not make our candidates sit for an interview with the executive board or a committee, and we do not delegate authority for the process to a small group. We take a much more populist approach, and our entire voting membership decides our endorsements collectively. Our membership uses the information you provide on your questionnaire to evaluate your candidacy, so the earlier you have it available for members, the more persuasive it likely is for membership consideration.

What should I expect on the day of the endorsement meeting?

The Zoom meeting opens at 10:00am, and the meeting starts **promptly** at 11:00am. We start with a general ballot with all unopposed (by other Democrats) races to take care of those quickly, and then move through the contested races individually, customarily using the order in which the races will appear on the ballot. We sometimes will coordinate on the order of consideration with other districts if there are multiple meetings held at the same time on the same day. We will try to conduct the meeting in such a way for the meeting to be over by 3:00pm, but much of the length of the meeting will be determined by how many rounds of balloting the voting takes for the races with many candidates.



Who can vote for me at the meeting?

All members of the 46th District in good standing can vote for you at the meeting. That means all Precinct Committee Officers, all current dues-paid members, and all members who have had their dues waived for 2021. If someone was a member in 2020, but have lapsed dues, they can renew their membership anytime up until the meeting at https://www.46dems.org/become_a_member_today. If they are brand-new, they can also join the district at the same membership link, however *a new member must join by May 2, 2021 to be eligible to vote at the endorsement meeting*.

Can I recruit members for the district from my supporters?

We always appreciate help with recruiting new members. If you have supporters who are registered to vote in the 46th District who would like to become members in good standing, they may join at this link before May 2nd, and be eligible to vote, speak, and nominate at the endorsement meeting. https://www.46dems.org/become_a_member_today

Can I send literature to your membership?

Since we cannot have an in-person meeting where you could provide additional literature to the members, you may send a one page document in a PDF or MS Word file to info@46dems.org by May 19th. Starting on May 1st, and as we receive them up until May 21st, we will add links to candidate literature to our 2021 Endorsements page for members to read.

What if I have a procedural question or problem during the meeting?

We expect a large turnout for this meeting, and we have set it up to run as smoothly as possible. If you have any concerns during the course of the meeting, please send them in Zoom Chat to the Admin who will be clearly marked as “Candidate Assistance”.

When will my race be up on the agenda?

That is the number one question we get each year, and the simple answer is – we don’t know. We know your time is valuable, and we try to respect that. However, we would be doing everyone a disservice if we tell campaigns that they won’t be up until, for example, 1:00pm, and then the meeting moves faster, and we have that race up earlier and the candidates are not there or not ready to go.

Ooof. That sounds like a lot of down time, waiting.

Frankly, the races with many candidates will take up to four rounds of balloting, and we integrate the schedule of races so that we always have a race in the speeches step or the voting step in terms of what is going on in the main (virtual) Zoom auditorium, and we also always have a race being counted by the Tally team in the wings at the same time. Thus, we have as little down time as possible. What we CAN guarantee is that we keep the agenda moving, and we work very hard not to waste anyone’s time.

Who can speak for me in my two minute presentation?

You, as the candidate, may speak. If you cannot be present at our endorsement meeting, you may designate one person to be your spokesperson/candidate surrogate – this person does not have to be a member of the 46th District Democrats. Additionally, any voting member of the 46th District Democrats may speak on your behalf. You may **not** have people other than yourself (or your official surrogate if you are not at the meeting) who are not 46th district members in good standing speak on your behalf.



And how long do I get to speak?

You have two minutes to use in any way you wish. You can use the whole two minutes yourself. If you are not present, your designated surrogate can use the whole two minutes. You may have an introduction from a member of the district, you may have other members of the 46th District speak, and then you may use the rest of your time yourself. You may have someone else entirely speak for you, as long as that person is a member of the 46th District Democrats. You may do interpretive dance or recite a Shakespearean sonnet for two minutes. You may have small children juggle balls while you narrate. You may literally use your two minutes on any way you choose, as long as the presentation is live, and there are no sharp objects involved.

Can I have a staffer attend the meeting and call me to the meeting when my race is up for speeches?

Yes, but we are not responsible for you missing your contest or being late. We are not going to prod your staffer – they need to be aware of what’s going on in the meeting on their own.

Can I send you a video?

No. Well, it’s a free country and you can send one, but we will not play it. Presentations at the meeting are live only.

Can I run a little over my two minutes?

No. *Absolutely not.* We will have timers, and we will cut you off if you run over. We will warn you at 15 seconds that you are getting close. Don’t even think about running over. (It’s a fairness issue.)

Can I watch the votes being counted?

Yes, absolutely, although it will be virtually, of course. You or a designated observer may be in communication with the tally team in action, and may view the tally report and the audit report in a breakout room. Check in with Leah Ross, Tally Chair, in Zoom Chat to introduce your observer.

What if I have other questions before the meeting?

First, I would ask that you check our endorsements webpage and have read our rules, but if you still have a question that has not been addressed, we are happy to help. Please email chair@46dems.org or elections@46dems.org

See you (virtually) at 11:00am on Sunday, May 23rd!