

King County Dems Questionnaire

The section below consists of multiple Yes/No/Qualified answers. I have answered based upon my knowledge, but I will need Lance to confirm these. For any marked as Qualified, I do not know the answer and will need Lance to confirm yes, no, or if it needs to remain qualified. If it remains qualified, I will need to type of a brief answer.

* 13. Are you a Democrat?

Questionnaire 2021 Survey

Yes

* 14. Yes/No Questions

	Yes / No / Qualified
Have you ever been a member of another political party?	No
Have you ever been found in violation of a Public Disclosure Commission, Federal Election Commission, or Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission regulation?	Qualified
Do you have a code of conduct for staff and volunteers?	Qualified
If you have paid campaign staff, would you support them joining a labor union?	Qualified
Is there anything from your past that might hamper your success as a candidate?	Qualified
Do you support employees of your jurisdiction (e.g. your city's employees, the Port's employees, etc.) exercising their collective bargaining rights without fear of retaliation; including the right to bargain and strike for better working conditions and pay?	Yes
Are you willing to have yourself, your staff and your peers undergo training to understand and combat institutional racism and implicit bias?	Yes
Are you willing to have yourself, your staff and your peers undergo training to understand and combat sexual harassment?	Yes
Will your campaign be accepting contributions from corporate fossil fuel PACs?	No

- I have never been found in violation of a Public Disclosure Commission, Federal Election Commission, or Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission Regulation? (No)
- Do you have a code of conduct for staff and volunteers? (Yes)
- If you have paid campaign staff, would you support them joining a labor union? (Yes)
- Is there anything from your past that might hamper your success as a candidate? (No)

Will your campaign be accepting contributions from corporate pharmaceutical PACs?	No ▾
Will your campaign be accepting contributions from corporate health insurance PACs?	No ▾
Will your campaign be accepting contributions from corporate building industry PACs; including the Building Industry Association of Washington (BIAW) and National Association of Home Builders?	Qualified ▾
Will your campaign be accepting contributions from police guilds or sheriffs' organizations?	No ▾
Will you denounce contributions that you don't support from companies who support your campaign anyway?	Yes ▾
Have you previously participated or will you be participating in a candidate training program like Institute for a Democratic Future or Emerge?	No ▾

- Will your campaign be accepting contributions from corporate PACs? (No)

Long-form answers

16. Please describe your background (education, employment, community and civic activity, labor union affiliation etc.)

I have spent the past 30 years of my life as a political scientist, economic development practitioner and entrepreneur. I have held leadership positions with a United States Congressman, a State Senator, Mayors of local municipalities, large and small businesses, non-profit organizations, public-private partnerships, and educational institutions.

Following my work directing constituent services for a Georgia Congressman, managing the campaign of a Georgia State Senator, and working for Mayors of Georgia municipalities, I went to The University of Oklahoma's highly acclaimed Economic Development Institute in Norman, Oklahoma. He moved to Seattle in 2007, to focus on economic development for the City of Seattle. Since then, I have worked as a Business Services Manager for the City of Seattle's Office of Economic Development and as the Executive Director of Southeast Effective Development.

My background and experience make me uniquely qualified and prepared to be Seattle's Mayor at this exact moment in our city's history.

17. Please describe your history of involvement (if any), with particular emphasis on the last five years, in local, regional, and/or state politics.

Prior to moving to Seattle, I worked as the Director of Constituent Services for US Congressman Sanford D Bishop Jr, the Director of Existing Industry for the Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce, and campaign manager for Nikki T. Randall's campaign for the Georgia State Assembly.

Following my move to Seattle, I built a career working for the City and was a volunteer for one of the candidates during the 2009 Seattle Mayors race. Once I left working for the City government, I focused my energy on supporting South Seattle by being the Executive Director of Southeast Effective development and being a member of the 37th District Democrats.

18. Please describe the progress of your campaign and goals. How do you plan to win?

My campaign has started as a grassroots effort to bring practicality, a problem solver mentality, and diverse representation into City Hall. At this point in time, we have raised over \$38k with the goal to raise \$400,000 for the primary, \$400,000 for the general election.

Our campaign budget is focused on getting my message out to the voters through social media, press releases, events and door knocking. Most of the campaign staff are volunteers, and we will be very strategic in the way we spend our financial resources. When we get to the general election, we will invest significant dollars in a robust television and radio advertising campaign.

To win, we have a team of over 11 policy advisors to build the most comprehensive campaign platform of all the candidates and have brought on the 1833 Group, an award-winning firm, was founded in 2018 by Nick Dagggers and James “JR” Patton. Together, they bring a combined quarter-century of experience managing and overseeing political organizations, municipalities, and nonprofits. They established the 1833 Group to help progressive candidates, causes and local governments succeed. <https://1833group.com/>.

19. What issues do you think deserve more attention from media or elected officials? How would you seek to remedy that through your campaign or when elected?

As mayor, I will prioritize supporting our homeless neighbors, public safety, and an equitable economic recovery. These three topics receive ample coverage and attention, and that should continue. Along with these topics, I believe the media and elected officials should be covering the economic impacts of COVID-19 on Seattle’s creative economy. While Seattle has rightly earned a reputation as a creative city, the combination of the recent economic boom followed by Covid-19 comes at the expense of its creative culture and economy. Seattle is losing its creative edge as a result.

I will turn this trend around by working with arts and entertainment leaders to make Seattle the most creative city in the world where people can make a living making music, film, art, and theater. The benefits of this effort extend far beyond artists too, because the more creative Seattle is, the better equipped its culture will be in attracting talent and coming up with innovative ways to address societal challenges like homelessness, addiction, mobility, public safety, sustainability or simply enhancing the visual environment.

20. How do you plan to involve all residents and engage all communities in the decision-making process? How would you work with people who lack trust in our institutions?

I believe that community input early leads to policies responsive to the diverse needs of our residents. As such, I plan to build relationships with our neighborhoods by regularly engaging with our community and soliciting their input on committees and working groups.

This practice will span across policy areas such as public safety, affordable housing, and small business development. In public safety, Police Chiefs, Commanders, and I will engage in regular Town Hall Meetings to develop a community policing philosophy in conjunction with our residents. With affordable housing, we will organize a group of industry and neighborhood leaders to create a diversity of housing options rooted in the needs of the neighborhood. To support our small businesses, I will work with neighborhood business districts, commercial property owners, and small business owners to identify the best tax incentives and grant programs needed to refill commercial retail spaces and support businesses suffering from revenue lost due to COVID-19.

For those who lack trust in our politic system and institutions, I will use these forums and groups to show how city government can be responsive to the needs of its residents.

21. COVID has increased existing inequities. How will you use your office to support the most vulnerable? How would you promote an equitable recovery and create opportunity for all?

My career as an economic development practitioner has focused on supporting the establishment, development, and growth of women-, minority- and immigrant-owned small businesses. I will use this experience to swiftly to revitalize the downtown core and our neighborhood business districts, stop the exodus of businesses and the elimination of jobs. To help Seattle's economy rebound I am going to act quickly and intentionally with plans that are both realistic and aimed to bolster our local business's ability to survive and continue to operate successfully in the city.

These actions will limit barriers for businesses to start up and recover from the economic crisis caused by COVID-19. Some of the ways I will support small businesses will include:

- Review the processes for city reviews, inspections, and small business permits to reduce the time required for small businesses to start-up.
- Create a rapid response program through a partnership with neighborhood chambers and business associations to quickly assess and meet the needs of small businesses in their business districts.
- Create a partnership between the city government and our local corporate foundations to raise money to fund a local grant program to provide significant financial assistance to small businesses.

22. If elected, how will you use your position to address racial inequality, and advance an anti-racist agenda? How specifically would you support the Black Lives Matter movement?

As an African American male that grew up in the deep south, I clearly understand the racial inequalities that exist in this country when it comes to law enforcement, the judicial system, education, political power and economic opportunity. Being a grandson of a civil rights leader and a son of lawyer who handled civil rights cases, I was taught to be leader and pursue positions of power to ensure that equality and fairness is afforded to all people regardless of their background. Over my career in politics and economic development, I have been successful in bringing justice, equality and economic opportunity for many people of color, and will continue to do so as Mayor of Seattle. My platform supports the “Black Lives Mater” movement by integrating anti-racist policies into areas spanning public safety, affordable housing, supporting our homeless neighbors, climate change, infrastructure, mental health, the arts and creative economy, and workforce development. As Mayor, I will be proactive in creating a close working relationship with the leaders of our local social justice organizations and provide them funding, access to my office and opportunities to help me implement policies that will level the playing ground for people of color.

Review from here down

* 26. Yes/No Questions for municipal candidates

	Yes / No / Qualified
Do you support maintaining or increasing the minimum wage to reflect the cost of living in your city / jurisdiction?	Yes ▾
Do you support raising revenue at the city level to expand transit service?	Yes ▾
Do you support requiring bid requests to include local hiring preference or apprenticeship preference?	Yes ▾
Do you support development impact fees to help pay for schools, roads, and parks, as allowed under the Growth Management Act?	Yes ▾
Do you support building a municipally owned and operated broadband system in your city?	Yes ▾
Do you agree that municipal governments should use their borrowing capacity to fund additional units of affordable housing?	Yes ▾
Do you support requiring police officers in your jurisdiction to wear body cameras?	Yes ▾
Do you support your municipality implementing a “Ban the Box” program as is already in place in Seattle and Spokane?	Yes ▾
Have you made any non-trivial donations to Democratic candidates or Democratic party organizations since January 2016?	Yes ▾
Have you knowingly made any donations to Republican candidates or Republican party organizations since 2000?	No ▾
Do you support reduction of police budgets in favor of social services?	Qualified ▾

27. For any yes/no questions you answered "qualified" please explain:

I want to provide police officers with the proper support when responding to calls to help avoid injuries and fatalities. I will reallocate funding within the police department to provide opportunities for experts in mental health, drug counseling, de-escalation techniques and crime prevention to accompany police officers on calls where special assistance is needed.

28. Our region is growing quickly. How will you ensure that existing residents and newcomers alike have equitable access to affordable housing, public transit, and neighborhood amenities such as parks and schools? How will you protect current residents, and especially our most vulnerable communities, from displacement caused by this growth? How will you provide for and protect those displaced?

Seattle has experienced unprecedented growth in the last decade, spurred on by job growth and speculative development. Throughout this growth, housing has become more expensive and taken longer to permit and construct. Zoning regulations establish exclusive conditions throughout the city and increase disparity within the city between individual citizens and neighborhoods. My strategy will focus on creating more equitable policies that will enable a future where more people can have access to vibrant and walkable neighborhoods and afford to live in the city. I see two actions of mine that will inform my approach:

- Organize a group of industry and neighborhood leaders with city staff to prioritize the creation of a diversity of rental and for sale housing options. This will include reviewing opportunities to create a staggered Residential Zoning where density limits are responsive to site conditions, land values and desired outcomes.
- Create more flexibility within the Single-family zones, such as reducing the minimum lot size at block ends, establishing more opportunities for Land Trust models, and creating partnerships between landowners and levy funds to enable property owners to build wealth and limit displacement.

29. How have you worked to combat climate change? How would you use your elected office to ensure your region drastically lowers net carbon emissions by 2030 and achieves carbon neutrality by 2050?

My career has focused mostly on business development, and I will use that experience to both partner with Trade Unions to develop training programs for Green New Jobs and partner with start-ups and established companies to accelerate their impact and create more green jobs

I will also work to reduce our transportation and growing building emissions. To reduce transportation emissions, I will work to accelerate the adoption of electric vehicles through the construction of charging infrastructure, expanding of the City's electric fleet, and partnering with the state of Washington and Federal Government on electric vehicle incentives.

To reduce the energy consumption of buildings, I will focus both on green building policies and the adoption of smart grid technology. With green buildings, I will enforce Seattle's new

building codes that ensure buildings transition from oil heating fuels and expand opportunities for solar power on our buildings. I will also explore new Building Performance Standards following the passage of the Clean Buildings for Washington law (HB 1257) and assess if they are sufficient or need additional provisions following the standards' release.

30. What specific actions will you take to address the homelessness crisis in King County, both in the short term and long term? How do you plan to implement these solutions?

We must end the undignified neglect of our homeless neighbors by City Hall and our neglected leaders. Over the last decade, the number of houseless individuals has skyrocketed, and actions from City leadership have not supported or stabilized these thousands of individuals. My plan to support our homeless neighbors will reestablish City leadership and accountability, take immediate action to support our neighbors, invest in our mental health infrastructure, and build **“Dignity Communities”** to centralize resources and support long-term success.

- I will establish **“Dignity Communities”** using surplus city property and leasing private property to create safe places for temporary shelter with service providers on site, amenities to meet basic human needs, support teams and job placement for sustainable earned income. These communities will be places of compassion and support but will have expectations of those being cared for to ensure that needs are met and progress towards recovery is being made.
- To address the housing affordability crises, I will focus the resources from the Federal Housing Urban Development Agency to build, acquire, and sustain housing for the homeless. Federal fund utilization will free up other funding to build affordable housing for those living well below the poverty level.

31. "Structural racism is not always caused by racist actors – it is caused by institutional arrangements overlaid on historical policies that continue to perpetuate racialized outcomes." - Stephen Menendian

How would you use your position to work to dismantle these arrangements including, but not limited to, exclusionary land use policies?

I believe that we need to allow for more affordable home ownership and equitable access to amenities such as schools, open space and public safety in the city's Single-family zones. Currently, these neighborhoods and their amenities are less accessible to our lower- and middle-income residents, and our residents should have access to the neighborhood of their choosing.

I will improve the access of our beautiful neighborhoods to residents across income-levels and identities. I mentioned in question 28 that we will review opportunities in create staggered Residential Zoning with density limits responsive to neighborhood conditions, land values and desired outcomes. With access, reduced housing costs, and small business opportunities as

desired outcomes of my administration, I will support identifying ways to support the small business community and improve diversity of housing options in these neighborhoods. This will include reducing minimum lot size at block end and establishing more opportunities for Land Trust models.

* 33. Yes/No Questions for Seattle municipal candidates

	Yes / No / Qualified
Are you participating in the Democracy Voucher program?	Yes ▾
Would you support the placement of Community Health Engagement Locations (CHELs) (sometimes referred to as supervised injection facilities) in your district?	Qualified ▾
Do you support the forced removal of unauthorized homeless encampments ("sweeps") in your district?	Qualified ▾
Would you support the construction of a 10 or more unit permanent supportive housing building on your street?	Yes ▾
Would you support the construction of an affordable housing building on your street?	Yes ▾
Would you support a "congestion price" on downtown drivers in order to relieve traffic congestion and fund public transit improvements?	Qualified ▾
Do you support the installation of more protected bike lanes on arterial streets?	Yes ▾
Have you made any non-trivial donations to Democratic candidates or Democratic party organizations since January 2016?	Yes ▾
Have you made any non-trivial donations to Republican candidates or Republican party organizations since January 2016?	No ▾
Do you support reduction of police budgets in favor of social services?	Qualified ▾
Do you support the proposed "Clean Campaigns Act" from 2019?	Yes ▾
Are you supportive of the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program?	Yes ▾
Will you commit to ending the ban on apartments and condos on Seattle's residential land, thereby allowing more housing types, such as triplexes, town homes, and small apartment buildings, to be built across the city?	Yes ▾

34. For any yes/no questions you answered "qualified" please explain:

- I do support supervised injection sites because these sites reduce the spread of sexual diseases, reduces overdoses, reduces needles in our parks and provides access to experts that can encourage users to seek treatment. However, I want to see is a housing component added to these sites to keep the addicted off the streets until they recover. This will increase the engagement between the drug counselors and those who need treatment.
- While I support interventions to reduce our emissions and reach 2030 and 2050 goals, I want to avoid enacting taxes that are regressive and disproportionately impact low-income residents and

workers who rely on driving to support themselves. I would want to see analysis on how different tax levels both reduce emissions and impact our residents.

- I support reallocate funding within the police department to provide opportunities for experts in mental health, drug counseling, de-escalation techniques and crime prevention to accompany police officers on calls where special assistance is needed. To support social service organizations, I will make a commitment to allocate money every year, specifically for those organizations, in my budget submission to the City Council.

35. What actions would you take to address homelessness? Please consider addressing land use, revenue, regional collaboration, the role of social services, the role of the police and justice system.

We must end the undignified neglect of our homeless neighbors by City Hall and our neglected leaders. Over the last decade, the number of houseless individuals has skyrocketed, and actions from City leadership have not supported or stabilized these thousands of individuals. My plan to support our homeless neighbors will reestablish City leadership and accountability, take immediate action to support our neighbors, invest in our mental health infrastructure, and build “**Dignity Communities**” to centralize resources and support long-term success.

- Focus the resources from the Federal Housing Urban Development Agency to build, acquire, and sustain housing for the homeless. Federal fund utilization will free up Seattle Housing Levy dollars so those dollars can be used to build affordable housing for those living well below the poverty level.
- Continue to support the Seattle Housing levy to expand shelters and several other services for the homeless, while holding contractors accountable for producing measurable results.
- Appoint a Deputy Mayor to focus on homelessness: oversees police department, fire department, homeless services, health and human services, and partners with external organizations such as the chamber of commerce, downtown Seattle Associations and the Regional Homelessness Authority. This individual’s role would be to ensure collaboration across all these entities to address homelessness and deliver results.
- Divert more neighbors into treatment through Mobile Co-Response Teams. I will have our Department of Human Services and Police Department partner with emergency medical services to create Mobile Co-Response Teams. These teams would respond to individuals experiencing behavioral health or substance abuse disorders with a team of experienced and trained Emergency Services clinicians, police officers, and emergency medical technicians.

36. Seattleites are divided on how to fund and what to fund within police work and public safety. How would you help bring the community together and adjust the Seattle Police Department (SPD) budget as needed? By approximately what % would you adjust the SPD budget?

The most important responsibility of our local government is to keep the public safe and protected. To do this we rely on our public safety service delivery system which consists of the **Police Department, Fire Department, First Responders and Human Services Providers**. These agencies must be funded, mutually supported and work together as a team. Based on the recent demands for social justice in our country, it is especially important that our Police Department is motivated to improve.

- To bring the community together around this issue I will develop and implement a “Relationship-Based Policing Program” for the department to create community trust and partnership. The Police Chief, Commanders, and I will be more interactive with our residents through regular “Town Hall Meetings.” The goal of these meetings is to work with residents to develop a “Community Policing Philosophy” based on organizational strategies, crime prevention techniques and public safety programs that have been implemented around the country.
- I will adjust the SPD budget by reallocating funding within the police department to provide opportunities for experts in mental health, drug counseling, de-escalation techniques and crime prevention to accompany police officers on calls where special assistance is needed.

37. How will you prioritize transportation infrastructure for biking, pedestrians, transit, commercial vehicles, and cars? Which do you view as most important to prioritize funds for?

Transportation is essential to Seattle’s economic growth and the revitalization of its downtown. A well-maintained and fully functioning infrastructure is necessary for efficient and safe mobility in Seattle. This mobility includes automobiles, trucks for freight and delivery, public transit, light rail, bicycles, and pedestrians. A well-managed and accountable Seattle Department of Transportation can ensure the safety and effectiveness of the city transportation sector.

I plan to review the transportation priorities that have been identified as a result of the 2015 “**Levy to Move Seattle**,” that provided \$930 million, and the November 2020 Transportation Plan. We will use this review to adjust priorities based upon anticipated funding changes due to COVID-19’s impact on tax revenue and the City’s needs, if necessary. This will include a benefit versus cost analysis of all transportation projects to evaluate our priorities:

- Provide accountable oversight in the rehabilitation of the bridges and roads that have been planned within the “Levy to Move Seattle.”
- Review the Bicycle Master Plan to determine the necessary funding for access and safety.
- Ensure that the West Seattle Bridge repair project is effectively and efficiently managed to be structurally sound, safe, and within budget.

38. Do you support utilizing Seattle's newly granted authority to implement a 1% flat income tax?

As Mayor, I will prioritize funding new programs through federal and state funding and public-private partnerships. I will not implement a new tax without a clear program or initiatives to tie the tax revenue toward. However, I would support a 1% flat income tax if we identify a need that requires this revenue stream.