



Chair’s Message

Hello Fellow Democrats!

Well this is it! Our 2021 Primary is on Tuesday! I’m going to make the assumption that if you are reading this you have already cast and mailed/dropped off your ballot. If you haven’t, STOP READING. Put this down, find your ballot and fill in some circles! This is YOUR time to express your wishes for how we move forward as a city. VOTE!

Thank you to our PCOs and volunteers who worked to get out the Primary vote. This is what we do - we work to elect Democrats. Well, we do lots of other stuff too but this is our FOCUS. If you are not a PCO or a volunteer, PLEASE step up this fall as we work to support our endorsed candidates - they need us. My personal focus is doing what I can to help in Burien. Many of you will remember 2017 when we helped get the ‘fabulous four’ elected, flipping the council Blue. Well those 4 seats are at stake again this year. The Right has put up a few candidates that are gaining traction. Mayor Jimmy Matta, Hugo Garcia, Sarah Moore and Krystal Marx will be working hard to keep democratic values strong in Burien. Please support them by making a donation, signing up to walk a precinct or make phone calls. We are already seeing signs of “The Burien Voice” spreading hate and misinformation. It’s going to be a tough race. Let’s show up for Burien in 2021!

I encourage you to attend the August meeting as we will be entertaining motions for endorsement for Mayor. While we did not come to a conclusion in the pre-primary endorsements, we have an opportunity to endorse a Mayoral candidate after the Primary. We will also have a special informational program about Compassion Seattle - Charter Amendment 29 and the opposition campaign “House Our Neighbors”. After the presentation you can ask questions and then later in the meeting we will entertain endorsement. Homelessness is one of the keystone issues of the election and it is helping define our city. Learn more online: compassionseattle.org/ and www.houseourneighbors.org/.

We will also be voting on Candidate Donations and an updated budget which will allow us to spend the surplus we now have after the flood of new members in May. Please also mark your calendar for August 17 (Tuesday) at 7pm when we will host an informative program on Redistricting.

Enjoy August and stay safe and healthy!

Carla Rogers

34th LD Chair -
chair@34dems.org - 206-432-1998

August 11, 2021

Online Membership Meeting Notice

You Must Register to Attend:

[Register Here](#)

6:00pm - Zoom opens for a mini-program:

“Compassion Seattle” Charter
Amendment 29 versus “House our Neighbors”

7:00pm - Call to Order

Opening Ceremonies (15m)

Approval of Agenda and Minutes (2m)
Budget and Membership Report (3m)
Review of Endorsement Process (5m)

Endorsements (50m)

Mayor
Highline School Board
Compassion Seattle/Charter 29

Candidate Spotlight (5m)

Announcements (5m)

Proposed Budget Update (15m)

Resolutions to Consider (15m)

Resolution on Sustainable Mobility - See *Page 6*

Resolution in Support of the Protecting the Right
to Organize (“PRO”) Act - See *page 7*

Adjourn 9pm

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Executive Board

Elected Officers

Carla Rogers | Chair
chair@34dems.org

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

Jordan Crawley | Second Vice Chair
vicechair2@34dems.org

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

Janine Anzolata | State Committee Person
wsdccc@34dems.org

Norman Sigler | King Co. Committeeperson
kcdccm@34dems.org

Leah Griffin | King Co. Committeeperson
kcdccw@34dems.org

King Co. Committee Alt. 1 | **VACANT**

Bunny Hatcher | King Co. Committee Alt. 2
kcdccwa@34dems.org

Sara Smith | Secretary
secretary@34dems.org

Julie Whitaker | Treasurer
treasurer@34dems.org

Committee Chairs

Sarah Koch | Bylaws & Rules
bylaws@34dems.org

Colleen Hinton | Caucus and Elections
caucus@34dems.org

Dawn Rains | Community Partnerships
coalitions@34dems.org

Carla Rogers | Communications
digcomm@34dems.org

Bunny Hatcher | Endorsements & Resolutions
endorse-reso@34dems.org

Jeff Sbaih | Equity & Social Justice
equity@34dems.org

Currently Vacant | Fundraising & Events
fundraising@34dems.org

Trey Lykins | Membership & Hospitality
membership@34dems.org

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

Nick Bonazza | PCO Coordination
pco@34dems.org

Jordan Crawley | Platform & Leg. Action
lac@34dems.org

Rachel Glass | Programs
vicechair1@34dems.org

Estey Chen | Young Democrats
34yd@34dems.org

Other Roles

Zachary Ramels | Volunteer Coordinator
Volunteer@34dems.org

Carla Rogers | Webmaster
webmaster@34dems.org

Steve Butts | Newsletter Editor
newsletter@34dems.org

Gina Topp | Parliamentarian

King County Democrats July 27 Meeting Report

Julie Wise, the King County Elections Director began the pre-meeting by stressing the importance of voting! Hanna Floss is looking for election observers. If you would like to be a certified election observer for the King County Democrats, please email Hanna.Floss@gmail.com. The next training opportunity will be in October leading up to the November election.



Chair Shasti Conrad focused on endorsed candidates. She reported that all PCOs will be sent a weekly email with opportunities to volunteer for KCDCC endorsed candidates. There are over 100 great Democrats to volunteer for, so be on the lookout for those links. KCDCC has paid off its last payment to the AG's office for past PDC financial issues, and KCDCC will soon be in a position to contribute more substantially to endorsed candidates.

Natalia Fior, the new VP of Fundraising, stressed that the King County Republicans out-fundraise Democrats 10 to 1, so if you would like to help even the odds, you can donate to KCDCC here: <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/kcdprogress>

KCDCC passed two resolutions. The first was a Resolution to support the PRO Act. It protects workers looking to organize which passed by unanimous consent. The second was a Resolution concerning Sound Transit Realignment. It discourages lawmakers from postponing or canceling any ST3 projects.

Submitted by Leah Griffin, KCDCC Committeeperson

A Special Program on Redistricting

Your voting power starts here.

Where the lines are drawn for legislative and congressional districts affects your voting power for the next 10 years. Political flashpoints loom as Republicans and Democrats prepare to hash out new maps for the state's 10 congressional and 49 legislative districts, a process controlled by a bipartisan redistricting commission.



Attend this session and learn about the history and process of redistricting. Alison McCaffree, who is leading redistricting efforts for the League of Women Voters of Washington, which has had a long history of involvement on the subject, will provide the presentation.

August 17, 7-8:30pm.

No need to register, just click the link below the day/time of the session.

Join the Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83762789313>

“Compassion Seattle” Charter Amendment 29 versus “House our Neighbors”

Competing Solutions to Solve Homelessness Will be Presented before Our August Meeting

A controversial campaign to alter Seattle’s city charter and force it to handle homelessness differently, known as Compassion Seattle, has officially qualified to appear on the November ballot.

HOMELESSNESS

Join Us to
Learn about
**Charter
Amendment
29** and it's
Opposition:
**House Our
Neighbors**



August 11, 6:00pm

Since [Charter Amendment 29](#) was announced earlier this year, it has received mixed feedback. Candidates for the mayoral primary next month are almost evenly split on it. While few homeless nonprofit leaders and advocates have spoken out in favor of it, many others have started a campaign called [House Our Neighbors](#) to encourage Seattle voters to say “No.”

Our goal here is to give you the opportunity to hear from both sides so that you can make your own choice. We will - later in the meeting agenda - allow time for motions of endorsement.

This is a seminal initiative for our community - join us early on August 11 - starting at 6:00pm (same Zoom as our August meeting) - to learn about the for and against arguments and then we will provide an opportunity for questions.

Proposed Update to 2021-2022 Budget and Campaign Contributions at the August Meeting

As promised in April, the board will be bringing a proposed update to our 2021-2022 budget. We had a nice windfall in May when we had over 200 members join the organization in order to participate in endorsements. We believe it is best to spend the money we collect in the same year it was donated so we have made lots of updates to the budget which will be shared with members and PCOs in an email on Sunday, August 8th. We will also take you through each line item during the meeting. Please look out for the email and bring any questions to the meeting.

We will also vote on how we will divide the campaign donations among our endorsed candidates. The board has made a proposal and you will have the opportunity to ask questions and make suggestions. This vote will require a motion and second and we will plan for a voice vote.



34th LD Democrats Member Survey

This is a monthly series of 34th Membership surveys that will help the leadership of the 34th understand and respond to the input of our membership. We will use the data collected ONLY to modify the way we conduct 34th business and activities going forward. Your responses are anonymous. PLEASE PROVIDE HONEST INPUT! The good, bad and ugly! Your input will make us STRONGER as an organization.

<https://bit.ly/August-2021-Speak-Up-Survey> Thank you for speaking up!

Your Executive Board Meeting
For August
is to be Determined.

Please email the chair to join:
chair@34dems.org

34th Officer/Board Member Position Opening

Previous **Male KCDCC Alternate**, Richard O'Neill, has resigned as he is moving to another district, leaving an opening to help represent our LD at the county level, and have a seat on our Executive Board. We will be voting on a replacement at our September meeting. Candidate must identify as male, or non-binary.

If you are interested in this role, please contact Carla Rogers
chair@34dems.org

Contact Information and Committee Assignments for Our Legislators

Senator

Joe Nguyen

Assistant Floor Leader

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

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



Representative Eileen Cody

Chair, Health Care & Wellness;
Appropriations

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



Representative Joe Fitzgibbon

Chair, Environment & Energy;
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 September newsletter will be Thursday, August 26, 2021

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

In Case You Missed Our Last Meeting...

70 Attendees were present online as we continued to add to our endorsements, this time we picked candidates in the three Port of Seattle Commissioner races. The meeting started at 7pm, after an interesting presentation on a proposed national infrastructure bank.

Chair **Carla Rogers** noted that our membership was at 549, a substantial number of people. She called out with thanks to recurring annual donors, and members who are giving a monthly - this gives the organization a steady financial base.

She announced that we will have a volunteer coordinator to help connect volunteers with their preferred role. **Zach Ramels** will be assuming that duty. We will also be holding an election for the position of KCDCC Male alternate at the August meeting. The Question of the Month was: "Will you be attending the reunion picnic on September 18, and will you be bringing anyone with you?"

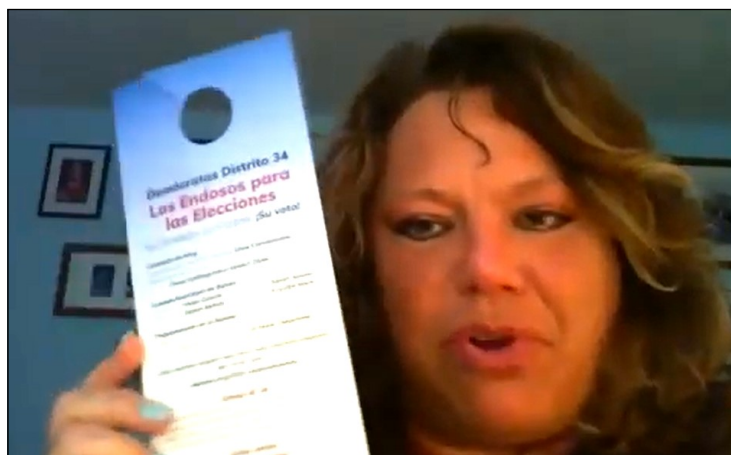
There was to be a program on redlining in Seattle on July 27, and on August 17 there will be a program on redistricting. On September 18 we will have a potluck "reunion picnic" at our usual Shelter No. 3 in Lincoln Park, from 4pm to sunset.

Port Commissioner Endorsements:

Norman Sigler & Ryan Calkins – Position 1. This is a Dual Endorsement, done on the second ballot after neither reached the 60% vote threshold needed for a sole endorsement.

Hamdi Mohamed – Position 3. She prevailed over Stephanie Bowman, the incumbent. Two speakers spoke against Bowman bringing up her lack of support for a \$15 dollar minimum wage, and funding to support tourism during the pandemic, while other needs existed.

Toshiko Hasegawa – Position 4. She received our endorsement over the incumbent Peter Steinbrueck.



Chair Carla Rogers shows the Spanish back of the Burien doorhanger.

Jennifer Fichamba spoke to her candidacy for Highline School District Director position 2. She will be returning in August to seek our endorsement.

Nick Bonazza introduced a new PCO recruit for appointment. **Michelle Frix** is now the PCO for SEA 34-1545. Nick urged us to turn out for one of the Canvass Kickoffs, at C&P Coffee and Burien Press. While we have seen each other over Zoom, these events will allow PCOs to meet in person, many for the first time. He wanted us to give a strong recommendation of the King County Proposition 1 “Best Starts for Kids” during our doorbelling activities.

Carla presented the doorhangers we will be using as a “leave behind” that include our endorsements. We produced one especially for Burien, with a Spanish version on the reverse side.

We passed two resolutions presented by **Bunny Hatcher**. One urges our senators to support the elimination of the senate filibuster. It was brought to us by Submitted by **Camille Gix** and **Paul Chapman** of the 43rd LD Democrats. Gix explained the resolution.

The second resolution asks our representatives to enact a National Infrastructure Bank, a funding concept that was presented before the meeting. Seattle resident **Martin Talerico** asked us to endorse his resolution on behalf of the of HR 3339, introduced by Danny Davis, D-IL.

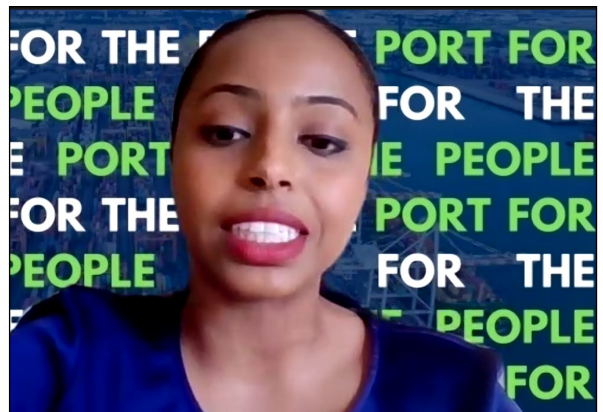
LAC Chair **Jordan Crawley** presented our 2021 Platform. This is a new document for the 34th District Democrats and was the product developed from input of the Membership Policy Caucuses. Work began on the platform starting at the beginning of the year. Before we approved the document, there were changes suggested by members that were debated. Those, with a few changes, were incorporated into the platform.



Norman Sigler for Port Commissioner Pos. 1.



Ryan Calkins seeks reelection to Port Pos. 1.



Hamdi Mohamed is running for Port Pos. 3.



Jennifer Fichamba is running for Highline School Board Director.



Toshiko Hasegawa is running for Port Pos. 4.

Resolution on Sustainable Mobility

Whereas Washington State, and in fact the whole country, is in the midst of a climate crisis, a housing crisis, and a failure to protect residents and visitors from vehicular accidents, with transportation creating 45%¹(and increasing²) of Washington State's greenhouse gases; and

Whereas Washington State has developed a massive backlog of deferred maintenance on existing roadways, of which 57%—\$6.9 billion—is unfunded, making Washington the eighth worst in the country for its share of roads (27%) in poor condition.⁴ At the same time, more than three-fourths of the state's spending on roads went toward expansion—fourth highest in the nation, while the State, County, and City governments continue to build more lanes of highways and roads while underfunding investment in transit, passenger and freight rail, non-motorized mobility, and general mobility safety, and while these non-vehicular modes of transportation have been repeatedly demonstrated to create more culturally and economically vibrant neighborhoods and cities; and

Whereas Washington State has a history of racial/ethnic and income inequity in transportation infrastructure, including building highways—such as the 509 extension⁵—through communities with higher percentages of color or lower incomes; and

Whereas Washington State's 18th Amendment creates a structural inequity by limiting gas tax revenues to highways purposes, and the legislature has created new funding sources with carbon pricing that have not yet been committed to carbon-reducing projects, and the legislature is likely to take up the issue of transportation funding in a special session later this year; and

Whereas We have an opportunity with carbon pricing revenues to invest in proven methods to reduce transportation-related greenhouse gasses, increase public safety, and reduce sprawl with mode shifts to non-car-based mobility including transit, bike lanes, pedestrian access, and “15-minute cities” while using the gas tax to fund for salmon recovery, the ferry system, and road maintenance;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the 34th District Democrats call for an end to the financially and environmentally unsustainable expansion of roads and highways, especially those through predominantly BIPOC or lower income neighborhoods, and instead use the gas tax in an equitable manner to adequately fund maintenance and repair of our highways, roads and ferry system, including modifications needed to meet our obligations for salmon habitat recovery; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the 34th District Democrats call for a true investment in environmentally sustainable mobility, public safety, and “15-minute cities” by dedicating 100% of the carbon pricing revenue, road use fees, and expanded car tab weight fees in a transformational investment by state, counties, and cities in non-vehicular mobility, including transit, passenger and freight rail, bike lanes, ADA compliance, and walkable, safe streets; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution shall be forwarded to the Chairs and Ranking Minority Members of the Washington House and Senate Transportation and Environment Committees, the legislative delegation from the 34th District, and the State and County Democratic Central Committees.

Submitted by Annie Phillips, 34th LD Democrats member, co-lead, Environment, Energy and Land Use Caucus, and 34th PCO, for consideration by the 34th Legislative District Democrats.

Notes

The “15-minute city” may be defined as an ideal geography where most human needs and many desires are located within a travel time/distance of 15 minutes.

<https://ecology.wa.gov/Air-Climate/Climate-change/Greenhouse-gases/2018-Data>

<https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/environment/washington-state-greenhouse-gas-emissions-rose-in-2018-due-to-transportation/>

<https://wsdot.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2020/07/30/2020-Highway-Construction-Project-Delivery-Plan-Assumptions-and-Concepts.pdf>

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/transportation/2021/05/23/highway-funding-infrastructure/>

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/DataandStatisticalReports/HealthDataVisualization/DemographicDashboards/CensusTractsDashboard>

<https://wsdotblog.blogspot.com/2018/10/how-traffic-patterns-will-change-after.html>

Resolution in Support of the Protecting the Right to Organize (“PRO”) Act

Whereas history shows that increased unionization has the power to dramatically decrease economic inequality and build broadly shared prosperity; and

Whereas making the economy work for working people will restore faith in our economy and our democracy; and

Whereas union contracts are the single best tool for closing racial and gender pay gaps while ensuring fair and dignified treatment of workers and protecting against discrimination in employment or the workplace; and

Whereas the last significant federal labor legislation was the National Labor Relations Act (“Wagner Act”) of 1935, which has been weakened over time by Congress, by courts, and by legislation in many states; and

Whereas the Protecting the Right to Organize (“PRO”) Act, which has passed the U.S. House of Representatives and attracted 47 co-sponsors in the Senate, would – among other needed reforms – override states’ so-called “right-to-work laws, end the ban on secondary boycotts, implement card check, ban captive-audience meetings, enable independent contractors to organize collectively, and impose monetary penalties on companies and executives that violate workers’ rights – thus contributing significantly to a leveling of the playing field between workers who want to form a union and employers who’ve been exploiting weaknesses in the current law by intimidating and interfering with workers’ rights to organize and bargain collectively;

Therefore, be it resolved that we thank Senators Murray and Cantwell for co-sponsoring the PRO Act, and encourage them to continue their efforts to rally support from 60 or more Democratic, Republican and Independent Senators in order to prevent a filibuster from being used to block its passage; and

Be it further resolved that we will vocally support the PRO Act and encourage our members to publicize our support via electronic means, at meetings, in “Letters to the Editor,” on social media, and in their precincts, neighborhoods, and communities; and

Be it further resolved that we will send copies of this resolution to the Washington State Democratic Central Committee, MLK Labor, the Washington State Labor Council, and the Washington State AFL-CIO.

Submitted by Ann Martin, member of the Resolutions & Endorsements Committee. Authored by Brent McFarland and Thom Garrard from the 32nd Legislative District Democrats.

A National Infrastructure Bank Proposal Presentation

Before our July meeting, a special presentation on a proposed National Infrastructure Bank was presented by Julie Olsen, and Alphecca Muttardi, a former senior economist with the IMF who was the lead architect in drafting HR 3339, a bill introduced by Danny Davis, D-IL which would create a public bank with \$5 trillion in assets to lend to finance projects across the country.

The US has not been able to fund infrastructure projects though federal, or state and local budgets. As a result,



11th LD Rep. Bob Hasegawa, a long-time proponent of a state bank, introduced the National Bank program.

infrastructure project spending has fallen way off as a percentage of our economy.

The bank would work like any other: Take in deposits and lend out money for projects. It would have a capitalization ratio of 1:10 deposit to loan dollars. Deposits would come from the private sector and yield an interest rate of an extra 2%. There would not be a need for new appropriations or taxes and would not increase the national debt.

The bank would stimulate the economy by providing living wage jobs, with “buy America” provisions. It could increase economic growth to around 5% and generate additional taxes to lower the national debt.

The bank would fund all the items listed by the American Society of Civil Engineers’ annual “report card”, with additions such as a national high-speed rail system and nationwide broadband. Water distribution to mitigate the effects of drought and help provide affordable housing could also be financed.

In contrast, the current bi-partisan plan in congress only provides only one tenth of the money need to fix our infrastructure and would need to be renewed.

Check out the YouTube recording if you missed this interesting program [HERE](#)

Our Endorsed Candidates as of Our July 14th Membership Meeting

King County

Executive

Dow Constantine

King County Council Position 5 *

Dave Upthegrove & Shukri Olow

Seattle

Mayor

No Endorsement

Seattle City Council – Citywide

Teresa Mosqueda – Position 8

Brianna Thomas – Position 9

Seattle City Attorney

Pete Holmes

Burien City Council

Hugo Garcia – Position 1

Jimmy Matta – Position 3

Sarah Moore – Position 5

Krystal Marx – Position 7

Port of Seattle Commissioner

Norman Sigler & Ryan Calkins – Position 1*

Hamdi Mohamed – Position 3*

Toshiko Hasegawa – Position 5*

King County Superior Court

Judge Andrea Robertson – Position 47 *

Ballot Initiative

King County Proposition 1 -

Best Starts for Kids Levy - Approve

*Not on the Primary ballot.



Honorary Junior PCO Theo, Randy Litzenberger's son, is ready with a doorhanger.

A few faces at the Primary Canvass Kickoff in West Seattle...



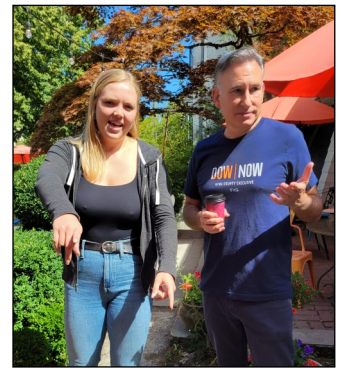
Leah Griffin and Randy Litzenberger



Seattle Council Candidate Brianna Thomas



Ann Martin and Michael Upton



Dow Constantine with a campaign assistant

A Look at the History of Redlining - Across the Country, and Here in Seattle

On July 27th, Ubox Gardheere presented a fascinating program on redlining, with and how it was applied in Seattle. she is the Equitable Development Initiative Division Director in the City of Seattle Office of Planning and Community Development...and also a candidate for King County Council District 9.

Ubox starts her presentation from the beginning before of the colonization of America. Land was not divided up into private property in indigenous culture, but considered to belong to the community as a whole. Europeans brought property law and the concept of race which was extended to subjugating of native people and the slavery of Africans.

She presented a timeline from colonization beginning in the 15th century through white flight to the suburbs, the recent gentrification of inner cities, and up to the recent Great Recession and the COVID pandemic. She gives an overlay of national trends, and tying it back to Seattle's history with local examples.

Along the way specific laws such as the Chinese and Exclusion Act, racially restrictive covenants and zoning ordinances codified inequities. Ubox provided maps of Seattle used by bankers to plot out and define areas of good to poor credit risks, often based on the racial makeup of communities. Urban renewal projects and freeway development forced out low-income people and into public housing projects. Public transportation gave way to the auto, enabling white flight from inner cities aided with federal assistance from the FHA and the GI Bill, which went 98% to whites and mostly to suburban housing.



Ubox Gardheere

Watch the YouTube recording [HERE](#)



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The 34th District Democrats, 6523 California Ave SW, Box 183, Seattle, WA 98136-1879

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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**

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