Burien Georgetown Pioneer Square

SODO South Park

West Seattle

White Center

Vashon/Maury Island

Chair's Message

I felt incredibly proud to be an American this past week seeing President Biden's visit to Ukraine to mark the one-year anniversary of Russia's invasion. President Biden was standing up for democracy globally, just as he has done at home. His visit was a stark reminder that democracy can never be taken for granted, and we need leaders who stand up for and protect democratic values at home and abroad.

As a Democrat, I am also proud that - in these fraught times - the Democratic Party has consistently worked to protect and strengthen our democratic institutions. Our party is committed to expanding access to the ballot box and ensuring government remains functioning and able to meet the needs of people who need it most.

Here in the 34th, we must continue to help elect solid Democrats who will ensure our local democratic institutions are strengthened and protected. We need to elect Democrats who will ensure the integrity of our elections and keep leading the way in making our elections accessible.

As members of the 34th Democrats, we know that protecting our democracy starts at home. While we continue to have electoral successes locally and statewide, we can never rest on our laurels. Democracy is too important to waste and too fragile to be taken for granted.

Graham Murphy, Chair



Meeting Notice March 8, 2023

On Zoom, Register HERE

6:30 Pre-Meeting Programming -

The Pre-Meeting Program will be on Behavioral Health/Mental Health and how Southwest Youth and Family Services, located in our district, provides relevant resources and access to muchneeded services to our community.

7:30 Call to Order **Approve Agenda Approve Minutes**

Opening Ceremonies

- Land Acknowledgement
 - VIP Acknowledgement and Announcements

Candidate Spotlights

- Councilmember Teresa Mosqueda
- Judge Coreen Wilson

Update on Crisis Care Levy Campaign Wealth Tax Resolution Appointment of Ad Hoc Forums Committee Plan/Priorities for Forums and Endorsements **Membership Confirmation Check In-Person Meeting Plan PCO Appointments Budget Report Good of the Order** 9:00 Adjournment

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Executive Board 2023-2024

Elected Officers

Graham Murphy | Chair chair@34dems.org

Rachel Glass | 1st Vice Chair vicechair1@34dems.org

Jordan Crawley | 2nd Vice Chair vicechair2@34dems.org

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

Roxanne Thayer | State Committee Person wsdccw@34dems.org

Bunny Hatcher | King Co. Committeeperson kcdccw@34dems.org

Ted Barker | King Co. Committeeperson kcdccm@34dems.org

Leah Griffin | King Co. Committee kcdccwa@34dems.org

Preston Anderson | King Co. Committee kcdccma@34dems.org

Steve Butts | Secretary secretary@34dems.org

Julie Whitaker | Treasurer treasurer@34dems.org

Committee Chairs

Jordan Crawley | Bylaws & Rules bylaws@34dems.org

Vacant | Caucus and Elections

Vacant | Community Partnerships

Carla Rogers | Communications digcomm@34dems.org

Ann Martin | Endorsements & Resolutions endorse-reso@34dems.org

Vacant | Equity & Social Justice

Vacant | Fundraising & Events

Vacant | Membership & Hospitality

Steve Butts | Outreach outreach@34dems.org

Dorothy Gesick | PCO Coordination pco@34dems.org

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

Rachel Glass | Programs vicechair1@34dems.org

Vacant | Young Democrats Liaison

Other Roles

Carla Rogers | Webmaster webmaster@34dems.org

Steve Butts | Newsletter Editor newsletter@34dems.org

Gina Topp | Parliamentarian

Become a Precinct Committee Officer!



There is work to be done now to prepare to elect Democratic candidates and further our Democratic values. PCOs make a difference in their communities. We need interested people to help drive out the vote in 34th district precincts. We have a lot of PCO vacancies to fill. Will you raise your hand to help elect Democrats? The work is done during only 8 weeks of each year - July and October. Step up to talk to your

neighbors about the importance of voting each and every election! Contact me, **Dorothy Gesick**, PCO Lead for more info: PCO@34dems.org

In the daylight hours I am a loyal listener to KUOW, in the car and at home. When you are new to Seattle (June 2021), the local NPR station has been invaluable. I confess to watching/listening (depending on dinner prep) to "All In With Chris Hayes" on MSNBC at 5 pm. I'm not your ill-informed voter. How I wish there were more engaged voters. We can change this one voter at a time.

I hope we have some PCO appointments for the March membership meeting. We missed Drew Estep, Michele Frix Dissel, Leslie Harris, and Ron Irvine last month. For anyone else considering this most important function serving as a PCO, please contact me at pco@34dems.org. No worries, if this is new to you. Training is provided.

There will be an April 25 special election ballot for a \$1.25B behavioral health levy to fund Crisis Care Centers. This is a huge step in addressing one of our many social challenges. The Executive Board of the 34LD Dems unanimously supported this. Because it is a special election with expected low turnout, it is essential that we have as many boots as possible on the ground. We will need those extra nudges to fill out that ballot and return it. We have ground to cover! Become a PCO!!

Dorothy Gesick, PCO Committee Chair PCO@34dems.org

Summer Fundraiser - Coming July 22



We are now recruiting for volunteers!

Please reach out to Chair Graham Murphy at: chair@34dems.org

We need to fund this year's efforts to elect strong Democrats. Join us on July 22nd for food, libations, auctions and lots of political discussion with your neighbors in the 34th!

More details to come - SAVE THE DATE now!

Join or Renew Today!

Your voluntary contributions help keep the 34th District Democrats strong. We nurture great candidates and campaigns with contributions and other forms of support, and work to support progressive policies here in the 34th District and beyond. Running an organization like the 34th takes thousands of volunteer hours and tens of thousands of dollars. We are a powerful district and carry a lot of weight in the state. Let's all do our part to fund the success of the 34th to maintain our standing.

Renew your membership or join us today. There are *2 ways to contribute - one-time or monthly. If you have already joined, THANK YOU for your support.



OUR WORDS LAVE POWER!

This is going to be a huge year for the 34th. Remember that in order to participate in our endorsements, you must be a member or PCO. Let's make our endorsements very inclusive of our membership and PCOs this year. Plan to join and vote in June.

*We do not turn away any members due to lack of financial means. Please contact the chair for information.

A special "Thank You" goes out to all of you who have already renewed...or joined for the first time!

On April 25, Vote YES for the Crisis Care Centers Levy



More info on King Co. Prop. 1

Vote **YES** for accessible resources for people in behavioral health crisis.

Vote **YES** to create five new regional crisis care centers, restore a dramatic loss of treatment beds, and grow the behavioral health pipeline...and provide funding for immediate services NOW while the work to build the centers is underway.

Vote **YES** to build healthy communities across King County with professional settings and services, rather than continue the reliance on law enforcement as the first responders to people in distress due to behavioral issues.





34th Pop Up Social



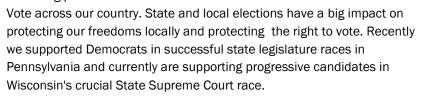
34th Dems Pop Up Social - Friday, March 24th, 5:30 - 8pm

At the Elliott Bay Brewhouse

255 SW 152nd in Burien elliottbaybrewing.com/burien

Tuesday Postcarding In West Seattle

West Seattle Postcard Writers invites anyone in the 34th to join us writing postcards to Get Out The



We meet at **C+P Coffee** every **Tuesday at 10:30am**, 5612 California Ave SW. Let me know if you'd want to know more, or just show up, enjoy coffee, and protect democracy! Randy Winn, rewinn2003@yahoo.com

March Board Meeting

This month's Board meeting will take place at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, March 15 on Zoom. Please contact chair@34dems.org if you are interested in attending.

Contact Information and Committee Assignments for Our Legislators

Senator Joe Nguyen Assistant Floor Leader

Environment, Energy & Technology (Chair) Human Services, Ways & Means

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



Representative **Emily Alvarado**

Housing (Vice Chair) Local Government (Vice Chair) Capital Budget

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



Representative Joe Fitzgibbon

Appropriations, Rules 339A Legislative 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 April 2023 newsletter will be Wednesday, March 29.

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

State Committee Report for Meeting of January 28, 2023

Tina Podlodowski gave her outgoing message to the newly assembled state committee. She thanked many people for their work and service to the state committee. The staff currently in place will remain with the new Chair.

DNC reports:

- Senator Javier Valdez was appointed to a standing committee. Three of our DNC members are on standing committees. This is important, because there are over 490 members of the DNC body, but only 90 members are on standing committees. It is highly unusual that three of those members are from the state committee. This is historic.
- David McDonald spoke about the historic appointment of Sen. Javier Valdez to a standing committee and gave the historic content mentioned above. He also reported that rank-choice voting was referred to a sub-committee for review but does not believe it will gain traction during this election cycle. Delegate selection plans are due May 3rd with an initial review

in June or July. New Hampshire would like to remain the first state to hold a primary or caucus.



David Green reported

that he is in contact with DNC every other week to keep them updated about the ins and outs in the state of Washington. He also reported that there are about 10 states that have a paid full-time state party Chair and the average serving time of a state party Chair is 1.75 years. During the Presidential election cycle, this is very problematic. There is talk about changing terms of service to 4 years instead of 2 years.

Sharon Mass spoke about the 5-state alliance.

New officers were elected:

- · Chair Shasti Conrad
- Vice-Chair David Green 119 votes (with opponent getting 51 votes)
- Treasurer David Kim
- Secretary Rob Dolin

In addition, representatives for each of the 10 Congressional Districts were elected. Amy Madden out of the 43rd LD is the 7th CD representative and will sit on the executive committee.

Submitted by Chris Porter, State Committeeperson

Seeking Committee Chairs

We are looking for members to raise their hand to join our new Board as chairs of committees critical to our goals for this term:



Membership & Hospitality Chair: You will lead our efforts to recruit and retain existing members, as we as certify all PCOs and members who are eligible to vote. This role will help ensure our endorsement processes go smoothy! You also will be asked to serve as our preeminent host and create warm and welcoming gatherings for all members, their families, and guests.



Community Partnerships Chair: You will build partnerships and coalitions with local political and nonprofit organizations, including fostering strategic and mutually beneficial relationships and increasing the diversity and inclusiveness of our membership.

You can raise your hand, express interest, and find out more by emailing chair@34dems.org.

Committee Updates

Bylaws and Rules Committee

The committee completed a review of the 34th's governing documents and drafted and submitted amendments for the Executive Board to consider before sharing them with members and PCOs. These changes are intended help us operate smoothly and effectively as an organization.

To join the committee and find out more, email: vicechair2@34dems.org

Communications Committee

We recently made big changes to our website to make it easier to learn how to renew your membership, donate to the 34^{th} , and learn how to become a PCO. We also added new content so that members can learn about legislation and take action on it.

To join the committee and find out more, email: digcomm@34dems.org

Platform and Legislative Action Committee

The committee recently held meetings with potential committee members and Membership Policy Caucus leaders. The committee will soon begin work on updating our platform. The committee will also be regularly emailing members updates regarding bills in Olympia as part of our goal to help the 34th be more active on legislation.

To join the committee and find out more, email: wicechair2@34dems.org

PCO Committee

We added three appointed PCOs at the February 8^{th} membership meeting. We also participated in our first PCO outreach event of the year on February 14^{th} at the South Park Neighborhood Association meeting.

To join the committee and find out more, email: pco@34dems.org

Outreach Committee

The committee is working to finalize a plan for outreach events for 2023, and is seeking volunteers to help at tabling events, parades, and other service activities (such as our Adopt-A-Street commitment). We've also been in touch with our friends in the 33rd LD, and we will be working jointly on events in Burien.

To join the committee and find out more, email: outreach@34dems.org

Programs Committee

The committee is excited to be back working on bringing great programs to the 34th Dems and also forging relationships with organizations and nonprofits in the community, especially those in the 34th. Our first premeeting program was on February 8th with Malakhi Kaine from Africatown International. The feedback from membership was enthusiastic, and Malakhi was interested in continuing a partnership with the 34th.

To join the committee and find out more, email: vicechair1@34dems.org

Resolutions and Endorsements Committee

The committee has been working on bringing the Wealth Tax Resolution to members at our March meeting for their consideration and vote.

The committee's work on endorsements will begin in earnest soon. Seattle Council and King County Council elections will dominate the agenda and candidate forums will take extensive time heading into the primaries. We will also be coordinating and promoting efforts with other districts where there are overlaps in jurisdiction.

To join the committee and find out more, email: endorse-reso@34dems.org

In Case You Missed It... February Meeting Recap

The first pre-meeting program of the year celebrated Black History Month, the presentation was given by **Malakhi Kaine**, the Executive Director of Seattle-based Africatown International.



Malakhi Kaine is from Africatown International, an organization based here in the 34th Legislative District.

Africatown International works primarily with African American families who are at the edge of security to provide resources to help keep them from falling through economic cracks. Its namesake is derived from a site near Mobile, Alabama, which was the final resting place of the last slave ship coming from Africa in 1860. After the Civil War the area was settled by former slaves, who kept their African culture alive into the 1950s. This period served as a starting point for Kaine's discussion.

He relayed his childhood experiences with Martin Luther King Day while growing up in AZ, where there was antipathy to the holiday. Similarly Black History Month, while it is a celebration, can be laced with trauma as it recalls the struggles of Black people in their fight for equality and social justice in the United States.

He laid out a timeline that hit on several key decades in history beginning in 1900, coming out of Reconstruction, through events in 2020. This program is available to view on YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lilrkJlints&t=4s

Graham Murphy opened his first meeting as Chair. After taking care of the initial business, Graham asked members to take part in a poll that will help decide the frequency of in-person meetings for the rest of the year.

VIPs present included King Co. Executive **Dow Constantine.** He was asked to share an update on the
Behavioral Health Crisis Centers Levy being put forth in an
April 25th Special Election. It will make up for the current
lack of capacity to help those who are in mental health or

addiction crisis in King County. This effort is supported by the labor and business communities, and will create five Crisis Centers across the county, including one that will be devoted to youth. He spoke to the broader issue of behavioral problems that cause property crimes and overrun our courts and jails, across the county, state, and around the country. This levy would cost about \$10 monthly for an owner of a median-price home of \$800,000.

Later in the meeting, **Gina Topp** rose to move the consideration of endorsing the levy. Since the endorsement was not on the agenda, we first had to vote to allow for an endorsement vote which we did via a voice vote. After this hurdle was overcome, we endorsed the levy by 100% using a Zoom poll ballot.

A question was raised by **Dorothy Gesick** as to why we're having another special election in April, after just having one in February. Dow explained that a Veterans, Seniors, and Human Services Levy would be on the August Primary ballot for renewal, and that Seattle will have a housing levy in November. Therefore, it could be as long as two years before it would be feasible to take the Behavioral Health issue to the voters.

King Conservation District Board member **Chris Porter** is running for reelection and spoke about that race. Reminder cards for this special election process had gone out, and as a result the number of voters had already exceeded the total returns from the last KCD election. Chris testified at a hearing in Olympia for House Bill 1567 that would investigate the cost of moving these elections across the state into a regular county election format. He also spoke about the native plant bareroot sale that was to end February 17, and to a KCD listening session to help with strategic planning for the organization.

Seattle City Councilmember at large **Teresa Mosqueda** rose to thank Executive Constantine for his work on the behavioral health levy, for which she has been partnering with the county. The city will be sponsoring a housing levy later this year that will put investments into building workforce housing options, and Seattleites are invited to weigh in with comments in April, May, and June. Contact her with questions. teresa.moscada@seattle.gov

Recently retired Rep. **Eileen Cody** popped in to remind us she's no longer a representative, and she's happy to be "just one of the gang".

Judge **Joe Campagna** was in the Candidate Spotlight. He was appointed by Governor Inslee last year and is running to retain position 39 as a trial judge on the King County

Superior Court. While as a lawyer, he said that he took pride in representing a number of individuals to seek clemency from serving decades of federal prison time for non-violent drug charges. He has also represented mothers and children seeking asylum after fleeing gangs and violence in their home countries.



King County Superior Court Judge Joe Campagna

Rachel and Graham

made an appeal for people to become members or renew their membership of the 34th for 2023. They encouraged us to ask our family members and friends to also join. Graham and Rachel ran down a list of reasons membership donations are needed to help keep the 34th the "preeminent Democratic organization in King County" and allow us to make contributions to campaigns. They also allow us to bring in speakers for special programs and pay for costs associated with inperson meetings, PDC compliance, Zoom, and background support services.

Graham also noted the committees that need leadership, with Membership & Hospitality and Community Partnerships Committee Chairs being top priorities. Positions also needed are Equity & Social Justice Committee, and Elections & Caucuses Committee Chair. A Young Democrats Liaison is also sought. Please contact chair@34dems.org to help.

Dorothy Gesick, our new PCO Committee Chair brought forth three new PCOs for appointment: Jordan Crawley, SEA 34-1435, Heather Engel, SEA 34-1546, and Gayle Sommers, SEA 34-3942.

Chair Graham Murphy announced that he, **Julie Whitaker**, and **Carla Rogers** will make up a committee to prepare a budget, to be approved by the Executive

Board in March for submittal to membership on April 1 for review prior to adoption at the April Membership Meeting. Interested members can take part in the budget process by contacting Graham at

chair@34dems.org

During discussion of the January financial report, Chair Murphy brought up an additional line item to allow us to migrate from Umpqua Bank to

Committee Chairs for 2023/24

Committee Chairs were appointed at the February meeting. Some are new to their roles, while others are continuing in their positions from the previous term:

Jordan Crawley, Bylaws and Rules
Carla Rogers, Communications
Jordan Crawley, Platform & Legislative Action
Steve Butts, Outreach
Dorothy Gesick, PCO Committee
Rachel Glass, Programs
Ann Martin, Resolutions & Endorsements
Gina Topp, Parliamentarian

BECU. Umpqua has eliminated the connection from our current bank account with our back office management system, making it difficult to track funds and expenses. A motion to do so was passed with a voice vote.

Returning this year is **Jordan Crawley** and he is reassuming leadership of the Legislative Action Committee.

In addition, Jordan will also be chairing the Bylaws and Rules committee, and in that role he is taking on the yearly task of reviewing our Governing Documents. He asked that anyone who has suggestions for updates to reach out to him. He will be looking at Standing Rules for the Executive Board, Standing Rules for Remote Participation, Code of Conduct, and the Bylaws. To provide suggestions or to join the committee, contact him at bylaws@34dems.org

You can view this meeting on YouTube at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YMTTh4BRavw





Chair Graham Murphy and 1st Vice Chair Rachel Glass tag-teamed to make sure that those in attendance joined or renewed their membership for 2023.

The Healthcare Caucus & 2023 Planning

The 34th LD Healthcare Caucus met in person for the first time this year to reconnect and plan for 2023. Jen Nye, Roxanne Thayer, and Angela Ross met with 2nd Vice Chair Jordan Crawley at West Seattle mainstay, Endolyne Joe's on February 16 to brainstorm ideas.

We're excited to see some real progress from the Washington State Health Care Commission this year, and we'll push for the passage of important legislation like the Keep Our Care Act. If you're passionate about improving our healthcare system, we're looking for new members! Please join our <u>Slack Channel (#healthcarecaucus)</u> and introduce yourself. Your energy and ideas are welcome.



A PSARA Presentation...

Don't Let Naked Profiteering Destroy Our Medicare

Monday, March 20, 5:00 p.m.

Featuring Dr. Ed Weisbart,

Missouri chair and national board member of PNHP (Physicians for a National Health Program), Asst. Prof. of Clinical Medicine at Washington University, St. Louis, 2004-2021.

- How has traditional Medicare enhanced quality of life for seniors? How did it help break down racial inequities?
- Why was private Medigap insurance built into original Medicare?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages for the Medicare system and individual beneficiaries of traditional Medicare vs private plans?
- How did we get where we are today and where do we need to go?

To find the answers to these and other questions, join us for this webinar. All you have to do is REGISTER. Then Zoom will send you a link to join the meeting.

To REGISTER click **HERE** For more information email <u>organizer@psara.org</u>

Photos from our February Pop Up...



Chris Weiss and Preston Anderson



Newly elected King County Prosecutor Leesa Manion and Carla Rogers



PCO Chair Dorothy Gesick with Burien Mayor Sofia Aragon.

Resolution in Support of a Washington Tax on Extreme Wealth (SB 5486 and HB 1473)

WHEREAS the 34th District Democrats platform supports wealth taxes and the Washington State Democrats have called for "fair and just tax system for all; by creating a progressive wealth tax;" and

WHEREAS Washington State has the most regressive tax system in the country, with the bottom 20% of Washington's lowest-income residents paying nearly 18% of their income for state and local taxes, while those in the highest 20% income bracket pay less than 7% of their income for state and local taxes; and



WHEREAS Washington State is facing a crisis in funding for public schools, housing and homelessness, developmental disability services, climate change resilience, public transit and transportation, physical and mental health care, and more; and

WHEREAS Senate Bill 5486 and House Bill 1473, which are titled "Investing in Washington families and creating a more fair tax system by enacting a narrowly tailored property tax on extreme wealth derived from the ownership of stocks, bonds, and other financial intangible property," propose a 1% tax on financial property in excess of \$250 million, with revenue collected funding public education, housing, disabilities, and taxpayer justice; and

WHEREAS SB 5486 and HB 1473 would generate more than \$6 BILLION per biennium for Washington (according to SB 5486's fiscal note), and affect about 700 Washingtonians fortunate enough to have more than \$250 million in wealth; and

WHEREAS Senator Nguyen and Representative Alvarado are co-sponsors of SB 5486 and HB 1473, respectively,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the 34th LD Democrats support the creation of a wealth tax as defined in SB 5486 and HB 1473 to fund needed services for Washingtonians, such as public education, housing, disability programs, climate change resilience, public transit and transportation, and health care; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the 34th LD Democrats call on all Democrats in the Washington State Legislature to wholeheartedly support passing these bills.

Submitted to the 34th LD Democrats February 2023 by Bunny Hatcher. This resolution was approved by the Executive Board to be presented members at the March 8, 2023 meeting with a recommendation to adopt. Members may speak in favor or against per our <u>Bylaws</u>.



Newsletter Editor 10254 36th Ave. SW Seattle, WA 98146

Return Service Requested



Join the 34th District Democrats!

Sign up by filling out this form and mailing it with a check made payable to:

The 34th District Democrats, 6523 California Ave SW, Box 183, Seattle, WA 98136-1879 Or join at online www.34dems.org/contribute/

Name	Phone	
Address	Zip	
If you use a P.O. Box, do you live in the 34th District?	Yes No	
Email	* Occupation	
*Employer	* Employer City	
* Required by Washington State Public Disclosure Commission/ Contributions are not tax deductible.		
\$ 180 Suggested Membership Donation Recurring Monthly Donation \$ One-Time Donation \$		
*Please consider paying your dues in monthly installmentsGo 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 SV	V 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.