



## 34<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT DEMOCRATS

Burien Georgetown Pioneer Square SODO South Park West Seattle White Center Vashon/Maury Island

### Join Our Keep On Marching Summer Social & Fundraiser

**Saturday, July 22nd**

Come join us for **THREE** fun activities that are super important for helping us elect solid, local Democrats.

**First**, walk with your friends, neighbors, candidates and elected officials in the **West Seattle Grand Parade**. This is always a fun way to get your steps in while representing Democrats to our community.

Add your name to march with us [HERE](#)...or email the outreach team at [outreach@34dems.org](mailto:outreach@34dems.org) to sign up to walk.

**After the parade**, we will march over to a special pre-event VIP gathering for a limited number of guests. We'll toast to a successful primary and general election with wines and snacks from a local winery.

**Next you'll want to Keep on Marching** to our annual fundraiser & social starting at 5 PM at C&P Coffee Company. The details are coming together and we'll share them as they are confirmed. You will not want to miss this event! We need your support as we raise funds to do the work electing Democrats in 2023.

**Buy your ticket today!**



### Let's Fill the Streets With Democrats!

*Come march with us at the*

**West Seattle Grand Parade.** Join other 34th Dems and our endorsed candidates in this exhilarating event.

**Saturday July 22 – 11am to 2pm**

**Meet up at 10:30** on 44th Ave SW, south of Lander... look for our banner!

*Please Note...*  
**There Will Be No  
Membership Meeting  
in July!**

#### Inside This Issue...

Chair's Message .....	Page 2
Fundraiser Chair Wanted .....	Page 2
Check Your Membership to Endorse .....	Page 3
Vashon Strawberry Festival.....	Page 3
Board Meeting Announcement .....	Page 3
June Meeting Recap .....	Page 4
Endorsements List.....	Page 5
KCDCC Report for June .....	Page 6
Committee Updates .....	Page 7
Daniel Spengler, 1946-2023 .....	Page 7

# 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

**Ted Barker** | State Committee Person  
wsdccc@34dems.org

**Roxanne Thayer** | State Committee Person  
wsdccc@34dems.org

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

**Chris Porter** | 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

### Chair's Message

#### ***Change is on its way, and we in the 34th District are ready!***

Primary ballots start arriving in mailboxes on Tuesday, and our members have solely endorsed two outstanding candidates who will be on the ballot for open seats in Seattle:

- **[Rob Saka](#)**, Seattle City Council District 1
- **[Gina Topp](#)**, Seattle School Board Position 6

I was proud to attend **Rob Saka's** campaign kickoff a couple of weeks ago. I saw firsthand that his coalition of local community supporters is broad and diverse. His lived experience as a child of the foster care system, person of color, veteran, attorney, and justice reform advocate has shaped his strong Democratic values. He believes all Seattleites deserve to feel safe in our city, and is advocating for sensible public safety policies to stem violent crime. He is a champion of affordable housing and a comprehensive interagency approach to address homelessness. And he wants to do the important basic stuff, like ensuring our roads and bridges work and our parks are open for all. I am in awe by Rob's work in his Delridge community, as well as serving on County and City commissions. Rob has demonstrated through his tireless campaigning that he will work tirelessly for his constituents. **Vote for Rob.**

**Gina Topp** was the first person who introduced me to the 34th, and I immediately recognized that she is an incredible advocate for causes she gets involved in. She will be a fierce advocate for Seattle's students. Gina is someone who seeks solutions, brings people along through collaboration, and gets things done with her thorough knowledge of government. She will use her superpowers to ensure resources are effectively and efficiently used to meet the needs of every child in Seattle's school system, support educators' professional needs, and help parents engage in our education system. **Vote for Gina.**

**Port of Seattle Commissioner [Fred Felleman](#)** will be on our primary ballot. He has earned his reelection through his vast accomplishments and the changes he's achieved at the Port, which has attracted the endorsements of leaders, unions, tribes, and organizations across the state, including Governor Jay Inslee, Attorney General Bob Ferguson, Commissioner Hilary Franz, and King County Executive Dow Constantine. Fred has ensured our Port is a worldclass leader for the environment and commerce. He will continue to bring positive changes to the Port. **Vote for Fred.**

The 34th also overwhelmingly endorsed **King County Proposition 1**, also known as the **[Veterans, Seniors, and Human Services Levy](#)**. This critical funding source will help our veterans and seniors continue to get the services they need to thrive. It will also provide needed funding to support domestic violence survivors and those in our community experiencing homelessness. **Vote for KC Prop 1.**

Let's help our neighbors by voting for needed change this election. **Vote by August 1st for Rob, Gina, Fred, and Proposition 1!**

--- **Graham**

## Seeking a Committee Chair

We are looking for members to raise their hand to join our Board as:

### Fundraising and Events Chair

We need your help ensuring we raise necessary resources to support our endorsed candidates and run an effective Democratic membership organization. You'll get to lead our major annual fundraiser and additional events that bring our membership together...You can raise your hand, express interest, and find out more by emailing [chair@34dems.org](mailto:chair@34dems.org).





## You must be a 2023 member or PCO in order to vote for endorsements at our August Meeting

[Click to Check Your Membership Status... Renew By August 8](#)

- Renewing members (those who were members in 2022) have until **8pm on August 8** to join.
- The new member deadline (those who were not a member in 2022) has passed for the August 9th meeting. However, we urge you to join to help support Democratic values in our community!

Get it done so you can make your voice heard! <https://bit.ly/join34dems>



## See you at The Vashon Strawberry Festival July 15 & 16

We will have a booth at the event - come over to the island enjoy the festival and stop by to visit us...or to take a shift!

Contact **Nick Bonazza** at [nick5669@gmail.com](mailto:nick5669@gmail.com) if you'd like more information or to help.

## Board Meeting Announcement

Our next 34th Executive Board meeting is Wednesday, July 19th at 7 PM via Zoom.

Contact [chair@34dems.org](mailto:chair@34dems.org) if you'd like more information



Carla Rogers and Burien Councilperson Sarah Moore.



Annie Phillips gives her carbon footprint quiz at Burien Strawberry Days.



33rd Rep. Tina Orwall and Don Bennett share a pre-parade laugh.



Ted Barker and Deb Barker (not related) register a voter at the Morgan Junction Festival. (Photo by Karen Richter.)



Carla Rogers and Graham Murphy carry our banner at the Burien Independence Day Parade.

## 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

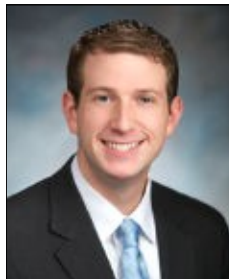
425 John L. O'Brien Building  
PO Box 40600  
Olympia, WA 98504  
(360) 786-7978



### 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 July 2023 newsletter will be Thursday, June 29.**

Mail to Steve Butts,  
10254 36th Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98146  
or email to [newsletter@34dems.org](mailto:newsletter@34dems.org)

## *In Case You Missed It...*

## June Meeting Recap

The June meeting was our main endorsement meeting of the year. We got right to it after the usual opening formalities, and the Land Acknowledgement. Vice Chair **Rachel Glass** has been pointing members to ways to further honor the peoples on whose land we now live. June's request was that we consider making a donation to the American Indian College Fund at [collegefund.org](http://collegefund.org).

Approximately 175 people attended this virtual Zoom meeting, at which we voted via Zoom poll. A team of members worked behind the scenes in to make sure that the meeting proceeded as smoothly as possible. **Carla Rogers** controlled the technology while **Leah Griffin** and **Chris Porter** served as co-hosts; **Ann Martin** coordinated the speakers to make sure that they were ready to go when they were supposed to. Chris Porter ran the timer, a familiar role for him, whether at in-person meetings, or in virtual settings. Leah monitored the alternate voting, which was done via phone text. **Hannah Cameron** and **Jordan Crawley** over-saw the balloting and validated the tallies.

A short block of candidates was endorsed: Coreen Wilson and Joe Campagna for King County Superior Court positions, and John Wilson for King County Assessor. Subsequent offices were voted on separately, with Seattle Council District 1, King County Council District 8, and Burien City Council Position 4 having multiple candidates vying for our approval. Although it was on the agenda, no candidates stepped forward for Burien City Council Position 2.

Motions were made for dual endorsements in two races after no one on those first ballots achieved the 60% threshold. In speeches against Chris Porter made strong statements to dissuade members from giving the nod to more than one candidate, stating that we are a strong LD, and our endorsements mean a lot. In the end we voted not to endorse anyone in the race for King County District 8, or for Burien City Council Position 4. We may have an opportunity to revisit those races after the August 1st Primary.

King County Executive **Dow Constantine** made a motion to allow consideration for endorsement of **King County Proposition 1 – Veterans, Seniors, and Human Services Levy**. An 80% vote was required to change the agenda, and once that motion passed, we went on to endorse the levy renewal, which will be on the August Primary ballot.

Chair **Graham Murphy** encouraged us to sign the petition to be presented to the Burien City Council asking them to raise



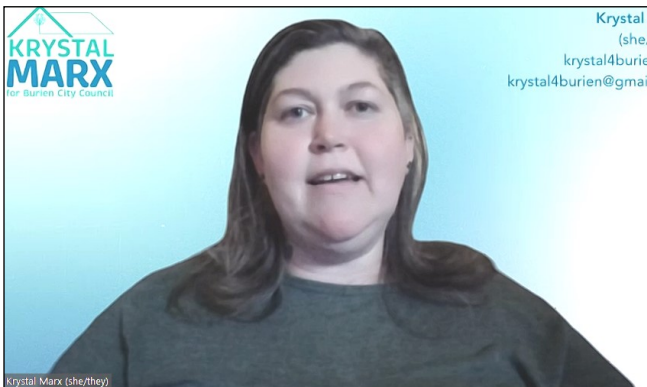
the minimum wage in the city, which lags behind the minimum in other municipalities in the county. It is an issue that we supported with our endorsement of a resolution sponsored by the Transit Riders Union at our May meeting.

**Hugo Garcia** rose to acknowledge **Sili Savusa**, who is stepping down as Executive Director of the White Center Community Development Association at the end of August. She is leaving to lead the Pacific Islander Community Association of Washington. Hugo's brother and our former male alternate to the KCDCC, **Aaron Garcia**, will assume the role of interim director.

**You can view the complete meeting on YouTube [HERE](#)**



*Rob Saka is our endorsed candidate for Seattle D1*



*We endorsed Krystal Marx for Burien City Council*



*Fred Felleman received our nod to return to the Port of Seattle.*

## Endorsements Made on June 14

### SEATTLE

City Council District 1 - **Rob Saka\***  
School Director District 6 - **Gina Topp\***

### BURIEN

City Council Position 6 - **Krystal Marx**  
City Council Positions 2 & 4 - **No Endorsement**

### KING COUNTY

County Council District 8 - **No Endorsement**  
County Assessor - **John Wilson**

### PORT OF SEATTLE

Commissioner Position 2 - **Sam Cho**  
Commissioner Position 5 - **Fred Felleman\***

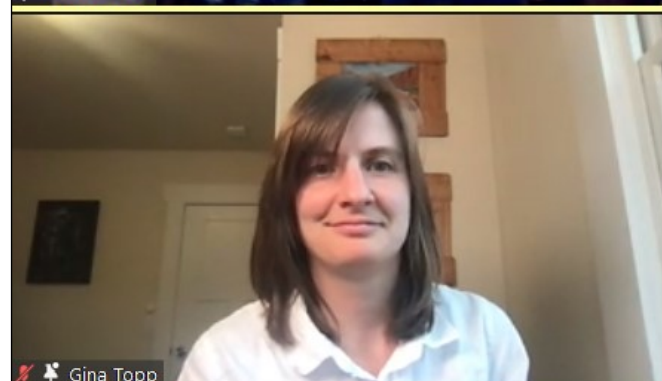
### KING COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

Judge Position 30 - **Coreen Wilson**  
Judge Position 39 - **Joe Campagna**

### KING COUNTY PROPOSITION 1

Veterans, Seniors, and Human Services  
Levy Renewal - **APPROVE\***

*\*On the August 1 Primary Ballot.*



*Rachel Glass speaks for Gina Topp for Seattle School Board.*

## Report of the KCDCC Meeting of June 27, 2023

Chair Barnes explained endorsement process for the evening, and noted the slate of candidates that had been recommended for endorsement by the Endorsement Committee. She introduced Committee Chair, Martin Chaney, who explained how the Committee had arrived at its recommendations. At the request of different members, four candidates were pulled from the slate for further discussion. After that, the slates of candidates receiving the endorsement of the KCDCC for 2023 elections as follows:

### Single Jurisdiction Candidates Endorsed By Their LDs. Approved 41-0

Covington City Council Pos. 5	Sean D. Smith	Newcastle City Council Pos. 2	Ariana Sherlock
Federal Way City Council Pos. 3	Roger Flygare	Newcastle City Council Pos. 3	Allison Sweeney
Federal Way City Council Pos. 5	Katherine Festa	Seatac City Council Pos. 1	Senayet Negusse
Federal Way City Council Pos. 7	Denise Yun	Snoqualmie City Council Pos. 5	Tanya Lavoy
Mercer Island City Council Pos. 5	Craig Reynolds	Snoqualmie City Council Pos. 6	Cara Christensen
Newcastle City Council Pos. 1	Sun Burford	Mercer Island School Dist. Pos. 5	Jody Lee

### Candidates in Multi-Jurisdiction Races Recommended After Deliberation and a Supporting Vote in Excess of 2/3 by the Endorsement Committee. Approved 46-0 \*

Port of Seattle Pos. 2	Sam Cho	Seattle City Council Pos. 2	Tammy Morales
King Council Pos. 6	Claudia Balducci	Seattle City Council Pos. 4	Ron Davis
King County Council Pos. 8	Teresa Mosqueda	Seattle City Council Pos. 5	Nilu Jenks
Burien City Council Pos. 4	Patricia Hudson	Seattle City Council Pos. 6	Dan Strauss
Kent City Council Pos. 1	Marli Latimer	Seattle City Council Pos. 7	Andrew J. Lewis
Kent City Council Pos. 3	John Boyd	Seattle School District Pos. 1	Liza Rankin
Renton City Council Pos. 5	Ed Prince	Seattle School District Pos. 2	Lisa Rivera Smith
Renton City Council Pos. 7	Michael Westgaard	Seattle School District Pos. 3	Christie Robertson
Seattle City Council Pos. 1	Maren Costa	Seattle School District Pos. 6	Gina Topp

### Four candidates were pulled from the slate for further discussion, as follows:

King County Council District 4	Sarah Reyneveld
Renton City Council Pos. 3	Valerie O'Halloran
Kent School District Pos. 3	Leslie Kae Hamada
Seattle City Council District 3	Joy Hollingsworth



After discussion, Reyneveld, O' Halloran and Hamada received the 2/3 supermajority vote needed, and they are endorsed by KCDCC. Hollingsworth failed to meet that threshold, and is therefor not endorsed.

### Nominations from the floor were made for endorsements as follows:

King County Council District 4	Jorge Baron
Renton City Council Pos. 3	Erica Conway
Seattle City Council Pos.5	Cathy Moore
Kent School District Pos. 3	Donald Cook

None of the above received the needed 2/3 vote in favor, so they are not endorsed by KCDCC.

There followed a discussion on suspending Rule 4, Section 3, which required an affirmative answer to the question "Are you a Democrat?" by a candidate in order to receive a KCDCC endorsement. The rule was suspended on a vote of 29-10. Then Jackie Bostock, seconded by Krystal Marx, moved that the membership endorse Cydney Moore for Burien City Council Position 2. On a vote of 33-4, Moore received the endorsement of KCDCC.

The hard work of Endorsements Chair Chaney and his Committee was acknowledged.

The meeting then moved to Good of the Order. Chair Barnes noted that the KCDCC fundraiser will be held on August 20th, and other members reported the dates of their upcoming events as well. We were reminded that ballots for the August primary election will drop on July 12th, and that in future years filing week will be moved to the first week of May.

Submitted by Bunny Hatcher, KCDCC Committeeperson

\*Some endorsements excluded due to space limitations...see all KCDCC Endorsements [HERE](#).

# Committee Updates

## **Communications and Technology Committee**

34th communications are in high gear at this time of year. We have 3 of our biggest events (candidate forum, endorsements The communications and technology committee has had a very busy month! Our forum was recorded by the West Seattle Blog and is now available on our homepage. The endorsement meeting (also available on Youtube!) is a behemoth event to pull off from a planning and production perspective. We rely on zoom and our tally committee relies on reporting from our polls to run the show. We are glad it is complete and proud of our work! The tally report is available on the website as well. We will again be doing endorsements in August so the game will start again. Our website is also constantly updated to reflect our meetings, events and endorsement updates. Visit our homepage at [34dems.org](http://34dems.org) and see all the important information on the homepage! We have also started using Slack for candidate events and announcements. We use the banter channel for these types of announcements and hope you will support your candidate's events! Directions to join Slack are [HERE](#).

To join the committee and find out more, email: [digcomm@34dems.org](mailto:digcomm@34dems.org)

## **Platform and Legislative Action Committee**

The Committee encourages you to get involved in our [Membership Policy Caucuses!](#)

To join the committee and find out more, email: [vicechair2@34dems.org](mailto:vicechair2@34dems.org)

## **Outreach Committee**

Outreach participated in two events celebrating Pride Month on June 2nd: We shared a booth with the 33rd District Democrats in Burien, and for the first time in White Center, where Nick Bonazza and Karen Richter represented us. The following week we had tables at both the West Seattle Blog forum, and then our own forum on June 10th. June 17th and 18th we again paired with the 33rd to run a booth at the Burien Strawberry Festival. Also on the 18th, we had a table at the Morgan Junction Festival with Karen Richter and Ted Barker staffing our booth there. We registered voters, taking 21 completed forms to KC Elections for June, as well as giving out numerous takeaway VR forms and QR code cards for people to register online. In Burien, we also collected signatures to present to the City Council, asking them to raise the minimum wage.

Several of us also took part in the Burien Independence Day Parade and marched with our banner along with the 33rd Democrats. To join the committee and find out more, email: [outreach@34dems.org](mailto:outreach@34dems.org)

## **Programs and Community Partnerships Committee**

Since we had much work to do with the Legislative Wrap-Up in May and the Candidate Forum in June, Graham and the

Programs Chair decided not to hold Pre-Meeting Programs for the members during either of those months. Instead we worked with Jordan Crawley in May to organize and moderate the Legislative Wrap-Up which was presented as a Forum-style program with questions (which Rachel and Jordan crafted) for our three Legislators in a structured format. Rachel and Jordan served as Co-Moderators for that Forum. Rachel also served as the Moderator for the Seattle City Council segment of the Candidate Forum in June.

To join the committee and find out more, email: [vicechair1@34dems.org](mailto:vicechair1@34dems.org)

## **Resolutions and Endorsements Committee**

The focus of work this month has been on forums highlighting candidates for King County Council District 8 and Seattle City Council District 1, both of which are largely encompassed within the 34th Legislative District. Following the forums, an endorsement meeting, which represented the regular monthly meeting of the Democratic organization, resulted in endorsements for Superior Court judges, the County Assessor, Seattle District 1, Burien City Council, Port of Seattle, and Seattle School Board. An endorsement of the King County Prop 1 levy was also made. (Endorsed candidates can be found at [34dems.org](http://34dems.org).) Additional endorsements will be considered after the primary.

There are resolutions likely to be considered in the next few months. Among the resolutions to be considered regard ranked choice voting for presidential primaries and natural capital.

To join the committee and find out more, email: [endorse-reso@34dems.org](mailto:endorse-reso@34dems.org)

## **Daniel Spengler, 1946 – 2023**

It is with sadness that we learned of the passing of Dan Spengler, husband of long-time 34th member and former board member Tamsen Spengler.

Dan was an active member of the Boilermakers Union, and became a Business Representative, then an Organizer for Brotherhood of Boilermakers Local Union 104, and eventually an Organizer for the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers. Improving the lives of working people was a paramount goal for him...along with his love of roses and Wheaten Terriers.

Let's keep Tamsen and her family in our thoughts.

Read more about Dan's life [HERE](#).



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/](http://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 installments...Go online to [www.34dems.org/contribute](http://www.34dems.org/contribute/)**

In the interest of protecting our environment and building funds to support endorsed candidates, the 34th District Democrats wish to communicate electronically.

☐ **Please check this box if you do not have access to electronic communications and need to receive a mailed newsletter**

Paid for and authorized by 34th District Democrats. 6523 California Ave SW Box 183, Seattle, Washington 98136. Contributions to this committee are not tax deductible.  
State campaign finance law requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, occupation, employer and city and state of employment for each individual whose contribution exceeds \$100 in the election cycle.