



34TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT DEMOCRATS

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

Chair's Message

It's been a glorious 34th Dems summer! Thank you to everyone who joined us to make our summer a success, including event leaders, volunteers, and participants. It was wonderful to see many of you over these past sunny days.

We kicked off June with our in-person candidate forums that provided an opportunity to hear directly from Seattle City Council District 1 and King County Council District 8 candidates on the most critical issues impacting our 34th LD community. We're grateful to our partners at the West Seattle Blog who recorded and shared our forums on their platform.

After the forums, we held two well-attended endorsement meetings in June and August. Our volunteers prepped for hours and ensured both meetings went smoothly, and multiple members shared positive feedback about their experiences at both meetings. Most importantly, we endorsed a diverse slate of candidates who will well-represent the 34th after they are elected in November!

Our outreach team and volunteers, led by Steve Butts, also participated in and showed our 34th pride at several community events and parades. My kid even got into the action and handed out campaign literature while marching in the West Seattle Grand Parade.

I'm also incredibly proud of the team who came together to pull off an awesome fundraiser at C&P Coffee in July. We had amazing sponsors and our entire 34th Statehouse Delegation and elected officials from across the region joined us. We raised a good amount of cash that we used to contribute to

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Membership Meeting Notice

Wednesday, September 13, 2023

7 PM on ZOOM - Register [HERE](#)

Pre-Meeting Program - 6:00 PM.

September is Suicide Awareness Month. Learn of a youth-forward organization and how they help kids mitigate mental health issues through creativity. (See page 2)

Call to Order and Chair Announcements - 7:00 PM

Meeting Business

- Approve Agenda
- Approve Minutes
- Budget Report (Julie Whitaker)

Opening Ceremonies

- Land Acknowledgement (Rachel Glass)
- VIP Acknowledgements and Announcements
- Canvassing Events (Carla Rogers)
- Board Transition

Endorsements Consideration: Seattle School Director D1

Eligible Candidates: Liza Rankin and Debbie Carlsen

Presentation and Q&A with [Port Commissioner Ryan Calkins](#)

Commissioner Calkins will share a brief update on the seaport and airport with a particular focus on environmental justice efforts. There will be time for questions.

Presentation and Q&A with [King County Democrats Chair Carrie Barnes](#)

Chair Barnes will provide a briefly share about KCD activities and the organization's endorsement process. There will be time for questions.

Ranked Choice Voting Resolution - (Ann Martin)

Following the presentation at the membership meeting by [FairVote Washington](#), the Board voted to submit the resolution to membership without a recommendation - See Page 5: [A Resolution Supporting Ranked Choice Voting for the Presidential Primary in 2028](#)

A motion will be considered and there will be up to four speeches.

Funding vote

The Board recommends membership approve the following contributions to candidates:

- \$500 to Carlos Ruiz and
- \$325 to the Seattle Housing Levy Campaign.

A motion will be considered and there will be up to four speeches.

Appointment of Rebecca Rego as Young Democrats Chair

Membership will vote on Rebecca's appointment.

Good of the Order

Adjournment - By 8:41 PM

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 Alt.
kcdccwa@34dems.org

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

Julie Whitaker | Treasurer
treasurer@34dems.org

Steve Butts | Secretary
secretary@34dems.org

Committee Chairs

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

Vacant | Caucus and Elections

Vacant | Coalitions, Equity & Social Justice

Carla Rogers | Communications & Technology
digcomm@34dems.org

Vacant | Fundraising & Events

Hannah Cameron | Membership & Hospitality
membership@34dems.org

Steve Butts | Outreach and Visibility
outreach@34dems.org

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

Vacant | Precinct Leadership
pco@34dems.org

Rachel Glass | Programs & Community Partnerships
vicechair1@34dems.org

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

Vacant | Young Democrats

Other Roles

Carla Rogers | Webmaster
webmaster@34dems.org

Steve Butts | Newsletter Editor
newsletter@34dems.org

Gina Topp | Parliamentarian

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our endorsed candidates running in tight races across the 34th.

While summer may be ending, there are still plenty upcoming worthwhile opportunities to come out and join the 34th community. Steve Butts will continue to lead multiple outreach events that you can volunteer for in September. Carla Rogers has planned coordinated canvassing events with multiple endorsed candidates in October. And we will also have end-of-month pop-up socials, including a joint one with the 33rd Dems in September. Check below for more details about all of these opportunities.

We're also working on some more potential get-togethers before the end of the year, so stay tuned.

This summer has reenergized me and I've loved being part of the 34th community. Thank you for coming out!

-- **Graham**

About Our September Pre-Program...

Youth mental health matters. Did you know over 85% of youth with mental illness go untreated? And LGBTQ+ youth are especially vulnerable. We're passionate about changing this devastating statistic by supporting youth.

Free 2 Luv's goal is to create impactful experiences where art and conversation collide to promote self-love and self-care, end the stigma around mental health, and provide a reminder that asking for help can be lifesaving.

Free 2 Luv successfully provides safe spaces and tools for sustaining youth to thrive, express themselves creatively, become more confident and compassionate and turn their pain into power and purpose.

The program starts at 6:00pm on Wednesday, September 13th, and will last one hour. The program will include time for Q&A.

Anyone can attend this Zoom program, but they must register [HERE](#).

Click to learn about [Free 2 Luv](#).

The 33rd Joins our September Pop-Up Social!

Join us on Friday, September 29th starting at 5:30pm at:

[Elliott Bay in Burien](#)

255 SW 152nd Street, Burien, WA 98166

For friendly conversation about the state of the 2023 races. We will be co-hosting this month's social with our neighbors from the 33rd!

Talk Issues,
Current
Events and
Chat with
Special
Guests.
Join Us!



34th Pop Up Social

34

Board Meeting Announcement

Our next 34th Executive Board meeting is Wednesday, September 20th at 7 PM via Zoom.

Contact chair@34dems.org if you'd like more information

Get Out and Support our Endorsed Candidates!

The 34th will host multi-campaign canvass events on October 7th and 21st to help get great Democrats elected. Data shows that the most effective method to get voters to turn those ballots in is 'direct voter contact'. This can be through a variety of methods - door knocking, phone banking, text banking and postcard writing. We urge all of our members and anyone who wants to be sure that we get Democrats elected to sign up and step up to support these efforts. You can do this by working directly with an individual candidate or participate in our 2 canvass events!



We are partnering with our endorsed candidates to hold a general election canvassing event in both West Seattle and Burien this fall. These events will begin at 10am with a rally and speeches from candidates. There will be training on Minivan for those who need help and we'll get you on your way to knock 25-30 doors. Your shift will be about 2 hours. Coffee and pastries will be provided to get your energy going. Please mark your calendars:

Saturday, October 7 - 10am, Burien Press (423 SW 152nd Street)

Saturday, October 21 - 10am, C&P Coffee (5612 California Ave SW)

Please signal your intent to attend by emailing **Carla Rogers** at digcomm@34dems.org.

Fired Up! Ready to Go! Join us!



Outreach Activities for September

We have many ways where you can share your democratic values with the community. Steve Butts is again leading the **Outreach committee** and would love your help as he travels around the district doing outreach. Our booths represent the 34th LD and are a great opportunity to register voters and encourage Democrats to join the organization.

Email Steve at outreach@34dems.org to sign up or choose an event link below

Saturday, Sept. 16 - [Fiestas Patrias Parade](#)

Saturday, Sept. 23 - [B-Town Fiesta](#)

Saturday, Sept. 30 - [Adopt a Street Clean Up](#)



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

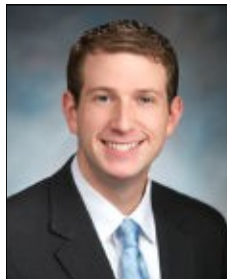


Representative

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 September 2023 newsletter will be Thursday, August 24.

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



2023 ENDORSEMENTS



King County Council, D8

Teresa Mosqueda

King County Assessor

John Wilson

King County District Court

Coreen Wilson, Position 30

Joe Campagna, Position 39

Port of Seattle

Sam Cho, Position 2

Fred Felleman, Position 5

Seattle City Council, D1

Rob Saka

Seattle School Board, D6

Gina Topp

Seattle Housing Levy Renewal

Approve

Burien City Council

Patricia Hudson, Position 4

Krystal Marx, Position 6

Highline School Board

Stephanie Tidholm, Position 1

Carlos Ruiz, Position 4

Vashon School Board

Juniper Rogneby, Position 5



A Resolution Supporting Ranked Choice Voting for the Presidential Primary in 2028

WHEREAS voter involvement in democracy is contingent on the belief that their vote means something; and

WHEREAS 25% of Washington State's Democratic presidential primary voters effectively "wasted" their vote in 2020 because they cast their ballot for a candidate who dropped out of the race before election day; and

WHEREAS Washington state had the highest rate of "wasted" votes in the nation; and

WHEREAS Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) helps solve the problem of wasted votes by allowing voters to vote for multiple candidates in order of preference so that their vote may count for a candidate still in the race or achieving a threshold sufficient to be allocated delegates at the close of the primary; and

WHEREAS the Democratic National Committee approved every RCV delegate selection plan submitted in the most recent presidential cycle, and Maine is compelled by state law to use RVC in their 2024 state-run presidential primary.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the 34th District Democrats call on their representatives to support the passage of legislation to allow voters to rank their presidential preferences in the presidential primary in 2028.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the 34th District Democrats call upon the legislature to pass and the Governor to sign the RCV legislation for the 2028 presidential primary .

Submitted by Ann Martin, August 2023

A PSARA Webinar:

We Can Reclaim Medicare From Greedy Profiteers

Wednesday, September 13, 5:00 p.m. PT

Featuring Dr. Ed Weisbart

Dr. Ed Weisbart is National Board Secretary and Missouri chapter chair at Physicians for a National Health Program



The effort to understand and reverse the corporate takeover of Medicare is critical to both present Medicare beneficiaries and all who look forward to benefiting from Medicare in the future.

Insurers have figured out how to funnel staggering sums of money into their own pockets by misusing and abusing the Medicare system, callously delaying, and denying the life-saving healthcare Medicare beneficiaries need and deserve.

And it's about to ramp up again. Our TVs are already getting inundated with the deceptively misnamed "Medicare Advantage"; it's not really Medicare, and the "advantages" mainly go to the insurance corporations' bottom lines.

Just in time for Open Enrollment, the webinar will address how we can get our hands around this needlessly complex mess and make the best decisions for ourselves and our families as we unite to preserve and expand our public Medicare.

To REGISTER for this webinar, click [HERE](#)

For more information email: organizer@psara.org

In Case You Missed it: A Recap of Our August Meeting

The August meeting picked up where we left off after our June meeting...continuing with our 2023 endorsements.

Chair Graham Murphy noted that all the candidates we endorsed for the August 1 Primary cleared that bar and would be on the General Election ballot, and that the King County Veterans, Seniors and Human Services Levy renewal had also handily passed.

Candidates from races not yet considered came forward to seek our endorsement. We were also able to take another look at the race for King County Council District 8 and Burien City Council Position 4. No candidates in those contests were able to cross the 60% majority endorsement threshold.

Before we dug into the endorsements, **1st Vice Chair Rachel Glass** gave the Land Acknowledgement. She also suggested that we could further show support for Indigenous peoples by giving a donation to the Seattle Urban Native Nonprofits organization:

seattleurbannatives.org

Precinct Leadership **Dorothy Gesick** then presented a PCO appointment. **Stephen Lamphear**, formerly a PCO in the 34th, will resume duties in BUR 34-1498. Stephan is a former Burien City Councilmember and past Chair of the King Conservation District Board.

We filled a vacant board position; the Membership and Hospitality Committee has been without leadership since the beginning of the year. **Hannah Cameron** stepped forward to take on that role. She has already been an active volunteer helping behind the scenes during our



New Membership and Hospitality Chair Hannah Cameron with her family at our July Fundraiser.

ZOOM meetings, and was unanimously approved.

A block up for endorsement contained just one issue: The Seattle Housing Levy. The Board had approved it at the July Executive Board meeting, and thus it only needed to pass by 50%. **Nimco Bulale** from [Prop 1 - Yes for Homes](#) gave a presentation on this levy renewal. Initially approved in 1986, it creates affordable housing in the city. If passed by voters, it would be a 7-year replacement of the current levy term which is expiring at the end of 2023. It will provide \$970 Million to produce and preserve 3,500 new affordable homes for low-income households and stabilize housing for an additional 4,500 at risk of homelessness. The levy endorsement was passed by 100% via a ZOOM poll, the means of voting throughout the meeting.



Stephen Lamphear has returned to duties as the PCO for BUR 34-1498.

We also were given a presentation from **Kari Bull**, a representative from [FairVote Washington](#) about their proposal to move to a Ranked Choice Vote for our 2028 Presidential Primary. She said that one in four of Washingtonians votes were “wasted”, meaning that those votes were not used to allocate delegates to the Democratic National Convention due to votes for candidates who dropped out before those ballots were receive and counted. Using a RCV ballot, a voter would be able to hierarchically rank candidates. If their first-choice candidate dropped out or failed to qualify for delegates, their vote would go to their 2nd choice, or 3rd, until they select a viable candidate.

Candidate Contributions

Contribution amounts were put forward by Chair Murphy, based on the contribution recommendations of



Chris Lampkin speaks for Teresa Mosqueda for King County Council Position 8.



Alexia Inigues moves to endorse Sophia Aragon for King County Councilperson.



We endorsed Carlos Ruiz in his bid for Highline School Director Position 4.



Patricia Hudson is seeking to join the Burien City Council.

the Board that divided the \$5,500 approved earlier in the year by the membership.

\$250 to **Teresa Mosqueda** for KC Council Dist. 8

\$250 to **Rob Saka** for Seattle City Council Dist. 1

\$1,175 to **Gina Topp** for Seattle School Dis. 6

\$750 to **Patricia Hudson** for Burien City Council Pos. 4

\$750 to **Krystal Marx** for Burien City Council Pos. 6

\$500 to **Stephanie Tidholm** for Highline School Board Dist. 1

\$500 for **Carlos Ruiz** for Highline School Board Dist. 4

\$500 was previously donated to the King County Democrats and deducted from the \$5,500, and \$750 remained free that had been designated for Burien City Council Position 2, in which we did not endorse a candidate. A balance of \$825 remained. A motion to amend was made to give an extra \$750 to Teresa Mosqueda, however the amendment failed, and the donation amounts were approved as initially proposed.

Good of the Order comments were allowed at various dead spots during the meeting while voting and tallying was taking place...**Ann Martin** announced that the West Seattle Democratic Women would be having their annual picnic on August 24th. It was to be held at her home...**Carla Rogers** urged us to canvass for our candidates, especially in Burien. She offered to get members in touch with campaigns there...**King County Executive Dow Constantine** rose to thank us for helping to pass the Veterans, Seniors, and Human Services Levy renewal in the August 1st Primary...**Steve Butts** commented about the noise from the SeaFair Pirates' cannon and sirens that plagued our unit during the West Seattle Parade...**Bunny Hatcher** informed us of the passing of Robbie Roberson, a member of the influential rock group The Band of the '60s and '70s...**Chris Porter** reminded us of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. He said we must continue to value this right for all and work to ensure we preserve it in the face of ongoing efforts to erode it...and **Aneelah Afzali** noted that August 28th is the 60th anniversary of the March on Washington. She was to provide information to be given to members about events to commemorate the date.

In closing out the meeting, Chair Murphy gave a special thanks to everyone behind the scenes: **Carla Rogers, Chris Porter, Jordan Crawley**...and to **Hannah Cameron and her husband** who had to update the code on the fly due to Zoom changes. They were on vacation and "zoomed in" from North Carolina.

The entire meeting can be seen on YouTube [HERE](#).

Committee Updates

Communications and Technology Committee

Every month is busy for communications! In addition to our weekly emails, we are now posting our endorsed candidate events and activities on our Slack channel. Slack is a fun way to communicate with your Democratic friends - get connected on Slack and join the conversation. We have also worked to get our board members connected to their email accounts. Did you know you can email any board member directly? Check the Executive Board page on our website to find the email for the board member you need. I also trained our new membership & hospitality chair, Hannah Cameron, to use NGP. This is the tool we use to store our membership data, fundraising and ticket sale forms, contribution data and many other important data items. We license NGP from the Democratic Party - it is a very robust tool which we rely on to manage the organization. The communications & technology committee has our hands on many different areas so we would love to have tech savvy volunteers join our team.

Membership and Hospitality Committee

Hi 34th! I am Hannah Cameron, new chair for the Membership and Hospitality Committee. Thanks for letting me be your Membership & Hospitality Committee Chair! I'll share a bit of info about me, but first I want to extend an invitation to all of you to reach out to me. I would love to know what kind of support I can provide to y'all, what this committee has done in the past that you liked, disliked, etc. I'm here to help new and existing members alike.

A quick bit about me: I've lived in King County since I was 7, and have been living in West Seattle near the Alaska Junction since 2019. My husband and I have a 10 month old son (Bennett), and two mini Bernedoodles (Duncan, 4, and Phoebe, 10 weeks). Prior to becoming a full-time parent I worked in retail management, advertising & marketing, and as a software developer. In my precious spare time I like to bake, read, do crafting projects and now I have the privilege of adding advocacy for the 34th membership to the list!

As I said above, I look forward to hearing from you all and doing my part to help keep the 34th Dems one of the best organized LDs in the state!

To join the committee and find out more, email: membership@34dems.org or Text/Call: 206-290-4076

Outreach Committee

In August, Outreach took part in the Duwamish River Festival in South Park, which is now part of the 34th Legislative District. As a compliment to the environmental theme of this annual event, long-time 34th member (now in the 33rd) Annie Phillips gave her Carbon Footprint quiz to festival attendees. We also registered 5 voters, handed out cards to help others register online, and gave materials to folks interested in joining the 34th Democrats. Doris Rahmig, Chris Weiss, Karen Richter, and Steve Butts helped man our booth.

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

Resolutions and Endorsements Committee

After a busy couple of months of endorsement meetings in June and August, with August also being a reassessment month. All our endorsed candidates made it through the August Primary, so no reconsiderations were needed. In September, we will consider a race that has yet to be put before the body for the Seattle School Board.

A resolution will be presented at the September meeting in support of legislation that would permit the use of Ranked Choice Voting in the 2028 presidential primary (yes, we are already talking about 2028!). The resolution is presented in anticipation of legislation being introduced in the coming session.

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



Annie Phillips gives her Carbon Footprint Quiz at the Duwamish River Festival



A denizen of the Duwamish River Peoples Park.



Newsletter Editor
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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 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**

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.