



2021 Seattle Out & Proud ("Seattle Pride") Candidate Questionnaire Information

About Seattle Pride

Plenty of nonprofits, corporations and individuals offer support and advocacy to Seattle LGBTQIA+ persons. **But many of us are focused on our own areas of expertise, rather than coming together as a large, influential community**—which is causing a frustrating slow-down in the pace of change.

At Seattle Pride, we understand the challenges facing the LGBTQIA+ community, and we're willing to do whatever it takes to bring us all together—LGBTQIA+ persons, allies, nonprofits, and corporations—in the relentless pursuit of equal human rights for all. We are a 501(c)(4) nonprofit organization, with the full ability to endorse candidates, lobby for legislation, and educate / engage / equip our LGBTQIA+ issues.

Our History

The first Seattle Pride Parade (a march of less than 200 people) took place in 1974, although it wasn't officially recognized by the city. Just three years later, the Parade welcomed 2,000 attendees, and Seattle Mayor Wes Ulan declared the first "Gay Pride Week." In 1992, the Seattle Pride festivities expanded to include bisexual and transgender identities (LGBT). Today, the Seattle Pride Parade is the fourth largest in the country, attracting an estimated 500,000 members of the LGBTQIA+ community, friends and allies.



The Parade provides our entire community an opportunity to celebrate the present, envision the future and honor our past

Over the years, we've come to understand that Pride parades and other celebrations are crucial. But they're not enough. We're continually expanding our advocacy and allyship efforts year-round to promote diversity and inclusivity—and to call our community to action.

Mission

Create unity, honor diversity, and achieve equal human rights throughout our region and the world.

Contact

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Seattle Pride Voter's Guide Information

Goal

It is our goal to help voters who care about issues impacting our LGBTQIA+ (Lesbian, Gay, Transgender, Bisexual, Queer, Intersex, Asexual/Aromantic) community ascertain what candidates in the King County region align with their values.

Note

These questions are for King County-area candidates only, and cover the following races at this time: *King County Council, King County Executive, Seattle Mayor, Seattle City Council, City Councils within King County, Mayors within King County, and Port of Seattle.*

Instructions for Answering the Questionnaire

All questions in this questionnaire are mandatory, and include basic questions pertaining to identifying information – name, pronouns, campaign information, etc. – as well as issue positions. A list of campaign-specific questions have been provided to you below. ***Please take a moment to look through them and prepare your answers, as you will not have an option to save the questionnaire and come back later.***

To take the questionnaire, click [HERE](#).

Questions:

1. What makes you an effective advocate for the LGBTQIA+ community?
2. If (re)elected, how will you advance the rights of LGBTQIA+ individuals in your purview?
3. LGBTQIA+ workers have disproportionately experienced unemployment and employment insecurity, which the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated, particularly for queer and trans BIPOC workers. How will you use your office to champion employment security for such workers?



4. LGBTQIA+ residents have disproportionately experienced homelessness and housing insecurity, which the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated, particularly for queer and trans BIPOC residents. How will you use your office to champion housing security for such residents?

Seattle Pride Voter's Guide Candidate Questionnaire

Rating & Sharing Process

1. **Step One:** Candidate answers the questionnaire
 - a. *No do-overs or second attempts will be permitted.*
2. **Step Two:** Answers are reviewed by Seattle Pride Staff, Board and/or Volunteers for completeness, then loaded onto the Seattle Pride website for the public (www.seattlepride.org)
3. **Step Three:** Answers are reviewed by Seattle Pride Staff, Board and/or Volunteers for a rating (see rubric, below), and that rating will be assigned to the candidate by posting the rating next to their name and questionnaire on the Seattle Pride website
 - a. *Seattle Pride will share this information over their social media channels, in their eNews mailings, etc. at their discretion.*
4. **Step Four:** Candidates who have received a rating of two (2) Pride flags or higher will be invited to attend our in-person¹ voter engagement/candidate meet-and-greet event the evening of October 21st, at the Seattle Pride office in Pioneer Square, featuring Special Guests: Secretary of State Kim Wyman and Director of King County Elections, Julie Wise.

Seattle Pride will not be endorsing candidates in any races, and a rating of 2 - 5 Pride flags does not equate to an endorsement of any kind.

Seattle Pride Voters' Guide Scoring Rubric

0 Flags

- Demonstrated explicit anti-LGBTQIA+ or racial bias in questionnaire

1 Flag

¹ Assuming indoor events are permitted, with the recent surge of COVID-19 cases.

- Has admitted explicit anti-LGBTQIA+ or racial bias in past roles, but has stated commitment to evolving
- Uses outdated and/or inadvertently offensive language in questionnaire responses
- Gives no concrete examples of policy tools

2 Flags

- Demonstrates commitment to supporting legal equality for LGBTQIA+ community members
- Demonstrates openness to providing supports for QTBIPOC community members
- Gives few concrete example of policy tools, few details

3 Flags

- Demonstrates commitment to equity in practice for LGBTQIA+ community members, prioritizing QTBIPOC community members
- Gives details of policy tools needed to achieve goals

4 Flags

- Has already been working on projects and programs to achieve equitable outcomes for LGBTQIA+ community members, prioritizing QTBIPOC community members (as an elected official, activist, community member, professionally, etc.)
- Gives extensive details on policy tools needed to achieve goals
- Policy tools prioritize the well-being of marginalized communities (i.e. enacting progressive taxation, community investments along with commercial development, etc.)