



The Municipal League of King County
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Seattle, WA 98104
(206) 264-1070 • cec@munileague.org

2008 CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

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Saul Ettlin, **Director**

The Municipal League of King County requests every candidate who participates in the candidate evaluation process to **submit background information prior to his/her interview with a candidate evaluation committee**. The questionnaire is the basis of the League's research and interview process. The League's ratings are non-partisan; they are based on standards of Involvement, Effectiveness, Character, and Knowledge, all of which have been developed and refined over the past 90 years.

A printed version of the questionnaire is available for candidates who prefer to use the traditional format. To obtain a hard copy, please contact the League office. A copy of this questionnaire will be provided to Candidate Evaluation Committee members to help them prepare for your interview. Candidate responses, except the confidential section, will be available to the general public at the League website.

The Municipal League requests the following materials from candidates. Please check to make certain you have sent in your:

- Candidate Questionnaire**
Sent by: Email US Mail Fax Not Sending
- Resume (education, employment, and professional activities)**
Sent by: Email US Mail Fax Not Sending
 Check here if you DO NOT want your resume posted on the Municipal League website
- Campaign Materials**
Sent by: Email US Mail Fax Not Sending
- Constituent Newsletters and other publications**
Sent by: Email US Mail Fax Not Sending
- Photograph**
Sent by: Email US Mail Fax Not Sending

Note: Electronically submitted questionnaires are strongly preferred. All materials can be emailed to cec@munileague.org. They can be processed and made available on-line far more rapidly than handwritten or typed submissions.

For non-electronic submissions, please print clearly and legibly and return the application **as soon as possible in order to allow the committee the greatest amount of time to prepare a complete report on your skills and experience.**

**We request that you return the Candidate Questionnaire
by June 1, 2008**

If you have not yet been contacted to schedule an interview, or if you have questions about the candidate evaluation program, please contact the League office at 206-264-1070.

If you have a disability and require accommodation to participate in the candidate evaluation process, please contact the CEC Coordinator at the League office.

2008 Candidate Questionnaire

SECTION I

BASIC CANDIDATE INFORMATION

1. Name as it will appear on the ballot

First Name	Middle Initial or Nickname	Last Name
Todd		Gibson

2. Office sought (include office, jurisdiction, position/district number):

State Representative, Legislative District 33/Position 1

3. Are you the incumbent? Yes No

4. How long have you resided in this district/city?

23 years

5. How long have you resided in King County?

30 years

6. Is the office sought partisan or nonpartisan? Partisan Nonpartisan

7. If partisan, please indicate party: **G.O.P.**

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name: **Citizens for Todd Gibson**

Address: **17837 – 1st Ave S PMB 299**

City/State/Zip: **Normandy Park, WA 98148**

Campaign Phone: **206.905.8700**

Campaign Fax: **206.224.8588**

Campaign E-mail: **todd@votetoddgibson.com**

Campaign Website: **www.votetoddgibson.com**

POLITICAL BACKGROUND

1. Beginning with the most recent position, please list public offices you have held. Include positions on appointive boards or commissions.

Public Office	Elective or Appointive?	Dates Held	Leadership Role (if any)
Student Body President of Highline High School	Elective	1986/87	

2. If you ran for public office but were not elected, please list those races below:

Office Title	Year of Run

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SECTION II

In this section, we are seeking responses that reflect the four ratings criteria: involvement, effectiveness, character, and knowledge. These are defined as follows:

- **Involvement:** What has the candidate done previously in family, neighborhood, community, volunteer work, employment or public life to suggest readiness to accomplish challenging objectives? How do these activities demonstrate readiness for the challenges unique to the office sought?
 - **Effectiveness:** Has the candidate demonstrated promise of being productive in the office sought? Has the candidate shown the ability to work with other people?
 - **Character:** Do the candidate's personal traits show the ability to take on the responsibilities of campaigning for and holding the public office she or he is seeking? Is the candidate a leader, participant or observer? Is the candidate trustworthy, reliable and candid?
 - **Knowledge:** Has the candidate demonstrated the willingness and ability to learn and adapt? Does the candidate understand the duties and challenges of the office sought? Does the candidate have a firm grasp of the issues important to his or her constituency and their potential effects?
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1. In one page or less, why are you running for this office? (Note: the interview committee will be given a copy of this statement before your interview; at the beginning of your interview you will have the opportunity to expand on this statement in any way you wish.)

I seek to be the trusted messenger for the community I have grown up in. The office of State Representative provides a role for me to accomplish that objective.

My background in advertising and public affairs gives me a good perspective and skills to represent the community where I was grew up.

I was asked by Dan Satterberg (the King County Prosecuting Attorney) to consider running for this post just 5 weeks ago. He thought my background as a business owner, educator, corporate philanthropist, and local roots would bode well for the seat. I am truly a representative of the community in which I have grown up. It will be an honor to represent their concerns in the State Legislature.

2. Describe your most important personal characteristics or traits as they relate to the office you seek.

My most important traits are as a communicator and a problem-solver.

As an adjunct faculty member at Highline Community College, I have learned to connect with people from all cultures and backgrounds and bring them together towards a common purpose. This trait has already served our campaign well in generating support. I've enlisted a large group of retirees and college students to help me with my campaign this summer. They have no particular party affiliation. They simply trust me. I listen to them and seek to understand their plight. As a group we develop sound ideas and enjoy implementing them together.

I anticipate that my style will not change as I head to the State Legislature. I will listen and mobilize teams of people to join in a vision to make a difference, regardless of the issue at hand.

3. Please describe, in sufficient detail, one to three accomplishments or contributions of which you are most proud. These examples should illustrate skills and capabilities you think apply to the office you are seeking. These accomplishments may have occurred at any time in your personal, professional, or public life.

For the past few years, I have served as a consultant for an arm of the Danish Government. I have provided strategic counsel aimed at helping them build partnerships with American companies in energy, retail, foodservice, design, and agriculture.

For the past 20 years I have worked alongside business, political, and social leaders worldwide as a volunteer organizer / leader of various National leadership gatherings. Specifically, these forums have assembled around a servant leadership model – sharing the interrelationship between faith, politics, and the workplace. Over the past ten years I have been working with the key National business and political leaders in Scandinavia and the Baltic States. Most recently (December 2007), I joined U.S. Speaker Dennis Hastert (R) and former Maryland State Attorney Chris Jensen (D) in Lithuania where we worked with President Adamkus, Former Prime Minister Vytautas Landsbergis, and the current U.S. Ambassador to Lithuania.

My father has been the Director of Counseling at Highline Community College for 40+ years. Six years ago I was asked by the Humanities Department to serve as an adjunct faculty for this same great institution. It has been a challenging experience – one that has kept me attuned to the challenges people in our district are facing. One of my favorite “assignments” that I have given my students is a research project where they find out what “XYZ” organization is doing to give back to the community. I believe strongly in training our next generation in the spirit of corporate philanthropy. The stories that these students glean from our community are nothing short of amazing.

4. Please list or describe current and past activities in the community in which you have acquired skills that relate to the office you seek. Include your role in the activity and the year(s) in which you were involved. Involvement consists of many areas such as family, neighborhood, community, employment, or public life.

Nearly a decade ago I started an advertising firm – Gibson Media, Inc. This happened as a result of being asked by a large non-profit to serve as a retained media consultant (serving them locally & nationally).

I now steward millions of dollars from clients locally, nationally, and internationally. I've helped small businesses grow and achieve their potential. I've helped non-profit entities increase their support base.

I am in the business of helping our community enterprises make the best investments possible. I analyze the market. I look for the most strategic places to yield a return. And, I make recommendations that are within budget that keep my clients moving ahead.

My dedication to research, analysis, and fiscal accountability will help me tremendously as I serve at my post in the House of Representatives. My ability to provide efficient and effective solutions to difficult challenges have been and will continue to be a trademark of my efforts in service.

5. Please describe the duties of the office you seek. Which are the most important duties and why?

As a State Representative, I will have the responsibility of preparing and analyzing legislation, reviewing and amending proposed budgets, and helping solve my constituents' grievances with the state government. All aspects are critical. As a voice of the people, I will need to ensure that I am doing the best job I can to make sure that my constituents are communicated with, enlisted, and encouraged.

**EDUCATION BACKGROUND SUMMARY
FOR PUBLICATION IN CANDIDATE EVALUATION REPORT**

The Municipal League's Candidate Evaluation Report is distributed to voters in print and on our website. It includes a summary of the candidate's education. Please summarize your education in 120 characters (letters, punctuation, and space all combined). The League will delete material that exceeds the space limit by beginning with the last entry. Suggested order is (degree) (subject) (school) (year, if desired).

Note: *If this question is left blank the League will not include education information in your candidate profile.*

- B.A. in Communications, Washington State University (1989)
- M.A. in Communications, Washington State University (1993)

**CIVIC INVOLVEMENT SUMMARY
FOR PUBLICATION IN CANDIDATE EVALUATION REPORT**

The Municipal League's Candidate Evaluation Report includes a summary of each candidate's civic involvement. Please summarize your civic involvement in the space below. We will make every attempt to include the information in the Candidate Evaluation Report as submitted. Due to space restrictions in the Report, your response is limited to 500 characters (letters, punctuation, and spaces all combined). It is important that you list your involvement beginning with the most important and ending with the least important. If you exceed the length of response permitted, or if the League should find it necessary to shorten responses for publication purposes, deletions will be made beginning with the last item listed.

Note: *This information will appear verbatim on the League's Candidate Evaluation Report. If this question is left blank, the Municipal League will not include information on your civic involvement in the Report.*

Check here if you would like the Municipal League to copy the first 500 characters from Question 4 to paste into this section.

Board of Directors, LCC International University, Klaipeda, Lithuania	2004-Present
Federal Way Chamber of Commerce	2000-2003
Missouri Governor's Student Leadership Forum Facilitator	1993-1995
Washington State Student Leadership Forum Facilitator	1991-1993
Kappa Sigma Fraternity, Washington State University	1987-1991
Multi-Cultural Education Committee (Highline School District)	1987
Highline School District Leadership Camp Director	1987