



The Municipal League of King County
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2008 CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

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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
Tina	L	Orwall

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

State Representative, 33rd LD, position 1

3. Are you the incumbent? Yes No

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

8 years

5. How long have you resided in King County?

23 years

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

7. If partisan, please indicate party: **Democratic**

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name: Friends of Tina Orwall

Address: 17837 1st Avenue South, PMB 299

City/State/Zip: Normandy Park, WA 98148

Campaign Phone: 206.409.3038

Campaign Fax: none

Campaign E-mail: Tina.orwall@gmail.com

Campaign Website: www.electtinaorwall.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)
King County Democrats Legislative Action Committee	appointed	January 2005-April 2008	Co-Chair
33 rd Legislative District Democrats	Elected by members	January 2007-April 2008	Chair

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

Office Title	Year of Run

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.)

In South King County we have a diverse community that is culturally rich, economically diverse and struggles with issues of poverty. There is an important role for government to play to strengthen our schools/workforce, improve access to health care and affordable housing and to protect our environment. I have 20 years experience bringing together partnerships to shape government policies and resources towards effective and innovative approaches to better serve the community. As a legislator I will create the partnerships that can effectively bring the resources we need into our community.

On behalf of the City of Seattle, I brought together a nationally recognized funding partnership between the City, King County, foundations, and housing authorities to create 600 units of housing first for individuals with long histories of homelessness. We created best practice models that integrate mental health, chemical dependency and primary care within safe, affordable housing units. This approach has reduced costs in ER, sobering and jails by several million dollars but more importantly, has helped individuals rebuild their lives.

I have also conducted analysis for the Gates Foundation on how we can create more pathways to employment and secondary education for low-income individuals and families to help them obtain the training they need to enter the workforce and obtain higher skilled jobs.

I have three years of experience working closely to link the Democratic Party at a grassroots level to the legislative process as the co-chair of the King County Democrats Legislative Action Committee. This group consists of individuals representing the various legislative districts who study legislation and mobilize action to pass bills that will strengthen our community. This has allowed me to opportunity to learn about the legislative process and develop relationships with legislators throughout King County and with other advocacy groups (education, environment, health care). It is these types of relationships that will help me to be effective in Olympia.

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

I have a strong work ethic. I listen well and learn quickly. I don't mind leaving my ego at the door to make sure things get done.

My strength is my ability to bring and keep leaders at the table to find a common vision, to make sure that all voices are heard on the issues, and to find solutions to challenging problems. I understand complex systems and can navigate them to make the changes needed to better serve the public—especially those most in need.

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.

I started a position with the City of Seattle in 2004 that was funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. We were one of seven states funded by the grant, which was overseen by the Corporation for Supportive Housing, with the purpose of creating more supportive housing for persons with long histories of homelessness by changing policies and funding to support these new models. I studied approaches from around the nation including models in Seattle, San Francisco, NY and L.A. I identified allies who shared concerns that individuals were dying on the streets of Seattle (140 individuals per year) due to lack of housing and needed treatment.

I brought together key funders from the housing and service worlds. We worked together on "housing first" models that move individuals rapidly off the streets into highly service enriched housing. This approach was a dramatic shift for many of our providers since it had a harm reduction approach that did not demand abstinence from drugs or alcohol (though staff are onsite to encourage healthy decisions). We worked with national experts on Medicaid funding and other with the state legislature on potential new funding sources. We also cultivated strong support from our elected leaders and our outstanding array of service/housing providers.

This new funding partnership has helped to create over 600 units of housing first in our community. All of our projects have a research component. We have one housing first program that after one year—had 19 of the 20 tenants still stable in housing and had a \$1.2 million reduction in emergency room, jail and sobering costs. Over the last year we have been contacted and held site visits by over 24 cities and counties who are interested in learning more about our funding partnership and our housing first programs. I was told by the Mayor of Ft. Worth that Seattle has found its soul and that they will be creating these models in their community soon. I am so proud of the work done in our community to serve those most in need so they can rebuild their lives. I am part of a work group at United Way that is working on the next 1,000 units. They are currently raising 35 million dollars as

their share of funding for these units.

Over the last two years I have had a strong focus on housing for homeless veterans since 25% of the individuals we serve have served in the military. I attended veterans meetings to establish relationships with Veterans Administration and King County Veterans. Within my grant, we advocated on the federal level with Senator Patty Murray's office for additional resources to help house homeless veterans into supportive housing without time restrictions. This last session she placed into the budget millions of dollars to VASH (section 8 vouchers and service dollars) for homeless veterans. I recently started the SHAVET group (Supportive Housing Alliance for Veterans) that has over 25 members representing the VA/Veterans groups and service and housing providers. This group is tackling complex policy and funding issues. This will help us to create the next several hundred housing first units for veterans including those returning from Iraq and Afghanistan that have PTSA and TBI (traumatic brain injuries). I was honored to receive the VA partnership award in March 2008 for my work in expanding housing for veterans.

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.

I have been active in my community by participating in our school district in leadership positions within the PTSA and levy planning board to bring in resources to our schools. I have served in leadership capacities within the Democrats at a legislative and county level. I have held an array of leadership roles at the city, county and state level in my field of human services and housing. I have been honored to receive formal recognition for my work to end homelessness for families and veterans, for improving services to individuals with co-occurring disorder and for my work in the Democrats.

- Marvista PTSA (served on the board for four years/ the President for two years—2003-2007);
- Highline Citizens for Schools (outreach coordinator for 2006 Highline Levy);
- King County Democrats Legislative Action Committee (served as co-chair for three years from 2005-2008);
- 33rd LD Democrats (served on board 5 years/chair—stepped down to run for legislature from 2003-2008);
- Co-Chair SHAVET—Supportive Housing Alliance for Veterans (started up group this year)
- Co-chair Seattle/King County Committee to End Homelessness for Single Adults (2006-present) and I was on original planning committee that wrote the Seattle/King County Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness;
- Co-Chair the Statewide Co-Occurring Disorders Committee (served on committee since 1992 and I am finishing my second term as co-chair).

Community Recognition

- * Democrat of the Year 2006
- * Veterans Administration Community Partner Award 2008
- * Washington State Co-Occurring Disorder Leadership Recognition Award 2006
- * Washington State Coalition for the Homeless Advocate of the Year 2004

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

As a legislator, I need to have the ability to quickly gather information and understand complex policies and funding decisions that are drafted into legislation. I need to have close relationships with colleagues including other legislators, policy staff, government entities and community groups to identify issues, draft legislation and understand the impact of bills on the community. I need to listen

well to constituents to understand their issues and to be able to identify resources to address those needs.

**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.S. Psychology, University of Washington 1988
- Masters in Social Work Administration, University of Washington 1991

**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.