



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
Lawrence	S.	Springer

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

State Representative, 45th District, Position 2

3. Are you the incumbent? Yes No

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

Over 20 years

5. How long have you resided in King County?

Over 50 years

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

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

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name: Friends of Larry Springer
700 20th Ave West

Address: Kirkland, WA 98033

City/State/Zip: 425-822-2907

Campaign Phone: _____

Campaign Fax: _____

Campaign E-mail: larry@larryspringer.org

Campaign Website: www.larryspringer.org

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)
State Representative, 45 th LD, 2	Elected	January 2005- Current	Vice Chair of Housing Committee, Floor Majority Leader
Mayor of Kirkland	Elected	1/1/2000- 12/31/2003	
City Council Member – Kirkland	Elected	1993-2005	

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

Office Title	Year of Run
Kirkland City Council	1991

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.)

After serving two terms in the House of Representatives I have found the role of state representative to be challenging, occasionally frustrating, always stimulating but foremost a very important and sobering experience. The work we do for the people of the state of Washington is critical to the future of our state. I have learned, painfully at times, that the progress can be slow and we often make only incremental progress. I have learned that first hand with some of the legislation I have sponsored. I am motivated to return to Olympia to continue work on several issues still not completed. They include transportation funding, education funding, housing policy, and eminent domain reform. I have established relationships on both sides of the political aisle that will serve me and the state well as I take on these challenges.

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

I seldom ever worry who or what gets credit for a job well done. I recognize compromise is the life blood of a democracy and always strive to fully understand both sides of a debate. I consistently look for the root cause of the issue and seek to deal first with the cause of a problem, rather than focusing just on the symptoms. I listen first, research second, and decide third. I have never been concerned with whom or what someone represents; only the point of view and position they take, that should be the primary basis for our political discussion.

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.

Worked with counties, the Association of Washington Cities, Realtors, Low Income Housing Alliance, and the Building Industry Association of Washington to pass a bill to enable inclusionary zoning techniques as a way to address the high cost of housing. This diverse group rarely agrees on anything but by continuing to only focus on the goal (housing affordability) I was able to get the bill passed and signed into law. I received a number of accolades from colleagues who did not think such a coalition could be held together.

Organized and chaired the Kirkland Community Summit in 1993 in response to a very divisive city council campaign the year before. It was an all day summit sponsored by Puget Power and the Wash State Depart of Community Economic Development. Over 150 people participated, discussed and reached agreement on actions plans in the areas of governance, economic development, arts, youth issues, and transportation. The event is still talked about today and is heralded as the first major step at creating a city-wide vision.

I am proud to have created the first ever Washington "intra-state sister city program" between Kirkland and Walla Walla. It is an attempt to cooperate in marketing and tourism as well as promote cultural and economic exchange programs. We held several meetings in our respective cities, and the relationship was formalized soon after my election to the Legislature. Due to the commitment of the city councils in both cities the cross-state relationship has blossomed, and the City of Walla Walla approved a proclamation signifying a particular day in May as "Larry Springer" day. This unique partnership is infectious, and provides a good model for other cooperative efforts across the Cascade Curtain.

As President of the Leadership Institute I played a key role in the merger of Leadership Institute and Advance Bellevue into what is now the preeminent leadership training organization on the eastside. We created *Leadership Eastside* from the two separate organizations thereby saving overhead and ending the needless competition between them for students and funding. The program is now in its 4th year and stronger than ever. The transformation took over 5 years of unwavering commitment and countless hours of volunteer time to create a program literally from scratch.

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.

Board Member of Kirkland Downtown Association (2005 - Current)
Kirkland City Council (1994-2005)
Mayor, City of Kirkland (2000-2003)
President, Suburban Cities Associations (2002-2003)
Recipient of the National Distinguished Leader Award (2002)
President, Leadership Institute (2001)
Member, 520 Bridge/Corridor Study (1998-1999)
Chaired Chamber of Commerce Community Services Committee (1995)
Chaired the Kirkland Community Summit (1993)
Board of Directors, Kirkland Performance Center (1992-1994)
Board of Directors of the Kirkland Art Center (1990-1992)

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

The legislature adopts a state wide budget every two years which is the true policy statement of priorities the legislature believes are in the best interests of the citizens of Washington. The adoption of the budget is in many ways the seminal event of the legislature's session.

In order to accomplish this task there are many other "duties" which must be performed if the budget is to be a true reflection of the interests of Washingtonians. Chief among them is an ability to listen to constituents and really hear what they say and many times what they do not say.

After that, every legislator has the responsibility to make a judgement about what must be done to address the issues raised by his/her constituents. A central skill is the ability to work with diverse interest groups, all of whom have a stake in the proposed solution to the issue identified by the legislator's constituents.

So, the most important duties are establishing relationships, recognizing who needs to be part of the conversation as a solution is crafted, adhering to the agreed upon outcome and an ability to represent your point of view with your colleagues and the general public.

Lastly, every legislator must recognize his/her duty to represent the home district while knowing that the health of the entire state is paramount to the future of Wasington.

**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.*

BA; Education – Western Washington University, Bellingham WA
MS; Family Counseling – University of Oregon, Eugene OR

**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.