



The Municipal League of King County  
810 Third Avenue, Suite 224  
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:

### X 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 (Available at [www.vote4fred.org](http://www.vote4fred.org))  US Mail

### Photograph

Sent by:  Email  US Mail  Fax  Not Sending

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

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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
Fred		Jarrett

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

**State Senator, 41<sup>st</sup> District**

3. Are you the incumbent?       Yes      X No

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

**48 years**

5. How long have you resided in King County?

**48 years**

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

7. If partisan, please indicate party:

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#### CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name:      Committee to Elect Fred Jarrett

Address:      8441 SE 68<sup>th</sup> Street, PMB 212

City/State/Zip:      Mercer Island, WA 98040

Campaign Phone:      206.232.8304

Campaign Fax:      n/a

Campaign E-mail:      fred@vote4fred.org

Campaign Website:      www.vote4fred.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 House of Representatives	Elected	2001-2008	Ranking member of Transportation and Capital Budget. (See Resume)
Mercer Island City Council	Elected	1980-1996	See Resume
Mercer Island School Board	Elected	1999-2001	

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

Office Title	Year of Run
Washington State Senate	1996

## 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 believe government is important. It is a tool for making communities better places to live and can be an advantage or detriment as we choose to make it. I have a passion to make government an advantage.**

**My focus in the state legislature has been improving education, transportation and the ability of our government to deliver results. I believe I have contributed to progress in each.**

**In education, I have been a leader in improving access and quality in higher education. Representative Skip Priest and I have lead the effort to create performance contracts between the legislature and universities and plan, building on those contracts, to expand funding and access to universities (and especially the high demand degrees sought after by the job market) for the increasing number of graduates of our high schools.**

**In K-12, I have been a leader in the work of financing education reform and focusing on improving the performance of our schools. I have authored bills for basing the definition of basic education on performance rather than spending. I have proposed serious, comprehensive and well received proposals for improving the performance of both our state's higher education and K-12 systems.**

**In transportation, I have lead efforts to resume investment in our transportation infrastructure. I authored the sections of the Regional Transportation Improvement District legislation which allowed funding to be balanced, rather than just roads oriented, and collaborated as a member of the five corners team that negotiated the recent regional transportation governance reform legislation (an effort concomitant with the MuniLeague/Discovery Institute activates on the same topic). I was a leader in the passage of the five cent, and nine and one-half cent gas tax increases over the last three years**

**And I have worked to create a bi-partisan group focused on expanding the use of Governor Locke's POG process into the way the legislature does its own budgeting. That effort has resulted in a Joint Legislative Audit Committee audit of budgeting for.**

**Each of these examples intend to demonstrate the focus on making government work to make our communities better. I hope to continue to peruse this goal as long as I retain the passion**

**to do so.**

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

**I have the ability to see the world as a complex system, and be able to understand it from differing perspectives. And I have an ability to be creative in creating links between those different perspectives.**

**This is important in legislative bodies as few see issues from the same perspective or bias. Understanding, and being able to explain to others the perspective they see an issue from, is an important first step to coming to agreement.**

**Creative thinking gives me an ability to find a solution space which integrates the interests of members who are not obviously supportive of similar initiatives.**

**And, I am patient and persistent. I will continue to work on issues until their time is right.**

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.

**1. When elected Mayor of Mercer Island, our council was split. Each vote of import split 4 to 3 based on the position the first member took, the other six members lining up in lock step either with or against depending on which "team" they were on. This had been going on for some years, and had frozen the city. In fact, during my first six years on the council, including my first two as mayor, we delivered no capital projects of note.**

**I set as my goal eliminating the split and getting the council to work as a team. An underlying principle was that each member had been legitimately elected and thus represented valid community interests. When I stepped down as Mayor, the leader of the minority faction followed me as Mayor (elected unanimously) and in the second six years I served on the council, including my last two as mayor), we delivered more capital projects than in the first twenty-five years of citihood.**

**2. In the legislature, I authored a bill during the 2003 session creating the first categorical exemption under the state's State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) in twenty-five years. The exemption, in essence, eliminated redundancies and overlaps between SEPA and the Growth Management Act (GMA) passed many years after SEPA.**

**Why am I proud? Because this is an area of great polarization in government and Olympia has found fixing environmental law next to impossible. This bill, significant in creating a market for independent builders and planned unit developments inside the urban growth lines, passed both house nearly unanimously, proving making the law work is not impossible.**

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.

**Most of my public service activities over the last twenty-five years have been in political affairs (see the attached resume). I've served for nearly twenty years in local government and another six in the legislature while raising a family and pursuing a career at The Boeing Company. Involvement in other community organizations has suffered as a result.**

**I have served on the Board of the Municipal League from 1997 through 2000, including a term as president. And was a member of the PTSA, scouts and sports leagues during my sons' school years. I have been a part of a number of fund raising activities around schools and community events as well.**

**That said my life with family and work have greatly affected the way I approach politics. One can't deal with the difficulties of people living their lives, either with in a family or in management and leadership positions in work settings, without gaining an appreciation of how interconnected we all are in our communities. How we are both individuals and members of a group simultaneously.**

**And that dichotomy creates the opportunity for making better lives for us all. I try to bring the tolerance and optimism I've learned to my work in politics.**

**(I have attached a professional resume as an addendum to this form)**

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

**Its interesting that the state constitution doesn't explicitly state the duties of the legislators. It creates a "Legislative Department" and enumerates the number of members of it, then spends a great deal of time placing limits on what the Legislative Department can do and when. As with many specifications setting limits, limits provide much freedom!**

**In the most simple sense, a legislator is responsible for voting on legislation (which becomes the Revised Code of Washington, the rules by which we live in the State of Washington) and resolutions which state the opinion of the Legislative Department. Incorporated in that legislation is the policy and direction for the Executive and the executive agencies of the state. Legislators, in casting those votes, are making choices for our constituents about how we want to be held accountable as citizens and how we want to spend our public funds to walk our values.**

**Beyond the simple sense, however, I think legislators are obligated to articulate our values as a state and to be educators in our civil discourse. This part of the job provides great freedom and, especially with the advent of e-mail, an opportunity to engage citizens in a constructive dialog about government and its limits. I greatly enjoy this "duty."**

**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.*

**MBA (Finance) Seattle University, BA (Finance) Washington State University, Graduate,  
Mercer Island High School**

**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.

- 01-08 State Rep, 41st Legislative District – Served on Transportation, Education and Local Government Committees**
- 07-08 Basic Education Funding Task Force**
- 99-01 Director, Mercer Island Schools**
- 79-95 City Councilmember for Mercer Island, Mayor of Mercer Island**
- 86-93 Councilmember, Municipality of Metropolitan Seattle & Chair, Metro Transit Ctte (90-93)**
- 97-01 King Co Boundary Review Board**
- 91-95 King Co Growth Management Policy Council**
- 84-95 Suburban Cities Association Board and president (85-86)**
- 99-00 Chair, Municipal League; Trustee (96-2000)**