



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

2009 CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE KING COUNTY ELECTIONS DIRECTOR

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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 100 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 League's 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.**

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.

A League volunteer Candidate Investigator is waiting to receive your questionnaire to begin his or her work. Please complete and return your questionnaire to the League office at your earliest convenience.

Please have your questionnaire to us no later than Dec 15th, 2008

If you have any question about completing the questionnaire, please feel free to contact us at 206-264-1070

2009 Candidate Questionnaire

King County Election Director

SECTION I

BASIC CANDIDATE INFORMATION

1. Name as it will appear on the ballot

First Name	Middle Initial or Nickname	Last Name
Pam		Roach

2. How long have you resided in King County?

32 yrs.

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name: Pam Roach For Elections

Address: PO. Box 682

City/State/Zip: Auburn, WA 98071

Campaign Phone: 253-735-4210

Campaign Fax: _____

Campaign E-mail: pamroach@aol.com

Campaign Website: PamRoachForElections.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)
State Senator 31st District	Elected	Five Terms 1991 to present	Chair, Senate Governmental Operations and Elections Committee Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee
			Chair, Children and Family Services Committee (All DSHS) Co-chair, Joint Select Committee On Military and Veterans Affairs Asst. Majority Whip
Precinct Committee Officer			
Governor's Council on Substance Abuse;			

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

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?
-

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 am running for the office of King County Director of Elections because I believe I will best provide the independent, qualified leadership we need. I have a record of achievements in the area of election law and I now want to work to see that those laws are implemented, protected, and in some cases further defined.

I will continue to defend the rights of King County voters to have a clean voter pool (qualified electors only) and to keep our county initiative and referendum process which is under attack both in the county and in Olympia. The right of citizens to make or correct law must be safe guarded. I have already demonstrated my defense of these and other important voter protections.

For 18 years I have fought for honest elections. I was the prime sponsor of the Help American Vote Act (HAVA), SB 6419, for our state. The law gave us general standards for uniformity across the state in certifying elections. The law is currently in effect in all 39 counties and has significantly increased accuracy and public confidence in elections.

I am a populist senator. And, by that I mean I work for what the people want. It is their government and their wishes should be respected. When both parties took Washington's blanket primary to court where it was declared constitutional I worked to keep the blanket primary. I worked to keep the concept alive by bringing in the top-two primary, a concept I first sponsored in the state legislature.

We need an advocate for better election practices. I will work to make it easier to receive military ballots. I will suggest that our ballots be due by election day (exceptions being those out of the country and the military so we have sooner knowledge of results.

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

Trustworthy and Honest

I can be trusted to take a task and successfully complete it. I tell the truth. I value other people. I stand up for what is right and not just join in with what others are doing for the sake of convenience. I take responsibility.

Intelligent

I learn new concepts easily. One example is my passing the second level ham radio operator's test in November of 2008, **KE7WVR**.

Open Minded

I work with people of all races and creeds and believe that bigotry has no place in our lives. I have been the target of such discrimination and condemn all forms.

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.

DUI legislation. As Chair of the Senate Law and Justice Committee I successfully coordinated the entire DUI legislative package and strategy for implementation. I did the same with landmark juvenile justice legislation. This requires working with two branches of government, coordinating efforts of members in the Senate and the House, working the press campaign, and working with public interest groups. These efforts were both key legislative packages for their legislative sessions.

Efforts to keep the spirit of the blanket primary. When the blanket primary was declared unconstitutional I worked with the Grange and other citizen groups to replace the blanket primary with a primary that would meet constitutional provisions and still allow voters to make their own choices in the primary.

My legislation to provide a top-two system did not pass the legislature but was introduced as **Initiative I-872** and passed by the people with nearly 60% of the vote.

Many other points on file.

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.

Over the years I have helped in many citizen efforts. In the following list I have either been the chairman, leader, or member of leadership in these successful efforts:

Chair, Senate Governmental Operations and Elections Committee. I actually put the word "Elections" in the title of the committee. As a member of the committee (16 years) and as chair, I have worked to implement many pieces of reform legislation. I also fought to preserve the citizen loved "blanket primary" in the face of oppositions by both political parties. I have successfully defended the initiative and referendum processes from hostile legislation that has been introduced over the years. I first introduced (2005) the legislation to require that all counties have an elected elections officer. I was pleased that the voters, through the initiative process, enacted my legislation. As chair of the committee I primed sponsored the Help American Vote Act (HAVA) in Washington State. In 2007 I was the Republican appointee to the Secretary of States' Presidential Primary Day Selection Committee where I worked to move our primary up so we could have greater importance in the presidential campaigns. I then began work to coordinate the primaries of WA, OR, and ID. I have held or participated in hundreds of Senate hearings over election law and am known as a leader and resource in the creation and implementation of election law.

There are many corollary election issues such as laws governing public disclosure, understanding election equipment, longstanding relationships with county auditors across the state, the ability to lobby and be conversant on contemporary elections issues, etc. I have had a professional lifetime to work on election issues, and have directed the many staff members in my successful efforts.

Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee; Chair, Senate Children and Family Service Committee; Chief of Staff to Councilman Kent Pullen; Campaign and Community Organizer I have successfully directed staff and community efforts involving many people. While on the clock I worked in supervisory positions. But, it is noteworthy that I have been a community organizer for many efforts and led groups that voluntarily looked to me as a leader.

Chair, "No on Prop. 1," I chaired the successful 2006 effort to stop an annexation of the Maple Valley and the Enumclaw Plateau into Hospital District Number 1. State history was made with a 94.4% "NO" vote. I chaired that committee. In this effort, the hospital district had written a ballot title which did not inform the voter that there would be a significant tax levied (\$.59 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation) should the measure have passed. We challenged the title in superior court and Judge Lum immediately rewrote the title. As director, I will continue to safeguard the voters by reviewing ballot titles for fairness and accuracy. The job will require protecting the integrity of the system.

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

This is in loose descending order of important. Fair, Honest, and Accurate Elections are the most important things.

- Set policies to clean voter registration roles and assure only constitutionally eligible citizens may vote;
- Ensure fair and honest elections by opening the office to public scrutiny;
- Be responsible for a well run department by hiring the most competent personnel available;
- Advocate for the protecting of the citizen right to referendum and initiative which has been under attack recently by both state and county officials;
- Configure budgets and seek funding directly from the King County Council for new equipment and operating expenses;
- Communicate with the public;
- Open the office for citizen review;
- Run voter registration campaigns;
- Lobby legislators and the governor for funding and better election law as needed;
- Take a leadership role among the state's elected auditors

**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.,history, Brigham Young University, 1970; teaching certificate; FCC amateur radio license

**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.

State Senator representing King County for 18 years; Chair, Senate Law and Justice Committee; Chair, Governmental Operations and Election committee; Chief of Staff to Councilman Kent Pullen (14 years); Prime sponsor of the *Help America Vote Act*; *Prime sponsored legislation that became I-872 (Top-Two Primary)*; *Member, Secretary of State's Presidential Primary Day Selection Committee*; *International Republican Institutes delegate to East Timor (elections mission)*. Veteran Cmt., co-chair.

Finished!

If at all possible, send your response to the Municipal League electronically as an email attachment, or insert it into an e-mail message (cec@munileague.org). Mail and fax numbers are listed below. If the League has not contacted you to schedule an interview, please call the League office at your earliest convenience.

Don't forget to send the following to the Municipal League: a resume, a photo, campaign literature, and, if you are an incumbent, constituent newsletters and other materials. Please use the check-off list on the cover sheet of this packet to indicate which items you have sent.

A League volunteer Candidate Investigator is waiting to receive your questionnaire to begin his or her work. Please complete and return your questionnaire to the League office at your earliest convenience.

Please have your questionnaire to us no later than Dec 15th, 2008

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION AND GOOD LUCK IN YOUR CAMPAIGN!

THE MUNICIPAL LEAGUE OF KING COUNTY

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