

## 2009 Candidate Questionnaire

### SECTION I

#### BASIC CANDIDATE INFORMATION

1. Name as it will appear on the ballot

First Name	Middle Initial or Nickname	Last Name
Patsy		Bonincontri

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

**Bellevue City Council position 4**

3. Are you the incumbent?             Yes  No

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

**17 years**

5. How long have you resided in King County?

**18 years**

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

7. If partisan, please indicate party:

#### CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name:                    Friends of Patsy Bonincontri

Address:                                15600 NE 8<sup>th</sup> Street ste B-1, PMB 406

City/State/Zip:                      Bellevue, WA 98008

Campaign Phone:                    425-829-0773

Campaign Fax:                        \_\_\_\_\_

Campaign E-mail:                   patsy@patsybonincontri.org

Campaign Website:                 www.patsybonincontri.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)
Bellevue city Council	Appointed	4/8/08-present	

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.)

**I'm running for this office to ensure that the future of Bellevue is secure and prosperous. I have enjoyed my residency in the city with a wonderful park system, safe streets, clean water and caring neighbors. I want to preserve and improve all that for my children and grandchildren.**

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

**My most important characteristic is my upbringing in a multi-cultural environment (ethnic Chinese with British law and education). I have learned to accept differences and apply the best of different worlds. My training as an architect reinforces the notion that solutions are found by working to establish common ground and mitigate differences.**

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 I was working as an architect in Japan, I had to apply my technical skills to a new set of rules. From units of measurement (metric versus imperial) to social habits to communication methods and language, everything is different. The experience allow me to hone in my skills in adapting to the basics i.e. how we use space and we all want to feel secure and relax at home. I learned the nuances of Japanese life (e.g Husband and wife do not share beds, rooms that need to transform due to lack of space etc.) and successfully designed housing projects that I can be proud of. This experience further developed my skills in looking pass surface conflicts and examining underlying issues in order to arrive at the most fitting solution.**
- 2. Another accomplishment that I was fortunate enough to be involved in was the Bel-Red plan that Bellevue City Council adopted this year. The plan is to re-zone an industrial section of Bellevue and turn it into a mix used transit oriented development that will accommodate the growth we're expecting for the next 20-30 years. I first worked on the plan when I was on the planning Commission. With the help of a steering committee of local stakeholders, various commissioners and civic activist, a vision was born that will transform Bellevue into a desirable 21<sup>st</sup> century City worthy of its name "beautiful view". What I am most proud of is the process that was used and many minds and hands that shaped the vision. It's truly democracy at its best and I look forward to implementing the plan and enjoy the results.**

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.

**Planning Commission (1998-2007), Chair twice:**

- **Study and recommend land use issues to City Council**
- **Dealt with Growth management updates, Critical areas ordinance, various sub area plans, review comprehensive plan amendments..**

**Sound Transit Citizens Oversight Panel (2004-2008):**

- **General oversight of all facets of Sound Transit's work including operation, planning and finance.**
- **Mandated by Sound Move and continued on Sound Transit 2, provide public with reports on how Sound Transit is performing.**

**Construction Codes Advisory Committee, Bellevue (2002-2003):**

- **Collective group of stakeholders that reviews the process of City of Bellevue permitting and inspection services. Came up with recommendations of better service to construction community.**

**Growth management policy board, PSRC (2008-present):**

- **Represent City of Bellevue on growth management issues**

**Governing Board Committee to End homelessness (King County) (2009- present):**

- **Formulate strategies to achieve ending homelessness in the King County region (10 year plan that started in 2005**
- **Monitor progress of housing production and whether they meet planned targets**

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

**The duties of the Bellevue City council surround setting policies for the City manager to implement. While the critical issues changes with the times, the most important duties are to:**

- **Ensure that the city spends within its means while delivering superior services (Efficiency and effectiveness of City government)**
- **Listen to citizens concerns and ideas (this is not always easy as the majority of citizens are too busy to voice their opinion until something goes wrong). Transparency in government is essential.**
- **Be prepared for the future. Most programs and facilities take years to build or implement. Having the foresight to plan for the future is vital to be a council member. Being innovative is more important now than ever.**