

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
Pam		Fernald

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

City Council, Seatac, Position #6, District 11

3. Are you the incumbent? Yes No

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

30 plus years, since before SeaTac became a city.

5. How long have you resided in King County?

Born in King County 63 years ago.

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

7. If partisan, please indicate party: **N/A**

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name: Citizens to Elect Pam Fernald 2009

Address: 2431 S. 133rd Street

City/State/Zip: SeaTac, Wa. 98168

Campaign Phone: 206.244.7315

Campaign Fax: N/A

Campaign E-mail: pamlf@comcast.net

Campaign Website: TBD

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)
Civil Service Commission	Appointive	Nov. 2008 - present	Asst. Chief Examiner

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

Office Title	Year of Run
N/A	

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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.)

The past several years I have become very involved with city business. After co-founding Neighbors Without Borders Action Committee (NWOBAC), or really BECAUSE of it, it looked to me as though our city was drifting more and more away from those whom the city was chartered to represent. After NWOBAC I heard even more stories from citizens, from different areas of the city who seemed to have very similar complaints. There appeared to be a pattern of disregard for citizen input and rights. Our group was operating as a 'watchdog' and then another group sprung up, and then some nameless ad hoc groups also appeared. The SeaTac Tree Retention issue the past 2 years and the manner in which citizens were treated so disrespectfully by staff was one reason I was drawn to run for council. There also was a pawn shop issue, a construction company next to our park issue, unequal code enforcement issues—there is a long list-which all helped me decide that I wanted to bring my common sense; good judgment and reasoning abilities; communication skills and penchant for doing research to the SeaTac legislative branch.

I very much enjoy the process of brainstorming and collaborating to find a solution. I like working with others of varying opinions and enjoy being a devil's advocate when necessary. I'm detail oriented, love to do research and learn new things. I'm not afraid of conflict--in fact I find that vigorously brainstorming and debating issues can be energizing. I just like finding good results and solutions. I've always been that way.

I also like to set a good civic example for my teenage grandson and to model for him to do as much as you think you can, and then try even harder to do more—to continue to stretch and grow, and serve in different ways.

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

I have a 'dog with a bone' attitude when necessary but not in an aggressive way. I just keep 'digging' until I find what I am looking for, or the missing piece, or a better way.

I:

- **try to draw people into a circle of reasoning and see where we can agree for the best outcome.**
- **really care about the world in general and what can be done to make things better.**
- **believe in being honest with people.**
- **have common sense.**
- **Reach out to people.**
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- **People are not intimidated to talk to me and I hear a lot of stuff because of it.**
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When I believe I something, I am very passionate. All through Tree Retention, I and others, lobbied to use incentives rather than punishment regarding our trees. I gave a presentation at council about Tree City U.S.A and because of that, there will be a tree board established and of course I will be on it. ☺

I have also set up a blog site where I try to keep neighbors, who aren't retired and still have to work every day, informed on what goes on at City Hall. However, I am currently a little behind on updates.
<http://blog.nwobac.org/>

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.

4.

1. The main thing that comes to my mind is how I did things I never even thought of doing before when, at 7 years of age, my grandson was parentally abducted by his mentally unhealthy father. I guess it was mostly reflex and preservation instincts, but when my daughter was experiencing foot dragging by the FBI (who did not think parental abduction was child abuse) I had the wherewithall to contact Representative Ida Ballisiotes whose own daughter was actually murdered by a work release inmate. Without Ida's influence and caring, I don't know how long it would have taken to get the authorities off the dime. The day I emailed her I was at such an emotional low, not knowing whether my grandson was alive or dead, and I don't really think I expected her to reply—but she did! After 68 days my grandson was found. Subsequently I went to the legislature and testified to increase the level of crime for parental abduction, and spoke anywhere I could about what happened, what to do if it happened to your family, and some 'red flags' to be aware of. I am proud of how intact our whole family came through this hideous, life changing experience.

2. Taking my first speech class. I have always been very shy, but once the 'beast was unleashed' I can now speak in front of people and make my points without passing out from anxiety. ☺. So, I am proud of myself for that.

3. I am also very proud of how Neighbors Without Borders Action Committee jumped in with both feet and ministered to and, coordinated with a local business to hold a fundraiser for 10 families of the Emerald Place Apartment fire where 2 people lost their lives. Just our little committee was able to raise \$4,500 for them and also collect and distribute clothes and furniture to them. Many did not speak English, yet through the shock and horror of the fire we were all able to find a way to communicate and really help them. This was a totally non city related exercise, but I kept city folks in the loop of what we had done.

5. 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.

Three years ago I introduced Night Out Against Crime gatherings on our street and had more than 25 people come the first year. There were over 45 the second year. This year I hope to have even better attendance now that word is getting around.

I organized a Block Watch kickoff meeting in a neighborhood where there had never been one and 50 people attended, 7 signed up to be Block Watch Captains.

I am a graduate of both the SeaTac Citizen Police Academy (2007) and Tukwila Citizen Police Academy (2009) and I graduated from the Tukwila Crime Prevention Training class. 2009

I am a member of the National Coalition Building Institute (NCBI) through COPS and Community Leadership (Leading Diverse Communities.)

I serve as the Assistant Chief Examiner on the City of SeaTac Civil Service Commission and I attend at least 3 other committee meetings a month at city hall as a citizen. (open public meetings) I also attend budget sessions and council retreats as well as the bi monthly council meetings. All of these various meetings have helped me stay in touch with what goes on with the council and I have gotten to know city staff.

Another activity is co chairing our monthly Neighbors Without Borders Action Committee meetings.

Two other activities are participating in the monthly Tukwila International Boulevard (TIB) Action Committee clean ups, and attending the TIB Action Committee monthly meetings.

And last, but certainly not least, I am the Transportation Coordinator, and I perform Home Checks for a pet rescue organization.

Besides the fact that I find enjoyment and satisfaction in all of these activities, they are also things which help me interact with others in my community and get a good read on the community pulse, and build networks for future endeavors.

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

As described on the City website: "The SeaTac Council makes policy, land use and budget decisions to be carried out by the City Manager. The Council's mission as policy-maker is to assist the City of SeaTac in becoming economically strong, environmentally sensitive, visually pleasing and people-oriented with a socially diverse but cohesive population and employment mix. These attributes create a positive identity and image for the community and contribute to a City that works for its citizens."

It is my feeling that we need to get busy and create a safe, visually pleasing city, with a positive identity and image pronto so that we can attract new young families to SeaTac in order to have a more vibrant community. One way we can maintain our local economy (or what is left of it) is to attract young, working families who want to raise their families in SeaTac.

The environment, particularly around the airport is being devastated. In one way the airport is a boom, but to me, a person who LIVES here, it is a negative in our community itself and the bane of our existence. A vast parcel of habitat was turned into a parking lot for airport employees, another vast parcel of habitat was lost to the Boeing Spares Center, and still more

of our buffer zone from the airport is also on the chopping block. When I remember the scores of families whose homes were razed or moved because of the airport, I feel sad. The habitat around here is shrinking, shrinking, shrinking. The critters cannot survive on black top and concrete, and no trees.

The City of SeaTac feels like it has no heart or soul. We need a cultural center for our young people; we need to establish a 'heart' of our city for the residents who have raised their families and retired here and still support the city, and we just need to breathe some of the life back into this area that all of the airport parking lots and garages have snuffed out. We need a feeling of unity between 'SeaTac proper' and the annexed part of SeaTac. We need cohesion and vibrancy sooner rather than later. We need plan smarter and set our City up to be a success in the eyes of the people who live here—not only just cater to people who are passing through.

I plan to live here for possibly another 30 years, so I intend to try to preserve and maintain the spirit and quality of what is left of our century old neighborhood

