

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
ROGER	D	FREEMAN

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

CITY OF FEDERAL WAY CITY COUNCIL

3. Are you the incumbent? Yes No

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

SEVEN YEARS

5. How long have you resided in King County?

15 YEARS

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

7. If partisan, please indicate party:

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name: Freeman For City Council

Address: 1116 SW 318TH PL

City/State/Zip: Federal Way, WA 98023

Campaign Phone: 253 335 5058

Campaign Fax: _____

Campaign E-mail: Freemanforcitycouncil@comcast.net

Campaign Website: _____

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)
CITY OF FEDERAL WAY HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION	APPOINTED	2004 - present	chair in 2007

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

Office Title	Year of Run
CITY OF FEDERAL WAY CITY COUNCIL	2007

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.)

As Federal Way's next council member, my goals are to improve the quality of life for residents, maintain public safety, and create economic opportunities by cultivating and marketing industry based upon the diversity of our community.

With 15 years' experience representing families in crisis and defending human rights, I am proud to be an advocate for our community. I have served Federal Way as a Human Services Commissioner, Heritage Leadership Camp youth mentor, and Adelaide Elementary parent volunteer. I am also an active member of Christ the King Bible Fellowship.

My involvement in our community is for me to become better aware of people's needs and come up with innovative means to remedy them.

I strongly believe in city-led campaigns as a way to strengthen local businesses, fund human services, and develop youth programs. I champion our senior citizens' request to have "seniors only" hours at our community center. I will seek to ensure that road improvements are in place to protect school children and commuters who cross busy streets.

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

Advocacy, Compassion, Vision, Honesty

Advocacy - An elected official must be a representative of the electorate willing to take up the concerns of the people and create appropriate legislation or public policy. For example, Federal Way does not have a community center for seniors. Having spoken to many in this community; and now understanding their concerns, I will advocate on their behalf and make recommendations as to how our current community center can better serve the senior community. My proposal is for the community center to offer "senior only hours"

Compassion - An ability to understand the conditions which impact the quality of life for city residents, and having the desire to make changes to improve their quality life. I believe that there is value in human life. As a council member I will continue to meet with the community and involve myself in community activities so that I can recognize the needs of the community. I am compassionate about people and look forward to representing their needs in city council.

Vision - The ability to assess the future needs of the city and make changes today that will meet this future need. Moreover vision requires an ability to make a persuasive case articulating the future direction for Federal Way.

My vision for Federal Way includes providing the public better representation in government. City government must create an environment where residents feel a connection to city government. Currently, council members are elected at large without voting districts. To make government more representative, council seats need to be divided into districts, whereby voters in a district can elect a district representative.

Honesty - Elected officials are entrusted with great authority and responsibility. As such there is a duty to be honest with the public. Honesty as my grandfather taught me "is the best policy."

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.

In 1995, I was hired as a staff attorney at the law firm Society of Counsel. After 12 years of service, I was promoted to managing attorney. My duties include attorney training, establishing policy, contract compliance, vision setting, and serving as a mediator of client complaints. I report directly to the executive director. As a representative of the firm, I must hold meetings with judges, county officials, and other members of the legal community for the purpose of developing practices to enhance the legal system.

During my fifteen years of service to the community, I have learned oral advocacy, and now possess the ability to present compelling arguments on behalf of others. I have come to understand the concept of being an advocate. While advocating, I listen to the concerns my clients, and engage in problem solving. These skills directly correlate to being a city council member. City council members must identify city wide problems and offer solutions.

My second major accomplishment was graduating law school and passing the Washington State Bar. This required commitment, and diligence. Both of these endeavors were very challenging, but not insurmountable. A city council member must demonstrate a commitment to the process of making the city better for residents. I have demonstrated an ability to take on challenging tasks and have the capacity to accomplish goals.

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.

City of Federal Way Human Services Commission 2004 – present, Committee Chair 2007

Board member of R.O.Y.A.L, 2006 - present

Federal Way School District Heritage Leadership Camp mentor 2004 - present

Parent Volunteer at Adelaide Elementary, 2005 - present

Member of Alpha Phi Alpha, 1996 – present

As a Human Services Commissioner, I review applications from service providers seeking funding from the city of Federal Way. We review applications to determine whether the service to be offered will benefit city residents, and whether the service is cost effective. Service on this committee has allowed me to become knowledgeable about the human services needs of the Federal Way community. I have also gained experience in budget management.

Participation in the other listed community organizations have allowed me to enhance my leadership skills, and engage in community organizing.

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

The duty of a city council member is to be a representative of the citizens of Federal Way. They are entrusted with the responsibility of making decisions that will positively impact the city. Moreover city council is charged with being good stewards over city collected tax revenue, ensuring public safety, and providing opportunities to experience an exceptional quality of life.

The most important duty is providing representative government making sure that residents are provided a voice in their governance. Government was created by the people for the people.