

SECTION I

BASIC CANDIDATE INFORMATION

1. Mark Greene
2. King County Council, District 9
3. Not the incumbent
4. 4 years residency in Council District 9 (consecutive)
5. 9 years residency in King County (not consecutive)
6. Non-partisan
7. N/A

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Mark Greene for Council Committee

P.O. Box 612, Bellevue, WA 98009

phone: (425) 747-7966

No FAX no.

mark@partyofcommons.com

www.partyofcommons.com

POLITICAL BACKGROUND

No public office experience.

Campaigns:

Michigan House of Representatives - 1976

Minneapolis City Council - 1985

U.S. House of Representatives (Minnesota) - 1986

U.S. House of Representatives (Alaska) - 2000

U.S. House of Representatives (Alaska) - 2002

U.S. House of Representatives (Washington) - 2004

Newcastle City Council - 2007

Washington Secretary of State - 2008

(I WILL SEND THE CONFIDENTIAL SECTION BY MAIL ON 6/15/09)
SECTION II

1. I am running so that the fundamental concerns of the county will be met with old-fashioned wisdom and common sense, and I will be in a position to enact policies for the good of the entire county, as well as look out for the particular concerns of my district.

For instance, in case of a severe emergency such as a tsunami or an earthquake, the council should have a very detailed plan in place for evacuation and temporary housing, and should consider the worst case scenarios as they devise these plans. Only then will our county be in the best position to ride out the worst emergencies with as few negatives as possible.

I am also running so that environmental concerns will be a priority when making decisions related to the county. Environmental committees in appropriate departments of the county should be started and authorized to implement changes that will help the budget and improve the environment.

I am also running so that the enlightened and egalitarian ideas of which our Constitution has idealized and in which our society gains from can be continually emphasized instead of being shuttered off from governmental decision making. These aspects of society that gives societies their lasting foundation, such as the arts and community libraries and centers, and making sure that responding to the concerns of disparate communities are more or less balanced, should rank high in decision making.

2. I think the fact that I have experience through a very varied background in my life would help in the position of councilperson. I have lived extensively in cities, towns, suburbs and rural areas, and my adaptation skills have allowed me to adjust to each type of area in a positive way. These adaptation and flexibility skills would help me to gain from the experience, skills and wisdom of the people around me, especially my constituents.

I have a basically contrarian nature in the sense that when something seems too popular or too good to be true, I would try to find the underlying negative consequence of it. The council needs at least one person who will ask the hard questions or look for the underside of something that is not ordinarily questioned.

3. I have organized petition drives that required at least a thousand signatures each time and successfully made an establishment on the ballot that otherwise would not have been there. These were endeavors in which the law and regulations had to be followed, and guidelines met. Petition drives, by definition, means interacting with many people on a personal level. This is not something that can be done through electronic or technical means, but you must talk to people of every economic strata and oftentimes discuss issues with them. Then you must convince enough of them to sign the petition. This goes right along with what a councilperson must do: meet people, come up with an idea or make a proposal, discuss issues with them and try to reach a consensus through outright agreement or compromise.

Recently, this year, I have sponsored Initiative to the Legislature, serial number 432, which makes it easier for citizens to run for office, and it is presently being considered by the people of Washington for their signatures. I wrote the draft for Initiative to the Legislature, no. 432, which would effectively lower the election candidacy petition requirements for candidates that cannot afford to pay the filing fee, and I expect that the political skills necessary to get the approximately 250,000 signatures by 12/31/09, if only succeeding to bring this issue to the attention of the public, would come in handy as a councilperson.

4. In 2006, I organized the Party of Commons, a new political party. I appointed myself chairman and became the party's first candidate in 2008 for the position of Secretary of State in Washington. I received 22,800 votes across the state in the primary. Organizing a political party is hard work and takes a lot time and devotion. I must discuss issues with people constantly, communicate with the news media, write speeches and papers, publish websites and blogs, organize party meetings, recruit members, and create a party platform and guidelines. As a result of this endeavor, which I thought was important to give our state and our nation more fundamental choices as to how the government should perform, my personal free time has been significantly diminished. The kind of devotion in starting a political party is also the kind of public service that the public expects from a councilperson, as I don't consider this position as primarily a possible new career for myself, but first and foremost as a way to serve King County.

Prior to the inception of the Party of Commons in 2006, I started the Committee of Commons & Political Affairs in 2004. As chairman of this committee, which has been primarily active in South King County, I was the sponsor of a Congressional election political debate, in which I successfully managed to get the Washington state public affairs network in Olympia (TVW) to broadcast on television (the only televised 9th Congressional District debate in 2004, if not the only debate for the 9th District that year). I also started voter registration drives and generally helped to increase political activism in South King County.

5. Duties include representing constituents and responding to their concerns, overseeing

the budget, developing a working relationship with the County Executive, and basically making sure that the fundamental duties of the county are running smoothly.

Representing constituents and responding to their concerns is of the foremost importance, because the constituency sets the agenda and expectations for the county in the broadest sense. As a councilperson, I would seek to bring their agenda to the table, because that is my job in a representative democracy. I trust that my constituency has the most noblest intentions and high regard for how they want the county to be run.

As for overseeing the budget, my job is to run a tight fiscal ship so that the county will always have enough money to conduct basic services in the most severe economic downturns. In the present circumstances, there should be no money for fluff like printing and postage for councilpersons' newsletters, at least not more than one mailing a year, with the exception of extraordinary emergency information that should be mailed out regardless.

Working well with the County Executive is important, because the more that the council and the executive come to a consensus, the more smoothly that county government would run. However, this doesn't mean that the council should not assert itself if there is a disagreement. Learning from the experience and skills of our colleagues, generally, as well as from our constituents, would increase the stature of the entire council as a governmental institution that gets things done and generates respect from our county, state and nation.

(end of statement)