

## 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
Ron		Hansen

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

**Shoreline City Council Position 7**

3. Are you the incumbent?            X  Yes             No

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

**45**

5. How long have you resided in King County?

**46**

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

7. If partisan, please indicate party: **n**

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#### CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name:            **Friends of Ron Hansen**

Address:                      **20146 25<sup>th</sup> NW**

City/State/Zip:            **Shoreline WA 98177**

Campaign Phone:        **206-546-5417**

Campaign Fax:            **425-778-3189**

Campaign E-mail:        **ronhansenforcouncil@msn.com**

Campaign Website:

**RonHansenforcouncil.com (under construction)**

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#### 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)
Shoreline City Council	Elective	1995-present	Deputy Mayor, Mayor

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.)

**As a member of Shoreline's first council I have had the opportunity to put the city's governmental systems in place and in continuing councils to help bring the community's vision into reality. I firmly believe we have created a fiscally sound foundation and a very good management team that is responsive to citizen's needs and concerns. We have made and completed significant improvements to our parks, police, and surface water systems. I believe we have established a sound capital improvement program. Several significant projects have been very successfully implemented. However, especially in this time of economic turmoil, we must continue to be fiscally sound. At this time I am the only councilmember with four or more years of experience. While we must operate in a constrained manor, we still have major tasks in our pipeline that still need to be completed and I want to make certain that they are well done and not compromised. Also, because of my involvement in regional organizations this gives me the opportunity to influence**

**improvements for our entire region.**

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

**I believe I am a good listener, a team player, and a consensus builder. When presented with the facts, I believe I make decisions that benefit our community, and I am willing to accept responsibility for the outcomes.**

**I also believe that I can inject humor into tense situations thereby reducing negative emotions which hinder constructive discussion.**

**On several occasions I have been able to intercede on behalf of a citizen(s) with a specific problem(s) and bring resolution to their situation(s). Often it is a minor item for the city but something very significant to the individual(s) involved.**

**I am a very positive person: I usually am smiling and frequently singing, if not out loud then to myself. I have deep convictions and values that keep me from being influenced by special interest groups, power or wealth. I believe one needs to maintain the appearance of fairness as well as to be fair. To me perception is reality.**

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. Being part of the policy making that has kept Shoreline in a fiscally sound condition. We have been able to save money (i.e. operate our general fund and realize a surplus each year until 2008) for capital improvement projects and unexpected needs that might arise. My financial expertise has enabled me to ask and answer appropriate questions when we are creating our annual budget. I understand fund accounting and can help other council members walk through the process.**
- 2. Providing leadership that has given birth to several major additions to our Recreational facilities and parks as well as economic development. We have provided new gymnasium facilities, major sports field complexes, a recreational facility that teens enjoy, a skateboard park, a renovated swimming pool, an urban forest park and a significant arboretum and botanical park. Bringing major projects to a construction phase has taken leadership, cooperation, and consensus building. There has been a lot of public process and negotiation with private parties to evaluate and develop the plans for improving the infrastructure and attractiveness of our business corridors.**
- 3. Keeping long term commitments and relationships. I am most proud of my family and their investments in their communities. I have been married for almost 46 years and I have three adult children and three grandchildren. Some of us live in close proximity and while my oldest daughter and my grandchildren live in Luxemburg, we all interact continually. My wife and I work together in our tax preparation firm. She is also my campaign chair and treasurer. My family enjoys working together, playing together celebrating together and sharing our love together. We have a legacy of giving back to our communities.**

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.

**Member of the King County Regional Water Committee 2008 to present, serve on the Local King County Hazardous Waste Management Committee 2008 to present, serve as representative to the North and East Cities jail siting advisory committee 2008 to present, past president(2007) and past treasurer(2005,2006) of Suburban Cities Association, serve on the Operations committee and the Executive Board of the Puget Sound Regional Council 1999 to present, current president elect of the Shoreline Rotary and served as an officer and board member for 14 years, former member of the Shoreline and Edmonds Chambers of Commerce for approximately 10 years, Edmonds Exchange Club member for approximately 8 years, Boy Scouts of America and a former Evergreen Area Council assistant director, Girl Scouts of America presenter and advisor, supervised a company for Junior Achievement, participated in Job Therapy a one on one program to help rehabilitate prison inmates, past president and past treasurer of Sno-King Kiwanis where I served for thirteen years, Promise Keepers, 2002 Exemplary ERO for Washington State, presenter of IRS seminars on electronic filing, Shoreline/Lake Forest Park Arts Council, member of the Foundation Board of Shoreline Community College 1997 to present, Richmond Beach Community Council, Shoreline-Lake Forest Park Mayor-Council Prayer Breakfast – speaker and 2005 MC, active member of Shoreline Community Church for 24 years, play “Santa” for a local Korean Church 2000 to present, staff auditor for Arthur Young & Company for 1963 to 1968, former partner and now sole owner of Hansen & McLaughlin, 1969 to present.**

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

**The primary function of a councilmember is to make policy. Policies are the ground rules for operating the community (city). It is the duty of the council member to get input from citizens, city staff, citizen’s groups, advisory committees, businesses, etc. Then a further extension of the primary duty is oversight. The council members are responsible for making sure the policies are being followed.**

**A secondary duty (actually a part of the primary function) is to approve the annual budget. This should set the tone for city operations for the next year.**

**Another function that I consider my duty is to respond to citizens comments and especially complaints to make certain that their issues are addressed by city staff. As part of that it is important to remember it is the staff that will perform administrative functions and not the councilmember. Finally, to be truly effective, the council has to function as a team.**

**My goals as a council member and citizen of Shoreline are to have a fiscally sound government, a city responsive to the community, and to improve the quality of life for all who live here. I am not concerned about how the credit for accomplishing these goals is distributed; my objective is to see them happen. A council is a team. As a team member of the city council since its inception in May of 1995 we have**

- 1. Met our Growth Management Act goals**
- 2. Established a comprehensive plan and reconciled our zoning codes to that plan**
- 3. Operated at a surplus in our general Fund every year since inception until 2008**
- 4. Increased police visibility and reduced crime**
- 5. Made substantial improvements to Shoreline’s parks**
- 6. Established an overlay program for our roads**
- 7. Solved surface water problems that had been ongoing for many years**
- 8. Began implementation processes on other major surface water projects**

9. **Approved a significant sub area development plan**
10. **Have in process a development and improvement plan for the Aurora corridor**
11. **Have completed the Interurban Trail**
12. **Enhanced citizen involvement and information by a city website and cable TV**
13. **Improved citizen awareness through televised council meetings**
14. **Increased communication by newspaper updates and city "Owner's Manual"**
15. **Supported an active neighborhoods council**
16. **Expanded our regional presence by involvement in SCA, AWC, NLC, PSRC, and by direct contact with other city, county, state, and federal administrators and legislators.**