

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
Fred		Jarrett

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

King County Executive

3. Are you the incumbent? No

4. How long have you resided in this district/city? 49 Years

5. How long have you resided in King County? 49 Years

6. Is the office sought partisan or nonpartisan? Nonpartisan

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

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name: **Jarrett for County Executive**

Address: **P.O. Box 463**

City/State/Zip: **Mercer Island, WA 98040**

Campaign Phone: **425-392-8122**

Campaign Fax: **N/A**

Campaign E-mail: **info@vote4fred.com**

Campaign Website: **www.vote4fred.com**

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)
State Senate	Elected	Jan 2008 - Present	Higher Ed/Workforce Development
State Representative	Elected	2001 - 2008	Ranking Member – Transportation and Capital Budget

Mercer Island City Council Mercer Island School Board	Elected Elected	1980 – 1996 1999 - 2001	

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

Office Title	Year of Run
State Senate	1996

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?

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 am running for King County Executive because of my belief that government is important and can be a positive and powerful force in making our region and communities a better place to live, work and raise a family. I am running because King County is in need of significant change and the kind of bipartisan leadership I have consistently delivered as an elected official.

My background and experience as a private sector manager, mayor, city council member, school board member, Chair of the Metro Council, Chair of the Joint Regional Planning Committee, state representative and state senator has uniquely equipped me to take on the significant challenges King County faces.

I want to restore a sense of fiscal discipline at King County and change the focus from top-down prescriptive programs that measure success by what level of resources we invest in programs to a more collaborative approach that involves our regional partners, measures actual results and makes possible a greater level of accountability. I want to bring the county's cost structure under control and focus on delivering those core regional services for which the county is responsible.

I want to get Metro Transit's costs under control and transform that agency into a world-class public transportation system. I want to put in place a system that puts buses where they will move the most people and where we want development to occur rather than by a fixed sub-area political formula.

I want to create an environment that encourages private investment in this region by bringing greater predictability to the county's permitting system and keeping taxes at a level conducive to economic growth.

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

I have the ability to look at organizations as systems rather than a series of silos. I have a demonstrated ability to bring together diverse interests to form working coalitions. I have a long record of working in a bipartisan way to solve problems without worrying about who gets credit.

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.

I am proud of my work on the Basic Education Finance Joint Task Force. After several years of hard work we successfully faced the challenge of creating a new definition for basic education and revising the way the state pays for kindergarten through 12th grade. The reform brought about by our work is a major positive step toward education reform in Washington State. I was proud to be a part of the “working together” environment necessary to create the broad base of support for these important reforms.

As mayor of Mercer Island I moved the city council from a body that split 5 – 4 on most every major issues that came before the council - to a council that worked as a team for the betterment of the community. The principle that drove this change was the recognition and acknowledgement that each member had been elected by the citizens of Mercer Island and thusly represented valid community interests. This team approach resulted in the leader of one of the previous council fractions being unanimously elected mayor when I stepped down and the delivery of more capital projects during my last 6 years on the council than in the first 25 years of citihood.

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.

I have a long history of community involvement that reflects my deep commitment to this region and my community. While a full-time employee at the Boeing Company I served on the Mercer Island City Council, as mayor, on the school board and as a state legislator. I also served on the Mercer Island PTSA, Mercer Island Charitable Fund and Boeing Employees Good Neighbors, Suburban Cities Association, Metro Council, Puget Sound Regional Council and King County Growth Management Policy Council. I currently represent the 41st legislative district in the state senate.

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

The King County Executive serves as the chief executive officer of the county and exercises all executive power not expressly vested in another elected official by the county charter. The executive proposes and presents to the council the county’s annual budget setting forth programs and policies, proposes comprehensive plans to guide the growth and development of the county and supervises all county administrative and executive offices.

I believe the most important duties of the next executive should be the development of a fiscally responsible budget, transforming Metro Transit into a world-class transportation agency with strong linkages to the region's growth management goals, creating a bottom-up, collaborative policy and program development system that focuses on results rather than input and developing the kind of regional partnerships necessary to move the county more aggressively toward its role as a provider of regional services by encouraging incorporations and annexations.