

## 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
Thomas	T.	Odell

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

**Sammamish City Council, Position #7**

3. Are you the incumbent?       Yes      X No

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

**19.5 Years**

5. How long have you resided in King County?

**Same**

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

7. If partisan, please indicate party:

#### CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name:      Tom Odell for Council

Address:      2831 220<sup>th</sup> Place NE

City/State/Zip:      Sammamish, WA 98074

Campaign Phone:      (425) 868-3635

Campaign Fax:      N/A

Campaign E-mail:      Odell4Council@gmail.com

Campaign Website:      Odell4Council.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)

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 result of attending most of the Sammamish City Council meetings for the past year and a half I have become very familiar with the major issues facing the city. It has become apparent to me as well as many others during the past year that the city would be well served by an infusion of new blood, new ideas, and a fresh perspective on many of these problems. Many current Council members, including my opponent, have been on the Council since the city was incorporated 10 years ago this August. My opponent has consistently voted for projects that are both expensive and of dubious value to the city when there are other needs that others feel to be of higher priority go unmet.**

**In declaring my candidacy I seek to bring about a positive change to the Sammamish City Council. There are three issues – “hot button items” – that are the foundation for my campaign:**

- 1. Improving Traffic Congestion and Providing Transportation Alternatives- I would substantially revise and limit the scope of the East Lake Sammamish Parkway Project to release city funds for transportation and city priorities**
- 2. Reprioritizing City Spending – away from “nice to have” items to focus on those items truly needed by the city and which would improve the quality of life for city residents. These include items such as maintenance of existing road infrastructure.**
- 3. Providing for a Community Center and other badly needed services such as youth counseling and increased youth activities. Thirty percent of the city is under 18 years of age; there is a very poor YMCA, no Boys and Girls Club, and teen counseling services are woefully lacking.**

2. Describe your most important personal characteristics or traits as they relate to the office you seek.
- **I have exhibited a very good ability to listen to my customers, both past and future, and determine what THEY want and need.**
  - **I am very analytical but still big picture oriented.**
  - **I have a demonstrated ability to plan large, multifaceted projects.**
  - **I can manage multifunctional teams on a cross-matrix basis dealing with complex issues.**
  - **I have a well-developed sense of fairness.**
  - **I am diligent with assigned duties and will come to meetings prepared.**
  - **I am dedicated and focused.**
  - **I have the ability to back off and take a fresh tack/perspective on old problems.**
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. **The restructuring of the Northwest Airlines route system from a linear network to a hub and spoke system. This was accomplished under the most difficult of circumstances during the PATCO air traffic controllers' strike in the 1980s. The result was a sharp increase in NWA US market share as well as a major improvement in asset productivity and consequent positive impact on profitability.**
  2. **Helping to successfully sell the 767-300ER and 747-400 to Air France against heavy commercial opposition by Airbus and a political headwind from the French government.**
  3. **Convincing a key Chinese airline (China Southern) to agree to purchase the 787. This was a key to getting all of the other significant mainland China air carriers to proceed with a purchase of 65 aircraft.**
  4. **Successfully negotiating delivery delay compensation claims with several of Boeing's European launch customers for the 737NG when that program led to serious delivery delay issues and a major financial impact on the airlines in Europe that were most important to Boeing on this program.**

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.

**Heavy international travel commitments (travel to Europe or Asia every 3 – 4 weeks for 7 – 10 days) with my Boeing career severely limited my ability to participate in many community activities. Nonetheless I still made every effort possible to attend and support my two children’s academic and extracurricular school activities when I was at home.**

**Professionally I have acted as a mentor to other younger Boeing managers as well as acting as a consultant and advisor to Chinese airlines as they adapted to Western airline management techniques.**

**Also while at Boeing I spent 5 years as the marketing director for an advanced aircraft project with responsibility for recommending design requirements as well as making recommendations for whether to proceed with the project based on economic viability considerations.**

**During the airline portion of my career I was in charge of significant airline network restructuring activities during which I reported directly to very senior corporate management. I have developed major connecting hubs at Atlanta, Detroit, Memphis, and Minneapolis. In addition, I spent 3 years as a division financially comptroller with financial management responsibility for an operating budget exceeding \$60 million per month plus a very sizeable capital budget.**

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

**The most important duty for the Council member is to find a way to meet the most important needs of the city’s residents while maintaining close control of fiduciary issues. Major Responsibilities include public safety and welfare, financial management, and fostering the sort of development that fits with the needs and nature of the community and region.**