

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
Beverly	L	Harison Tonda

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

King County Council District 9 Position

3. Are you the incumbent? Yes No

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

50 years

5. How long have you resided in King County?

50 years

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

7. If partisan, please indicate party:

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name: **Beverly Harison Tonda**

Address: **21680 227th Place SE**

City/State/Zip: **Maple Valley WA 98038**

Campaign Phone: **206-423-8119**

Campaign Fax: _____

Campaign E-mail: **Run4district9@yahoo.com**

Campaign Website: **Being developed**

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)
Greater Maple Valley Unincorporated Area Council	Elected	January 2008-January 2010	Recording Secretary on the Executive Team

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.)

I am running for this position because I believe that the incumbent does not address the concerns of our community, and this has been demonstrated first hand in our neighborhood. For three years he has ignored the environmental issues in relationship to 227th Place SE in Maple Valley, the need for our road to remain public so that the community can access the King County bike trail, the need for the public ROW for regional transportation as it was deeded to King County by the railroad, and the need for the ROW to remain clear as the movement of game along the Cedar River has been impacted. I don't believe he is concerned with addressing environment concerns in our community unless it is his best interest politically.

In addition, the incumbent lacks experience in flood control and emergency services. I've lived through three major floods in the area, and understand the importance of educating the community. In a major disaster emergency relief will go to the urban areas, and we do not currently have community leaders in place to assist the Office of Emergency Management. Most of our community was at work during the flood, and didn't realize their land and homes were flooding. It was eye opening to the new residents in our community, and fortunately there were enough people in the area that knew what to do so that homes were saved.

My husband and I have developed three parcels in South King County, and have been delayed by the Growth Management Act, Critical Area Ordinance, DDES, The Civil division of the Prosecuting Attorney's office, and the Transportation Department. We were ignored by Mr. Dunn. I know more about developing land in King County than many of the employees that work for King County. I see inefficiencies in our government, and am confident that I can make change.

I attend public meetings, give testimony, and educate myself on what the issues are. 10% of high school tenth graders admit to having gang affiliation. I've experienced the difficulties of gang affiliation in my own family, and understand the importance of community involvement. I know I can work with the Prosecuting Attorney's Office and Sheriff's Office to reduce gang activity because I am already familiar with the players.

I am a member of the League of Women Voters where we study water quality, and am concerned about water quality and protecting the surrounding rivers as well as groundwater

resources. I support the watershed approach, and my husband and I are rural stewards. I want to encourage others to become land stewards.

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

I do my homework. I am working with my third Prosecuting Attorney on protecting our right to use a public road, and have represented by husband and I as the Attorney-in-Fact without a law degree for four years. I get the facts, present my perspective, try to prove myself wrong, if I can't then I attempt to reach consensus. What I've learned in the last four years is that there is a difference between the truth, and the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. I look for win/win outcomes, and take a Native American approach to conflict resolution. My great Grandmother was Cherokee, and I have done work with the tribes in the area. I'm certified to teach through First Nations in the Native American Community, and I tell people that I can run in any crowd. I try to put myself in the other person's shoes, and see things from their perspective. The ability to see things from multiple perspectives is what has made me successful. I excel at conflict resolution.

I've traveled to other countries on vacation, and work throughout the United States. I'm knowledgeable on cultural and religious differences, and understand the importance of representation from all groups in a community. District 9 needs someone who excels at diversity recruitment in order to fill local boards. I'm good at reaching out to people, and soliciting help from the right people. Surrounding myself with good people is what makes me successful in life, and I would like to see more people become involved in our community groups.

I'm a certified Senior Professional in Human Resources, and have hired over 5,000 people throughout the state. I was a regional HR supervisor for a major retailer in Washington, and set up and implemented new store hiring processes. I understand the importance of Title 7 of the Civil Rights Act, and live it on a daily basis even though my current responsibilities do not include hiring. When you give people respect, you resolve issues. I see a lack of respect for the citizens in King County, and have experienced first had the grading scale of people within King County Government. My leadership talent is to break down walls and change culture. The culture within King County Government needs to change because we are not generating the revenue we need to continue to operate in the same way. I do not support raising taxes unless it is for Regional Transportation. We need to look at reducing expenses like private industry has done, and not allow King County Government to get bigger in relationship to revenue generated.

I buy into Teamwork, Respect, Accountability, Integrity, and Leadership, and I live these values in both my personal and professional life yet I am assertive enough to stand up for what I believe in.

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. I was the upset in the 2008 election of the Greater Maple Valley Unincorporated Area Council. We are the only UAC that holds an election, and I defeated the Chairperson of the Council. My family was my greatest supporters, and encouraged me to run for the office even though people in the community and the members themselves felt I wouldn't win. I did, and I was immediately elected to the Executive Team. We accomplished more as a group in the last year than in previous years. Our reputation in King County has also improved. People trust me, I always get the job done right the first time, and I am an advocate for people.

2. I put myself through college, and graduated from the University of Washington's School of Business Administration. Upon graduation I was immediately promoted to a HR Manager, and worked at that company until I needed to improve my skill set. I left this company and worked in the same industry, but at other companies for about three years. When the Regional Human Resource Supervisor position opened up, I was recruited back to the company where my HR career began. When I was recruited back and promoted to a Regional Supervisor my region of 24 stores had the highest Human Rights Complaints and the lowest Customer Service Scores. When I left the organization because I was recruited to my current employer, I had the highest Customer Service Scores and the lowest Human Rights Complaints. I sat on the negotiating team for our union contracts, and avoided strikes during my tenure. If you ask the people that know me best they will say that I've had a very successful professional career given the ups and downs of HR.

3. I'm actively involved with King County Government through the GMVUAC, and attend the King County Council meetings in person whenever I can. I adjust my work schedule, and take vacation in order to attend. I've read the King County Comprehensive Plan, and through the UAC provided an in-depth analysis. I understand the importance of maintaining the Urban Growth Boundary, and have advocated to keep urban infrastructure that conflicts with the Comp. Plan out of the rural areas. I look forward to working with Kathy Lambert as our districts have a lot in common. I currently serve on the Transportation and Land-Use committees of the GMVUAC. I've been in leadership roles in the workplace from the time I was 19. I look forward to serving the citizens of District 9.

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.

In addition, my resume and what I've said above I coordinated the Walk America Checkpoint for Fred Meyer in Pierce County. More than 2000 people came through the checkpoint. I also coordinated the community events for our region and stores during my tenure at Fred Meyer as well as the other companies I've worked for. 1990-2003

I belong to the Puget Sound Diversity Taskforce, and was a Board Member until my business travel prevented me from attending the meetings. 1997-present.

I support the Urban League, and make a point of attending the annual meeting. 2001 to present.

I've work with Native American communities on Financial Services projects for my current employer. 2005-2008

I am a Friend of the Cedar River, and recycle in all areas of life. My family and friends are making my campaign signs out of recycled materials.

My goal is to run a financially responsible campaign as I don't believe you should have to buy your way onto the King County Council. My volunteer coordinator and I are going to design our own website and my family and friends are helping in any way that they can. I've very good at budgeting and coming up with creative solutions, and I hope to spend less than \$5,000 on my campaign.

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

King County Councilmember's determine future rules in King County, and must approve or not approve any changes to the charter and the governing rules in King County through the ordinance process.

Ensuring that the King County Comprehensive Plan is followed. I view the Comprehensive Plan as the rules of order that must be followed until changes are made.

Working with the different departments in King County to ensure that the citizens are treated fairly. All public meetings I attend there are citizens with issues that have been ignored by our current leaders.

Ensuring that King County complies with changes in Federal and State regulations because we have to.

I feel that it is an obligation of the elected official to advocate that new codes include variance options for non-traditional housing that can be used for low income individuals or the homeless. I support mobile home parks, and creative housing that other countries have designed.

I believe that it is the responsibility of the citizens as well as the government to ensure that the majority of citizens have shelter, food, water, and a safe home. We seem to be digressing in this area again because we didn't plan for cyclical downturns in the business cycle as well

as the current state of the economy. Creating a reserve fund after an economical downturn is like chasing a bus on foot that's rolling down a hill. Our current leaders did not plan for the bad times, and I take issue with that.