

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
AI		Yuen

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

Seattle Port Commissioner, position #3

3. Are you the incumbent? Yes No

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

45 years

5. How long have you resided in King County?

45 years

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

7. If partisan, please indicate party:

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name: AI Yuen for Seattle Port Commisiioner

Address: 618 174th PI. NE

City/State/Zip: Bellevue, WA 98008

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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)
Bellevue Transportation Commission	Appointed	2002-2008	Chair
Bellevue Waterfront Advisory Board	Appointed	2008	Board
Seattle Sister City Board	Appointed	1994-2007	President

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

Office Title	Year of Run
Seattle Port Commissioner	1999 & 2001?

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 want the position of Seattle Port Commissioner because I know I can help better the Port's facility and operation. I have the knowledge, experience and the desire to help change the port's lack of trust image by the citizens of King County, improve trade and shipping with the Pacific rim counties, create jobs for the skill and un-skill workers, solution to our freight mobility congestion and overseeing the environment cleanup work we need in are air, soil and waterways. Limiting the pollution to our port facility created by ship and planes arriving and leaving our ports. I have management skills, international trade and relations experience, transportation experience, leadership and most of all I have the time and desire to serve. I will expand more on my ability when I have a chance to meet with your committee.

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

I have always believed in giving back more than you receive. I am a good listener and have a thirst to learn. As a Seattle Port Commissioner gives me the opportunity to give back to the communities. I know I can give a lot of my knowledge and time to this position, more so than my opponents' who are still working hard to making a living. I also have a gift that I possess, and that is a cheerful personality and easy to get along with attitude. I have traveled overseas representing Seattle and State of Washington and have been told many of times that I left places I visited with a great impression and develop a great friendship with our host. This type of attitude can help open many doors for trade and shipping here to Seattle.

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.

The first is my children. Good citizens working hard and contributing to society.

My second and most accomplishment had been building a nursing home for the Chinese elderly. Over the years living in Seattle, I heard and seen many Chinese family tell me stories of how the elderly live such a short elderly life due to the care they receive when they are ill. Most needing help are immigrants with little or no English speaking skills. Place into a nursing home unable to ask for help, unfamiliar diet such as dairy products, cereals, potatoes. They grew up eating rice, congee, preserve meats and fish. They die from lack of love and familiar nourishment.

With my management and leadership skills, I called on a group of my friends from both the Chinese and Japanese communities to help develop a nursing home for the Chinese elderly. My Chinese friends to sell the idea to the Chinese Community, and my Japanese friends to give us the knowledge on how they develop their nursing home and help us limit the mistake the Japanese Community made during their developing process. After three years of hard work, "Kin On" (Happiness) Nursing Home was open and had a waiting list within the first year. This was one of the best things that had happen in the Chinese Community for decades. It now serves more than just the Chinese Community and still has a waiting list for beds.

The other accomplishment is when I was given the honor of Seafair's King Neptune 42nd in 1973. I was the first person of color in 42 years to receive this honor. During that period of time, the King of Seafair was a one year commitment. During this same period, the Director of Seafair was an advocate of developing a relationship with foreign countries to visit Seattle and participate in our Summer Seafair events. I was given the support by the Executive Board of Seafair to travel oversee (mostly by my own expense) and be a "Goodwill Ambassador" to Mexico, Canada, Taiwan, China, and Japan and visit many of the cities in those countries. I was able to develop great relationship with those countries and still maintain a close relation with many high ranking officials to this day. I

travel overseas with many of our own dignitaries such as Seattle Mayor, many Seattle City Council members, Seattle and Tacoma Port Commissioner and Washington Governor just to mention a few. This has brought many dignitaries and visitors to Seattle. It also included over 1000 delegates traveling from Taiwan to Seattle to participate in Seafair's 50 anniversary celebration. No one expected such a turnout. I was invited to Taiwan last year as a special guest to be in a part of a special celebration.

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.

As President of the Seattle Chinese Chamber of Commerce, I learn how to reach out to other areas outside of the Chinese Community in cooperation in helping improve community living standards, fight crime, drug dealers, and find resources to help the needy, educate and learn different cultures of living and the need for friendship.

As President of Seattle Sister City to Taiwan and Mexico for 15 years, I've learned how important international trade is to the economy of the world and friendship it brings.

As Transportation Commissioner for the City of Bellevue, mobility is a complex issue that is not easy to manage. I have had 5 plus years sitting on the commission working through issues of traffic congestions, high occupancy transit, issues with 405, 520 and the bridge, I-90, Sound Transit, bridges across 405, just to mention a few. Will be glad to expand in these issues.

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

The duties of the Port Commissioner are to establish port policy. In order to do the job, you must have certain management skills, knowledge and the understanding of the operation to establish policies. I have those skills to be a good policy maker. Research and understanding complexity of the issues and decision making outcome must be analyzed before setting the policy.

I have a business background.

I have management experience.

I have Transportation mobility analysis experience

I have International Trade and relations experience

I know proper protocol while visiting with our overseas friends during their visit to our port facilities.

I have a "people person" personality.

I have no problem in reaching out to the community for opinions.

I have the time to serve.