

2010 Candidate Questionnaire

SECTION I

BASIC CANDIDATE INFORMATION

1. Name as it will appear on the ballot

First Name	Middle Initial or Nickname	Last Name
Jim		Ferrell

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

Federal Way Mayor

3. Are you the incumbent? Yes No

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

18 years

5. How long have you resided in King County?

18 years

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

7. If partisan, please indicate party:

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name: Jim Ferrell for Mayor

Address: PO Box 26492

City/State/Zip: Federal Way, Washington 98093

Campaign Phone: 253-569-4482

Campaign Fax: _____

Campaign E-mail: jimaferrell@comcast.net

Campaign Website: www.voteferrell.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)
Federal Way City Council	Elected	1/2004 – Present	Deputy Mayor (2006-2007)

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

Office Title	Year of Run
Washington State House of Representatives	2002

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 have a long-term vision for the City of Federal Way, and the newly-created office of strong mayor, which will include an emphasis on the following:

1. **Downtown economic development – A revitalized city core is necessary to provide a sense of center for this community. My vision will bring additional living-wage jobs and greater revenues to the city. As elected mayor, I will serve as an ambassador for this community to recruit businesses and higher educational institutions to invest in Federal Way to create the synergy we need to get Federal Way moving forward.**
2. **Investing in public safety to ensure we have crime free public spaces - As a member of the City Council, I have called for a police sub-station at the Federal Way Transit Center to provide a consistent and ongoing police presence at the downtown location. People will only invest in the City if they feel safe here, and this is a critical step in the revitalization and development of our core downtown. I will also call for an increased focus on quality of life crimes like burglaries, car theft and graffiti.**
3. **Responsible Fiscal Management - As the elected Mayor, I will ask two fundamental questions before pursuing them: First, given the current economic climate, is it a true necessity for the City? Secondly, is this the role of city government? If both are answered, then I will meet with my colleagues on the council to achieve them.**

Lastly, I am running because I have the leadership qualities to work collaboratively with the council and the community to seek input and assistance to move forward on our shared vision for the future.

My experience as a city council member for the past 6 ½ years, two of them as Deputy Mayor, and as a community volunteer before that will give me the knowledge and insight to serve as the Mayor of Federal Way. In addition, my experience as the spokesperson and leader of the Yes Campaign for Mayor also demonstrates my ability to work with others to accomplish a goal and the character to stand up for what I believe in.

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

The most important personal characteristics that I would bring to the position include leadership, diplomacy and the courage to stand up for what I believe is the best for the City of Federal Way.

As a leader, it is important to possess these qualities and I believe I have shown leadership on our Council and in the community, while also working collaboratively with my colleagues and key stakeholders in the community. A key test of leadership is standing up for what you believe is right, especially if it is not popular to do so. The people depend on their elected leaders to lead, not choose the most politically expedient path if it will not serve the people well.

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. **Bringing light rail to 272nd Street (Federal Way) – Led effort through Council Resolution and then through testimony before the Sound Transit Board in 2008, to bring proposed light rail track to 272nd. This was a major accomplishment for our City and one in which I played a pivotal role.**
 2. **Government reform to elect our leaders:**
 - A. **Led the effort and proposal to elect our municipal court judges by demonstrating to my colleagues on the council why and how the law required this and how it amounts to government reform for greater access and accountability.**
 - B. **Spearheaded effort to elect our Mayor: This is a position I believe in, regardless of who occupies the post. While this was controversial, I stood up for what I believed in, to give the people of this community a voice and a choice in the selection of the chief executive of our City. I viewed this as government reform and a reflection of the ever growing and maturation of this city. Now, the people will have greater access to their elected mayor and can truly hold that person accountable. I led this grass-roots effort that has changed the very nature of our city government. My leadership in that effort also demonstrated my ability to marshal resources and ideas for a common purpose.**
 3. **Led effort to create two ground-breaking domestic violence laws – (Domestic Violence in the Presence of Minor Children and Domestic Violence by Strangulation). These are the only domestic violence laws in the state to have mandatory minimum jail terms. These laws provide greater protection of domestic violence victims and the innocent children often caught in the wake of these crimes.**

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.

1. **Multi-Service Center Board of Directors (1995-2005)**
 - **While serving on the Board I volunteered to teach a U.S. Citizenship class for four years between 1996-2000.**
 - **Assisted with Capital Campaigns to raise money for center.**
2. **Home Owners Association – Secretary**
 - **Attended meetings and helped set policy and organized events; and took minutes.**
3. **YMCA – Youth in Government State Board (2006-2007)**
4. **YMCA – State Mock Trial High School Championships Judge (1996-2009)**
5. **Precinct Committee Officer – 30th District Republican Party (2002-Present)**
6. **Vice Chairperson, King County Republican Party (2002-2003)**
7. **President of the King County Prosecutors Deputy Guild/Union (2005-2006, two terms)**
8. **Vice President of King County Prosecutors Deputy Guild/Union (2004-2005, two terms)**
9. **South King County Advisory Board for Secretary of State’s Office (2010)**

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

As CEO of the City of Federal Way, the following areas are most important:

- **Budgeting: Presenting a responsible and fiscally conservative budget for our city.**
- **Vision: Providing leadership, a true vision and path to get there for the 88,000 citizens of Federal Way and the city staff who serve them.**
- **Accountability: As Mayor, I would strive to serve as an ombudsman for the people of this community, and respond proactively to citizen concerns.**
- **Leadership: In my professional background, I have learned that inspiring those around you to do great things and have amazing consequences. In addition to managing senior level staff and providing direction for department heads, I would seek to inspire all city employees to do their level best everyday.**
- **Ambassador: As Mayor I would seek out businesses and private enterprise to invest in this city, to bring jobs and investment to our city. This would also entail representing the city in Olympia, at regional boards and in Washington D.C., to bring vital dollars to our community.**
- **Collaboration: A Mayor cannot succeed without the cooperation and collaboration of the City Council. I will work closely with the Council to ensure that their ideas and input are part of the process moving forward. People support what they help create, and in this way, working together, we can do great things for our community. In the end it’s not about who gets the credit. It’s about what we can accomplish together.**