

## 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
Linda	Louise	Kochmar

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

**Mayor, City of Federal Way, 30<sup>th</sup> District**

3. Are you the incumbent?                    X Yes    No (I am the Mayor currently elected by the Council.)

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

**35 years**

5. How long have you resided in King County?

**35 years**

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

7. If partisan, please indicate party:

#### CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name:                    Citizens for Kochmar

Address:                                P.O. Box 4981

City/State/Zip:                    Federal Way, WA 98063-4981

Campaign Phone:                253-839-7419

Campaign Fax:                    None

Campaign E-mail:                [Linda@LindaKochmar.com](mailto:Linda@LindaKochmar.com)

Campaign Website:              [www.LindaKochmar.com](http://www.LindaKochmar.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, Position 2	Elected	1997 - Present	Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chair of Finance, Chair of Parks/Human Services/Regional Affairs, Chair of Land Use Committees
Suburban Cities Association	Elected	2009 - 2010	Chair of Public Issues Committee-Elected by 40 Council Members
Airport Communities Coalition	Appointed	1997 - 2007	Regional committee working on issues regarding Sea-Tac Airport.
Regional Municipal Solid Waste	Appointed	2000	King County solid waste issues.

<b>Regional Policy Committee</b>	<b>Appointed</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>King County regional policy Issues.</b>
<b>National League of Cities Public Safety &amp; Crime Prevention</b>	<b>Appointed</b>	<b>2007 – 2008</b>	<b>NLC committee working on crime prevention &amp; security issues.</b>
<b>Federal Way Incorporation Committee</b>	<b>Appointed</b>	<b>1989</b>	<b>Secretary of successful incorporation of Federal Way.</b>
<b>Federal Way Community Council</b>	<b>Elected</b>	<b>1979</b>	<b>Community Council worked on land use issues for city.</b>

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

<b>Office Title</b>	<b>Year of Run</b>
<b>Not applicable</b>	

## 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.)

**When I first moved to Federal Way area in 1972, I noticed that the community looked dirty and lacked good community planning. I began to volunteer in my church and children's schools and eventually was elected to the Community Council in 1979, where I worked on land use planning and getting a hospital for Federal Way. In 1989, I was a member of the successful incorporation committee that won the vote for cityhood. In 1997 I was elected as a member of the Federal Way City Council and since that time have been actively involved in creating a beautiful community we can be proud to call home.**

**The City of Federal Way just celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and I am honored to have had a part in many of the decisions made to improve the community. We've changed the zoning, created and revised a community plan, and improved the streets, including planting street trees, street lights, and medians. We've built a beautiful city hall, including a police department and municipal court for \$16,000,000 (that is now paid for), and a stunning community center with two pools, a workout room, three-bay gym, child care center, and a banquet room.**

**Our city has over 350 employees with a \$42,000,000 budget. Because of the current economic challenges, we need to work on increasing our revenues. The city is in the process of selling a 4.1 acre property that it owns to a developer who will build three high-rise buildings with a public park in the middle of the complex. This will provide a \$350,000,000 infusion of cash in our downtown. I am running for Mayor to ensure that our city will continue to thrive and develop as an urban growth area and to provide a vibrant downtown that will create jobs for our citizens.**

**The Mayor needs to be an Ambassador for the City, and a person who can work collaboratively with the council and staff. The Mayor should also be the representative for the city in regional, state, and national affairs. I believe that I am uniquely qualified for this position, and that I have the education, experience, desire, and dedication to lead our city through its next critical stage of growth.**

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

**I believe that I have the integrity, ethics, honesty, leadership skills, and the ability to work collaboratively with others that are so important for a person in the position of Mayor.**

**The Mayor is the Chief Executive Officer of the city and the person whom others will turn to for help, advice, vision, and leadership. The values of the organization should always begin at the top.**

**I also believe in servant-leadership, where the leader is a member of the organization whom others want to follow because they admire and respect that person. I've always tried to be a person who cares about others, works hard to do a good job, and wants to be proud of the work when done. I believe the Mayor should be a person whom others can admire and respect. I intend to be that person.**

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.

**Examples of Accomplishments in Developing the City:**

**When the City of Federal Way first incorporated, the first City Council rented a building to be used as City Hall. When I was elected to the council, we immediately began discussing a permanent City Hall. Some Council Members wanted a City Hall built in the downtown core at a cost of up to \$50 million. I argued against the costly project and the Council eventually agreed to purchase and remodel an existing building at a cost of \$16 million. This then allowed the Council to build a badly needed community center because the City's public pool was closing down and the city needed a new pool. The community center has a wave action pool, a lap pool, an exercise room, three bay gym, a child care center, a climbing wall, a community living room, and a banquet room. I was involved in all of the decisions to build both buildings.**

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.

**Examples of Leadership:**

**I was elected by approximately 40 Council Members to be Chair of the Public Issues Committee for the Suburban Cities Association. I lead these council members in monthly discussions on policies that affect all of the suburban cities in King County.**

**I've also been appointed Chair of the following Council Committees for the City of Federal Way:**

- **Finance/Economic/Regional Affairs Committee, Chair**
- **Parks/Recreation/Human Services/Public Safety Committee, Chair**
- **Land Use and Planning Committee, Chair**

**I was elected Deputy Mayor twice and currently serve as the Mayor elected by my colleagues.**

**Prior to serving on the council, I was elected to the Community Council and served on the City Incorporation Committee. I have also been elected to the Administrative Council for my church, served on the PTA, and served on community Boards and committees. I have a Bachelor's Degree, and am a nationally certified Risk Manager. I have been named a Woman of Distinction by the Soroptomist's and a NCEA Distinguished Graduate.**

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

**The Mayor is the Chief Executive Officer of the City. The Mayor oversees all of the administrative functions of the city, but delegates the day-to-day operation to the Chief Administrative Officer. The Mayor develops the vision for the city in collaboration with the Council Members and oversees the Budget, which are two of the most important duties of the Mayor. This is because the vision will provide the direction for the city and the budget will determine whether the vision can be accomplished.**

**Also important is the fact that the Mayor is the chief presiding officer at all Council meeting. The Mayor has the power to make policy recommendations to the Council and approve or veto ordinances passed by the Council. In addition, the Mayor proposes legislation, represents the city on regional committees, and is the Ambassador for the City, both regionally and nationally.**