

King County Democrats 2011 General Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name	Jennifer Bacon
Position sought	King Conservation District Board of Supervisors Position #3
Residence Legislative, County Council and Congressional district	37 th Legislative District, Precinct SEA 37-1898 King County Council District 2 Congressional District 9 after redistricting
Are you a Democrat? Are you known as a Democrat?	I am not a registered Democrat, but consider myself a progressive and identify as a Democrat.
Campaign Information	
Campaign Name	Jennifer Bacon for King Conservation Supervisor
Web page	http://www.facebook.com/Jennifer.Bacon.KCCD.Candidate or http://bit.ly/jb4kcd
Campaign Email address	jenbacon.kccdbos.candidate@gmail.com
Manager	Jennifer Bacon and Corrie Watterson Bryant
Campaign mailing address	805 Martin L King Jr Way, Seattle, WA 98122
Campaign phone number	206-414-8195
Campaign FAX	

Candidate Background: Community service, education, employment and other relevant experience.
Describe your qualifications, education, employment, community and civic activity, Union affiliation and other relevant experience.

I hold a Master's Degree in Environment and Community from Antioch University's Center for Creative Change.

I am dispatched for work through IATSE Local 15 as an audio-visual technician and stagehand. I am in the process of being hired for an intermittent position with the Seattle Center's sound department. This department is represented by IBEW.

I am currently on the board of the Hazel Wolf Environmental Film Network, acting as treasurer for the board. I have also taken on a leadership role setting up the composting system for the Rainier Beach Urban Farm and Wetlands, a site managed by Seattle Tilth. I completed Tilth's Master Composter/Soil Builder program this year and have been actively volunteering in outreach programs throughout the year.

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Previously, I volunteered with the Clean Greens Farm and Market, a project of Black Dollar Days based at New Hope Baptist Church, where I participated in board meetings and did volunteer outreach. I also participated in the development of the Spring Street P-Patch with enough volunteer hours to qualify for the first round of plot assignments.

In 2007–2008 I was a member of the Ranger Council and a member of the Ranger Human Resources subcommittee for Black Rock City, LLC. The Ranger Council governs Black Rock Ranger volunteers, developing policy and managing the budget for this safety and mediation arm of the organization.

I grew up on a dairy farm, spent a season harvesting trees at a nursery, and worked on my aunt’s truck farm harvesting produce and selling it at farmer’s markets

What ratings and endorsements have you received?	
Legislative District Democrats	
Union Endorsement	I am pursuing endorsement from IATSE Local 15 where I’ve applied for membership.
Municipal League	
SEAMEC	
Other Endorsements	Alex Steffen, local author and sustainability expert, Rev. Dr. Robert Jeffrey, Sr, founder of Clean Greens Farm and Market, and Luke Woodward, farmer and owner of the Oxbow Center for Sustainable Agriculture in Carnation

Which groups do you plan to ask for an endorsement?

Sierra Club, King Conservation Voters, King County Democrats, The Stranger

Please answer the following questions*		Yes	No	Qualified
1	Do you support the King County Democratic Platform?	x		
2	Do you support the right of workers (excluding military) to bargain and strike?	x		
3	Do you support government funding of Planned Parenthood and other family planning services, including abortion and contraception?	x		
4	Do you support majority votes by state and local governments to enact taxes for revenue and to repeal tax exemptions?	x		
5	Do you support the Affordable Health Care Act?	x		
6	Do you support school vouchers? Do you support charter schools?		x	

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7	Do you support the Davis-Bacon Act?	x		
8	Do you support equal rights for women?	x		
9	Do you support Federal and State regulation of greenhouse gases that are contributing to climate change?	x		
10	Do you support a constitutional amendment to limit free speech rights to persons, not corporations?	x		
11	Do you support public financing of campaigns?	x		

Please answer the following questions *		Yes*	No
1	Have you ever failed to pay any taxes or court ordered judgments?		x
2	Have you ever been found in violation of a Public Disclosure Commission, Federal Election Commission or Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission regulation?		x
3	Have you ever been convicted of a felony?		x

* If you answered "Yes" or "Qualified" please explain your answer.

Are you a member of another political party? If so, which ones? Have you ever supported or given money to a candidate from another party in a partisan race? If so, whom and when?

I am not a member of a political party and I have not supported a candidate from a non-democratic candidate in any partisan race.

Are you a member of your local Democratic District Party? Have you contributed financially to any Democratic Organization? Have you been a Precinct Committee Officer? When/Where?

I am not a member of my local Democratic District party. I financially contributed to the Obama campaign for president in 2008.

What are the main messages of your campaign? What is your campaign plan? How many doors have you knocked on to date, pieces of mail planned, budgeting, staffing? What is the fundraising goal for your campaign? How much have you raised to date? Why will you win?

My campaign focuses on increasing diversity on the King Conservation District (KCD) board by bringing an urban perspective to the board. It also concentrates on the connection between urban and rural conservation.

My campaign plan takes advantage of the online nature of the election utilizing social networks to get out the vote. There are also several list-serves through which I will contact voters, one being my local P-Patch, another a neighborhood list, and another large regional list. In addition, I have a twitter feed and have contacts on Twitter with a large number of followers.

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We're also focusing on increasing urban voter awareness. I have contacted The Washington Bus and The Stranger in an effort to publicize the race and reach young voters. I know Stranger editor Dominic Holden and have discussed political issues with him on several occasions. I'm sending press releases to local news blogs and papers, such as Madrona News, Leschi News, Central District News and the West Seattle Blog.

I've attended the Madrona Community Council and the 37th District Democrats meeting to introduce myself and promote my campaign. I spoke with many people at the Tour de Vance and the AlleyCat Acres birthday party. I've left campaign flyers at my local grocery store and spoken with people on the street about the election. I wear a "Vote for Bacon" button, which often creates an opportunity to open conversations about the election when people ask about it. I've handed these buttons out to others to generate visibility as well.

In addition to myself, I have one campaign manager volunteering her time on my campaign. I have a donated button maker and printer. Expected costs for consumables include \$105 for button supplies, \$30 for flyer paper and \$180 for ink.

I have currently raised \$645 on a fundraising goal of \$5000.

I will win because of my outreach efforts. I'm networking with people who are active in the environmental and urban agriculture communities. I have connections with diverse communities that have a great deal of social capital. These connections will allow me to get out the vote to support my candidacy.

What are the single most pressing issues facing your jurisdiction? What actions would you take if elected?

The most pressing issue for KCD is to ensure the most effective conservation efforts are funded and the District maintains funding. If elected, I'd look for ways to increase conservation impact both through well directed grant funding and through effective outreach. I'd work to communicate the financial benefits of ecosystem services provided by natural resource conservation both to the state legislature and the public.

From my perspective there is interdependence between urban and rural conservation. What we do in the city and our patterns of growth affect rural natural systems. Rural ecosystems often become the refuge of flora and fauna that have been pushed out of urban systems. Local farmland also offers a measure of food security to urban residents. By recognizing this interdependence we can maximize the effectiveness of conservation investments.

I'd also like to bring a focus on issues for urban agriculture. KCD can provide guidance to the City of Seattle as it develops policies supporting urban agriculture. KCD can offer best practices for conservation on working lands in the city.

If you are a candidate in a contested primary race, what record of performance, ability, experience, personal qualities, and positions on issues distinguish you from your opponent(s)? If you do not receive the nomination, is there any reason you could not support your Democratic opponent in the general election? Please explain.

While I do not have a list of the other candidates, I believe I will be unique in my position as a Seattle resident who also has experience in agriculture.

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Do you believe the current structure of taxes and/or fees that generate funds in your area are fair? If not, how would you change it?

KCD is currently supported by property taxes and state grants. I believe this is appropriate given the scope of KCDs work. I would seek to ensure adequate funding is provided for the District.

King County has a ten year plan to end homelessness. What ideas do you have to increase low income and affordable housing/?

I believe diverse communities are important. Low income and affordable housing should be integrated with market rate housing. Incentives could be built into the permitting process to include more affordable units in new developments. Tax incentives could promote more affordable housing in existing rental property. Community land trusts could be promoted to increase the availability of affordable real estate.

What role should government play in the healthcare system?

Having lived in the United Kingdom, I believe there are advantages to a single-payer healthcare system. A single-payer system requires government involvement either as regulator, single-payer or health care provider.

Under the current system, I believe government should provide a social safety net to ensure health care services are available to all.

What is your position on civil rights for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered people? What is your position on equal rights for same-sex couples when it comes to benefits, civil unions, marriage and parental rights?

I support full equal rights including marriage rights for all including Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered people.

What creative solutions can you offer to address the problems of the economically disadvantaged?

I believe it's important to build resilient local economies that have a degree of insulation from global economic crisis. There is a great deal of creativity among economically disadvantaged people that can be tapped into in creating local economies that build social capital.

Educational opportunities can be created through skill sharing workshops. Individuals building on these craft skills could be supported through discipline-focused incubators. Products produced in these incubators could be marketed through local market outlets.

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I have read this questionnaire and understand and approve the content and all provided information.		
Printed Name	Jennifer Bacon	Date
Signature		January 16 th , 2012