

2017 Candidate Questionnaire

SECTION I

BASIC CANDIDATE INFORMATION

1. Name as it will appear on the ballot

First Name	Middle Initial or Nickname	Last Name
Jessyn		Farrell

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

Seattle Mayor

3. Are you the incumbent? Yes No

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

I was born and raised in Seattle, graduated from the University of Washington, and returned to Seattle after law school in Boston (1998-2003). Other than a brief stint in Tacoma (2007-2011), I have lived here since. I have lived in Seattle for 34 years.

5. How long have you resided in King County?

I was born and raised in King County, graduated from the University of Washington, and returned to King County after law school in Boston (1998-2003). Other than a brief stint in Tacoma (2007-2011), I have lived here since. I have lived in King County for 34 years.

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

7. If partisan, please indicate party:

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name: Friends of Jessyn Farrell

Address: PO Box 27113

City/State/Zip: Seattle, WA 98165

Campaign Phone: 206-856-1669

Campaign E-mail: info@jessynformayor.com

Campaign Website: electjessyn.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)
State Representative for 46 th Legislative District	Elective	2013-present	Deputy Majority Whip; Chair of Working Families Caucus; Vice Chair of Transportation Committee

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 joined the race for mayor because I believe I have the bold ideas, the bold leadership, and the progressive values to tackle the most important challenges our city faces, including the growing income gap, our homelessness crisis, and of course, local and regional transportation challenges. We need to make sure that Seattle remains a great place for all of us to live, play, work, and grow up. In the Legislature, I have been a leader for progressive change on workers' rights and protections, greening our economy, and shaping our transit infrastructure for smart growth. As mayor, I will continue to turn progressive ideals into concrete accomplishments.

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

I am a passionate champion of progressive causes who knows how and when to strike a deal to make concrete progress that moves us all forward. Over my career, I've developed a sense of how to lead, when to push forward, when to change tactics, and when to compromise, in order to achieve my larger goals. In the legislature, I have developed productive relationships with my colleagues that have allowed me to build broad consensus from across the ideological spectrum to make progress on important issues like transportation safety. But when necessary, I have been able to push through progressive change despite obstruction, such as several bills supporting workers' rights.

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.

My proudest accomplishments have come from my sustained efforts to improve and green our transit system. When I was Executive Director of Transportation Choices Coalition, I led efforts that resulted in \$25 billion in bus, rail, bike and pedestrian investments in Washington State. As Representative, I helped pass the 2015 Connect Washington transportation package that made major new investments in affordable housing and transportation improvements throughout the City of Seattle.

Under my leadership, the package included funding for the Northgate pedestrian bridge, incentives to improve transit connectivity, authorization for Sound Transit to put the light rail initiative on the ballot this past fall, and requirements to build more affordable housing near transit stations. I also prevented a lousy addition to the package that would have siphoned off \$500 million from the Central Puget Sound region to fill a hole in the state General Fund. By pulling together a compromise amendment in the middle of the night, we were able to keep that \$500 million in our community and ensure that it would be spent on educational supports for low-income and at-risk children.

Recently, I have led the way to make our transportation system safer by passing two important laws. The Oil Transportation Safety Act makes sure that our communities are prepared and safe in the event of a disaster like the one that happened in Oregon. The Driving While Under the Influence of Electronics Act will prevent loss of life and property on our roadways by requiring hands-free cell phone use.

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 a Representative in the State House (2013-present), I have developed the ability to make effective change within the structures of government. I listened to the concerns of constituents and advocacy groups and put together coalitions to pass legislation addressing them. The legislation I have passed includes measures to restrict cell phone use while driving, protect pregnant workers, improve the safety of oil transport by rail safety, increase educational enhancements for at-risk youth, invest in bicycle, pedestrian and transit infrastructure, streamline permitting, improve transit agency coordination, and ground-breaking legislation to provide low-income housing near transit stations.

As the Executive Director of Transportation Choices Coalition (2005-2008), I transformed a small non-profit into one of Washington's most effective transportation advocacy groups. I developed skills in effectively running an organization and managing a staff. I built broad coalitions of business, labor, public health and environmental leaders to successfully advocate for common goals resulting in over \$25 billion in new funding for bus and rail transit, trip reduction incentives, and walking and bicycle infrastructure. I developed effective partnerships and creative solutions to reach consensus.

As a mother of three young children, two of whom attend Seattle Public Schools, I believe more moms need to be involved in the political process. We make major policy decisions on a daily basis that affect children and families on issues like family leave and pregnancy accommodations. It's important to have the perspective of those who are on the front lines of trying to make a living, taking care of kids, and giving them the very best. I am running for mayor to provide that voice and that perspective.

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

The Mayor of Seattle has the responsibility and privilege to enforce city and state law and city contracts, to maintain order, to appoint department heads and supervise city employees, and to work with the City Council as they consider ordinances. I take each of these duties very seriously.

My record of concrete accomplishments sets me apart from the field of candidates in my ability to perform the duties of the mayor. In the legislature, I have learned how state and city law interact and how important it is that the city work together closely with the state. I have been a leader on finding solutions to improve public safety and quality of life for regular people. Over that time, I have also learned what makes effective public servants and am prepared to put together a strong team in city government. I have practical experience getting legislation that matters passed, and I can bring this experience to bear to work effectively with the city council.

Above and beyond all these specific duties, the mayor has a responsibility to work every day to make the city a better place to live, work, play, learn, and grow.