

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
Peter		Steinbrueck

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

3. Are you the incumbent? Yes No

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

59 years

5. How long have you resided in King County?

59 years

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

7. If partisan, please indicate party:

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name: **Peter for Port**

Address: **2518 S. Brandon Court**

City/State/Zip: **Seattle, WA 98108**

Campaign Phone: **206-723-3045**

Campaign E-mail: **psteinbrueck@gmail.com**

Campaign Website: **Peterforport.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)
Seattle City Council	Elected	1997 – 2007	Council President 2000 -2002

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

Office Title	Year of Run
Mayor, City of Seattle	2014

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.)**

The Port is a job creator and economic engine to the state. My campaign is about where I believe I can best serve, and continue to contribute to the greater good through my public service, working for living wage jobs, ethical leadership and governance, and driving the Port's ambitious 20-year Century Agenda for economic growth in the region.

It's a critical time for the Port. We need an experienced and effective leader to move us forward. I am an architect, urban strategist, community planner. I was a Seattle City Council member for a decade (1997-2007), including two years as its president. I understand land use, transportation, and how government works. I value our neighborhoods; I also know the importance of working regionally on issues that impact all of us. I am intimately familiar with the Port, having passed legislation to protect industrial lands, living wage jobs, and having served as a professional consultant to the Port Commission and CEO in the past, and I won't need on-the-job training. In addition to my professional training and skill set, I'm also small business owner and have over 30 years' experience running a small business including managing, hiring, supervising, and business development.

Throughout of my public, private and professional life, I have always been recognized by my peers, family, friends, clients, and colleagues for my professional and personal integrity, honesty, ethics. I hold my employees to the same standards, and expect the same from the organizations I choose to work with. I will bring those same values to the oversight and governance of the Port.

I am confident that, besides serving in public office for 10 years, my experiences in my practice as an architect and community planner, my professional work with municipalities and major institutions including the city of Seattle, Port of Seattle, the state of Washington Pike Place Market PDA, and Children's Hospital, small business owners, and my advanced studies year at Harvard as Loeb Fellow researching urban environmental policy in the U.S. have contributed tremendously to my depth and breadth of knowledge to make me exceptionally well-qualified to serve as Port Commissioner.

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

Dedication to public service: I am deeply dedicated to serving the greater good, and putting public interest before personal gain. As lifelong a civic activist, mission driven professional, and former politician my work has always been about improving the human condition, better cities, and the protecting planet. Now I want to turn my efforts to providing good governance at the port. It's as simple as that.

Conviction: Following my father's example in the late 1960's, when, against the odds he saved the historic Pike Place Market through a hard-fought eight-year civic battle and citizens' initiative I learned at the grassroots level that we live in a democracy, where one person could make a difference, and that human values—putting people first—matter most. I have the integrity and determination to stand up for what I believe is right.

Ethical Leadership: Unfortunately, the port has suffered from persistent negative public perceptions due to ethical lapses, financial mishaps, and poor hiring decisions. There is also a general lack of public awareness about the mission of the port, who the port serves, and the immense value of our state's maritime industry. All this has seriously eroded public confidence in the port. For the port to fulfill its core mission of economic development as a job creator and economic engine of statewide importance, this cannot continue. As a proven strong and ethical leader, I will open the port's doors wide to transparency, financial accountability, ethical leadership, and better communication with the broader public.

Compassion: My human compassion is another characteristic that keeps me engaged and striving towards better answers. For example, when I served on the Seattle City Council, few people volunteered to Chair the Housing, Human Services, Education and Civil Rights Committee. I took on issues of our homeless population and we started programs that are now the national model for handling people who have nowhere to go.

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.

In my personal, professional and public life I have always taken a studied approach to problem-solving, testing new ways of solving problems, all toward improving the human condition. My demonstrated ability to build consensus and get impactful results will be of great value to the role as port commissioner.

As a Seattle City Councilmember from 1997 to 2007 I led the city's legislative efforts to develop and advance equitable and sustainable practices in areas of public policy and planning for transportation, land use, building codes and development regulations. Among my many accomplishments in public policy and program:

- Developed Safe Harbors, an innovative centralized data collection system for human and social services—a model nationwide for systemic change to the city and county's response to the homeless crisis. For this work I was recognized with the public service award by the National Alliance to End Homelessness in Washington D.C.
- Co-founded Project Liftoff in 1999, now SOAR, to advance efforts around early learning and professional development in childcare, through coalition building and advocacy among service providers
- Developed Seattle's Downtown Livability Plan for growing sustainable urban neighborhoods
- Strengthened environmental protections for the 90,000-acre Cedar River Watershed, the city's pure water supply by ending commercial logging and passing the Habitat Protection Plan.

- Climate protection: Established carbon emissions as a pollutant to be measured through the city's Environmental Impact Statement under SEPA, for all major public and private projects.
- Developed an inspiring Central Waterfront Concept Plan to populate and reconnect the city to its historic harbor.

In private practice in 2008 I founded Steinbrueck Urban Strategies, a mission-driven consulting practice to “*Advance Earth friendly sustainable practices, create healthy communities, and livable cities.*” As an architect, urban strategist and community planner with my firm, I have worked mostly for non-profits, community groups, and municipalities. Recently, I completed two major policy and analytical research projects for the City of Seattle, the Seattle Sustainable Neighborhood Assessment Project (SSNAP), and the Seattle 2035 Urban Village Study (both may be found on line). The reports were used extensively by the city in developing the Seattle 2035 Comprehensive Plan and by the mayor, who commissioned the studies for developing new public policy. The innovative reports have been widely used as case studies nationwide in academia. In Olympia this year, I completed a year-long team project in for the city to develop the Olympia Downtown Strategy for advancing the city's vision for future growth.

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.

My family has always been involved in civic life and my community involvement runs deep. In my early years, during the 1960's era, our family participated actively in civil rights movement, environmental activism, and my father's crucial role in saving the Pike Place Market and the adoption by citizens' initiative of the historic district to protect it. From that time on I have always integrated social and environmental activism in my professional and community life, which led me in 1997 to run for the Seattle City Council. After just two years on the council I was elected by my colleagues to the lead the council as their president. While there, I advanced open government, by passing new council rules and procedures (literally bringing council meetings out of unrecorded proceedings in the basement of city hall), and requiring all council meetings to be held in public, and provide opportunities to take public comment at all council meetings.

During my decade on the council from 1997 – 2007, I spearheaded many innovative urban policies in land use, transportation, parks, housing and the environment. Many of these policies and programs continue to improve human conditions serve the greater good today.

I was re-elected to the council twice by wide margins, and served on boards of several regional policies committees relevant to port functions, including the Trade Development Alliance, Puget Sound Regional Council, League of Cities, and the Association of Washington Cities. These roles taught me the importance of collaboration and consensus-building to getting things done, have given me extensive knowledge and insights into the challenges of our time facing the region.

Over the past ten years in my professional and continuing public life, I have been a university lecturer and teacher, frequent speaker, writer, and thought leader nationwide and internationally. In 2009-10 I was honored by Harvard University with the distinguished Loeb Fellowship, which gave me the once in a life time opportunity for a year-long self-directed research study focusing on urban environmental policy and sustainable practices for retooling cities.

Giving back, I have volunteered continuously since young adulthood on various boards, commissions, community groups and charitable organizations. Most notably, in 1994, I co-founded Futurewise a statewide nonprofit to advocate for good growth management still performing strongly in its mission today. Most recently I served on the Seattle Library Foundation, the Washington Environmental Council, and have volunteered for various nonprofits, including as a mentor and advisor at United Indians of All Tribes Foundation's Labateyah Youth Home. I also have worked and led volunteer youth groups making trails and clearing invasive plants in our city's parks, and P-Patch leader in my neighborhood.

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

The primary mission of the Port of Seattle, a countywide public authority created in 1911, is to create jobs and stimulate the state's economy through advancing international trade, commerce, maritime industries and manufacture, aviation, and tourism. The port commission consists of five members elected at large by county voters. The commission's primary duties are to set governing policy, operating procedures and bylaws by resolution, and to provide management oversight, financial accountability, environmental stewardship, and appointing and overseeing the Port's Chief Executive Officer to manage port operations. Most importantly, in performance of the port's mission, the port commission's ultimate responsibility is to the voters who elect them, and to be accountable to the county taxpayers who support the annual Port levy lift.

Uniquely, the Port has a critical function in in the state's economy and job creation, where one in three jobs are tied to international trade. The port commission through its long-term strategic planning has adopted the Century Agenda, a 25-year vision to add 100,000 more Port-related jobs in the regional, while reducing its sizable environmental footprint. As a public agency with social responsibility, the port has an obligation to extend economic opportunity equitably to all, through partnering with community, promote internships, job training and supporting living wage jobs.

The Port of Seattle is our international gateway and principal trade route to the Pacific. To remain competitive in the global economy, the Port Commission must be open and transparent, be accountable, socially responsible, and have the full confidence of the voters. Its critical that the port's public investments and policies align closely with its core mission, and be strongly supported at all other levels of government in the state.

In closing, I have the exceptional skills, knowledge, and unmatched leadership experience to serve as a strong, effective, and contributing member of the Port Commission. I am eager to serve, and bring new ideas and inspiration to this important leadership role of Port Commissioner.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Peter Steinbrueck". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "P".

Peter Steinbrueck
May 31, 2017