

Interview for seattle CC pos 9 Ty Pethe will be on this channel if that works for all. Ongoing thread, ask and answer here when you have time between life and life. Thanks for being here.

Andy would you copy and paste your questions here please.

I'm Rhonda Walker by the way Ty.

**Pardon if this comes across as rude, but you are challenging an incumbent in a typically "safe" seat, this is the first time I've heard of your candidacy and I am certain that some people have already voted in the Primary... what makes you an improvement over the incumbent and what plans do you have for actually winning the race in the last week of the primary?**

*Hi All. I have a couple minutes, and I'll keep answer as time is available. Thank you for taking the time to interview me.*

*As for the first question... Yes. I fully acknowledge that this will be a tough race. The incumbent is fairly popular and the Primary is less than a week away.*

*However, I've spent months reaching out to my friends, family, and partners in the labor community. I've also spent a lot of time and money promoting the platform on social media. I'm planning another big blitz on Facebook for this week and door knocking this weekend.*

*Most of my target audience is younger and use social media for their news and information. They are also generally "late voters". Between social media and the community forums I've participated in, I feel like I have enough support for a credible race.*

*I'm the end, I think it will come down to the issues facing Seattle. I think that Education, Affordable Housing, and Workers's Rights are top current issues. I have a strong background and platform on these issues.*

*In what areas do you feel the incumbent is lacking, and what specifically would you do to improve in those areas?*

*The incumbent has been weak on affordable housing, homelessness, workers' rights, and economic inequality.*

*In the recent Seattle high earners income tax, she created a motion to specifically include B&O tax as a regressive tax that should be lowered. In new housing developments, she has pushed to lower the MHA. It took her a long time to support the secure scheduling initiative and she limited it to restaurants and retail employees.*

*As a council member, I would:*

*Expand secure scheduling,  
create a law to give everyone a Just Cause protection in their work place.*

*Fight to increase the MHA in new development.*

*Create a vacancy tax to discourage real estate speculation and absentee owner.*

*Fund a housing first program to end homelessness.*

*Work with NGO's to create more subsidized housing.*

*Advocate to increase the minimum wage.*

**What would subsidized housing look like and where do you propose we get the funding for it?**

**Single family homes, apartment complexes, duplexes or quads? Have you scouted locations?**

*For subsidized housing, we should use a grant based funding for non profits (like Capitol Hill Housing). Grants should be based on number of units, ranges of income served, and overall expense.*

*Many non profits can find institutional donors for new projects, but lack funds for maintaining existing units. Providing funding to renovate and/or remodel their current housing stock would be the most efficient way to increase overall supply.*

*Revenue to pay for this should come from a vacancy tax and/or capital gains tax.*

*Locations should be spread across the city. Mixed income neighborhoods should be encouraged.*

*As for type of housing, most of this would be multi-family buildings, but we could work with land trusts and other organizations that have subsidized single family homes.*

**What is your view on tiny home communities?**

*They're AWESOME!*

**But... Seriously. Tiny Homes are great. We should allow for accessory dwelling units in our single family home neighborhoods. I've had friends rent homes where their landlord lived in a tiny home on the property.**

*But... Seriously. Tiny Homes are great. We should allow for accessory dwelling units in our single family home neighborhoods. I've had friends rent homes where their landlord lived in a tiny home on the property.*

**I'm going to ask in our group if anyone has any further questions for you.**

*Ok. I'm happy to answer any & all questions that you have.*

*I'd be honored to be endorsed by the Washington Berniecrats.*

**I really like your answers and appreciate you taking your time.  
You have great energy as well.**

*Aww... Thanks! To be honest, I don't take on leadership positions unless asked to. Over the last couple years, I've had a lot of people (including strangers I've run into and had conversations with) suggest I should run.*

*Also, hearing appreciation and encouragement keeps me motivated to make a positive change even when it's hard.*

**That says a lot about you when you are being approached by others to lead/support them!**

**I think we may be good on questions now so we will take this info back to the group.**

**Thank you again**