



# Annual Sierra Club ENDORSEMENTS ISSUE



Washington State Chapter Journal  
**THE CREST**

Volume 38 | Issue 2 | Fall 2019



# Vote **NO** on **I-976** to Keep Washington State Moving

By Sara Kiesler, Guest Contributor

It's no secret that emissions from cars stuck in traffic are one of the biggest contributors to climate change in Washington state. To protect our health, our safety, and our environment, we need more clean transportation options to get people out of their cars and into transit, on bicycles, or on their feet.

This November, the Sierra Club strongly urges a No vote on anti-tax crusader Tim Eyman's Initiative 976. I-976 would devastate our strained transportation system and

cut funding that would otherwise go to expand light rail, maintain ferries, fix our roads and bridges, and fund local transit options.

Without continued investment in increased transit options, communities of color that are most impacted by pollution will suffer from the growing pollution generated on our roads. Not only that, but I-976 specifically targets funds that serve vulnerable transit users such as seniors, veterans, children, and people with physical differences.

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# THE CREST

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## Washington Chapter Chair's Column

By Julia Reitan

I was speaking with Jesse Piedfort, Sierra Club's Washington State Chapter Director when he off-handedly said that Sierra Club's work here was having impacts beyond our state borders.

"What do you mean beyond our state," I asked. "Say more about that."

Our state's 100% Clean Energy legislation, for instance, that passed last year with strong Sierra Club support is inspiring other states to tackle 100% clean energy bills, too. "A dozen other states are looking at what Washington did because we really got it right here."

I'm proud of the work Sierra Club does in Washington State, especially given what's going on nationally. But when our work here can have impacts even beyond our borders then I'm really stoked.

Here are two top priorities we're focused on this fall and into next year:

- Now that Washington has passed 100% Clean Energy legislation (which will get fossil fuels out of our electricity) we're turning our attention to getting them out of our buildings and cars. One of the biggest challenges is to change the perception that "natural gas" is clean when it is anything but. It's methane, a potent greenhouse gas, and it's al-

most universally extracted by destructive fracking. We're saying "no" to refining fracked gas into methanol for plastic in Kalama; "no" to turning it into liquified natural gas (LNG) in Tacoma. We are also saying it is time to stop hooking up new buildings to this dirty fuel habit. You can learn much more about why fossil fuel fracked gas is the next big climate challenge in Washington State at: **PowerPastFrackedGas.org**

- Remove the four lower Snake River dams because this is the single best way to give salmon and orcas what they need. We're hopeful that the stakeholder process in Washington will address concerns about how to protect local communities, farmers, and the Bonneville Power Administration if the dams come out. We're not so hopeful about the federal agency Environmental Impact Statement process. Trump Administration officials have put a heavy thumb on the scale and said that their priority is to keep the dams, no matter what the evidence says. Stay tuned. We can see a path to win this for salmon and orcas, but it's not an easy one.

As always, we're working to defend Washington's lands, water, air, and wildlife plus working to elect environmental champions who share this goal.

Thanks for all you do to support the Sierra Club. Your membership dues fund the work we do here in Washington State, and they also fund Sierra Club's work nationwide, as they should. But when you donate directly to the Washington State Chapter, your donation stays here in Washington 100%.

**Your membership and added donations to the Washington State Sierra Club, [sierraclub.org/washington/give](http://sierraclub.org/washington/give) are always greatly appreciated!**



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

### Preserve the Future

Not everyone can make a large gift to protect the environment during their lifetime, but you can preserve the environment for generations to come by remembering Sierra Club in your will. There are many gift options available. We can even help you plan a gift for your local Chapter.

For more information and confidential assistance, contact:  
**Sierra Club  
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# Washington State Candidate Endorsements

## Local Races by County and City

### CLARK COUNTY

**Adrian E Cortes**  
**Clark County Council,**  
**District 4**

Adrian Cortes, Battle Ground City Council member and candidate for Clark County Council District 4, supports green spaces, trails, and preserving Clark County farmlands and rural areas. Cortes is also board chair of C-Tran, Clark County's transit service.



**Ty Stober**  
**Vancouver**  
**City Council-Position 5**

Ty Stober was first elected to Vancouver City Council in November 2015. During his first term in office the City Council has improved public transportation, regreened public parks and expanded affordable public housing. He brings to his work a passion for sustainable economic development and vibrant neighborhoods.



**Jack Burkman**  
**Port of Vancouver Commission,**  
**District 3**

Jack Burkman has held numerous leadership positions in the community. Jack opposes oil, coal, and gas transfer facilities at the Port. He supports the Port's Strategic Plan Goal to protect air quality, water resources, and land managed by the Port, as well as the development of a Climate Action Plan.



**Craig Cyr**  
**Langley**  
**City Council-Position 4**

Craig Cyr has pledged to make the Council more responsive to the citizens. He will strive to make sustainability, inclusivity and compassion Council priorities. Cyr will also advocate for clean energy solutions to lower our carbon footprint and seek affordable/diversified housing to enable people to live where they work.



**Joseph Busig**  
**Oak Harbor**  
**City Council-Position 3**

Joseph Busig will bring a much-needed youth perspective and energy to the Oak Harbor City Council. He's an award-winning, recognized civic leader who is committed to exploring and implementing practical environmental stewardship and clean energy initiatives, while improving the City's parks, affordable housing, and transportation.



**John Stokes**  
**Bellevue**  
**City Council-Position 1**

John Stokes is running for his third term for the Bellevue City Council and has served as mayor twice. He has extensive leadership experience in environmental plans including Salmon Recovery, Cascade Water Alliance, Eastside Rail, eastside transportation and Bellevue Parks. He supports the creation of a climate action plan for Bellevue.



**Jeremy Barksdale**  
**Bellevue**  
**City Council-Position 3**

Jeremy Barksdale is a technology professional serving as Bellevue Planning Commission Chair. Jeremy is running for Bellevue City Council and is a tenacious advocate for environmental issues. Jeremy recognizes the need for a strong response to climate change and the critical role of cities in that fight.



**Janice Zahn**  
**Bellevue,**  
**City Council-Position 5**

Janice Zahn is running for re-election for Bellevue City Council and is committed to Sierra Club environmental values. Janice presses for a comprehensive climate action plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. She meets regularly with various environmental organizations to ensure city alignment with environmental goals.



<https://www.sierraclub.org/washington/2019-endorsements>

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**Mason Thompson  
Bothell**

**City Council-Position 2**

Mason Thompson advocates for complete neighborhoods with necessary amenities within walking distance. He believes addressing climate change requires public policies grounded in sustainable development, with the acknowledgment that we are creating the future today through our policies. He is a strong advocate for better transit and safer streets for all users.



**Davina Duerr  
Bothell**

**City Council-Position 6**

Davina Duerr is an architect who advocates for transparent and ethical government that encourages citizen participation and social justice. She understands the importance of urban forests, open spaces and the preservation of the tree canopy for healthy communities with reduced stormwater runoff, decreased carbon footprint, and affordable housing.



**Melanie O'Cain  
Kenmore**

**City Council-Position 1**

Melanie O'Cain's campaign for her hometown city council is based on environmental stewardship. A single parent, she brings a creative mind and a pragmatic accounting career to work locally on the climate crisis and conservation. "I want the children of the future to enjoy the beauty that I have experienced."



**Corina Pfeil  
Kenmore**

**City Council-Position 7**

Corina Pfeil, a longtime volunteer advocate for children's health through her PTA work, worked closely with our 46th LD legislators to provide Narcan in our schools. She combines pragmatic experience in forming partnerships and getting things done, with a strong commitment to environmental justice.



**Kelli Curtis  
Kirkland**

**City Council-Position 2**

Kelli Curtis was appointed to the Kirkland City Council to fill a vacant position. She believes the city needs more density to provide workforce housing and more efficient building designs. She also supports more green space, better transit options, and implementation of Kirkland's Sustainability Master Plan.



**Neal Black  
Kirkland**

**City Council-Position 5**

Neal Black is an attorney with training in environmental law. He believes the city needs a greater variety of housing and more density. He supports better local transit, more open space and better opportunities for walking and biking. He supports implementation of Kirkland's Sustainability Master Plan.



**Amy Falcone  
Kirkland**

**City Council-Position 6**

Amy Falcone believes that Kirkland needs to be intentional in managing its growth and include all communities and income groups in decision making. She strongly supports making Kirkland more dense, providing more greenspace, improving walkability, and implementing Kirkland's Sustainability Master Plan.



**Angela Birney  
City of Redmond  
Mayor**

Angela Birney was chair of the Redmond Parks and Trails Committee and is on the Eastside Rail Corridor Regional Advisory Committee, working to preserve and expand access to nature. She has been active with the Cascade Water Alliance working to protect our aquifer. Angela prioritizes addressing climate change and reducing its impacts.



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**Varisha Kahn**  
**Redmond**  
**City Council-Position 1**

Varisha Khan's priorities include reaching zero carbon in the city by 2040 by implementing equitable policy approaches in housing and transportation. She sees reducing the number of cars on the road while encouraging alternatives and mass transportation as an important part of lowering emissions.



**Jessica Forsythe**  
**Redmond**  
**City Council-Position 3**

Jessica Forsythe is a long time Sierra Club member who lives her values. She has a background in LEED Certification and wants to push developers to build to a higher efficiency standard including green/solar roofs and net zero buildings. She is enthusiastic about a Climate Protection Plan for the city.



**Marcie Maxwell**  
**City of Renton**  
**Mayor**

Marcie is a progressive voice in Washington. Her experience includes three terms in the Washington legislature and advising Gov. Inslee on education. Her broad experience demonstrates an interest and concern for environmental and inequality issues. She earned several 100% scorecard ratings from Washington Conservation Voters.



**Valerie O'Halloran**  
**Renton**  
**City Council-Position 3**

Valerie O'Halloran's 20-year Renton civic volunteer service plus financial expertise make her a strong council candidate. Valerie states "All our decisions and action should be informed by the framework of taking Climate Action." She opposes expansion of fossil fuels. Valerie feels any growth plans require input from less-affluent residents.



**Karen McKnight**  
**Sammamish**  
**City Council-Position 2**

Karen McKnight is President of Sammamish Chamber of Commerce and a 39-year resident. Her priorities include protecting water supply and salmon spawning streams, developing transit options, and increasing housing density to reduce CO2 emissions. She supports a Sammamish Climate Protection Plan.



**Karen Howe**  
**Sammamish**  
**City Council-Position 4**

Karen Howe is a business professional with organizing experience. As president of Sammamish Friends, she provides guidance to many environmental groups working on salmon habitat, urban forestry, transportation, housing, and trails. She wants to add a Climate Protection Action Plan to Sammamish's existing Sustainability Plan.



**Rituja Indapure**  
**Sammamish**  
**City Council-Position 6**

Rituja Indapure is a tech professional with a legal background and extensive volunteer experience with public and environmental organizations. As a member of the Sammamish Planning Commission, she has worked on an Urban Forest Plan, salmon habitat, and has proposed a multi-phased approach to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.



**Tammy Morales**  
**Seattle**  
**City Council-District 2**

Tammy Morales is a planner and community advocate with a commitment to robust transit, safe walking and biking, and a strong equity lens. Morales is champion of environmental justice and advocates for more affordable housing and sustainable transportation choices in her Southeast Seattle community.



**Kshama Sawant**  
**Seattle**  
**City Council-District 3**

Kshama Sawant has served on Seattle City Council since 2013 and has held our values in office. She has been an important ally to the Sierra Club on issues including opposing local basing of Arctic oil drilling, divestment, expanding public transit, and implementing a local Green New Deal.



**Shaun Scott**  
**Seattle**  
**City Council-District 4**

Shaun Scott has centered an environmental agenda in his campaign and has detailed plans for expanding public transportation, affordable housing, and supporting the Seattle Green New Deal. His journalism background gives him an informed and intersectional perspective on environmental justice issues.



**Debora Juarez**  
**Seattle**  
**City Council-District 5**

Debora Juarez, a Seattle City Council member since 2015, has aligned with Sierra Club on city housing issues and has shown leadership advocating for the 130th Street Link Light Rail Station and Northgate Bike-Ped Bridge in her North Seattle district.



**Heidi Wills**  
**Seattle**  
**City Council-District 6**

As a City Council member from 1999 to 2003, Heidi Wills worked on issues related to salmon recovery and a green utility policy. She is a member of the Sierra Club's Washington State Chapter Executive Committee and will work closely with environmental advocates if elected.



**Fred Felleman**  
**Port of Seattle Commission**  
**Position 5**

Fred Felleman is the incumbent Port of Seattle Position 5 Commissioner. For three decades, he has led in protecting the Pacific Northwest's marine environment through research, photography, and advocacy. Felleman has carried the same environmental values and has used his first term to advance a bold sustainability agenda.



**Keith Scully**  
**Shoreline**  
**City Council-Position 2**

Keith Scully is an accomplished land-use attorney and environmental champion, elected to Shoreline Council in 2015. He advocates for parks, wildlife habitat, critical areas and neighborhoods. He previously served on Shoreline Planning Commission, King County Conservation Voters Board, and was the legal director for Futurewise.



**Doris McConnell**  
**Shoreline**  
**City Council-Position 4**

Doris McConnell has served on Shoreline City Council since 2007. She advocates for preserving tree canopy, parks and open space. She's a strong voice for neighborhoods and transit, serving on the Regional Water Quality Committee and Sea/Shore Transportation Forum. Doris is also National Chair of the Asian Pacific American Municipal Officials.



**Betsy Robertson**  
**Shoreline**  
**City Council-Position 6**

Betsy Robertson was appointed to Shoreline City Council in January 2019. Prior to her appointment, she served on Shoreline Parks Recreation Cultural Services and Tree Board, where she advocated for public green spaces and public art investments. Betsy is passionate about healthy parks, tree canopy, and neighborhoods.



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**Paul Hagan**  
**Woodinville**  
**City Council-Position 7**

Paul Hagan has long supported environmental service organizations and serves on the Woodinville Parks and Recreation Commission. He believes the city needs to manage rapid growth with sustainable solutions including a dense, walkable city core, protection of agricultural land, and joining the King County Cities Climate Collaboration.



**Nicolas Duchastel**  
**Woodinville**  
**City Council-Position 6**

Nicolas Duchastel is passionate about improving transportation and mobility in Woodinville. This includes better regional and intracity transit connections and improved multimodal mobility. He supports developing more workforce housing and joining the King County Cities Climate Collaboration.



**PIERCE COUNTY**

**David Combs**  
**Tacoma**  
**City Council-Position 3**

David Combs is a business owner on the Hilltop and 20-year Tacoma resident. As a grassroots candidate, he believes in the power of relationship building and community engagement. David is one of the few City Council candidates to openly oppose the construction of Puget Sound Energy's LNG facility.



**Kristin Ang**  
**Port of Tacoma Commission**  
**Position 5**

Kristin Ang is a graduate of Belarmino, the University of Puget Sound, and Cornell Law School. She ran a formidable grassroots campaign for Port Commissioner in 2017, but narrowly lost. This time she aims to win and broaden representation in port decision-making and make the environment a major consideration.



**SNOHOMISH COUNTY**

**Megan Dunn**  
**Snohomish**  
**County Council-Position 2**

Megan Dunn exemplifies the values of the Sierra Club. Her active environmental policy background proves she can deliver results in pesticide reduction, waste reduction, clean energy and other responsible initiatives to combat climate change and environmental degradation. She has over 20 years of public policy work.



**Stephanie Wright**  
**Snohomish**  
**County Council-Position 3**

Stephanie Wright, a past Sierra Club leader, has a strong record supporting environmental preservation and clean energy production. She will continue promoting workforce development, social justice, affordable housing, and sustainable economic development with strategies ensuring that economic growth benefits all working families and local businesses.



**Barb Tolbert**  
**City of Arlington**  
**Mayor**

Barb Tolbert has been Arlington's Mayor since 2011. In addition to responsible fiscal leadership, she is committed to blending built and natural environments using low-impact design standards, tree preservation, and retaining open/public spaces for future generations. Barb also prioritizes Complete Streets Plan investments, ensuring access to climate-friendly transportation modes.



**Davina Duerr**  
**Bothell**  
**City Council-Position 6**

Davina Duerr is an architect who advocates for transparent and ethical government that encourages citizen participation and social justice. She understands the importance of urban forests, open spaces and the preservation of the tree canopy for healthy communities with reduced stormwater runoff, decreased carbon footprint, and affordable housing.



**Mason Thompson**  
**Bothell**  
**City Council-Position 2**

Mason Thompson advocates for complete neighborhoods with necessary amenities within walking distance. He believes addressing climate change requires public policies grounded in sustainable development, with the acknowledgment that we are creating the future today through our policies. He is a strong advocate for better transit and safer streets for all users.



**Mike Nelson**  
**City of Edmonds**  
**Mayor**

Mike Nelson has consistently proven himself an environment champion while serving on the Edmonds City Council. He's a leader for the Edmonds Marsh, shoreline protections, park enhancements, and 100% renewable energy. His environmental commitments are demonstrated with actions, not just words, making him the environmental choice for Edmonds Mayor.



**Diane Buckshnis**  
**Edmonds**  
**City Council-Position 4**

Diane Buckshnis has worked to protect environmentally sensitive areas including the Edmonds Marsh and Brackett's Landing Conservation Area. She's looking forward to ensuring the Urban Forest Management Plan implementation to enhance tree canopy.



**Alicia Crank**  
**Edmonds**  
**City Council-Position 5**

Alicia Crank has a record of working collaboratively to address the vital public policy requirements of responsible environmental governance including climate change, smart development and environmental justice. She is committed to open and transparent government and is knowledgeable and passionate about economic development, city planning, and social justice.



**Susan Paine**  
**Edmonds**  
**City Council-Position 6**

Susan Paine brings demonstrated community commitment, having served on the Edmonds School Board, Tree Board, and Park Advisory Committee. She's committed to enhancing and protecting the Edmonds Marsh, balancing development with parks & open space, and addressing traffic safety.



**Laura Johnson**  
**Edmonds**  
**City Council-Position 7**

Laura Johnson's environmental credentials include leadership for safe and healthy playgrounds and sports fields, advocating to reduce toxic runoff into streams, and supporting buffers and Willow Creek daylighting to protect and restore the Edmonds Marsh. She also chairs the Edmonds Historic Preservation Committee. Laura pledges increased transparency and accessibility in local government.



**Carin Chase**  
**Edmonds**  
**School Board-District 1**

Carin Chase is committed to preparing all students for productive lives in their vocations and as responsible community members, recognizing the need for informed, science-based, and collaborative/inclusive decision-making. She values and respects teachers and appreciates the importance of students' health and safety while under the District's care.



**Rory Graves**  
**Edmonds**  
**School Board-District 3**

Student health and educational outcomes will be Rory Graves' top priorities as a School Board Member. She commits to ensuring quality public education policies, with quality educators, in safe, culturally competent schools with small class sizes. Rory understands strong school systems require collaborative planning that values every student.



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**Nancy Katims  
Edmonds  
School Board-District 5**

Nancy Katims' highest priority is and will always be students. She is an experienced educator who knows that students learn best in small class sizes, modern facilities, and teachers with the support they need. She will ensure that taxpayers' dollars are used effectively, with inclusive, transparent communication with all stakeholders.



**Joseph Erikson  
Everett  
City Council-Position 5**

Joseph Erickson is a values-driven leader and a teacher committed to the needs of the whole community. He is a social and environmental justice warrior fully embracing the responsibilities of citizenship and modeling the principal action he will bring to elected office. His commitment to the environment is unwavering.



**Brenda Stonecipher  
Everett  
City Council-Position 6**

Brenda Stonecipher is deeply engaged in her community and represents the highest standards of community service. She has a long-held ethic of environmental stewardship and accepts the challenges of the urban forest alongside development. Brenda understands and advocates for close connections with our parks and public policies surrounding environmental equity.



**Mary Dickinson  
Lake Stevens  
City Council-Position 4**

Mary Dickinson demonstrates a lifetime of volunteer work protecting the environment and a professional career as an educator. Her campaign for City Council prioritizes Lake Stevens' water quality, green spaces, and affordable housing. Mary has served on the Lake Stevens Library YES campaigns and with the local Kiwanis Club.



**Van AuBuchon  
Lynnwood  
City Council-Position 4**

Van Aubuchon brings previous Council and Planning Commission experience. His environmental accomplishments include greening city operations, electrifying Lynnwood's vehicle fleet, and establishing electric vehicle charging stations.



**Shirley Sutton  
Lynnwood  
City Council-Position 7**

Shirley Sutton has served on the Lynnwood City Council since 2015, championing public parks, walking & bike trails, and a healthy outdoor environment. She has worked to reduce the carbon footprint, support mass transit, sustain the city's tree canopy, abate invasive species, and avoid toxic pesticides.



**John Steckler  
Mill Creek  
City Council-Position 1**

John Steckler is committed to protecting and expanding parks and open space along with responsible growth. For example, John supported linking community benefits with development, fighting for wetland conservation, walking trails, boardwalks, and enhanced habitat.



**Erin Murray  
Mountlake Terrace  
City Council-Position 7**

Erin Murray is committed to citizen's health and safety, to which she views the environment as critical. This includes overhauling the City's water system, expanding park access, protecting tree canopy, and reducing carbon footprint. Erin is especially motivated to increase civic engagement, ensuring community involvement in the City's decision-making process.



**Richard Emory  
Mukilteo**

**City Council-Position 4**

Richard Emory is seeking his 4th term on the Mukilteo City Council and is committed to building upon his extensive record supporting the environment. His priorities and accomplishments include protecting 140 acres of undeveloped land, effectively managing Native Growth Protection Areas, supporting Clean Energy Initiatives, and advocating for responsible waterfront development.



**Riaz Khan  
Mukilteo**

**City Council-Position 5**

Riaz Kahn is a career engineer with Boeing and brings extensive community experience working on social and environmental justice. He welcomes the cultural richness flowing from diversity in our community. Riaz will prioritize public safety, economic development, and governance that is responsible, transparent and accountable.



**Steve Shepro  
Stanwood**

**City Council-Position 5**

Steve Shepro is the founding member of Stanwood Stewards, a member of the Parks and Trails Advisory Committee, and Chair of the Stanwood Planning Commission. He's committed to expanding parks & trails, improving pedestrian safety, responsible development, and promoting civic engagement.



**Ben Stuckart  
City of Spokane  
Mayor**

City Council President Ben Stuckart, running for Mayor of Spokane, has a good track record on the environment. He has pledged to discontinue the current mayor's support of a variance on EPA standards for the Spokane River that is now under consideration by the Washington State Department of Ecology.



**Breean Beggs  
Spokane**

**City Council-President**

Breean Beggs has been a strong advocate of smart and intelligent environmental policy during his City Council term. Beggs currently chairs both the Council's Sustainability Action sub-committee and the Public Infrastructure and Environmental Sustainability Committee.



**Lori Kinnear  
Spokane**

**City Council District 2-Position 1**

Lori Kinnear has been a strong and smart supporter of positive environmental policy during her first council term. She supports the work of the city's new Sustainability Action Committee and has worked to pass policy advancing water conservation. She is a champion of reducing urban sprawl.



**THURSTON COUNTY**

**Nathaniel Jones  
City of Olympia  
Mayor**

Nathaniel Jones is currently Mayor or Pro Tem, Chairs the Thurston Regional Planning Council, and contributed to the development of Thurston County's Climate Adaptation Plan and Mitigation Plan. He is strongly aligned with Sierra Club goals and policies, advocating for policies to combat climate change and address transportation and housing issues.



**Jessica Bateman  
Olympia  
City Council-Position 2**

Jessica Bateman is an incumbent who supported Olympia's adoption of ambitious greenhouse gas emission targets. Her priorities are to address homelessness and affordable housing, revitalize the downtown, and reduce climate impacts while adapting to sea level rise. She supports converting Capitol Lake into an estuary.



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**Phyllis Booth  
Olympia**

**City Council-Position 2**

Phyllis Booth's priorities are to increase citizen participation, to make city departments more accountable to taxpayers and to incentivize carpooling and bus ridership. She supports infill in neighborhoods, as long as infrastructure is addressed, and she supports a plan to remove the dam at Capitol Lake.



**Dani Madrone  
Olympia**

**City Council-Position 3**

Dani Madrone has a Master's degree in Public Policy and a B.S. in Environmental Studies. She is employed by NW Indian Fisheries. Her priorities are environmental protection and advocating for strong neighborhoods through better communication and organizing with community members.



**Matt Goldenberg  
Olympia**

**City Council-Position 3**

Matt Goldenberg is a Clinical Psychologist and is running on an environmental justice platform. His priorities are housing, equity and improving communication. He advocates preparing for climate change by plans for floods, warming and cooling centers, and fire prevention.



**Helen Wheatley  
Olympia**

**Port Commissioner-Position 1**

Helen Wheatley's priorities are oversight and good governance, prioritizing the environment, and enhancing sustainable economic development. She believes the Port has a direct role in planning for the future of the downtown area and for sea level rise. She feels strongly about protecting and restoring native fisheries and productive estuarine tidelands in Puget Sound.



**Leatta Dahlhoff  
Tumwater**

**City Council-Position 1**

Leatta Dahlhoff was appointed to the City Council in 2018. She is a Toxics Waste Reduction Specialist with the Washington Department of Ecology. Her priorities are public health, smart and sustainable economic growth (such as developing the Brewery District), and ensuring clean air, land and water for generations to come.



**Tom Oliva  
Tumwater**

**City Council-Position 2**

Tom Oliva is a 10 year incumbent running unopposed. He warranted a Sierra Club endorsement because of his contributions to the Sustainable Thurston Plan and the Tumwater Metropolitan Parks District ballot. He represents Tumwater on the Climate Mitigation task force at the Thurston Regional Planning Council.



**Joan Cathey  
Tumwater**

**City Council-Position 3**

Joan Cathey, a 10 year incumbent and Mayor Pro Tem, advocates working on reducing the city's carbon footprint, supporting the regional Climate Action plan, promoting renewable energy, and increasing biking paths. She worked to establish the Isabella Bush park for the nonprofit GRuB where students, teachers and volunteers grow food sustainably.



**Charles (Charlie) Schneider  
Tumwater**

**City Council-Position 7**

Charlie Schneider was recognized as the top National Sierra Club Outings Leader in 2015. He advocates promoting the use of renewable energy, public transit and energy efficiency in building codes. His priorities are more parks and open spaces and affordable housing.



## WHATCOM COUNTY

### **Liz Lovelett** 40th Legislative District State Senate

Liz Lovelett is an involved, dedicated, informed leader in the 40th Legislative District, appointed to serve in 2019. She hit the ground running, sponsoring and passing legislation to protect our beloved orcas, win needed school funding, support clean energy legislation, and permanently protect Blanchard Mountain.



### **Satpal Sidhu** Whatcom County Executive Executive

Satpal Sidhu has served on the Whatcom County Council since 2015 and has been deeply involved in the community for three decades. He is a strong environmental advocate, consistently voting to prevent Cherry Point from becoming a crude oil export terminal. As County Executive, he will pursue innovative approaches to water issues and climate change.



### **Carol Frazey** Whatcom County Council At Large-Position B

Carol Frazey currently serves on the Whatcom County Council. She believes we can work together with individuals, businesses, community organizations, and government agencies to set our priorities and plan for growth with the goal of a carbon-neutral economy. Educating our community on the long-term environmental and economic benefits of a green economy is crucial.



### **Natalie McClendon** Whatcom County Council District 5

Natalie McClendon supports Whatcom County moving to a clean energy economy. As Whatcom County Planning Commissioner, she advocates for compliance with the Growth Management Act to protect open spaces and farmland, minimize sprawl, and ensure clean water. Natalie is a 40-plus year member of the Sierra Club.



### **Seth Fleetwood** City of Bellingham Mayor

Seth Fleetwood has been actively involved in local public interest work for over 25 years, including previous service on Whatcom County Council and Bellingham City Council. Seth sponsored Bellingham's Plastic Bag ban. He chairs Whatcom County's Climate Impact Advisory Committee and is a member of the Climate Reality Project Leadership Corps.



### **Hollie Huthman** Bellingham City Council At Large

Hollie Huthman believes we must plan for the influx of new residents by creating well-designed urban centers that encourage multi-modal transportation, preserve green spaces, and create residential density that's beautifully designed and fulfills diverse needs. She believes Bellingham can set the example for effectively implementing practices that combat climate change.



### **Hannah Stone** Bellingham City Council-Ward 1

Hannah Stone is committed to developing solutions now to reverse the course of climate change. As Bellingham continues to grow, present and future generations are dependent upon local leaders like Stone to place our community on a direct path to carbon neutrality. Stone is a strong advocate for environmental justice.



### **Dan Hammill** Bellingham City Council-Ward 3

Dan Hammill will continue to be a champion for the environment and climate action and is proposing a single-use plastics ban in Bellingham. He supports 100% renewable energy for Bellingham by 2030, stormwater protections for Lake Whatcom, protections for the Salish Sea, and the removal of the diversion dam on the Nooksack.



<https://www.sierraclub.org/washington/2019-endorsements>

**Lisa Anderson**  
Bellingham  
City Council-Ward 5

Lisa Anderson has volunteered for City of Bellingham Planning and Community Development Commission, Bellingham Shoreline Committee, and York Neighborhood Association Board. She believes we must protect clean water and reduce our carbon footprint while growing our living wage jobs through green industry.



**Anthony Distefano**  
Bellingham  
Port Commission-District 3

Anthony Distefano will bring the passion for outreach and advocacy needed to the issues that the Port has an effect upon concerning Whatcom County and the Salish Sea. More can be done to control run-off from Port properties and the Port should set policy that will reduce these harmful effects.



**Alex McLean**  
Bellingham  
School Board-Position 3

McLean has brought insightful perspectives to many environmental issues in Bellingham, including stormwater management, green building, transportation and infrastructure, stream and trail restoration projects, and urban design. McLean aspires to add value to the future stewardship and sustainability policies of Bellingham Public School Board's discussions.



**WHAT WILL YOUR  
LEGACY BE?**

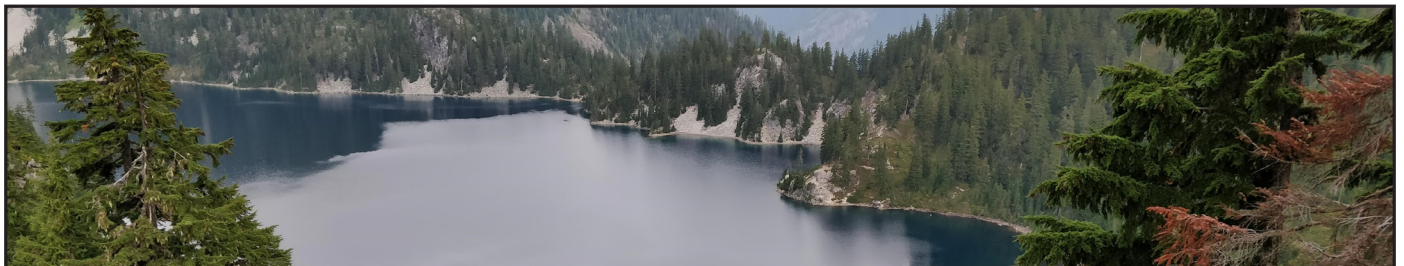
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**Washington State Leadership Directory**  
[www.sierraclub.org/washington/leaders](http://www.sierraclub.org/washington/leaders)

<https://www.sierraclub.org/washington/2019-endorsements>

# Thoughts From Our State Political Chair



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By Bonnie Gail

More often than not toward the end of a long Political Committee video conference call, my dog, Jack, will pop his head into the video and give everyone a look over and politely remind me it is time to take him outside. This year Jack has hiked in Mt. Rose, in the Olympics, Rattlesnake Ledge, and Moran State Park, to name a few, and many of the streets of northwest Seattle. No walk or hike is approached with any less enthusiasm. In fact, I often joke that everything is his "favorite thing ever." This year the chapter political committee took on the same enthusiasm in endorsing folks from Oak Harbor to Port of Vancouver, from Spokane City Council to Mayor of Olympia, school board to the legislature. It was our favorite thing ever.

I am in awe of the dedication of these volunteers and of our candidates. Many candidates reached out and specifically sought endorsement and insight into ways to make our communities have cleaner air and more efficient transportation. Our all-volunteer chapter political committees review questionnaires, conduct in-person interviews, and research the record and/or prior experience for each candidate. The names of those who seem most likely to be environmental champions are submitted to the state political committee for Sierra Club endorsement. One group reviewed over 100 endorsement questionnaires and, in total, there are over 80 endorsements in this publication of *The Crest*. We hope that you find this edition of the *Crest* helpful as you make the decisions to cast your vote.

Continued on page 19

# EDUCATIONAL OUTINGS

## Connect With The Outdoors With The Sierra Club

By Lehman Holder, Loo Wit (Vancouver area) Outings Leader



## GREAT summer for OUTINGS MORE outdoor fun AHEAD

It's been another great Northwest summer, and here's hoping you "opted outside" and took advantage of the relatively-cool temps to enjoy a

Sierra Club outing (or two, or three). And the good news is that more outings fun is ahead as the crispness of fall arrives.

### Southwest Washington

In SW Washington, Loo Wit offered its always-fun summer menu of hikes, cycling and sea kayaking. Phyllis Farrell, South Sound Group chair, led her first outing, a hike near the Nisqually delta. Outing leaders Don Rose and Matthew Diamond led a variety of hikes in the Columbia Gorge and Gifford Pinchot National Forest. Lehman Holder and his reliable assistant leader Chris Hartman had very good responses to bicycle outings in the Vancouver area and the Gorge. Sea kayak outings featured both beginner/novice opportunities on Lake River near Ridgefield, WA, and intermediate-level trips to the Kalama River, Silver Lake near Castle Rock, and Scappoose Bay in Oregon.

### Northwest Washington

Sno-Isle Group's new leaders Anna Lee and Clara Hsu love alpine lakes! This summer they led a hike from the Mountain Loop Highway to Heather Lake, which was popular and rewarding. Next they started near Snoqualmie Pass to hike up the rocky trail to Snow Lake in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. Along with enjoying the stunning lake, they inspected the remnants of a stone cabin of yore that still stands

Seattle's newest leaders Alex Craven and Michelle Nitardy ventured to the Mountain Loop Highway for a car camping weekend and led hikes into the area's splendid old growth forests, alpine lakes, mountain meadows and waterfalls.

### Service Projects

Our annual service projects brought out many volunteers and lots of well-earned thanks!



Meadow Creek trail maintenance

by Harry Romberg

- The Meadow Creek trail maintenance work party applied their skills in the Wild Sky Wilderness, north of Skykomish off US Hwy 2.
- The Mount Baker Group's Diobsud Creek trail maintenance has continued for 24 years!
- The Mount Baker Group's participation in the annual fall Baker Lake Clean-up is always a fun and rewarding service project. They've been pitching in for over five years.
- Far off on the ocean coast, we joined the Washington Coast Cleanup, which is a dedicated, focused effort by volunteers (never enough) to pick up debris from our coastal beaches. Don't miss out on our future service projects, or better yet, help organize one near you!

### Planning Ahead

Yes, more outings fun is ahead. Two more bike outings and two more sea kayak outings will be posted on the Portland-Vancouver Meetup site in late September and early October. More hiking opportunities are ahead, too. After the holidays, Nordic (cross-country) ski and snowshoe outings will highlight the start of a new outings year in January. Just because it's chilly outside doesn't mean you can't get out there.

Are you an experienced outdoor adventurer and able to step up and take a leadership role? Free training for new leaders is available across the state and includes basic first aid oriented to outdoor activities. We recently trained several members in Seattle and are planning to offer trainings in Bellingham, Olympia and Vancouver too. You can request training updates by sending an email to [Outings.chair@washington.sierraclub.org](mailto:Outings.chair@washington.sierraclub.org)

### You can find out about future outings at:

[www.sierraclub.org/washington/outings](http://www.sierraclub.org/washington/outings)

### Want to chat about outings?

Email Lehman at: [tripsGuy@aol.com](mailto:tripsGuy@aol.com)



Sierra Club Outings - Top Left to Right: Snow Lake - by David Burd, Oyster Dome - by Nancy Johnson Lower Bottom: Biking - by Chris Hartman



# Washington State Sierra Club Executive Committee Election

The Chapter is governed by an Executive Committee (ExCom) made up of volunteer leaders from across the state. The Executive Committee meets monthly to provide financial oversight, make conservation and endorsement decisions, shape long-range planning, appoint volunteer leaders, support chapter fundraising, and make commitments to community partnerships. Please cast your vote (see *back page*) for the following committed Sierra Club members who have stepped forward to take on these responsibilities.

## Bonnie Gail

I am an at-large member of the Washington State Chapter Sierra Club and State Political Chair. I am passionate about engaging members to work on electing environmental champions into all levels of government and to work with leaders on building strong environmental policy. I also am privileged to be serving my second year as the Council of Club Leaders representative at the annual Council of Club Leaders meeting where chapters across the country come together to work on setting club policy and exchange ideas and tools. I look forward to another opportunity to serve the Washington State Chapter as a member of the chapter executive committee.



## Diane Shisk

I started with the Sierra Club on the Beyond Coal Committee and joined the Equity and Justice Committee when it formed about 4 years ago. I've been chair of that Committee for 2 years now. I do similar work with 350Seattle and through my affiliation with Re-evaluation Counseling. I don't think we can be fully effective in our environmental work without addressing racism, and I'd like to contribute to our ongoing progress.



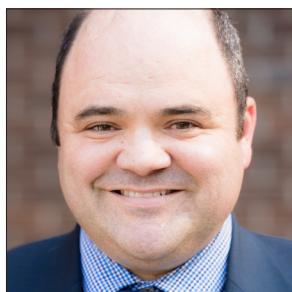
## Leah Missik

I've been involved with the Sierra Club from a young age and was the first Beyond Coal Campaign intern in Kentucky, my home state. I'm now on the Seattle Group Executive Committee co-chairing the housing subcommittee and also participating on the political and equity subcommittees. I work for Climate Solutions as their Washington Transportation Policy Manager, developing and implementing policies that will accelerate our transition to a clean energy economy. In addition, I speak Russian and do translating and editing for Russian environmental activists to help highlight their efforts.



## Mark Sullivan

I'm a 4th generation Washingtonian, now residing near Sequim, on the Olympic Peninsula. I'm an at-large member of the Chapter Executive Committee and currently serve as Chapter Vice-Chair. I'm also on the task force guiding our three-state Snake River Restoration campaign. In my pre-retirement life I was Executive Director of the NW Energy Coalition (the Club was a founding Coalition member), Director of Seattle City Light's award-winning energy conservation division, and, subsequently, the utility's Director of Strategic Planning. Confronting climate change and restoring NW wild salmon populations are my personal environmental priorities. While the Club is non-partisan, I'm a Yellow Dog Democrat.



## Mason Thompson

My family and I live in Bothell where I am the Chair of the Parks & Recreation Board and a current City Council candidate. I am particularly concerned with the impact of our built environment. As we continue to sprawl into more energy-inefficient suburbs, we consume open space at the same time. More pavement, more congestion, and more lane-miles driven follows. We force those with the fewest resources to bear the highest commuting cost both in money and time. We should advocate for a better way: to return to a traditional development pattern that prioritizes people over cars, helps transit succeed, allows for more affordable housing types, and can drastically reduce lane-miles driven. We should concentrate growth in equitable cities and let the wilderness be wild.



The Skykomish River & Cascade Mountains

From Creative Commons

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By Jesse Piedfort, Director Sierra Club, Washington State Chapter

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2019 was without question a great year for the environment in the Washington State Legislature. Sierra Club was proud to work in partnerships across the state to help pass groundbreaking climate legislation, new protections for Puget Sound and orcas, and funding for an important stakeholder process that will help advance the conversation on Snake River dam removal.

Unfortunately, the legislature left a few important jobs unfinished in 2019, including important regulations needed to protect the rivers and streams that sustain endangered salmon.

There's no doubt Washingtonians care deeply about protecting salmon. And yet, Washington State still allows a destructive recreational gold mining practice called suction dredge mining to go virtually unregulated.

Suction dredge mining is a form of recreational mining that uses gas-powered dredges to vacuum up rocks, gravel, and sediment from the bottom of creeks and rivers to search for gold. Scientific studies have shown this

practice degrades water quality, destroys aquatic habitat and harms riparian vegetation.

This practice is happening all over Washington State, including areas designed as critical habitat for endangered Chinook salmon, which are the primary food source for our endangered population of Southern Resident Orcas. Places like The Yakima Basin, Upper Columbia, Spokane River, and Puget Sound rivers such as the Skykomish, Skagit, and Nooksack are all being damaged by suction dredge mining.

Washington is the only state with populations of Endangered Pacific salmon and steelhead that still allows suction dredge mining and other forms of motorized mineral prospecting without requiring permits or regulatory oversight. Consequently, Washington State has become a target for out-of-state miners, creating much greater pressure on our streams and a dangerous situation for our water quality and native fish.

The 2019 legislature came close to getting this done; a

Continued on page 19

bill regulating dredge mining and prohibiting it in critical habitat passed the Washington State Senate and several House committees. Unfortunately, the bill failed to advance to a vote of the full House before the session ended.

Making sure the legislature finishes the job on regulating suction dredge mining will be a top priority for Sierra Club in 2020. As Sierra Club members know, our salmon are still in grave danger. Returns are low, and we won't succeed in recovering these iconic species without protecting the habitat they rely on.

For the latest on our state legislative agenda in 2020, stay tuned to future editions of the Evergreen, our monthly email newsletter.

Or visit: [www.sierraclub.org/washington](http://www.sierraclub.org/washington)

Vote No on I-976 - Continued from page 1

Additionally, businesses that rely on transit to get workers to their jobs on time will also feel the strain of cuts to voter-approved local transit and light rail expansion. We need safe, reliable transit options that keep our state moving and help families get to work, go to the doctor, and get home on time for dinner. Just the facts:

- I-976 hurts projects from Spokane to Seattle, Bellingham to Vancouver, and everywhere in between, including 63 smaller cities such as Mercer Island, Wenatchee, Everett, Zillah, and more.
- If passed, I-976 cuts state funding for projects like voter-approved local transit and light rail expansion, highway safety projects such as retrofitting bridges and funding for the State Patrol, ferry improvements, Amtrak improvements, freight mobility improvements, and more.
- More than \$12 billion worth of projects across the state will be at risk if I-976 passes, including nearly \$7 billion of voter-approved Sound Transit projects.
- A broad coalition has formed to oppose Tim Eyman's I-976, including Sierra Club, 350 Seattle, Transportation Choices Coalition, the Transit Riders Union, Audubon Washington, the Washington State Labor Council, businesses like Amazon and Expedia, and cities, towns, and elected leaders from across the state.

The enthusiasm of members and supporters has been so great this year we are able to help multiple candidates through campaign mailings and direct campaign contributions.

Numerous volunteers have emailed us at, [wasierrapolitical@gmail.com](mailto:wasierrapolitical@gmail.com), to ask how they can be involved in campaigns. As the 2019 campaign season comes to a close the political committee is grateful for everyone's contribution and excited for 2020.

As the Chapter political committee heads into 2020, we are excited to engage new voters with same day and automatic voter registration, providing easy access for all to participate in our democracy. 2020 will be a busy year with races for Governor, Attorney General, ports and school boards. Also, the Sierra Club Political Team will be seeking input from members about the Presidential race and, once a candidate is endorsed, working to ensure an environmental champion is elected to the White House. The chapter political committees look forward to putting together a full slate of recommendations in 2020 and engaging every member to get environmental champions elected to office.

It's Jack's way--do all things with enthusiasm, approach each campaign with excitement, and don't forget to get outside once in a while.



Activists continue to oppose huge new fracked gas refineries proposed in Tacoma and Kalama. Decisions are expected soon. Stay tuned!



**Sierra Club**

180 Nickerson Street, Suite #202  
Seattle, WA 98109

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**Please vote. Your ballot must be delivered by Wednesday, November 27, 2019 to:**

WA State Chapter ExCom Election, 180 Nickerson Street #202, Seattle, WA 98109

Election information and ballots are also available on our web site:

**[www.SierraClub.org/Washington](http://www.SierraClub.org/Washington)**

*Leave this top voter identification label open and visible. Fold and seal the ballot section below this line to ensure privacy.*

Fold the bottom edge of this page to this line and staple or seal with tape.

## 2019 Washington State Chapter Executive Committee Ballot

1. Read the candidates statements on page 17.
2. The line above your mailing name and address on this page shows your membership type.
  - A Single member may only use the Single column to vote.
  - Joint members may vote in both the Single and Joint columns.

### Please Vote for up to 5 Candidates

Candidates	Single	Joint
Bonnie Gail	[ ]	[ ]
Leah Missik	[ ]	[ ]
Diane Shisk	[ ]	[ ]
Mark Sullivan	[ ]	[ ]
Mason Thompson	[ ]	[ ]

**Please return this entire page. If your mailing label is not on this page, print your name, mailing and email address in the top section.**

3. Make any corrections to your name or address using the open space next to your mailing label.
4. Remove this entire page. Fold the bottom edge of this page to the line above. Seal your ballot with tape or staple it closed.

Ballots may not be emailed. After we validate your membership, we will remove your voter ID label section.  
Later we will unseal the ballots and count the votes.