

If you favor a local approach, how will you “protect the character and fragile environment of our city” and counter the shifting of tax burden from developers to Edmonds citizens while ensuring a policy that reasonably increases housing availability?

I favor local control, with regional cooperation and coordination in individual instances when that cooperation is clearly beneficial.

I do not support proposals that subsidize developers. We should target funding to offer rent assistance, or a downpayment program, or a rental deposit program, or . . .

I think addressing the issue by paving over the entire Puget Sound area is an environmental disaster we need to prevent. I do not yet understand how that can have any result other than increased pollution of air and water and soil, increased land slides, increased urban flooding, increased urban heat, and the destruction of remaining environmental assets, including wildlife and their habitat.

2. Edmonds’ government seems to have devolved into an unelected staff and City Attorney more frequently proposing and even advocating for legislation. Few even reside in the City by which they are employed. Should unelected staff have a heightened level of influence and power in creating legislation? How should that be managed and where should Edmonds’ citizens fit into that legislative process?

The public is supposed to come first. If Council is able to smooth out its procedures, the staff and the attorney will risk getting "caught in the act" by alert citizens and members of the public. Both mistakes, and the role of unelected staff, will be reduced.

...3. RCW 36.70A.140 requires a city with a Comprehensive Plan to ensure “continuous public participation in the development and amendment of comprehensive land use plans and development regulations...” In ...

... the ability for all persons attending the meeting to hear each other at the same time.” What will you do as a Council member to ensure continuous public participation in a genuine and transparent manner?

As I have before, I will seek to assure genuine public input. This includes much more than bare minimum legal requirements. It is insufficient to say "we had three public meetings, a survey, and a carefully orchestrated open house, so we must have had public input", if in fact, genuine public input was avoided or minimized throughout, and/or major changes were added at the end of the process.

4. Rank the following issues in order of your priority for Edmonds. Detail your ideas about how to address each of the top three. Please be specific.

__Affordable Housing

__Equity and Inclusion

__Protection of the Environment

__Economic Development

__Public Safety

Ranking is complicated by some items lacking a specific and agreed definition, but I have: Public safety, Protection of the Environment, Equity and Inclusion, Affordable Housing, Economic Development.

1) Public Safety. At the interview with the Everett Herald, I suggested updated training for the police. This suggestion proved popular among the other candidates present. Also, I consider public safety to extend beyond police and fire, also including safe drinking water, effective sewage systems, adequate storm drainage, and safe roads, sidewalks and buildings.

2) Regarding the environment, I have participated with others in the acquisition and development of Marina Beach Park, Hickman Park, and Civic Playfield. I have worked to save the trees at Perrinville Woods, and surrounding Westgate. I have participated with others on Marsh restoration, the restoration of Brown's Bay, and preventing the Connector. I am not interested in reducing environmental protections, and I will actively look for opportunities for improvements, particularly regarding stormwater.

3) Equity and Inclusion. I participated with the group that founded the diversity commission. As most parents with more than one child will know, fair does not always mean equal, and inclusion is required for quality of life for all.

Lora