



2015 Endorsement Questionnaire Answers

Pamela Banks

Seattle City Council District 3

Background Information

What is your personal background and history?

I am currently the CEO and President of the Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle. I took over the organization 3 years and ago under a financial crisis. There were 2 employees, no board, one program (housing) and a budget of \$400K. Today we have 15 employees (13 full time, 2 part time) with full benefits, 15 board members, 3 programs (employment, education and housing) and a \$2 million budget. Prior to that I spent 30 years in city government and had positions with increasing responsibility in the following departments, Housing & Human Services, Dept. of Neighborhoods, SDOT (Community Liaison for the first Link Light Rail Project, and Mayor Greg Nickels office as his Outreach Director and Senior Policy Advisor.

What elected offices have you sought and held?

NONE

What appointed offices have you held and what body or individual was responsible for the appointment?

NONE

What is your community and volunteer experience?

I have served on a variety of boards including the Garfield High School PTSA, founding board member of the Garfield High School Foundation, President and board member Seattle International Baseball League, Rainier Valley Chamber of Commerce, Capitol Hill Housing, NAACP, and currently on the executive committee and board member for the Alliance of Education and President of my condo association.

Are you a member of the Cascade Bicycle Club or other bicycling organizations?

NO

How do you typically get around, whether it's by car, bike, bus, walking, or other?

Walk, Transit, Car

Issue Questions

1. Vision Zero

Do you support maintaining Vision Zero as the paramount objective of Seattle's transportation system?

Yes

Do you support ensuring that every new major transportation project is designed to achieve zero traffic fatalities or serious injuries?

Yes

Any further comments:

I live on a major arterial and support lowering the speed limits to reduce traffic/ped/bike accidents and improve safety.

2. Twenty is Plenty

Do you support reducing speed limits on nonarterial residential streets and in business districts to 20 mph across the city?

Yes

Do you support Seattle adopting the state's default urban speed limit of 25 mph for arterials?

Yes

Do you have any further comments? If you answered "yes" to the Vision Zero question but "no" to the "Twenty is Plenty" question, please explain the discrepancy.

As I stated before, I support the reduction in speed limits on arterials to improve safety and reduce accidents.

3. Connecting Seattle

Are you committed to planning, funding and building 250 miles of new protected bike lanes, neighborhood greenways and trails within the next decade?

Yes

What level of funding (per year) would you work to secure for investments in bicycling?

I would work to achieve the necessary funding to continue to implement the city's Bicycle Master Plan.

How will you ensure the City has the funds necessary to build this bikeway network?

By working in partnership with other city council members, the Mayor's office, Dept. of Transportation (SDOT) staff and the community during the budget process.

4. Prioritizing Our Public Rights of Way

Do you support the adoption of the modal transportation prioritization hierarchy?

Yes

Take either Eastlake Avenue N or Rainier Avenue S as a hypothetical example. If the street was redesigned, how would you use a modal transportation prioritization hierarchy to dedicate space for walking, biking, driving and transit (whether by streetcar or bus)?

We would have to ensure that we are implementing the pedestrian and bicycle master plans to ensure the modal transportation priority hierarchy was implemented. I live on 23rd Ave S and SDOT is beginning to implement this modal hierarchy by reducing reducing 4 traffic lanes down to 2 with a center turn lane. This will result in lower speed limits and reduce traffic accidents. Wider sidewalks will also be installed and transit turn outs will be created. In addition bike traffic will be directed to the greenway on 22nd Avenue.

5. Priority Projects

Do you support the following projects?

Yes	Northgate Pedestrian Bridge
Yes	Completing the Burke-Gilman Trail as a multi-use trail along the rail line through Ballard
Yes	Westlake Ave N Protected Bike Lane
Yes	Protected Bike Lane on Roosevelt Way and Eastlake Ave
Yes	Protected Bike Lane along Montlake Blvd from the Husky Stadium Light Rail Station to Roanoke Street
Yes	Downtown Network of Protected Bike Lanes
Yes	Protected Bike Lanes on Rainier Avenue

Yes	Expansion of Pronto Cycle Share
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Your Priority Projects:

Support the building of the first greenway in the Central District on 22nd Avenue. Continue building out the bike path with protected lanes that supports safe passage to and from I-90 and too Capitol Hill

Repave the roadway along Lake Washington throughout the district.

6. Sharing the Joy of Bicycling

How would you use your voice and position to continue to share the joy of bicycling and build a positive bicycle culture?

I will support Sunday Parkways and a huge fan and supporter of Bicycle Sundays along Lake Washington Blvd into Seward Park. I haven't replaced my bicycle since it was stolen but plan to do so. I will promote bicycling in my district and throughout the city to get residents out of their cars and as a great form of exercise.

Final Comments