

King County Democrats 2009 General Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name	Robert Rosencrantz
Position sought	Seattle City Council Position #8
Residence Legislative, County Council and Congressional district	43 rd Legislative District, County Council District 2, 7 th Congressional District
Are you a Democrat? Are you known as a Democrat?	Yes. Yes.
Campaign Information	
Campaign Name	Rosencrantz for City Council
Web page	www.robertrosencrantz.com
Campaign Email address	robert@robertrosencrantz.com
Manager	Bethany Krumm
Campaign mailing address	2316 - 18 th Avenue E. Seattle, Washington 98112-2113
Campaign phone number	206-726-9999
Campaign FAX	206-329-7673

Candidate Background: Community service, education, employment and other relevant experience.
Describe your qualifications, education, employment, community and civic activity, Union affiliation and other relevant experience.

Public Service

Montlake Community Club; President, 2006 – 2008, Trustee, 2003 – 2006 – Our focus is neighborhood issues; parks, traffic and pedestrian safety, a healthy business district, a new library, and schools. We are working on SR520's replacement through our 'Parkway Coalition.'

Interfaith Task Force on Homelessness; Member, 2003 – 2009 – The Interfaith Task Force on Homelessness brings together members of various faith communities to assist homeless people. ITFH sponsors the annual 'Political Will to End Homelessness' conference, assists Tent Cities, and played a role in helping draft and refine King County's 10-year plan to end homelessness.

Aids Housing of Washington; Volunteer, 2002 – My focus with AHW was ensuring sufficient funds were allocated for the long-term maintenance of the Lyon building. I was given open access to financial records and the physical plant in order to issue my findings.

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Thornton Creek Alliance; Boardmember, 2004 – 2007 – I was Treasurer of TCA and strengthened its finances through strong oversight. Thornton Creek Alliance played a key role in the creation of an Urban Center at Northgate in the development of the south parking lot.

Friends of the Cedar River Watershed, Boardmember, 2004 – 2007 – Funded by Seattle Public Utilities, FCRW works to insure clean, safe drinking water for Seattle and other Puget Sound cities, and towards proper implementation of the Habitat Conservation Plan.

Council House of National Federation of Jewish Women; Boardmember, 2004 – present – Council House provides affordable housing to Senior Citizens of all backgrounds.

Seattle Great City Initiative, 2006 – present

Great Cities advocates environmentally friendly policies that will create great urban living.

Employment & Professional

Affordable Housing Specialist, 1989 – present; I have played a direct role in creating or preserving more than 1000 units of low-income and affordable housing in our region.

Paperboy, Seattle Times, 1968 – 1969; More than doubled circulation for a Central Area sales route that had been in steady decline.

Janitor, Biltmore Apartments, 1969 – 1978; Kept an 8-story, classic brick building sparkling clean. Mopped, waxed and buffed floors, vacuumed hallways, punched boiler tubes, painted apartments, and handled minor repairs while working my way through high school and college.

Sales Clerk, Häagen-Dazs Ice Cream Shoppe, Boulder, Colorado, 1979 – 1981; Scooped ice cream while training at high-altitude for the Olympic Games in the 50-kilometer racewalk.

Developer & Owner, Häagen-Dazs Ice Cream Shoppe, Beaverton, Oregon 1981 – 1983
Acquired franchise, identified location, negotiated lease, obtained financing [at 22% interest], developed, constructed, owned, and operated the store, which was in the top 10% of sales nationwide. Sold the business to return to Seattle.

Apartment Building Sales, Coldwell Banker Commercial Real Estate, Seattle 1984-1987

Apartment Building Sales, Cain & Scott, Seattle 1987 – 1997

Real Estate Acquisitions Manager, King County Housing Authority 2000 – 2003
While working here I helped organize the Housing Authority under OPEIU Local 8.

Executive Director, Northwest Association for Housing Affordability, Seattle 2004
Oversaw management of 9 properties in rural areas across Washington and administered a \$2,000,000 annual budget. I also accomplished in one year what they had been trying to do for the preceding seven years; a complex reorganization of its tax structure.

Owner, Rose Properties [Brokerage], Seattle 1997 – Present
I represent local individuals and national companies in the sale of their apartment properties. Deals have ranged in size from \$1,000,000 to \$30,000,000. Services have included standard sales representation, as well as audit and financial structuring and restructuring.

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Housing

Owner, Rose Properties [Apartment Buildings], Seattle

1986 – Present

Acquired, own and manage four apartment buildings in Seattle based on long-range plan I wrote in 1984. Purchased first building in 1986 and added buildings in 1988, 1995 and 1998. My wife and I manage all the properties. We have never evicted a tenant nor commenced eviction proceedings.

Personal

Married to Terry Rosencrantz, formerly a Deputy Sheriff; four children (20, 18, 15, 12) all attending Seattle public Schools or the University of Washington

Member USA track teams 1974-1981 as a 50-kilometer racewalker

Three year track letterman at UW.

Education

Franklin High School, Seattle, 1973; University of Washington; B.A., Economics, 1978

What ratings and endorsements have you received?	
Legislative District Democrats	Eric Pettigrew, Sharon Tomiko Santos, Joe McDermott, Eileen Cody, Steve Hobbs, Bob Hasegawa
Union Endorsement	None yet
Municipal League	Not yet issued
SEAMEC	Not yet issued
Other Endorsements	Reverend Dr. Samuel McKinney, Ruth Woo, Tim Bradbury, Ellen Ferguson

Which groups do you plan to ask for an endorsement?

Please answer the following questions*		Yes	No	Qualified
1	Do you support the King County Democratic Platform?			X
2	Do you support the right of workers (excluding military) to bargain and strike?	X		
3	Do you support affirmative action?	X		
4	Do you support freedom of choice in contraception, abortion and sterilization?			X
5	Do you support public funding for abortions for poor women?			X
6	Do you support school vouchers? Do you support charter schools?			X
7	Do you support the Davis-Bacon Act?	X		

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8	Do you support equal rights for women?	X		
9	Do you support major changes in the way we live to help stop global warming?	X		
10	Do you support the restoration of voting rights to persons convicted of a felony who have served their sentence?	X		

Please answer the following questions *		Yes*	No
1	Have you ever failed to pay any taxes or court ordered judgments?		X
2	Have you ever been found in violation of a Public Disclosure Commission, Federal Election Commission or Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission regulation?		X
3	Have you ever been convicted of a felony?		X

* If you answered "Yes" or "Qualified" please explain your answer.

1. I agree with the core values as expressed in the introduction to the Platform. I do not agree with some of its details.

4.&5. President Obama recently said, "So let's work together to reduce the number of women seeking abortions by reducing unintended pregnancies, and making adoption more available, and providing care and support for women who do carry their child to term. Let's honor the conscience of those who disagree with abortion, and draft a sensible conscience clause, and make sure that all of our health care policies are grounded in clear ethics and sound science, as well as respect for the equality of women." ... "When we do that – when we open our hearts and our minds to those who may not think like we do or believe what we do – that's when we discover at least the possibility of common ground."

I agree with President Obama.

6. In order to better serve underserved children I would support a focused charter school program. Such programs have brought benefit in several urban school districts after initial mixed results. In Los Angeles, for instance, charter school programs with union teachers have brought impressive turnarounds to several long-standing problem schools.

Are you a member of another political party? If so, which ones? Have you ever supported or given money to a candidate from another party in a partisan race? If so, whom?

No, I'm not a member of another political party. Yes. I supported and gave money to Norm Maleng.

Are you a member of your local Democratic District Party? Have you contributed financially to any Democratic Organization? Have you been a Precinct Committee Officer? When/Where?

I'm a member of the 43rd District Democrats, and have contributed money to them. I have also contributed regularly to Fighting for the Majority. I have not been a PCO.

What are the main messages of your campaign? What is your campaign plan? How many doors have you knocked on to date, pieces of mail planned, budgeting, staffing? What is the

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fundraising goal for your campaign? How much have you raised to date? Why will you win?

The main message of my campaign is that I'm running for City Council to create opportunity, to rebuild a job-growing economy so everyone in Seattle can thrive. Our economy is transforming. As we become lean and green our city must be creative, imaginative and flexible. In this century of change only cities that compete every day will win the opportunity race.

Opportunity abounds even in these tough times, but it's unrealized because our city government is out of balance. There's one dominant voice; the Mayor's. He roars, while the City Council whispers. It doesn't have to be that way; Seattle deserves a Council that's the people's voice and not the Mayor's echo. I'll restore the balance of power at City Hall.

My campaign plan is to clearly articulate a positive vision of the future, one that has Seattle in a central role in meeting the economic and environmental challenges of our times. Harnessing energies that have low or zero marginal costs and few environmental impacts is the key to a bright future, and I will provide leadership to get us there.

I have door-belled only a modest amount so far. I will do so more as the Primary gets closer.

The campaign fundraising goal is to raise \$125,000 for the August 18th Primary. To date we have raised \$75,000.

I will win because the voters will see that my vision, experience and accomplishments are just what the Seattle City Council needs. My demonstrated skill in blending the interests of disparate groups into effective programs that improve the lives of our fellow Seattle citizens is the type of leadership voters are looking for. It makes me the best-qualified candidate to lead our City and represent the public interest in this period of challenge and opportunity.

What are the single most pressing issues facing your jurisdiction? What actions would you take if elected?

The single most pressing issue in Seattle is to rebuild a job-growing economy, which my campaign has as its highest priority. Here are the two parts of my strategy to do this:

Part 1: Keep what we have. Maritime, Industrial and Manufacturing businesses support over 100,000 family-wage jobs in King County with over \$10 Billion in annual revenues. They pay a substantial amount of the taxes that fund human and social services. High value industries are a critical component of a healthy economy, and I'll work hard to help them stay in Seattle.

Part 2: The new job frontier is in harnessing clean energy. We can do it right here, by transforming our city into a magnet for research and development of solar, wind, tidal, geothermal and other forms of energy.

If you are a candidate in a contested primary race, what record of performance, ability, experience, personal qualities, and positions on issues distinguish you from your opponent(s)? If you do not receive the nomination, is there any reason you could not support your Democratic opponent in the general election? Please explain.

When I see a problem, I don't look away. I've worked for many years to find and implement approaches to pressing problems that result in greater opportunity and hope. The more than 1000 units of low-income and affordable housing I have played a direct role in creating or preserving is testimony to my ability to get difficult things done.

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On transportation, over the past 7 years I have been committed to making sure that the replacement for the SR520 Bridge makes the most environmental progress possible and fully leverages the public's investment in transit by having light rail and bus service connect to each other. The plan developed by the coalition I'm helping lead is a finalist in the State's selection process.

Taking up the call from Senator Patty Murray, for almost two years, I spent Fridays as a volunteer at Madigan Army Medical Center at Fort Lewis. Under the supervision of the Office of the Chaplain, I worked with wounded soldiers, helping them get their lives back in order. Making sure they didn't become part of the homeless population, i.e. closing the front door to homelessness, was a primary goal.

I am willing to take on the hardest issues, and have repeatedly worked across interests and bridged ideologies to find the 'common ground' of which President Obama speaks.

Do you believe the current structure of taxes and/or fees that generate funds in your area are fair? If not, how would you change it?

The options the City of Seattle has to levy and collect local taxes are fairly limited. As such, in order to increase the amount of taxes it collects it must create a business climate that fosters a job-growing economy, one in which business activity and the resulting tax revenue produce enough revenue to allow it to provide essential public services within its budget.

King County has a ten year plan to end homelessness. What ideas do you have to increase low income and affordable housing/?

Since 1988, I have played a direct role in creating or preserving over 1000 units of low-income and affordable housing in the region. I also played a key role in helping King County Housing Authority assemble 37 acres of contiguous property 2 miles from Microsoft. Currently the properties contain about 550 affordable and low-income homes; someday a few thousand affordable and low-income homes affordable will be built there. To the City Council I will bring the same vision, creativity and skill to low-income and affordable housing that I have brought to the issue over the past 20+ years.

What role should government play in the healthcare system?

As a country we should work towards a policy of universal coverage. At the same time, individuals should be able to select their own medical plans and doctors.

What is your position on civil rights for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered people? What is your position on equal rights for same-sex couples when it comes to benefits, civil unions, marriage and parental rights?

All citizens should have the same rights and protections under the law.

All couples should be entitled to the same rights, benefits and responsibilities of marriage.

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What creative solutions can you offer to address the problems of the economically disadvantaged?

Creating opportunity is the way to provide economically disadvantaged people with the path to a better life. Family wage jobs that come with training, health care coverage and a chance for advancement are the best hope for progress. And the way to create these jobs is to advance my clean energy agenda.

We should also make sure that every child, regardless of household income, number of parents, or primary language spoken at home, starts kindergarten with reading skills developed.

I have read this questionnaire and understand and approve the content and all provided information.		
Printed Name	Robert Rosencrantz	Date
Signature	/s/ Robert Rosencrantz	June 5, 2009