



## **Annie Fitzgerald Urbanist Questionnaire 2024**

State Representative, LD38, Position 1

**Do you think Washington state should have an income tax (yes/no)? If yes, what is the legislative path? If not, what forms of progressive revenue would you champion?**

I am supportive of progressive revenue. Because, we have such a regressive tax system, it will be a tough sell with voters to get them to pass an income tax. I am enthusiastic about working toward tax fairness including limiting corporate tax breaks, keeping the capital gains tax and working to lower property and sales tax especially on working people and seniors. I think if we can get real progress on those issues, we can work toward even more progressive tax policy.

**How would you vote on a transit-oriented development bill without an explicit affordability mandate and why?**

I would have to see the bill before I could say definitively but I would love to see more transit oriented development throughout the state especially in the Puget Sound region. We are on the same page on ensuring that development includes affordable housing.

**Do you support the rent stabilization and renter protection bill (HB 2114) that made it through the State House last year? If so, how would you approach ensuring its passage in both chambers?**



Yes I do. We need to keep pushing on this. The makeup of the legislature will be different next session and I will work to get this through in the next session.

**What are the highest priority items on your housing agenda?**

In East King County, we need to rapidly increase workforce housing so that working people in our community can live near where they work. I still think we can loosen regulation in terms of options for housing construction and the state needs to increase investments in local governments to unclog the backlog in permitting and get housing constructed as quickly as possible.

**What's your roadmap to fixing educational inequities in Washington state? How can Washington state comply with its constitutional duties regarding education, especially in light of several school districts including Seattle's contemplating school closures to grapple with deficits?**

This has been a bulk of my work in the Washington State Legislature. We have made significant strides to increase funding but we have more work to do on equity. I will continue to fight for top quality schools in every community in the state and understand the efforts that need to take place to fix educational inequities.

**What share of the state's transportation budget should be for alternatives to cars, such as transit, biking, and pedestrian infrastructure?**

I would hope we could get closer to ten percent.



**Do you support permitting jurisdictions to choose to hold elections in even years?  
What other election reforms excite you?**

Yes. I have been endorsed by Fair Vote Washington for my support of this and other election reforms.

**Due to the interventions of ballot-initiative-monger Tim Eyman and a state legislature that caved to him even after a lawsuit overturned the measure in 2007, Washington State has a 1% cap on property tax increases, greatly tying the hands of local governments and forcing them to use ballot measures to fund basic services. Do you think this cap should remain? If so, what tools will you give local governments to deal with the [fiscal cliff they're facing](#)?**

I don't. I believe local governments should have control over their taxing authority.