



Davina Duerr Urbanist Questionnaire 2024

State Representative LD1, 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?

Yes, it is the most effective way to get out of the relentless regressive quagmire of a tax system we have in this state.

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

At this point I would vote for any TOD bill that we could get out of both houses. There are ways to get the affordability mandate to work but probably not in every location, and it's more important that we get at the supply issue even if we can't get affordability built in.

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?

Well we have a much better chance now that Mullet and Van de Wege are gone but I think raising the percent of allowable increase to 15% is definitely the way forward.

What are the highest priority items on your housing agenda?



The Peterson bill regarding transitional housing and the Bateman Housing element with the builders remedy are also super important. I would like to continue chipping away at parking minimums. Also I would like to pass the rest of 2071 that I lost the final version-passive haus incentives.

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?

I wish I had a roadmap. The legislature needs to consider carefully when adding additional requirements to our public schools without additional funding and get to a place where we can fully fund education. Unfortunately the gap is great and if we lose the capital gains tax, the deficit will be even greater. When we close schools, we are talking about such a huge loss of community. Are the school closures a result of falling enrollment or other budgetary constraints? School closures in my opinion are preferable to losing availability of programs like band and art and programs that enhance a student's experience of the world and reaches kids who aren't necessarily good at academics. but it really depends on the impacts such as how large the class sizes would be with school closures and the cost to transport students further. We need to make it easier for school districts to ask for money in a way that the money can go toward existing programs and not new programs or costs but the state also has to step up with additional funding.

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



So I would guess after researching the last transportation package and supplemental budget that we spend between 10 and 20 times for highways than what we spend on multi-modal. Before I did a little research, I would have given a much higher number for multi-modal budgeting, but regarding what is politically feasible- 30% for multi-modal would be more than doubling the budget. If we lose CCA- well then we are really going to go backwards.

Do you support permitting jurisdictions to choose to hold elections in even years?

What other election reforms excite you?

Yes I do. I also support rank choice voting as it gives voters more choice and allows for more nuance in voting without throwing away votes to a 3rd party candidate.

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 do think the cap should be lifted and I sponsored the bill a couple of years ago and have been a fierce advocate in my caucus. This year I sponsored and passed the King County non-supplant bill which gave King county and the cities within the same rules as the rest of the state to go for levy lid lifts to pay for EXISTING programs rather than have to build or create new expenditures.