



T'wina Nobles Urbanist Questionnaire 2024

State Senate, LD28

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 support increasing our state's revenue with progressive revenue. In fact, we cannot maintain our current spending level if we do not get serious about adding more progressive revenue sources. As a member of the Senate Progressive Caucus, we are spending time this interim discussing, among ourselves and with our Senate Caucus, options for progressive revenue this next biennium.

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

I have and will support transit-oriented development bills, such as SB 6024, that include explicit affordability mandates. If the goal is to increase housing supply, we must include affordable multi-family housing options as we expand community and transit-oriented housing development.

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 co-sponsored its companion bill SB 5961. As a renter, I will continue to advocate for rent stabilization and renter protection.



What are the highest priority items on your housing agenda?

My priorities include addressing the housing affordability crisis through increasing affordable housing supply by offering a variety of housing options, protecting renters, supporting first-time homebuyers, eliminating barriers to housing, supporting our unhoused community, expanding housing development opportunities to Black contractors, removing racist barriers to accessing capital for homeownership, and keeping homeowners in their homes so they are not priced out of their own communities.

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?

We are underfunding public education. We can no longer afford unfunded mandates that deepen financial gaps in districts across our state. We must update our funding formula.

Fixing educational inequities requires addressing opportunity gaps, continuing to work on learning recovery, supporting the social and emotional needs of students and not disproportionately disciplining students in place of meeting those needs, recruiting and retaining a diverse teaching workforce, increasing educator pay, ensuring our schooling model centers the needs of students, and so much more.

We can comply with our constitutional duty by continuing to increase educational funding until we are fully funding education in our state.



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

While I do not have a specific percentage that should be allocated, I do support much greater investments in alternatives to cars.

As a member of the Senate Transportation Committee, I will continue to advocate for investment in projects that prioritize the transportation needs which includes investing in car alternatives.

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

Yes. Protecting and strengthening our democracy is important to me and in my past term, I co-sponsored SB 5723, allowing cities to freely switch their elections to even-numbered years. I will continue to support election reforms. I am also excited to continue my support for ranked choice voting and a more representative democracy.

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 support state and local property tax reform legislation similar to Senator Pederson's SB 5770.