

Candidate Endorsement Application & Questionnaire for 2024: Environment and Climate Caucus of the Washington State Democratic Party

The Environment and Climate Caucus (ECC) was founded in 2017. We work with a diverse community of stakeholders including the Washington State Democratic Party Central Committee and its associated caucuses.

The ECC grants endorsements to those candidates running for statewide, congressional, and legislative offices, who have demonstrated through experience and commitment, their support of ECC's mission to advocate for legislation and policy that protects the environment and supports effective responses to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

We are delighted that you are seeking ECC's endorsement. Please complete the questionnaire below online or provide to the email address provided below. In fairness to other applicants - incomplete or non-compliant applications, and late submissions, will not be considered.

Your responses will be shared with the ECC voting members who will review your questionnaire and the information provided on your campaign website, social media, and/or literature, with regard to meeting the ECC's stated mission.

If you are endorsed by the ECC during the Primary Election and proceed to the General, the endorsement will stand for the General. Endorsements are for the term of office designated by election.

The respondent's email (cameron@electcameronseverns.com) was recorded on submission of this form.

Email *

cameron@electcameronseverns.com

Application and Completed Questionnaire for Endorsement Deadlines:

4/14/2024 Eligibility Date

for ECC Membership (30 days before close of voting)

4/25/2024 ECC General

Meeting

4/27/2024 Candidate

Endorsement Questionnaire Due – Primary Election

5/7 – 5/14/2022 ECC Primary

Election Endorsement Ballot

5/17/2024 Contact endorsed

candidates

8/6/2024 Primary Election

8/18/2024 Eligibility Date

for ECC Membership (30 days before close of voting)

8/31/2024 Candidate Endorsement

Questionnaire Due – General Election

9/10 – 9/17/2022 ECC

General Election Endorsement Ballot

9/12/2022 ECC General Meeting – Candidate Forum

9/20/2024 Contact endorsed

candidates

11/5/2024 General Election

ECC Voting and Results:

Voting occurs electronically among eligible ECC members. The Voting Period takes place over one week following the due date for submission in each election. Results will be announced to those candidates who have received endorsement at the completion of the Voting Period.

Endorsement Rules:

The endorsement process will be according to the ECC's standing 2024 Endorsement Rules (<https://eccwa.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/ECC-Endorsement-Rules-2024.pdf>).

Submit questions to:

Jeff Berner, ECC Endorsements – endorsements@eccwa.org

Basic information (essay questions in next section)

Candidate's name *

Cameron Severns

Candidate's email address *

cameron@electcameronseverns.com

Candidate's phone number *

██████████

Office and position sought (e.g. LD 50 legislature, position 2) *

LD 25 Pos 1

Are you an incumbent running for re-election? *

Yes

No

Have you ever served in an elected position? If so, what position, and when? *

I am a PCO in the Democratic party

How many other Democratic candidates are there in your race (at the time you fill this out)? *

Just myself

I am a Democrat or I am willing to be identified with the Democratic Party (judicial candidates mark as noted) *

Yes

No

I am a judicial candidate

Links to your campaign website and/or Facebook or your most informative venue *

<https://electcamseverns.com/>

Term of office *

2 years

Campaign manager contact information (name, email, phone number) *

George Conzuelo, manager@electcameronseverns.com, 253-754-1264

Campaign consultant contact information (name, email, phone number) *

Raven Tyler, NWP Consulting, raven@nwpconsulting.com, (443) 931-2113

Essay questions

Please note word limits, and don't forget to answer all questions. Incomplete questionnaires cannot be considered.

Why are you running for this position? What in your background has led you to run? (Not to exceed 150 words) *

I am passionate about speaking up for the poor and marginalized in my community. Most of our working people in my area are fighting to get ahead, and their voices are not being heard. My main focus is to increase the safety net and increase the rights of workers to organize their workplaces. I'm the son of a teacher, and I have seen how important it is to have the protections and security that a unionized workplace provides. I hope to be elected to pass legislation that will make it easier for workers to organize and unionize their workplaces. I also believe that healthcare reform at the state level is possible. We can provide universal healthcare or a public option in WA State. I think that there is an opportunity to stand up for working people through legislation and law, and I hope to be the person that will make that happen.

Please limit your answers to the next five questions to 1000 words total

Please explain how your campaign will address donations from utilities, fossil fuel companies, and corporate PACs? *

I will not accept contributions from organizations that have conflicting values. I am a strong supporter of environmentalism, and I will never accept money from utilities, fossil fuel companies, or corporate PACs that oppose our green transition.

What are your most significant accomplishments either as an individual, member of a group, or elected official on environment and climate change? *

In my community the state airport commission attempted to put in airport nearby in Graham. I organized along with many members of the community to fight back and oppose this. While the fight is not over, its unlikely that any airport will be built in Pierce County due to these efforts. I have also spoken out against large warehouse development in Puyallup on King 5 news, and organized efforts to kill the approval of these mega projects eliminating our farmland and green spaces.

Briefly list organizations, events, rallies, canvassing, referendums, petitions, or policies and legislation you have engaged in to advocate for environmental protections. *

I have signed in and emailed my legislators on many housing bills, as good housing policy is good climate policy. I have also signed in and advocated for many public transportation bills in this past session as good public transportation policy is good climate policy.

If elected or re-elected what specific environment, climate change, biodiversity, transportation, building and land use, growth management, and/or environmental justice legislation will you prioritize and champion? *

I believe we should expand environmental protections. That means clamping down on polluters and corporations and setting higher environmental standards. Washington has immense environmental beauty and diversity. We cannot let it be destroyed by bad actors who are more concerned with their bottom line than the health of their community. If elected, I will prioritize policies such as preserving and expanding protected areas and implementing sustainable land management practices, advocating for investments in public transportation infrastructure and incentives for electric and low-emission vehicles to reduce reliance on fossil fuels, and promoting smart growth and sustainable urban planning policies that prioritize mixed land use, affordable housing, and access to green spaces.

Washington State law sets a target of 90.5 million metric tons (MMT) carbon pollution by 2020, but greenhouse gas emissions rose last year to 102 MMT (Department of Ecology). The state is not on-track. For state office positions, what action will you take to accelerate efforts towards Washington State's 2030 Climate goals, specifically a 45% reduction of carbon pollution below 1990 levels?

Our state legislature is taking the right steps to address climate change, and we must continue this progress. Our natural spaces should be enjoyed and cherished, which means taking good care of them through stewardship. If elected, I will champion sustainable forestry practices and support renewable energy sources. These actions prepare us for long-term resiliency and save the environment for future generations.

Transitioning to a carbon-neutral economy is necessary, but it must be done equitably. We need to transition to renewable energy and nuclear energy. I am also a big fan of comprehensive public transportation and dense community planning to reduce our carbon footprint. This transition must also allow communities affected by our climate transition to participate fully in the decision-making process and ensure that they receive adequate support and resources.

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