

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 (sean@janetforsenate.org) was recorded on submission of this form.

Email *

sean@janetforsenate.org

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 *

Janet St. Clair

Candidate's email address *

janet@janetforsenate.org

Candidate's phone number *

[REDACTED]

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

LD 10 Senate

Are you an incumbent running for re-election? *

Yes

No

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

Yes, I have served as Island County Commissioner since 2018.

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

Only 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 *

website: janetforsenate.org / Facebook: facebook.com/stclairforsenate

Term of office *

4 years

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

Sean Haney, sean@janetforsenate.org, (360) 445-1309

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

Brean Pugnetti, breann@cerillion4.com, 303-746-8876

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) *

My name is Janet St. Clair. I am an Island County Commissioner and a proud resident of Camano Island. I am running for the State Senate because I believe in the power of effective policy to create positive change. With decades of experience as a social worker and now as Commissioner, I have developed a deep understanding of the complex needs and challenges facing our communities. However, I have come to realize that many of the most pressing issues we face require further action at the state level.

My background in social work has equipped me with the empathy and understanding needed to address the diverse needs of our community members. Additionally, my experience as Commissioner has given me a better understanding of how policy decisions impact people's lives. I believe both of these experiences and the breadth of expertise I've gained will make me an effective legislator in Olympia.

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 any groups, corporations or industry that does not agree with my goals for the future of Washington. Groups who oppose a women's right to choose, corporations in conflict with my core values, or industries that seek to pollute our air and water with impunity will have no part in my campaign or my service if elected.

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

As an Island County Commissioner, I led the effort on a greenhouse gas emissions study. I worked to pass our Climate Resolution, creating an action agenda through a "climate in all policies" lens for our local government.

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

Organizations:

Executive Director, Sound Water Stewards, Island County

Northwest Clean Air Agency Board; 2019-current; hiatus in 2023

Puget Sound Partnership; Salmon Recovery Board 2021-23; Ecosystem Coordination Board 2022-2024

Washington State Dept of Natural Resource; Community and Urban Forestry Board 2022-2023

Policies and Legislation:

Island County Greenhouse Gas Emissions Study Grant

Island County Climate Change Resolution

Update to the Public Benefits Rating System to add forest stewardship into this tax incentive policy

Ended the loophole in County policy allowing a lifting of development moratoriums following timber harvesting.

Strengthened forest protections in local code.

Consistent support of conservation through Conservation Futures Funds and other county policy

Passed a Zero Emissions by 2040 Strategic Plan for Island Transit

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? *

If elected, I will continue to recognize and address policy that acknowledges the impact of climate change, facilitates effective mitigation and resiliency strategies and uses the revenue from the Climate Protection Act to invest in green energy, infrastructure, resiliency and our green transportation, including ferries. I will continue the work I have started as Commissioner in salmon recovery, shoreline restoration and protection of our Sound. I will invest in innovation and protection of water quantity and quality, septic and sewage strategies and sustainable development.

Further, I support legislation which will allow for the construction of more dense, more affordable housing in urban areas and located around zero emissions transit, public services and grocery stores. This policy, in combination with the investments we are making in green transportation infrastructure, has significant potential in decreasing our emissions and reaching our carbon-zero goals, as well as housing options.

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?

I believe many of the policies I've mentioned above will play a role in reducing our carbon emissions. Greater density and better access to green transportation will decrease our emissions in urban and rural areas.

Similarly, I believe there is more work to be done in carbon sequestration through blue and green carbon sequestration and through transformational agricultural practices such as no till and other forms of regenerative and conservation agriculture.

