

King County Conservation Voters

PO Box 1907 • Seattle, WA 98111 • phone 206-631-2626 • fax 206-622-8113

Questionnaire must be returned to KCCV Organizer Mina Hashemi Mercer (mina@wcvoters.org) by 5:00pm on April 22nd in order to qualify for an endorsement interview.

King County Executive Candidate Questionnaire Primary / General Election 2009

CANDIDATE **Dow Constantine** PHONE **(206) 484-7921**

POSITION **King County Executive** COMMITTEE NAME **Friends of Dow Constantine**

ADDRESS **PO Box 16285, Seattle, WA 98116**

CAMPAIGN MANAGER **Dylan Ordonez**

PHONE **(206) 484-7921**

E-MAIL **info@dowconstantine.com** WEBSITE **www.dowconstantine.com**

CAMPAIGN DETAILS

1. Why are you running for King County Executive?

I want to set the foundation for a new prosperity, for our economy and working families, with real transit and transportation choices, sensible and humane criminal justice, responsible preservation of our environment, and genuine regional leadership.

At this historic moment this county needs renewal -- to clear away the debris of that which is no longer working, perfect that which is, and build an efficient, effective, 21st-century government.

Building on my record as a reformer unafraid of taking the lead on tough issues, I will work across geographic boundaries and partisan divides to zero in on effective solutions to the problems we face as a region.

2. What community groups have you been most involved in?

Friends of College Street Ravine
Preserve Our Islands
West Seattle High School Foundation
Delridge Neighborhoods Development Association
ArtsWest

West Seattle HelpLine
Allied Arts of Seattle
Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 9
4Culture

3. Fundraising:

- a. What is your fundraising goal? \$550,000-\$800,000
- b. How much money have you raised to date? As of the last filing (after one month and 12 days of campaigning) nearly \$100,000. More since then.
- c. How much has your opponent raised to date?

As of the last filing, Larry Phillips had raised \$106,000 in eight months and transferred \$107,000 from other campaign accounts.

Fred Jarrett had transferred \$5,800.

4. What are your field goals (such as doorbelling, volunteer events & phone banking)?

I am committed to fulfilling my duties as the Chair of the County Council, but am devoting all additional hours to the campaign, 16 hours/day, 7 days/week to get my message out to voters across King County.

We have approximately 30 volunteers currently working on phone banking and voter outreach and will expand that program in the coming months to extensive doorbelling, phone banking and community outreach.

I hope to engage and mobilize supporters from across the county, young voters and the members of various democratic, environmental and labor organizations I am seeking support from for this effort.

5. Do you have a plan for online outreach or organizing?

One of my priorities for this campaign is to harness the incredible online activism and youth engagement from the presidential election.

I have put together an impressive team of supporters who are leading my online effort and ensuring our campaign has a strong web presence on Facebook, blogs, and other online media outlets. I am also posting updates regularly to keep supporters and others interested up to date on the latest campaign news.

6. What are your top three campaign issues?

When elected King County Executive I will work to address 3 critical challenges facing our county:

I will make the county a partner in economic development - putting the focus on strengthening our neighborhoods and suburban communities and on assisting small business.

I will continue to deliver on tough environmental issues including protecting sensitive shoreline habitat and fixing land use regulations to protect salmon habitat and open space as well property owners.

I will ensure that King County makes the investments in transportation necessary to keeping our regional economy - and the people who live here - moving forward.

7. Do you believe that the Critical Areas Ordinance should be amended? How?

As chair of the County Council's Growth Management and Unincorporated Areas Committee I led the heated and often controversial drafting process.

Later I oversaw the following series of difficult and often tense hearings throughout King County to listen to the ordinances' critics, as well as supporters, but we continued to listen to all sides and seek smarter, fairer solutions.

Based on what we heard we unveiled a package of amendments to the Critical Areas Ordinance: adjusting some clearing limits, honing rainwater runoff restrictions, allowing for flexible buffer sizes around wetlands based on environmental benefit and real world impacts, and grandfathering existing cleared areas to preserve the rural way of life.

8. The County has invested two billion dollars in the Brightwater treatment plant. What other infrastructure does King County need for environmental quality in the coming decades?

I view transit and transportation investments (below) are critical to meeting targets for environmental protection and climate change mitigation.

In addition, we need to address storm water runoff in a more comprehensive way to meet Puget Sound clean up goals.

9. What are your top three transportation priorities for King County?

Last year I helped lead the process that led to the successful light rail package approved overwhelmingly by voters. Seeing this process move forward to completion is my top transportation priority.

Additional transit investments are a second priority. Metro bus service is a treasured service, but fund allocations and service divisions are breaking the system—we are unable to divert needed resources into core routes, many of which now face elimination or serious cutbacks. I want to work with state and local officials to address this emerging crisis.

A third priority is seeing the variety of ‘megaprojects’ stalled at the state level move toward completion. I have been a strong advocate for a waterfront tunnel as the only appropriate option assuming a surface transit alternative fails to meet DOT capacity and freight mobility needs.

A goal of all road and highway projects should be moving toward system wide tolling and congestion pricing, protection of transit corridors, and policies that focus on reduction in vehicle miles travelled.

10. How do you distinguish your environmental record and priorities from your opponent(s)?

My record is one of decisive leadership and action, stepping up to the fight even when it is difficult or success is uncertain. My current declared opponent hasn’t shown steadfast determination in the same way, and the other likely candidate has shown political opportunism, in his votes—including recent votes to weaken I-937.

Examples of my leadership include the Critical Areas Ordinance, Maury Island protection, and authoring the state’s first climate change legislation.