



Library podcast

Mayoral Forum

[00:00:05] Welcome to The Seattle Public Library's podcasts of author readings and library events. Library podcasts are brought to you by The Seattle Public Library and Foundation. To learn more about our programs and podcasts, visit our web site at www.spl.org. To learn how you can help the library foundation support The Seattle Public Library go to foundation.spl.org

00:00:35] A formal forum with our two candidates for mayor. I'm Rona Zevin from the Friends of the Library. The Friends is one of the sponsors of this discussion forum where the guys who put on those big book sales and the debate is also sponsored by the Library Foundation and they're the guys who collect the big bucks to support the library and of course the library itself. And I want to recognize Marcellus Turner who is here somewhere. There he is the city librarian. Thank you. APPLAUSE So my main job is to introduce the author Douglas who is going to be the moderator for this debate forum really not necessarily a traditional debate. C.R. is a political analyst and commentator for CU 13. And appears in various public television public radio and other forums around the city and also an old friend. So I would like to welcome S.R. and he will run through the logistics of how this is going to work with you. So thanks for coming

[00:02:03] So Happy Halloween.

[00:02:07] It has been a very odd and uncommon year in city politics. That is for sure. Three mayors over the course of just a few days last September.

[00:02:17] And now we are on the verge of picking yet another the fourth who will take over and be installed in just a few weeks. No one could have foreseen at the beginning of the year that one of these two women would be taking the reins by the end of the year. In fact I'm sure neither of these women could have foreseen that when the year started maybe Kerry moved

[00:02:42] It is a testament of the strength of city government and of city traditions that this has all gone so smoothly as it has the transitions and leadership changes at City Hall.

[00:02:54] Today we're lucky to have these two candidates for what as Rona said will be their last election debate forum.

[00:03:00] Before polling polls close and votes are starting to count next week. This really is their closing argument today though ballots have been mailed and voting has technically begun.

[00:03:13] We are observing that with each election cycle more and more ballots are being cast later and later and so plenty of votes still out there to be earned by these candidates and so today's encounter really their last is quite valuable and they are of course well done at this point.

[00:03:30] Jenny DURKAN The former U.S. Attorney Carrie Moon an urban planner some ground rules for today. Each candidate will have a minute's response to the questions I pose. I may ask follow ups as necessary in which case they will each get 30 seconds to respond. We don't have formal rebuttals but they've been given to challenge cards to be used at any time once they use those they will have a minute to challenge anything their opponent has said and then the other side will get a minute to respond. We've reserved some time at the end for years questions. We have some of you who have already submitted them please write up your questions if you have any and give them to one of the people along the aisles. We ask you to refrain from applause cheering or other outbursts.

[00:04:16] We want to maximize our discussion time so the table is set because to vent.

[00:04:23] Today's event is sponsored by the library because it's at a library we're going to start there with this opening question to both of you. Seattle's library system was one of the earliest departments created truly envisioned as a basic city service. In recent years the riot the library has relied however less and less on the general fund and more and more and approved levees. Here's a fact the levee now accounts for nearly a quarter of the library's operating budget every year. So what is the appropriate way to fund this system. Do you believe it's time to get back to the library been a basic service meaning the general fund picking up the full tab.

[00:05:06] Let's start with Carrie Moon thank you everybody for being here.

[00:05:11] Everybody who loves their library I think is really concerned about this question and the future of our city's libraries. I believe you know libraries are so beloved in our city in our culture that they have been picked off as something it's easy to get a yes vote for. So increasingly we are relying on levies to fund basic services and we're picking the things that we know we can get funding for libraries family education early learning things like that. I think we need to get back to the point where we are funding libraries through the general fund but to get there. We have got to implement a more progressive less regressive tax structure in our state. We need our tax system to be sustainable and sufficient to invest in the priorities we know we need to create a society where everybody can thrive. And so I am ready to work with Olympia on what we need to do at the state and also what we need to do at the city to reduce the regressive taxes and increase more progressive taxes Jenny Durkan library funding.

[00:06:12] So I also thank everyone for being here today. It's great to be at the library for this last debate. The two of us I think libraries have always formed that place in our society and particularly in this city where there's freedom of expression freedom of thought curiosity and they'd be able to be

here and answer some of these questions is great. We have become too dependent on levees generally. And so I think we need to examine whether libraries can have more of the general fun. But what we want to make sure is that there is a steady source of funding so that libraries don't become jeopardized they form too much of a backbone of our system not just for books and learning but in parts of our city. They're the only place for example where they can gather for tutoring or for community services. I was at the library in Lake City Way and walked into a classroom of kids there. It was one of the most diverse group of kids I have seen anywhere in this city throughout the campaign. And the only place they had this resource to gather to figure out how to start resuming is how to move forward in their lives was at the library some. I'm very much supporting the libraries. OK

[00:07:16] Another question about the libraries. This is a robust system with 26 neighborhood branches. Many have called for adding a new one in the crap in the fast growing neighborhood of South Lake Union. Do you agree with that spot for a new library and what should it look like.

[00:07:33] If we do new branches what is the library of the future given that the needs are different from the libraries we had built 10 20 and 30 years ago. Jenny Durkan I'll start with you.

[00:07:44] I think if there's a need for a library we should try to get it wherever there's a new population coming in increasing because that's part of what libraries are for us having that center of the community that is not just about the books or materials that are kept there or the computers. It really is a gathering spot.

[00:08:02] And so I think how it looks is very much dependent on kind of what that neighborhood thinks it's going to use it as. And we've got to be looking out at 10 15 20 years you know kind of the sad thing is books themselves the physical books may be quickly waning and we're going more and more to digital. So then how does the library keep its place as that gathering spot. Is that place for events like this where people are coming to talk about what matters in their community or gathering spot for kids to learn more. So I think we have to be you know talk with the neighborhoods talk with others but also talk with the whole library system because everyone that works in the libraries knows best how those libraries are being used and what in the future we're going to need to do to keep libraries alive in part of the heart of our communities.

[00:08:52] So this is a question I would definitely work with the Board of Trustees of the library and community groups to come to the right answer together. I am concerned about using a racial equity lens with how we invest all city resources and make sure that we are writing decades of historic disinvestment in the south end. With all our new investments so I'd have to see the data and make sure that there is a big enough population in South Lake Union that is underserved in order to prioritize that over further investments in the South End or mobile library services that so many vulnerable people are dependent on. And I think this is a really important shift that we are making in our city that we're really focusing on not answering to corporate interests not the loudest voices who have access to the best lawyers but really focusing in on equity with every single decision we make in city government using the race and social justice initiative throughout every city department and using

a racial equity lens with every single allocation of resources because we have a lot of work to do to right historic wrongs OK because libraries are fundamentally about books.

[00:10:01] We have kind of a fun little moment here we want to have with these candidates we've asked them to come up with the book that has most influence them or has actually had at least a big influence. And we've asked them to provide a short reading of that book. So. A special moment for all of us. We will start with you Jenny Durkan an influential book. And what's your reading.

[00:10:27] So I cheated just a little bit so I started the first book off my shelf I picked was to kill a mockingbird And there's a passage I want to read in that to you because it forms so much of who I was and I can identify as a kid with so many of the actors that was a young girl who was the protagonist her father was a lawyer but as I grew and got into the criminal justice system the views of that book changed to me in one night as U.S. attorney I had the really good fortune of sitting down to dinner with one of my colleagues who was the U.S. attorney in Ohio and his wife and we were having dinner and she was just starting a book tour herself. Her name is Michelle Alexander and she wrote The New Jim Crow. And so I have a passage from that book to just to tell you the different perspectives that I think learning and why books are so important to us.

[00:11:12] Ok. You got a minute with your reading. All right.

[00:11:15] So this is a passage when Atticus Finch is addressing the jury and telling them why they have to be fair there is one way in this country in which all men are created equal.

[00:11:27] There is one human institution that makes a popper the equal of a Rockefeller. The stupid man. The equal of an Einstein and the ignorant man. The equal of any college president. That institution gentlemen is a court. It can be the Supreme Court of the United States or the humblest Jake JP. Court in the land or this honorable court would you serve. Our courts have their faults as does any human institution. But in this country our courts are our great levels and in our courts all are created equal. And so we see that when the courts strike down Donald Trump's travel ban but we don't see it when we see the criminal justice system and so reading from Michelle Alexander a viewpoint of the courts in that book and we just move so my books are in storage in the era of colorblindness it is no longer socially permissible to use race explicitly as a justification for discrimination exclusion and social contempt so we don't. Rather than rely on race we use our criminal justice system to label people of color criminals and then engage in all the practices we supposedly left behind. Today it is perfectly legal to discriminate against criminals in nearly all the ways as it was once legal to discriminate against African-Americans. Once you're labelled a felon the old forms of discrimination employment discrimination housing discrimination denial of the right to vote denial of educational opportunity denial of food stamps and other public benefits and exclusion from jury service. Suddenly they are all legal.

[00:13:08] Ok Carrie moon and we're gonna give you a minute a half we let her go a little bit longer. So it's only fair. What's your most influential book and what's your reading.

[00:13:15] So know I have a you know I've been working in urbanism working in city planning and urban development and urban growth and racial equity and how to build a better democracy for 20 years. And so I couldn't pick one book because I have dozens of books that really like showing the light for me around how to build a better city because this is my profession and it's also my passion. I believe cities are the place democracy was invented. They are the place where democracy still works. And Seattle is a place where we all feel the right to this city. We all feel the right to shape our future destiny together how we live in relation to one another how our economic system works. We have this right and deeply held in our hearts in our city and there were too many books that talk about this. So I'm going to pick something that has really been incredibly beneficial for me understanding how systemic racism works in our current society. And so I picked citizen by Claudia Rankine. This is a really powerful book where she describes little anecdotes little vignettes of moments in her life to help people understand how many aggressions people of color face every single day as they walk through this world.

[00:14:28] So she's describing a moment when she's visiting her new therapist the new therapist specializes in trauma counselling. You have only ever spoken on the phone. Her house has a side gate that leads to a back entrance she uses for patients. You walk down a path bordered on both sides with deer grass and Rosemary to the gate which turns out to be locked at the front door. The bell is a small round desk you press firmly when the door finally opens. The woman standing there yells at the top of her lungs get away from my house. What are you doing in my yard it's as if a wounded Doberman pincher or a German Shepherd has gained the power of speech and though you back up a few steps you managed to tell her you have an appointment. You have an appointment. She spits back at you. Then she pauses everything pauses. Oh she says followed by. Oh yes that's right. I'm sorry. I'm so sorry. So so sorry.

[00:15:32] What a great moment for both of them.

[00:15:33] Let's give them a round of applause for their OK.

[00:15:42] Going to broaden out now with our questions. Housing affordability is of course at the top of mind for most voters during this election. Both of you talk a lot on the campaign trail about building more affordable housing but of course of course the crunch also hits those who already have housing who already are homeowners. As values rise this taxes get approved you hear more and more from these folks that they're getting priced out that they're feeling the squeeze some even leaving the city.

[00:16:10] So describe what you would do for that segment of the population those who are already in homes but feeling the squeeze and may have to leave because of that. That is a big segment. It doesn't get talked about as much. Let me start with you Carrie moon.

[00:16:23] So I think we have to understand what is causing this is housing affordability crisis. It is not natural and not normal for a housing market to function the way ours is right now where homes have risen 80 percent in value in the past few years where homes are rising in value twice as fast as any other city in the country. This is a dynamic that is being exploited by outside forces from Wall Street

and from sovereign wealth funds and from investors who are buying two three four or five houses as a commodity. And so we have to strike this problem at the root. So my in my first hundred days in office I will hold a housing summit to get all the data on the table all the analysis really understand this dynamic and put in the right disincentive to block using our housing as a commodity. Because housing should be homes for people to live in. Period. It that has to be its primary purpose. So number one I'll do that. Number two I will work with the assessors and second to understand can we reduce the assessed value it doesn't have to track with market rates. Can we reduce the assessed values of our homes so we reduce property tax burdens on folks.

[00:17:32] And let me follow up with a 30 second answer from you.

[00:17:36] You talk about speculation in your language here I think with something like you will figure out a way to try and dis incentivize that. I've heard you say that you would charge for anyone who's buying a second home out of town buyers. Briefly describe what you're calling it quote speculation tax is because that's what you've been talking about the campaign trail.

[00:17:54] I just want to be really frank that we have to figure out both exactly the dynamic we're trying to block and what is legal in our state tax code. So it could be a capital gains tax on the sale of any house it's not a primary residence. It could be an additional real estate excise tax for luxury homes. It could be a tax on vacant property. It could. We just looking at a whole range of possible solutions because we need to find the one that will stick. That's not going to get challenged in court and that can go to work immediately at the right level to block this activity. OK.

[00:18:27] Jenny Dergham or to give you a full minute and a half on this answer. What would you do about that housing affordability squeeze for current homeowners and thoughts on this speculation tax any way you can dis incentivize them.

[00:18:37] Thank you. So this clearly is probably a crisis in our city. You know we are facing affordability crisis where people just can't afford to get into the city and the people who are living here now are getting squeezed out. And it's particularly acute for people who have owned homes for a long time particularly elderly people who've own their homes property taxes have risen so quickly the property taxes are more than the mortgage they had when they bought the house. And you're seeing them knowing that if they sell their house they'll never have a toehold in the city again. And so coming up with solutions a year from now or two years from now or three years from now I think won't help them. So we have to do some things on an emergent basis. First I have a rental voucher program. If you are renting a house and you're on that cusp of losing your house we want to be able to get vouchers in the hands of people immediately so people don't get displaced. We are losing too many people right now. And studies show that for every hundred people every hundred dollars that rent goes up people fall into homelessness. And we've seen that on our streets. So one is rental vouchers too. I want to be able to raise the exemption for the elderly who are in their homes right now it's forty thousand dollars that's just not high enough for people who are on a fixed income. So I want to raise the exemption so the elderly don't even have to pay property tax for a period of time. The next thing we want to do is for that affordable housing that's multifamily go to those landlords and say if you

keep your rents down we'll keep your property taxes down. So the rents don't get jacked up and people get displaced you raise your rents property taxes go up. So I think we have to use both incentives and taxes.

[00:20:12] Ok. Related of course is the issue of homelessness. And let me ask you both to respond to this issue. You have both called on the campaign trail for more shelter beds. You both called for more micro housing units. You've both called for more authorized encampments. You've both called for better outreach for those living on the street. So if someone's top concern was homelessness is homelessness How do you differ Why are you the better choice on that issue.

[00:20:42] Jenny Durkan homelessness is one of those critical issues that say who we are with a city of our prosperity. It's really shameful that there's so many people who are experiencing homelessness. And we need to change that dynamic. I think the key differences between my opponent I our number one not only I proposed solutions but I've told a price tag next to them what they will cost and where we will get the money. For example it's not just that we should build more tiny homes. I have proposed in my first year I will start breaking ground on a thousand new tiny homes that are not just the garden sheds but are ones that are insulated have plumbing and electricity and it priced it at 10 million dollars including where I think we can find it in the budget. In addition I've called on every council district to create an emergency basis more shelter space in their community centers or places of faith if they meet that challenge we will immediately have almost another thousand. And so my solutions are real. I'll tell you how the pay for the second thing is I do not believe it's right or moral to allow people to continue in the unsanctioned encampments which are really terrible inhumane places.

[00:21:47] My opponent does Karima This is a greatly worded question because as you said we both have very strong solutions for how to help people experiencing homelessness get a safe place inside more tiniest villages more low barrier shelters more 24 hour shelters more shelters like the navigation center. We have to use the money we have and make sure we're investing in the most effective solutions to invite people inside. The biggest difference is I would stop the sweeps. I believe her phrasing of we can't allow people experiencing homeless homelessness to be outside is morally wrong. These are our brothers and sisters. They have been pushed into homelessness by an economy that simply doesn't work for low income people. It is our job to help them get back inside and go with a social service approach to invite people to get the shelter that they need to get back on their feet and the services they need to get back on their feet. So taking this approach of we should sweep them out of sight because we don't want to look at them is exactly the wrong approach. We created this problem together. We have to solve this problem together not push it out of sight and just a follow up.

[00:22:58] You say you would stop the sweeps so presumably you would kind of let the status quo continue.

[00:23:03] I mean what do you do with folks who are in unsanctioned areas unsafe areas unsanitary areas.

[00:23:09] If you stop the sweeps focus all our resources on places to invite people inside. Go to of course the places that are where people are completely unsafe living on the edge of a highway or in the way of a community that's using you know a play field. We do have to move those folks but to continue to push people from one unsanctioned encampment to the next without offering them a permanent shelter that would work for them is unjust and it's inhumane it's ineffective and it's a waste of money. It's not helping these people get back on their feet. It's just pushing them out of sight and throwing their lives further into chaos.

[00:23:45] Ok James you're going to get 30 seconds on that. Are you in favor of the sweeps that started under memory. I'll use my challenge to say I'd like a minute and a half. Is that right. Go ahead take a minute. Yeah.

[00:23:55] So first of all I think it is really not a responsible thing for a mayor to use bumper sticker slogans like sweeps without really talking about what the reality of what is actually happening out there and what all alternatives are. So the policy today the first times that they move people out of the unsanctioned encampments I think it was right to think of those and call them sweeps. They were pushing people out. They were throwing away their properties. They were not treating people with respect and dignity that they deserve and people pushed back. People were in the streets and rightfully so. But the policy today does not resemble anything like that. And I think it is irresponsible to say that it does the city policy today is the policy of one they created a navigation team which is a cross disciplinary team of police officers and social workers who go into the encampments and meet people they know them by name.

[00:24:52] I went with them two weeks ago and every person in that encampment had visited them with before they offer them a place to stay and they do not ask them to move until they have a place. They have offered them. They tried to look for resources and support for them. The encampment I was in I asked why have people not been moved. And the answer was because we are looking for a woman who delivered a baby two weeks ago in Harborview. Her baby needs help sometimes she comes here. That is not a sweep. People property is maintained. They are offered a place to stay. But we really need to try to focus our efforts on safe and humane housing not arguing about bumper sticker terminology OK.

[00:25:33] You have a minute.

[00:25:34] So I've spent a lot of time with the housing for all campaign which is a new campaign with over 20 organizations coming together to stop the sweeps to makes you sure we are working with people experiencing homelessness and the service providers to come up with solutions together because the people experiencing homelessness understand what they need. And we need to have them at the table helping shape the solution that works for them. And through these this dialogue with all these folks what I've learned is the sweeps are still the sweeps it it's the same going with a police officer with kind of even though they're kind people. I'll give them that. But the police officer coming up showing up with a gun on his hip and saying you need to move is different than a social service

worker saying we have a space for you can I help you get inside. And when as soon as the city officials turn their back the people experiencing homelessness and the service providers across this whole industry say that what we're doing now is not working. It's a waste of time. It is not a good use of our resources and it's inefficient and inhumane.

[00:26:39] A question about you want another challenge.

[00:26:42] Yeah I just think this is too potent an issue to just treat it with summaries.

[00:26:48] I think people this you know as you're going to vote think of it this way we have spent almost 12 million dollars just hauling garbage and trash and unsanctioned encampments. That's twelve million dollars that has not gone to shelter. That's not gone to addiction services. That has not gone to mental health treatment. It's not the way we need to be doing things. In addition when city workers go into the encampments they are paid extra money called encampment pay because what they're doing is deemed unsafe unsafe. And I will tell you if you don't go online to the city site you can judge for yourself. Look at the pictures of where these people are living. It is wrong to let people live there. And so let's use our energies not on calling things sweeps. Let's use our energies on getting people out of those places and into shelter in long term housing.

[00:27:38] That's where our energies need to be. That's why I am urgent to create since the beginning of this campaign. More beds in every district more tiny houses and more long term housing.

[00:27:48] And I've said I want to come back for addiction services and mental health treatment so I've made my point clear on the sweeps and I'll talk about now constructive solutions. I think we all understand we have this obligation and opportunity to really provide shelter for folks who can so they can come inside. So we need to build more tiny house villages look at every single church parking lot look at every single piece over 100 parcels of public owned land in our city that we could be bringing into use for homelessness or for housing production. We need to create RV safe lots for the folks who have an RV it's their last roof over their head.

[00:28:26] We need to create a space for them to be safe together and have access to sanitation to garbage to clean water and social services. We need to work with shelter providers to see which shelters can become 24 hour shelters with a little bit of investment. We need to work with the organizations like DSE and Lehigh who understand how to build these kind of short term emergency shelters. We need to look at the projects like compass crossing which is better than a tiny house village but not as expensive as full but long term permanent housing. There's a lot of good work being done. We need to work with these folks and expand our effort and expand our resources to really bring people inside we allowed each candidate to challenges.

[00:29:09] And I'm very tempted to move that to three.

[00:29:13] We'll see. Here let me ask about your backgrounds. Neither of you has held elected office which makes this race a little atypical not unprecedented but definitely uncommon. So voters really

have to look at other aspects of your resumé to determine how you would take on this very big management role and what you would be like. Carrie Moon I start with you. What about your background makes you the best candidate for this job. And why is that better than your opponents.

[00:29:43] So my resume is broad not deep. I had an earlier career as an engineer I worked in manufacturing companies so I worked in the private sector. I've worked in the public sector for the U.S. Department of Labor and I've worked in the advocacy and non-profit sector and I understand how essential it is for all three sectors to come together to build the city we know we can build. Second my profession is urban planning. So I've worked with the city as a design commissioner on this very building with s dot on the urban mobility plan and more recently the one center city strategy with many city departments with elected officials with city council. I understand how all the levers work. I understand how decisions get made. I understand what departments do how they collaborate or how they don't. And I understand effective leadership in the mayor's office. So I am committed to bringing a stable professional management team into the mayor's office that's focused on delivering the mission of the city not get caught up in politics not get caught up in money and power but focus on the mission of the city. And I'm ready to do that. I've already started that process with my transition team.

[00:30:50] Jenny Durkan why is your background the better one.

[00:30:53] So I have had the experience in the last 30 years of tackling some really tough issues and having to know and learn how to bring people together and actually get some things done. And I think C.R. hit it on the head. My opponent and I both have similar bold visions about what should happen in the city of Seattle and how we tackle homelessness and affordability and transportation. But between the two of us I'm the one who's actually built a coalition in the campaign that has a range of people in it whether it's business or workers environmentalists or the like and know how to bring those people together on tough issues. I'd point to a couple different issues. Number one is police reform. When I was U.S. attorney I had to work with civil rights organizations from throughout this city and community groups throughout the city as well as city council members the police department the Department of Justice and other interests and sit down at the table and know when to fight and went to negotiate what to stand up for and how to move things forward. As a result we got a consent decree. That was the defining moment for the city and police reform and we've moved ways. There's much more to go. But you've got to be able to solve those problems while keeping government on mission.

[00:32:01] You both have come under criticism for some of the money that is coming in to fund your campaigns. Carrie Moon you're largely self funded or at least about half of your funds come from your own pocket. One hundred and seventy five thousand dollars worth. Many wonder whether that represents broad support given that it's so high. So funding no Jenny Durkan your campaign that's being supported by an independent expenditure of over five hundred thousand dollars led by the Chamber of Commerce and the argument there is that you would be aligned to the status quo. So let me ask you whether the funding you both are getting ought to be red flags for voters.

[00:32:41] Let me start with Jenny Durkan So I get this question everywhere so I'm really glad that you asked C.R. first I want you to people know the best indication of what you're gonna be as a mayor is what you've done before and you can look at my public record over 30 years.

[00:32:56] I have always stood up for the people of this city and the disenfranchised. I started as a criminal defense lawyer fighting mostly representing people of color fighting for alternatives to incarceration. I worked on LGBTQ issues and when I was U.S. attorney I started a civil rights division and we went from one case to 100 cases today fighting things like discrimination and landlords who were discriminating employers who were discriminating. So everybody who is funding whatever the independent expenditure is they know what they're gonna get what you should focus on who's supporting my direct campaign. I have I think today over thirty six hundred people thirty six hundred people who contributed everything from five dollars to the maximum dollars who are supporting me I have the support of not just businesses but I have the support of workers like the insulation workers which doesn't sound much but it's because I represented their members when they were dying of measles Oma. So I'm proud of the campaign that I put together.

[00:33:53] Kerry Moon yourself funding so this is a great issue because I think Seattle is aghast at the level of funding my opponent is spending on this campaign. It's about one point eight million dollars one point eight million dollars if you add up both the independent expenditure from the Chamber of Commerce and the city's largest corporations plus the money she's raised largely through being given ad where his whole funder list and I think she has a great head start on funding because of the support Ed Murray showed for her campaign from day one. I think that money is corroding politics. I think the influence of money over elected officials is why people are so frustrated with democracy why people are so angry about the state of the world right now and I am proud to take no corporate donations. I am proud to have built a grassroots campaign. I am proud to be operating on the principles of guiding this city for the benefit of the people and not being beholden to Comcast to CenturyLink to Amazon to Microsoft to the big corporations that think they deserve to have a special seat at the table. And I'm proud of that.

[00:35:01] Let me just follow up. Thirty four hundred donors versus six hundred. I think it's the number I mean what does that say about your campaign.

[00:35:08] So I think it says I didn't have access to the whole Democratic establishment. And Ed Murray donor list. That's a big donor list to start with the Chamber of Commerce helped recruit my opponent to fill this seat. And they all came forward as corporations as CEOs of the big corporations as vice presidents of big corporations to help fund this campaign. And I am proud of the grassroots support I've built. I am not a known entity. I have started from scratch in building up the support I have and I'm proud of the breadth and the depth of the support that I have brought.

[00:35:42] And Jenny follow up why is the chamber so excited that I get the 30 seconds. There's another to this question. Is the chamber so excited about you.

[00:35:50] So first let me just say I had no donor list or access. If you look back historically and as established in my first weeks of the campaign hundreds of people were given to my campaign and I outgrows who my opponent who was already in the campaign. And if you look at who's giving it is workers it is people from throughout the city they're there every walk of life and so every time she talks about this she tries to race the fact that I'm supported by firefighters and dock workers and iron workers and nurses. I don't want to write those people out of the story. And I think it's wrong that she does. So I think every time you hear Jenny Durkan think about the workers that are supporting me and why their support.

[00:36:29] And just briefly what's the chamber seeing you. Why are they so excited.

[00:36:34] I have no idea but I will say this about the chamber. My opponent twice she filled out a long form asking for the Chamber's endorsement. She went to an interview with the Chamber asking for their endorsement. And it was only when she didn't get it that she started attacking the endorse them. Same thing with The Seattle Times. She went and asked for their endorsement sat down with the interview. And then when she didn't get it she attacked the Seattle Times. So I think the whole chamber thing isn't easy again it's bumper because look at who is supporting my campaign. Look at what I want to do for this city. I want every kid in this city particularly those in South Seattle to know they have a place here. They have an opportunity here. I'm going to build that city. OK.

[00:37:16] Carrie moon you have 30 seconds so you know that you're mistaken about the chamber if I could just say I filled out every questionnaire because that is the polite thing to do in a campaign. And I published the questionnaire from the Chamber of Commerce because I wanted the public to really understand my support for small business and all the strategies I have to build an economy that shares prosperity with everybody. They didn't invite me to an interview. They endorsed you without even speaking with me. So I just want to make that clear you're misrepresenting what happened. I have lots of support from labor unions the largest private sector union in the state is supporting me. Our revolution Washington Democracy for America the King County Democrats four out of six of the local district Democrats I have very broad support including the stranger including the weekly because people understand my commitment to the people of Seattle not the corporate elite.

[00:38:07] You both have called yourself progressives which clearly is a popular term here in Seattle. Everyone would define it a little bit differently but I think if we all sat in a room we could probably come up with a reasonably agreed list of traits about what progressive means. Most people here seem to want a progressive mayor. So why are you that person. Why are you the progressive choice.

[00:38:33] Kerry moon so for me progressive. The root is progress and I am really focused on the future vision of Seattle what city we can be a city that is inclusive that's affordable that's welcoming that's diverse and that's committed to shared prosperity for everybody. I am a break with the past administration because I recognize that trickle down neo liberal economics that this administration has operated under are creating tremendous wealth inequality and tremendous racial inequity in our city. And so I am proud to be endorsed by the leading national progressive organizations because I am committed to changing the economic system so that it benefits everybody not just the wealthy

few. And to me this is the fault line in Seattle politics. We are all socially liberal. I think you know that's something we have in common in our city. But do you want to challenge the economic system that is creating such tremendous wealth for a very few while everyone else slips beneath the surface. Yes I am ready to challenge that and you'll see in my opponents market based solutions for everything that she doesn't even seem to have an awareness of what is causing this problem.

[00:39:41] Jenny Durkan Why are you the most progressive choice. So again I think if you look at a person's record and what they've been able to accomplish and what they've stood there for their whole life

[00:39:50] You'll see what they'll do. I'm not new to the fighting for things that I think are right. And I've said throughout this campaign that the route of progressive has got to be progress which means we've got to have something other than just process and talk. We actually need solutions that are going to be improving people's lives. And I would say that if you look at my endorsements as well they will show what people think. You know we both went and talked to the coalition of immigrants refugees and communities of color. They voted to recommend me because they thought my resolutions for their community would make the most progress. So I was progressive. The Northwest Asian newspaper here in the Vietnamese newspaper also looked at those issues and thought I will make the most progress the largest unions across the board have come to me sat down with the workers and think I will make progress for those workers. And so if you want to judge what a person will do look at those people who are supporting them who believe I think they'll make progress and look what I've done. I actually did help get LGBTQ rights in this state time. I helped get to more and we'll talk about it later okay.

[00:40:56] Yeah a challenge. I just want to go a little bit farther in the past three years. I have worked deeply with state and national organizations on some of these deep challenges facing our city. So while I've been doing city work I've also been doing broader deeper work around really changing how democracy works because we all know money is corrupting democracy. We have honest elections Seattle that passed last year. I'm proud to have been part of that effort and also a statewide effort to get money out of politics that recently launched in February called the Democracy hub which I envisioned and helped build the strategy for and helped launch this new organization. I've worked with national level organizations on a progressive economic platform and vision and policy and narrative because we on the left we need to be for something. And right now we are not for something. So I have been working with local state and national level players on building an economic vision for the left that builds true prosperity. So this is some of the work I've been doing and they came back to city level work because Seattle is a place where we can make these changes where democracy still works where we can build a future that the rest of the country can look at.

[00:42:04] I just wanted to add that to the progressive question Jane Durkin you have a minute.

[00:42:09] So if you look again at the work I've done and then look at who's supporting me you know I worked hard and had the good fortune to work for President Obama and serve on Eric Holder's Advisory Committee trying to work with him to devise better criminal justice reforms and civil rights

programs for the country. So I'm very proud that he endorsed me and said one of the reason he's endorsing me is because he knows I can make the Progressive Change on the things we need today. I was very honored to get the endorsement of Gabby Giffords and I talked to them last week because they know that gun safety is about part of who I am. I've

[00:42:43] Worked on those issues as U.S. attorney I worked on those issues and know how we can actually turn the dial so that we have fewer things like Las Vegas happening we have fewer children who kill themselves because they have access to guns. Those are the kind of things that I will make progress on which I think makes us a progressive. I'm not afraid to say I'm liberal. All right. It's kind of an old fashioned word but I think we have to be honest about how we're moving forward. And so I think if you look across the board at the people who have said that they will stand with me. The reason they have is because they know I will stand with them.

[00:43:17] Ok. You've used one challenge you've used to why don't we give you each one more. So you have two more left and you got one more left.

[00:43:25] We're gonna do something a little bit break the pattern here before I get into some of our other questions we're just gonna have a rapid fire set of questions here I give each candidate five seconds to respond and that is it. So we're gonna go back and forth with this.

[00:43:41] Jenny Durkan for a future NBA team. Are you in favor of the Sodo location or key arena. Very only neutral

[00:43:50] Carrie moon here Rina I should say the Seattle Center I mean if we can make it work transportation wise are you in favor of scrapping or.

[00:44:00] Well I'll just say that scrapping the new youth jail Carrie moon it's under construction.

[00:44:05] I'm in favor of re scoping the building so it's truly aimed at restorative justice and helping kids get back on track not in incarcerating them.

[00:44:14] Five seconds on the youth jail.

[00:44:16] We need to make it restorative and about helping kids not punitive with the old system was.

[00:44:21] There is talk of implementing re implementing we had it at one point an employee head tax. Is that a good idea.

[00:44:27] Jenny Durkan not if it hit small businesses.

[00:44:31] We need to build a more progressive tax system taxing big corporations as part of the solution. But we didn't get the math right yet.

[00:44:38] Carrie Moon who was your favorite Seattle mayor ever a night Landis. Jenny Durkan I'm not saying because too many of them have endorsed me. Who was your favorite council member past or present.

[00:44:54] Sam Smith yours Mike O'Brien I would say are you endorsing.

[00:45:03] Let me ask you about positions eight nine at large council races that are on the ballot. Who are you endorsing in the most skated versus Grant race.

[00:45:11] Haven't endorsed but all I have said publicly I'm voting for Theresa skater.

[00:45:17] Why not an endorsement.

[00:45:18] Because John Grant brings a lot of good to the table and I would be happy to work with either again on the Murakami Gonzalez.

[00:45:25] I mean. Gonzalez how about you in those two races. I'm voting for the same two people. The city attorney's race. Who are you voting for. Pete Holmes or SCOTT LINDSAY.

[00:45:36] They are both good friends.

[00:45:41] I am voting for Pete Holmes because I'm worried about Scott Lindsey's punitive approach to people experiencing homelessness.

[00:45:48] You also will have a chance of course anywhere in King County to vote for the sheriff's race. Are you for John or Kurt or his opponent.

[00:45:55] Mitzi and I promise I can't get her last name but Mitzi Joe Heck. There you go. You're for her. Mitzi. OK. And finally Jenny Durkan What is your proudest endorsement so far in this campaign.

[00:46:08] My proudest proudest of in terms of endorsements I would say that it is the Northwest eleven ninety nine which is both the nurses but it's also the mental health therapists who are providing services to the homeless. And I think that they have one of the hardest frontline jobs there is.

[00:46:24] What are you most proud of.

[00:46:26] I can't pick because there are so many people who are ready for progressive change in the city.

[00:46:31] Ok so that was one taxation Kerry Moon You've talked a lot about instituting a capital gains tax and raising the Business and Occupation tax. Recently of course the city council implemented a new income tax.

[00:46:45] There was also a sugary beverage tax imposed. There has been talk of an employee head tax. When is it time to push the button. The pause button on taxation you mischaracterize me.

[00:46:58] I have said we need a more steeply progressive B.A. tax where small business pays nothing or less. And big business pays more.

[00:47:05] The time to hit the pause button is on regressive taxes like sales tax increases and property tax increases is now we are done taxing low and middle income people who are being driven out of this city because they can't afford to live here anymore. We absolutely have to keep pushing for reducing regressive taxes and increasing progressive taxes. And I'm glad Seattle is a leader on the high earners income tax. We are a leader on a B.A. no tax for big business if we can sorry a head tax for big business. If we can get the math right we need to keep going at the state level and push for a capital gains tax which is a tax on unearned wealth. This is money that wealthy people earn from investments they did absolutely zero labor to get this money. We need to have a steep capital gains tax on that. We need to look at inheritance and estate taxes again unearned wealth. This is where we should be getting our revenue and eventually a state income tax. But we've got to start with all these interim measures first and get to the big one.

[00:48:06] Jenny Durkan taxation so I have been absolutely consistent throughout this campaign. I will not talk about raising any new tax and until I have the ability to get in and scrub the budget to make sure that we are using the revenues we have appropriately and see where we really need new money. For example in the area of providing services to the homeless we are in the middle of an RFP where Pete where are the service providers will actually have to have more accountability and how they're providing the services we need to see then whether we have enough resources to provide those services which are so critical to the people experiencing homelessness.

[00:48:40] Another area developers are allowed to pay in. They used to in the old system incentive zoning they could get more floor space if they paid for it. Well we left three and a half million dollars uncollected on one project alone just sitting on the table so I know we can do better. The one area I've said that I am likely to come back to voters on and I want everyone to know this so for later is in the area of mental health treatment and addiction services. I believe we probably just don't have the resources. I hope that that is a. With the county maybe the state and maybe even the feds. But I think that's an area we may need more resources to start answers next.

[00:49:16] But let me just throw it out there. This is a. AUDIENCE QUESTION From Sally. Both of you have proposed a lot of policies. How would you pay for them through existing city funds. How are you going to enact those solutions.

[00:49:26] In other words from day one without waiting for places like Olympia to fund.

[00:49:32] Yes. And that's a good point because all of my positions that I have put forward I have said not only what they are going to cost but how we're going to pay for them. And I too am for progressive taxes. I've been for state income taxes for a very long time but I've also been talking to the governor to state legislators in the chances that we're really going to get one through are very slim. So that doesn't mean we quit pushing but it does mean that if we want to solve the problems we have we have to look at the resources we do have. So I have itemize exactly how much everything that I have proposed will cost and where that money will come from from existing revenues.

[00:50:08] Karima so our city budget because of the transportation levy and other levies but also because of our increase in property taxes our budget budget has increased 25 percent in the last five years. So the first thing we need to do is some belt tightening and I am ready to work with all departmental leadership teams and staff at the city all the way through to understand what projects are working what programs are working that need to be scaled up and which ones are not working and need to be shut down because we absolutely have to be investing our funds as efficiently as effectively as possible in my time as an engineer. Taught me how to do this. It's working with people. It's giving them incentives to find more productive more efficient ways to operate. And it's building a culture of continuous improvement throughout all of city government. And I'm ready to lead that from the mayor's office. That's the most significant source of new revenue. In addition some of the levy funds we've got to look really carefully at how we're investing them especially the families in Education and Early Learning levy. We've got to look at the Move Seattle Levy nine hundred and thirty million dollars. We've got to make sure we're investing that in the best investment.

[00:51:16] Let's move on to transportation Sound Transit that is by far the biggest investment city voters have made in alternative transportation link rail. Seattle is set to get a new line based on last year's vote from Ballard to West Seattle through downtown The only catch is the timeline that will not open until the early 2013 is 15 years from now at least. What can you do as mayor to get light rail through these neighborhoods in Seattle sooner.

[00:51:47] Carrie moon so three things. Number one we have got to do excellent process starting in January to get public dialogue going around the alignment and the station locations. We have got to make sure citizens are informed are part of the dialogue and ready to say yes to the preferred alternative when it's determined. Second the city has caused delay in the past because of a mistrust or misunderstanding or bad dialogue with sound transit. We have got to get excellent permitting process in place to make sure that the city is ready with the permits ready to get what they need out of Sound Transit ready to collaborate though and get the permits issued as quickly as possible so that we are not a cause of delay. Third this is more controversial. But I want to keep working with Sound Transit as a Sound Transit Board member and keep talking about financing and make sure that we are pursuing the smartest financing strategies so we get as much money as we can upfront so that the slow cost of raising money is not causing a delay.

[00:52:49] And we need a lot more dialogue with them about that but other cities have done a much more compressed schedule using that technology up on that last point because you on the campaign

trail have talked about actually issuing bonds or somehow giving Sound Transit more money lending to them et cetera to help speed up the line. Describe more your financing plan for speeding up Sound Transit.

[00:53:10] So the way Sound Transit raises money the money comes in very slowly and it's part of the construction schedule is matched to the arrival of money over time. So can sound transit use its own excellent credit rating to issue bonds to get more money upfront so that we can not delay some of the construction but do more sooner because if you do more sooner you can build more project because of inflation. So it's a question with them. I don't get to decide with for them but I wanted to have that discussion further with the sound Transit Board. And similarly we could look at City bonding for the city portions of the project.

[00:53:49] We're going to give you a minute and a half to complete that.

[00:53:51] So I think this this is a perfect example of the difference between us on experience. It sounds really good to say we'll just issue bonds for first sound transit three. Couple of problems with that is bonds just aren't something you get a print. You gotta pay him back. So you have to have a system not only to issue them but what are the revenues that's going to pay them back. I've actually been in contact with sound transit and they've been publicly stating is they can't do more bonding because they don't have the revenue model that would pay those bonds back and would undermine their credit authority so more money is not the problem with sound transit speeding it up requires to reduce the bureaucracy and the process. That's what's going to speed it up in the ways we do that is number one instead of having every city agency work as silos and separate and apart from Sound Transit three I as mayor said that I would put people in one project management room together. So they're working together with a whiteboard trying to speed things up Sound Transit has acknowledged that's the number one thing that could speed this up. The second thing is not wait for us to engage communities. We know where these these lines are going. And the biggest fights are always where will they be. So we need to get those cited sooner rather than later in looking at the environmental impacts sooner rather than later. We tend to do things one foot in front of the other on these big megaprojects. We can't do it that way. So if for Sound Transit three I have shown how we can speed it up by years and you can find it on my Web site the detailed plan and in the meantime to try to alleviate that plan add additional bus services from Ballard and West Seattle so those people can get into downtown because they really are have been underserved by our current transit system.

[00:55:30] Okay. Another challenge.

[00:55:32] I just want to clarify you completely misunderstood what I was proposing. Of course the revenue source that we've already identified for Sound Transit would be the source of paying back the bonds. I don't know why you don't understand that because there isn't a signed revenue source. It's just a matter of using it for bonding and getting the money sooner paying it back later. Second I think we really need to focus on how do we build as much Sound Transit as quickly as possible because people in West Seattle and Ballard are suffering now we we they are underserved by transit so we need to make sure we are delivering transit service to them as quickly as possible. And I just

want to point out the other cities are building big transit systems too. And we have a very conservative approach to financing in Seattle compared to other cities so I'm just putting the question on the table. Los Angeles is building 30 years worth of transit in 10 years because they're being more aggressive using their bonding capacity at the city and county level. And I'm just suggesting that this is something we work out together with Sound Transit with sound financial principles not inventing money out of nowhere like Jenny implies.

[00:56:40] You have a minute. So we have a 5.2 billion dollar budget roughly in managing that budget is one of the most important things a mayor can do when you're talking about bonding authority. This proposal has changed in two ways First my opponent proposed city bonds and I think quickly realized you couldn't do that for. For a system that wasn't a city system then said Sound Transit. The money she just referred to is already obligated under the bonds they will issue. It can't be doubly obligated. It's like when my sister was in college my dad got a call from the guy who worked at the bank as was small town and they knew each other he said you know your daughter's bouncing her checks. So he brought her home and said Honey you're bouncing her checks.

[00:57:19] She goes that can't be right. I have some left. You know just because you have checks left doesn't mean the money is there. So we have to have for every revenue projection we actually have to know how we're going to have to pay things back. We can't just put something on the table. If you go back to the other proposals that my opponent has made they tally up to about a billion dollars. And at the last debate she said I don't know how I'm going to pay for them but I'll figure that out once I become mayor. I don't think that's a responsible approach.

[00:57:47] Another question about transportation if tolling. This comes from Mike one of the audience members. If tolling on city streets go through and some people call that congestion pricing sort of tolling the city streets not just the major freeways will there be an exception for commercial vehicles doing business in the city.

[00:58:04] Carrie So the only way congestion pricing can work is if you have a really robust transit system.

[00:58:14] Because if you're disincentivizing driving you have to give people an alternative for them to shift to. You can't just punish them for wanting to come downtown. So I am not in favor of congestion pricing until we get a very robust transit system. That means a lot more investment in service bus service at Metro. It means getting sound transit online and light to Balad in West Seattle. I think it's premature to talk about congestion pricing in Seattle because we simply don't have the alternatives to offer people. London is a great example of congestion pricing working because their streets are very walkable. They have great bike lanes but they also have one of the best transit systems in the whole universe there. So I'm very concerned about this proposal. We should look at it. But I think it's going to show it's fatally flawed because we simply don't offer alternatives because people drive for work. People have deliveries. People have to bring their cars. If their job depends on it so it won't work here.

[00:59:11] Just 10 seconds. Would you exempt commercial vehicles if I would.

[00:59:14] I would not be in favor of implementing congestion pricing until we have transit system and then yes if we implement it exempt commercial vehicle tolling congestion prices on commercial vehicles.

[00:59:24] So congestion pricing is something we should consider down the road as part of a holistic solution. But there's a whole lot of things we're going to have to do and it would be years off. I think before we could even look at it the sad news is is that as bad as traffic is today in downtown it's going to get a lot worse a lot worse. And I've as I have said it will not be the mayor's fault. Whoever that mayor is. We have enormous projects coming online when they start the convention center. You're going to have buses coming out of the tunnel onto the city streets. We're gonna be tearing up first avenue for parts of Fourth and Fifth Avenue be closed periodically as they build a new Rainier square. It will be almost impassible so there's a whole range of things we have to do.

[01:00:07] Number one thing we have to do get people out of their single occupancy vehicles and the way we do that first and foremost is improve our transit better bus lines more buses so people don't have to wait ways to get to the sound transit Terminus is more East West service. So people from Ballard could perhaps go to the Northgate stop. We've got to look at those things. We've got to get you know the employers downtown see if they'll stagger when people come in. So not everyone's coming into town at the same time. I'll do that if I'm mayor. There's a whole range of things we'd have to consider before we can ever consider congestion pricing.

[01:00:39] Ok. Another question from the audience. Daniel writes Do either of you have plans to better subsidize child care costs for working families. JENNY DURKAN Yes.

[01:00:46] We've got to look at this as one that's going to be difficult but there's you know they're looking at at the statewide level and I think that I would first work and will work to Olympia to see if we can do it that way child care costs are out of control and they are although one of the number one reasons that women are kept from the workforce because they have to choose sometimes between actually having employment and taking care of their child and if they can't afford to do both then they use all of their paycheck in caring for their child. So we really have to get our arms around this. No person should pay that much for child care that we're facing today. So I think there's got to be looking at subsidies. I would look to employers to provide those subsidies as much as possible. And then as a failsafe to look at there's a safety net system that we can have a child care provision like we do other subsidies child care Karima.

[01:01:35] So the goal I think should be that nobody has to pay more than 10 percent of their income for child care. And this is a gender equity issue. This is an essential solution that we need if we want to give women equal access equal footing in the workplace. So I would work with the pre-K levy that is coming up for renewal next year. I would work with Olympia. I would work with the county and see if we can come up with a solution where we can subsidize childcare for more folks including folks from South End communities that are communities of color that have real issues with wanting to have

children in culturally competent childcare facilities. We are not doing anything to help those communities right now so we need to expand what we're doing to include those communities more fairly in the system that we have. So there's a lot of work to do to re figure we redesign the pre-K Levy and I'm ready to get to work with folks on doing that.

[01:02:30] Roger you each have one more challenge. Zack and Sarah with the cost right. With the cost of living skyrocketing What are your plans to protect our cities thriving arts community from getting priced out of Seattle.

[01:02:41] Karima so this is all tied up in the housing affordability solutions that I've put forward that were the reason I entered this race because we have a housing market that has been occupied and we need to take ownership of our housing market.

[01:02:56] We need to take control of our housing market so that we are building housing that's affordable to artists to communities of color to low income people because we know what a society requires. It requires people at all ages and stages in life all income levels and all our diverse communities of color being able to stay here.

[01:03:15] And so we have to get ahead of this. I will work with the two to talk about.

[01:03:21] I will do the speculation tax that we've talked about in whatever form it works out to be. I will also work as hard as I can to quadruple the amount of nonprofit and public affordable housing that we're building in our city. We are simply not keeping up with demand and also work on what's called the missing middle. And how do we build housing for middle income folks. Things like backyard cottages and rowhouses and duplexes that we could be building throughout the city that are basically either impossible to build or illegal.

[01:03:49] How do you help the arts community so the arts community I think is one of those indicators of a great city. I mean we all have the favorite place we go whether you think about Rome or Florence and it was always the center of the arts. So I think the future of Seattle we want to make sure that we have maintained this vibrant art community. But they're getting priced out not just where they can live but exhibit space is becoming way too expensive. So I have a range of proposals that as we talk about affordability we're also consciously talking about housing for artists in exhibit space for artists. So as we build out the new affordable housing and affordable commercial space that I propose and you can see more on our Web site. Part of that baked in is to make sure we really do have places for exhibit for musicians to practice as well as places for artists to live. And in all parts of our city you know we had one of the most vibrant arts communities in Bell Town. And it has generated this great sound that comes out of Seattle. But we've got artists that work in the Southeast Seattle and some in the north of Seattle. We want to make sure to have this interlocking system of both the ability for artists to live here and work here.

[01:04:56] Ok. Jenny Durkin this comes from Lisa. How would you balance corporate giveaways and jobs versus the impact of the cost of upgrading infrastructure for these companies.

[01:05:06] First there should be no corporate giveaways. We should make sure that growth pays for growth as much as we can. This city has just been under enormous pressure because of the growth. We have a thousand people moving here a week estimated our population has grown over 100,000 people just in the last five-ish years. And a good part of those people are people coming for tech jobs that pay over one hundred thousand dollars a year. That's what's really causing our affordability problem. It's that our housing infrastructure wasn't ready. It's like supply and demand. And so what we have to do is make sure that as we grow we're looking at those impacts of growth two areas that I think we have not been good at that we need to examine is one parks and green space. You know as we are getting denser are we protecting that green space in the parks. The thing that is the livability that makes Seattle so special. And the second is our schools. We've added all this population without adding new schools. So we have to make sure that as we work with the Seattle Public Schools and we look at growth we're looking at are we really making sure that the growth in the impacts of growth are being properly mitigated.

[01:06:18] So this is a really interesting one because if you look at the corporate donors that are flowing to the pack for my opponent. So about a million dollars and you wonder what these corporations think they're buying what influence they think they're buying. These are the same corporations that we're against. Fifteen dollars minimum wage they were against the high earners income tax at the state in 2010. They were against honest elections Seattle and they funded the campaign against protecting hotel workers from sexual harassment. So they're not just giving this money out of kindness they think they are buying some kind of influence with this money. And I want to just keep people's attention on that. I believe we need we need to have a more progressive tax system. Corporations need to pay it for their fair share. They need to pay for the growth that they are creating. We need to make sure that those profiteering off our housing market are not doing it at our expense but they are paying for creating more housing for low and middle income people. We need to make sure we are taxing unearned wealth at the city level and at the state level. This is the only way we're going to be able to invest in the infrastructure that we all need to thrive.

[01:07:26] How would you differ from Mayor Murray.

[01:07:29] Carry weight so you know I.

[01:07:34] I have experience in the private sector. I have worked in small business. I have worked closely with city government for twenty years and I have a deep understanding of what we need to do to become the progressive city that we all want to be. And I believe his role in the legislature was you know he did some great things in the legislature but he had basically no experience with urbanism with urban growth with understanding Seattle's challenges. And that's the main reason why we didn't make that much progress beyond the 15 million minimum wage under his leadership. So deep commitment to smart growth strong urban planning so that we can create a city that's welcoming and inclusive for everybody. Most importantly those sharing power I have committed to sharing power across race and class and gender in the mayor's office and in all departmental leadership teams

because I believe that's a root cause of the problems in Seattle. Power is held in too few hands. We've got to build a more collaborative inclusive city government and I'm ready to do that.

[01:08:37] How would you differ from memory.

[01:08:39] I think both Mayor Murray and Mayor McGinn were mayors that became way too top down and City Hall centric. They would cook up these ideas in City Hall and then just try to place them on top of communities and neighborhoods and say we know what's best for you. Maybe it's my background as a civil rights and grassroots worker for my whole life. But I think we look for community based solutions. Sometimes it is the very communities and neighborhoods who know what's wrong there and how it can be fixed. I'll give you an example when I was United States attorney I helped get a big youth violence prevention grant that for the south end and they worked up this whole system and I went back at the beginning this campaign to Rainier Beach to see how it was working. They've done amazing things as a community bringing their youth in.

[01:09:23] Having credible messengers to talk to youth activating their corners and so I worked with them they have challenges they haven't been able to get employment for their kids though it was promised by the city. So I said how often is the city here talking to you working with you to see what's going right. The answer.

[01:09:41] Zero. If I'm mayor we will be there.

[01:09:45] Jenny Durkan you've talked about giving free college tuition to all Seattle high school graduates. Sounds like a large number where are you going to get that money.

[01:09:55] The shocking thing about this is it's not a large number.

[01:09:59] Four point seven million dollars is what it will cost to make sure that every kid who graduate from Seattle public school can get two years free tuition and there's a program right now it's called the 13th year they've tried it as a basis in South Seattle college it works greatly particularly for those kids of color the majority of kids in the program are kids of color. I talked to one of the kids he started at Garfield High School kind of washed out then went to Cleveland his family lives in Rainier Beach someone got him by the collar and said Try this program. He tried it. He did the two years and then he transferred the University of Washington. He now has his degree in construction management and he's managing one of the projects in South Lake Union. Here's a kid who didn't have a chance who's literally shaping the city. I want to give every kid that promise is free college tuition a good idea.

[01:10:49] It's a great idea at the national or state level. I'm not sure it's a good idea at the city level. We already have access to Pell Grants for low income kids and we already have a situation. We already have the 13th year program so and we also have a situation where. Kids who want to go to college simply can't afford to live in our city. So just tuition is actually not really solving the biggest part of the problem. Seattle Central I've heard has they're not even at capacity because they've

extended invitations to four young people to come there but they can't afford to live anywhere near the college so they can't even keep their enrollment numbers up high enough. So I think we have to look more holistically this is sort of a sound bite or that sounds great solution but if you look a little deeper it's more complicated than that. So yes we should be helping everybody every young person thrive in life. But I want to focus on pre-K through 12. I want to focus on apprenticeship and internship programs to help people get ready for understanding what careers are out there after college but really focus on getting them to graduate ready to thrive in life.

[01:11:55] Okay time for a couple more credit card challenge.

[01:11:58] So I just think the tuition thing is too big to leave it there. It is part of a holistic solution. You ask me about tuition and let me tell you about the rest is we have one of the biggest opportunity gaps for kids of color anywhere in the country. It really is bad. So what are the other things I proposed as using the families and education levy to really focus to get more kids through school but also to take and tap into the great job sources we have here the corporations the building trades and provide meaningful not just two weeks apprenticeship but meaningful jobs and apprenticeships so that when those kids graduate they have a path to the new economy. The growth we've experienced here has left our own talent behind. We're importing that talent. I want every kid in every school here to know they can either build the buildings that are opening these new corporations or they can run the corporations themselves. The only way we do that is if we give them a pathway to opportunity and that includes college. And my program also has counselors in the high school to get them ready counselors in the colleges to get their way and a private fund to help them with books and transportation and the like.

[01:13:06] So I am proud to be endorsed by the Seattle Education Association for exactly this reason. They saw my plan for reducing the opportunity gap in Seattle Public Schools and said that is exactly right. That is the city's role in helping us as educators close the opportunity gap. So I am really focused on this issue. The wealth inequality in our city the fact that we used to be the city with the number one rate of black homeownership. Now we are fifth worst. We used to have a more balanced education system now it's completely segregated and we have the one of the worst opportunity gaps of any major cities in the country. This is a crisis and it's all tied together. We need to really focus in on what we're doing in K through 12 and make sure we are investing in the most effective effective strategies to close the achievement or the opportunity gap. And you know I want to bring up two municipal broadband because I think this is part of it. Kids who don't have access to the internet at home suffer when you see someone doing homework on their iPhone outside the library. That hurts all of us. So we need municipal broadband. I to this too.

[01:14:16] We're going to go back to having affordability here for just a couple of seconds. And this gets a little bit. The single family's zoning or at least touches on that. Do you support ideas and dodges basically mother in law as a detached mother in laws that eliminate the owner occupancy requirements.

[01:14:32] Basically right now I believe city policy is that if you're gonna do a backyard cottage you either live in the backyard cottage you've got to live in the main house. You can't just leave and rent both of them.

[01:14:41] Would you support limiting if you support allowing non owners to do these things. Would you support limiting the non owners to non-profit folks.

[01:14:51] That makes sense that question yes.

[01:14:55] I haven't heard it crazy that way before because I was ready to say no I wouldn't get rid of the owner occupancy requirement but if it's a non-profit then maybe I think we have a lot of capacity to include more low income housing in many many neighborhoods throughout the city. So I'm ready to work with neighborhoods and set a shared goal here so many people are moving to your neighborhood. Here are all the tools we could use to make space for them in your neighborhood. People at all income levels and all ages and stages in life and figure this out together with neighborhoods and that means looking at all these tools like mother in law apartments backyard cottages making duplexes easier to build making congregate housing easier to build especially in the neighborhoods that have big houses bigger than any family small any small family would need on their own. How do we look at row houses. How do we make sure we are adding infill development in a gentle way that supports the culture of the neighborhood but also creates healthy society if people at all income levels living together. So I would work with neighborhoods okay.

[01:15:56] Ownership requirement in this backyard colleges and just generally your view on kind of relaxing single family zoning.

[01:16:02] I think we need to have more alternatives for a mother in law apartments and backyard cottages and make it easier to permit them. I would not relax the ownership requirements without deep work with the neighborhoods to see what's going to work. And I don't think there's necessarily going to be one size fits all. But if you look at the system now you it literally I have people I know people have been trying to get their mother in law apartment you know certified for over 18 months and it costs thousands of dollars in architect fees. It costs money. It costs time. So I think we have to have a system that makes it easier and ideally we'll be able to have even a range of approved plans that if you have a backyard cottage in a lot size of X this one if you use it 30 60 day permit let's go. So I think we have to increase density. I also want to go back just momentarily if I can to the broadband question. It's another example of cost without a plan. Broadband will cost 600 to 700 million dollars. I'd love it too. I'd love it to but we don't have the money and if we have that money I think we're an affordability crisis and we have to build housing. I've proposed ways to get Internet connections to every house without having to go.

[01:17:08] Let me follow up on that give you 30 seconds on broadband because there were a couple of questions on broadband.

[01:17:13] So if if you don't agree with what she's doing or you don't agree with the big network how do you increase access.

[01:17:20] It's two things. It's just not that I don't agree with it. It doesn't pencil. Tacoma has a system they put in that is running in the red every month the rate payers of the utility are paying extra money because the cost structure doesn't work. So there is no model out there yet in the country that it works. What I would do is increase wireless access. Right now our libraries are a place talking about the libraries where you can check out a wireless node. We can increase that significantly so people in the south end. Second we have great technology coming in the line that requires there to be wireless deployment in every neighborhood. I would require them to provide access for every family because they will need our rights of way. They need to give us a public benefit.

[01:18:04] Ok we'll give you 40 seconds on broadband.

[01:18:06] It's basically what we have now. It doesn't work. This is an equity issue straight up access to high speed internet is an equity issue. You need it to do homework. You needed to apply for jobs you needed to apply for Social Services. You needed to be an entrepreneur you need high speed Internet to participate in today's economy we should be providing it as a public utility just like we do reliable electricity and clean water. We can do this with a 40 dollar per month cost and we are studying it now at city council. I would like us all to look at the results. Look at the feasibility study and commit to doing this rather than dismissing it outright as my opponent does because it's a privacy issue. It's an equity issue and it's an affordability issue.

[01:18:48] But C.R. there's been two studies Mike McGinn studied it. Ed Murray study. There's two studies right now and it doesn't pencil. I'd love it to pencil but it doesn't. OK.

[01:18:58] If we can spend 54 billion dollars on the transit system I think we can figure out how to spend 500 to 600 million dollars on a public utility for municipal broadband.

[01:19:09] And we end on animals. Our last question we will give them each 45 seconds on this one. Kerry mooing What is your stance on the continued funding of the Woodland Park Zoo. Many Seattleites believe their mission is not justified by the Treatment of Animals held in their facility Wow OK.

[01:19:30] This is a contentious issue and I haven't studied it deeply so I'm gonna be vague here because I want to listen to all sides and really work with communities understand the concerns about animal rights animal safety and really make sure you understand the issues on both sides. And I do I have heard that the I love the zoo. I love to visit. It's one of the most beautiful gardens in the country in the in the city kids love it. So I think it is an essential shared resource and a place where people come together and people enjoy understanding more about animals. So I think that we need to find the right balance. Maybe it's just we need to release the elephants and keep the other animals. But I would work with the community to figure out the right solution because this concern has been coming up more and more.

[01:20:16] Jenny Durkan and people would be happy to know Carrie and I do agree on things. This is an area I think we need to study more and pay attention to because I think are our ethics as a society have evolved over time on how we treat animals and how zoos are viewed. And so I think we have to keep working with people that are there for the care of the animals and also work with the zoo. I know my own kids one reason they love animals so much. And one reason I have son who cares so much about animals going extinct is because of his trips to the zoos and being able to see that and realize what they really were. But whether that justifies the ongoing way of certain types of animals particularly large animals I think we have to continue to have that dialogue.

[01:20:57] Ok we'll give them all a minute for a closing statement. My very first question started with Carrie moon so this will start with Jenny Durkan as your final thought here closes out. Why are you the right candidate for the next four years and Seattle thank you again for being here.

[01:21:15] This election is not about who will be mayor for four years.

[01:21:18] I think this election is about what will Seattle be like for the next generation. You know more and more I see everything through the eyes of my kids one who's 16 and one who's 20. You know I was lucky I was born and raised here and my mom was born and raised here but I think if my mom were alive today and you put her down in any part of Seattle she wouldn't recognize it because we've changed that quickly.

[01:21:42] And Seattle's at this moment of time where we really do have these critical issues of affordability and transportation and homelessness. And we're wrestling with things like racial disparities and how do we honestly address that as a country. I think we can do that. And I know we have to do it because if we're gonna have that city in the future that I want my kids to love as much as I love this city. We have to tackle those issues. And I know we can we can show we're different than the other Washington we can show we're better than the other Washington. But to get there. We got to pull together. We got to put aside some divisions we got to sit down at the table and tackle these tough issues.

[01:22:22] And while we do it we can't lose sight of the great opportunities that Seattle has because it still is the coolest city there is so we've all had that experience driving through the suburbs where you find yourself at an intersection and you look around and you see all the chain stores that are exactly the same chain stores that were at the last intersection and say Oh I'm so glad Seattle's not like that. Well we are at risk of becoming like that so much is at stake in this election. We have a housing affordability crisis. We have an economy that's Tremont generating tremendous wealth for a lucky few while the rest of us are falling farther behind. We need solutions. I started this campaign not with the list of complaints but with a vision for what Seattle can be. And specific solutions because in a city like this with such wealth with such creativity with such intelligence and shared progressive values we owe it to the rest of the country to be that beacon of hope to be the city that truly watches out for the well-being of everyone that builds an economy that shares prosperity based on local ownership not corporate ownership that tackles the housing affordability crisis by addressing the need to keep

housing and local ownership because that is the number one way most families accumulate economic security. We need real solutions to these deep problems. And this mayoral campaign and this mayoral race needs to be about how do we solve these problems together and b the city we all know we can be. I am happy to be here and I would love to lead that charge as mayor.

[01:23:56] Thanks a great discussion. Thank our candidates for now you can go back and enjoy the rest of your Halloween

[01:24:24] This podcast was presented by the Seattle Public Library and Foundation and made possible by your contributions to the Seattle Public Library Foundation. Thanks for listening.