

Dear Olympia Indivisible:

Thank you for the opportunity to answer your questions.

**Subject: Homelessness**

I have more than 30 years high activity volunteer work with persons experiencing living without a home. In my church work, we became very involved in the overnight shelter during wintertimes when my husband and I were in our twenties and continued that work. Unfortunately, since then the problem has become very tragic and we have helped and funded more both in our churches in Olympia and Centrailia and other churches as well as our work with the camp Quixote and now Quixote Village and my own work as a volunteer nurse with Olympia Free Clinic.

Here are my ideas as your council member:

1. Bring houseless persons to the table and ask their ideas and have a two way conversation that is respectful and televised.
2. Ask Thurston Regional Planning Council to provide data on rent, income, and jobs in the area and identify why we do not have enough modest places to rent.
3. Identify areas that might be developed into a KOA style, gated development with heated cabins and ready bus transit. There could be one building that houses shared bathrooms and kitchens and locker storage. The development would have to have rules just like anywhere else.
4. Rooming houses are a great idea as long as there is enough green space, parking and sewer needs are met without overloading the area they are placed.
5. Check what other cities are doing that is successful. Here in Olympia, houselessness cannot be just something that Olympia deals with. It has to be a regional issue with the county and surrounding cities all doing their part to help.

6. We must plan to more modest housing and protect mobile home parks that still exist.
7. Real estate has become the new "gold rush" and we must enact zoning laws that protect our area from global exploitation.
8. I have more ideas, but this part is getting too long.)

Subject: Environment

1. We must respect nature first. Current Olympia policies put development before nature as we are not preparing for sea level rise adequately. We must develop in areas that are not prone to flooding. We must clean up Puget Sound and be really serious about it. We must not allow building on top of our estuaries as that is one way we are killing our fish.
2. Our recycling has changed and a lot of things we are putting in our cans are going directly in the garbage. We must educate at every opportunity that just because something has a recycle label on it that that does not mean it is being recycled. Olympia has excellent recycle educators on its city staff, but the staff need to go all schools and community groups to do more education outreach.
3. We must stop the use of Roundup as that is poisoning our environment.

Subject: Public Safety

1. We must fully fund out fire and police departments. Those departments also need to be efficient and accountable and held to the highest standards of care with good up to date training.
2. We must have emergency plans in case of flooding, earthquakes and keep our building codes to a high standard to prevent fires and/or other mishaps.

3. We must encourage our community members to work together to solve problems. I believe that we must engage regularly with all types of people and build community.
4. We must lobby our state legislature to get the mentally ill off the street and into treatment and housing.

Subject: Economic Development

1. I believe that first rate infrastructure, a beautiful natural environment, and a caring community invites economic development.
2. We cannot continue paying the taxes of luxury home builders. We must end the eight year tax breaks they are currently allowed.
3. We must recognize that we need to create affordable housing so that people of modest incomes are not priced out.
4. We must fully charge impact fees for new development. Growth must pay for growth and current residents have been paying for it and that has increased their expenses while developers profit.
5. We must have more ideas like "Procession of the Species" to liven up our downtown.
6. We must open the library on Sundays again by lobbying Timberland Regional Library.

Subject: Growth Management

1. Read the book "Capital City" by Samuel Stein. Real Estate has become the new "gold rush" and that is causing a lot of people to be priced out of home buying and renting. As a nation, we are losing local control.
2. I volunteered 17 months of my time and gave \$2,000 of money that I diverted from my own needs to fund a lawsuit against the Missing Middle ordinance passed by the Olympia City Council. I made homemade fliers to educate fellow citizens about this up zone. The

Missing Middle was a terrible idea and would have ruined Olympia. Read our brief by checking [noolyupzone.yolasite.com](http://noolyupzone.yolasite.com)

3. I believe in the 2014 Comprehensive Plan that directs growth in the nodes on the already available land for the next 20 years.

#### Subject: Transportation

1. We need more bus ridership. I ride the bus as well as my husband.
2. We need more bus service in certain ill served areas and we need more bus shelters and not expect riders to stand in the rain.
3. Parents can make better use of school buses and carpool with other parents to reduce traffic.
4. I oppose the proposed Log Cabin extension in the Thurston Regional Transportation Plan that will cut through LBA Park.
5. We must encourage people to limit their trips and plan well.
6. When we have major events like Procession of the Species downtown, we could plan for neighborhoods to have special bus service. Many of my elderly friends cannot walk to the event but would come if bus service was provided.

#### Subject: Diversity

1. We must promote education of all types of people and cultures.
2. We must make sure that City of Olympia staff, especially the fire and police departments understand and can interact with all types of people and know differing cultures.
3. We must make sure that the City of Olympia employees are a diverse group as well.
4. Furthermore, the City of Olympia needs to make sure that all economic classes are treated with dignity and respect and not just the wealthy ones. We need to build community with one another and that starts with communicating respectfully.

I could have written a lot more on each of these topics, but time prevents my doing so. Before, I decided to run for office, I asked at least 400 other people to run. We are in need of good, ethical people to run for office and so I am asking each of you to plan your campaign right now for the next election cycle in two years. Right now, I am typing this reply on marginal equipment. I do not have internet at home as I cut that bill to help pay for the legal fees for the Missing Middle. If you want a city council person who has a proven track record for stepping up for Olympia for decades check my website at [pbooth.org](http://pbooth.org) If you want to continue along the same path that previous council members have chosen, vote for the incumbent. I am 58 years old and you will get straight honest communication from me.

Thank you.

Phyllis Booth