

1. I think half the task is knowing the issues and the district. That's taken care of. The challenge will be nurturing the appropriate relationships in Olympia, something I have been working on for years. Being an effective representative is about relationships and that's what draws me to it.
2. A long history of serving the people of the 42nd. See answer to question 20 for further detail.
3.
 - A. Advocating for and exhausting all aid for 42nd district flood victims.
 - B. Real, holistic solutions to actively managing our river system in a way that protects people and ecosystems.
 - C. Maintaining and enhancing a viable ag economy in the 42nd district.
 - D. Addressing hopelessness in all its forms. Whether you are a young family looking for an affordable place to plant roots, a child experiencing food insecurity, a homeless neighbor who doesn't know where they will sleep at night or even a farmer that has farmed in this area for generations and doesn't know if this will be the last. Unfortunately, I see a lot of hopelessness in the 42nd, I want to address it in all forms.
4. It seems that we have spent a lot of policy energy protecting farmland. What we need to be doing is protecting our ability to farm. I will seek out all opportunities that will enable farmers to produce food and fiber in Whatcom County, as well as enhancing our ability to bring those products to market.
5. I will comply with the most current senate requirements.
6. I believe the goals of the growth management act are noble. I do agree that planning should be done at a local level, however we've strayed from balancing the goals of the GMA as originally intended. I will seek opportunities to balance the goals as was the original intent.
7. From a policy level we need to do what can to reduce the cumbersome nature of permitting, a lot of which is attributed to the state. The time I've spent on the planning commission and council coupled with the relationships I have built in the planning department will help me bring some of their frustrations to the state level to advocate for common sense solutions. Think – tiny homes on wheels.
8. Supply and demand are a real thing. For those who can't provide for themselves we need to look at the root cause of their unique situation and respond on an individual level. We've fallen into a pattern of triage in dealing with homelessness it's time we address the root causes.
9. This question assumes that more legislation is the solution. The last thing I would do is limit housing options.
10. We have all seen well intended solutions that put the hypothetical "cart before the horse". I am not opposed to adapting zoning requirements to achieve solutions to help achieve affordable housing, but believe it can't come before addressing, and solving the issues surrounding infrastructure etc. Also – see 8/9.

11. Mass transit is a wonderful goal; however, people don't find it a viable option for their commute. Anything that would make it more appealing, or more convenient I would generally look in favor on. In the meantime, some of the goals of the GMA are to reduce commutes by providing communities with zoning that accommodates their unique needs. There are many places within the 42nd district where we do not do this. Think – Birch Bay / Kendall/ Maple Falls / Glacier. Providing the zoning to accommodate the things that people need such as a grocery store, or other essential services provides a great benefit to reducing traffic, reducing emissions and building communities. This is virtually a no cost step to a solution for some of our transportation issues in the 42nd.
- 12.
- a. Yes, we need to find more funding.
 - b. No. Raising the gas tax hurts those that can least afford it the most.
 - c. I don't believe we have a revenue problem in Olympia, we have a spending problem. We need to first be sure revenues are being allocated to the right place.
- 13.
- a. Yes
 - b. I believe it's short sighted and irresponsible to assign one cause to the recent severe weather events. These issues are complex and must be assessed holistically to achieve solutions.
 - c. I think that atmospheric CO2 levels and their impact on climate are well documented.
 - d. Long term solutions for our managed river system, up to and including those that have previously been politically unpopular but may provide benefits to all affected parties. I will always advocate for real science and not political science.
- 14.
- a. Opposition.
 - b. This bill in its current form is beyond repair. It makes assumptions and relies on standards that have not been proven to be reliably measured. It seeks to "rule make" based off models that have historically never been accurate. Not just mildly inaccurate, wildly inaccurate. As soon as things such as sea level modeling and climate models can prove themselves accurate over time, I would be willing to revisit a bill such as this.
15. If Roe v. Wade is overturned federally, I would support the State taking up the issue. I support a woman's right to make their own reproductive choices right up to the point that the choice looks like taking another human's life.
16. I believe there are already laws on the books that make ghost guns illegal. I see no need for this legislation.
17. All systems have room for improvement. Continually monitoring and improving on the system to verify every citizen has just one vote and eliminating even the perception of a flaw in the system will increase transparency and trust. I do believe legislation allowing "day of registration" should be eliminated.
18. This is not something I am 100% decided on, because there are so many variables. To comply with your opposition research, tell Sharon Shewmake she should just figure on the fact that I will be running against her.
- 19.

- a. When I accepted the opportunity to be one of the three nominees the thought had crossed my mind to give up my council seat if selected. However, that was back when I had made the false assumption that the majority on the council could make a decision that would be in the best interest of the district needing representation. Now that I've seen your willingness to put partisan politics above people, I believe it would be best for my district to remain in my seat until a time when the people can choose my replacement. If appointed to the senate I will serve in both roles until such a time that the voters can decide.
- b. It's a 60-day session, over the past 2 years the council has operated remotely. I don't see that changing over the next 60 days.

20. Below is the bio shared to council along with the nomination.

I have been asked, by numerous people, if I would consider fulfilling the remainder of Senator Ericksen's senate term. When I reflect on the current state of Whatcom County, and the unprecedented scale of natural disaster our citizens are facing, it is inarguable that the people of the 42nd district should not be left without a strong voice in Olympia. My family has lived and farmed in the Nooksack River Valley since 1902. As a 4th generation farmer, I have personally experienced the abundance and devastation our river system provides us. Now, more than ever, the people of the 42nd district need an experienced voice to advocate for recovery and long-term solutions for our river. With Agriculture and the Cherry Point Industrial Area being the 2 largest economic drivers in the 42nd district my 20 years of experience in the energy sector will serve Whatcom well as Olympia wrestles with regulatory changes as we move towards a clean energy future. This task, if properly executed will both protect the environment and provide jobs into the future. However, if poorly done will have the potential to drive out jobs and harm the less fortunate among us most with astronomical energy prices. The people of the 42nd as well as the entire State cannot afford to blunder on such an important task. So, it is out of respect for Senator Ericksen, respect for the individuals who have asked me to serve, and most importantly, respect for the citizens of the 42nd district - I humbly accept the nomination to be considered by the Whatcom County Council. I believe my unique experience and skill set provide me with the tools needed to represent the citizens of the 42nd at such short notice.

Below please find a brief summary of my relevant experiences.

ELECTED AND APPOINTED POSITIONS

-Planning Commissioner for Whatcom County Council District #2

Appointed by Whatcom County Council, June 2012-Sept. 2015.

-Whatcom County Charter Review Commissioner Council District #2

Elected by the citizens of Council District #2, 1 year term expired Dec. 31st, 2015

- With the highest vote total of all 15 of the elected candidates, per the Charter, I chaired the first meeting until such a time as we could elect a new Chair. I was unanimously elected Chairman by the Commission members 9 conservatives and 6 liberals. We had 8 amendments proposed with 7 of them passing the ballot and becoming incorporated into the charter. A true bipartisan success.

-Whatcom County Councilmember Council District #5

Elected by the citizens of Council District #5, 4-year term expiring Jan. 2024

- Chair of the Planning and Development Committee, member of the Natural Resources Committee. Member of the Bellingham International Airport Advisory Committee. Member of the Drayton Harbor/Portage Bay Shellfish Advisory Committee, Flood Control Zone Committee, and the Lummi Island Ferry Advisory Committee.

LOCAL, STATE AND NATIONAL ADVOCACY

American/Washington State Farm Bureau Member Since 2001

President Whatcom County Farm Bureau Board. Term 2018-2020

- Member of the Legislative Committee, Policy Development Committee. Comp plan/CAO Review Committee.

Washington State Cattlemen's Association Member Since 1999

Vice President Whatcom County Executive Board 2016-2021

- Chair of the Public Relations Committee.
- I have spent many days in Olympia building relationships with State legislators with Cattlemen.
- Spent many years as a Director Member for the Whatcom County Chapter.

Education

Western Washington University & Huxley College of the Environment

Bellingham, Washington 1997-2014

- BA in General Studies (designed major) with an emphasis on Natural Sciences.
- Environmental Studies Minor and Geography Minor

Graduate Lynden High School Class of '97