



John Linboe Urbanist Questionnaire 2024

Pierce County Council District 3

**What is your vision for how Pierce County should grow in the coming decades?
What does a livable community look like to you and how do you plan to ensure
the County is doing enough to create these kinds of communities?**

Unfortunately, the Comprehensive plan will be approved this year, 2024. I feel we need to do more to protect our undeveloped unincorporated Pierce County. These areas are known as aquifer recharge areas. When developing in this area there needs to be a plan that mitigates the effects of the development. This can be done by limiting the number of materials that prevent water from naturally being absorbed back into the ground. New construction should follow the shape of the surrounding landscapes and not shape the landscape to follow the desired builds.

A livable community is one in which it is measured by quality-of-life factors, access to fresh water, affordable transportation, health care, education, and a safe and stable built community. I think we need to look at some of our European counterparts for examples of how to build and maintain livable communities. Although, they are ahead of us in rail and bus transportation we can learn and model our future growth from them. The other thing we need to do is stay in touch with what the communities desire.

Given that 446,000 people live in unincorporated Pierce County, how will you manage growth in these areas? How should the County curb sprawl and encourage urbanization and transit use in unincorporated areas of the County?



Community Growth is not a bad concept, but sprawl is not good nor sustainable. We need to view how other countries who are ahead of us develop intentional communities embody the principles of eco-consciousness, emphasizing sustainability, communal living, and harmonious coexistence with the environment. Europe boasts a diverse tapestry of eco communities pioneering innovative ways of sustainable living and a circular economy.

What policies would you put forth to address historic inequities and move towards a more equitable Pierce County?

The lack of equitable outcomes in the Pierce County region cannot be attributed to a single factor. Past government policies and existing neutral policies are some of the factors contributing to the inequitable outcomes impacting communities today. These factors and others require many solutions. To elevate some of these inequalities will require the use of public committees to help impose forward think policies. The problem will be to not become discriminatory while writing new policies. Pierce County has a new chapter 2.40 on county code which established "Commission on Equality". I would support the growth of this commission as long as it does not itself become discriminatory.

How will you ensure youth are able to thrive in Pierce County, from education to transportation to access to opportunity?

Currently, I volunteer for pierce county fair and have become the market sale manager. This allowed me to setup a show and sale for 4-h and FFA kids to do projects they can in turn sell at the fair. We need to continue to fund and support music and sporting activities k-12 so all kids have opportunities to choose activities.



These programs have proven outcomes on youth and growth. Keeping kids busy will help keep them out of trouble.

What are your priorities around transportation? Do you support Pierce Transit's vision for a bus rapid transit network and if so how would you bring it about?

I'm a firm believer in public transportation from buses to light rail, and even expanding the operations of the sounder train. These services to to reach the rural population as well. Once the light rail reaches Lakewood it would be easy for them to work towards Puyallup and Graham and rural Pierce County. This could be done by polices that support the expansion.

What does a Vision Zero campaign to end traffic deaths look like to you and what will you do to fund and achieve that?

Vision Zero requires a shift in how communities approach decisions, actions, and attitudes around safe mobility. We would need to design streets with the vision of our Pedestrian, Bicycle, Transit, and Freight Master Plans with targeted enforcement patrols and educational outreach to address issues of acceptance.

How will you shift the current dynamic and challenges regarding homelessness funding between the Executive and Council?

I believe in persistence. The executive is up for reelection and hopefully a more progressive candidate will win. One thing we can do is provide funding for emergency shelters, permanent housing, and transitional housing. Provide for a



coordinated Approach. To end homelessness, a community-wide coordinated approach to delivering services, housing, and programs is needed to specific areas where the majority of homeless are residing.

What steps should the County take to expand renter protections in unincorporated Pierce County?

I believe in persistence. The executive is up for reelection and hopefully a more progressive candidate will win. One thing we can do is provide funding for emergency shelters, permanent housing, and transitional housing. Provide for a coordinated Approach. To end homelessness, a community-wide coordinated approach to delivering services, housing, and programs is needed to specific areas where the majority of homeless are residing.