



Christopher Roberts Urbanist Questionnaire 2025

Shoreline City Council Position 7

What are your top three priorities to achieve in your term?

Increased access to affordable housing, Address the impacts of climate change, fight for justice.

How will you boost housing options, particularly for families of all incomes to live where they work? How will you engage the public for new shelters, transitional housing, emergency housing, permanent supportive housing? How do you weigh community objections with the housing goals for your jurisdiction, while encouraging engagement from neighbors?

I am around of the work Shoreline did with its comprehensive plan and development code in 2024/2025. We need to do the work of implementing that plan, including creating pre-approved ADU designs, revising and streamlining the city's entire development code, and advocating for more funding from the state and federal government for housing. We are in the process of eliminating parking minimums, developing new policies around surplus property, and working with out partners to keep our cold-winter shelters open all winter. Our challenge for more shelter services in the North End of King County is space.

Do you support adding progressive revenue sources? Which ones would you support to fund your priorities? Or what cuts would you make to balance budgets facing increasing strain under Trump?



Yes. The challenge is that very few of the progressive measure to increase revenues are available to cities (or like the Jump Start tax), would bring in little revenue to the city.

What do you think is the most important strategy your jurisdiction can pursue to limit cost increases and make the region affordable to live in? How would you go about implementing that strategy?

We need to make sure that housing is affordable. We are doing that using the tools we have to encourage more housing to be built in Shoreline.

Traffic deaths are rising across Washington state, with pedestrians composing an increasing share statewide. What is your approach to making our streets safer for all users?

We need to make sure our streets are safe for all users, especially since there are large percentages of people who do not own a car or do not drive. We need to reduce distracted driving and reduce the speed of drivers. To do that, we need to reimagine our rights of way to accommodate all users. A complete street has pedestrian infrastructure, protected bicycle infrastructure, and access to transit and private motor vehicles (in that priority).

We cannot build enough lanes to ever eliminate motor vehicle gridlock.

What is your approach to improving public safety over the next five years? How will you actualize it?

We are very proud of our collaboration with other North End cities with RCR. This has been a tremendous success, and supported by our police department. We just



celebrated our 5th anniversary of our community court and resource center. Ultimately, we need to provide each resident with the services and support they need so they do not violate the rights of others.

What have you done/will you do to increase collaboration at city hall and ensure all residents are included?

We continue to do work to make the council and city hall more welcoming. We are going to review our council rules with an equity lens. Each department is doing more outreach with the community where the people are (at farmer's markets, in the parks, online).

What actions should the city take to address the climate crisis?

Our climate action plan is innovative and have multiple projects that we seek to implement, but I do want to focus on a couple.

Our two largest sources of pollutants come from buildings and from transportation. Shoreline has been a leader at encouraging green building. I want more new construction to meet LEED or Built Green standards.

We have funded a program this year to help residents convert to heat pumps (and move away from oil or natural gas). We support efforts by the state to move away from any new natural gas connections.

And, we are incentivizing property owners to install rain gardens on their properties.



What is your financial sustainability plan for the city?

Our plan is to continue to be financially conservative in our budget. We use one time money for one time (not ongoing) expenditures. We recognize that maintaining our existing assets is cheaper than replacing our assets. We also want to see more people move to the city and shop in the city, bringing in more sales and utility taxes.

What are your top transportation goals for the city, and how will you get them done? What is your plan to improve walkability, bike safety, and accessibility in your community?

Fundamentally, if we want to keep our communities affordable, we need to make sure that people are able to walk or bike to all the services they need and then have access to public transportation for needs outside of their local neighborhood. The costs of owning a car are high and only getting higher. We need to make sure that most people are able to live full productive, engaging lives without needing a private motor vehicle. So, we need a robust transit system, focused on frequency of service, and I support what Metro is doing with its Flex service to solve the last mile problem and connect people to our transit lines.

Do you support camping bans or sweeps? If elected, how would you adapt or change current law/policies to protect and support our neighbors?

All people need to be treated with dignity and respect. We need more shelter beds and shelter beds that meet the needs of each individual.



In what ways could your city's comprehensive plan go further, and what would you push for to improve it during your tenure?

I may want to see more flexibility for stadium/entertainment districts near our light rail station in addition to our baseline MUR zoning.