



Jenne Alderks Urbanist Questionnaire 2025

Bothell City Council Position 3

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

improve transit connections, plan for diverse housing types and preserve and reclaim park land

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?

In my first term, I expanded community outreach around Bothell's comprehensive and Housing Action Plans through open houses, online engagement, and personal efforts like a weekly newsletter and office hours. I regularly discussed the need for diverse housing types—including supportive and emergency housing—framing them as moral, legal, and equitable necessities. Community feedback and election results confirmed that opposition largely comes from a vocal minority. In my second term, I will focus on engaging more diverse voices, using data on housing and human services needs, and partnering with community organizations to ensure inclusive, effective planning for the development of needed housing options.



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?

I support adding progressive revenue sources including increasing the 1% cap on property tax increases to more adequately fund cities. For state and school district budgets, I support taxing gains on investments for high earners. I also would support decreasing costs to the state through transitioning medical care to a single payer system, funded by employer contributions and diverting drug cases to therapeutic courts because of the cost savings to society that comes from prevention and treatment, while lessening the burden on public safety and the criminal justice system. Ending mass incarceration through crisis response and poverty alleviation will result in cost savings in corrections budgets.

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?

The most important strategy Bothell can pursue to make the city affordable to live in is to increase housing supply, especially housing types that are appropriate for young adults (cottage housing, condominiums, small single family homes). To implement this strategy, I will continue work with the city's economic development coordinator to build relationships with builders and developers who specialize in middle housing types so that these types of housing can be built throughout the city, especially now that the comprehensive plan has increased density minimums across the city.



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?

In my first term, I supported the development of a citywide bike plan that will eventually build a network of protected bike lanes throughout the city so that cyclists can travel safely throughout the city. As the council has developed the city's transportation improvement plan, and capital facilities plan, I have supported re-engineering roads to promote pedestrian safety through road diets, expanding the city's sidewalk network, reducing speeds in neighborhoods and at intersections with roundabouts. In my next term, I will be seeking opportunities to fund the city's Vision Zero strategy that we articulated in the council vision.

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

In my first term, I prioritized divesting social services from policing by advancing the crisis continuum of care and supporting a therapeutic court in Bothell. As one of five North King County cities building this model, we've expanded access to 988 (someone to call), mobile crisis responders (someone to respond), a crisis stabilization center (somewhere to go), and follow-up care (someone to follow up). This approach reduces unnecessary police involvement and offers trained crisis response. Therapeutic courts connect individuals with treatment, breaking cycles of drug-related offenses. We are now entering the implementation phase focused on evaluation and sustainable system improvement.



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

In my first term, I worked with staff to expand the city's outreach to include the voices of more community members in city decision making. This took the form of open houses hosted throughout the city, an online engagement platform featuring surveys, interactive maps, and feedback opportunities, in addition to the standard public comment periods and public hearings. The online engagement platform can also be translated into many languages for residents who are more comfortable communicating in their native language. I also put in additional personal effort to inform the public about the planning process with a weekly newsletter and office hours.

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

The city of Bothell is developing a climate action plan designed to reduce emissions from vehicles, buildings, electricity production and zero waste. This includes transitioning city buildings and fleet to clean energy sources, improving transportation infrastructure like bike lanes and regional trails, and providing public outreach and education opportunities to assist residents in behavior change. The city's climate action page on the website also connects residents with funding strategies for clean energy transition (including e-bike rebates, and transitioning to solar).



What is your financial sustainability plan for the city?

In the time that I have served on council, the city has made some wise financial decisions that have helped the city become more financially sustainable and resilience. I supported a proposal to refinance the lease on the city hall so that the building could be owned outright by the city. I also supported a proposal to invest some of the savings which yielded an additional \$12 million in revenue for the city. I also supported a proposed to develop an Economic Vitality Plan to protect and increase sales tax revenues by supporting locally owned businesses, including neighborhood retail. Through investing in prevention strategies, I am also supporting long-term financial sustainability through cost savings and reducing strain on public services.

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?

My top transportation goals for the city are to begin building out the protected bike path network, working with local transit agencies to improve frequency for major bus lines, expand the city's sidewalk network and make safety improvements throughout the city. These priorities will improve walkability, bike safety and accessible in and around my community.

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



I do not support camping bans or sweeps. My strategy to protect and support unhoused neighbors is to partner with community organizations to connect people with Housing First programs, or safe community settings, and case managers who can help them secure housing.

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

Our comprehensive plan could have gone further by treating all neighborhoods with parity instead of concentrating growth into two neighborhood centers, on top of density increases throughout the city to allow middle housing types. If able to serve another term, I would work to improve the comprehensive plan by increasing allowed density in all neighborhoods and planning for parks that are proportionately distributed throughout the city.