



Mohamed Egal Urbanist Questionnaire 2025

SeaTac City Council Position 4

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

- Public Safety - Housing and economic development - Fiscal stewardship

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 strongly in favor of new housing options in SeaTac. In my first term, we approved more than 1,400 new transit-oriented housing units. We've focused especially on infill development of underutilized land near transit, and we are already seeing these new units having a positive effect. For a city of our size, this is a big change, so the inevitable concerns are very understandable. But bringing new housing to SeaTac is great for our economy, great for our neighborhoods, and great for residents in need of better options. We will continue to look for ways to make housing more accessible, affordable and abundant for all of our residents.

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?



Here in SeaTac, we have worked hard to maintain our city's healthy reserve fund, and we've done so without raising taxes on our working class residents. This is a really important part of our strategy with increased uncertainty in the economy and from the federal government. We are always looking for ways to be responsible fiscal stewards, and progressive revenue can be a part of that, but our main focus today is making sure that no matter what happens in the future, we'll be able to weather it without cutting the services we've been working hard to rebuild in the last few years.

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 we have is to continue to add to our housing supply, and to continue to welcome the types of housing our city will need in the years ahead. We're really proud of all the work that has gone into the changes we are seeing now, and the most important thing we can do now is to execute our plan effectively.

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 are funding safety improvements across the city. In addition to traffic control, we have heavily focused on improving the pedestrian experience in SeaTac. Historically, like many King County cities, we built out neighborhoods without always making sure they were safe and comfortable for people who need or want to walk. In the



last three years, we've completed construction on over sixty miles of new sidewalks. This is thanks to effective collaboration between the City and neighborhoods, who have been asking for these improvements for years.

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

My approach focuses on three parts: first, making sure our Police Department has the resources it needs and the best people for the job; second, building strong and trusting relationships between the police and the community; and third, by exploring non-law enforcement responses for cases where other kinds of help might be beneficial. We're making great progress in all three of those areas. We're adding ten new officers, and we are looking into ways we can recruit from our city's diverse neighborhoods. We've added a police substation to give our communities a front door where they can engage with the department in their neighborhoods. We've implemented Coffee with a Cop, which lets community members get to know officers in an informal setting. We're also supporting the FDCARES program, which connects people experiencing crisis with help addressing underlying causes. I want to keep pushing in all these directions.

How have federal funding cuts impacted your jurisdiction and how do you plan to address those impacts?

In many ways, our work to build and maintain a large reserve fund is proving to have been wise. We have made investments very strategically, and with an eye towards sustainable funding. Being smart about how we program government services and



continuing our responsible fiscal stewardship will go a long way towards ensuring continuity in uncertain times.

What are your views on the SeaTac Sustainable Airport Master Plan and how will it impact your jurisdiction? What plans do you have to address the impacts of the airport on your community?

As the city that surrounds SeaTac, we have more at stake here than any other. Addressing airport impacts is an important issue to everyone who lives here, and it is a priority for me. Two significant areas where we've had some success are in our work to preserve North SeaTac Park and our support of SB 5955, which will do things like provide for window insulation as part of a noise abatement program. I've worked with our delegation in Olympia to support that measure.

King County has good policies and codes designed to protect agricultural, forest and rural lands, including our natural areas, waterways, and small rural communities. However, these policies and codes are too often not upheld and enforced. How will you ensure that rural lands are protected, and that violators are subject to enforcement?

As a working class city containing our region's largest airport, we have a specific relationship to the importance of natural spaces. Because of our proximity to the airport, we have a unique challenge with air quality. Open space and tree canopy are critical not just for the long term needs of the region but for our day to day health as a city. We took a huge step this year in terms of the future of public open space in the City of SeaTac. North SeaTac Park provides our city with significant tree canopy



and recreational opportunities for residents. We recently moved forward a plan to acquire the park from the Port of Seattle, which will preserve this treasure for generations to come.

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

Camping in public presents serious challenges to everyone involved. We can't have sidewalks, parks or other public spaces obstructed by tents. At the same time, homelessness continues to be an ongoing challenge in our region. Any approach to that problem needs to involve thoughtful and compassionate engagement with people who are experiencing homelessness. As a social worker, I want to be sure that as a region, we offer appropriate and needed shelter and that we have effective outreach to people in the most challenging of circumstances.

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

We are proud of all the work and outreach that went into our most recent updates to the comprehensive plan. We are already seeing a very healthy increase in new housing in SeaTac, in key locations that had been historically underutilized. We want to see more of that. What I'm most focused on as mayor is making sure the work of our city departments augments and accommodates all the new neighbors we are welcoming to SeaTac. Changes are coming to SeaTac and making sure they happen in the most beneficial way to all of our residents is critical to our success. If it works, we will have a city where everyone can thrive together.