

Candidate Name	Lorena González	
Position Sought	Seattle City Council, Position 9 (At-Large)	
Home Legislative District	34th LD	
Are you a Democrat? Are you known as a Democrat?	Yes Yes	
Campaign Name	Elect Lorena	
Campaign Contact Information	Mailing address: PO Box 23011 Seattle, WA 98102	Phone: (206) 486-0108 Fax: None
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Campaign manager or point of contact	Michael Charles (michael@electlorenagonzalez.com)	
Consultant(s)	Political: Christian Sinderman (NWP Consulting) Fundraising: Rachel Padgett (OldMixon Hill)	

Part I – Candidate Background

Please briefly describe your qualifications, education, employment, community and civic activity, union affiliation, and other relevant experience. Attach a resume with more complete history.

I was born and raised in Central Washington, in a Spanish-speaking migrant farmworker family. I earned my first paycheck at age 8, alongside my parents and five siblings. Relying on need-based grants, scholarships and jobs, I attended community college and later Washington State University. I moved to Seattle in 2002 to attend law school where I graduated with honors from Seattle University School of Law in 2005. I currently live in West Seattle but since 2002 have lived in Ballard, Capital Hill, First Hill, South Park and White Center.

Professionally, I have most recently served as a senior advisor and legal counsel to Mayor Ed Murray where I spent the past year helping set policy and implementing historic minimum wage and worker protections alongside the Mayor, unions and progressive leaders throughout Seattle. Additionally, in that role, I advised the Mayor on shaping his Equity & Environment Initiative, which will focus on ensuring that communities of color and other vulnerable communities are part of and leaders in Seattle's environmental progress. I also played a key role in drafting the Mayor's proposed priority hire legislation, which ensures that people who live in economically distressed zip codes in our City are first in line for job opportunities on the City's publicly funded capital projects. As a member of the Mayor's Executive Team, there are many other examples of policy and programs that I provided key counsel and advice on that helped shape solutions to many of challenges facing our City.

Before joining the Mayor's Office in May of 2014, I practiced law for 10 years and was a partner at Schroeter Goldmark & Bender (SGB), which is the largest plaintiff's law firm in the Pacific Northwest. While at SGB, I built a multi-faceted law practice but worked primarily as a civil rights attorney, representing individuals who were victimized by people in authority positions—police officers abusing their power, employers not giving workers the pay and benefits owed to them, nursing home workers abusing the elderly and sexual aggressors preying on children and others who were unable to defend themselves. Notably, I was the lead attorney for the *Monetti v. City of Seattle* case in which a SPD detective was filmed threatening my client with a racial slur before kicking him in the head. The video was later uploaded to YouTube and the incident made international headlines. My work on that case yielded two results: (1) SPD implemented a new policy adopting a "zero-tolerance" rule for use of racially charged language; meaning that if it was shown that an officer used racially charged language, that officer would be terminated, and; (2) the Department of Justice utilized the evidence I discovered in the *Monetti* case to include in its Consent Decree a requirement that the City look at eradicating racially biased policing through training, de-escalation and meaningful community engagement. My former law practice also included government liability and serious personal injury cases, including medical malpractice, abuse of foster children, etc.

Outside of my law practice, I was appointed by former Mayor Greg Nickels to serve on the City's Police Accountability Review Board in 2007. In 2012, I was appointed by the Seattle City Council to be a commissioner on the Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission. That appointment was renewed in 2013 and in 2014. I resigned as a Commissioner in April of 2014 when Mayor Murray hired me as his legal counsel.

I have volunteered countless hours to national, regional and local boards, which are listed below and on my attached CV. But I would like to take a moment to highlight some of the work I've done on a few of these boards.

First, as a co-chair of Casa Latina's Capital Campaign, I worked with my co-chair, Thomas Goldstein, to raise \$4 million worth of capital to allow Casa Latina to move its day-worker center from Belltown to its current location in the International District. If the campaign was successful, Casa Latina's day-worker center would be the largest and first of its kind in the nation. There was a significant amount of concern by neighbors in the International District about Casa Latina's intentions of siting on 17th and Jackson. Through prior experience, we knew that a large component of our capital campaign would also include effective outreach to the residents of the ID to show them that Casa Latina was a good neighbor. Through the negotiation of a good neighbor contract we were able to work through many of the neighborhoods concerns and successfully launch the capital campaign with broad community support.

Second, while I was President of the OneAmerica Board, I worked closely with our Executive Director Rich Stolz, when we made a deliberate choice to be engaged in the climate change discussion. This choice was not an intuitive one for our members, allies and even some board members. But, with Rich's leadership, we knew that it was critically important for OneAmerica to bring the voice of immigrants to the table where these critically important environmental discussions and decisions were being had. Since then OneAmerica has been consistently looked to for leadership on equity issues by Gov. Inslee and other environmental champions.

Lastly, though I've never served on the board of El Centro de la Raza, in 2007 I institutionalized a free legal clinic for low-income and non-English speakers at El Centro de La Raza in partnership with the Latina/o Bar Association of Washington and my former law firm, who continues to fiscally support the legal clinic. Since 2007, the legal clinic has provided over 2,000 people in our community access to free, culturally and linguistically appropriate legal services on critical issues ranging from family law, criminal defense and tenant rights to worker rights and consumer protections. Until recently, I volunteered at every legal clinic providing both administrative support and legal advice.

Below is a complete list of my civic involvement to date:

- OneAmerica Board of Directors, Immediate Past President (2015), President (2014), Vice President (2008-2014)
- OneAmerica Votes Board of Directors, President (2010-2013)
- Northwest Area Foundation Board of Directors, Director (2014-present)
- Latino Victory Project Steering Committee, Founding Member (2014)
- Washington State Association for Justice, Board Member (2012-2014)
- Justice PAC Board, Member (2012-2014)
- National Council de la Raza (NCLR), Director (2012-present)
- Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission, Commissioner (2012-2014)
- Latina/o Bar Association of Washington Board of Directors, President (2007), Director (2003-2008)
- Latino PAC of Washington, Co-Founder/Co-Chair (2005-2015)
- City of Seattle's Police Accountability Review Panel, Drafting Committee Chair (2007)
- Seattle University School of Law Alumni Board, Director & Chair of Programs Committee (2006-2010)

Additionally, below is a list of recognitions I have received for my work in and out of the courtroom:

- *Carl Maxey Diversity Award*, Washington State Association of Justice, 2014
- *Community Service Award*, Seattle University, 2013
- *La Justicia Award*, Seattle University School of Law & Latina/o Law Student Association, 2013
- *Seattle's Most Influential Persons*, Seattle Magazine, 2013
- *Honoree*, Thomas C. Wales Foundation Night Among Heroes, 2012
- *Alumni Service Award*, Seattle University School of Law, 2011
- *Distinguished Service Award*, Washington State Bar Association Civil Rights Section, 2010
- *Rising Star in Employment Law*, Washington Law & Politics, 2010-2015
- *Top Lawyers Under 40*, Hispanic National Bar Association, 2009

Describe your history of involvement in Washington state politics. What offices have you previously sought election or appointment to? What campaigns have you worked on?

This is my first time running for public office. Outside of my law practice, I was appointed by former Mayor Greg Nickels to serve on the City's Police Accountability Review Board in 2007. In 2012, I was appointed by the Seattle City Council to be a commissioner on the Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission. That appointment was renewed in 2013 and in 2014 (I resigned as Commissioner with Mayor Murray hired me as his legal counsel). I was also an elected delegate to the Democratic National Convention in 2012. I am a proud member of the 34th Legislative District.

What prompted you to run for this office? What priorities are you seeking to address with your campaign?

The City of Seattle is in a dynamic period of transformation. With that transformation comes many benefits but also significant challenges, including affordability, quality of life and transit. I decided to run for Seattle City Council because our current transformation needs new leadership that will be ready to tackle the complex challenges facing our City. An at-large candidate must bring a broad background to effectively deal with the plethora of issues facing our city. I believe that I bring that depth and breadth of experience and the understanding of the many issues that an at-large candidate must be ready to tackle on day one. I also believe that my history of standing up for progressive values and the underrepresented will be a tremendous asset on the Council.

As a citywide candidate, there are many issues that I believe the City Council will need to address but the three priorities I hope to address are:

Fostering Innovation: *We rely on our business community and take pride in nurturing small businesses, entrepreneurs, science, technology and other industries. We must ensure that we continue to be a global city and we support our small businesses by streamlining licensing and permitting services, reducing traffic, addressing shortages of parking and public safety concerns. Additionally, looking at freight mobility beyond the heavy haul corridor to transport products between point of receipt (whether it's the Port or from other parts of the State or Country) and our businesses. Finally, we must think broadly about how the City and business – small or large – can partner together on issues we all care about, such as homelessness, public disorder, affordability and pay equity.*

Building Strong & Safe Communities: *We're a young, diverse city demanding more mobility choices, affordable housing and cultural amenities, but we are also a city that protects seniors, families and the safety net for those in need. We need to bolster public safety in our neighborhoods, protect our vibrant nightlife culture, and ensure wrap around services for our kids to make sure they can achieve their full potential while at our public schools. We need to continue to build long-term multi-pronged approaches to transportation solutions and affordable housing that works for neighborhoods across our city.*

Addressing Social Inequities: *We're a progressive city on the leading edge of addressing wage and social inequities. But we still have too many families and others sleeping on our streets. And we live in a City where the middle class is shrinking while the rich get richer and the poor get poorer. We have taken big steps but need to continue to broaden support services to ensure opportunity for kids and families from all walks of life.*

List the notable endorsements you have received to date. Who are you planning to ask for an endorsement?

It is still fairly early in the campaign and I am actively seeking the endorsements of labor unions, elected officials, environmental organizations, women's groups and, of course, friends and neighbors. So far I have secured sole endorsements from:

- *Seattle Mayor Ed Murray*
- *King County Executive Dow Constantine*
- *State Senator Pramila Jayapal (D-37th LD)*
- *State Rep. Brady Walkinshaw (D-43rd LD)*
- *Latino Political Action Committee of Washington*
- *Latino Victory Project*
- *OneAmerica Votes*
- *Rich Stolz, President & CEO of OneAmerica Votes*
- *Hillary Stern, Executive Director of Casa Latina (for identification purposes only)*
- *Estela Ortega, Executive Director of El Centro de la Raza (for identification purposes only)*
- *Fé Lopez, Executive Director of the Seattle Community Police Commission (for identification purposes only)*
- *Rebecca Saldaña, Executive Director of Puget Sound Sage (for identification purposes only)*
- *Quita St. John, Attorney and LGBTQ community leader*
- *Niomi Fisseha, Ethiopian community leader*
- *Sarah Leyrer, Economic justice attorney*
- *James Bible, former King County NAACP president*
- *Gerhard Letzing, Washington State Association of Justice Executive Director (for identification purposes only)*
- *Thatcher Bailey, Seattle Parks Foundation Executive Director (for identification purposes only)*
- *Matias Valenzuela, Director of the Office of Equity and Social Justice in King County (for identification purposes only)*
- *Maria-Jose Soerens, Puentes Executive Director (for identification purposes only)*
- *David Moser, Neighborhood House Housing Stability Supervisor (for identification purposes only)*
- *Leda Chahim, Forterra. (for identification purposes only)*

*Other noteworthy endorsements that I have obtained or that are highly expected to be obtained but are **embargoed** are:*

- *Retired State Rep. Phyllis Gutierrez Kenney (D-46th LD)*
- *Speaker of the House Rep. Frank Chopp (D-43rd LD)*
- *State Senator Sharon Nelson (D-34th LD) (anticipated)*
- *State Rep. Eileen Cody (D-34th LD) (anticipated)*
- *State Rep. Joe Fitzgibbon (D-34th LD) (anticipated)*
- *Seattle City Council President Tim Burgess*
- *Seattle City Councilmember Bruce Harrell*
- *Seattle City Councilmember Sally Bagshaw*
- *Seattle City Councilmember Sally Clark*
- *Seattle City Attorney Peter Holmes*
- *King County Councilmember Rod Dembowski*
- *King County Councilmember Joe McDermott*
- *King County Councilmember Larry Gossett*
- *King County Councilmember Larry Phillips (anticipated)*
- *National Women's Political Caucus*
- *Professional & Technical Employees Local 17 (representing almost 2,000 City of Seattle employees)*

Describe the progress of your campaign and campaign goals. For instance, how many doors have you knocked on? What earned media has your campaign received? How much money have you raised?

In eight weeks, we have raised approximately \$70,000. We have an aggressive fundraising and voter contact plan for the Primary. We have the goal of raising at least \$100,000 before the primary but are on pace to exceed that amount. In total, we plan to raise at least \$300,000 and run an aggressive field, communication and outreach strategies, including visiting every neighborhood prior to the General Election. We have knocked on over 100 doors but have a Community Engagement team that will be knocking on doors and phone banking regularly between now and the primary then through the general election. My campaign has been written about in the Huffington Post, NBC News, The Seattle Times, The Stranger and Publicola. And we anticipate receiving additional earned media from The South Seattle Emerald, Seattle Gay News and various Spanish-language media outlets.

Have you ever been a member of any other political party? If so, what party? Have you ever given money to a candidate from another party in a partisan race? If so, to whom and when?

No, I have never been a member of any other political party nor have I ever given money to a candidate from another party in a partisan race.

Please answer the following questions.		Yes*	No
1	Have you ever failed to pay any taxes or court ordered judgments?		X
2	Have you ever been found in violation of a Public Disclosure Commission, Federal Election Commission or Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission regulation?		X

* If you answered "Yes" to any of the above, please explain your answer:

Part II – Local and State Issues

#	Question	Yes	No	Qualify your response
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1	Do you support amending the U.S. Constitution to lessen the influence of money in politics, and declare that corporations do not have the rights of natural persons?	X		I agree that the unfettered spending on campaigns has hurt our political process.
2	Do you support the right of public workers, excluding military, to bargain and strike?	X		This is a fundamental right in ensuring the democratic process is respected, and that workers are given fair representation in decisions affecting their lives.
3	Do you support increasing the minimum wage in your jurisdiction to \$12/hr or higher?	X		People deserve to make a living wage, this is one small step in getting closer to that.
4	Do you support legislation at the local and state level to require equal pay for women and people of color?	X		This is something I have fought for my entire career, and if elected, will be of the utmost importance in my legislating.
5	Are you willing to undergo and ask your staff and peers to undergo training to understand and combat institutional racism?	X		My staff and I are already trained on issues surrounding institutional racism, and I would continue to ensure this as a requirement for serving on my staff.
6	Do you support raising revenue at the city level to expand transit service?	X		A key part of ensuring affordability in Seattle is making sure that we have an efficient transportation system, raising revenue will help to make this a reality. I support the Move Seattle levy.
7	Do you support development impact fees to pay for schools, roads, and parks, as allowed under the Growth Management Act?	X		We are growing at a rapid rate as a city and it is important that everyone contributes in that development.
8	Do you support building a municipally owned and operated broadband system in your city?	X		In order for our city to become an international city, this is a step that will be essential. Also, in order to compete with the rising costs of broadband in Seattle, this could be an economical alternative.
9	Do you agree that municipal government should use its borrowing capacity to fund additional units of affordable housing?	X		Access to affordable housing is a critical issue facing our city and I am in favor of a multi-pronged approach that could include using all of the city's tools.

10	Do you support protecting what is left of our urban tree canopy with strong tree ordinances that require property owners to consult with city government prior to cutting down trees?	X		Keeping our tree canopy is important to ensuring responsible growth in the city, the environmental impacts of not doing this are unquestionably negative particularly in residential areas near industrial zones, such as Georgetown and South Park.
11	Do you support infrastructure to make it easier to walk and bike on your city's streets?	X		As long as due process has been done to ensure there will be no external consequences, I am very much in support of infrastructure improvements. Additionally, we must ensure that the infrastructure is safe for those that use it and traverse around it.
12	Do you support allowing coal or oil to be exported from Washington State's ports?		X	Allowing coal to be exported from the State's ports is environmentally irresponsible. We should continue to promote the green economy and minimize the dependence on fossil fuel and related industries.
13	Do you support requiring police officers in your jurisdiction to wear body cameras?	X		In general, yes but our community must have a robust conversation about whether body worn cameras have a meaningful impact on reducing police misconduct. As we've seen in recent incidents, filming of an incident has not resulted in accountability in our justice system. Additionally, there are significant privacy concerns related to the use of body worn cameras both for crime victims and for those exercising their First Amendment rights. We must carefully explore these issues and balance these concerns before institutionalizing body worn cameras.
14	Do you support Tim Eyman's I-747, which artificially limits property tax increases to 1% per year, regardless of population growth, inflation, and need?		X	No, I believe it is undemocratic to close any opportunities to allow the state to be flexible with tax increases commensurate with growth, inflation and need.

15	Once elected, will you work to get diverse candidates elected to office?	X		I believe that we need to ensure our elected officials reflect the growing diversity in our City and beyond. I will certainly work to ensure this is the case and have worked on recruiting and supporting candidates of color since 2005 when I co-founded the Latino PAC of Washington – the first people of color PAC in the State. I am also involved in national efforts designed to recruit people of color to elected office.
16	Do you support women's right to reproductive freedom?	X		This is a fundamental right. Women are in the best position to make their own decisions about their own reproductive health.
17	Do you support all municipalities in King County implementing a "Ban the Box" program as is already in place in Seattle and Spokane?	X		As a matter of equity, it is important that we ensure that people with criminal convictions are not unfairly penalized after having already served a sentence for past conduct. Preventing gainful employment by asking for prior criminal history inherently and disproportionately impacts people of color and as policy makers it is irresponsible to facilitate policies that institutionalize discriminatory impacts.
18	Will you form a task force to gather input from disabled persons to identify and remedy hazards for pedestrians, and will you work to have these suggestions implemented?	X		I believe that getting the input of folks who are not able bodied is essential to ensure that we have safe pedestrian walkways.

Part III – Free Response Questions

Please review the 2014 King County Democratic Platform, approved by the delegates to the King County Convention and available from KCDCC's website. List which planks, if any, you disagree with, and why.

I am in full support of the 2014 King County Democratic Platform.

As an elected leader, what will you do to promote increased awareness of the climate crisis, and what public policy would you endorse to reduce emissions and penalize producers of pollutants?

What is clear to me is there needs to be an environmental lens on everything we do at the city. Whether it is social justice, housing, traffic mitigation, transportation of goods, emergency preparedness, or any of the other myriad of issues that the city council deals with, they all are interconnected to the environment.

Seattle needs to be a leader in reducing carbon emissions and should have the goal of becoming a carbon neutral city as soon as feasible. I intend to bring attention to the environmental justice issues facing the residents in the Duwamish River Valley and continue to expand transit and other alternative forms of transportation to help get people out of their cars. The fact is we are growing as a city, and as we grow we need to work to minimize the environmental impacts of that growth and make sure we are preserving parks and open space as well as encouraging green infrastructure and other emerging technologies that will make our city better stewards of the environment.

Generally I support the efforts Governor Inslee has been working to implement at the state level. It is important that we make polluters pay to help keep our communities clean and I believe the City of Seattle can be a great partner with the state to not only make us nationwide leaders but global leaders for change.

Describe your vision for tax reform and tax fairness. What changes to the state's tax system would you ask the Legislature to make? If you were in charge of putting together a budget proposal for your city or district, what would it look like? Would you be willing to raise revenue to avoid harmful cuts to public services?

We need our tax code to be less regressive and start asking more of the people who are paying the least. I believe an income tax should be explored and that we must take steps to ensure that the poorest among us aren't paying a disproportionate amount of their income.

When it comes to putting together a municipal budget I would implement these same values and would be willing to raise revenue to avoid harmful cuts to the services that the most vulnerable among us depend on. Preserving and expanding the safety net is critically important.

What important state and local issues have you worked on (or taken an interest in) that you feel aren't getting enough attention from elected leaders and the media?

There are a myriad of issues facing our city and state that don't make "headlines" but that are important nonetheless. One example is the critical nexus we are at when it comes to voting rights in our country. As President of OneAmerica I spent a lot of energy fighting for the passage of the Washington Voting Rights Act (WVRA). The rights of everyone to be able to participate in our democracy is precious and it is unfortunate that for the third time we have seen the WVRA stall in the State Senate. I made the Washington State Voting Rights Act a keystone issue of my OneAmerica presidency and will passionately continue this fight to ensure everyone's voice can be heard until we pass this important legislation.

Additionally I want to look at how we can challenge inequities in our city, especially around wrap-around services for youth who are not being adequately served by our school system. Gender pay equity in our City, for both our city employees and privately employed female workers, continues to be a significant concern for me as well and I would look to explore how the city can better tackle this issue, particularly when it comes to women of color.

What would you do to address social justice issues?

Social justice issues have driven my professional career and civic involvement and will continue to do so if elected to the city council.

It is my belief that every policy issue that the City legislates has a potential social justice impact and as policy makers, it is our tantamount duty to ensure we understand the unintended consequences of our decisions.

First, we must vigorously apply a social justice lens to all policies that we advance at the city. The City has a powerful tool that accomplishes this – the Race and Social Justice Initiative. I have undergone that training and would require my staff do the same.

Second, there are several social justice challenges that are coming to a head right now: gender pay gap, the shrinking middle class, lack of affordable housing, inequitable transportation infrastructure investment, for example. Each of these issues have a social justice component and I plan to bring the voices of working families, communities of color, immigrant and refugees into the room to ensure that we fully understand the impact of any policy making decision.

That fact is Seattle is growing at a rapid rate. Yet, much like the rest of the country, the rich are getting richer and the poorer are getting poorer. We are a progressive city and I firmly believe that we can and will do better. I hope to help lead that charge.

I affirm that all the information provided in response to this questionnaire is true, complete and correct, to the best of my ability, and that no relevant matter has been omitted.

Signature		Date: 5/6/15
Printed Name	M. Lorena González	

