



## Environmental and Sustainability Questionnaire for City Council Candidates

- 1) Do you support a plastic bag and styrofoam ban in Sammamish? Why or why not?
- 2) How would you encourage local businesses and Sammamish residents to compost and recycle? What incentives, education, and/or regulations would you enact to increase participation in these programs throughout the city?
- 3) What is your priority for land acquisition for open space, parks, and/or trail connections for the city of Sammamish? Why?
- 4) What is your plan for reducing car traffic in Sammamish? Would that include increasing public transit and/or removing road barricades to increase connectivity?
- 5) How would you increase trail connectivity in and around Sammamish to increase walkability within the city and to and from the Emerald Necklace?
- 6) Would you support Sammamish using the STAR Community Rating system ([starcommunities.org](http://starcommunities.org)) as a sustainability framework and certification program? Nearby, Seattle is a 5-STAR Certified Community (the second city in the country to do so!), Tacoma is a 4-STAR Certified Community, and King County is a 4-STAR Certified Community.
- 7) Do you support completing the East Lake Sammamish Trail to King County regional trail standards? As currently designed by King County Parks, the trail meets King County and AASHTO national standards for a trail of its type and expected volume of use, including design as a 12-foot-wide trail.
- 8) Would you support the city transforming our unattractive stormwater ponds to promote a natural aesthetic? How would you propose that the city ensure they are properly maintained in form and function?



- 9) Do you support the creation of aesthetic design standards for new developments in Sammamish? Why or why not?
- 10) The agreement between the city and the Y includes transferring the Y property next to Pine Lake Middle School to the city at no cost if it is used for active recreation. Some would like to see it developed for more passive use to maintain tree canopy and wildlife habitat. This passive use of the property may require the city to purchase it outright. How would you handle this issue?
- 11) What 3 actions should the city take to increase its tree canopy cover?
- 12) What is your goal for Sammamish's Urban Forest? Additionally, would you support the following proposals? Why or why not?
- Linking that goal to stormwater retention
  - Creating an Urban Forest Panel or Board to monitor and enforce the provisions of the Urban Forest Management Plan
  - Hiring one or more arborists to city staff to assist in assessment of trees on land to be developed as well as to support policies in the Urban Forest Management Plan
  - Creating a requirement that retained trees are clustered together rather than scattered or left in a thin line at the property boundary? This "Tree Save" idea has been used in other cities, with the provision that only passive recreation can be conducted within the retained cluster
- 13) Would you support having a dedicated Sustainability staff member in Sammamish? (Issaquah currently has 5 staff in its Office of Sustainability.)
- 14) What other efforts would you actively pursue to further sustainability in Sammamish?