

2007 Candidate Questionnaire

SECTION I

BASIC CANDIDATE INFORMATION

1. Name as it will appear on the ballot

First Name	Middle Initial or Nick Name	Last Name
	Hope	ELDER

2. Office sought (include office, jurisdiction, position/district number):

Federal Way City Council position 7

3. Are you the incumbent? Yes No

4. How long have you resided in this district/city? *28 years*

5. How long have you resided in King County? *28 years*

6. Is the office sought partisan or nonpartisan? Partisan Nonpartisan

7. If partisan, please indicate party:

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name: *Hope Elder for City Council*

Address: *P O Box 25975*

City/State/Zip: *Federal Way, Wa 98093-2975*

Campaign Phone: *253-941-7939*

Campaign Fax: _____

Campaign E-mail: *hopeelder2007@aol.com*

Campaign Website: *not yet running.*

POLITICAL BACKGROUND

1. Beginning with the most recent position, please list public offices which you have held. Include positions on appointive Boards or Commissions.

Public Office	Elective or Appointive?	Dates Held	Leadership Role (if any)
<i>Deputy Mayor City of Federal Way</i>	<i>elected</i>	<i>1996-1997</i>	
<i>City Council Member</i>	<i>elected</i>	<i>1994-1997</i>	
<i>Planning Commission</i>	<i>appointed</i>	<i>1999 to present</i>	<i>Chair</i>

2. If you ran for public office but were not elected, please list those races below:

Office Title	Year of Run
<i>Federal Way City Council</i>	<i>1997</i>

SECTION III

In this section, we are seeking responses that reflect the four ratings criteria: involvement, effectiveness, character, and knowledge. These are defined as follows:

- **Involvement:** What has the candidate done previously in family, neighborhood, community, volunteer work, employment or public life to suggest readiness to accomplish challenging objectives? How do these activities demonstrate readiness for the challenges unique to the office sought?
- **Effectiveness:** Has the candidate demonstrated promise of being productive in the office sought? Has the candidate shown the ability to work with other people?
- **Character:** Do the candidate's personal traits show the ability to take on the responsibilities of campaigning for and holding the public office she or he is seeking? Is the candidate a leader, participant or observer? Is the candidate trustworthy, reliable and candid?
- **Knowledge:** Has the candidate demonstrated the willingness and ability to learn and adapt? Does the candidate understand the duties and challenges of the office sought? Does the candidate have a firm grasp of the issues important to his or her constituency and their potential effects?

1. In a page or less, why are you running for this office? (Note: the interview committee will be given a copy of this statement before your interview; at the beginning of your interview you will have the opportunity to expand on this statement in any way you wish.)

My main objectives are sustaining our quality of life, public safety and planning for our future. I feel my experience of being on the City Council previously and continuing to be active in our community shows my willingness to go forward. I am Chair of the Federal Way Planning Commission. I regularly attend meetings regarding traffic, homelessness or police issues. I have attended many City Council meetings after leaving office. My duties of Coordinator of the Steel Lake Community Supper have included everything from being the cook to the clean up committee. Talking with both the volunteers and the guests have kept me centered. I have a good understanding of how hard it is for people to get back on their feet after experiencing a major event. I am a member of the Advisory Board for FUSION, which provides housing for women and children. My involvement in Federal Way has included being parade chair to building playground equipment at Steel Lake.

2. Describe your most important personal characteristics or traits as they relate to the office you seek.

I am a good listener. I believe there are many shades of gray when citizens are upset with City rules. Most of the time both sides can bend so that the problem can be solved. Rezoning of property is a good example. Through public hearings and discussions we have been able to reach agreement. I actually like people and I am interested in their opinions. I don't pretend to agree if I don't but we usually part friends. Learning is such an important part of being a Council member, reaching out to other communities has proven to be a great experience for me. My husband and I took on a fund raiser for our first all-city team to travel to our sister city Hackensack, Japan.

3. Please describe in sufficient detail, one to three accomplishments or contributions of which you are most proud. These examples should illustrate effective skills and capabilities you think apply to the office you are seeking. These accomplishments may have occurred at any time in your personal, professional, or public life.

When I was on the City Council a proposition was brought up to develop 83.5 acres of land the original Council had purchased. This land is located very close to our downtown. The appraisal had shown that perhaps we had paid too much for it so maybe we should sell it to developers before we lost any more money. Since it is in the frame of our downtown vision and since I would rather pay for sports fields than jails, I opposed this idea. We worked out a plan for a utility tax that would pay for street overlays, develop a performing arts center at Sussex Bay and pay to develop Celebration Park. This was at the time when the King County Park proposal was defeated. There were 3 votes against and 3 votes for from Council members who were not up for election. I was the 4th vote in favor and the only one up for election. I have never regretted that vote.

4. Please list or describe your current and past activities in the community in which you have acquired skills that relate to the office you seek. Include your role in the activity and the year(s) in which you were involved. Involvement consists of many areas such as family, neighborhood, community, employment, or public life.

I attended the Citizens Police Academy both through King County and Federal Way Police. I even spent the night in the Kent King County Justice Center before it opened. I have been on ride-alongs with the police and have the greatest respect for them. I help feed the homeless and so I see the other side of the story of people who feel they should be able to beg anywhere they want, or sleep anywhere they want.

Being involved with providing usually 500 Easter baskets to the Food Bank each year and being a volunteer at Christmas House has kept me in more contact with the children of our community. These activities also expose me to many cultures and ideas. It has to be hard to have your child pick out his own Santa gifts.

5. Please describe the duties of the office you seek. Which are the most important duties and why?

The City Council has to be the lawmakers of our community. Whether it is the sign code policy or zoning disagreements the Council must make the difficult decisions. The most important duty of the Council is to be fair, to learn all aspects of a problem and solve it to the best of their ability. We can never make the separation of them and us, we must be inclusive. The Council has to be careful not to think of themselves as old time royalty but rather employees of this city.

**EDUCATION BACKGROUND SUMMARY
FOR PUBLICATION IN CANDIDATE EVALUATION REPORT**

The Municipal League's Candidate Evaluation Report is distributed to voters in print and/or on our website. It includes a summary of the candidate's education. Please summarize your education in 120 characters (letters, punctuation, and space all combined). The League will delete material that exceeds the space limit by beginning with the last entry. Suggested order is (degree) (subject) (school) (year, if desired).

Note: If this question is left blank the League will not include education information in your candidate profile.

**CIVIC INVOLVEMENT SUMMARY
FOR PUBLICATION IN CANDIDATE EVALUATION REPORT**

The Municipal League's Candidate Evaluation Report also includes a summary of each candidate's civic involvement. Please summarize your civic involvement in the space below. We will make every attempt to include the information in the Candidate Evaluation Report as submitted. Due to space restrictions in the Report, your response is limited to 500 characters (letters, punctuation, and spaces all combined). It is important that you list your involvement beginning with the most important and ending with the least important. If you exceed the length of response permitted, or if the League should find it necessary to shorten responses for publication purposes, deletions will be made beginning with the last item listed.

Note: This information will appear verbatim on the League's Candidate Evaluation Report. If this question is left blank, the Municipal League will not include information on your civic involvement in the Report.

Check here if you would like the Municipal League to copy the first 500 characters from Question 4 to paste into this section.

*Present Chair of the Federal Way City Planning Commission,
Past Council Member and Deputy Mayor, Member FUSION
Advisory Board, Member Federal Way Community Caregiving
Network and Coordinator of Monday Night Steel Lake Community
Supper,
Finished!*

If at all possible, send your response to the Municipal League electronically as an attachment, or insert it into an e-mail message (cec@munileague.org). Mail and fax numbers are listed below. If the League has not contacted you to schedule an interview, please call the League office at your earliest convenience.

Don't forget to send the following to the Municipal League: a resume, a photo, campaign literature, and, if you are an incumbent, constituent newsletters and other materials. Please use the check-off list on the cover sheet of this packet to indicate which items you have sent.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION AND GOOD LUCK IN YOUR CAMPAIGN!

THE MUNICIPAL LEAGUE OF KING COUNTY

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