Seattles Mayoral Candidate Questionnaire on Housing and Homelessness,
Summer 2017

Prepared By: Solid Ground and Seattle University’s Project on Family Homelessness, in partnership with Housing Development Consortium and Seattle-King County Coalition on Homelessness

Dear Candidate,

Thank you very much for responding to this questionnaire!

We are a non-partisan partnership of housing and homelessness providers and advocacy organizations with a combined substantial presence in Seattle. We will use your responses as part of an online Voters’ Guide on Housing and Homelessness, which we’ll publish to coincide with ballots arriving in mailboxes in mid- to late July.

Because we all are from 501(c)(3) organizations, we are unable to make endorsements; but we will share the questionnaire results with thousands of people interested in housing and homelessness.

Please complete and email this form in Word or PDF format to Catherine Hinrichsen, Seattle University, at hinrichc@seattleu.edu by 5 p.m. Thursday, July 12, if you would like to be included in the Voters’ Guide.

- If you send it as a pdf, please ensure your links are live.
- Please either attach a photo or indicate you give us permission to use a photo from your campaign website.

Please direct any questions to Catherine. Thank you!

In addition, please save the date: We will invite the candidates who advance to the general election to a Seattle Mayoral Candidate Forum on Housing and Homelessness\textsuperscript{1}, Tuesday evening, Sept. 12 (tentative) at Seattle University. More details will come after the primary.

Questions begin on the next page.

\textsuperscript{1} We decided to cancel the forum previously scheduled for July 12 after counsel advised us we would need to invite all 21 candidates, per IRS regulations for 501(c)(3) organizations. We determined that a discussion with up to 21 candidates would not be productive. We are distributing this questionnaire instead.
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Candidate’s Name: Lewis A. Jones

Campaign Address: PO Box 30936  Seattle Washington 98113

Campaign Phone: 206-465-9573

Campaign Email Address: rempfer_332@yahoo.com

Campaign Website:

Candidate Photo: [] Attached or [ ] Permission to use photo from website

There are seven questions. You may choose to skip a question; if so, please indicate that you choose not to answer. Please limit your answers to 150 words each (about 1,000 characters, including spaces).

**Question 1.** King County and the City of Seattle have recognized that the crises of affordability and homelessness are complex, regional issues that require regional solutions, exacerbated by the threat of potential drastic HUD funding cuts. If elected, how would you work with other regional leaders and the state and federal governments to identify, enact and implement innovative, forward-thinking solutions to decrease homelessness and increase affordability?

With the future in mind, we emphasize the importance of the uneducated to practice savings and with bank cooperation access to forming an account with a small deposit. Transitional housing for families and females. Immediate rentals with city funds. Storage of belongings, mail stops, answering service for jobs, a place to stay dry, for those yet out. With the CCC-type approach from the Depression era, sanitary houses for washing clothes, showers, wherein the homeless themselves work to keep these places clean, and pay low rent, or work for housing. I will fight homelessness with a prosperity (see the following)

*Please answer here, limit 150 words.*
**Question 2.** What is your position on the policies contained in the Housing Affordability and Livability Agenda (HALA)? What do you agree with? Disagree? I agree. Affordability can be addressed with a prosperity yet to be discussed.

*Please answer here, limit 150 words.*

**Question 3.** How would you balance the disagreement and anger expressed by some neighborhood residents towards increased density and affordable homes in specific areas of the city, with our unprecedented growth and need for increased housing options that must be shared equitably across the city? More mother-in-law units and shared housing for seniors trying to pay their property taxes. I propose, where space allows, across Seattle, underground insulated L-entrance self-financing rentals.

*Please answer here, limit 150 words.*
Question 4. Did you vote for the Seattle Housing Levy in 2016? Why or why not? What kind of funding mechanism do you believe is best to generate money for housing and homelessness services? We could accept the Federal money for dutifully obeying the immigration laws, such as reviewing the status of those immigrants, including those with green cards, who are in America to exploit vulnerable citizens through love fraud or marriage fraud, in order to obtain citizenship or sponsorship, (more common than is commonly realized) and who also commit other crimes.

*Please answer here, limit 150 words.*

Question 5. Given that half the residents of Seattle are renters, what tenant protections -- above and beyond what the city has already done -- would you push to enact to ensure that potential tenants are being treated equitably? Dangerous situations, such as flawed roofs, should be fixed immediately, they should have 30 days, not 20 days to move out.

*Please answer here, limit 150 words.*
**Question 6.** Virtually every city in Washington has responded to the growing homelessness crisis by criminalizing behaviors such as sitting, lying or sleeping in public. If elected, (a) will you work to repeal and/or mitigate the impacts of ordinances that criminalize homelessness in Seattle, and (b) will you oppose attempts to introduce such ordinances? Those ordinances are not the answer. Where are these people supposed to go to spend the day? How can they leave their belongings unattended and expect to find them when they return? How to stay dry? Please see answer #1 They also need mail stops and phones, in case they find work. And a job board. And someone to put up first, last, and deposit for a room.

*Please answer here, limit 150 words.*

**Question 7.** The recent tragic killing of Charleena Lyles highlights the issues of police accountability and the intersecting systems of care in our community whose failures led to her death, including housing, mental health, child welfare, justice and more. How would you address the failure of these systems to work together? The police must ALWAYS possess tazers on every call, at the ready. Briefed on the possibility of the “suicide by cop” phenomenon, they must also be briefed on all the various types of mental illness with an Abnormal Psych class as part of their educational curriculum. They should know the behaviors to expect from Autism, Downs, Schizophrenia, bipolar, and Alzheimers, as well as every depressive mental disorder. This will enlighten them as to the fact that stressed people who are also battling mental health issues will almost ALWAYS act out. This is to be expected, and the police must be ready to subdue these people, while maintaining a personal distance between themselves and the patient. Education is the answer. I will institute these changes in January, upon assuming office.

*Please answer here, limit 150 words.*
Candidate Signature for verification (electronic is ok):

Date: ____________________________

END OF QUESTIONNAIRE

Distributed on behalf of partners Solid Ground, Seattle University’s Project on Family Homelessness, Housing Development Consortium and Seattle-King County Coalition on Homelessness, by SU’s Project on Family Homelessness, Institute of Public Service, Seattle University/CASY 204W, P.O. Box 222000, Seattle, WA, 98122-1090.

Please return to: hinrichc@seattleu.edu by Thursday, July 12, 2017, 5 p.m. Thank you for participating.

Illustration of Seattle skyline by Mandy Rusch, SU ’17.