

City of Port Orchard



The City of Port Orchard, organized as a Second Class City under RCW 35, has a population of approximately 8,310. Incorporated as the town of Sidney on September 1, 1890, the name was changed to the City of Port Orchard in 1903 by the State Legislature at which time the citizens selected it as the county seat.

The City is operated under the Mayor-Council form of government. The Mayor's responsibilities include presiding over all Council meetings, supervision of city staff, and preparation of the city budget. The Mayor is the ceremonial head of the City, representing the City at functions and events, and signing contracts and documents which the City Council authorizes.

The City Council has seven members who are elected by the entire city electorate. Six council members serve four year terms and the seventh serves a two year term. The Council establishes laws and policies, adopts the budget, and approves all contracts and agreements for the City. The Council serves as the legislative body of the City.

City of Port Orchard – Mayor 4 Year Term



Lary Coppola (Nonpartisan)

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What background and experience do you bring to this office?

This election is about leadership experience and ability. I offer 28 years of successful business experience, a "can do" attitude, knowledge of the issues, willingness to listen, decision-making experience, and long-established personal relationships with federal, state and county officials.

My leadership experience includes chairing the joint city/county Urban Growth Area Citizens Advisory Group, the Economic Development Council, county Planning Commission (current vice chair), and as

Centennial President of Port Orchard Rotary. I serve on numerous boards, including the Economic Development Alliance, and Boys & Girls Club. My company is a Relay For Life Gold Sponsor, and I'll bring an unbridled passion for leadership to our city.

If elected, what will be your top two priorities, and how will you accomplish them?

Making Port Orchard the safest city in Washington to live, raise a family and own a business. There is much more than space here allows, but I have detailed plans to become pro-active in preventing crime and actively fighting the drug problem.

Implementing an economic development strategy combining annexation, technology, grant funding, impact fees, and environmental safeguards, while bringing certainty to the process. Lowering the crime rate also spurs economic development. Downtown redevelopment will happen, and Port Orchard is going to grow. We need pragmatic leadership guiding how, when, and where.



Tom Saunders (Nonpartisan)

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What background and experience do you bring to this office?

I was born and raised in Bremerton and attended West High School. My background and experience for the past 37 years has been in Disaster Relief and Real Estate Appraisal. As Housing Officer for FEMA, Federal Emergency Management Agency, I managed FEMA Disaster Relief Centers throughout the United States and Puerto Rico. I worked with State and Local Officials providing Temporary Housing Relief for disaster

victims. I have given interviews for local and national television and radio stations. I have been appraising single family residents in Kitsap County since 1980. I have extensive professional and personal knowledge of Kitsap County and the city of Port Orchard.

If elected, what will be your top two priorities, and how will you accomplish them?

If elected my first priority will be to bring strong Economic Base back to the City of Port Orchard and the Port Orchard Marina. My second priority will be to canvas door to door to ensure I have first hand knowledge of what the people of Port Orchard want for the city.

City of Port Orchard – Council Position 1 4 Year Term



Rita C. Dilenno (Nonpartisan)

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What background and experience do you bring to this office?

I've served Port Orchard four years on the Council and before on the Planning Commission. I've a BA in Liberal Arts and graduated the Washington Career Executive Program (now the UW Masters Program in Public Administration). I served in the Army, have experience in Accounting, Program and Policy and Financial Case Management; Office Administration and Financial Recovery Chief. I've led organizations in improved customer service and process improvement. I'm the President/

Business Agent for Amalgamated Transit #1384. I facilitated the Port Orchard Revitalization Team, by establishing the Council's Economic Development Committee, realizing an award winning plan for the City.

If elected, what will be your top two priorities, and how will you accomplish them?

I'll Continue Economic Development including citizens input before enacting or changing ordinances to make sure it is needed (solves a specific problem) and benefits the City as a whole; accomplished through both annexation and increasing opportunity in the business core.

I'll continue to simplify and streamline access to City Services focusing on efficiencies and improved customer service. The Consolidated Development regulations and Municipal Code will improve Citizens' access to information while reducing confusing or conflicting rules. I will accomplish both priorities by continuing to work for financial efficiencies while maintaining public safety.

Candidate statements for this position continued on the next page.

City of Port Orchard – Council Position 1 (continued) 4 Year Term



James W. Colebank (Nonpartisan)

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What background and experience do you bring to this office?

40 years Civil Service. Port Orchard Police Officers Association Endorsement. Expertise in Long Range Strategic Planning, Cost & Budget Control, Streamlining Business Processes, Management and Decision making at PSNS. Business & Strategic Planning Office Program Manager (12 years). Chief Planner & Estimator of Navy ship work planning for 5000 production workers (250 employees) (2 years). National President/ Officer of Naval Civilian Managers Association (12 years). Submarine Budget Manager & Ship Superintendent. Assistant Project Superintendent

for Kitsap County Fairgrounds Log Cabin restoration project (8years). Chairman (Combined Federal Campaign/United Way) 1996. 35 year member of ELKS. 25 year member Federal Managers Association. Resident: Kitsap County 50 years, Port Orchard 21 years. Army Veteran, (Radar & Military Police). Union Steward (IBEW).

If elected, what will be your top two priorities, and how will you accomplish them?

1. The downtown corridor development/improvement is at a standstill. 2. The city decision making process is cumbersome, slow and tedious. Using my management and organizational skills, I'll work with the new Mayor, City Council Members and Department Heads to get back to the City's Comprehensive Plan of 1996 and Economic Development Plan of 2004. I'll use my expertise in Strategic Planning, Process Analysis, Benchmarking and Activity Based Costing to streamline and speed up the decision making process.

City of Port Orchard – Council Position 3 2 Year Unexpired Term



Robert Putaansuu (Nonpartisan)

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What background and experience do you bring to this office?

My résumé includes twenty years in banking and ten years of bank management, a one year appointment to the Port Orchard City Council, three years of service on the Port Orchard Planning Commission, Past-President of the South Kitsap Rotary Club, and Past-President of the Port Orchard Chamber of Commerce.

I believe my business perspective and experience on the boards of both the Chamber of Commerce and the South Kitsap Rotary has given me the skills to work collaboratively with others to gain consensus.

If elected, what will be your top two priorities, and how will you accomplish them?

Public safety and the wellbeing of the citizens of Port Orchard will always be my #1 priority as a City Council Member. While the redevelopment of our downtown and the annexation of new land are both important to the future of Port Orchard, I believe our first priority to the citizens is to provide adequate police protection and maintain our streets, sidewalks and infrastructure before we take on additional responsibilities.

City of Port Orchard – Council Position 4 4 Year Term



Cindy Lucarelli (Nonpartisan)

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What background and experience do you bring to this office?

Determined to find creative solutions. With over 23 years of experience as an independent business owner, Cindy has learned the meaning of hard work, tenacity and fiscal responsibility. Her involvement in founding a support group for parents of special needs children in Madison, WI was the beginning of a lifetime of advocating and volunteering on behalf of families PTO leadership and service on a district-wide advisory education panel equips her with the skills necessary to serve as your city council member.

Recently, concerns over Port Orchard's revitalization have led to Cindy's involvement with her neighbors to support local business owners with hands-on cleanup of downtown. Eager for positive change, she requested the council to implement the award-winning EDAAW revitalization plan. Cindy Lucarelli will bring a life of business leadership and management experience to the city council.

If elected, what will be your top two priorities, and how will you accomplish them?

Top Priorities: Update and implement the EDAAW Economic Development Plan for "all" Port Orchard. This will be done through thoughtful city planning, which will include downtown revitalization, incremental annexation and zoning that allows controlled and careful growth. Our beautiful natural setting, along with careful planning and implementation will make Port Orchard the destination city on every tourist map. Let the work begin!



John W. Clauson (Nonpartisan)

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What background and experience do you bring to this office?

I have been honored to serve the citizens of the City of Port Orchard for 25 years and in that time we have accomplished a lot. We constructed the new City Hall, paved almost all the streets, replaced sidewalks, paved alleys, established the local library downtown and doubled its size, solved major traffic issues with the construction of the roundabout, widened Tremont Street and we expanded our police department into a modern agency. All without extra tax dollars from the

citizens. Additionally, I have been the Chair of the New City Hall Grand Opening Committee, Chair of the Port Orchard Festival of Chimes and Lights, two year president of Kitsap Peninsula Visitor & Convention Bureau and five-term President of the Historic Naval Museum USS Turner Joy. Professionally, I have held the position of Service Development Director at Kitsap Transit for the last 24 years.

If elected, what will be your top two priorities, and how will you accomplish them?

My top two priorities include economic development and growth through revitalization, careful expansion of our retail base and annexations; and secondly to increase our safety and security via consistent communication and cooperation with our local law enforcement which is a fundamental component in building and maintaining a prosperous community. Thank you for your support.

City of Port Orchard – Council Position 5 4 Year Term



Rick Wyatt (Nonpartisan)

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What background and experience do you bring to this office?

It has been my privilege to serve the citizens of Port Orchard for the last 16 ½ years. This includes 4 ½ years as a Planning Commissioner, and 3 terms as your City Councilman. I am knowledgeable about each committee, its functions, responsibilities, and well versed in how city government should work for you. I have been involved in a vast number of special projects including our beautiful City Hall building, expansion of

the Waste Water Treatment Facility, and keeping the County Seat in Port Orchard. Additionally, I have been a small business owner in the city for 41 years.

If elected, what will be your top two priorities, and how will you accomplish them?

Completion and implementation of the Downtown Overlay District by working with the citizens, business and property owners to achieve a balanced plan that revitalizes, yet maintains our small town character. Economic vitality in the downtown district relies on the completion of this project. This is my commitment to you.

Another priority of mine is the continued, organized process of responsible boundary expansion. Annexation benefits the community by ensuring economic growth. This process needs to be guided by an experienced council member who understands how to work with government entities, citizens, and business owners to reach our growth boundary objectives.



Fred Olin (Nonpartisan)

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What background and experience do you bring to this office?

I have lived in South Kitsap since 1969. I taught for the South Kitsap School District and retired as a high school administrator in 2000. I was a realtor for six years and am currently a mortgage loan officer.

I was a member of the Port Orchard Revitalization Team and am serving a second term on the Port Orchard Civil Service Commission.

If elected, what will be your top two priorities, and how will you accomplish them?

My main goal is to get the Port Orchard City Council back to doing its job; enacting rules and regulations by which the MAYOR runs the city, with the assistance of department heads and very capable employees. Currently, the council wastes untold hours on issues that could and should be dealt with by city departments or commissions. I would work to fix the whole system.

Secondly, I would encourage working with property owners to rebuild and revitalize Port Orchard. The city should encourage growth by providing leadership with other agencies, making the developmental rules clear and sensible and hiring staff who make correct decisions.

My entire life I have worked as hard and long as necessary to get things done. I now offer that energy Port Orchard and ask for your vote. Thank you.

City of Port Orchard – Council At-Large 2 Year Term



Jerry Childs (Nonpartisan)

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What background and experience do you bring to this office?

Jerry Childs was born and raised in Seattle, moving to Bainbridge Island in 1991 and settling in Port Orchard in 2005. After nearly 40 years of public service as a Seattle Fire Captain, Childs is one of the longest tenured firefighters in Department history. From his years at the University of Washington, to his duties as Captain of Ladder Company 3, Childs has shown leadership in dealing with important matters. Additionally, Childs

served in the following administrative positions: Compliance Officer, Legal Officer, Special Events Officer, and Public Affairs Officer where as a professional writer he had many published articles. Childs was also an elected member of the Seattle Firefighters Pension Board.

If elected, what will be your top two priorities, and how will you accomplish them?

“The upcoming elections may be the most pivotal in Port Orchard history. While there are several fundamental issues facing our City leaders, energizing business and the economy, and ensuring strong public safety are paramount. Also, it is obvious that downtown Port Orchard needs a make over, both physically and emotionally. The citizens are frustrated and I will work cooperatively to formulate a revitalization plan, and then secure the funding and grants to implement it. I look forward to putting my skills and experience behind these challenging issues.”



Dick Fitzwater (Nonpartisan)

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What background and experience do you bring to this office?

I have the professional experience that our community needs in the City council. As the former manager of Karcher Creek Sewer District, I know how to analyze problems, achieve consensus, work with other government agencies, and make important decisions. The council needs to agree upon our goals and set the policies to allow us to achieve them. As a manager in government, I know what the City staff should be accomplishing and what level of service our citizens should be receiving.

As a long time citizen in Port Orchard, I know how crucial it is to have an effective and functional City Council.

If elected, what will be your top two priorities, and how will you accomplish them?

Since 2004, the City Council has lost its cohesiveness and ability to make important decisions in a timely manner. A major priority for me would be to work with the other Council members without any personal agendas to identify major issues and to develop solutions to prepare us for the future. The Council members have to work together to set our policies for the Mayor and staff to implement. The City planning and engineering staff needs to be responsive to our citizens and efficient in their endeavors.