

# City of Bainbridge Island



The City of Bainbridge Island is organized under RCW 35A, Optional Municipal Code, as a Noncharter Code City. The entire island is included in the City with a population of 22,600 residents. The City of Bainbridge Island is governed by an elected Mayor and a seven member City Council. The City is divided into three wards with two council members elected from each plus one elected at-large. Council members are nominated only by voters in the wards they represent in the primary election and are elected at-large in the general election.

The Mayor is the chief executive and, as such, is in charge of all departments and employees and has the authority to delegate assistants and department heads. The Mayor prepares and submits to the Council a proposed budget, reports to the Council on City affairs, and presides over all meetings of the City Council. A full-time City Administrator, appointed by the Mayor, directs staff activities.

The Council is the legislative body of the City and has the power to organize and regulate its internal affairs and to fix the compensation and working conditions of employees. The Council adopts and enforces ordinances of all kinds that regulate local or municipal affairs and that are appropriate to the good government of the City.

## City of Bainbridge Island – Council District 1 – At-Large 4 Year Term



**Barry Peters** (Nonpartisan)

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### What background and experience do you bring to this office?

I bring to this effort my background and experience as a Bainbridge community volunteer. I'm a founder and President of Sustainable Bainbridge, a nonprofit that's at work to get results – whether on green building or mapping sources of locally grown foods – that are environmentally, economically and socially responsible.

I retired in January from a 25-year professional career as an attorney and business consultant specializing in human resources, compensation and employee benefits. I've advised boards and pension trustees on

governance best practices for safeguarding other peoples' money. So, I'm prepared to bring best practices to the job of investing your tax money effectively in services and assets for our community.

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

My top priorities are to address two challenges: first, preserving the island's character, environment, diversity, sense of community and hometown feeling in the face of growth pressures; and, second, doing so with civility and collaboration, in a cost-effective manner, with citizen involvement.

To accomplish that, I will be open to all constituencies, and committed to stewardship of this special place. I will remain accessible to you, and willing to listen to your hopes and concerns. I'll invite your participation, while committing to make unbiased and timely decisions.

## City of Bainbridge Island – Council District 2 – North Ward 4 Year Term



**Hilary Franz** (Nonpartisan)

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### What background and experience do you bring to this office?

My husband and I moved to a historic farm on the Island to raise our three sons and to show them the value of hard work and community responsibility. These values guide my professional and volunteer work. They're why I am running for council.

As Executive Director of Exbiblio Foundation, I head the foundation's operations, improving communities and the environment. As an environmental land use attorney, I helped build consensus among

diverse groups, including local and state governments, non-profits, and neighborhoods, around difficult issues involving growth management, shoreline management, and zoning. I helped bring people together to resolve a 12-year-old dispute over a park, and coordinated local and state efforts to protect the sustainability of Blakely Harbor. Since 2003, I have served on Bainbridge's Trust for Working Landscapes board.

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

We need a council committed to ensuring our quality of life in the face of rapid growth. I will use my planning experience to promote a strong local economy, protect our environment, and address transportation, water, fiscal responsibility, and affordable housing. I will be a strong voice for accessible and accountable government, calling for clear timelines and benchmarks, and holding neighborhood meetings to hear your ideas and concerns on Island issues.

## City of Bainbridge Island – Council District 4 – Central Ward 4 Year Term



**Bill Knobloch** (Nonpartisan)

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### What background and experience do you bring to this office?

I'm a retired Navy and Airline Pilot. I have served on the City Council for the last six years as Chair of the Finance, Public Works, and Community Relations Committees. Early on, I introduced and helped implement the first Budget Ordinance, advocated for a citizen commission to review government ethics and supported public works projects that improved island infrastructure. My input on various city projects, including the removal of the Decant facility to a location more favorable

to our island eco system, has significantly improved island toxic waste removal. I represent Bainbridge Island on the Kitsap Regional Council, collaboratively working towards sustainability of our shared eco system.

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

Winslow Tomorrow will affect our entire island community. Yet, a basic question—do we have enough water to accommodate projected growth—has not been answered. I will seek an answer to this question before we undertake a multi-million dollar downtown renovation. In addition, a legitimate survey/vote should be taken to assess how able our community is to financially support WT. In the face of proposed rapid development, neighborhood issues that affect our quality of life must be sensibly and sensitively addressed. Sustainable island priorities and our vibrant downtown can and must be protected.

**Candidate statements for this position continued on the next page.**

## City of Bainbridge Island – Council District 4 – Central Ward (continued) 4 Year Term



**John F. Waldo** (Nonpartisan)

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### What background and experience do you bring to this office?

For the past seven years, I've been involved with city government on almost a daily basis, beginning with three-plus years reporting on and analyzing government for the Bainbridge Review, serving as Winslow Tomorrow economics co-chair, and serving on the 2025 Growth Advisory Committee. I'm well acquainted with the issues we face, and the people involved.

I have practiced environmental litigation and land-use law for over 20 years, dealing with the type of legal problems that seem to plague

Bainbridge Island. I can help provide realistic risk/benefit assessments, hopefully reducing legally questionable decisions and ill-advised litigation.

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

Implement Winslow Tomorrow and the 2025 Committee report, our citizen-driven planning efforts. With a full understanding of the visions that underlay both initiatives, I can help ensure that significant components like affordable housing are maintained, help conform the implementing ordinances to the vision (to promote desired features like stepped-back building heights), and promote an awareness of possible consequences and trade-offs from changes to the recommendations.

Improve government effectiveness. Practice and encourage open, honest and trusting communication and collaboration with Council colleagues, administration and staff. Evaluate Council-mandated city process requirements to reduce redundancies, which would reduce staff time and costs.

## City of Bainbridge Island – Council District 6 – South Ward 4 Year Term



**Kim Brackett** (Nonpartisan)

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### What background and experience do you bring to this office?

I bring practical skills developed over 20-plus years managing a variety of public and private transportation and environmental/land use projects. As a manager, consultant and paralegal, I've successfully moved projects from vision to completion, keeping within schedule and budget, while ensuring compliance with federal, state and local laws. I've negotiated inter-local agreements, contracts, prepared multi-year budgets and financial analyses, while achieving consensus, cooperation and flexibility among diverse stakeholders. I've participated in the

legislative process as a professional, and more recently as a full-time mom, encouraging government to be more transparent, accountable and responsive to citizens.

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

Our sense of place is at risk with Winslow Tomorrow. My first priority will be to determine whether taxpayers are willing to fund the \$100 million-plus price tag for Winslow Tomorrow if other needs - new Senior Center, bike lanes, open space, public transportation, affordable housing, crumbling roads - are at risk. Perhaps a public vote is needed. I will also ensure, before proceeding, that we quantitatively know the state of our natural resources, especially water, which is essential for future growth, and the cumulative impact of such growth on Puget Sound. Natural resources criteria must be incorporated into council decision-making processes.



**Curtis A. Winston** (Nonpartisan)

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### What background and experience do you bring to this office?

I bring a successful 40-year executive and legislative career of local, state and federal government service, coupled with my 24 year island residency and active involvement in island issues (Halls Hill Road, Eagle Harbor Liveboards and Blakely Harbor). I have managed a 58 million dollar budget, and successfully forged working partnerships with governors, mayors, cabinet officers, legislators and law enforcement at all levels.

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

My top priority will be to facilitate effective decision-making, so that every issue addressed will be fully resolved, voted either up or down, and then sent on to the city department that will implement the decision. This will terminate the current endless process that has caused stagnation, gridlock and increased taxpayer costs for all of us.

My second priority will be to re-direct our city back to providing us with quality basic services (adequate storm drainage, quality water and sewer services, and road repair) and to discourage multi-million dollar projects more appropriate to Bellevue than Bainbridge while maintaining sensitivity to environmental and growth issues. I will work with my fellow councilpersons to effectively control the city's spending, and in so doing, protect our citizens from being taxed off the Island.

## Be Sure to Sign Your Ballot Envelope

Your signature next to the oath on the mailing envelope is required. It prevents another person from casting your ballot! All signatures are verified against signatures on original voter registration cards prior to processing the ballot.