



2023 Indivisible Tacoma Elections Report

Election Actions and 2023 Endorsed Candidates

In 2023 Indivisible Tacoma fully ENDORSED 24 candidates & Initiative #1, and recommended /preferred 2. While our sphere of influence is the Greater Tacoma area, we also tried to help candidates in Eastern Pierce County, a contested area where conservative churches openly advocated for extremist candidates in violation of their tax-exempt status. Our priority candidates are indicated with an asterisk (*) but we worked for all.

Key: Endorse (E), Recommend (R), Prefer (P) Extremist Opponent (EO)

The following highly qualified candidates best representing the public good WON their elections:

Candidate	Position	Category	Final Vote%
*Kristin Ang	Port of Tacoma, Pos 5	E	60.76%
*Olgy Diaz, Pos. 7	Tacoma City Council, Pos 7, At Large	E	52.43%
Kristina Walker, Pos 8	Tacoma City Council, Pos 8, At Large	R	79.25%
*Jamika Scott	Tacoma City Council, Dist 3	E	55.3%
Elizabeth Bonbright	Tacoma School Board Pos 5.	(EO) E	75.07%
Myrah Ballentine	Tacoma Civil Service Position 3	E	58.69%
Matt Mauer	Tacoma Metro Park District	E	68.47%
Hunter George	Fircrest City Council, Pos 5	E	61.06%
Karen Maurer-Smith	Fircrest City Council, Pos 4	E	57.04%
Brett Wittner	Fircrest City Council, Pos 3	E	56.81%
Bryan Yambe	Fife City Council, pos 1	E	62.93%

Candidate	Position	Category	Final Vote%
Krissy Kim	Clover Park School Board, Dist	E	97.03%
Bryan Thomas	Clover Park School Board, Dist	E	98.13%
*Janet Caldwell	Clover Park School Board, Dist 5	(EO) E	61.97%
Ryan Pearson (v Wagemann)	Lakewood City Council, Pos 4	(EO) P	53.4%
*T'wina Nobles	UP School Board, Pos 3	(EO) E	60.27%
Erasmus Ruiz Gonzalez	Bethel School Board, Pos 2	E	50.1%
Citizens Initiative #1	Tacoma Tenant Bill of Rights	E	50.43%

The following outstanding candidates lost their elections, the ones in Puyallup against extremists:

*Jamie Smith (v Herrera)	Pierce County Council, Dist 2	E	44.87% v 55.04%
Alecia Cunningham (v Grassi)	UP City Council, Pos 7	E	40.79% v 58.93%
Robin Barrow (v Gasak)	Dupont City Council, Pos 4	E	49.03% v 50.79%
Abigail Drivdahl (v Murphy)	Fife City Council, Pos 5	E	49.14% v 50.29%
Shellie Willis (v Gilliam)	Puyallup City Council, At Large	E	45.54% v 54.01%
Joe Colombo (v D Johnson)	Puyallup City Council, Dist 2	(EO) E	43.47% v 56%
Trish Crocker (v Romero)	Puyallup School Board, Pos 2.	(EO) E	40.2 % v 59.47%
David Haygood Sharpe (Burch)	Puyallup School Board, Pos 5	(EO) E	48.83% v 50.88%
Amanda Cuthbert (v. Miles)	Puyallup School Board, Pos 3	(EO) E	44.56% v 55.14%

Indivisible Tacoma Election Actions

Campaign Managers: **Vicky Stanich and Valerie Haynes served as co-CMs for Clover Park School Board (CPSB) candidate Janet Caldwell,** developed a well-organized team and campaign against an extremist M4L opponent. **Liz Scott was a CM** for CPSB Candidate Krissy Kim, and a non-IT member became CM for Bryan Thomas. The entire team worked extremely hard, **Vicky** canvassing almost every day for months. Liz, Cheri, Valerie, and Julie canvassing regularly, and others when they could.

CPSB Team: The Advocates for Strong Public Education (ASPE) team of **Vicky, Liz, Valerie, Cheri, Taniesha, Shawn, & Julie** met weekly for six months, knocked 5,200 doors, organized gatherings, and worked closely with consultants at ARGO (Jessica Gavre). Cheri found outstanding candidates early in 2023. **Valerie, Taniesha, and Cheri conducted deep research into the opposition and made connections with parents, teachers, and other supporters.** The team was joined by **Ellen Floyd, Linda Hood, Oneida Arnold, parents & CPEA** to get 61.97% of the vote for a definitive WIN for Janet Caldwell.

Campaign Liaisons: **Barb Church met with Jamika Scott and Olgy Diaz in Spring.** Later, she provided support for their campaigns and organized three IT canvasses. **Ellen Floyd worked with the Tenant Bill of Rights Campaign and Barb** distributed Initiative #1 flyers for canvassers. **Julie A worked informally with Kristin Ang** to coordinate doorknocking for her across PC with other campaigns. **Carol** worked with Jenn (LD25) sign posting, and organized a canvass with Julie for all Puyallup candidates where **Ellen, Jani Hitchen, Wendy Wright (who else?)** doorknocked in August. She and **Pat** helped Bryan Yambe and Abby Drivdahl in Fife. **Barb, Vicky, Liz, Linda, Ellen, Pat, Valerie & Julie** canvassed for T'wina Nobles, Kristin Ang, Jamika Scott, Olgy Diaz among others. **Liz and Wendy** helped to form and served as liaisons with a Pierce County School Board candidate group which helped with canvassing and meet and greets.

Candidate Forums: **Our August 20th picnic and Puyallup campaign forum was successfully rescheduled to Marlene's Deli** after emergency air quality concerns. **Carol sent over 500 Candidate Cards to members for the October 1st Candidate Forum held at the 350 Tacoma space.** Both events fostered good spirits and attendance by candidates, IT members and members of the public. The October Forum was videotaped by **Dan Villa** and the video was disseminated as well as a portion cut and edited for use by Janet Caldwell.

Our Candidate Cards listed 22 candidates and Tacoma Initiative #1, the Tenant's Bill of Rights. They were handed out at booths, events, distributed personally to friends, neighbors, and allies, and displayed with an artistic Tri-Fold of IT activities by **Damita O'Dell** for the statewide Indivisible Gathering in September.

*We are still gathering names of all the Indivisibles who participated in these many activities and more