



## Candidate Questionnaire 2018

### State Representative, Pos 1

Mike Pellicciotti

1. **Name:** Mike Pellicciotti
2. **Position you are seeking:** Legislative District 30, Representative Position 1
3. **Education:** Law Degree (Gonzaga); Master's (Fulbright Scholar, economic development); Bachelor's (Business)
4. **Current Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 26236, Federal Way, WA 98093
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#### **Section 1: Business and Economic Issues**

8. **In your role as an elected official, how do you plan to enhance and support the business climate in Federal Way?**

My educational background is in business and economic development. A priority for me has been to make Federal Way a place that a new generation wants to live and work. This, in turn, increases new dollars in the community to be spent in our local businesses. I believe that Federal Way has many unique strengths that are attractive to a new generation of residents" a beautiful environment with attractive housing options that are more affordable for families than surrounding areas. But we must ensure that" in addition to accessible housing" our foundations of attractive educational opportunities and public safety are in place, so that we can remain a destination for new families. It's why I have focused on expanding funding for local police and our local schools. It's why I've also worked to lower our property taxes. Our business growth is tied to our local residential growth" and I will continue to focus on policies that support that.

**9. Homelessness is a national and state-wide problem impacting both business and their communities. What are you going to do legislatively to address this issue?**

I see homelessness as a regional problem. Many of my colleagues have legislative districts facing similar challenges. I have supported housing and mental health funding and programs throughout the region so that those in need of services in neighboring areas can be expanded to receive services directly in those areas. I have also sponsored services for homeless women and children in Federal Way. I led the House budget proviso to purchase the new FUSION building, so that funds collected from in that volunteer effort can now be maximized and go directly to those local housing needs, especially for victims of domestic violence.

**10. How will you clarify legislative intent on the salary negotiation between competing school districts in Washington?**

While most education issues and salary negotiations take place at the local school district level, the legislature must fix the regionalization issue that I previously voted against and which is treating our school district unfairly. Now that the McCleary constitutional challenge has been addressed by directing state funds to local teacher salaries" and the first time in years the legislature is not in contempt of court" we need to now make sure funding needs not part of that "basic education" mandate of McCleary, like special education and regionalization inequities, are addressed.

**11. Given challenges in social services (i.e., Western State), transportation and education funding, will you be willing to support revenue enhancements? If so, briefly explain how you will address the difficult revenue/expense budget decision that must be made.**

Every year the legislature faces challenging budget questions. There are always questions how we will address all immediate needs. Last year with thoughtful analysis, however, we were able to meet additional education and social service challenges without the need for any new taxes. In fact, I successfully supported cuts to next year's property taxes in this year's budget. I would start from the premise that with additional cost savings and regional economic growth we can again meet that objective of remaining revenue neutral. It is why maintaining a strong local economy that keeps dollars local is critical to these efforts.

**12. If elected, how will you work legislatively with the Greater Federal Way Chamber of Commerce on economic development and other business initiatives? Please note any past or present engagement with Chamber projects and programs.**

The people I work with in the Federal Way Chamber are important constituents. The Chamber is the heartbeat of economic development in our region. I have worked closely with members of the Chamber to advance important initiatives for our area. This

includes my co-sponsorship of Rep. Reeves' budget proviso for a Federal Way Chamber Economic Development Inventory for our community. I will continue to work on that and other economic development initiatives that the Chamber identifies as important.

## **Section 2: Political Engagement**

### **13. What elected offices have you held and how has that experience prepared you for the Legislature?**

I am your current state representative. I was elected in 2016.

Currently and successfully advancing our region's priorities as state representative prepares me well for continuing these legislative initiatives.

Before being elected by the people of our legislative district, I was appointed to office as a King County Deputy Prosecutor and Assistant Attorney General.

### **14. How often does your campaign engage with the community? Please note the type of contact: local office, door-to-door, Town Hall meetings, phone calls, emails, etc. Do you plan the same involvement if elected?**

As your legislator, I have personally responded to thousands of letters and emails, hundreds of calls, and opened a Federal Way local district office to better help constituent needs. I held several in-person town halls around the district" often including Chamber representation" as well as "virtual" phone town halls to connect with those with mobility issues.

As a candidate, in 2016, I personally knocked on over 15,000 doors. I've walked thousands of miles and down every street in Federal Way. It helps me know the unique needs of every part of our district. This year, I have already personally visited several thousand doors. My campaign office is in Federal Way across the street from the Chamber.

I will, of course, keep this important local connection with the people of the district at all times upon re-election. It's the best way to know the needs of everyone throughout the district.

### **15. Does your Campaign use local District 30 businesses in the production of marketing collateral? Why or why not?**

I rely on local 30th District businesses for a range of services and needs. It is almost always the most convenient and cost-effective option. I seek out services from Chamber members in particular. I do marketing ads (digital and print) through the Federal Way

Mirror. I commit to using union printing for documents, however. Since there is not a union printshop in the district, I use nearby union printshops for those items.

### **Section 3: Campaign Activity**

- 16. What are your primary sources of funding? Please note the top five business contributors within District 30 and the top five business contributors outside District 30. Please also note the top five individuals within District 30 and the top five individuals outside District 30.**

I believe that political candidates should be funded by people and associations of people. I do not accept corporate donations. I am the only state elected official to have always taken this path to have campaign funding come again from the people. It's also why I led the passage of a new law to get "dark money" out of politics.

Accordingly, my campaign is primarily funded by people" including hundreds of individual contributions from people within the 30th Legislative District. I also accept donations from labor and professional associations and our local and state Democratic Party.

The top five in-district individuals donating are: Judy Firestone (Federal Way), Pat Montgomery (Federal Way), Tom Vertitis (Auburn), Mary Paynter (Des Moines), and Dorothy Burt (Federal Way).

The top five out-of-district individuals donating are: my parents (Spokane), Federal Way advisor Yarden Weidenfeld (Mercer Island), and law school friends Jason & Tamara Amala (Redmond).

- 17. Please share your major endorsements from the south sound region. In addition to Federal Way, this scope should include South King and Pierce counties.**

I have worked hard to make sure our local needs are being met at the state level.

As of today, I have received the endorsement of every mayor in the district who has endorsed (Federal Way, Des Moines, Auburn, Pacific and Milton).

I have received the endorsement of nearly every city council member in the district who has endorsed. In fact, out of the many elected officials who endorsed in this race and represent our district at the city, county, state, or federal level, I know of only two who have not endorsed our campaign.

I am endorsed by the King County Realtors.

I am endorsed by our local firefighters (South King and Valley Fire). I am endorsed by our local police (WACOPs, King County Corrections, and FOP) and by our local teachers and nurses.

**18. Have you contracted with a firm or individual to manage your campaign? If so, please provide the name and address of the firm/individual.**

My campaign manager is Emilia Jones. She can be reached at 253-260-4630 or at 32123 1st Ave S., Federal Way, WA 98003.

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Linda Kochmar

1. **Name:** Linda Kochmar
2. **Position you are seeking:** 30th District State Representative, Pos. 1
3. **Education:** Bachelor of Arts, Sociology/Psychology  
Courses toward MPA  
Nationally Certified Risk Manager (ARM)
4. **Current Mailing Address:** 30333 1st Ave S, Federal Way, WA 98003  
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Federal Way, WA 98063-3676
5. **Telephone:** 253-640-0469 or 253-839-7419
6. **Email Address:** [LKochmar1@aol.com](mailto:LKochmar1@aol.com)
7. **Website:** LindaKochmar.com

## Section 1: Business and Economic Issues

**8. In your role as an elected official, how do you plan to enhance and support the business climate in Federal Way?**

As your former State Representative, Federal Way City Council Member, and Federal Way Mayor in 2010, I have served you with integrity and dedication for almost two decades.

I am deeply concerned about higher taxes, job creation, limiting regulations, and improving traffic congestion. Federal Way was built by small business. My goal has always been to help our businesses survive and thrive. I argued on the City Council against a City Business and Occupation tax and worked to improve the city's permitting system. I also helped to improve the streets in the city's core to alleviate the flooding in the area and made sure that cable was extended. And I personally worked to bring \$12M in federal funds for Federal Way street improvements. At the state level, I was successful in obtaining \$1M in funding for the nursing program at Highline Community College and over \$4M for the Performing Arts and Event Center. I will continue to work to ensure that our businesses are successful.

**9. Homelessness is a national and state-wide problem impacting both business and their communities. What are you going to do legislatively to address this issue?**

The homeless issue is multi-faceted. A percentage of homeless prefer that lifestyle, however there are many who could be helped if we had a place for them to stay that included services. I previously served on the State's Capital Budget Committee and would ask to do so again so that I could argue on behalf of providing the money needed to provide housing for them. Mental illness is also an issue with the homeless population and the problems with Western State Hospital need to be resolved. And we need housing where the hospitals can discharge the mentally ill so that they can get help the need. Drug use is a large part of the problem and I believe we need more treatment centers.

As always, one of the best ways to combat homelessness is to provide living wage jobs and that's why supporting our businesses is so important. The state can help by providing job training and education opportunities. I would continue to support the Day Center, Fusion, and the Multi-Service Center.

**10. How will you clarify legislative intent on the salary negotiation between competing school districts in Washington?**

There are fundamental inequities in how the state funds the education system. In response to the McCleary decision, the state attempted to equalize the funding in different areas of the state. The plan, however, did not address the disparity between property rich areas and those with a lower tax base. The property tax rate should be equalized statewide. Gov. Inslee proposed a new income tax on capital gains, a huge increase on small business, and a new carbon tax. The legislature will need to address this equitable funding issue. More than half of the state budget is currently provided to the state school system, however current salary negotiations are not sustainable in the long term.

- 11. Given challenges in social services (i.e., Western State), transportation and education funding, will you be willing to support revenue enhancements? If so, briefly explain how you will address the difficult revenue/expense budget decision that must be made.**

Western State should focus on forensic patients and the state should focus on providing community based facilities for long-term inpatient care. Community based, long-term care facilities should be sited across the state and this would alleviate some of the problems at Western State. Sixty percent of the transportation dollar currently goes to mass transit. We need to solve our traffic congestion problem and I've always believed that one way is to provide more opportunities for jobs close to where we live. Education funding is currently being addressed. Any new taxes, such a carbon tax, would not benefit business nor our hard working families. My goal will always be to avoid any new taxes.

- 12. If elected, how will you work legislatively with the Greater Federal Way Chamber of Commerce on economic development and other business initiatives? Please note any past or present engagement with Chamber projects and programs.**

I've always tried to work with business on the local and state level. In the past, I've been endorsed by the Association of WA Business and currently have been endorsed by the Association of General Contractors and the WA Retail Association. I've worked to reduce regulations, ensured that the city did not have a B&O tax, worked to provide \$12M in federal money for street improvements and always supported local business. As a member of the Legislature, I was successful in bringing back over \$4M for the Performing Arts and Event Center.

## **Section 2: Political Engagement**

- 13. What elected offices have you held and how has that experience prepared you for the Legislature?**

Former 30th District State Representative  
Federal Way City Council Member  
Federal Way Deputy Mayor  
Federal Way Mayor

I served as an elected official in Federal Way for 18 years and helped to build the Federal Way City Hall, that is paid for, and the Federal Way Community Center. During my time on the City Council, the city had money in reserves and a Bond Rating of A++. In my 4 years as a State Representative, I was successful in bringing money back to rebuild the Redondo Boardwalk, help fund the PAEC, provide money to Highline Community College for their nursing program, and numerous other projects. I've worked on legislation for the disabled and for Senior Citizens. And I've served on many county-wide

committees, including the Puget Sound Regional Council. I've also served on the Statewide Executive Steering Committees on Human Trafficking and on Aging.

**14. How often does your campaign engage with the community? Please note the type of contact: local office, door-to-door, Town Hall meetings, phone calls, emails, etc. Do you plan the same involvement if elected?**

In the past, my committee members have knocked on 20,000 doors and held Town Hall meetings on a regular basis. I have always been very active in the community. As a State Representative, I opened a local office and had coffee with constituents every Friday. I would continue to do this to be available to those who need help.

**15. Does your Campaign use local District 30 businesses in the production of marketing collateral? Why or why not?**

I've always used Vilma's Signs for my marketing products as well as signs.

### **Section 3: Campaign Activity**

**16. What are your primary sources of funding? Please note the top five business contributors within District 30 and the top five business contributors outside District 30. Please also note the top five individuals within District 30 and the top five individuals outside District 30.**

WA Retail Association  
WA Farm Bureau  
Association of General Contractors  
House Republican Organizational Committee  
Dr. Bryan Edgar  
Fred and Bernie Konkell  
Dr. Peter Shelley  
Tom and Beverly Heunisch

**17. Please share your major endorsements from the south sound region. In addition to Federal Way, this scope should include South King and Pierce counties.**

WA Retail Assoc  
WA Farm Bureau  
Association of General Contractors  
House Republican Organizational Committee

**18. Have you contracted with a firm or individual to manage your campaign? If so, please provide the name and address of the firm/individual.**

Consultant: Steve Beren - One Spark Marketing



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Campaign Manager: Maureen Bernardy  
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