



Date: June 30, 2015

Dear Candidate for City of Olympia Council or Mayor,

Thank you for being willing to serve your community as an elected official. As citizen activists, we appreciate the work that it takes to get elected and do the business of the people.

In order to inform our LBA Woods supporters of your positions on issues relating to the purchase of LBA Woods prior to July 15 when ballots will be mailed out, we request that you make your positions clear to the LBA Woods Park Coalition Leadership Team by answering several questions.

Attached you will find a brief questionnaire about parks issues as they relate to LBA Woods. Please answer each question with as much detail as you feel is needed and return the completed questionnaire *with your signature included*. Please scan and email your responses to contact@savelbawoods.org no later than July 14, 2015.

We may, at our discretion, make your responses available to LBA Woods supporters.

Respectfully,

Debra Jaqua
For the LBA Woods Park Coalition
360-701-6412

LBA Woods Park Coalition Candidate Questionnaire 2015

Please answer the questions below and return completed and signed questionnaire to contact@savelbawoods.org . Feel free to expand the space provided or provide additional sheets.

1. Briefly detail your education experience and work experience.

I earned my undergraduate degree from the Evergreen State College where I majored in environmental studies. I have experience working for state, local government and the nonprofit sector in environmental planning and public administration. I participated in an internship with the Department of Health assisting them in their efforts to reduce solid waste, increase recycling and incorporate composting into their waste management system. I also interned with the City of Olympia creating a climate action plan to reduce Olympia's greenhouse gas emissions. I currently serve as the legislative aide in the House of Representatives advocating for constituents of the 22nd legislative district.

2. What local environmental issues are of most concern to you? Why?

I am a lifelong Washingtonian and I believe strong environmental protections are necessary to ensure we have a thriving and healthy environment for generations to come. The City of Olympia needs to participate with local and state partners in the development of a regional Climate Action Plan to reduce its GHG emissions and plan for the impacts of climate change. Olympia can take positive steps towards reducing GHG emissions through planning, education, conservation, as well as development and implementation of renewable sources of energy. Olympia can reduce its pollution and energy consumption of transportation by promoting the use of electric vehicles and expanding accessibility and inviting alternatives that reduce vehicle miles traveled including transit, walking, and cycling.

Olympia should plan to adapt, mitigate, and maintain resiliency for changing environmental conditions due to climate change, such as longer periods of drought and increased flooding related to changing weather patterns and sea level rise. The City can promote increased urban agriculture, alternative energy production and mitigate the effects of sea level rise.

3. Olympia is projected to grow by nearly 40% over the next 20 years. What is your vision of Olympia as it relates to parks, open space, and habitat?

Parks and greenspace add the high quality of life that citizens of Olympia enjoy. Having access to parks and recreational areas is good for our physical, mental and emotional well-being and makes our city visually appealing. We must work to preserve and enhance

parks and valuable greenspace in anticipation of future development.

4. Given that funding is available through the voted utility tax, impact fees, and potential grants, it has been suggested by parks advocates that the City of Olympia buy one or both of the LBA Woods parcels now. Explain your position on that?

Olympia City Council is currently in the process of developing a Metropolitan Parks District [MPD] proposal to put before the voters this fall. The money collected from taxpayers would be dedicated solely to parks maintenance and acquisition of land for future parks. Olympia is projected to have a budget deficit of \$3 million by 2019 unless we find additional revenue. In order to maintain our current parks and purchase land for future parks we must create a sustainable revenue source dedicated solely to funding our parks system. The MPD proposal includes using collected revenue for purchasing LBA woods and I support preserving the woods and putting the proposal before the voters to purchase LBA woods.

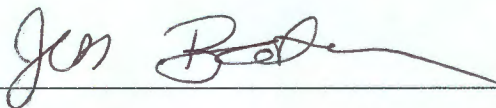
5. Parks advocates contend that a Metropolitan Parks District should be submitted to the voters only if the city guarantees that the MPD funds would not be used to supplant existing parks funding. Do you agree with this position?

I agree that MPD funds should not be used to supplant existing parks funding. The current MPD proposal by City Council includes language that revenue collected will not supplant existing funding for parks

6. Do you favor returning the voted utility tax to the priority purpose of acquiring park land as the City stated in the explanatory statement for the 2004 Parks and Sidewalks Initiative?

I support returning the voted utility tax to the priority purpose of acquiring park land.

Signature _____



Date: July 14, 2015

Print Name: Jessica Bateman