*Section 8.3.*​*Endorsements and Elections Committee*

*Section 8.3.1.*​*Purpose*

The Endorsements and Election Support Committee is responsible for supporting the Democratic Party mission to elect Democrats. The committee will act as the support arm for elections for member organizations in King County.

*Section 8.3.2.*​*Membership*

The County Chair, the KCDCC Vice-Chairs, the District Chairs, and the King County Young Democrats Chair shall each appoint one member of the committee. The County Chair shall appoint the chair or co-chairs the committee.

*Section 8.3.3.*​*Duties—Endorsements*

There are three core functions of the Endorsement Committee:

-Work with LPO’s to identify and prepare candidates to run for election;

-Work with LPO’s to define core requirements for the Candidate Questionnaire which will serve as the Questionnaire for organizations in King County;

-Conduct endorsement assessments and put forward endorsement recommendations for each election cycle in which Democrats are running for office in King County.

*8.3.3.1 Performance of Duties*

The committee will convene an annual endorsement planning session with representatives of each LPO in King County. The purpose of the meeting is to create a list of offices pending election in the next election cycle, to review identified candidates (if any) for each office, and to set a calendar for the operation of endorsements for the cycle.

The endorsement committee will work with the training committee to register candidates for training if they opt for it.

Endorsement Meetings

-The endorsement committee will conduct a preliminary endorsement assessment with candidates and LPO representatives to provide resources if needed to assist in preparing the candidate for their campaign.

-The committee shall propose endorsements as identified at the Endorsement Annual Planning Session with LPO’s.

No votes shall be taken for endorsements or committee business without a quorum in attendance. Votes in absentia will not be permitted, but participation via electronic means is permissible.

The committee shall maintain minutes to include attendees for all meetings in which committee business is conducted. A roster of all members with contact information will be submitted to the County Chair at the conclusion of the Annual Endorsement Planning meeting.

The documents and records of all committee work are the property of KCDCC and shall not be destroyed, removed, or otherwise shielded from the Executive Board in the event of resignation(s) by Chair, Co-Chair, or any member of the committee.

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No endorsement will be made before a primary where multiple Democratic candidates are competing.

*Section 8.3.4.*​*Duties—Elections*

The committee shall work with the Legislative District Organizations to coordinate cross-district efforts to support the KCDCC’s endorsed candidates and campaigns. The committee shall also be responsible for recruiting, training, and coordinating the activities of Democratic Party election observers and election board workers, and for recommending policies that increase voter turnout and safeguard the integrity of the election process.

*Section 8.3.5.*​*Questionnaire*

The committee shall, by no later than March 1 of each year, propose to the Executive Board one or more questionnaires for vetting potential candidates and ballot measures. The Executive Board may approve the questionnaires by majority vote, and may amend the questionnaires or refer them back to the committee. To the extent possible, the committee shall work with the Legislative District Organizations and the King County Young Democrats to minimize the number of questionnaires that candidates must complete.

To be eligible for endorsement, a candidate or campaign must return the questionnaire to the committee chair at least seven days prior to the committee meeting at which endorsements are to be recommended, or by the Monday following the end of the candidate filing period, whichever is later. Completed questionnaires must also be made available to PCOs at least seven days prior to the meeting at which endorsements are to be made.

*Section 8.3.6.*​*Slate of Recommended Endorsements*

The committee may propose some or all of its recommended endorsements to the PCOs as a slate. If the committee proposes a slate, any PCO may call for division to remove a recommendation from the slate. The removed recommendation(s) shall then be voted on individually.

*Section 8.3.7.*​*Endorsements*

The PCOs shall meet to consider the committee’s recommendations for endorsements prior to the primary election each year and again prior to the general election each year. The PCOs may, by majority vote, endorse any candidate or position that is recommended by the committee. By two-thirds vote, the PCOs may endorse a candidate or position that was considered but not recommended by the committee.