

# King County Democrats

## 2017 Candidate Questionnaire

### Port Level



<b>Candidate Name</b>	Ahmed Abdi	
<b>Position Sought</b>	Seattle Port Commissioner Position 3	
Home Legislative District	37 LD	
<b>Are you a Democrat?</b> Are you known as a Democrat?	Yes	
<b>Campaign Name</b>	Abdi for Port Commissioner	
<b>Campaign Contact Information</b>	Mailing address: 2928 S Willow St Seattle Wa 98108	Phone: 206-335-6547 Fax:
	Website: AbdiForPort.Com Email: ahmedtudor@gmail.com Twitter: @ Facebook: In Progress	
Campaign manager or point of contact	Alex Hendrickson, Campaign Consultant	
Consultant(s)	Moxie Media	

### Part I – Candidate Background

Please briefly describe your qualifications, education, employment, community and civic activity, union affiliation, and other relevant experience. Attach a resume with more complete history.

I currently work at Fair Work Center as an Outreach manager, I am pursuing my Bachelor's degree, I have also worked with SEIU775 and Working Washington. I am currently on the Seattle Housing Commission.

Describe your history of involvement in Washington state politics. What offices have you previously sought election or appointment to? What campaigns have you worked on?

I have worked as an acting PCO in the LD 37, and I also worked on the Prop 1 campaign to raise wages and workplace standards for 6,700 workers at SeaTac airport as a community organizer with Working Washington.

What prompted you to run for this office? What priorities are you seeking to address with your campaign?

What prompted me to run is witnessing the struggle of low wage workers at the Airport and Port, including lack of benefits and worker protections. Their interests are not well represented by any of the current port commissioners, and I want to change by serving as their commissioner.

List the notable endorsements you have received to date. Who are you planning to ask for an endorsement?

I am seeking endorsements from all of the King County Democratic LD's as well as all of the relevant unions. I will also be seeking endorsement from environmental groups and progressive organizations.

Describe the progress of your campaign and campaign goals. For instance, how many doors have you knocked on? What earned media has your campaign received? How much money have you raised?

I am filing my paperwork with the PDC this week, and am officially announcing. I have hired a very good campaign consultant, Alex Hendrickson, to help with day to day strategic planning, and I have hired Moxie Media to help with voter outreach. I have deep roots in the immigrant community, as well as with workers connected to the Port of Seattle. I will have the resources and support I need to run a competitive race.

Have you ever been a member of any other political party? If so, what party? Have you ever given money to a candidate from another party in a partisan race? If so, to whom and when?

No

<b>Please answer the following questions.</b>		<b>Yes*</b>	<b>No</b>
1	Have you ever failed to pay any taxes or court ordered judgments?		no
2	Have you ever been found in violation of a Public Disclosure Commission, Federal Election Commission or Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission regulation?		no

\* If you answered "Yes" to any of the above, please explain your answer:

## Part II – Port Issues

#	Question	Yes	No	Qualify your response
1	Do you support amending the U.S. Constitution to lessen the influence of money in politics, and declare that corporations do not have the rights of natural persons?	Yes		I believe when money is out of politics, the power comes back to ordinary citizen and it will have a greater impact on everyone among us.
2	Do you support the right of public workers, excluding military, to bargain and strike?	Yes		I believe when workers have a bargaining power, we can overcome the income inequality
3	Do you support full implementation of SeaTac Good Jobs Proposition #1 (2013) within the Port of Seattle's jurisdiction?	Yes		I worked very hard to help the passage of Prop 1 and I will do

				everything I can to make the port enforce it.
4	Should the Port promote a clean drayage truck program?	Yes		It's critical that a clean truck program include living wages and safe working conditions for the people driving the trucks. Right now the costs of clean technology are almost entirely the responsibility of low wage, mostly immigrant, drivers.
5	Should the Port promote dockside rail connections to minimize truck traffic congestion, and diesel emissions?	Yes		Yes but it's important to note that we already have dockside rail at some terminals and shippers don't use it. We must explore why.
6	Do you support replacing trees on or off site lost during development to protect our cities' urban tree canopy?	Yes		Our urban canopy is one of the things that make our city so beautiful and clean.
7	Should the Port make "Cold Iron" electrical power available to shippers to minimize diesel generator exhaust air pollution?	Yes		Creating jobs and protecting the environment is vital to the health of our communities.
8	Do you support the Port's "Century Agenda" (Our Vision: 100,000 new jobs)?	Likely		Only if there are worker protections, proper wages and benefits included.
9	Do you support allowing coal or oil to be exported from Washington State's ports?		NO	The people have spoken on this issue, it is not safe and it is detrimental to the environment.
10	Do you support the Davis-Bacon Act?	YES		I fully support Unions
11	Do you support Chris Hansen's proposal to build a new basketball arena in SoDo now that it is fully privately funded and there are added dollars for mitigation of freight mobility issues?	Likely		I do not think it should be paid for with public funds, but would likely support a private investor who picks up the cost. As long as mitigations were well planned, construction includes a Project Labor Agreement, and the workers at the new arena are represented by a union
12	Do you support the efforts of SeaTac Airport workers to collectively bargain for better pay and better working conditions?	YES		I fully support workers' rights to organize and I believe all workers deserve a living wage. I was proud to help pass this initiative.
13	Do you support the repeal Tim Eyman's I-747, which artificially limits property tax increases to 1% per year, regardless of population growth, inflation, and need?	YES		Tim Eyman is a menace.

### Part III – Free Response Questions

Please review the 2016 King County Democratic Platform, approved by the delegates to the King County Convention and available from KCDCC's website. List which planks, if any, you disagree with, and why.

I support the platform

What role should the Port Commission play in approving small value contracts or short-term tenant leases, such as the recent Foss Maritime/Shell Oil lease?

The Port needs to be sure that when considering leases, that the needs and values of the community are represented. The Port Commission should be the watch dog on all leases and ensure they don't run counter to King County's fight against global climate change.

At current growth rates, Seattle-Tacoma International Airport is likely to reach its passenger capacity within a decade, what have you done or will do to deal with the growth at the airport, while being a better neighbor to people living near the airport?

The people who live in the SeaTac area need to be included in the prosperity that comes from growth. We also need to be sure that proper safeguards are taken to make sure that the health and quality of life is protected.

Do you feel the Northwest Seaport Alliance between the Ports of Seattle and Tacoma has been successful so far, and what if any changes to the Alliance are needed?

I believe that it has lived up to its goals. I do believe that the people and workers need a stronger voice, which is why I am running. I will support districted seats on the Commission, to give the people a stronger voice.

What will you do or have you done to support the selection of women and minority-owned businesses in contracting with the Port of Seattle?

I strongly support Priority Hire, and Project Labor agreements. I also support workers in their efforts to unionize and win living wages.

What important state and local issues have you worked on (or taken an interest in) that you feel aren't getting enough attention from elected leaders and the media?

Many immigrants work as drivers for Uber and Lyft. Their earnings continue to drop, and they have no worker protections of any kind. I want to see our city, and the port stand up for these workers and demand that they be allowed to unionize.

**I affirm that all the information provided in response to this questionnaire is true, complete and correct, to the best of my ability, and that no relevant matter has been omitted.**

Signature

Ahmed Abdi

Date:5/10/17

Printed Name

Ahmed Abdi