

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
September 17, 2007

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## **Friends of Seattle Endorses Burgess, Clark, Godden, Harrell, and Rasmussen for City Council**

### **Endorsed Candidates Will Support Friends of Seattle Goals by Advocating for Improved Transportation, More Housing, and Smart Development**

SEATTLE - After leaving its mark on the Viaduct election, Friends of Seattle (FoS), a membership-based advocacy organization dedicated to making Seattle a more urban, livable, and sustainable city, is pleased to announce its endorsement decisions for Seattle City Council.

“Our elected leadership needs to be creative and purposeful if we are to have a chance of fixing the problems of urban life in Seattle,” said Friends of Seattle Gary Manca. “These five candidates have the potential to pass legislation that will increase our housing stock, give us more transportation choices, and expand our park system. Friends of Seattle has faith in them.”

After carefully evaluating the candidates vying for election to the Seattle City Council, the Friends of Seattle steering committee decided to endorse the following candidates. (For a complete explanation of each endorsement decision, please visit [http://www.friendsofseattle.org/2007\\_city\\_council\\_endorsements.php](http://www.friendsofseattle.org/2007_city_council_endorsements.php).)

**Jean Godden, Position 1**  
**Bruce Harrell, Position 3**  
**Tom Rasmussen, Position 5**  
**Tim Burgess, Position 7**  
**Sally Clark, Position 9**

We sought candidates with enough past successes to indicate they would be capable elected representatives. More than that, we sought candidates who supported (1) development of a surface/transit replacement for the Alaskan Way Viaduct, (2) robust affordable housing policies, (3) zoning for more density downtown and in areas served by transit, (4) more mass transit, (5) better infrastructure for biking and walking, (6) vibrant parks and more open space, and (7) other policies necessary for sustaining urban life. No candidate is perfect on our issues. Indeed, we were prepared to withhold our endorsement in any race, if necessary. But we are confident that our five selections will be effective councilmembers whose positions are sufficiently aligned with our objectives for the next four years.

The FoS political committee led the endorsement process. The committee evaluated the candidates' written answers to a questionnaire it designed, and also interviewed each candidate. The steering committee approved each endorsement by at least a two-thirds vote. (For more information about the FoS steering committee, please visit [http://www.friendsofseattle.org/steering\\_committee.php](http://www.friendsofseattle.org/steering_committee.php).)

**ABOUT FRIENDS OF SEATTLE** - FoS is a membership-based advocacy group whose mission is to network together a community of voters who inspire elected officials to support a more urban, livable, and sustainable city. We organize community events, propose policy reforms, lobby elected officials, and endorse candidates for office.

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