

Submitter Name	Applicant Name	Feedback on Applicant
Laura Kempton	Jasmine Brown	<p>As a resident of District 4, I am urging you to select Jasmine Brown to represent me on the Tacoma City Council. After carefully watching all interviews during the July 9th City Council meeting, it is clear she has invaluable perspective and experience that I would like to see added to the City Council.</p> <p>Additionally, I do not believe Rick Talbert should be considered. If he cannot meet a simple deadline, he is not fit to serve on the City Council. I am disappointed in the council members who supported throwing out the rules and creating an exception for one candidate that would not have been extended to other candidates. This should have been a fair process for all applicants.</p>
Concerned East Side Resident	Jasmine Brown	<p>Jasmine appears to be the only choice. Didn't know of her but looked her up and she is the one.</p> <p>You all missed out on some gems though. There were some Truly pragmatic representatives that have real connections in this community who were passed up for the councils own political and financial gains, goals, and futures. Candidates who truly were able to represent all of us in district 4. The city council is absolutely disgusting in how they honored Councilwoman Ushka in this vote. We don't want to see anyone shed another tear over her with the way this was handled. You should all be ashamed of yourselves. Truly... shedding tears in the chamber and then doing the exact opposite of what she would do.</p> <p>-disgusted on the EastSide</p>
Heidi Stephens	Jasmine Brown	Seems like a nice person, but I was not overly impressed with this candidate.
Regina Glenn	Jasmine Brown	<p>I wholeheartedly endorse the candidacy of Ms. Jamine Brown because she brings to this position experience in the creative arts and business. She has served on many community committees benefiting the citizens of Tacoma. She understands the needs of our entrepreneur community as a business owner. As an African American woman candidate, she will bring a unique worldview, provide an insightful "Lense" to Council deliberations and compliment your legislative body.</p> <p>Thanks, you for this opportunity to share my support.</p>
Leslie E. Young	Jasmine Brown	<p>I met Jasmine at community visioning events while participating as a citizen in public art input (we have currently been working on the Tacoma Mall Subarea with Rebecca Solverson, Horatio Law, Linda Wysong).</p> <p>Jasmine's experience with communities, public art and other work-related and lived experiences make her an excellent candidate to serve District Four. While I do not know Jasmine well, I listened to the council interviews and was very impressed with her answers and the approach she would take to serve our district. I would be excited to see Jasmine appointed to be our Councilmember!</p>
Jennifer Sack	Justin Everman	I'm actually pretty torn between Justin and Sandesh, but if I had to pick one, I'd pick Justin. No one cares more about our neighborhood than Justin. And he has experience running the McKinley Business District. He's been a leading force for urban renewal on McKinley Hill and his support has directly affected outcomes in our neighborhood for the better. I know he will represent our interests and be a great leader and advocate for our area

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Heidi Stephens	Justin Everman	Seems like a nice person, but I was not overly impressed with this candidate.
Alice Skilton	Justin Everman	Please select Justin Everman for District 4 interim position. I have lived on the eastside since 1977, and we NEED someone who lives and works in the neighborhood, a small business owner, already involved in the community, to represent us. We do not need another developer, career politician, or city planner -- we need an involved, down-to-earth person. In fact, it would be a good addition to the City Council to have someone like Justin Everman to bring a touch of reality to the often high-falutin' plans that leave the eastside with nothing but higher tax bills.
Christopher Skilton	Justin Everman	Justin followed protocol and met the deadline, unlike one candidate who is a career politician. Our district does not need a career politician.
Manika	Rick Talbert	I think the process on selecting late applicants was not fair. It will be quite interesting for the time he submitted to be revealed. I think it's time for fresh faces with new agendas to enter the force. I think the community and district 4 deserve that. I also feel like district 4 should have a representative similar to the previous member, the community members deserve that. The scene of him showing up with a golf club is pretty crazy especially when his applicant documents weren't submitted on time. The district deserves someone real and fluid. I really hope the city does the right thing when picking the next council member.
Lindsay Wills	Rick Talbert	Rick Talbert should not be considered for this position since he submitted his application late.
Nunya	Rick Talbert	Rick Talbert did not have technical issues in submitting the application for council. He simply did not pay attention to detail. He misread the submission time. This is documented and will come out should he be elected to the seat. He should never have even been included and the fact that Victoria motioned to Change the rules and allow him to be considered is disgusting but unfortunately it's normal business for this council. Disgraceful. The council has no pulse on the real issues of this city and more importantly this district I applaud those on the council who voted against such a blatant disregard for the people of the EastSide. Rick Talbert does not represent district 4. He represents himself and the interests of those who voted to allow him to still be considered.
Chantelle Wilson	Rick Talbert	The City Council needs Rick's experience in these turbulent times. Pick Rick.
John Daniels	Rick Talbert	We need this man in District 4. It's what Catherine would have wanted.
Vicky Nguyen	Rick Talbert	You would be foolish not to pick Rick. He is a life-long District 4 resident and the best person to replace Catherine Ushka.

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Heidi Stephens	Rick Talbert	<p>Please do not drag Tacoma backwards by even considering this nomination.</p> <p>It was terribly ironic that during his interview, he commented on "a history of bad decisions" when he, himself, was part of the council that passed many of the policies we're still suffering under.</p> <p>So for him to speak on racial equity and bad public policy from historic mistakes was a bit insulting considering that he voted to approve the detention center, supported the methanol refinery and many other projects that went on to become donors to his last campaign, receiving funding from: the dentition center lobby, Lockheed Martin (purveyors of weapons of mass destruction), Rainier Connect which was handed our public utility "Click!" internet, and family members of the now deeply indebted Point Ruston.... see: https://www.pdc.wa.gov/.../candidates/4253/contributions</p> <p>Also, I am one of many who vividly recall how rude, disrespectful and dismissive he was to numerous constituents.</p> <p>To many of the public, it felt unfair and wrong to have moved his application forward after he had missed the deadline.</p> <p>If Rick needed so much assistance just getting his application in (yet still failing to do so on time) it's not likely he'll be bringing much help to the council in other areas.</p> <p>So, if he is appointed, it will seem veeeeery suspicious, and we will all be very leery about the underlying reasons as to why... which would not be a good look for the council at all.</p>
April Smith	Rick Talbert	<p>Rick never should have been allowed to submit his application late. Based off his interview I don't understand how he made it through to it. He should NOT be considered for the seat. He will not represent the Eastside well.</p>
Asha Bhaga	Rick Talbert	<p>I urge council to NOT appoint Rick Talbert.</p> <p>I was appalled by Rick's reaction and comment to CM Jamika Scott when she opted to pass on asking him the interview question. CM Scott briefly and respectfully her directed her communication and her decision to her fellow council members. On the other hand, Rick's disrespectful response to CM Scott was disappointing and unnecessary; I also believe Rick engaged in gaslighting. I am disappointed that Rick was allowed to engage with CM Scott in this way. The mayor voted to allow him through the process; the mayor should have called Rick out for disrespecting one of her council members. We choose our council members to represent our communities and that's exactly what CM Scott was doing, in the most respectful way possible. Rick termed CM's Scott's actions as "noise" that distracts the council. To the contrary, it is the job and duty of our council members to speak up when their convictions are challenged. Lastly, could Rick have shown some empathy and understanding that a government rule was suspended solely for him? Maybe community members, applicants , and council members may disagree with waiving a rule just for him? Rick does not represent the community I live in and I do not want him as my council member!</p>

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Margaret Walker	Rick Talbert	<p>I am a constituent from District 4 and I would like to express my strong opposition to Rick Talbert as a candidate for the vacant District 4 position on the City Council.</p> <p>It is inequitable to bend the rules for someone who is an old familiar face from the council. This is textbook cronyism, and it is an unjust decision.</p> <p>If he was unable to get his application submitted on time, particularly with all of his past experience, he is unfit to serve.</p> <p>Please listen to the opposition from Diaz, Scott, and Daniels and do not appoint Rick Talbert to the District 4 position. And bring in community input to appoint someone who will represent the voices and peoples of District 4 with more of the people-first politics Ushka's time of service, may she rest in power.</p> <p>Very respectfully, Maggie Walker 4302 S J St</p>
Morgan Vanderpool	Rick Talbert	<p>I am a constituent from District 4 and I would like to express my strong opposition to Rick Talbert as a candidate for the vacant District 4 position on the City Council.</p> <p>It is inequitable to bend the rules for someone who is an old familiar face from the council. This is textbook cronyism, and it is an unjust decision.</p> <p>If he was unable to get his application submitted on time, particularly with all of his past experience, he should not be offered this opportunity to serve.</p> <p>Please listen to the opposition from Diaz, Scott, and Daniels and do not include Rick Talbert as an appointee to the District 4 position. And bring in community input to make it possible to appoint the other 5 finalists who did their diligence to apply on time & who will represent the voices and peoples of District 4 with more of the people-first politics Ushka's time of service, may she rest in power.</p> <p>Very respectfully- Morgan Vanderpool</p>

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Calvin Read	Rick Talbert	<p>I am a constituent from District 4 and am strongly opposed to the appointment of Rick Talbert as a candidate for the vacant District 4 position on the City Council.</p> <p>It is unfair to bend the rules for someone in city government, regardless of their resume. This is textbook cronyism, and it further erodes the city citizens' faith in their government to host fair election and make decisions that represent the will of the people</p> <p>If Talbert was unable to get his application submitted on time, especially with this 16 years of experience, he is unfit to serve.</p> <p>Please heed the opposition from Diaz, Scott, and Daniels and do not appoint Rick Talbert to the District 4 position. In loving memory of the late Catherine Ushka, may she rest in power, I urge you to act in the spirit of her people-first politics and allow the voices of the people of District 4 to be the guiding force for this city council appointment, and that her replacement be as fierce and advocate as she.</p> <p>Finally, in order to achieve Mayor Woodards' expressed goal of more agreement among the city council, do not elect Talbert, as 3 of the existing council members (Scott, Diaz, and Daniels) have expressed opposition to his appointment to this role. His position on this council will only cause further difficulty and discord for the next year and a half.</p> <p>With utmost respect and civic conscience, Calvin Read</p>
Autumn Star	Rick Talbert	<p>I am a constituent from District 4 and I would like to express my strong opposition to Rick Talbert as a candidate for the vacant District 4 position on the City Council.</p> <p>It is inequitable to bend the rules for someone who is an old familiar face from the council. This is textbook cronyism, and it is an unjust decision.</p> <p>If he was unable to get his application submitted on time, particularly with all of his past experience, he is unfit to serve.</p> <p>Please listen to the opposition from Diaz, Scott, and Daniels and do not appoint Rick Talbert to the District 4 position. And bring in community input to appoint someone who will represent the voices and peoples of District 4 with more of the people-first politics Ushka's time of service, may she rest in power.</p> <p>Very respectfully- Autumn Star</p>
Heather Glansbeek	Sandesh Sadalge	<p>Sandesh is intelligent and passionate and well placed for this role. He completely has my support and that of my neighbors.</p>
Laura Castrilli	Sandesh Sadalge	<p>If an election immediately followed the interviews, my vote would be for Sandesh.</p> <p>I grew up in District 5 but became a District 4 resident when I purchased my home in 1992.</p>
Heidi Stephens	Sandesh Sadalge	<p>Sandesh would be my first choice. Of all the candidates, he by far seemed the most sincere, capable and tolerable to listen to. :)</p>

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Heidi Stephens	Sandesh Sadalge	<p>In addition to my previous comments, I had meant to add that it was impressive Sandesh is keeping his schedule cleared for solely to this appointment.</p> <p>Truly, how can other candidates and current council members really devote appropriate time while also holding other full-time jobs?</p> <p>It was confusing why some on the council voiced their desire that the appointee only fill the vacancy time (not run again, which was the opposite inclination for a prior vacant seat), making it seem like some on the council had a predetermined decision already.</p> <p>So, Mr. Sadalge's comments about this topic felt most genuine.</p> <p>Time will tell but, based on the interviews, he would have my vote.</p>
April Smith	Sandesh Sadalge	<p>Absolute best applicant for the Eastside. I was impressed by he interview.</p>
Linda Alicea	Sandesh Sadalge	<p>I worked with Sandesh for several years when we were at the same advertising agency. We started almost on the same day. We met and he immediately asked me what he could help me with and how he could help make how I was working better. And he did.</p> <p>Sandesh is a master at figuring out how to make processes and systems more efficient and effective. He has an entrepreneurial spirit that he has applied through out his career.</p> <p>He is also one of the most empathetic, knowledgeable, honest and most of all intelligent people I've had the pleasure to work with.</p> <p>I have no doubt Sandesh and his skill sets will be an asset to this Council.</p>
Leslie E. Young	Sandesh Sadalge	<p>I did not previously know Sandesh before the council appt. process, but we had a long conversation recently and I can say that I feel that he is uniquely qualified to serve District Four in the capacity as Councilmember. We share similar interests, and Sandesh has a unique skillset which would be very useful for our district. His expertise in data analysis and business, combined with his lived experience in diverse urban areas and his knowledge about planning, policy and neighborhoods make him an excellent person to serve our district. His understanding of multicultural communities and being "othered" gives him a unique perspective and insight that would benefit District Four significantly. I'm grateful that this process led me to an introduction to him and hope he has the chance to serve our city in this capacity.</p>
Tara Scheidt	Sandesh Sadalge	<p>I am very inspired by the work Sandesh has done and what he is lifting up with his participation. He is very easy to work with and I always walk away having learned something and feeling better about the progress made. He is a very unique individual who is a breath of fresh air. You will definitely have to work alongside with him to see how he researches and draws his opinions. He is a thoughtful communicator and he will be a huge addition to council. District 4 would be so lucky to have him lead out community.</p>

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Wanda Thompson	Silong Chhun	<p>I endorse Mr. Silong Chhun as an incumbent to City Council Position 4. As a former Art Commissioner I worked and observed the creative know-how this person exemplifies. I was impressed with his ability to lead by example, and his follow-through is incomparable. He is a remarkable human being who cares and sees the big picture. He is the change agent we need to make a difference and bring our diverse community together. I hope to work side by side as a peer, professional and change agent as our Hilltop Community grows in the 21st Century. I appreciate all of his positive efforts.</p> <p>Thank you Silong for all that you do!</p> <p>Wanda Thompson</p>
Chamroeun You	Silong Chhun	<p>I believe Silong will do a great job in representing our community and also the marginalized communities of the Asian population that lives in district 4. Many of us grew up on the Eastside and still here to try and improve this district. He grew up and understands what improvement needs to be done and will be a voice for us.</p>
Chad Tibayan	Silong Chhun	<p>Sharing my support for Silong Chhun. He is an incredible member of the community and has shown strong leadership and willingness to make change. Silong is also highly respected by his peers and Tacoma in general. I believe he is an excellent candidate and will create a strong and positive impact on all.</p>
Gisela Demko	Silong Chhun	<p>This candidate has strong ties to this district he would be representing as well as an understanding of the political process. I would vote for him if I could because representation matters.</p>
Radar Seiha	Silong Chhun	<p>I am proud to support Silong Chhun for Tacoma City Council District 4. As a first-generation immigrant who grew up in Tacoma, Silong understands the challenges the community faces. Growing up and living in Tacoma, he is committed to being a leader and a voice for those who often feel unheard. Silong's dedication and vision make him the perfect candidate to bring positive change to the community. Let's stand with him and support his journey to make Tacoma a better place for all.</p>

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Veronica Craker	Silong Chhun	<p>Dear Members of City Council,</p> <p>My name is Veronica Craker, and I am writing to endorse Silong Chhun for the position of District 4 Council Member. I have had the pleasure of working with Silong professionally at Pacific Lutheran University, and I also reside in District 4.</p> <p>Silong's journey as a refugee to Tacoma and his experience working in the Governor's office have uniquely equipped him to serve in this role. However, what truly sets him apart is his unparalleled love for this district. Silong has grown up here and deeply understands our community. He knows what we need and what we can offer to the city.</p> <p>Even before Silong and I realized we were neighbors, he consistently spoke highly of the Eastside and Tacoma. He is not just an observer but an active participant, volunteering his time and talent to support our community.</p> <p>I cannot imagine a better person to represent us. I am confident that if appointed, Silong will bring valuable insights, creative solutions, and a strong voice to our community.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p> <p>Sincerely, Veronica Craker</p>
Ellycia price	Silong Chhun	<p>Silong would be a great fit for this position. He's in touch with the community with state Work leaders and has a fundamental understanding of what it's like to grow up Tacoma.</p> <p>He will be able to appeal to the community and people who work with an income community state work resources, and more.</p>
Richard Miller	Silong Chhun	<p>I support Silong for Council. He is from the community and can relate to the challenges most people are experiencing in our district. He is also a man of color which we need more representation in our local politics. He wants to bring back community and build relationships and I think this is our only answer to some of our issues.</p>
Sokkhanha Sieng	Silong Chhun	<p>Silong has been a positive pillar in the community for many years. He would be the perfect fit for this role.</p>
Zakiya Cita	Silong Chhun	<p>Silong is an invaluable asset to the greater Tacoma community. He has been instrumental in supporting and amplifying small businesses, bringing visibility and beauty to overlooked spaces through his art and vision, and masterfully balancing his career, entrepreneurship, and family.</p> <p>We have seen Silong elevate our city while remaining humble and deeply committed. He is thoughtful, collaborative, kind, innovative, and intentional. There is no better candidate; I am confident he will approach the position with the utmost seriousness and dedication, ensuring fairness, inclusivity, and sustainability for all.</p>
Suzanne Crawford O'Brien	Silong Chhun	<p>I am writing in support of Silong Chhun, with whom I worked for many years during his time at Pacific Lutheran University. Mr. Chhun is an exceptional individual, a natural leader, and a skilled facilitator. I was delighted to hear of his interest in public service, and have offered him my strong support. His life experience, good judgement, and care for others would make him an exceptional leader, and I am happy to support his candidacy.</p>

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Tyler Hwanf	Silong Chhun	Silong is a lifelong advocate and has been a positive influence on Tacoma for years. My vote is for Silong!
Sokny Heep	Silong Chhun	I feel that Silong would be the best fit for this role. He has a passion for making the community a better place for all. He has deep roots in the Eastside and Tacoma as a whole. I've know him for more than 20 yrs and I know he would be the right fit. To get thing done and make progress in making Tacoma a better place for all. I'm so proud to call him my brother.
Chantha Ouk	Silong Chhun	I have known Silong since my time at Western WA University. He has always been involved and committed to various community events in and around Tacoma. Included, but not limited to being a keynote speaker at one of our WWU KhSA Statewide Conferences to paving the way for Khmer Americans to be seen in all aspects respectfully. He grew up in the Eastside of Tacoma and has definitely made a name for himself and for fellow Khmer diasporas in WA. His charismatic character, big heart/smile, along with his upbringings sets him apart. Silong Chhun has my full support and would make an amazing contribution to any and all endeavors.
Rachel Ervin	Silong Chhun	Silong is a force for good in our community and I have always known him to operate with honesty and integrity. Tacoma would be lucky to have him as a councilmember.
Antonio Gomez	Silong Chhun	<p>I have worked with Silong on multiple projects related to arts and culture. What has become evident in the work we have done together is that he has a profound and inclusive vision of Tacoma as a city that is both vibrant and diverse economically, culturally, linguistically, and beyond.</p> <p>As someone who has spent 10 years, making a concerted effort to expand arts, cultural and artistic infrastructure on the Eastside, Silong is foremost in my list of community leaders who understands and lives out the beautiful tapestry of that neighborhood, and who is able to make effective connections between policies on the local and state level.</p> <p>Recently, we worked together on an oral history project at the Eastside community Center. One of my favorite moments was seeing an elder from the African-American community who had advocated for refugee families, alongside Silong, who belongs to one of those families. It was an inspiring intergenerational and interracial moment, of the type that gives me so much hope for this community.</p>
Meanroth Ny	Silong Chhun	<p>Silong Is a pillar in the Tacoma community especially to the marginalized.</p> <p>His first-hand experience growing up as a refugee/immigrant - facing explicit and implicit barriers - and professional experience working in institutions, bureaucracies, and systems allows Silong to take on challenges with both with a fresh perspective and proven systems experience.</p> <p>The community would be proud to know that it's being represented by someone that understands the challenges and barriers our community faces while also competent to navigate systems and processes to find solutions.</p> <p>Please consider these invaluable qualities Silong possess when making your decision.</p> <p>- Meanroth Ny</p>

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Melody Davadick	Silong Chhun	Silong cares about his community and it's members. I'd love for him to represent my community.
Kenneth Scott	Silong Chhun	Silong is a champion for the people. He is deserving of having a daily voice in City Council and would represent Tacoma with the utmost integrity.
Stephen Kennedy	Silong Chhun	Silong is my neighbor. The conversations that him and I have had about the neighborhood and about the community at large let me know he cares about where we live. I firmly believe that Silong is the best person for the job. I'd be happy to answer any questions about Silong.
Lisa Keating	Silong Chhun	<p>Dear Mayor and Council Members,</p> <p>I am writing to offer my support and endorsement of Silong Chhun. As a lifelong resident of the east side, Silong would bring an essential perspective and lived experience. He has dedicated his work and art to bringing to life powerful, extraordinary stories of people that at first glance could seem ordinary. I believe that through his work, he helps connect people and communities who are different from one another by bridging our humanities. Those are critical elements of serving in elected offices. We are educators, advocates, and policy makers.</p> <p>I know the decision before you is important and comes with a lot of spoken and unspoken expectations. I have sat in a similar position. From my perspective, selecting someone who embodies a similar dedication to the east side as Catherine did is paramount. No one will replace her. I also believe Silong has so many of the qualities that we all learned to trust and lean on.</p> <p>Very respectfully, Lisa Keating</p>
Teresa Horm	Silong Chhun	<p>To whom it may concern:</p> <p>Silong Chhun is an incredibly passionate member of the Eastside Tacoma community. He has been an advocate for the Cambodian and refugee populations there for most of his life, after fleeing the Cambodian genocide and arriving in the Salishan housing community. Silong is active in planning and facilitating many community- building events, and he is a proud Tacoman. He loves the city more than anyone, and if chosen for the City Council, he would represent the people of East Tacoma with pride. There's no one better for this position than him.</p>
Jo Benedict	Silong Chhun	I've known Silong for 10 years. Professionally, I can tell you first hand, he is an honest, diligent, loyal employee. Always striving to better himself, his teammates, work surroundings, workload, professional community and the list goes on. He even stepped in and DJ'd our Employee Picnic. I've never heard, in a decade, not one bad word about Silong. I know that he volunteers frequently and has a kind, understanding, nonjudgmental persona. Silong never looks down on others, regardless of their station in life. He has an ear to hear, a hand to assist and a heart to lead him. He is blessed with a lovely, supportive wife, and 2 vivacious children. When I heard of his endeavors, I could not have thought of a better person to persona what a public servant should be. I know the community could not have and does not have a better person for this position. I wholeheartedly support him, and hope that you will, as well.
JB	Silong Chhun	Known the man since we were young. Always thought he was bound to do great things. For us , culture and the community. Great candidate

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Steve Buchanan	Silong Chhun	I am honored to endorse Silong for the city council, District 4 seat. Having known him for about a decade, I have witnessed firsthand his unwavering dedication to the Eastside community of Tacoma. Silong has been a pivotal figure in fostering entrepreneurship throughout Tacoma, consistently serving the city in innovative and impactful ways. His commitment extends beyond local initiatives; he has also contributed his talents to serve our governor. Silong's story is one of true Tacoma grit—he has lived the Eastside life and continues to raise his family there, embodying the community's spirit and resilience. His deep roots and passionate service make him an exceptional candidate for the city council.
Che Sehyun	Silong Chhun	Silong is an outstanding community leader, advocate, family man that truly puts others first and harnesses his cultivated talents towards the betterment of community. A rare gem I've had the honor of knowing and calling a friend for over a decade. Tacoma will be well served and freely benefit from his extraordinary creative talents, people skills and deep community centered leadership.
MaryMikel Stump	Silong Chhun	Silong Chhun is an inspiring member of so many communities that comprise our wonderfully diverse city. Engaged with youth and the creative sector, as well as connected on a state level via his professional position, he is someone who understands and can communicate with a people on a number of levels. As someone who immigrated with his family to the United States, he also can understand what it's like to take root in a place other than your original home as well as understanding what it feels like when those roots take time to take hold. He has a unique ability to assess situations and consider multiple points of view before making a decision and understands that leadership begins with listening as much as talking. PLEASE select him for this position. We need his leadership on the city council and the balance that it will provide.
Kari Plog	Silong Chhun	I'll keep it short and sweet: Silong embodies everything you want in a city council member. He's made for this role, in this district. I want to see what he can do. Please give him the opportunity.
Lindsay Wills	Silong Chhun	Silong is a strong candidate who I would love to see in the position.
OG Nunya	Silong Chhun	I want to know why with the history of gangs on the east side of Tacoma especially among Cambodians and other SE Asian immigrants in the 70s, 80s, and 90s that Silong chose on his personal "campaign" page to put "EastSide" in old English and red. Old English font isn't an issue and Neither is the color red. Those in combination send a message that does not represent the current East Side of Tacoma and appears like he is trying to appeal to a certain population We have enough violence on the east side in 2024, we do not need the city council promoting symbols that have been historically tied to gang warfare in Salishan, Portland Ave, McKinley, and other parts of district 4. There needs to be a deep dive into his past. Also, he has never represented the community unless he was paid for it. He is not a viable candidate and should be removed from consideration.

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Savong Lam	Silong Chhun	<p>To Whom It May Concern,</p> <p>I am pleased to support Silong Chhun's candidacy for appointment to City Council. Silong's unique background of being raised in the neighborhood he now represents provides him with unparalleled insight into the challenges and successes faced by the community. His firsthand experience allows him to empathize with the residents and make decisions that truly benefit them.</p> <p>Silong is not only a product of his community but also a shining example of moral and high character. His commitment to serving with transparency and accountability is commendable. He is a trustworthy and principled leader who will prioritize the public good.</p> <p>In addition to his admirable character, Silong is well connected and deeply knowledgeable in public operations. His extensive network and understanding of how government functions enable him to navigate complexities and get things done efficiently. He is well-respected among his peers and has the skills to collaboratively work towards positive change.</p> <p>I wholeheartedly believe that Silong Chhun is the perfect candidate for City Council, and his appointment would greatly benefit the district and its residents. His dedication, moral compass, and expertise in public affairs make him a valuable asset to any governing body.</p> <p>If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.</p> <p>Warm regards, Savong Lam</p>
Kosal Nam	Silong Chhun	<p>He is truly one of the best person you ever met and a great leader for not only the Khmer but for the city of Tacoma. I think he will bring good changes and leadership that the district 4 is looking for.</p> <p>Kosal Nam</p>
Dany Lach	Silong Chhun	<p>Silong has always shown his dedication to his community, not only the khmer community, but to the city of Tacoma. He prides himself of helping others achieve goals and empowers his community by always showing up, supporting local businesses, and fighting for a cause. He stands by his community and continues to want to improve the health and well being of the people of Tacoma.</p>
Hunter Henderson	Silong Chhun	<p>Silong is clearly the right candidate for the job. But y'all consistently lack the courage to do what is right under the thumb of dictator paully</p>

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Leah Ford	Silong Chhun	<p>Silong's candidacy for Tacoma City Council is compelling, built on his deep-rooted community involvement, commitment to diversity, and proactive stance on climate change and social equity. With extensive experience in organizations like the Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs, Alchemy Skateboard, and the Khmer Advocacy and Advancement Group, Silong's connection to Tacoma's diverse community is clear. His focus on amplifying underrepresented voices, ensuring language access, and supporting programs like the Growing Resilience in Tacoma (GRIT) guaranteed income pilot demonstrates a strong commitment to inclusivity and economic stability. Silong's leadership skills, honed through roles on the 2024 Charter Review Committee and in the governor's office, showcase his capability to handle the responsibilities of a City Council member. To further strengthen his campaign, Silong could clarify his communication goals with specific strategies, provide detailed policy proposals, emphasize his collaborative approach, and expand on initiatives for local economic development. By doing so, he will appeal to a broader range of voters, enhancing his already compelling platform.</p>
Bobby Ocasio	Silong Chhun	<p>I feel like Silong is a strong and viable candidate to fill the vacant district 4 seat. I think that it's important for the City Council to select someone that can represent the EastSide as a whole. I feel like there is a certain population of the EastSide that feels unheard or that they do not have a voice and my belief is that Silong can be that person even if it's intermittent.</p> <p>That said, I truly hope that whoever the council decides on is someone that they truly feel can represent this district as a whole and not just certain groups. We need someone that is pragmatic and thinks outside of the box.</p>
Mia Simmons	Silong Chhun	<p>I think Silong would be great on the Tacoma City Council because he really cares about our community. He has helped lots of people, like immigrants and kids who skateboard, and he's always trying to make sure everyone's voice is heard. Silong wants to make sure people who don't speak English can still understand and be part of what's happening in our city. He also cares a lot about keeping our parks and environment safe from climate change. Silong believes in helping families with programs that give them extra money to make their lives better. He has done a lot of important work already and knows how to make good decisions. I think he would be a great leader for all of us.</p>
Imahni S.	Silong Chhun	<p>He would be a perfect representative.</p>
Sierra Hartman	Silong Chhun	<p>Silong is 100% the kind of person we need on the council. His lived experience and forthright commentary are rare in politics.</p>
Z. Brackney	Silong Chhun	<p>Silong is the right choice for the Eastside.</p>
Heidi Stephens	Silong Chhun	<p>Seems like a nice person, but I was not overly impressed with this candidate.</p>
Aimee Hamilton	Silong Chhun	<p>District 4 and the City Council would greatly benefit from Silong Chhun's appointment to the open position. His deep connections, involvement with and love for Tacoma are apparent in his vocational arc. He brings integrity, honesty, collegiality, and focus to the role and the work of the Council. He's a force for good and makes great things better.</p> <p>(I'm a resident of District 3. If we didn't already have awesome Jamika on our side, I'd be asking for Silong to represent District 3.)</p>
Mike Jones	Silong Chhun	<p>I endorse Silong but I felt like the whole process was kinda shady and this was all charade for the public.</p>

Submitter Name	Applicant Name	Feedback on Applicant
Tamiko Nimura	Silong Chhun	I heartily endorse Silong for the District 4 position on the Tacoma City Council. He has been a longtime Eastside resident and has served its interests for decades without an official appointment—we might as well make it official! I have admired his work for his (our) community for many years through his service in the arts and documentation, as well as his advocacy for refugees and the AAPI community. He'll continue to make us proud.
Karen Junker	Silong Chhun	Silong Chhun has done more for our community in the years we've lived in Tacoma than anyone else we've seen. His constant sharing of community events and news, and his positive and supportive sharing of local businesses has really helped us feel we are all in this community together, and it is great!
Sera Han	Silong Chhun	I'd like to express my support for Silong Chhun to fill the vacancy for district 4. After researching all candidates and listening to interviews, I believe that he has the expertise, professionally and otherwise, to succeed in this role. Thank you.
Asha Bhaga	Silong Chhun	<p>My name is Asha, a district 4 resident. I am writing in support of the following candidates in the order listed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Silong Chhun - Silong was one of the applicants that participated in a panel with district 4 residents at Parable and is where I heard him share his views and plans and a potential city council member. Silong represents my district in many ways including his history and understanding of the Eastside, his diverse life experiences which would be an asset to city council, and his experience working in both the government and nonprofit sectors. He is also thoughtful and not quick to make decisions, and open to listening and learning. 2. Sandesh Sadalge 3. Justin Everman <p>In addition, I urge council to ~NOT~ appoint the following applicants to the district 4 seat:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rick Talbert - I was appalled by Rick's reaction and comment to CM Jamika Scott when she opted to pass on asking him the interview question. CM Scott briefly and respectfully her directed her communication and her decision to her fellow council members. On the other hand, Rick's disrespectful response to CM Scott was disappointing and unnecessary; I also believe Rick engaged in gaslighting. I am disappointed that Rick was allowed to engage with CM Scott in this way. The mayor voted to allow him through the process; the mayor should have called Rick out for disrespecting one of her council members. We choose our council members to represent our communities and that's exactly what CM Scott was doing, in the most respectful way possible. Rick termed CM's Scott's actions as "noise" that distracts the council. To the contrary, it is the job and duty of our council members to speak up when their convictions are challenged. Lastly, could Rick have shown some empathy and understanding that a government rule was suspended solely for him? Maybe community members, applicants , and council members may disagree with waiving a rule just for him?
Marryland Toum	Silong Chhun	PDF upload
Angel Davis	Silong Chhun	Below I have submitted feedback, which is uploaded below

Submitter Name	Applicant Name	Feedback on Applicant
Heidi Stephens	Stephen Wamback	<p>I do not support appointing this candidate, and I've heard many others say they will be extremely upset if he is appointed.</p> <p>In his interview, Wamback's statements about "inclusivity" were the exact opposite of what many people have commented on observing from him.</p> <p>As chair of the Charter Review Committee, he cut people off that he didn't agree with, intimidated by announcing in advance how he intended to vote (prior to even discussion), made sweeping judgmental declarations, to name just a few... and then, during his actual council seat interview, he completely undermined his own Charter Committee's work that he, himself, had put forward!</p> <p>After his interview, I heard from committee members who were stunned by what he said, his statements seemingly intending to give the City Council a total pass to ignore all of his committees' entire work (apparently not comprehending that the point of the charter is to lock some things into place that cannot be so easily changed by ordinance).</p> <p>His appointment to the Charter Review was suspicious enough, but his performance there (which raised questions of unknown motives) was certainly evidence to strongly discourage any further appointments, least of all to a City Council seat.</p>
April Smith	Stephen Wamback	<p>Someone who treats the public & his peers on the charter review committee the way Stephen did should NOT be on city council. He would not know how to serve the public & the Eastside would be without real representation for 18 months.</p>

June 27, 2024

Dr. Brian Humphreys
Tacoma, WA 98404
253-486-6381
Brian.humphreys@gmail.com
LinkedIn Profile: [linkedin.com/in/humphreysbrian](https://www.linkedin.com/in/humphreysbrian)

Tacoma City Council
747 Market Street
Tacoma, WA 98402

Dear City of Tacoma Councilmembers,

I am writing to formally withdraw my candidacy for the completion of Councilmember Ushka's term for District 4. I want to express my gratitude for the opportunity to apply. My decision is rooted in a strong desire to see the person who fills this role honor what we voted for when we elected Catherine Ushka to represent us and to honor her legacy while doing so. While I am confident in my ability to carry out this work, I am equally thrilled to see other great, equally capable leaders from our community willing to accept this responsibility.

In order to demonstrate the collaborative nature of the Eastside and to honor Councilmember Ushka's example of selflessness and servant leadership, I am honored to begin the process of coalescing around certain candidates who would excel at these responsibilities.

While almost every candidate who applied would serve with distinction, I would like to strongly recommend Silong Chhun for this position. Silong has deep, historic roots in East Tacoma and a long history of service and advocacy for our community. His dedication, experience, and commitment make him an ideal candidate to continue Councilmember Ushka's work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Humphreys". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Brian Humphreys

From: mommy_singing@yahoo.com
Sent: Monday, July 15, 2024 11:58 AM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: City Council District No. 4 Position: comments about the finalists

/Dear Nicole and Susan, city clerk and deputy city clerk & all:

Thank you to the City of Tacoma, staff and elected council/mayor, for the process to apply to the District No. 4 position, to speak when selected as a finalist, and to make comments about the finalists.

None of us can truly replace Catherine Ushka. As I drive by projects that I know Catherine worked on in the McKinley Business District, I think of her and miss her. I want the City of Tacoma staff and electeds to dedicate what is needed to make the selected District 4 appointee successful as a council member.

I worked with Catherine Ushka on the RFP/contract selection for the (then) Portland Avenue Community Center in 2018. I liked our system of weighting categories for the entries. We also used a similar process with the Just and Healthy Food System in the Puyallup Watershed Initiative. So I made up a set of weights for the finalists based on their public 7/9/24 speeches to the Tacoma City Council. My categories are 1) Order of Preference, 2) Words and Demeanor Applied from Recent Local History, and 3) Tone, Friendliness and Interactive Nature of the Speech.

The order that of "points" given is listed next to the name. 1 is the most prominent selection. 6 is the least prominent selection. My 1st through 6th choices.

Jasmine Brown, 5. Silong Chhun, 1. Justin Everman, 3. Sandesh Sadalge, 2. Rick Talbert, 6. Stephen Wamback, 4.

Justin Everman, Stephen Wamback, and Jasmine Brown had equal points on my list, so I punted an order between them. Justin I know from the Lux Perpetua Coffee Shop. Our first encounter had Welsh and Irish words. Dw i'n hoffi coffi. Pogie the name of his dog, which is Irish for kiss.

Stephen would be an openly gay, male Tacoma City Council member and is committed to the work of improving our community. Jasmine fits the sets of events that I follow in the news and in court to keep abreast of how our community is addressing domestic violence, racism, and bad things happening to foster children. The sentencing of the police officer convicted of murdering Jesse Sarey was going to be on July 16th, before the Council and Mayor are set to appoint the new person for the District No. 4 position. Last week the sentencing was pushed to August.

Rick Talbert is my 6th, but I give him kudos. Rick Talbert is a tried and true backup that I believe is prepared and capable if the city council is changed to full-time with the charter amendments. Rick was on Tacoma City Council at a time when I was still entrenched with the mindset that any aspect of learning from or participating in Tacoma City Council in any way was not possible for me or anyone who was not specially trained for such interaction. Being able to speak to a council member who represents me is crucial to my preference for Catherine Ushka's District No. 4 position successor.

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Sandesh is also very strong. I like that Sandesh brings analytics. Considering that the council is expecting a budget shortfall to be worked through, Sandesh is a good choice based on his experience. Sandesh will be a council member that I can talk to. I'll also have to work on the pronunciation of Sandesh's name.

A bonus for our council finalists, my son mentioned the fibonacci numbers on our walk last night.

Theresa Evans, Owen's mom
Pethau bychain

From: Cathie Raine <cjrrd@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 15, 2024 11:57 AM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: District 4 Council Member choice

These comments are being submitted for the City Council members to read prior to the July 16th Study Session (regarding the decision making process for appointing a new District 4 Council member)

Dear Mayor Woodards, Deputy Mayor Hines and Council Members,

Please choose a Council Member that will:

1. Fairly represent ALL community members and has an interest in continuing to serve District 4 in the future as well. This district deserves to have someone willing to serve them longer-term.
2. Be chosen fairly..someone that showd respect and consideration with other Council members and excels at being avteam member
3. Be able to easily evaluate and use critical thinking skills for prioritizing City issues
4. Brings a fresh perspective and energy

Thank you,

Cathie Urwin

June 27, 2024

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