

July 8, 2025

Dear Councilmembers,

I am honored to submit my application for the vacant District 5 seat on the Seattle City Council. As a healthcare-quality leader who has lived, worked and raised a family in Washington for over 20 years, I can bring unique perspectives and a willingness to listen and collaborate to see real results within our city. As an active community member with engagement in diverse areas including healthcare, emergency management and the arts - I would bring to the Council a blend of project leadership, community advocacy, a diversity of ideas, and a deep empathy for all citizens of Seattle.

### **Why I want to serve**

I am guided by a progressive purpose to lead District 5 and the city of Seattle toward a place where every neighbor has a safe place to live, a healthy environment to breathe, and a thriving arts and cultural landscape that inspires and connects us. I will focus my interim term on three intertwined priorities:

- **Dignified solutions for our unhoused neighbors** – advancing trauma-informed outreach, encouraging empathetic housing initiatives, and enabling wrap-around behavioral-health services, particularly along the Aurora corridor in District 5.
- **Environmental health & resilience** – targeting air-quality improvements, particulate-matter reduction, and neighborhood-scale climate adaptation projects that protect low-income and frontline communities.
- **Shared economic prosperity** – aligning city growth with transparent budgeting, environmental stewardship, and respect for our diverse communities.

### **A Breadth of Experience**

My wide-ranging skills, professional background, collaborative approach and diverse training equip me to contribute unique perspectives and tangible value to the Council:

- **Healthcare & equity:** frontline patient care, healthcare quality leadership, and project-management expertise that have repeatedly expanded access for underserved patients.
- **Emergency management:** nearly a decade as a Community Emergency Response member with training including FEMA Emergency Management Institute training, equipping me to strengthen Seattle's resilience planning.
- **Collaborative leadership:** proven record of soliciting a variety of perspectives, building cross-department coalitions and facilitating data-driven solutions.
- **Community arts & culture:** long-time advocate for local performing arts, personally performing in and supporting creative spaces that preserve Seattle's community culture.

## Commitment from Day One

If appointed, I will listen, bring dedication, share my breadth of experience, and remain open to continued learning and collaboration with colleagues, community partners, and constituents. Specifically, I will:

1. **Work toward a Healthy Aurora** that pairs humane outreach and behavioral-health responders with targeted air-quality improvements—and forges clear pathways to stable housing for our unhoused neighbors.
2. **Contribute to planning for future events that can support Seattle's economy**, including World Cup community planning - to enable local businesses to succeed while respecting the environment and our diverse populations.
3. **Ensure transparent, equity-driven budgeting** that channels Seattle's growth toward environmental stewardship and shared economic opportunity—so every resident benefits from our city's future prosperity.

Seattle City Council will benefit from my willingness to collaborate and ability to translate frontline experience, problem-solving leadership, and empathy - into meaningful policy results.

Thank you for your consideration. I welcome the opportunity to discuss how my experience and purpose can serve District 5 and the City of Seattle.

Sincerely,

*Lissa Latham*

REDACTED

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## Professional Summary

Health-equity advocate and healthcare-quality leader with extensive experience improving patient-safety workflows and health-systems technology in large hospital environments—paired with hands-on direct patient care in a variety of settings. Backed by an M.S. in Allied Health with special focuses that include Social Determinants of Health and Healthcare Management & Disparities, I translate bedside experience into data-driven quality programs that expand access to essential services—from underserved East African families in South Seattle to remote communities in the San Juan Islands and Southeast Alaska. As a current SEIU 925 labor union member, I also bring personal experience to relate to issues affecting working families. Lastly, my training in Emergency Management combines to offer a strong background that will support my abilities to lead.

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## Key Skills

- Health-systems project management (RIS, PACS, EHR integration)
- Quality-improvement methods and project-management expertise across clinical and administrative initiatives
- Direct patient care across trauma, intra-operative, and outpatient settings
- Emergency-management training (FEMA ICS/IS)
- Active community engagement and performing arts advocacy

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## Professional Experience

### University of Washington – Department of Radiology, UW Medicine Network

*Quality-Assurance Leader, Project Manager* | 2023 – Present

- Lead a department-wide quality-improvement program focused on patient safety, workflow optimization, and operational efficiency.
- Collaborate interdepartmentally to align safety goals with patient-experience priorities.

### Seattle Children's Hospital – Department of Radiology

*Radiology Services Implementation, Odessa Brown Clinic, Radiology Lead – Operating Room* | 2021 – 2023

- Led the launch of Seattle Children's Odessa Brown Clinic in the Othello neighborhood, expanding pediatric radiologic care and improving access for the predominantly East African community.
- Provided hands-on imaging guidance across multiple operating-room suites, managing personnel and complex imaging equipment in a high-acuity surgical environment.

### Northwest Radiologists

*Imaging Systems Quality Coordinator* | 2012 – 2021

- Designed and implemented an integrated PACS/RIS dashboard adopted across outpatient sites, providing a wider range of availability to remote communities in the San Juan Islands and Southeast Alaska.
- Oversaw imaging-systems upgrades and dose-tracking initiatives, modernizing patient-safety protocols and staff workflows.

## Education & Certifications

**M.S., Allied Health** | Oregon Institute of Technology | 2020

Concentrations: Social Determinants of Health, Healthcare Management & Disparities, Radiation Physics

**B.S., Radiologic Science** | Oregon Institute of Technology | 2014

### Certifications

ARRT Registered Radiologic Technologist RT (R), ARRT

Member, American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT)

Member, Washington Society of Radiologic Technologists (WSRT)

Certificate in Project Management, University of Washington

FEMA EMI ICS-100/IS-700: National Incident Management & Command Systems

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## Community & Civic Engagement

- **Volunteer, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** – member for nearly a decade; completed FEMA Emergency Management Institute ICS/IS coursework, including large-scale disaster operations, and participated in county-wide mass-casualty drills, applying planning and project-management skills to volunteer coordination and logistics.
  - **Member, SEIU Healthcare 925** – active union participant advocating for frontline health-care workers.
  - **Parent Booster, Ingraham High School** – coordinate volunteers, fund-raisers, and resource advocacy.
  - **Member, Taproot Theatre & Local Performing Arts** – enthusiastic advocate of community theater in Greenwood and Seattle's performing-arts community.
  - **Crown Hill Neighborhood Advocate** – active resident contributing to neighborhood planning efforts and broader community-building initiatives.
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# City of Seattle

## FINANCIAL INTEREST STATEMENT AND ADDRESS VERIFICATION CANDIDATES FOR COUNCIL DISTRICT 5

All City of Seattle officials and employees are subject to the provisions of Seattle Municipal Code (SMC), Chapter 4.16, (the "Ethics Code"). The purpose of the Ethics Code is to ensure that no public office is used for personal gain; and that the public have confidence in the integrity of its government. An individual with certain financial interests may be prohibited from participating in City business, as specified in the Ethics Code. Please click [HERE](#) to see SMC 4.16.070, a list of prohibited conduct.

The City Council is interested in knowing whether you have any financial interests that could be an issue with your service on the Council. Please answer the following questions to the best of your ability. Answering "Yes" does not necessarily disqualify you from consideration:

1. Do you, or any member of your family, **receive compensation** from any person or entity that engaged in any transactions or activities with Seattle City government in the past five years? ☒ No ☐ Yes, please complete item 1 on page 2.
2. Do you, or any member of your family, have a **direct financial interest** in any person or entity that engaged in any transactions or activities with Seattle City government in the past five years? ☒ No ☐ Yes, please complete item 2 on page 2.
3. Have you, or any member of your family, served in the past five years as an officer, director, trustee, or employee of an entity that engaged in any transactions or activities with Seattle City government? ☒ No ☐ Yes, please complete item 3 on page 2.
4. After referencing SMC 4.16.070, do you have any other relationships, employment history or financial interests that you feel could be an issue with your service on the Council under the Ethics Code? ☒ No ☐ Yes, please complete item 4 on page 3.

In order to be eligible for appointment to Council Position 5, you must be a resident of District 5 for at least 120 days (City Charter Article IV, Sec. 2; Article XIX). Please confirm your eligibility by clearly printing your current residential address and affirming the length of your residency at that address:

Street Address: REDACTED  
Zip Code: REDACTED  
Resident at this address since: 2022

Name of Candidate (as registered with King County Elections): Melissa Latham

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the information provided on this page and on page 2 and on all attached sheets is true and correct and that I have made reasonable inquiry to determine the truth, accuracy, and completeness of my responses.

Signature: Lissa Latham Digitally signed by Lissa Latham  
Date: 2025.07.08 15:50:14 -0700'

Signed at Lissa Latham Digitally signed by Lissa Latham  
Date: 2025.07.08 15:50:33 -0700', Washington

Date: 7/8/2025

*(City or other location must be filled in.)*

**Note:** If you are appointed to the City Council, you will be required to complete a "Personal Financial Affairs Statement" on a form provided by the Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission (SEEC). You can see SEEC Form F1 by clicking [HERE](#).



**EXPLANATIONS FOR RESPONSES ON PAGE 1:** *(Use additional sheets if necessary. For assistance, please call the Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission at 206-684-8500.)*

1. Please provide the name and address of each person or entity for which you answered Yes on page 1

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Please provide the name and address of each entity for which you answered Yes on page 1.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Please indicate (i) the name of the person holding the position (you or an immediate family member); (ii) the title of the office, directorship, trusteeship or employment held; and (iii) the name and address of the entity.

**Person holding the position:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Position held with entity:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Entity name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Entity address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. Please describe the relationships, employment history or financial interests for which you answered YES on page 1.