

COUNCILMEMBER DEBBIE BERTLIN

STATE REPRESENTATIVE AND COUNCILMEMBER TANA SENN

September 16, 2013

Women of Mercer Island:

It was not that long ago that we had a City Council with no women members. Now, both of us, together with Jane Meyer Brahm, are on the Council and able to ensure that the interests and perspectives of Islander women are given the proper consideration. We can tell you that the entire manner in which the Council now approaches issues and conducts itself has changed for the better.

Both of us can attribute our being on the Council in significant part to the efforts of fellow Councilmember and Deputy Mayor Dan Grausz. Dan encouraged us to seek Council seats and was resolute in his support of our efforts. Without that encouragement and support, we might not now be on the Council. His political support of women and his stand on the issues that are of importance to women are two key reasons he has earned the support of NARAL, U.S. Representative Adam Smith as well as many locally elected women such as Pat Braman, Judy Clibborn, Adair Dingle, Janet Frohnmayer, Carrie George, Linda Jackman, Susan Kaplan, Laurie Koehler, Marcie Maxwell, Terry Pottmeyer and Lisa Strauch-Eggers.



Now Dan needs *our* support, which we are very thrilled to provide. Even before we joined the Council, there was no doubt in our minds as to the important role Dan plays on the Council. Serving with him on the Council, we have seen him in action and know that his many years of service have only strengthened his resolve. He uses his institutional memory, extensive business experience managing many people and balancing large budgets, legal background and negotiating skills to find common ground, develop solutions and progress issues.

We compare that with his opponent who has virtually no record of civic involvement, who has not been integrally involved in any effort to improve our Island infrastructure and whose business experience is limited in comparison to Dan's, a 25-year veteran of Holland America Line and Seabourn Cruises, having held leadership positions as Executive Vice President, Fleet Operations and Vice President, Legal (General Counsel).

If we are going to succeed in our effort to prevent I-90 tolling, we need someone with Dan's experience and track record. As a member of the I-90 Steering Committee, Dan is already a leader in what everyone, including his opponent, acknowledges to be a successful effort to date. He will have the same success fighting tolling that he has demonstrated during his years on the Council including:

- The South End Fire Station Project: Throughout the discussion last year, Dan focused the Council on adopting a proposal that could garner voter support. He made sure the size, and therefore the cost, of the Station was reduced and that the terms of the bond issue were

ironclad so that no one could attack it as they had the failed School District bonds. He personally wrote the wording in the bond resolution that ensures we have funds to meet our fire equipment needs for the next 25 years.

- Dan has also been relentless in support of retaining Youth Theatre Northwest. As a result of his efforts, the Council recently designated a potential site at the former recycling center.
- As the Parks and Recreation Committee Chair, Dan has played a critical role in our Community Center programs for seniors and others, the addition of turf fields for our sports programs and the installation of new playgrounds.

This election will make a difference to all Islanders. **We need to keep Dan on the City Council. Please join us in supporting him on the ballot this November.** Thank you.

Handwritten signature of Debbie Beutin in blue ink.Handwritten signature of Tana Sew in blue ink.