

Small Business Advocate Enters City Council Race

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Seattle, WA – Today Bobby Forch, 53, announced he is running for Seattle City Council, offering voters a candidate with a 10-year track record of helping people and businesses successfully navigate city government.

Forch is a Strategic Advisor in the City's Department of Transportation, advising staff on business outreach and contracting for projects like the King Street Station, the Alaskan Way Viaduct and Mercer Street.

In these tough economic times, our city needs to work harder to ensure our small businesses thrive. Our neighborhoods depend on a vibrant small business community to create jobs and improve the quality of life for our city." said Forch, who has 18 years of experience in Seattle city government.

As a Council Member, Forch will use his experience to shape policies that lead to smarter development of the City's infrastructure, increased job opportunities for more people and delivery of fair, efficient contracting that benefits taxpayers.

A 20-year resident of Seattle's Central District and devoted husband and father, Forch is dedicated to maintaining the quality of life that has made this one of the best places in the world to live, work and visit.

He believes the City must do more to help young people thrive here. Forch intends to promote policies that curb youth violence, improve educational outcomes and generate career opportunities.

"I have been able to work with other agencies and across jurisdictions to put the best tools and practices in place to stimulate business development. Within three years, Forch was able to increase city contracting with disadvantaged businesses by more than 40 percent. We can use the same strategies to help young people get a strong start in their lives. In my mind, that's the best kind of investment a city can make," said Forch, who is a past board member of the Northwest Children's Fund, a grantmaking organization dedicated to at-risk youth.

In the coming weeks, Forch will reach out to Seattleites throughout the city to gather their thoughts and concerns on these and other issues. Forch is running for Position Eight, the position currently held by retiring City Councilmember Richard McIver.

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