



Taking Action to Solve Homelessness

After years of learning and understanding the complexities of homelessness, I know that it will take an all-hands-on deck approach that leaves no solution on the table. Unhoused people deserve a Mayor who will work tirelessly on immediate solutions to rapidly provide safe and appropriate housing and services to each of the approximately 8,000 people sleeping outside or in shelters on any given night in Seattle. That is why as Mayor I will:

- improve our emergency crisis response system,
- build more temporary and permanent housing paired with individualized wrap-around services,
- improve behavioral health services and substance use disorder treatment,
- convert unused buildings and hotel space for non-congregate shelter, and
- improve access to jobs and stable incomes.

Additionally, the workers who deliver these services, many of whom also experience housing instability, deserve fair wages for the difficult work we ask them to do every day.

The reason these solutions are not currently being implemented effectively is because we do not have a Mayor who is willing to stand up to the wealthy and big corporations and say that it's time for them to pay their fair share to adequately fund the services and housing that people experiencing poverty desperately need. As just one example, in our own backyard, Amazon's profits soared 220% during the public health pandemic while the average Seattle resident has accumulated 14 months of overdue rent.

As a co-sponsor of the JumpStart Seattle payroll tax, I know that, if elected Mayor, I must work with the City Council and community members to make big corporations and the very wealthy pay their fair share to end homelessness in our beautiful and prosperous city. We can raise millions of dollars through a wealth tax at the city level, and I will work with our delegation in the state legislature to challenge and correct our upside-down tax laws.

We will continue to have a homelessness crisis in Seattle until we infuse the city with more affordable housing that makes the city livable for everyone, not just the wealthy. That's why I will work to tackle the rising cost of living, including housing and rent costs in Seattle by:

- limiting rent hikes in unsafe, unhealthy and unlivable housing,
- require 4 months' notice for significant rent increases,



- provide rental assistance to Seattle residents who need it the most,
- place a cap on move-in fees, security deposits, and other costs as well as offer payment plans for those costs, and
- repeal our racist exclusionary zoning policies.

As Mayor, I will work with local, regional, state and federal partners to put the region on a path to create the estimated 16,000 additional affordable units and the additional 37,000 new affordable-housing units that would be needed to ensure thousands of extremely low-income people not lose their housing, according to the updated McKinsey report estimates. This is what is needed to house everyone who is homeless in the Seattle-King County region.