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Seattle City Councilmember Teresa Mosqueda Seeks Re-Election to At-Large Council Position #8

Leader for rights of workers and champion for affordable housing will focus on rebuilding economy and delivering critical services in second term

SEATTLE-- Councilmember Teresa Mosqueda announced today that she will seek re-election to a second, four-year term in 2021. Mosqueda, who previously led statewide campaigns to increase the minimum wage and expand health coverage, was first elected in 2017.

Mosqueda cites work this past year providing rental assistance, financial support for small businesses and childcare facilities, cash relief for immigrants and refugees, and food security for Seattle families during the current pandemic crisis as just part of what she has championed while serving as Council Budget Chair. In addition to working with state and federal partners, Mosqueda brought together a broad coalition of labor, business, housing, transportation, equity and environmental justice advocates to pass the JumpStart Seattle progressive revenue plan and COVID relief in 2020.

Throughout her first term, Mosqueda led the Council on workers' rights, including passage of Seattle's groundbreaking Domestic Workers Bill of Rights, a model for national efforts to improve wages and protect vulnerable workers. As Housing Chair, she also pushed for record investments in housing and supportive housing services, along with her first bill to ensure surplus publicly-owned land would be made available for affordable housing instead of sold to the highest bidder.

"By investing in Seattle residents -- including front line workers, those lacking affordable housing or at risk of displacement, laid off workers, and small businesses, I am proud to have passed policies that are making a real impact. We are building towards a stronger, more resilient, and equitable Seattle; and yet there is much more to do," said Mosqueda. "As we recover from the impacts of the past year, I will continue to deliver on the vision of an economy that works for all, to rebuild in a more equitable way, and to do so with the urgency these compounding crises demand."

Mosqueda will seek re-election at a time of transition nationally and in Seattle, with a new Mayor to be elected in 2021.

“As we turn the page on a tumultuous period for our City and nation, we need leaders who can bring people together to solve complex problems,” said Mosqueda. “My team and I have led on major policy initiatives, and delivered impactful change by creating diverse coalitions. There are many challenges ahead as we leave the COVID-19 era; to restart our economy and get people into housing, a proven track record of delivering will be needed. My team and I are ready to do the work.”

Among the issues Mosqueda wants to continue working on is our homelessness and affordability crisis made worse during the pandemic, provide security and support for childcare providers, strengthen community services and small business supports, and further reforms to public safety that have been a focal point of the past year.

“Together with housing and homelessness providers, along with our regional partners, we’re implementing a plan that is helping people come off the streets and into treatment, shelters and hotels, but the crisis continues to outpace our response so we must do more,” said Mosqueda. “The difficult work we are doing to invest in community safety for all Seattle residents is just beginning, the overdue reforms we are making are critical steps to help restore trust and come to terms with the legacy of racial bias. This is a part of how we build a city that reflects our shared values and commitment to equity and justice.”

Mosqueda begins her campaign with strong support from other elected Democrats and progressive organizations, including **Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal**, **Attorney General Bob Ferguson**, **State Representative Nicole Macri**, **UFCW 21**, **SEIU 775**, **Dr. Ben Danielson**, **Estela Ortega**, small business owners **Makini Howell of Plum Bistro** and **Molly Moon of Molly Moon’s Ice Cream**, among many others linked [here](#).

“We need to keep Teresa working for the people of Seattle,” said **Representative Jayapal**. “With a new administration joining a House majority committed to economic recovery and tackling urgent priorities from affordable housing and transportation to racial justice, Teresa Mosqueda is the proven leader and trusted partner we need here at home to deliver results—for all of us.”

“Teresa is a fighter for working people and the marginalized, and a critical voice for equity and justice,” said **Attorney General Ferguson**. “There is no one who understands how we protect front line workers, invest in our families and communities, and seek positive, progressive change more than Councilmember Teresa Mosqueda.”

“Children and families have a true ally in Councilmember Mosqueda,” said **Dr. Ben Danielson**, Seattle’s most prominent pediatrician and advocate for equitable health care access and outcomes. “From her statewide work for sick and safe leave, to expanding maternity programs and fighting for child care in Seattle, we need Teresa to continue fighting for our kids and their future.”

“Teresa’s commitment to economic and social justice has delivered progressive tax reform, affordable housing, and programs that help those historically left behind in our city,” said **Estela Ortega, Executive Director of El Centro de la Raza**. “Councilmember Mosqueda is Seattle’s leading voice for positive change that benefits all of our communities, and we need her leadership now more than ever.”

Mosqueda will participate in Seattle's Democracy voucher program in her 2021 campaign. In 2017, Mosqueda was the first, first-time candidate in the nation to win using **publicly financed campaign vouchers**, which require candidates to rely on small dollar contributions while engaging new voters with Democracy Vouchers. She was named one of **Seattle's Most Influential People 2018**, and **awarded the Local Progress 2019 Ady Barkan Progressive Champion Award**, along with the Ruth Kagi Award for Excellence in Early Learning Advocacy by **Child Care Resources** for her innovative work to support child care providers around Seattle.