

**Dear Members of the Seattle City Council,**

I am writing to express my strong interest in the recently announced vacancy for Council Position 2. As a lifelong Seattleite, a renter in Mount Baker, a civic leader, and the son-in-law of a proud Vietnamese immigrant family rooted in District 2 since 1997, I bring a unique combination of lived experience, policy insight, and proven leadership to address the urgent challenges facing our district. I am committed to a data-driven, community-centered approach grounded in collaboration and professional expertise.

Seattle has always been my home. I've lived in nearly every corner of this city (Districts 7, 4, 6, and 3), while my parents and grandparents still reside in District 7. Today, my wife and I are proud to call District 2 home. Through my wife's family, who immigrated to South Seattle in the 1990s, I've witnessed the struggles of immigrant communities—particularly in Little Saigon and the Chinatown-International District—grappling with rising crime, housing costs, and neglected public spaces. These once-thriving cultural and business hubs deserve to be restored as safe, vibrant centers of community life.

District 2 is the most diverse part of Washington, with a rich tapestry of cultures, historic neighborhoods, and small businesses. It's a proud minority-majority district, where 65% of residents are people of color, nearly 30% are foreign-born, and many speak languages other than English at home. While we've led the way in welcoming density and transit-oriented development, our district also bears a disproportionate burden of housing insecurity, displacement, and public safety challenges. I'm ready to deliver pragmatic leadership to ensure District 2 remains a place where families, businesses, and diverse communities can thrive.

**Tackling Homelessness with Pragmatic Solutions:** Seattle's homelessness crisis demands immediate action and long-term solutions. I will champion a significant expansion of emergency shelter options—low-barrier shelters, tiny home villages, and enhanced facilities—to ensure everyone has a safe place to go. From this foundation, we can scale permanent supportive housing and wraparound services to meet ongoing needs. In my role as chapter lead of Seattle New Liberals, I've partnered with housing providers and advocated for these evidence-based strategies at City Hall and in Olympia.

**Fostering Public Safety and Community Resilience:** District 2 deserves safe streets, thriving businesses, and vibrant public spaces. Neighborhoods like Little Saigon have been devastated by rising crime, drug use, and underinvestment. I will prioritize expanding community-based policing, automated traffic enforcement, and mental health interventions to address property crime, reckless driving, and safety concerns. At the same time, we must invest in youth outreach, violence prevention programs, and mental health services to address the root causes of crime. My advocacy has always balanced public safety with justice, accountability, and compassion.

**Addressing Displacement and Housing Affordability:** While District 2 has absorbed some of Seattle's largest density increases, rising rents, taxes, and living costs are pushing families—

particularly communities of color—out of neighborhoods they’ve called home for generations. I will advocate for policies that meet our city’s surging housing demand through direct investments in affordable housing (including Seattle’s Social Housing Initiative), support for both subsidized and market-rate housing, and stronger protections to keep renters and homeowners in place. I will also push for a Comprehensive Plan that ensures density is shared equitably across all neighborhoods, especially in areas with lower displacement risk.

**Improving Transportation Safety and Accessibility:** The at-grade light rail along MLK Way, congestion on Rainier Avenue, and unsafe conditions on Lake Washington Boulevard pose significant hazards for pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers. I will prioritize infrastructure improvements—including safer crossings, traffic calming, and targeted enforcement—to reduce injuries and improve mobility for all users. As a member of Seattle’s Freight Advisory Board and a former member of Sound Transit’s Everett Link Extension Community Advisory Group, I’ve worked to balance equitable transportation with the needs of local businesses and residents.

As chapter lead of the Seattle New Liberals, I’ve organized public forums, built coalitions, and mobilized residents to advance pragmatic policies on housing, public safety, and transportation. My work has always prioritized listening to community voices, building consensus, and delivering solutions that reflect the priorities of Seattleites.

In my professional role as a contracts negotiator at Boeing, I’ve developed expertise in problem-solving, stakeholder coordination, and consensus building—skills that translate directly to municipal governance. Whether negotiating with international businesses or crafting policies, I focus on listening carefully, balancing competing interests, and finding common ground. This approach has been a constant in both my professional and civic leadership roles, including active membership in the Mount Baker Community Council, Seattle YIMBY, and Seattle Neighborhood Greenways, as well as previous service on the UW Services and Activities Fee Board and the Wallingford Community Council.

While I may be young, I represent the next generation of Seattle’s leadership—deeply rooted in this city’s values and committed to delivering fresh, pragmatic solutions to our most pressing challenges. I bring the energy, perspective, and resolve to serve as a thoughtful colleague and an effective advocate for District 2.

District 2 is my home, and I am dedicated to ensuring it remains a place where families, long-time residents, and new arrivals alike can build a future. I believe in a Seattle that celebrates diversity, prioritizes safety, and creates opportunity for all.

Thank you for considering my application. I would be honored to discuss my vision for District 2 and how we can work together to build a safer, more affordable, and more equitable Seattle.

Sincerely,  
Erik Nielsen

# Erik Nielsen



## EDUCATION

### University of Washington

Class of 2020 at the Michael G. Foster School of Business

Bachelor of Business Administration

Concentrations: Information Systems, Operations/Supply Chain Management

## Volunteering

### Volunteer

-St. Edward Parish - St. Vincent de Paul Society

-Afghan Refugee Resettlement

## AWARDS

### First Place Team - 2021

World Commerce and Contracting Leaders of the Future Case Competition, Americas Region

### First Place Team - 2019

Boeing Supply Chain Intern Case Competition

### First Place Team - 2019

Georgetown University McDonough Business Strategy Challenge

### Finalist Team - 2018

Russell Investments International Case Competition

### St. Thomas Moore Leadership Award

Bishop Blanchet High School

### National Congressional Debate Semifinalist

National Tournament, 2015

### Eagle Scout

Troop 80, Seattle, 2009-2016

## CIVIC EXPERIENCE

### Seattle Chapter Lead

Center For New Liberalism – September 2021 - Present

- Grew chapter from 20 to 130 members advocating online and in-person for local and federal policies
- Organized volunteering efforts to assist Dr. Kim Schrier and Marie Glusenkamp-Perez in re-election to the US House of Representatives
- Coordinated events with elected officials including Councilmember Andrew Lewis, State Representative Julia Reed, and Representative Derek Kilmer
- Lead grassroots advocacy campaign for Seattle's 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update, earning Chapter of the Year Award from the International Organization

### Board Member

Seattle Freight Advisory Board, October 2023 - Present

- Advocated for smart freight policy which balances the safety needs of Seattle residents with the economic needs of Seattle's businesses

### Member

Sound Transit Everett Link Community Advisory Board, 2022 - 2023

- Assisted in the EIS scoping for the Link Extension. Advocated on behalf of Boeing employees and commuters into Everett's industrial areas

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### Contracts Regional Support

BCA Sales and Marketing – Global Leasing, January 2023 - Present

- Coordinated a cross functional team through multiple aircraft campaigns, RFPs, negotiations, and settlements with institutional leasing customers
- Spearheaded the contracting and compliance for a unique inter-company asset transfer, collaborating with sales, marketing, customer engineering, quality, production, and aftermarket support
- Assisted in negotiations for a \$4 billion, 40-aircraft order, closing the deal within a challenging 6-day window
- Analyzed contracts to determine optimal risk mitigation strategies during production delays

### Procurement Agent

BCA Supply Chain – Contracts and Sourcing, Summer 2020 – December 2022

- Managed special projects and created metrics and reports monitoring the health of the 777 Supply Chain on the Value Stream Integration Team
- Complied with SOX and ITAR controls to ensure procurements were within both US Laws and company policies
- Competitively sourced out new work on the Secondary Structures Sourcing team to local and international suppliers and negotiated contracts for 787 components

**Supply Chain Intern - Boeing, Summer 2019**

**Guest Services Representative - Sky View Observatory, 2018**

**Sales Intern - Oberto Factory Outlet Store and Deli, Summer 2017**



## FINANCIAL INTEREST STATEMENT AND ADDRESS VERIFICATION

### CANDIDATES FOR COUNCIL DISTRICT 2

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, <b>receive compensation</b> from any person or entity that engaged in any transactions or activities with Seattle City government in the past five years?               | <input type="checkbox"/> No            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> , please complete item 1 on page 2. |
| 2. Do you, or any member of your family, have a <b>direct financial interest</b> in any person or entity that engaged in any transactions or activities with Seattle City government in the past five years?     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> , 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? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> , 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?        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> , please complete item 4 on page 3.            |

In order to be eligible for appointment to Council Position 2, you must be a resident of District 2 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: August 2023

Name of Candidate (as registered with King County Elections): Erik Lowery Nielsen

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: Erik Nelson

Signed at Seattle, Washington

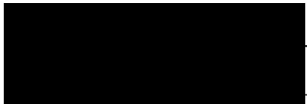
Date: 01/08/2024

(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:** Kurt Nielsen \_\_\_\_\_  
**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.

Kurt Nielsen, father of Erik Nielsen, worked as a contractor for various entities including Seattle City Light within the past 5 years. He does not have any current projects with them.