

# Cities and Towns

## Types of City Government

There are two forms of city government in Thurston County: mayor-council and council-manager. Under both the mayor-council and council-manager forms of government the council is the city's legislative and policy-making body. All council members are elected.

The council enacts all ordinances, resolutions, and policies consistent with state law for the safety and welfare of the city's or town's residents. Ordinances may include local tax measures authorized by statute. Traffic, fire protection, police, land use, municipal services, business, and other regulations are overseen by the council. The council controls the city's finances through the budgeting and auditing processes and by exercising general oversight. The council also makes contracts, creates subordinate positions, prescribes duties, and fixes salaries.

The mayor's role depends upon the form of government in a particular city or town.

### A. Mayor-Council: Bucoda, Rainier, Tenino, Tumwater, and Yelm

In the mayor-council form of government, the mayor is elected and is the city's chief executive or administrative officer and the ceremonial head of the city. The mayor carries out the council's policies, administers day-to-day city affairs, and with some limitations appoints, supervises, and discharges subordinate officers. The mayor presides over council meetings and has a veto power over ordinances.

### B. Council-Manager: Lacey and Olympia

In the council-manager form of government the council appoints a city manager as the chief administrative officer. The manager appoints and discharges all department heads and subordinate officers and is responsible to the council for the proper administration of all city affairs. The council may discharge the manager but may not interfere with or bypass the manager's day-to-day administration of subordinates. A council member is selected by the council, or by an alternative election method, to act as chairman with the title of "mayor". The mayor continues to be a full member of the council with all attendant rights, privileges, and immunities. The mayor also presides over council meetings and acts as the ceremonial head of the city. The mayor has no regular administrative powers but may be required to exercise certain powers in emergencies.

## City of Olympia, City Council Position No. 4

**Only voters in the city limits of Olympia will vote on this position.**

City of Olympia



Karen Veldheer is a neighborhood activist, local business owner, and advocate for homeowner's rights and concerns. As a member of the Olympia City Council, she will give neighborhoods a greater voice in city governance. Karen is a problem solver who will find solutions that serve the interests of current residents and the city's long-term health. She believes we can and must help downtown businesses thrive while assuring that our natural environment won't be compromised. Karen will foster public trust by making public records and decision-making more

open to citizens. In today's difficult economy, government must be efficient as it spends taxpayer dollars. Her focus will be public services to maintain our quality of life. Karen asks for your vote, to help her bring great energy and a fresh perspective to the City Council. Her web site can be found at [www.karenveldheer.com](http://www.karenveldheer.com).

**Karen Veldheer**

2315 Cooper Crest Pl NW, Olympia, WA 98502; (360) 528-0970  
[karen@karenveldheer.com](mailto:karen@karenveldheer.com); [www.karenveldheer.com](http://www.karenveldheer.com)



Let's work together Olympia. It's time to combine our efforts and realize the vision we all have for Olympia of a vibrant community that's economically, culturally and environmentally healthy.

For the past 12 years I have served this community as an Olympia Planning Commissioner, as well as on the Design Review Board and the Utilities Advisory Committee.

A healthy economy is well served through the protection and preservation of the environment. As an urban and regional planner, my experience with community

stakeholders has created partnerships for comprehensive plans, affordable housing initiatives, smart growth strategies, strategic infrastructure improvements, habitat protection, and other regional issues.

As your councilmember, I will be professional and work for prudent investment in capital facilities, neighborhood preservation plans, improved urban design strategies, economic investment in downtown, shoreline protection, enhanced recreational opportunities, and the public's health and safety. Thank you for your support.

**Amy Tousley**

PO Box 703, Olympia, WA 98507-0703; (360) 704-8633  
[olympiansforamytousley@msn.com](mailto:olympiansforamytousley@msn.com); [www.amytousley.com](http://www.amytousley.com)



Olympia is at a crucial, defining moment. We are deciding what our community will be and how our city will look for generations to come. I have the passion, determination and experience to see that we achieve our vision, respect our values, and continue to set the standard of what a community should be.

My focus will be creating new, environmental-industry jobs that will capitalize on our city's strengths, recreating a thriving downtown, and sustaining strong neighborhoods. This takes leadership that listens, and a

government that works, functions and delivers.

I have worked hard as a lead policy analyst for the State Legislature, as an environmental specialist for Ecology, and as a member of the Olympia Utility Advisory Committee and the County Planning Commission. I promise that I will continue to work hard for you and our city, and that I will always, always listen. Thank you.

**Karen Rogers**

3028 Applehill Ct NE, Olympia, WA 98506; (360) 628-7052  
[kr@citizensforkarenrogers.org](mailto:kr@citizensforkarenrogers.org); [www.citizensforkarenrogers.org](http://www.citizensforkarenrogers.org)



Statements are written by the candidates, who are solely responsible for the contents therein.