

VOTE YES for City of Seattle Preschool Program (Proposition 1B)

Creating a high-quality pre-K system available to children across Seattle regardless of economic circumstance is one of the most important things we can do as a city. With the futures of so many children at stake, it is critical we get this right. We need a program that is focused first and foremost on the well being of our kids, which includes high quality standards based on best practices, and is fully funded. The City of Seattle's pre-K program (Proposition 1B), supported by Mayor Murray, the City Council, early education experts and respected providers is the only ballot measure that meets that test.

Good for Our Kids

Nearly a quarter of all schoolchildren in Seattle have already fallen behind by the time they reach the third grade, and the numbers are significantly worse for children of color and low income and immigrant families. We can fix this problem — kids who receive quality pre-K have bet-

ter high school and college graduation rates, lower levels of behavioral problems and

delinquency, and experience higher levels of economic success as adults. Providing a high quality early learning program in preschool facilities licensed for safety will ensure our kids enter kindergarten ready to learn.



The Seattle Preschool Program makes voluntary, quality preschool an affordable reality for Seattle's 3- and 4-year old children so that every child regardless of background or income level has the opportunity to flourish in a high quality, safe environment. The competing ballot measure, Proposition 1A (I-107), sounds good but in truth is completely incompatible with the City's plan. Proposition 1A (I-107) allows for lower quality standards, creates huge unfunded mandates and is opposed by many preschool providers and experts. If it passes the City will likely have to give up its plans to offer universal preschool and thousands of kids will lose out.

A Realistic, Fully Funded Plan

The Seattle Preschool Program (Proposition 1B) is funded with a modest property tax levy of \$14.5 million a year over four years, which translates to about \$43 a year for a family living in a \$400,000 home. The City's strategic investment will fund preschool for Seattle's 3- and 4-year-olds using a sliding payment scale and provides subsidies to families based on financial need, making preschool free for 4-person households making up to \$71,000 per year.

In contrast, Proposition 1A (I-107) includes many mandates and new rules but doesn't provide any way to pay for these new requirements or to assist those families struggling to afford preschool. The City estimates that Proposition 1A (I-107) would cost taxpayers up to \$140 million in the first year alone, and around \$100 million a year after that. Implementing this huge unfunded initiative could lead to up to a 10 percent cutback to all other City services, including police and fire.

Strong, Broad Support for a Plan that Puts Kids First

The City proposal is the result of a year-long, inclusive process that unites the Mayor and City Council, along with providers, workers, Tabor 100, the YMCA, and the best research from the UW and other states. The competing plan Proposition 1A (I-107), which is incompatible with the City plan, is sponsored by two labor unions.

Quality
Seattle
Preschool

YES ON PROP 1B!

Broad Support

Unions

IUOE Local 609
Seattle Fire Fighters IAFF Local 27
Martin Luther King County
Labor Council

Organizations

Atlantic Street Center
Boys and Girls Clubs of King County
Child Care Resources
Childcare Directors
Association of Greater Seattle
Community Day School Association
El Centro De La Raza
Fight Crime: Invest in Kids Washington
Inn at The Market
Kids Co.
Neighborhood House
Tabor 100
The YMCA of Greater Seattle
Rainier Scholars
Save the Children Action Network
Seattle Chamber of Commerce
Seattle Human Services Coalition
Washington State Association
of Head Start & ECEAP
34th District Democrats

Electeds

Mayor Edward B. Murray
City Council President Tim Burgess
City Council Member Sally Clark
City Council Member Sally Bagshaw
City Council Member Bruce Harrell
City Council Member Jean Godden
City Council Member Tom Rasmussen
Fmr. Mayor Charley Royer

Fmr. Mayor Norm Rice
Fmr. Seattle City
Council Member David Della
Fmr. Seattle City
Council Member Dolores Sibonga
State Rep. Eileen Cody
State Rep. Jessyn Farrell
Fmr. State Rep. Mary Lou Dickerson
State Rep. Ross Hunter
State Rep. Ruth Kagi
Fmr. State Rep. Al O'Brien
State Senator Jamie Pedersen
State Rep. Gael Tarleton
State Rep. Brady Walkinshaw
King County
Council Member Rod Dembowski
King County
Council Member Joe McDermott
Seattle School Board Member
Stephan Blanford
Seattle School Board Member
Sherry Carr
Seattle School Board Member
Harium Martin-Morris



**Join us in
ensuring
that all
Seattle kids
have the
chance to
succeed.
Vote YES on
Prop 1B!**



Quality
Seattle
Preschool

YES ON PROP 1B!