

Washington State 2020 Democratic Convention

June 13th

Virtually Hosted via Zoom and YouTube



June 3rd, 2020

Welcome Democrats. Our 2020 Democratic Convention takes place in unprecedented times, with an unprecedented format.

The COVID-19 pandemic has forever changed our lives and livelihoods and caused many of us to suffer deep and lasting loss. We've had to adapt to the difficult times that we live in now and will continue to face in the days to come. Because of this, our Convention has adapted too. I am pleased to officially invite you to the first Virtually hosted Convention of the Washington State Democratic Party on June 13th, 2020 at 9:00am PST, via Zoom Conferences and livestreamed to YouTube.

I want to thank you in advance for your participation as we move into this new digital format. And, as it is a new way of gathering, do know we have planned for both agenda and technical difficulties, and we are working with our volunteers and staff so we can solve problems before they arise, and immediately if they do.

Although this Convention will certainly be different than past years, in many ways it will be for the better in getting you access to information sooner, and giving access to many more people than the Convention Hall could traditionally hold. For example, all platform proposals and amendments are submitted well in advance of the Convention, and you can expect to see all Majority and Minority reports in your inboxes on June 8th. Because everything has been submitted in advance, we're thrilled to be able to directly consider and address over 1,100 proposed amendments to our State Platform from dedicated delegates from across the State. This is the most number of amendments we have ever received (by orders of magnitude!) and we're excited that we get to consider them together thoughtfully. Additionally, close captioning, live ASL interpretation, the use of formats for all different sorts of technologies to support a variety of disabilities, plus YouTube broadcast makes this the most accessible Convention we've ever held.

You will also find within this document the Agenda proposed and passed by the Convention Rules Committee which will be governing our proceedings. If you have any questions about this, you can reference our Frequently Asked Questions [here](#), you can find a how-to guide to getting set up for virtual state convention [here](#). We will also be hosting two trainings to allow everyone to understand the options to virtually attend convention, as well as practice filling out sample ballots on Sunday, June 7th and Monday June 8th (details for both of those trainings below).

Finally, #BlackLivesMatter. The murders of George Floyd in Minnesota, Ahmaud Arbery in Georgia, and Breonna Taylor in Kentucky are horrific and stark reminders of the systemic racism and inequality in our society. Peaceful protesters are demanding "equal justice under law" – still denied to too many. As Democrats, we must come together and do more, do better, and make the changes to realize the promise of those words chiseled at the entrance to our Supreme Court.

Thank you for being a part of this history-making process in Washington State– the time is now.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tina Podlowski".

Tina Podlowski, Washington State Democrats and Convention Chair.