

## Alex Pedersen Has Consistently Disavowed PAC Independent Expenditures for Months:

Press Release: October 24, 2019

[Real Change News](#): September 11, 2019

[The Stranger](#): August 23, 2019

[The Seattle Times](#): August 2, 2019

Alex's [Facebook](#): October 16, 2019 and July 27, 2019

Alex's [website](#): July 27, 2019



## Candidate Alex Pedersen Shares the Strong Concerns and Frustrations About PAC Spending in Our Elections

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

SEATTLE, October 24, 2019 -

### **Alex Pedersen Statement on Unnecessary PAC Spending:**

"I share the strong concerns and frustrations of many Seattle residents protesting excessive spending by independent political action committees (PACs) in our local elections. As a candidate who has personally doorbelled voters on EVERY block in my district, returned all funds received from PACs, and qualified first for Seattle's Democracy Voucher program, I agree that such spending by independent organizations is absolutely unnecessary."

"The recent [Crosscut-Elway poll](#) confirms what we've heard directly from thousands of people on their doorsteps: the ineffective approaches and lack of results from some current City Councilmembers are unpopular and people demand progress. As concerns and frustrations increase, political action committees (PACs) representing a variety of interests (business, labor, neighborhoods, interest groups) are spending record-breaking sums of money this year on races across our city."

**"Let me be clear: the big money from PACs is absolutely NOT needed or welcome because doorbelling, professional experience, and a focus on results are what really matter to voters -- instead of excessive ads or negative attacks. For the record, I have not been accepting any money directly from any PAC, company, or real estate developers and I encourage all candidates to return the PAC money they have received.** I support homegrown organizations working to do positive things for our city and its people, but it's important for me to be independent and accountable only to the constituents of District 4."

"As we know, no candidate is able to control or stop *independent expenditures* made by outside groups to support (or oppose) candidates. (These I.E.s are allowed by the unfortunate Citizens United case in 2010 decided by the U.S. Supreme Court.) These outside PACs have received money from various organizations and they have made independent expenditures in hopes of benefiting several candidates. For months, I have publicly discouraged their spending and negativity."

"In addition, I support Councilmember Lorena Gonzalez's efforts to curtail big donations. Candidates can and should speak for themselves."

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Alex Pedersen, a progressive results-oriented Democrat running on a platform of accountability, was the first candidate in the entire city to qualify for the city's Democracy Voucher program, received the most vouchers from District 4 residents, and received over 2/3 of his contributions from people residing in District 4.

Pedersen officially launched his campaign on November 28, 2018 for District 4. Because the incumbent Rob Johnson vacated his seat early, the City Council appointed a temporary caretaker until D-4 voters choose their own 4-year Councilmember in the November 2019 general election.

District 4 is home to approximately 100,000 residents in 20 neighborhoods including Bryant, Belvedere Terrace, Cowen Park, Eastlake, East Fremont, Hawthorne Hills, Inverness, Laurelhurst, Magnuson Park, Maple Leaf, Ravenna, Ravenna Springs, Roosevelt, Sand Point, the U District, University Park, View Ridge, Wallingford, Wedgwood and Windermere.

- Link to Alex Pedersen's campaign website: [www.electAlexPedersen.org](http://www.electAlexPedersen.org)
- Link to Alex Pedersen's bio: <https://electalexpandersen.org/meet-alex/>

# # #

For link to photo, [CLICK HERE](#).



## Alex Pedersen Seattle

Published by Alex C. Pedersen [?] · October 16 at 11:06 AM · ⚙️

Best part of campaigning is doorbelling enthusiastic voters. Luz is passionate about education issues and likes my extensive experience. I've personally doorbelled voters on EVERY block and am back in all 20 neighborhoods to connect directly with thousands of people throughout District 4. Proud to have been the first candidate to qualify for Seattle's Democracy Voucher program and to receive the most vouchers from District 4 voters. The big money from PACs is absolutely NOT needed or welcome because doorbelling, professional experience, and a focus on results are what really matters to voters, instead of excessive ads or negative attacks. I'm not accepting any money directly from any PAC -- I'm accountable only to the constituents of District 4. I support Councilmember Lorena Gonzalez's efforts to curtail big donations. Candidates can and should speak for themselves.



429

People Reached

182

Engagements

Boost Post



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**Vying for Votes: Interview with City Council District 4 candidate Alex Pedersen**  
by Ashley Archibald and Lisa Edge | September 11th, 2019

**RC: So you're backed by two or three, actually, well-funded political action committees. How do you feel about outside money and politics and what is your opinion on them throwing their weight behind you?**

AP: I think that the candidates can speak for themselves. I think that so much spending by outside groups is not helpful, it's unnecessary, it minimizes the hard work that the candidates are doing when they're door bellling and organizing and communicating to voters.

I would hope that they don't have a material presence in the general election.

Referring to the tactics I think that it's unfortunate that some of their pieces were negative. I think there's no place for negative attacks. Those should be rejected. I think voters are smart. I think voters know that when there is a negative piece that it's not to be believed and that they're going to focus on people's experience and their results and what they are going to bring to the job of a district council member.

**RC: Do you support Councilmember Lorena Gonzalez' proposal to the Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission to limit contributions to independent expenditure campaigns to \$5,000?**

AP: Yes, I do I look forward to the Seattle Ethics and Election Commission's additional research on that to make to make sure it would pass legal muster, but I absolutely support the concept and I'm glad that she brought it up. In fact, I called her office to say, "Thank you for this, I think this is a great idea."

Link: <https://www.realchangenews.org/2019/09/11/vying-votes-interview-city-council-district-4-candidate-alex-pedersen>

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## Egan Orion Becomes "Shegan," González Won't Run for State Attorney General, and More City Council Election News

by [Lester Black](#) • Aug 23, 2019 at 5:34 pm

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**I finally met Alex Pedersen:** I met the Amazon-approved candidate in District 4, Alex Pedersen, for the first time this week. We met at [Bulldog News](#) on The Ave to talk about the prospect of more density coming to the historic street (look for that story in the coming weeks). Despite that fact that I've repeatedly described Pedersen a NIMBY, something he pushes back against, he was very friendly to me. He also happened to share that he is unhappy with his former boss, Tim Burgess, for waging an unaccountable and deceptive mailer campaign in the district through his no-limit Super Pac, People for Seattle. Here's what Pedersen had to say:

I'm the one who has door-belled every block in this district... and that's calculated [out] to 18,000 voters I've knocked on the doors of myself. And I feel like I've connected to people... everything was going fine, we didn't need any independent expenditures... I have a lot of respect for the other candidates and we can all speak for ourselves. We don't need these big monied interests to come in and spend their money. I thought some of the direct mail was downright distasteful, inappropriate. I would like there to be no independent expenditures.

For some reason I doubt Pedersen's opinion will stop Burgess. I reached out to Burgess, the former council president, but he continues to decline to speak with me.

Link: <https://www.thestranger.com/slog/2019/08/23/41182568/egan-orion-becomes-shegan-gonzalez-wont-run-for-state-attorney-general-and-more-city-council-election-news>



[Local News](#) | [Local Politics](#)

# PACs with big money launch negative, other ads as voters complete ballots in Seattle City Council primary

Aug. 2, 2019 at 7:19 pm | Updated Aug. 5, 2019 at 9:12 am



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In District 4, People for Seattle is backing Pedersen, who once worked for Burgess. Pedersen has condemned the outside ads.

“No matter the source, negative ads are unnecessary and unwelcome,” he said. “I hope voters ignore these mailers.”

Link: <https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/politics/pacs-with-big-money-launch-negative-ads-as-voters-complete-ballots-in-seattle-city-council-primary/>



## Alex Pedersen Statement on *Independent Groups Sending Negative Campaign Ads*

Seattle (July 27, 2019) --

(also posted on Facebook: *Alex Pedersen Seattle*)

Friends and neighbors --

As the campaign mailers and digital ads multiply before ballots are due August 6, I wanted to say it's disappointing that various interest groups are spending so much money on these City Council elections.

No matter the source, negative mail or negative ads from independent expenditures (I.E.s) are unnecessary and unwelcome. I believe all the candidates can and should simply speak for themselves.

Links to the websites of all candidates competing in our District 4 can be found at the official Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission website: <http://web6.seattle.gov/ethics/elections/campaigns.aspx?cycle=2019>

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Regards,

Alex Pedersen  
Seattle City Council candidate, District 4

Link: <https://electalexpedersen.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Statement-on-Negative-Ads-as-of-2019.07.27.pdf>

**Alex Pedersen Seattle**...

Published by Alex C. Pedersen [?] · July 27 at 11:27 AM · ⚙️

Friends and neighbors -- As the campaign mailers and digital ads multiply before ballots are due August 6, I wanted to say it's disappointing that various interest groups are spending so much money on these City Council elections. No matter the source, negative mail or negative ads from independent expenditures (I.E.s) are unnecessary and unwelcome. I believe all the candidates can and should simply speak for themselves.

778  
People Reached

560  
Engagements

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