

My name is Pam Duquette, and I am happy to publicly announce my candidacy for Sandpoint's City Council through Sandpoint Online.

I have lived in Bonner County since 1983, have raised my two children here and am happily watching my grandchildren grow up here now. I have grandchildren in both school districts in our county. I have worked here as a self employed contractor in reforestation, a Schweitzer Mtn Resort employee long enough to receive my "lifetime" ski pass, and recently retired as a public school educator. I am now fortunate enough to own a home in beautiful Sandpoint and would like to see Sandpoint continue to be a place where we all can afford to live in a healthy, safe environment.

It pleases me to be doing my part in responding to the common refrain that "if you want to help - run for office." This also gives me a chance to repay the wonderful community of Sandpoint for all it has given me. Sandpoint has helped shape my growth, has given me amazing friends and offered me many adventures and experiences. I would like to become the peoples' voice to promote more community input and engagement with our established residents. I believe that change is often good and necessary, but change for the sake of change is not in the community's best interest. I am afraid we have lost a shared vision of development and I would like to help get that back.

Remembering all the reasons we live in this special place: pride in and sense of community; water quality; our green spaces; and our forested areas guide my actions, as I fear they are at risk with development as it appears to be proceeding. I worry about the traffic patterns through our neighborhoods, the condition of our roads and sidewalks, the safety of our pedestrians, and bicycle commuters, (especially residents with handicaps) and some of our outdated infrastructure. I would like to help find solutions to these issues.

While learning the ins and outs of a city government, I hope to help "Keep Sandpoint Real!" I believe a city council should be comprised of a broad base of individuals. Hopefully, my life's varied experiences, local involvements and interests will help bring that balance to our council.

Please read my extended biography and follow the specifics of issues I would like to address as a council member on my facebook page: Pam Duquette for Sandpoint City Council.