

voters' pamphlet



Oregon Vote-by-Mail General Election | **November 3, 2026**



Attention

This is the beginning of your county voters' pamphlet. The county portion of this joint voters' pamphlet is inserted in the center of the state portion. Each page of the county voters' pamphlet is clearly marked with a color bar on the outside edge. All information contained in the county portion of this pamphlet has been assembled and printed by your county clerk.

Letter from the County Clerk

Jackson County Voters:

The Jackson County Voters' Pamphlet is published to inform and educate voters about local candidates and measures. Candidates are not required to be included in the voters' pamphlet. All of the candidate statements and measure arguments included were submitted along with a filing fee. Only the applicable candidates and measures for your precinct will be on your ballot.

The November 3, 2026 General Election, as all elections in the State of Oregon, will be conducted by mail. Ballots for the November 3rd general election will be delivered in Jackson County beginning Wednesday, October 14th.

The deadline to register for the November 3rd General Election is Tuesday, October 13, 2026. This pamphlet has been delivered to "post-office mailing addresses". Therefore, the fact that you received a voters' pamphlet does not necessarily mean that you are a registered voter. Voters, currently registered in the State of Oregon, but who have moved, changed their residential or mailing address or name, must update their registration by close of business on Election Day in order to vote. **Vote by mail ballots cannot be forwarded.** If you need to register or update your registration, you can do so online at www.oregonvotes.gov or you can find voter registration cards at your local post office or on our web site at www.jacksoncountyor.gov under elections.

If you have any questions regarding the status of your voter registration, updating your residence or mailing address or the election process in general, please contact the Elections Office at 541-774-6148 or by email at elections@jacksoncountyor.gov. If you would like to register or update your voter registration card in person, we are located at 1101 West Main St., Suite #201, Medford.

Postmarks Count! Ballots received from the United States Postal Service after election day will be accepted if they are postmarked on or before election day and received by the 7th day after the election.

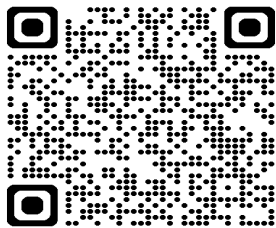
Ballots must be postmarked by November 3, 2026, if mailing, or deposited in an Official Ballot Drop Box not later than 8 pm, November 3, 2026.

If you have not mailed your ballot by Tuesday, October 27th, you should consider using an Official Ballot Drop Box to ensure your ballot is received in time to be counted.

The United States Postal Service offers Informed Delivery. Once signed up, you will receive an email with an image of mail pieces to be delivered that day. You will know when your ballot hits your mailbox. To sign up for this service, go to informeddelivery.usps.com.

Sincerely,
Jackson County Elections

Translation Information



Selected portions of this county voters' pamphlet are available in Simplified Chinese, Korean, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, and Vietnamese. These translations can be found online at [**oregonvotes.gov/JacksonVP**](https://oregonvotes.gov/JacksonVP)

本县选民手册的部分内容提供简体中文版本。可以访 [**oregonvotes.gov/JacksonVP**](https://oregonvotes.gov/JacksonVP) 获取该译本。

카운티 유권자 팸플릿 내 선택된 부분은 한국어로 준비되어 있습니다. 번역은 온라인 [**oregonvotes.gov/JacksonVP**](https://oregonvotes.gov/JacksonVP) 에서 찾아보실 수 있습니다.

Отдельные части брошюры избирателей этого округа доступны на русском языке. Эти переводы можно найти в Интернете по адресу [**oregonvotes.gov/JacksonVP**](https://oregonvotes.gov/JacksonVP)

Algunas secciones de este folleto para votantes del condado están disponibles en español. Estas traducciones están disponibles en línea en [**oregonvotes.gov/JacksonVP**](https://oregonvotes.gov/JacksonVP)

Mababasa sa wikang Tagalog ang piling mga bahagi ng pamphlet na ito para sa mga botante ng county. Makikita online ang mga pagsasaling-wikang ito sa [**oregonvotes.gov/JacksonVP**](https://oregonvotes.gov/JacksonVP)

Các phần được chọn trong tập thông tin cử tri quận này có bản ngôn ngữ tiếng Việt. Bản dịch có thể xem trực tuyến tại [**oregonvotes.gov/JacksonVP**](https://oregonvotes.gov/JacksonVP)

Index to Voters' Pamphlet

All candidates had the opportunity to submit a picture and statement regarding their candidacy in this pamphlet. The following candidates submitted information. The text of the candidate statements, measures and arguments were printed as submitted.

Election Information		Page	
Clerk's Letter		15-2	
Translation Information		15-3	
Index to Voters' Pamphlet.....		15-4	
Voter Registration Information		15-5	
Voter Registration Deadline		15-6	
Voting Instructions		15-7	
Returning Your Ballot & Dropsite Locations.....		15-8	
Track Your Ballot		15-9	
Measures		Page	
Measure 15-243		15-10	
Measure 15-244		15-15	
Candidates		Page	
	<u>Page</u>	<u>Page</u>	
Adams, Linda.....	15-24	Mace, Abigail	15-39
Berggren, Joe	15-34	Merripen, Clarinda	15-22
Biedscheid, Melia	15-33	Muelhoefer, Al.....	15-41
Bonnington, Jeff.....	15-25	Mulkins, Ryan	15-28
Buckley, Jack.....	15-21	Olsen, Neil M	15-29
Card, Nick.....	15-40	Paré-Miller, Colette	15-45
Cisneros, Teresa.....	15-22	Polanco, Brandon	15-21
Clark, Samuel.....	15-44	Rasmussen, Terry D	15-43
Cochran, Colton.....	15-31	Reed, Talon J.....	15-36
Collay, Daniel.....	15-45	Reichenbach, Lyndi	15-16
Davis-Guy, Bob.....	15-34	Roberts, Colleen.....	15-17
Dean, Stan.....	15-48	Ruby, Dan	15-24
De La Fuente, Jerry.....	15-30	Ruiz, Donna.....	15-46
Detweiler, Katelyn.....	15-47	Ryan, Chris.....	15-38
Dotson, Michael.....	15-27	Seffinger, Stefani	15-25
Dyer, Rick	15-16	Sell, Kathy	15-30
Feingold, Russell	15-27	Shunk, Michael	15-41
Greider, Nicole.....	15-46	Sjothun, Brian N	15-37
Hellenthal, Andrew.....	15-35	Slaboda, Victoria	15-19
Hellwig, Brian.....	15-23	Smith, Kevin	15-47
Hewitt, Bradley E	15-32	Standcliff, Sherylene.....	15-33
Hosford, Kim.....	15-42	Stanek, Michael.....	15-31
Jackson, Alan	15-40	Stine, Kevin	15-39
Kaplan, Bob	15-20	Swendener, Natalie	15-43
Kencairn, Kerry.....	15-20	Timmons, Aydin	15-23
Kilkelly, Ronan.....	15-19	Vargas, Betó	15-38
Korth, Adam.....	15-29	Walker, Chris	15-18
Larive, Tim	15-42	Williams, Michael.....	15-37
Lee Tibbetts, Isabella.....	15-17	Winfrey, Paige	15-44
Lindsay, Beth	15-35	Wren, Alison	15-26
Long, Brian	15-28	Young, David	15-26

Voter Registration Information

Registering to Vote: To vote in Oregon you need to be registered in the county where you reside. You can register if you can answer yes to these three questions: 1) Are you a resident of Oregon? 2) Are you a U.S. citizen? 3) Are you at least 16 years of age? *If you are 16 or 17 years of age, you will not receive a ballot until an election occurs on or after your 18th birthday.*

How to register: You can register to vote online at **oregonvotes.gov** or you can obtain a voter registration card at any of the following places: 1) any county elections office. 2) the Secretary of State's office. 3) some state agencies such as the Division of Motor Vehicles. 4) a voter registration drive. You can fill the card out in person or send it in by US mail. You can also print out a registration card online at **oregonvotes.gov**.

Updating your voter registration: Once you have registered, you are responsible for keeping your information up to date. You can do this online at **oregonvotes.gov** or by completing and returning a voter registration card with the new information. You should update your registration if you do any of the following: 1) change your home address. 2) change your mailing address. 3) change your name. 4) change your signature. 5) want to change or select a political party. 6) will be away from home on election day.



Voter Registration Deadline



Important Deadline!

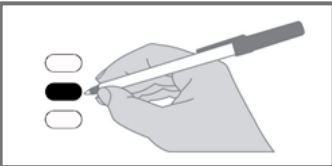
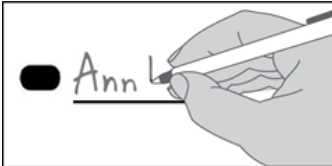
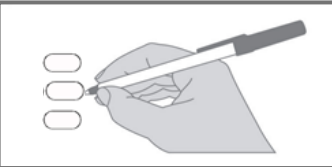
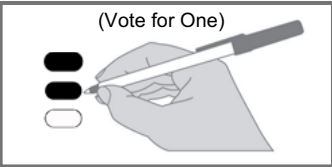
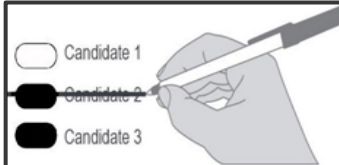
The deadline for registering to vote is
Tuesday, October 13th.

Visit **oregonvotes.gov/myvote** to;

- Check your registration;
- Update your registration; or
- Register to vote.

You may also visit Jackson County Elections at 1101 W Main St,
Suite 201, Medford, OR 97501 for your voter registration needs.

Voting Instructions

This information has been inserted into the voters' pamphlet to assist the voters of Jackson County in marking their ballot.					
Fill in the Oval <table><tr><th>Correct</th><th>Incorrect</th></tr><tr><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	Correct	Incorrect		 	To ensure your vote counts: → Use a blue or black pen. → Completely fill in the oval. → Do not make checkmarks. → Do not make X's.
Correct	Incorrect				
	 				
Candidate or Measure 	→ To vote for a candidate or measure, completely fill in the oval to the left of your response.				
Write-In 	→ To write in a name, completely fill in the oval to the left of the write-in line and write the name on the line.				
Undervote 	→ If you do not vote on a race or measure, it is called an undervote. → A vote will not be counted for the race or measure. → You do not have to vote on all contests. Those you do vote on will still be counted.				
Overvote (Vote for One) 	→ If you vote for more candidates than allowed, or if you vote both Yes and No on a measure, it is called an overvote. → A vote will not be counted for the race or measure you overvote, unless you correct it. → You may correct an overvote by following the instructions on "How to Correct a Mistake".				
How to Correct a Mistake 	→ Draw a line through the oval and your unwanted response. → Completely fill in the oval to the left of your wanted response. → A vote will not be counted for your unwanted response. → A vote will be counted for your wanted response.				
You may contact Jackson County Elections at 541-774-6148 to request a replacement ballot if: you make a mistake, your ballot is damaged or spoiled, or your ballot is lost (or for any other reason). Assistance in Marking Ballot; Allowances and Limitations: Any voter who, due to a disability or inability to read or write, is unable to mark their ballot may receive assistance. The assistance is provided either by two persons of different political parties provided by the county clerk or by some other person chosen by the voter. Any person assisting a voter must follow the direction of the voter as to how to vote the ballot. Also, the person assisting the voter must not afterwards give out any information about how the voter voted. Additionally, a person may not provide such assistance if they are an employer of the voter or an agent of the employer. Also, a person may not provide such assistance if they are an officer or agent of a union of which the voter is a member. (ORS 254.445)					

Returning Your Ballot & Dropsite Locations

Returning Your Ballot

Election Day is Tuesday, November 3, 2026

After voting your ballot:

1. Review your ballot for mistakes;

2. Insert your ballot into the ballot return envelope;

3. Seal the ballot return envelope;

4. Sign the ballot return envelope;

5. Return your ballot.

You have two ways to return your ballot:

1. Mail your ballot so it is postmarked by Election Day; or

2. Deposit your ballot in an official Oregon ballot drop box by 8 pm on Election Day.

Mail



Official Ballot Dropsite



Important!

Your ballot must be returned in the ballot return envelope provided with your ballot packet. Make sure you are signing the ballot return envelope issued to you!

If you have lost or damaged your ballot return envelope, please contact our office at 541-774-6148.

Dropsite Locations

Election Day is Tuesday, November 3, 2026	
Official Jackson County Ballot Dropsites	
(Opening Wednesday, October 14, 2026)	
Jackson County Elections 1101 W. Main St., Suite 201 Medford, OR 97501 (Office located on 2nd floor)	Curbside and walk up ballot drop boxes open 24 hours daily (left lane - W. Main) Closes at 8 pm Election Day Interior ballot drop boxes in Elections office open 8 am to 4 pm, Monday – Friday, closed from 11:45 am – 1 pm (Open 7 am - 8 pm on Election Day)
Ashland Library 410 Siskiyou Blvd. Ashland, OR 97520	Curbside ballot drop box open 24 hours daily (alley off Gresham St. by book drop) Closes at 8 pm Election Day
Central Point Library 116 S. 3rd St. Central Point, OR 97502	Walk up ballot drop box open 24 hours daily (south side of library building, main entrance) Closes at 8 pm Election Day
Eagle Point Library 239 W. Main St. Eagle Point, OR 97524	Walk up ballot drop box open 24 hours daily (library main branch entrance) Closes at 8 pm Election Day
Medford Library 205 S. Central Ave Medford, OR 97501	Curbside ballot drop box open 24 hours daily (parking lot entrance off 10th St.) Closes at 8 pm Election Day
Phoenix Library 510 W. 1st St. Phoenix, OR 97535	Walk up ballot drop box open 24 hours daily (library main branch entrance) Closes at 8 pm Election Day
Rogue River Library 412 E. Main St. Rogue River, OR 97537	Walk up ballot drop box open 24 hours daily (library main branch entrance) Closes at 8 pm Election Day

Track Your Ballot!

The United States Postal Service offers Informed Delivery. Once signed up, you will receive an email with an image of mail pieces to be delivered that day. You will know when your ballot hits your mailbox. To sign up for this service, go to **informedelivery.usps.com**.

In order to determine whether your ballot was received by your county election official, please visit **oregonvotes.gov/myvote** where you can track your ballot.



Measure 15-243

City of Ashland

Ballot Title
Referred to the People by the City of Ashland

15-243

Requiring Voter Approval for New or Increased Fee or Tax.

QUESTION: Should Ashland’s Charter be amended to require voter approval of a City of Ashland Utility Bill Fee or Tax?

SUMMARY: A “Yes” vote amends the Ashland Charter, Article IX, Special Powers of the Council, as follows:

Section 8: Fees and Taxes: The City Council may propose new fees, taxes, or increase existing fees or taxes on a utility bill unrelated to the operation of the utilities. Notwithstanding any other provision, no such fee, tax, or increase, will be assessed, imposed, or collected on a utility bill until at least thirty (30) days following a positive vote to affirm by Ashland voters at the next regularly scheduled election. State and Federal taxes and fees are exempt. Franchise fees, increases to comply with State set minimums, and increases adjusting for inflation not exceeding the CPI-west, are exempt.

This citizen-initiated measure would require voter approval before the City can implement new or increased utility bill fees or taxes unrelated to utility operations. The measure could delay, affect the timing and/or provision of City services. The practical or financial impacts of delays have not been evaluated or detailed.

A “No” vote retains current Ashland Charter language.

to the measure would require separate action by the City Council and, under the proposed Charter amendment, voter approval.

The measure could delay, affect the timing and/or provision of City services. The practical or financial impacts of delays have not been evaluated or detailed.

A **Yes** vote would amend the Ashland Charter to require voter approval of specified new or increased utility-bill fees or taxes before they could be implemented.

A **No** vote would leave the current Ashland Charter language unchanged.

(This information furnished by the City of Ashland.)

Explanatory Statement

This measure would amend the Ashland City Charter to require voter approval before the City may impose new fees or taxes, or increase existing fees or taxes, on a City utility bill. Under current Charter language, the Ashland City Council may adopt new fees or taxes, or increase existing ones, and place them on residents’ utility bills without a public vote.

The measure would not apply to state or federal taxes and fees. It also does not apply to franchise fees, increases necessary to comply with state-required minimums, fees related to the operation of the utility themselves, or increases for inflation that do not exceed the Consumer Price Index for the western United States (CPI-West).

If approved, this measure would require that any such new or increased utility bill fee or tax first be approved by Ashland voters at the next regularly scheduled election before it could be assessed, imposed, or collected. Once voters affirm the fee or tax, the City would be required to wait at least thirty (30) days following that vote before it could take effect.

The measure would change the City’s existing authority by adding a voter-approval requirement for the specified fees and taxes. Currently, the Ashland Charter does not contain this proposed requirement.

Requiring voter approval could affect the timing of City revenue and services when a proposed fee or tax requires voter approval. Because approval could occur only at a regularly scheduled election, implementation of a proposed fee or tax could be delayed until after an election and the required 30-day period. Depending on the circumstances, such delays could affect the timing or provision of City services that rely on such revenue.

The measure does not itself establish a new fee or tax, increase an existing fee or tax, or identify a particular City service or program that would be funded by a fee or tax. Any future fee or tax subject

Measure 15-243 Arguments

Argument in Favor

Costs rise, for everyone. Vote YES on 15-243

The City of Ashland creates new and increased fees to pay for basic city services we all enjoy, like public safety, wildfire prevention, and parks. Those are essential, which is why we already pay for them with property taxes. But the City uses its general fund to pay a huge staff generous salaries and perks. In 2025 they raised administrative salaries to be “competitive” while adding \$12 monthly to every Ashland utility bill in new and increased fees, bringing the total to over \$100 monthly for a typical ratepayer.

We think its too easy for the city to demand money, that they should ask before adding any new fees on our bills. These fees that are the same whether you are senior living on a fixed income in a 300 s.f. studio or a millionaire living in a 5,000 s.f. mansion.

Sure, costs rise for the city. But so does the cost of gas, food, rent, and everything else for residents. Ashlanders can't create new revenue with four votes at City Council. We cut costs or weigh priorities. Maybe the city should try that occasionally?

Measure 15-243 puts the public back into the fee discussion. It will amend the Ashland Charter and require that council proposes new fees, but they won't be collected unless a majority of voters agree that it's necessary. It will give you a voice on how the City spends your money. It will require the City to explore options and, where there are none, explain to the public why a new fee is the best way to pay for something we all agree we can't pay for any other way. It's democratic. It's your money. You should have a say it where it goes.

Vote YES on Measure 15-243. Give yourself and all of Ashland a voice before we pay.

(This information furnished by George Kramer, Ashland Charter Amendment Committee (#24455).)

Argument in Favor

The City Council has repeatedly turned to our utility bills to raise new revenue rather than evaluating city spending. The City Council can create new fees with just four votes. In 2025 the City Council gave raises to the administration; they added more than \$10.00 to everyone's monthly bills, on top of existing fees and taxes that already total nearly more than \$100.00 a month for average ratepayers. Then the Council raised the rates on water, electricity, sewer, wastewater and Recology at 8.75%.

A yes vote on measure 15-243 amends the City Charter to allow the ratepayers a vote and the Council the opportunity to explain why new fees are needed.

Many Ashlanders simply cannot afford runaway city spending without any consideration of how it impacts our residents. Sure costs for everything are going up, and Ashlanders face the same economic pressures as the city and have to make tough choices about what they can and cannot afford. The City avoids that by just creating or raising fees unrelated to the actual operation of the utilities, rather than weighing needs vs wants. VOTE YES on measure 15-243 and give yourself, and all of Ashland a voice.

(This information furnished by Gina DuQuenne, Ashland City Councilor.)

The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by the County of Jackson, nor does the county warrant the accuracy or truth of any statement made in the argument.

The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by the County of Jackson, nor does the county warrant the accuracy or truth of any statement made in the argument.

Measure 15-243 Arguments

Argument in Favor

YOU deserve a voice. Vote YES on 15-243.

Ashland's utility bills keep climbing, not because water and power cost more, but because the City Council keeps adding new fees to avoid the harder work of managing spending. With just four votes, the Council can create a new fee overnight, with little public debate. In 2025, even as they approved raises for administration, they tacked on more than \$10 a month to every bill, on top of fees and taxes that already run close to \$100 a month for the average household. Then rates went up again, and again, for "inflation." These fees don't care whether you're a senior on Social Security, a student working part-time, or a millionaire. Everyone pays the same, even as more Ashlanders struggle with the cost of living. If you want water or power, you pay, no matter what else the fee gets attached to.

Measure 15-243 doesn't take away the Council's authority. It adds accountability. The Council can still propose a new fee. It just can't take effect until voters agree it's justified. That's it.

You may hear that this measure will "tie the Council's hands," delay urgent repairs, or create red tape during emergencies. It won't. 15-243 only applies to new or increased fees, not existing operations, and not true emergencies. It doesn't stop the Council from acting; it simply requires them to make their case to the people footing the bill. If a fee is genuinely necessary, the Council should have no trouble explaining why, and Ashlanders should have no trouble saying yes.

You'll also hear "we're Better Together." We agree, which is exactly why decisions about our money shouldn't be made for us, without us.

(This information furnished by Barb Magee.)

Argument in Favor

NO BAND-AIDS: STOP THE WASTE AT ITS SOURCE!
VOTE "YES" ON 15-243

Our City Council, led by No. 1 Big Spender Bob Kapan, has spent the past 3 years rubber-stamping virtually every spending request to cross the City Council desk. The result? As Kaplan put it most recently: "We MUST make the \$5 per month Parks fee permanent or we won't be able to balance the budget."

That's correct, but it exposes the fly in the ointment: The City Council has been profligate in its spending. Kaplan has consistently supported budget proposals that balanced budgets by drawing down reserves. But that charade cannot continue – those reserves are now almost gone. He also cast a critical vote in favor of the huge pay raises given to the City Manager and other top administrative officials, always saying the city was in good financial standing, even as it slipped into annual deficits.

The "answer" is not to mask the problem by robbing Peter (using Parks funds) to pay Paul (the City's other bills). The answer is to address the problem at its root and stop this Council from its chronic over-spending.

How do we do that? One way is to give all citizens a vote on expenditures by voting "YES" on 15-243. Send Bob and his cronies a message: We're fed up with your wanton spending.

Note: This issue should also be foremost as we evaluate candidates running to join the Council. We need to get folks who are financially sensitive and fiscally responsible on the Council. Only then can we trust representative democracy to run its course.

(This information furnished by Dennis Kendig.)

The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by the County of Jackson, nor does the county warrant the accuracy or truth of any statement made in the argument.

The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by the County of Jackson, nor does the county warrant the accuracy or truth of any statement made in the argument.

Measure 15-243 Arguments

Argument in Opposition

We were on opposite sides on whether to submit this Charter amendment to Ashland voters, but we agree on many things.

In 2025, Council added a \$5 parks fee and raised existing public safety and wildfire fees during the budget process, with no notice or separate hearing of their own. Many residents first learned of it when the bill came, with no explanation for the Council's decision.

That's not acceptable. You should know a charge is coming before it lands, the decision should be made deliberately and with ample opportunities for public comment, and this proper process should be set in City code.

That's why the council has directed staff to present such a process as an ordinance: a study session, published materials, a resident survey, an advertised hearing, and at least two months' notice. We will push for adoption before ballots go out, so you can read it first.

That's the proper way to fix the process. Here's why we'll vote NO on a Charter change.

1. We will not get the details right the first time. Nobody does. The petition that produced this measure was itself disqualified over paperwork errors. Ordinary mistakes, and forgivable. In an ordinance, a mistake takes a month to fix. In the Charter, it takes another citywide election while we live with a rule no council can repair.
2. The calendar does not work. Biennial budgets are adopted by June 30, elections fall in November and May, and an ongoing obligation that arrives in between cannot wait a year. Reserves exist for one-time emergencies, not to bankroll recurring costs.
3. If we adopt this ordinance and a future council guts it, you will watch it happen in public, and this measure can return to the ballot with a Charter amendment then.

Fix the process. Keep the ability to fix the fix.

Dylan Bloom and Bob Kaplan, Ashland City Councilors

(This information furnished by Dylan Bloom.)

Argument in Opposition

A few questions for the voters of Ashland. Do you want Ashland to have a properly staffed and equipped police force? A properly staffed and equipped fire & rescue department? Plentiful and well-maintained parks that help define Ashland's identity? Then vote NO on this Measure. It is a poorly thought-out prescription for fiscal catastrophe.

Decisions about whether to increase utility fees should properly reside with the City Council; the elected citizens who spend countless hours studying Ashland's fiscal situation, and who do not take decisions to impose or increase utility fees lightly. They pay those fees, too!

Due to voter-imposed limitations, cities can no longer rely on property taxes to keep pace with the ever-increasing cost of providing vital services. That's why many, many cities in Oregon, including Ashland, have turned to alternatives such as utility fees. Utility fees are a reliable, stable source of revenue and yes, sometimes they need to be increased. The alternative is to make substantial cuts to vital services.

Supporters of this measure will no doubt trot out the false argument that Ashland just needs to "cut the fat and waste." But they never say what qualifies as fat and waste. The Senior Services program? The Conservation Program? The Low Income Utility Assistance Program? Maybe stop maintaining neighborhood parks?

Or supporters will say, we just need to cut employee salaries and benefits. This, too, is a bogus argument. Most Ashland staff positions require specialized skills. Salaries and benefits need to be competitive within the public sector. The city already faces great difficulty filling vacant positions. Cutting pay and benefits will only make that problem worse.

Finally, passage of this measure will severely limit the Council's ability to respond to a fiscal emergency. And when such an emergency strikes, it's important that the Council have as many options as possible available to it.

Preserve Ashland's livability. Vote NO.

(This information furnished by Brian Almquist.)

The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by the County of Jackson, nor does the county warrant the accuracy or truth of any statement made in the argument.

Measure 15-243 Arguments

Argument in Opposition

Vote NO and Preserve Vital City Services

Local governments in Oregon are organized around the time-honored principle of a “representative democracy.” During the past several decades, the City of Ashland and our elected officials have structured a set of vital municipal services through a carefully considered fee schedule. Most cities in Oregon have similar fee systems that fund their essential services.

The decision to levy a fee is one of the most consequential votes a council member considers as your representative.

Key pillars of Ashland’s fee-supported services include:

- **Wildfire Risk Reduction:** Uniquely located in an urban-wild-land interface, Ashland has partnered to implement essential, nationally lauded, proactive wildfire mitigation.
- **Public Safety & Fire and Rescue Emergency Response:** Residents count on swift and professional emergency responses.
- **Parks & Recreation:** Our park system offers world-class outdoor and indoor spaces that promote health, recreation, and community connection for both locals and visitors.

Maintaining these vital services requires city staff and the Ashland City Council to carefully evaluate revenues, assess financial reports, direct investment into key services and adjust fees when necessary.

Restricting this authority and making every fee increase subject to voter approval will introduce a dangerous and irresponsible risk to our municipal governance resulting in:

- **Erosion of Service Quality:** Without timely revenue adjustments, our essential municipal services will face a steady and inevitable decline.
- **Delayed Emergency Action:** Requiring a public ballot for every fee modification forces a choice between waiting for general elections or organizing costly special elections. (\$40K)
- **Negative Fiscal Impact:** The essential bi-annual city budget process and projections would be substantially crippled.

Allow our “representative democracy” to continue functioning effectively.

Vote NO on 15-243 to preserve our Council’s ability to act deliberately and promptly.

Former Ashland City Councilors

- Pat Acklin
- Paula Hyatt
- Stephen Jensen
- Pam Marsh
- Mike Morris
- Rich Rosenthal
- Dennis Slattery

(This information furnished by Stephen Jensen.)

Argument in Opposition

Our Uncertain World - With significant cuts to federal programs that support communities during disasters, Ashland must be prepared to take care of itself when disaster strikes. At the same time, climate change is pushing us to reduce wildfire risk. With our current tax structure, the only viable way to raise money to address issues like these is fees, which is why other communities also have them.

A Perfect Storm - During the last budget process, the Ashland City Council faced a perfect storm of inflation, cost escalations, and uncertainty that required major cuts to our Parks and Recreation budget - or new funding. The majority of residents who spoke up during that process wanted parks and recreational programs protected, so the Council put in place a \$5 monthly fee to support them. It also increased the Wildfire Risk Reduction Fee to address escalating risk. But the process was rushed, preventing the conversations the Council wanted to have with Ashland residents about both fees. We were both unhappy with that process.

Where We Would Be - If this charter change was in place when the Council had to address those budget challenges, it would not have been able to protect our parks and recreation programs or build wildfire resilience, no matter what our residents wanted. The Council’s hands would have been tied, and we would have had to wait a year for an election, in the meantime cutting staff and programs and falling further behind in wildfire resilience.

Doing Better in the Future - This is about responsible governance. The Council is putting in place a process that guarantees residents will have plenty of notice and opportunity to share their thoughts before fees are added or significantly increased in the future. Our community needs its city council to be able to address future issues we can’t predict, so we are voting no and encourage you to do the same.

Mayor Tonya Graham
Councilor Eric Hansen

(This information furnished by Tonya Graham.)

The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by the County of Jackson, nor does the county warrant the accuracy or truth of any statement made in the argument.

The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by the County of Jackson, nor does the county warrant the accuracy or truth of any statement made in the argument.

Measure 15-244 Jackson County Vector Control District

Ballot Title
Referred to the People by the Jackson County Vector Control District

15-244

Five-Year Local Option Levy for Vector (Mosquito, Fly) Control

QUESTION: Shall District impose five-year operating levy of \$.05/\$1,000 of assessed value beginning FY2027-28? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

SUMMARY: This measure authorizes the Jackson County Vector Control District to impose a new local option levy to support operations in Jackson County, including:

- Increasing monitoring and prevention of mosquito- and tick-borne diseases;
- Increasing surveillance and control of larval and adult mosquitoes, flies, and ticks in Jackson County;
- Adding an additional full-time Lab/Surveillance Technician;
- Funding vehicle and equipment maintenance; and
- Expanding public outreach and education.

The District serves a population of more than 200,000 in a service area of 2,802 square miles.

For a home with an assessed value of \$300,000, the levy would result in an estimated tax of \$15.00 per year.

The levy is estimated to raise the following amounts: FY2027-28 - \$1,474,188; FY2028-29 - \$1,518,413; FY2029-30 - \$1,563,965; FY2030-31 - \$1,610,844; FY2031-32 - \$1,659,251; for five-year total of \$7,826,661

The estimated tax cost for this measure is an ESTIMATE ONLY based on the best information available from the county assessor at the time of estimate and may reflect the impact of early payment discounts, compression and the collection rate.

- The desire to provide additional community grants for backyard mosquito reduction programs
- The ability to upgrade lab facilities in order to increase sample testing and virus detection

The additional funding would be used to support vector control operations in Jackson County, including:

- Providing surveillance of mosquito and tick populations county-wide
- Implementing multiple methods for control of larval and adult mosquitoes
- Performing disease testing of mosquitoes and ticks, e.g., West Nile virus and Lyme disease
- Making site visits and providing technical advice to landowners experiencing mosquitoes
- Conducting tire disposal drives to reduce mosquito breeding habitat
- Providing Mosquitofish for artificial water sources
- Providing rat and fly control materials
- Conducting outreach to, and making presentations for, classrooms and special interest groups

Currently, a home with an assessed value of \$300,000 pays approximately \$12 per year for JCVCD services. If the local option levy is approved, a home of the same value would pay an estimated additional tax of \$15 per year.

(This information furnished by the Jackson County Vector Control District.)

Explanatory Statement

The Jackson County Vector Control District ("JCVCD") is responsible for monitoring vectors that transmit diseases (primarily mosquitoes, flies, and ticks), and for implementing measures to control them.

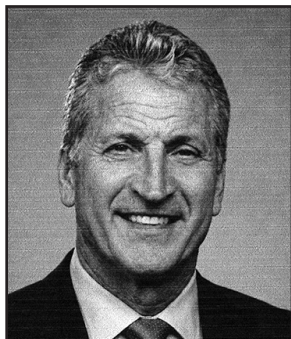
JCVCD is a local government entity governed by a volunteer board. It serves a population of more than 200,000 in a service area of 2,802 square miles. JCVCD derives most of its funding from property taxes assessed on real properties in Jackson County.

JCVCD's current permanent tax rate is \$.04 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The proposed measure, if passed, would authorize JCVCD to impose an additional local option tax levy of \$0.05 per \$1,000 of assessed value for five years.

There are several factors prompting JCVCD to request approval of the levy, including:

- Increased cost of modern mosquito surveillance and control equipment such as drones for monitoring and treating hard-to-access areas
- Expansion of service areas and an increasing number of public service requests due to human population growth and climate-driven changes to mosquito habitat
- The need for additional surveillance of invasive species like *Aedes aegypti*, a mosquito that can transmit diseases like dengue and Zika virus, and which has been found in Jackson County the last two years
- The need for more permanent staffing to bolster surveillance and control operations

Jackson County Commissioner, Position 1



**Rick
Dyer**

Occupation: Jackson County Commissioner, Position 1

Occupational Background: Senior Management, Automotive Industry; Founder/Owner, Northwest Energy Solutions (General Contracting); Attorney.

Educational Background: Southern Oregon University, BS Business Administration/Accounting (1987); Concord Law School, Juris Doctorate (2011); Hidden Valley High School (1982).

Prior Governmental Experience: Jackson County Board of Commissioners (Three Terms); RVTB Board of Directors (Two Terms).

Proven Leadership and Fiscal Stewardship As your Board Chair, my priority is maintaining Jackson County's excellent financial status. Using my background in accounting and law, I apply a disciplined, business-minded approach to county government that protects your hard-earned tax dollars.

Fiscal Responsibility and Economic Development - Fiscal Discipline: We consistently employ a "pay-as-you-go" philosophy to fund critical infrastructure through rigorous planning; without additionally burdening taxpayers with new taxes or debt.

- **Business & Growth:** I am a fierce advocate for reducing overly burdensome regulation, focusing on helping businesses prosper in Jackson County.

- **Workforce Development:** I lead efforts in ensuring our local labor market is robust and capable of supporting a thriving private sector.

- **Public Safety and Community Health** I am dedicated to a safer, more resilient Jackson County through common-sense leadership: - **Restoring Accountability:** I helped lead the charge to repeal Measure 110; restoring the tools necessary to address hard drug use and improve public safety.

- **Forestry & Wildfire Protection:** I advocate for effective forest management—including more robust harvest levels—alongside aggressive initial attack and full-suppression policies to keep wildfire impacts to a minimum.

- **Jail & Community Health:** We are pursuing affordable solutions to jail capacity while remaining deeply committed to addressing the complex challenges of homelessness and mental health through persistent, long-term regional coordination.

Experience That Matters With over a decade of service, I understand how to navigate complex issues while keeping government efficient. I will continue to fight for a prosperous Jackson County that lives within its means.

(This information furnished by Rick Dyer.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

Jackson County Commissioner, Position 1



**Lyndi
Reichenbach**

Occupation: Retired

Occupational Background: Corporate Management in Silicon Valley firms.

Educational Background: BS Healthcare Administration, Ashford University

Prior Governmental Experience: None

My mission in life has always been service. While I do not have traditional government experience, my background in corporate headquarters managing B2B technical support - combined with my degree in Healthcare Administration (HCA) - has uniquely prepared me for this role. In the high-pressure corporate world, I mastered how to build consensus across different departments, scale operations up smoothly, and write complex, million-dollar budgets. My educational background gives me a deep understanding of organizational leadership and public health systems. I will bring that same corporate efficiency, healthcare insight, and strict fiscal responsibility to our county government.

In a world that often rewards speed and consumption, the quieter work of service can be overlooked. For the last 10 years, I served as a palliative caregiver to three close friends. This work - upholding dignity, protecting individual rights, and tending to the essential details of daily life - forms the true foundation of a thriving society.

My commitment to Jackson County is deeply personal. I am the proud mother of an Iraq War veteran; both of my children attended Southern Oregon University and Rogue Community College, and my grandchildren were born right here. My family lives, learns, and grows here, which is why I care so deeply about our future.

I believe a strong future is built on respect for people, community, and the land. That means committing to health, security, food, and housing as pillars of human dignity. It means embracing land stewardship while keeping a firm grip on fiscal responsibility so we do not burden future generations.

At its core, my vision is simple: a county government that honors service, protects the vulnerable, and invests in a sustainable, responsible future where both people and the planet can flourish, all while leaving partisan lines at the door.

(This information furnished by Lyndi Reichenbach.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

**Jackson County
Commissioner, Position 3**



**Isabella
Lee Tibbetts**

Occupation: Community Organizer, Mother

Occupational Background: Development Associate; Server

Educational Background: Phoenix High School; LBJ Women's Campaign School; The Campaign School at Yale University

Prior Governmental Experience: Jackson County Mental Health and Development Disability Advisory Committee; Precinct Committee Person (Precinct #36)

Jackson County is ready for a new generation of leadership. Leadership that listens, shows up, and delivers practical results.

I was raised here and graduated from Phoenix High School. My mother helped develop the school-based health center at Phoenix Elementary. My father was an agriculture consultant, and I grew up seeing how much local farmers, small businesses, and working families contribute to this county. Today, I am raising my own family here, and I understand how decisions made by the county government affect everyday life.

During this campaign I have traveled across Jackson County meeting with fire districts, law enforcement, business owners, farmers, nonprofits and residents. From our cities to our rural communities, I keep hearing the same thing: people want a county government that is accessible, responsible, and focused on the services that matter.

As commissioner, I will bring fiscal responsibility, transparency, and a working-family perspective to every decision. I will ask tough questions, protect essential services, plan responsibly for our future and make sure every part of Jackson County has a voice at the table.

Experience matters—but so does perspective. Our county is changing, and our leadership should be willing to change with it. We cannot solve tomorrow's challenges by continuing business as usual.

I am running to bring a new voice to the Board of Commissioners. One rooted in this community, willing to work across differences, and focus on results.

Progress over Politics. Results over Rhetoric.

I ask for your vote this November.

To learn more and for endorsements visit www.leetibbetts.com

Endorsed by:

Working Families Party

Oregon Futures Lab & Color PAC

Southern Oregon Labor Chapter, Oregon Labor Federation

For All Families Oregon Action

State Senator Jeff Golden

Community Leader Erica Alexia Ledesma

(This information furnished by Isabella Lee Tibbetts.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

**Jackson County
Commissioner, Position 3**



**Colleen
Roberts**

Occupation: Jackson County Commissioner 2015-present

Occupational Background: Small business owner 1987-2021

Educational Background: Walden University MBA

Prior Governmental Experience: Prospect School District: Budget Committee 2009-2014; Precinct (41) Committee Person: 2022-current; Jackson County Commissioner 2015-current. Board Chair: 2017,2020,2023,2025; Jackson County Budget Committee 2015-current; Association of O&C Counties Board Member: 2016-current; National Association of Counties Presidential Appointment to Public Lands Steering Committee, Advisory Committee on Intergovernmental and Immigration Affairs, Rural Action and Midsized County Caucuses

COLLEEN ROBERTS THE TRUSTED EXPERIENCE ~ THE TRUSTED CHOICE

RUNNING ON A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Our County's impressive financial strength: increased capital projects and increased rainy day reserves: a County admired across the state for its financial stability!
- Created fire and smoke policies on a local, state and federal level that protect our health and economy and stopped the county's smoke-filled summers we used to endure.
- Worked with Congressman Bentz and NACo to delist the Gray Wolf and Reform the Endangered Species Act-both resolutions were unanimously adopted (2026) at the National Association of Counties.
- Created a 2nd Amendment county ordinance for our Constitutional Rights
- Awarded the 2025 Pro-Life Champion of the Year for outstanding devotion to the cause of Jackson County Right to Life
- Pushed for board meetings to be archived and audio available for those who cannot attend. I believe government should be transparent and available to all.

I'm running on a proven record, grounded in integrity, shaped by my faith and a steadfast belief in our community, and I stand firm for the freedoms that my father fought for so many years ago. Transparency and an unwavering commitment to the people of Jackson County continue to guide me as I seek reelection.

I ask for your vote this November 3rd

Proudly endorsed by:

Builders Association Southern Oregon,

Oregon Firearms Federation Political Action Committee,

Oregon Right to Life PAC

Snyder Creek Development

American Forest Resource Council (AFRC)

www.reelectcolleenroberts.com

Information furnished by Colleen Roberts 21706

(This information furnished by Colleen Roberts.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

Jackson County Clerk



Chris Walker

Occupation: Jackson County Clerk

Occupational Background: Deputy Clerk, Jackson County Oregon

Educational Background:

Phoenix High School, Class of 1984; Trend Business College, Diploma-Business Management.

Prior Governmental Experience: Jackson County Clerk, Appointed 2008; Elected 2008-Current

Chris Walker is dedicated to the people of Jackson County!

As your Incumbent Jackson County Clerk, I have over 31-years proven experience in both the elections and record-ing programs. I bring an exuberant approach to the citizens of Jackson County by combining knowledge, enthusiasm, energy, and positive spirit to the courthouse environment.

- I will follow the laws of the State of Oregon to assure accurate elections process and maintain all property records, allowing easy public access.
- I believe voting is an honor and a privilege, a fundamental right as a United States citizen, and should not be taken for granted.
- I will lead by encouraging others, setting priorities, and communicating accurate information to the public.
- I am an excellent steward of resources while serving others with competence and respect.

It is my priority to be “***objective, fair, and impartial***” in the performance of duties so crucial to our electoral process, as well as the day to day duties the County Clerk’s office must provide.

As a life-long Southern Oregon resident I am proud of my family history. Service to the people of this beautiful valley has been an honorable family tradition, one that I am grateful for. I would be honored to continue serving the people of Jackson County as your County Clerk and I humbly ask for your support.

The County Clerk is the guardian of the people’s voice and will. I commit to you that I will not disappoint you or your faith in me as your County Clerk!

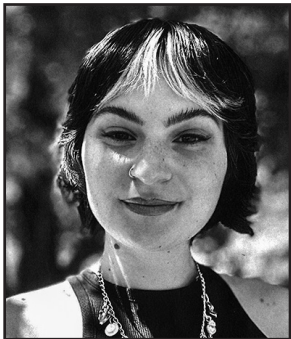
Re-Elect Chris Walker Jackson County Clerk!

(This information furnished by Chris Walker.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

Official Jackson County 2026 General Election Voters’ Pamphlet

City of Ashland
Council Member



**Victoria
Slaboda**

Occupation: Stagehand Specialist II at Oregon Shakespeare Festival; Instructor at Ashland Aerial Arts; Sales Expert at Piccadilly Cycles

Occupational Background: Library Assistant; Barista; Community Outreach Coordinator; Court Appointed Special Advocate; Dance Instructor; Childcare and Education; Grocery Clerk

Educational Background: Classic City Performance Learning Center, High School Diploma

Prior Governmental Experience: None.

Dear Ashland Voters,

Thank you for taking the time to read this, I will be concise. I love Ashland and I want it to be a place where people can work, live, and thrive. I work multiple jobs and I'm a renter, and I don't see myself currently represented in local government. I'd like to be a part of the discussions about Ashland's future so that people like me can have a future here as well. I think that the best solutions come from conversations had by a diverse group of people, and I'm hoping Ashland's City Council can be just that; a diverse group of people who can come together, ready to listen and compromise for the greater good. If I am elected, I promise to do that. Thank you for your consideration.

In solidarity,
Victoria Slaboda

Endorsed by: Southern Oregon Labor Chapter, Oregon Labor Federation

(This information furnished by Victoria Slaboda.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Ashland
Council Member



**Ronan
Kilkelly**

Occupation: Assistant Lead Electrician - Oregon Shakespeare Festival

Occupational Background: Oregon Stage Lighting and Sound - Lighting technician; Artists Repertory Theatre - Lead

Electrician; Camelot Theatre - Lighting designer on various shows

Educational Background: MFA - CSULB; BFA - Concordia University Montreal

Prior Governmental Experience: none

Hello Neighbors,

Ashland is a wonderful town, I have lived here for many years, and many of you might have passed me on the streets walking my big wooly malamutes. This town has a very special place in my heart, I married my wife on top of Mt. Ashland. I have spent countless hours on all the trails throughout the parks and hills around the town. I have seen, from personal experience, the best theatre in the world, and then got to be a part of it. Now I am running for city council to make it even better, here's some areas I would like to focus on.

More green initiatives

We can have solar panels in our public parking lots, and we can grow pollinator gardens instead of foxtails in our untended green spaces.

Also, let's make it easier and more enticing for residents, businesses and landlords to do the same.

Wildfire risk reduction

We are constantly improving our knowledge about wildfire prevention, however, there are still many ways in which we are not acting on that knowledge. I would like to see us progress further with fire prevention, and make it easier for residents to get their homes defensible to help prevent the next big fire.

Affordable housing

We all know how expensive it is to live in Ashland, It almost seems impossible to live here and work here. Workers are being pushed out of Ashland, and if that continues how will we grow as a community? This needs to change.

Ashland's great, lets make it a bit better.

(This information furnished by Ronan Kilkelly.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Ashland
Council Member



**Kerry
Kencairn**

Occupation: Landscape Architect and Site Planner. Currently helping clients realize their design goals for their properties and project. Also serves as a Commissioner on the City of Ashland's Planning Commission. Volunteers as a Court

Appointed Special Advocate (CASA), supporting children in the Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS)

Occupational Background: Environmental advocate. Initial occupational endeavors included farming and environmentally oriented graphic design. Served as a cartographer at Raven Maps and Images in Medford.

Educational Background: Masters of Landscape Architecture at the University of Oregon. Bachelor's of Landscape Architecture (UO). Bachelors of Science and Geography at Southern Oregon State College. Bachelor of Fine Arts (SOSC).

Prior Governmental Experience: Appointed Planning Commission. Ashland Tree Commission. Ashland Historic Commission. Chair of Ashland Downtown Beatification Committee. Jackson County Parks Commission.

Why am I running? I have lived and worked in Ashland since 1983; and have owned a historic home in Ashland since 1985. I know Ashland, I know the people who live here, and I care deeply about the future of the city, while honoring the past.

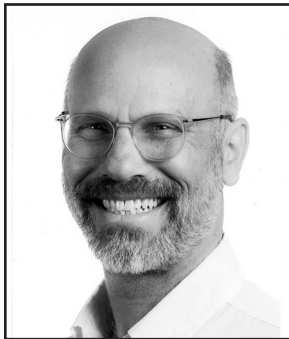
What do I stand for? Transparency. Honesty. Equality. Diversity. Economic Sustainability. Thoughtful growth.

What is my agenda? I don't have one. I intend to support even-handed and unbiased decision making. I'm here to serve you.

(This information furnished by Kerry Kencairn.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Ashland
Council Member



**Bob
Kaplan**

Occupation: Retired Economist

Occupational Background: President and CEO, Inter-American Foundation (2010-2017); Executive, Inter-American Development Bank (1994-2010); Economist, World Bank (1988-

1994); US Peace Corps (1983-1985)

Educational Background: Princeton University, MPA; University of North Carolina, BA.

Prior Governmental Experience: Ashland: City Council (2023-present); Citizens Budget Committee (2020-2022); Climate Policy Commission (2020-2022)

Serving on Council these last four years, I've gained a deep understanding of the issues our community faces and how our city government can address them collaboratively with community partners. Council has taken important steps on wildfire and climate resilience, housing affordability, and local economic development—my highest priorities when taking office. But we still have work to do. That's why I'm running for re-election.

In the coming years, the City Council will need to address stubborn challenges facing our economy and our local anchor institutions—SOU, the Ashland School District, and our hospital and health care system. There are complicated dynamics at play, with significant repercussions. I am already well-versed on these and other major shifts underway in our community, and I'm a team player.

Ashland's city government is a complex organization—more so than most towns our size. We have our own water and wastewater treatment facilities, electric utility, and fiber optic network. We run police and fire departments, and an ambulance service. My career prepared me well for serving on the City Council. I spent decades listening to input from experts and stakeholders, analyzing options, and balancing competing needs, including for financing and maintaining infrastructure, managing disaster risk, and protecting our most vulnerable neighbors.

I love this work and this community and I would be honored to serve four more years as your City Councilor. I'm asking for your vote.

"I've seen how Bob approaches work as City Councilor. He does his homework, listens to everyone, and always looks for solutions that are right for our community. High integrity and competence. No drama."

Pam Marsh

www.BobKforAshland.com

(This information furnished by Bob Kaplan.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Ashland
Council Member



**Jack
Buckley**

Occupation: Stagehand at The Oregon Shakespeare Festival

Occupational Background: IATSE Local 154 Vice President; Trustee; Business Agent

Educational Background: AHS 2007

Prior Governmental Experience: None

Jack Buckley has lived in Ashland since he was 8. Growing up among the parks, theatres, fields, bookstores, schools, and parades of Ashland, he knows the community that shaped him into the voice for working families he is today. Jack attended College of the Redwoods before returning to theater as a Lead Stagehand at The Oregon Shakespeare Festival where he has worked for 18 seasons. In 2015 Jack was one of the first voices to call for the unionization of the stagehands at OSF. He worked with the contract negotiation team in order to see all workers treated with respect and dignity in the workplace. He was elected IATSE 154's charter Vice President, subsequently a Trustee, then Business Agent. He believes in the power of many voices coming together to build a better future. Jack and his wife, a local public school teacher, welcomed their first child into this world in 2025 at Ashland Community Hospital. As he watches the school district shrink, the hospital close, the university struggle, essential workers and families becoming priced out of homeownership, he wants to do what he can to ensure his daughter has a thriving community that grows as she does. Nothing works unless we do.

"I've worked alongside Jack for over 10 years, and during that time, I've watched him become the leader he is today. He is fair, consistent, and anchored in his values. Jack is dedicated to advocating for the working people in our community. He is a proud union member of IATSE Local 154 and knows first-hand what it means to live, work, and grow a family in Ashland. Jack means what he says and says what he means. I know we can count on him to listen to our voices and create meaningful solutions."

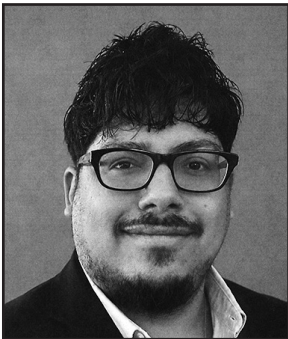
Amanda Sager

Endorsed By: Southern Oregon Labor Chapter, Oregon Labor Federation

(This information furnished by Jack Buckley.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Ashland
Council Member



**Brandon
Polanco**

Occupation: Film Producer & Director; Owner, Writer's Block Entertainment; Brand Content Creator, Soul Hum Elixirs

Occupational Background: Film Producer, Director & Writer; Small Business Owner; Market-

ing & Communications Professional; Creative Producer; Community Arts & Events Professional

Educational Background: Stephen F. Austin State University — Bachelor of Fine Arts in Performance, emphasis in Stage Direction

Prior Governmental Experience: Member, City of Ashland Social Equity and Racial Justice Advisory Committee (SERJAC)

I chose Ashland as my home because I believe deeply in this community and what we can become. I am running for City Council because this is a moment for thoughtful, compassionate leadership that listens, serves, and prepares Ashland for a changing world.

Through my service on SERJAC, including work on the ICE detention proclamation, and my experience as a small business owner and creative professional, I have learned that meaningful change begins by listening and turning concerns into action.

We must be responsible stewards of our land, strengthen wild-fire prevention and preparedness, and support those affected by fire. We must expand opportunities for affordable housing and approach homelessness with accountability and humanity—connecting people with pathways to work, housing, and needed services.

Small businesses are the backbone of Ashland's local economy. I will champion our entrepreneurs, strengthen our arts and cultural economy, attract sustainable jobs, and help create an environment where local businesses and working families can thrive.

As the child of two teachers, I believe every young person deserves an education that gives them the opportunity to thrive and a community invested in their future.

Above all, I will be fiscally responsible, advocate for transparency in how city resources are used, and ensure Ashland's residents feel heard.

I am running to serve and to protect what we love about Ashland while helping build a thriving, resilient future together.

Endorsed by: Isabella Lee Tibbetts; Candidate for Jackson County Commissioner

(This information furnished by Brandon Polanco.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Ashland Council Member



Teresa Cisneros

Occupation: Consultant/
Founder, Crane Clan Consult-
ing; Governor's Racial Justice
Council; Housing Oregon Action
Fund, Board

Occupational Background:
Founder, Interim Executive Di-

rector; Coalicion Fortaleza; Indian Education Facilitator SOESD

Educational Background: Southern Oregon University; Conflict
Resolution Certificate; Native Studies Certificate

Prior Governmental Experience: NONE

Single mother, grandmother, and member of the Carrizo Com-
ecrudo Tribe of Texas. For two decades, I have worked inside
institutions and alongside communities -- managing public
programs, budgets and grants; working with government
and education systems; organizing housing responses; leading
nonprofits; and facilitating difficult conversations across cultural
and power differences.

Good government should not require choosing fiscal respon-
sibility over accountability, compassion or equity. We can
demand both. My approach is grounded in four questions: Who
benefits? Who is impacted: Whose voice is missing from the
decision-making? Who is accountable for the outcome?

Budgets & Financial Responsibility

Public money is a public trust. Every dollar should have a clear
purpose, measurable benefit, and transparent accountability. I
support strong fiscal oversight, regular review of programs, and
accountability to fiscal policia. Responsible budgeting means
spending wisely, investing strategically, measuring results, and
ensuring the public can see where its money goes.

Homelessness

Homelessness is a community and systems challenge requiring
compassion, accountability, and practical solutions. We cannot
solve it by simply moving people from one location to another.
Unhoused people need sanitation, safety, shelter, dignity and
pathways to permanent housing. Solutions must recognize
individual circumstances and require coordination among com-
munity partners.

Transparency & Accountability

Transparency means telling the truth about what is working,
what is failing, how decisions are made, where money goes,
and who benefits. Leaders should not withhold information,
control narratives, or dismiss community experiences or input.

I will bring information into the open, listen, examine the data,
and ask difficult questions. Accountability builds trustworthy
government.

Cisneros4Council.com

(This information furnished by Teresa Cisneros.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Ashland Council Member



Clarinda Merripen

Occupation: Retired

Occupational Background:
Proprietress The Black Sheep
Pub; Video Game Industry Con-
sultant; Vice-President Cryptic
Studios; Director of Operations
Cyberlore Studios; Director
Publications National Association Mediation in Education

Educational Background: Phillips Academy Andover; University
of Massachusetts

Prior Governmental Experience: None

I am Clarinda Merripen. The ABCs of my campaign are Afford-
ability, Budget and Compassion.

1) Affordability has got to be about the average Ashlander.

Ashland is facing a structural budget deficit, instability at SOU
and diminishing healthcare services. Whoever is in office will
have to make tough decisions.

Those decisions cannot be on the backs of ordinary citizens.
The idea that "it's just a few dollars so no one cares" is over.
More fees on top of increased cost of groceries and gas is too
much.

I promise to get the calculator and spreadsheets to figure out
true costs. For instance, why does the city allow Recology to
charge only the voting households \$3.60/month for the transfer
station while unincorporated Ashland pays nothing?

2) Examples of dry, but necessary, Budget policies

* Change in the staffing pay structure. Going forward, Ashland
must lower base salaries and give a "bonus" for living in town
that disappears when an employee leaves.

* Cut Staff or opt out of PERS municipal "pick-ups".

* Each new capital project must have a budget for future Op-
erations and Maintenance at the time of voting.

3) Compassion blends common sense with protecting people.

Prevention is key. I will focus on stopping our citizens from
losing ground by supporting tenants' rights associations, our
senior center, and early childhood education.

Applied to current issues, my philosophy means stop spraying
glyphosate. It's not cost-saving if it kills people. Also, Ashland
can't spend all the money for the emergency shelter in 2
months- it must be funded for the year.

Government is not business. Not every program pays for itself.
I will balance the common good vs a program's revenue.

Affordability, Budget and Compassion.

(This information furnished by Clarinda Merripen.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

**City of Ashland
Council Member**



**Brian
Hellwig**

Occupation: Co-Founder Archilever AI

Occupational Background: Co-Founder Priceless Pets

Educational Background: George Washington University, Senior; B.A. in Sociology

Prior Governmental Experience: NONE

Ashland welcomed my family with open arms, and I would be honored to reciprocate with a commitment of service to this incredible community. As a lifelong entrepreneur, I believe that leadership should be pragmatic and creative. We must balance the needs of our long standing residents while also looking toward the future, and foster an environment that is welcoming to families and young adults. Ashland needs to be efficient with our resources, while growing our tax base so we do not continually increase the living expenses of our citizens. Ashland is also in need of affordable and workforce housing so the dedicated members of our institutions can afford to live here. I plan to implement large-scale solutions with a birds eye view, not personal pet projects.

My wife and I have 2 young children that we will raise in Ashland. The fertile soil of this community is where their roots will grow. It is a unique place worth preserving, and I am committed to dutifully serving to ensure that Ashland maintains its core values while preparing for our future. That includes attracting new businesses that pay a living wage so that people raised here can afford to stay here, and building more affordable housing to ensure that our teachers, firefighters and civil servants can reside in Ashland and be part of the fabric of our community. I am deeply committed to keeping our parks safe and clean so that they may be enjoyed by all in a responsible and respectful manner.

With careful consideration, solid communication and a straightforward approach from leadership, anything is possible. I look forward to bringing my entrepreneurial spirit and communicative nature to council to be part of the solution so that our town can continue to grow, thrive and adapt.

(This information furnished by Brian Hellwig.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

**City of Ashland
Council Member**



**Aydin
Timmons**

Occupation: Case Coffee Roasters, Ashland Christian Fellowship.

Occupational Background: I have spent much of my life working with special needs kids, working in ministry and working in coffee.

Educational Background: I grew up in a military family and moved to Ashland where I finished Highschool because my father was asked to oversee Southern Oregon University's ROTC Program. I have completed a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and an Associates degree in Military Science, both from Southern Oregon University.

Prior Governmental Experience: None

My testimony for why I want to run for City Council is built on three pillars that I care deeply about. First, safety - In Ashland I want worry to be at the back of our minds. Safety in transportation of all different forms, safety in the utilities provided by the city, and quality fire control. Second, education - I want to see the city invest into the young. I want to be giving the next generation the best Ashland possible. I want to look and see the city standing in support of our schools. From our local middle school, to our local high school, to our local college. Lastly, affordability/housing - I want to create a more diverse City Council by bringing my unique insight into expenses as someone who has come up as a young person in this city. I want to see the city steward the resources it has as well as possible. From the land the city possesses, public services they provide and the money the city is given by us tax payers. I want to see the city be as efficient and effective with what is entrusted to them. When it comes to housing, I want to see the city rethink housing. A broader more accessible view of housing for the people of this city is what I desire. I am an advocate for alternative living. Therefore, safety, education and affordability is where I wish to see Ashland thrive.

(This information furnished by Aydin Timmons.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Ashland Council Member



**Linda
Adams**

Occupation: Board Secretary Trusted Homes Community Land Trust; Board Member Ashland Food Project;

Occupational Background: Treasurer Youth Activities and Academics Levy; Treasurer

Jordan Rooklyn for Ashland Schools; CoTreasurer Pam Marsh for Oregon; Field Operations Golden for Senate Campaign; Retired Educator and Landscape Gardening Business Owner;

Educational Background: UC Berkeley BA Political Science; University of Pennsylvania ABD Political Philosophy; Chestnut Hill College Secondary Teaching Credential

Prior Governmental Experience: Ashland Transportation Advisory Committee Chair; Citizens Budget Committee Member Vice Chair; Convener Ashland Commission and Committee Conversation Group

Ashland is a creative, adaptable and collaborative community. During this next budget biennium, City Council must make bold strides in policy decisions rather than taking small, incremental steps. We can only achieve true progress by breaking down silos and bringing our community's institutions together.

I am committed to:

- **Strategic Fiscal Responsibility:** Engaging residents to define service levels for the common good while securing progressive dedicated revenue sources.
- **Inclusive Governance:** Actively listening to residents, respecting City Staff and basing policy decisions on facts and data through an equity lens.
- **Climate Resilience:** Strengthening wildfire preparation and climate adaptation to protect all in our community from severe weather events.

"Linda has worked diligently to encourage innovative partnerships to expand affordable housing opportunities while preserving our small town character."

Rich Rohde Housing Advocate

"I am grateful Linda recognizes that Ashland's history of protecting fragile ecosystems, parks, and open spaces is critical to our health and local economy."

Karen S. Smith Bear Creek Greenway.

My record on the Transportation Advisory Committee and Citizens Budget Committee demonstrates my ability to lead effectively. I am confident that my experience and dedication to this community make me a strong candidate.

I respectfully ask for your vote for Ashland City Council.

www.lindaforashland.com

(This information furnished by Linda Adams.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Ashland Council Member



**Dan
Ruby**

Occupation: Self-employed business consultant.

Occupational Background: Executive Director, community college foundation; Senior Director, community health center; CEO, science museum; university faculty.

Educational Background: MS, Secondary Science Education; BFA, Digital Media and Communications, University of Nevada, Reno.

Prior Governmental Experience: Elected Ashland School Board Director, Appointed City of Ashland Housing and Human Services Advisory Committee.

ASHLAND SHOULD WORK FOR THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE HERE

I am running for City Council to help make Ashland more affordable, safe, and well-run.

On the School Board, I helped guide the district through a serious budget crisis. We improved oversight, made hard cuts, and adopted a stable budget while protecting students. I helped show how falling enrollment is tied to Ashland's housing shortage. I also helped build a housing partnership for families and educators.

I listen, ask hard questions, study the facts, and work with people who disagree. I respect city staff. Council members should set clear goals, explain their decisions, and work together to get results.

MY PRIORITIES:

- Build more housing people can afford through strong local partnerships.
- Expanded utility assistance for low-income households, working families, and seniors on fixed incomes.
- Protect key services with a responsible budget, open financial reports, and careful review of fees and rates.
- Support local businesses and a stronger year-round economy.
- Use effective homelessness services that respect people and protect public spaces.
- Improve wildfire readiness, public safety, and climate resilience.
- Build stronger partnerships with our schools, SOU, health providers, and nonprofits.

I have led complex organizations, managed budgets worth millions of dollars, and built community partnerships. I will bring that experience to City Council and stay focused on results.

ENDORSEMENTS INCLUDE:

- Jeff Golden, State Senator
- Dr. Elisabeth Zinser, Former University President
- Deltra Ferguson, Ashland School Board Member

Vote Dan Ruby for Ashland City Council • rubyforashland.com

(This information furnished by Dan Ruby.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Ashland Park Commissioner



**Stefani
Seffinger**

Occupation: Retired; glass artist; member artist, Ashland Art Works Gallery.

Occupational Background: Assistant Director and Recreation Leader, Granada Hills Park; Child Development Specialist

and High School Counselor, Ashland School District; School Psychologist and Program Specialist, Pajaro Valley Unified School District.

Educational Background: California State University, Northridge; M.A. in Psychology.

Prior Governmental Experience: Ashland Parks Commissioner; Ashland City Council, two terms; Forest Lands Commission; Budget Committee; Transportation Committee; Public Art Commission; Senior Advisory Committee.

I am running for Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission because I believe our parks, open spaces, trails, recreation programs, and Senior Services are essential to Ashland's quality of life.

My priorities are to protect and maintain the parks and facilities we already have while planning responsibly for the future. I support a modern community pool, pickleball opportunities, completion of East Main Park with a playground and family amenities, and a stronger and diverse Oak Knoll Golf Course. Lithia Park deserves stewardship and protection of its historic character and natural beauty.

Senior Services are an essential part of Parks and Recreation. They provide more than recreation, helping older adults access community resources, learn technology, find assistance with utility costs and other services, stay active, and remain socially connected and independent.

I support safe, balanced trails for hikers, cyclists, runners, families, seniors, and people of all abilities. I believe in fiscal responsibility, public participation, and transparent decision-making. We must have the financial capacity to maintain what we have before taking on new projects. New investments should be carefully prioritized with their long-term costs and maintenance needs in mind.

I have served as President of the Ashland Community Food Bank Board from 2023 to 2025, with experience in nonprofit leadership and community service.

My years of public service, parks and recreation experience, and work supporting children, families, and seniors have prepared me to help Ashland plan for the future.

(This information furnished by Stefani Seffinger.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Ashland Park Commissioner



**Jeff
Bonnington**

Occupation: Retired

Occupational Background: More than 40 years of global supply chain and operations leadership in semiconductors, technology, startups and steel, including leadership positions

with Intel, Micron Technology, Lam Research and Oregon/Rocky Mountain Steel.

Educational Background: Southern Oregon State College, BS, Business; Marylhurst University, MS, Business; George Washington University, Master's Certificate, Government Contracting.

Prior Governmental Experience: President, Logan HOA, Ashland, 5 years; Treasurer and Secretary, Meridian Ridge HOA, Portland, 3 years.

Ashland's parks are among our community's greatest assets. They give us places to gather, play, exercise, explore nature and enjoy the beauty that makes Ashland special. I am running for the Parks Commission to help ensure these assets remain strong, accessible and sustainable for generations to come.

I bring more than 40 years of leadership experience in operations, supply chain, technology, manufacturing and business management. My career has taught me that good stewardship requires clear priorities, fact-based decisions, responsible financial management and careful planning for the future.

Ashland faces important choices. Our population is aging, while our parks system has significant maintenance and capital needs and limited financial and staffing resources. Decisions about the Daniel Meyer Memorial Pool, future facilities, trails, natural areas and the long-term stewardship of Lithia Park must consider not only the cost to build, but also the ongoing costs to operate, maintain and eventually replace them.

My priorities are straightforward:

1. Preserve what makes Ashland special.
2. Maintain and protect the parks and facilities we already own.
3. Prioritize investments based on community benefit and long-term need.
4. Understand the full lifecycle cost of major projects before committing public resources.
5. Keep parks and recreation accessible to people of all ages and abilities.
6. Listen respectfully and make decisions in the long-term interest of our community.

I am running to bring thoughtful leadership, operational experience, fiscal responsibility and collaborative, fact-based decision-making to the Parks Commission.

Our parks are a legacy we inherited—and a responsibility we pass to the next generation.

I would be honored to serve Ashland.

(This information furnished by Jeff Bonnington.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Ashland
Park Commissioner



**Alison
Wren**

Occupation: Nurse, Asante; Youth mountain bike coach, DEVO

Occupational Background: Nurse, Ashland Community Hospital; Office Manager, Lyceum Author Lecture Agency;

International Trip Leader, Backroads Travel; Leadership Coordinator, University of Montana; Ski School Instructor, Mt. Ashland Ski Area

Educational Background: OHSU- BSN; University of Montana, BA Environmental Studies, Law & Climate Change; Ashland High School, Class of '08

Prior Governmental Experience: Senator- ASUM

I was born and raised in Ashland and our parks were central to my childhood. I learned to swim at Daniel Meyer Pool, played countless soccer games at North Mountain, and spent what seemed like infinite summer nights rolling down the hill by the bandshell while my parents listened to the City Band. I am grateful to the people whose vision, care, and hard work have protected and maintained these shared spaces.

As a nurse, I am committed to promoting the health and well-being of our community. I understand how opportunities for physical activity, time in nature, recreation, and community gathering are so meaningful to our wellness. Ashland's parks are an integral part of making those opportunities available to everyone.

I am asking to volunteer on the Ashland Parks & Recreation Commission because I want to give back to the community that has given me so much. I value Ashland's strong tradition of civic engagement and, if selected, will aim to represent residents of all ages and interests. I recognize that our parks are shared spaces serving the community in many different ways, and I will work to support them through responsible budgeting, fiscal stewardship, and thoughtful use of public resources.

Most of all, I want to maintain and protect our public lands while supporting recreational and cultural opportunities that bring people together and enrich the lives of Ashlanders of all generations.

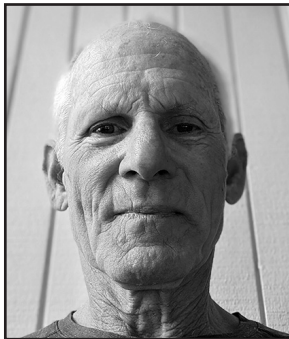
I would be honored to serve and give back to the community I have always called home.

Alison Wren

(This information furnished by Alison Wren.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Ashland
Park Commissioner



**David
Young**

Occupation: Musician

Occupational Background: Teacher ASD-retired; musician; outdoor educator; grant administrator; non-profit executive director; summer camp director for Migrant Ed. Program; Paramedic, cities of Denver and S.F.

Educational Background: S.O.U.: M.A. Teaching; U.C. Berkeley, B.S. Political Economy of Natural Resources

Prior Governmental Experience: Ashland Transportation Commission; Ashland Bicycle & Pedestrian Commission; Ashland Downtown ad-hoc Committee for Transportation System Plan update; Ashland Siskiyou Blvd. Renovation ad-hoc Committee

I will represent all citizens of Ashland and provide experience, vision and leadership for recreational accessibility while protecting, preserving and maintaining the wonderful resources already at hand in our parks system. All viewpoints will be welcome and heard. The management and fiscal challenges ahead will require representation with experience. I will bring that.

(This information furnished by David Young.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Ashland
Park Commissioner



**Michael
Dotson**

Occupation: Non-profit Executive Director

Occupational Background: Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center - Executive Director, 2019-Present; Klamath-Siskiyou

Wildlands Center - Development Director, 2013-2019; American River Conservancy - Education Director and Development Director, 2007-2013; Camp High Trails - Outdoor Educator and Instructor, 2006-2007; National Park Service - Seasonal Interpretive Ranger, 2004-2005

Educational Background: Ball State University, Bachelor of Arts, 2004 - Majors: Public History and Telecommunications

Prior Governmental Experience: Current chair of the Ashland Recreation Division Advisory Committee.

Having served on Ashland's Recreation Division Advisory Committee, I look forward to supporting our community in a greater role as an Ashland Parks Commissioner. As a non-profit director, I understand running a successful organization and its programs require coordination between governing boards, paid staff, and community volunteers.

If elected, I see one of the commission's biggest priorities will be supporting the recruitment and hiring of the Department's next permanent director. Interim leadership and permanent staff are doing a good job in a challenging funding environment for the department, and I look forward to working with the community and city officials to establish a permanent, dedicated revenue stream to support the upkeep and maintenance of park facilities. I love Ashland's park system and frequently enjoy hiking through Lithia and North Mountain Parks, and playing tennis at Hunter Park.

With a background in environmental education, I see great value in the programs provided by the Park Department's staff at North Mountain Park Nature Center. In my current role as a non-profit director, I focus much of my time on holding elected leaders, public land management agencies, and decision-makers accountable to the public. I understand the need to balance multiple uses and recognize conflicts can best be resolved by listening and acknowledging everyone's perspectives.

Ashland's parks, family programs, and outdoor facilities contribute to the quality of life for city residents (and visitors), from youth to families to seniors. I'm excited to use my skills and experience in outdoor education, trail-building, conservation, fundraising, and financial oversight to the position of Ashland Parks Commissioner.

(This information furnished by Michael Dotson.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Ashland
Park Commissioner



**Russell
Feingold**

Occupation: Integrative Health Practitioner, Transformational Coach, Author

Occupational Background: none

Educational Background: Brandeis University BA

Prior Governmental Experience: none

I am running for Ashland Parks & Recreation Commission because I believe our parks are among Ashland's greatest treasures, and caring for them is a privilege and a responsibility to future generations.

Lithia Park is the heart of Ashland. I live directly across from it on Granite Street. I walk its trails, experience its changing seasons, and witness its trees, creek, and wildlife. I feel her pulse and am grateful to call this treasure home.

I want to ensure Lithia Park, and our parks, trails, open spaces, and waterways receive maintenance and stewardship they deserve. Our parks must be safe, clean, accessible, and welcoming for children, families, seniors, people with disabilities, and everyone. We can protect their beauty and ecological integrity while keeping them vibrant places for recreation, play, connection, and community.

For more than 30 years, I have worked in integrative health and holistic healing. Our relationship with Nature is fundamental to human health and well-being. Healthy parks help create healthy people and a healthy community.

As a member of the Choctaw Yamassee Muskogee Nation, and through time spent learning from Indigenous cultures and traditions, I have gained an appreciation for reciprocity, respect for the land, and stewardship. I bring this perspective with humility, gratitude, and commitment to listening deeply.

Empathy is one of my greatest strengths, not simply as a concept, but as a living practice. I am experienced in conflict resolution and mediation. Effective leadership requires listening to diverse perspectives and finding practical, sustainable solutions.

The Parks Commission mission, to provide recreational opportunities while preserving and maintaining public lands, reflects the stewardship Ashland deserves.

If elected, I will champion responsible maintenance, natural resource protection, safety, accessibility, recreation for all generations, and community input.

Let us make decisions today that keep Ashland's parks beautiful, safe, vibrant, and thriving for the next 100 years—and beyond.

(This information furnished by Russell Feingold.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Ashland
Park Commissioner



Brian Long

Occupation: TRAILS Outdoor School Education Assistant

Occupational Background: 23 years working for Federal Land Management agencies (National Park Service, US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management.)

Educational Background: University of Montana, Bachelors Recreation Resource Management; Penn State University, Certificate in Geographic Information Systems; University of KwaZulu Natal, Masters in Protected Area Management

Prior Governmental Experience: 23 years in Federal government and 1 year County government.

My name is Brian Long and I am honored to be a candidate for the Ashland Parks and Recreation Commission. I have lived in Ashland since 2010, and use our diverse, local parks system nearly every day, walking our dog, hiking with my family, and connecting kids to nature.

I currently work as an education assistant at TRAILS Outdoor School supporting teachers and administrators by working directly with students. I believe in getting kids outdoors and connecting families to outdoor spaces around them. When kids explore and play outdoors, they are far more likely to protect nature as they get older, and connect their families and friends to the places that matter most to them.

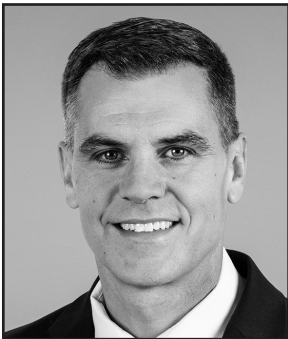
I retired in 2025 after 23 years of working in recreation management positions in Federal land management agencies. Throughout my career, I worked with a diverse assortment of outdoor recreation groups, motorized and non-motorized alike. I understand the importance of outdoor recreation for the benefits to physical and mental health and helping people connect with others and their surrounding landscapes. I worked to provide a variety of public outdoor recreation opportunities, and I have a wealth of experience in developing long-term resource management plans, environmental planning, budgets, grant proposals, collaborative efforts, and project management.

I believe that connecting residents of Ashland and visitors to our parks and recreation system connects people with each other. When our parks thrive, our community is stronger.

(This information furnished by Brian Long.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Ashland
Municipal Judge



Ryan Mulkins

Occupation: Ashland Municipal Court Judge

Occupational Background: Elected District Attorney - Josephine County, Oregon; Criminal Defense Attorney - Bend, Oregon; Deputy District Attorney

- Josephine County, Oregon; Deputy District Attorney - Jackson County, Oregon

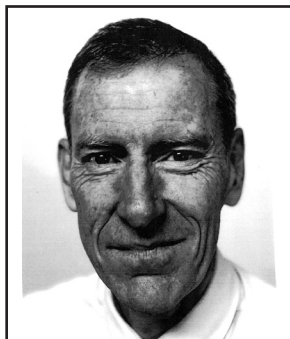
Educational Background: Willamette University College of Law - J.D.; Portland State University - B.S.

Prior Governmental Experience: Elected District Attorney - Josephine County, Oregon

(This information furnished by Ryan Mulkins.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Central Point Council Member, Ward 1



**Neil M
Olsen**

Occupation: Family Physician, Providence Medical Group, Central Point. 2003-current

Occupational Background: Major, 366th Medical Group, Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho. 1999-2003; Central

Washington Family Medicine residency 1996-1999

Educational Background: Washington University St Louis School of Medicine, MD 1996; Washington State University, BS Chemical Engineering 1992

Prior Governmental Experience: Central Point City Council, 2019-present; Central Point Parks & Recreation Commission; Oregon State University student senate, budget committee chair

I am dedicated to the health, security, and happiness of the people of Central Point. This is a great place to live and raise a family. Through sometimes difficult decisions, the city is well positioned to take on future challenges. I'd be honored to serve another term representing you on the City Council.

It's a blessing to connect with many kind and thoughtful people here. Recognizing the dignity of each other and exercising kindness makes us better. It builds strength and resilience.

We have the right to expect the City to protect and provide services while being fiscally conservative. We have the responsibility to be good neighbors, to help each other when we can, to actively participate in the things we think are important, and to prepare ourselves for the future. By doing so, Central Point will continue to be a great place to live, learn, work and recreate.

(This information furnished by Neil M Olsen.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Central Point Council Member, Ward 2



**Adam
Korth**

Occupation: Curriculum & Content Development Coordinator - Rogue Credit Union

Occupational Background: Instructional Designer; Training and Development Specialist; Member Service Representa-

tive; Retail Banker; Retail Management

Educational Background: University of Idaho - Leadership and Organizational Development M.S.; Southern Oregon University - Innovation and Leadership B.S.; Lane Community College - A.A. Oregon Transfer Degree; Crater High School - H.S. Diploma

Prior Governmental Experience: None

Central Point is my home. I was raised here for my first 20 years and returned 15 years ago to raise my family here.

I am a fourth-generation Central Point resident. My grandmother was born in 1921 and attended Central Point Public School, when K-12 was taught out of the brick building at Central Point Elementary. She raised my mother here, who graduated from Crater High School, just as I did.

For 15 years, I have worked for Rogue Credit Union, 13 in Employee Development, helping to train and develop team members and leaders. Helping others learn and grow has been my passion. The key to helping someone reach their goals is to listen carefully and open doors for them to walk through.

A leader I respect recently reached out to ask whether I had ever considered running for council. I will be honest with you, my answer was no. Though when I really thought about it, I could not say no to my hometown.

I did not decide to run because I have an agenda to push; I am running because this community raised me and is helping to raise my family. I want to bring the same approach I use professionally to Central Point: listen first, understand the problem, then act. I have already begun attending City Council meetings and study sessions to familiarize myself with the issues currently facing the council and the community I hope to serve. I will work every day to listen, just as I do at Rogue, to ensure our corner of Central Point has a voice.

(This information furnished by Adam Korth.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

**City of Central Point
Council Member, Ward 2**



**Jerry
De La Fuente**

Occupation: Ledcor LTS- HSE
Advisor

Occupational Background:
Timber Products- Paid; Yellow
Inc- Paid; Fedex Freight- Paid

Educational Background:
Rogue Community College

Prior Governmental Experience: None

My name is Jerry De La Fuente, and I am proud to say I have lived in Central Point for the past 15 years. Two of my children are graduates of Crater High School, and I currently have one child attending Crater. My family and I are deeply rooted in the community, and we are grateful to call Central Point home.

I am a family man with strong family values. I believe in treating people with kindness, respect, and compassion, and being a good neighbor. These values have guided me throughout my life, both personally and professionally.

Over the years, I been actively involved in our community by coaching Little League baseball, supporting activities at the local high school, and volunteering through our local church. These experiences have given me the opportunity to work with many wonderful people and to better understand the needs of our community. I care deeply about Central Point and the future of our city.

We have a great community, and I want to help keep it that way. I believe now the time has come for me to become more involved in serving our community. That is why I have decided to run for Central Point city council, Ward 2. I am committed to listening to residents, working collaboratively, and helping make decisions that will benefit our families, neighborhoods, businesses, and the future generations.

I would be honored to earn your support and the opportunity to serve the citizens of Central Point.

(This information furnished by Jerry De La Fuente.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

**City of Eagle Point
Mayor**



**Kathy
Sell**

Occupation: Current Mayor of
Eagle Point; Owner: Ridgeback
Forest Management LLC

Occupational Background:
Good Guys Guns 10 yrs-pres-
ent; Owner of Valley Feed and
Pet Supply, Eagle Point 38 yrs;

Production Manager Upper Rogue Independent 10 yrs; Forest
Industry work 30+ years

Educational Background: Southern Oregon University; Santa
Rosa High School

Prior Governmental Experience: Current Mayor of Eagle Point
4yrs; Eagle Point/Upper Rogue Community Foundation, present;
Eagle Point City Council 10 yrs; Eagle Point Economic Commis-
sion; Eagle Point Parks and Recreation Committee

I have lived, worked and played in Eagle Point for 40+ years. My Husband, Randy and I owned and operated Valley Feed and Pet Supply for 38 of those years. We raised our family in Eagle Point and plan to live out our lives here. Over the years we have been active with the Scout Troops that serve our community and continue to help when needed.

The people of Eagle Point have been very supportive of our business and our family. My goal as Mayor is to show that same support to them. I have served the city in many capacities over the years and would like to continue to do so as your Mayor. My goals for Eagle Point continue to be keeping Eagle Point STRONG, SAFE and PRODUCTIVE FOR BUSINESSES and a place people would want to live.

I would be honored to show my gratitude to Eagle Point by continuing to serve as your Mayor.

Kathy Sell

(This information furnished by Kathy Sell.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Eagle Point
Council Member



**Michael
Stanek**

Occupation: Local business owner, Stanix Garage LLC - Custom classic automotive accessories and metal sign company. Marketing Coordinator for senior caregiving agency.

Occupational Background: Quality management; process improvement; regulatory compliance; organizational development; digital marketing strategist; small-business ownership

Educational Background: Six Sigma Green Belt training, Villanova University; AS9100 Aerospace Quality Management Systems, Bureau Veritas; Certified Digital Marketing Strategist, DigitalMarketer

Prior Governmental Experience: Eagle Point Planning Commission, 2025–present; Eagle Point City Council, 2017–2025, including six years as Council President; Rogue Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization Public Advisory Council, 2015–2025; Eagle Point Budget Committee, 2013–2025; Eagle Point Parks and Recreation Commission, 2013–2017

My wife and I have called Eagle Point home for about 25 years. We raised our twin daughters here, who both graduated from Eagle Point High School. This community is our home, and I care deeply about its future.

When I see an opportunity to improve our community, I believe in getting involved rather than standing on the sidelines. My years of public service and professional experience have taught me to listen carefully, examine problems, use resources responsibly, and work with others to find practical solutions.

Since 2018, through the Eagle Point Upper Rogue Community Foundation, I have helped organize and chaperone their annual Sister City Homestay Program. Through this program, local students and students from Showa, Japan, visit one another's communities, stay with host families, and build lasting friendships and cultural understanding.

I believe local government works best when people who care about their community get involved. I show up, I listen, I work with people, and I look for practical solutions. I want to continue serving Eagle Point and contributing to the community my family and I call home.

(This information furnished by Michael Stanek.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Eagle Point
Council Member



**Colton
Cochran**

Occupation: District Controller, Southern Oregon Education Service District; Owner/Instructor, Rogue Valley Revival CPR Training

Occupational Background: Accountant, City of Ashland,

2024 Finance Person of the Year; Operations Manager/Unit Deployment Manager, United States Air Force, five years; Athletic Director, Liberty Baptist School, three years

Educational Background: Liberty University, MBA in Accounting, 2025; Liberty University, Doctor of Business Administration in Leadership, in progress; West Coast Baptist College, Bachelor's Degree, 2014

Prior Governmental Experience: None

I am a life-long resident of the Rogue Valley, college graduate, and U.S. Air Force veteran. Eagle Point is home, and my wife and I are raising our children here. I am running for City Council on three commitments: Faith, Family, and Future.

Faith: I serve on the board of my church Harvest Baptist Temple, and the lens of every decision I make will come through the Bible. I will bring integrity, transparency, and accountability to the work of the council.

Family: Eagle Point families deserve safe neighborhoods, responsible spending, and a city councilor that listens. As a financial professional overseeing more than \$100 million in public funds, I know how to make every taxpayer dollar count. I will prioritize full support for our police and fire services, safe streets and parks our kids can enjoy, and a balanced budget that respects the people who fund it.

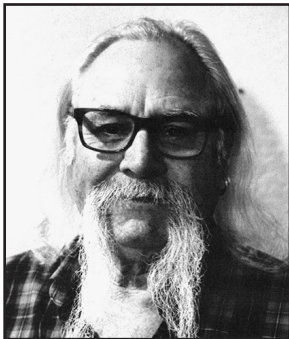
Future: I will work for smart growth, sound infrastructure, and opportunities that keep the next generation in Eagle Point. That means planning ahead for water, sewer, and road capacity, supporting the businesses that give our downtown life, and attracting new shops and restaurants that bring fresh energy to our city center. I will fight to keep Eagle Point a place young families can afford to put down roots.

My name is Colton Cochran and I would be honored to earn your vote.

(This information furnished by Colton Cochran.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Eagle Point
Council Member



**Bradley E
Hewitt**

Occupation: log truck driver
and trainer , F.V. Martin trucking
, White City , Or.

Occupational Background:
timber transportation industry
, 42 years; U.S. Army , 6 years

Educational Background: graduated Crater High School; U.S.
Army veteran , Seargent , 25th Infantry Division , Schofield Bar-
racks , Hawaii

Prior Governmental Experience: current city councilor in Eagle
Point Or. current liaison to planning commision , Eagle Point , Or.
, current liaison to fire dept. Eagle Point , Or.; former planning
commisioner for Eagle Point , Or.; volunteer with BLM in S.W.
Oregon and Washington D.C. to oversee the Cascade Siskyou
National Monument

Bradley E. Hewitt , Born in Medford Or. and graduated from
Crater High School . I served 6 years in the U.S. Army with the
25th Infantry division in Schofield Barracks Hawaii and Honor-
ably discharged as a seargent with letters of achivement and
accomidations . I was appointed to the Eagle Point planning
commision on march 14 , 2023 . I was appointed to the Eagle
Point city council on november 2023 by a majority vote of the
city council . I am currently the liaison to the Eagle Point Plan-
ning Commision and the liaison to the fire dept. I volunteer with
the BLM in S.W. oregon and Washington D.C. to ensure the
Cascade Siskyou National Monument is properly managed for
enjoyment and access to to the public . My wife , Sandy and I
are members of a Eagle Point church . I am currently employed
as a log truck driver in southern oregon . I enjoy voluntering in
Eagle Point city government , my goals are to provide a safe ,
healthy , prosperous , community for all of our citizens . I can
be reached anytime via my E-Mail available on the Eagle Point
City website

Thank You , Brad Hewitt

(This information furnished by Bradley E Hewitt.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Gold Hill
Mayor



**Melia
Biedscheid**

Occupation: Retired Speech Pathologist/Audiologist

Occupational Background: Speech Pathologist/Audiologist. Worked in Education and Healthcare

Educational Background: M.A. Communication Science and Disorders; B.A. English/Linguistics and Spanish

Prior Governmental Experience: Elected to Gold Hill City Council in 2020 and 2024

I am running for Mayor because I love Gold Hill. I moved to Oregon from Montana in 1999 and when I first drove through Gold Hill I knew I wanted to live here forever. For the first 20 years I lived here I was busy raising children, caring for my elderly mother and maintaining a professional career as a speech-language pathologist. When I retired in 2020 I decided it was time to give back to my community. I was elected to city council in 2020 and again in 2024.

In my six years on council I advocated for allowing the citizens to vote on annexation to Rogue Valley Sewer Services. The citizens voted 93% in favor of annexation. This solved the city's decades-long problem of the wastewater plant being in violation of DEQ standards. I advocated to have our dangerously narrow bridge widened and when completed it will allow for safe passage of emergency vehicles and public transportation buses to stop in downtown Gold Hill. I advocated for and participated in the process of updating the city's charter and bringing it to the citizens to approve. Looking forward, the city's biggest challenge will be updating our water treatment plant, reservoirs and water mains. This will require serious consideration of the new water master plan and funding options.

I believe the City of Gold Hill and its citizens can thrive and I want to continue to be part of the amazing progress achieved in the past five years. I believe that if we focus on the goals we can polish this little city on the Rogue River into a gem that sparkles and shines and is a place people want to live and visit.

(This information furnished by Melia Biedscheid.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Gold Hill
Council Member



**Sherylene
Stancliff**

Occupation: Sales; Customer Service; Semi Retired

Occupational Background: Management; Sales; Customer Service

Educational Background: High School Graduate; 4 years of college

Prior Governmental Experience: Gold Hill City Council, 2021-present

I have had the privilege of serving our community as a City Councilor for the past four years. I have taken this responsibility seriously - listening to residents, asking questions, and making decisions with the long-term interests of our community in mind.

During my time on the Council, I have played an active role in improving our water system and addressing issues that are important to the future of our city. I have also been involved in reviewing, changing, adding, and removing ordinances and resolutions when needed. These decisions have helped improve the way our city operates and have contributed to making our community a better place to live.

I currently serve as liaison to the Parks Advisory Committee. Our parks and public spaces are an important part of our community, and I am proud to have had the opportunity to represent the Council in this area.

I believe good leadership requires continued learning. I have attended two statewide conferences on local government, along with several conferences and trainings focused on emergency services, preparedness, and ways local leaders can better serve their communities.

Four years on the City Council have given me valuable experience and they have also strengthened my commitment to our community. There is still work to be done. I want to continue improving our infrastructure, supporting our parks and essential services, making responsible decisions, and ensuring that the voices of our residents are heard.

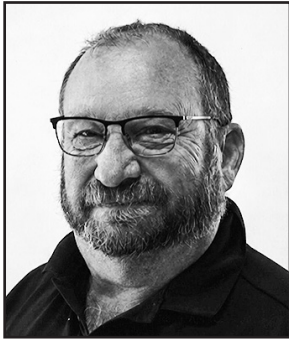
I respectfully ask for your vote and the opportunity to continue serving our community for another term.

Experience. Commitment. Community.

(This information furnished by Sherylene Stancliff.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

**City of Gold Hill
Council Member**



**Joe
Berggren**

Occupation: Rogue Valley
Habitat for Humanity Project
Manager

Occupational Background:
General Construction; Retail
Management

Educational Background:

Oregon Lead Risk Assessor; AHRA certified Building Inspector

Prior Governmental Experience: Gold Hill Planning Commis-
sion; Current Gold Hill City Councilor

I am running for Gold Hill City Council because I believe our community can grow and move forward without losing the character and atmosphere that make Gold Hill such a special place to call home. My priorities are responsible fiscal responsibility. City government must be a good steward of residents' tax dollars. I will support careful budgeting, responsible spending, accountability, and planning for Gold Hill's long-term financial health. Common-sense government decisions should be practical, reasonable, and focused on what works for the people who live here. Government should serve its residents and address problems without creating unnecessary complications. Responsible investment in infrastructure. Gold Hill's infrastructure and essential services are aging, and we must address these issues before they become more costly. I support affordable ways to maintain and improve our water, streets, and other critical systems while protecting taxpayers from unnecessary financial burdens.

Planning ahead and pursuing available funding opportunities, we can make needed improvements responsibly. Responsible growth that preserves our community. Gold Hill needs to grow and adapt to meet the needs of the future. At the same time, growth should be thoughtful and balanced. New development and improvements should complement our community rather than take away the cozy, small-town atmosphere that makes Gold Hill unique. My experience serving Gold Hill includes my current service on the City Council, as well as serving on the Gold Hill Planning Commission, Budget Committee, and Charter Review Task Force. These experiences have given me a firsthand understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing our community. I believe Gold Hill's future depends on responsible growth, sustainable infrastructure, and common-sense government—while preserving our small-town character. Together, we can plan ahead, address aging infrastructure, and protect what makes Gold Hill special.

I would be honored to continue serving the citizens of Gold Hill.

(This information furnished by Joe Berggren.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

**City of Gold Hill
Council Member**



**Bob
Davis-Guy**

Occupation: Retired Nuclear
Medicine Technologist; Small
business owner; Beekeeper

Occupational Background:
Nuclear Medicine Technologist,
38 years; Medical Imagine Su-
pervisor, Asante, 8 1/2 years;

Enrolled Agent Tax Consultant, 13 years

Educational Background: Portland State University, BS General
Science, CNMT; Crater High School, Diploma

Prior Governmental Experience: None

My wife and I raised our children in District 6, the third genera-
tion to graduate from Crater.

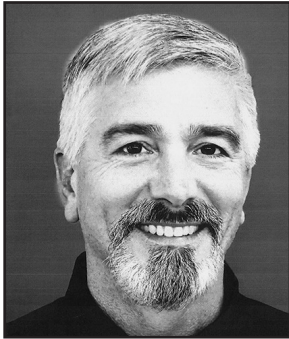
We love Gold Hill, but we know we face serious challenges as
a community. Water and sewer costs have skyrocketed. Vacant
structures are a magnet for criminal activity. I'd love the chance to
help Gold Hill work through these issues, as the only remedy for
our problems is collaboration from a wide range of perspectives.

I've had decades of experience listening to the concerns of
coworkers and people I have supervised, and I enjoy helping
them resolve conflicts. In my role with Asante, I worked through
the budget of four departments. I feel that this fiscal experience
would be beneficial to the city and its citizens.

(This information furnished by Bob Davis-Guy.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Jacksonville
Council Member



**Andrew
Hellenthal**

Occupation: National Manager, Environmental Services, Terracon Consulting

Occupational Background: Brown and Caldwell Environmental Consulting Engineers; Secor International Environ-

mental Consulting; Central US Earthquake Consortium; Memphis-Shelby County Emergency Management Agency; Memphis-Shelby County Planning and Economic Development

Educational Background: University of Memphis, Master of Science in Geography and Planning; University of Tennessee - Martin, Bachelor of Science in Geoscience

Prior Governmental Experience: City Councilor, Jacksonville, Oregon; Historical Architectural Review Commission, Jacksonville, Oregon

For the past four years, I've had the honor of serving Jacksonville as a City Councilor. During this time, I've worked closely with residents to address safety concerns, navigate the growing challenge of funding essential city services, and protect the historic character that makes our town so special.

My commitment remains clear: to preserve Jacksonville's heritage and welcoming culture while supporting the local businesses, tourism, and visitor economy that sustain our community. I currently serve as Vice Chair of the Britt Music and Art Festival Board of Directors and as the Council Liaison to the Historical Architectural Review Commission, roles that deepen my connection to the cultural and historic fabric of our city.

I'm asking for your support to continue this work—protecting our charm, honoring our history, and thoughtfully balancing growth with the needs of our citizens.

Endorsed by Ken Gregg, City Councilor Jacksonville

(This information furnished by Andrew Hellenthal.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Jacksonville
Council Member



**Beth
Lindsay**

Occupation: Retired business executive

Occupational Background: Senior Human Resources management positions in national publication and catalog printing; Vice President HR, Harry & David

Educational Background: Southern Methodist University Bachelor of Business Administration, Labor Relations

Prior Governmental Experience: Member Citizens Advisory Committees, Jacksonville, OR; Development Plan revisions and Urban Growth Boundary Review; Transient Lodging Tax Committee; Planning Commissioner, Merced, CA; Co-chair Economic Development Commission, Merced, CA

I'm running for Jacksonville City Council because it is so important to me to preserve and enhance Jacksonville's historic character, consider appropriate growth, and focus on the safety, walkability, and beautification of our town. My focus includes fiscal responsibility, ensuring our city workforce and local businesses are thriving and our citizens live in a safe community.

My decades long corporate management background includes fiscal budgeting, human resources, along with problem-solving and results-oriented skills.

In my work on Jacksonville committees, I've enjoyed the challenge of learning city and state codes and regulations and making informed, balanced recommendations. If elected, I am committed to moving outstanding recommendations to conclusion.

On a personal note, my husband and I moved just outside of the Jacksonville city limits in 2006 and then to our Jacksonville home in 2018.

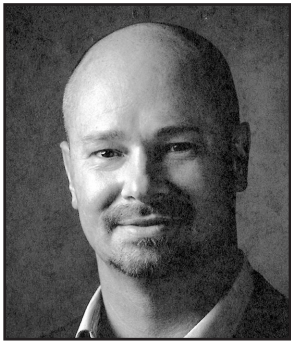
My management style is to get out and engage with people. It is a great way to hear what is going on in their lives, their points of view, and to talk about solutions to issues. This position would allow me to be an advocate for our community.

I believe that community members, businesses, and local government should all be given equal consideration. Jacksonville is such a special town. And, like other towns, we face the challenges of growth, safety, satisfying citizen needs, and helping our businesses succeed. I want to keep Jacksonville a special place and feel I have the drive, focus, and interpersonal skills to help solve these challenges. I'd love the chance to work for you on the City Council, and I'm asking for your vote.

(This information furnished by Beth Lindsay.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Jacksonville
Council Member



**Talon J
Reed**

Occupation: Attorney licensed in Oregon, Washington, and Alaska.

Occupational Background: Managing Attorney of Reed Law Firm; former Assistant District Prosecutor for Lake County, Or-

egon. Eagle Scout, bilingual in Spanish, and community volunteer.

Educational Background: Ruch Elementary; McLoughlin Middle School; South Medford High School; Southern Oregon University; University of Oregon School of Law.

Prior Governmental Experience: City Councilor, Jacksonville, Oregon (2022 - 2026); Vice Chair, Jacksonville Budget Committee; City Liaison to Jacksonville Cemetery Committee; City Liaison to Jacksonville Parks Committee; Jacksonville Urban Renewal Agency.

As your City Councilor, I have worked to make Jacksonville safer, stronger, and more financially responsible. I helped lead the reformation of Jacksonville's police department, including selecting a new Chief and working to fully staff the department. I am particularly proud of bringing local organizations and donors together to secure private funding for two police SUVs and electric bicycles, providing these resources without requiring taxpayers to pay for them. I also helped secure a new fire engine and worked to support the strength and stability of our Fire Department.

As Vice Chair of the Budget Committee and a member of the Urban Renewal Agency, I have worked to protect taxpayer dollars and carefully evaluate City spending. I believe responsible budgeting requires careful oversight and difficult decisions.

I have helped write, revise, and interpret hundreds of laws and city codes. I have worked with the Chamber of Commerce and local organizations to develop programs benefiting Jacksonville businesses and residents. I am currently working with the City and local pickleball players to develop a designated court shaped by citizen input.

I have also volunteered hundreds of hours providing pro-bono legal services to members of our community.

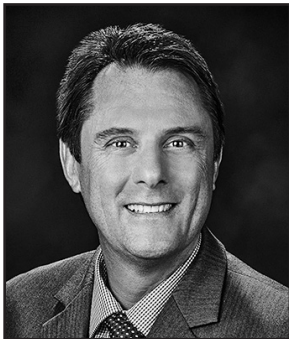
I believe Jacksonville deserves experienced leaders willing to listen, work hard, protect taxpayers, and make difficult decisions. I would be honored to continue serving Jacksonville.

Let's Keep Winning Together!

(This information furnished by Talon J Reed.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

**City of Medford
Council Member, Ward 1**



**Brian N
Sjothun**

Occupation: Semi-Retired;
Owner - Elevated Leadership
Consulting

Occupational Background:
Medford City Manager (2016
- 2024); Medford Parks & Rec-
reation Director (2004 - 2016);

Medford Parks & Recreation, Recreation Superintendent (2004);
Woodburn Recreation & Parks, Recreation Manager (1988 to
2004)

Educational Background: Golden Gate University - Masters of
Public Administration - 2002; Warner Pacific College - Bachelor
of Arts, Business Administration - 1996

Prior Governmental Experience: Medford Parks & Recreation
Foundation - Founder & Board President (Current); Medford Water
Commission - Board Member (current); Land & Water Conser-
vation Fund Grant Committee - Committee Member (Current);
Oregon City & County Managers Association - Board Member;
Oregon State Parks - Local Government Grant Committee; Or-
egon Recreation & Parks Association - Legislative Committee

For just over eight years, I served as Medford's City Manager,
balancing our budget and guiding major projects for a stronger,
safer community. Now I'm ready to bring that same discipline to
the City Council as your representative to:

- **Keep Our Budget in Check:** I'll bring that discipline to the
Council, watching every dollar to help keep costs down for
families.
- **Finish the Conference Center:** Let's finish what we started
and bring new life to our downtown, local shops, and hotels.
- **Grow Jobs in Healthcare:** As City Manager, I began work
to bring medical training to Medford. Let's train doctors and
nurses here, and keep them here.
- **Address Homelessness:** Medford has made real prog-
ress getting people off the streets, and I'm ready to keep
working with local nonprofits to finish the job.

I'd be honored to earn your vote!

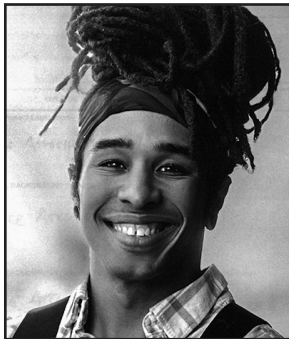
Endorsed By...

Jessica Ayres, Medford City Council- Ward 1
Mike Kerlinger, Medford City Council- Ward 1
Garrett West, Medford City Council- Ward 3
Kevin Stine, Medford City Council- Ward 3
Michael Zarosinski, Mayor, City of Medford
Randy Sparacino, Jackson County Commissioner
Gary Wheeler, Former Mayor, City of Medford
Tim D'Alessandro, Former Medford City Councilor
Al Densmore
Bill Ihle
Brad Hicks, Former CEO, The Chamber of Medford & Jackson
County
Claudette Moore

(This information furnished by Brian N Sjothun.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

**City of Medford
Council Member, Ward 2**



**Michael
Williams**

Occupation: Hemp Compli-
ance and Enforcement Officer,
Oregon Department of Agri-
culture

Occupational Background:
Manager and Chef, Clackamas
County Jail; Radio Broadcast-

ing; Viticulturist and Wine Educator

Educational Background: B.S. Research and Development,
Nicholls State University; John Folse Culinary Institute graduate;
Society of Wine Educators

Prior Governmental Experience: Medford School Board Direc-
tor, 2023-present

Volunteer Experience: Vice President and Coach, Medford
National Little League; Volunteer, NSU Veterans Affairs.

My wife Jessica and I grew up in Louisiana, headed west after
college, and fell in love with Medford. We are proud to be build-
ing our life and raising our family here. I believe our city thrives
when our councilors listen carefully and spend wisely.

Public Safety

I want to make Medford a place where it's safe for our kids to
play outside in neighborhoods and parks that are clean and invit-
ing. In my work as a hemp inspector, I see how careful enforce-
ment strengthens the community while protecting the public. I
support programs like the Livability Team and will prioritize fund-
ing our law enforcement, fire department, and first responders.

Real Affordability

I am dedicated to using your tax dollars wisely, ensuring that
we build the infrastructure our city actually needs instead of
trendy, expensive projects. My time on the Medford School
Board gave me a deep understanding of how to responsibly
manage public budgets, and I stood up against what I believe
was wasteful spending. Major work on Bear Creek and Main
Street deserve careful scrutiny, clear accounting, and honest
conversation about cost versus long-term value.

Transparent Leadership

Local government works best when city leaders engage in
meaningful dialogue with residents about the issues that affect
our daily lives. I'm committed to proactively connecting with
citizens before making big decisions like rate increases and
major changes to roads and public services.

Please join these community leaders in supporting me:

Zac Smith, Medford City Councilor, Ward 2
Rick Dyer, Jackson County Commissioner
Vance Beach
Kim Wallan, State Representative, Medford

(This information furnished by Michael Williams.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Medford
Council Member, Ward 2



**Beto
Vargas**

Occupation: Kids Unlimited
(Director of Educational Ser-
vices)

Occupational Background:
School Teacher, Teach for
America

Educational Background: University of San Diego (PhD);
Arizona State University (MEd); Bowdoin College (BA); South
Medford High; McLoughlin Middle School; Oak Grove Elementary

Prior Governmental Experience: None

Community Recognition: Medford Chamber of Commerce
Future First Citizen Award

Medford Had My Back. I'll Have Yours.

I know what it's like to need someone to show up for you. At
Oak Grove Elementary I ate free lunch every day because my
family struggled to make ends meet. My future could have gone
many ways.

But Medford showed up. Teachers cared. Neighbors checked
in. I was one of the first afterschool students at Kids Unlim-
ited—where people believed in me before I believed in myself.
Today, I lead Kids Unlimited's educational programs, empower-
ing students through opportunity.

Medford's families, renters, homeowners, and business owners
work hard. City Hall should work just as hard for us. My priori-
ties are:

- **Safe, clean neighborhoods:** common-sense policing, back-
ing our Livability Team, and working directly with residents.
- **Make Medford affordable:** prioritizing homes people can
afford, holding down city fees, balancing the budget, and
supporting local businesses and good jobs.
- **Responsible, reasonable government:** reliable services,
careful spending, hard questions, and respect for everyone.
- **A stronger community:** parks and public spaces for
every generation.

*"Dr. Beto listens to every side. He's got the common sense
Medford needs."* - Garrett West, City Council Vice President

Supported by

Our former Councilor Tim D'Alessandro

Our former Police Chief Justin Ivens

Medford City Councilors: Nick Card, Garrett West, Kevin Stine,

Mike Kerlinger

Medford School Board Members: Kendell Ferguson,

Lilia Caballero, Sunny Spicer

Dr. Cristian Mendoza Ruvalcaba, NP; Dagoberto Morales;

Zulma Larios

DrBetoForMedford.com

(This information furnished by Beto Vargas.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Medford
Council Member, Ward 2



**Chris
Ryan**

Occupation: Regional Op-
erations manager for BELFOR
Environmental and Compliance
Manager for BELFOR Property
Restoration

Occupational Background:
I have been in construction

for 23 years with a focus on reconstruction and environmental
compliance.

Educational Background: Graduated High School in Eugene
Oregon 2001

Prior Governmental Experience: None

Dear Medford Ward 2 Members,

I am writing to express my strong interest in serving on the city
council representing Ward 2. As a resident of South Medford
on and off since 1988, my roots in this community run deep,
from attending Washington Elementary and McLaughlin Middle
School to working my first job as a paper delivery person for
the Mail Tribune.

I love the Rogue Valley and have a proven commitment to
our community's well-being. During the Alameda fires, I worked
directly with the EPA and DEQ to ensure properties were tested
and cleaned properly before FEMA arrived. I would like to
utilize my extensive experience in the construction and envi-
ronmental industries to provide valuable insight to the council,
particularly when deciding how to maximize our tax dollars.

While I have not participated in local politics before, I live in the
heart of Ward 2 and want to give our area a dedicated voice
that is deeply invested in our community and the broader city.
I look forward to the opportunity to contribute more than just a
single vote.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Chris Ryan

(This information furnished by Chris Ryan.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Medford Council Member, Ward 3



**Kevin
Stine**

Occupation: Navy Military Funeral Honors; Educator; Medford City Councilor

Occupational Background: US Navy Submarine Veteran; ACCESS, Homeless Veterans Services; Oregon legislative aide

Educational Background: Southern Oregon University, Bachelor's Degree

Prior Governmental Experience: Medford City Councilor, 2015–Present, Council President, (2020, 2022); Chair, Medford Urban Renewal Agency; Vice-Chair, Medford Budget Committee; Board of the League of Oregon Cities

EXPERIENCE. SERVICE. RESULTS.

RogueX – I co-led the campaign to create the RogueX, which has been a fantastic community asset. I'm proud of the achievement and look forward to more opportunities to bring projects to fruition.

All-American Rejects Concert – When the last-minute opportunity came to ensure the All-American Rejects could perform in Medford, I led the charge and worked with City staff and the promoter to make it happen. This was an incredible success and demonstrates my ability to work with a team and get things done.

Nonprofits and Livability – I work with our nonprofit community to help those in need, including supporting appropriate shelter options and working with the Children's Museum of Southern Oregon as it expands early learning programs.

Leadership You Can Trust - I have had the honor of serving Medford on the City Council and I'm running for re-election because I believe experienced, steady leadership matters, and there's more work to do to keep Medford moving forward.

I am focused on the issues that directly affect our quality of life such as safe neighborhoods, responsible use of taxpayer dollars, housing, strong local businesses, parks and recreation, and thoughtful economic development.

Proud to be endorsed by:

Michael Zarosinski – Mayor of Medford
Jessica Ayres – Medford City Council President
Garrett West – Medford City Council Vice President
Mike Kerlinger – Medford City Council Ward 1
John Quinn – Medford City Council Ward 2
Nick Card - Medford City Council Ward 4
Sunny Spicer – Medford School Board
Lilia Caballero – Medford School Board

www.KevinStine.com

I would be honored to earn your vote and continue serving Medford on the City Council. Vote Kevin Stine.

(This information furnished by Kevin Stine.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Medford Council Member, Ward 3



**Abigail
Mace**

Occupation: Director, Jefferson Baroque Orchestra; Keyboardist, Rogue Valley Symphony; Family Caregiver

Occupational Background: Substitute Teacher, Grace Cascade Christian Schools; Faculty,

Oklahoma Baptist University; Volunteer, Bennie's Barn Equine Therapy

Educational Background: MM & DMA, The University of Texas at Austin; BMus, Vanderbilt University; Fulbright Fellow, The Royal Conservatory of The Hague

Prior Governmental Experience: None

A New Direction for Medford

We need a NEW voice on Medford City Council Ward 3. I will bring a fresh perspective and common-sense solutions. I'm asking for your vote!

Issues

- **More Input:** Residents need influence over the decisions that affect them. I will advocate for transparency and city-wide voting on proposals.
- **Affordability:** Property taxes and utility bills keep going up! I will fight to cut wasteful spending to improve affordability.
- **ALPR Cameras:** We need to make our city safer, but surveillance cameras cause serious privacy concerns. Let's put this to a vote!
- **Local Control:** Density mandates trample on our rights to make the best decisions for our community. I will fight for local control to solve local issues.
- **Beautification:** Maintenance has been neglected and it shows! I will prioritize cleaning up our city and preserving our parks and historical landmarks.

About Me

I'm a 5th generation Oregonian with 100+ years of family roots in Ward 3. I'm not a career politician--just your neighbor who wants to make a difference. Growing up, my family struggled to make ends meet. I worked at a grocery store to pay for piano lessons and earned a full scholarship to college. In 2022, my Grandma needed help, so I left a full-time faculty position and moved back to Oregon. Over the past four years, I've been blessed to bring new life to a local non-profit orchestra as its director, while caring for my beautiful grandmother every day. I work hard, fight for what I love, and never give up. As your City Councilor, I will do this for YOU.

(This information furnished by Abigail Mace.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

**City of Medford
Council Member, Ward 4**



**Nick
Card**

Occupation: VP Operations, Combined Transport (Card family third-generation business)

Occupational Background: Trucking, Transportation Logistics, Patent Prosecution, IT Administration, Engineering

Educational Background: South Medford High Valedictorian; B.S. Engineering, Harvey Mudd College

Prior Governmental Experience: Medford City Councilor, elected 2022

WHY ARE WARD 4 VOTERS SUPPORTING NICK?

Nick is a **fifth-generation Oregonian**, born and raised in the Rogue Valley. Over **a decade of service** with the American Red Cross, the Medford Chamber, and the Oregon Community Foundation shapes his **pragmatic, community-first approach** and his commitment to **giving every Medford resident a voice**.

A PROVEN TRACK RECORD ON CITY COUNCIL

Nick Expanded Public Safety

- Reduced illegal homeless camps from 186 in 2023 to 13 in March 2026: a **94% decrease!**
- Opened new Fire Station 15 **ahead of schedule and under budget**.
- Voted consistently for public safety, **expanding the Livability Team** and adding 4 police officers to protect our community.

Nick is Committed to Fiscal Responsibility

- **Balanced budgets every year** while comparable cities faced millions in shortfalls.
- Serves on the Budget Stabilization Committee to **keep future budgets balanced**.
- **Secured millions in Federal and State grants** for services and infrastructure.

Nick Prioritizes Infrastructure for the Future

- Completed the Foothill Rd Project **ahead of schedule and on budget**, improving East Medford transportation.
- Upgrading the Regional Water Reclamation Facility **to protect the Rogue River** and serve Medford's next generation.
- Advocating for a South Stage Road interchange on I-5, **relieving south Medford congestion**.

ENDORSEMENTS

Leaders **across the political spectrum** support Nick:

County Commissioners Rick Dyer, Randy Sparacino; Sheriff Nate Sickler; Mayor Mike Zarosinski; City Councilors Jessica Ayres, Mike Kerlinger, Garret West, Kevin Stine, Zac Smith, John Quinn, Kevin Keating; Former County Commissioners Sue Kupillas, Dave Dotterer; Former Mayor Al Densmore; Former Police Chief Justin Ivens; Former City Manager Brian Sjothun; Civic Leader Bill Ihle; Former Chamber President Brad Hicks; Travis Snyder, Snyder Creek Development

Please join them to Re-Elect Nick Card!

ElectNickCard.com

(This information furnished by Nick Card.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

**City of Medford
Council Member, Ward 4**



**Alan
Jackson**

Occupation: Instructor, Rogue Community College

Occupational Background: CIO, Medford Radiology Group; Director of Cyber Security, Ashland Partners; SVP Information Services, Rogue Credit Union

Educational Background: MBA, Southern Oregon University; B.A. Education, Whitworth University

Prior Governmental Experience: None

Volunteer Service: Board Director, The Valley School; Ossie's Cupboard Food Pantry; SORIN; Boy Scouts of America

I was fortunate to grow up here, just a few miles down the road from my wife Julie. We both graduated from Medford public schools, and Julie has taught many of your children at Hoover and Lone Pine. We love Medford and are proud to have raised our family in the city where our adult children are now starting to build their own lives.

Thoughtful Development

Medford has a statewide reputation for attracting businesses and building excellent infrastructure. I am committed to embracing that spirit and protecting the special character that makes our neighborhoods home. We must meet the need for different types of housing while maintaining property values, emergency vehicle access, and family-friendly streets. I will work to remove the barriers preventing builders from constructing starter homes so that Medford can attract and retain the next generation.

Public Safety

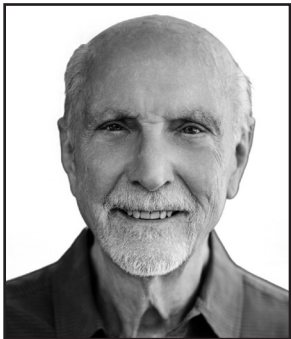
Our city should be a safe, beautiful, and thriving place for our residents and for visitors. I will prioritize funding law enforcement and first responders and will support efforts to clean up our parks and neighborhoods. I will push to reconfigure our major thoroughfares to ensure fire vehicles and ambulances have enough lanes to respond as quickly as possible to fires and other emergency calls.

Fiscal Responsibility

My tenure as a financial expert gives me the right experience to understand and steward the city's large budget and allocate your tax dollars wisely. As our city takes on much-needed infrastructure upgrades, I will fight for specific, quantifiable benefits before approving expenditures. I will seek ways to get the most value by insisting on accountability and transparency from all departments within our city's government.

(This information furnished by Alan Jackson.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.



**Al
Muelhoefer**

Occupation: Mayor, Phoenix, Oregon

Occupational Background: Colonel, US Air Force; Executive Director, Troy Main Street downtown revitalization program

Educational Background: University of Wisconsin, BA, Political Science; Webster University, BA, Political Science

Prior Governmental Experience: Chair, Phoenix Urban Renewal Agency; President, Phoenix City Council; Mayor, Phoenix, Oregon

Two years ago, you entrusted me with the honor of serving as your Mayor. I asked for your support because I believed Phoenix could be even stronger if we led with Trust, Respect, Accountability and Transparency. Together, we have proven what is possible when a community works toward a common purpose.

Every accomplishment over the past two years belongs to all of us. Together, we created a strategic plan for our future, adopted a fiscally responsible budget and invested in projects that will benefit generations to come, including the expansion of Blue Heron Park.

Our downtown is growing with unique local businesses, new opportunities for independent entrepreneurs and the addition of public art, murals, art walks and Music in the Park. These aren't just projects, they are investments in the pride we all share in our community.

One of my greatest joys has been seeing more people become involved in our city than ever before. Through Town Hall meetings, our monthly newsletter, social media and countless conversations, I have worked to remain accessible and listen to your ideas. The record number of volunteers and engaged citizens reminds me that Phoenix's greatest strength has always been its people.

Today, Phoenix is recognized as an innovative, welcoming community where families choose to live and businesses choose to invest. We call it the Phoenix Vibe, but it's really the spirit of neighbors working together to build something special.

While I am proud of what we have accomplished, I believe our best days are still ahead. I would be honored to continue serving you as Mayor, working every day to earn your trust, your confidence and your vote. We will continue building on the progress we have made together.

(This information furnished by Al Muelhoefer.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.



**Michael
Shunk**

Occupation: School Administrator - Alternative Education Principal

Occupational Background: 22 years as a public school educator and administrator

Educational Background: Bachelor of Science (B.S.) - Biology (Major), Physics/Math/Chemistry (Minors); Master of Education (M.Ed.) - Science Education w/ a Focus on Adolescent Psychology; Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) - Leadership & Instruction

Prior Governmental Experience: 2017-2019 - City Council (Phoenix, OR); 2025-Present - City Council (Phoenix, OR)

It has been an honor to serve the City of Phoenix and its residents as a City Councilor. During my two appointments to the Council, I have worked collaboratively with fellow councilors, city staff, and community members to make meaningful progress on issues that directly affect the quality of life in Phoenix.

Our work has included supporting thoughtful and sustainable growth, strengthening long-term strategic planning based on community input, increasing transparency in city processes and budgeting, and promoting collaborative, responsible decision-making.

I believe the voices of Phoenix residents should remain at the center of our work. I am committed to seeking broad community input, listening respectfully to differing perspectives, and giving each voice thoughtful and equal consideration as we make decisions about the future of our city.

Phoenix is a strong community, and I remain committed to serving it with integrity, transparency, collaboration, and respect.

(This information furnished by Michael Shunk.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

**City of Phoenix
Council Member**



**Kim
Hosford**

Occupation: School Psychologist

Occupational Background: Southern Oregon Education Service District; Heartland Area Education Agency, Ames, Iowa; Ashland School District

Educational Background: University of Texas-BS; University of Wisconsin-MS

Prior Governmental Experience: None

Kim Hosford for Phoenix –
Rebuild. Revive. Thrive.

I'm Kim Hosford, and I'm running for City Council because Phoenix is at a turning point. Since the Alameda Fire, our community has faced real loss – but also a rare chance to rebuild with intention.

My approach is practical, not political. Left, right, or somewhere in between, I think we can agree on the basics: a city government that listens, spends wisely, and gets things done for the people who live here.

My priorities:

A Thriving, Independent Downtown. Phoenix has a chance to become a real destination – not by chasing any business that will take a vacant lot, but by supporting the independent businesses, public art, and local character that give our town its own identity. A vibrant downtown means more jobs, more foot traffic, and more reasons for people to stop, shop, and stay.

Housing and Growth That Fit Our Town. As Phoenix rebuilds, land use decisions will shape who gets to live here for decades. I'll push for smart, sustainable growth and housing options that keep Phoenix affordable for working families, longtime residents, and seniors alike.

Parks, Wetlands, and Safe Neighborhoods. Our green spaces and wetlands are part of what makes Phoenix unique. I'll work to protect and improve them, and to keep our neighborhoods safe and walkable for all residents.

Fiscal Responsibility and an Open Door. City government works best when it's honest about trade-offs and careful with your tax dollars. I'm committed to transparency, accountability, and collaboration between citizens, City Council, and City staff – no closed doors, no surprises.

(This information furnished by Kim Hosford.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

**City of Phoenix
Council Member**



**Tim
Larive**

Occupation: Real Estate Appraiser; 2001-Present.

Occupational Background: Marketing & Sales Director; Mt. Shasta Ski Park. 1985-2001.

Educational Background: BA-

San Diego State University. Urban Geography.

Prior Governmental Experience: None

Tim Larive for City Council

Independent, Results-Oriented, Pragmatic Leadership

Phoenix is a remarkable place, defined by its resilience, character, and the deep sense of community shared by the people who call it home. Living here for 8 years, I've come to appreciate not only its smalltown charm but also its potential. Phoenix is at an important moment in its evolution—one where thoughtful planning, collaboration, and a clear vision can shape the future.

I believe our community is on a positive path forward. We are seeing renewed interest from small businesses, entrepreneurs, and families who recognize Phoenix as a place where opportunity and quality of life intersect. With careful stewardship, we can encourage growth that strengthens our identity rather than diluting it, ensuring that Phoenix remains welcoming, vibrant, and distinctly itself.

My goal is to contribute to that progress in a way that reflects the values of our residents: practicality, fiscal responsibility, and a commitment to long term community wellbeing. I want to help support initiatives that enhance everyday life, from encouraging responsible development to fostering strong partnerships between citizens, staff, and leadership.

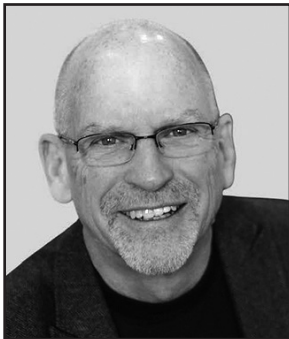
Phoenix deserves solutions that are thoughtful, balanced, and grounded in real world experience. I bring a background in small town economic development, real estate analysis, and community engagement. I am committed to listening carefully, working collaboratively, and helping guide decisions that benefit current and future generations.

Our town has already demonstrated its ability to rise to challenges and seize opportunities. With continued focus and shared purpose, Phoenix can build on this momentum and create new possibilities

(This information furnished by Tim Larive.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Shady Cove
Mayor



**Terry D
Rasmussen**

Occupation: Principal Broker, John L. Scott Medford; manages a 5-person team; Managing Principal Broker for a 200-agent company

Occupational Background: Real estate Principal Broker for

37 years; youth sports coach 1998–2014, ending as Head Boys Basketball Coach at Crater High School, Central Point; leadership board, Trail Christian Fellowship, Eagle Point, 2000–2022; co-founder and President, Redemption Ridge (nonprofit safe home for female teenage victims of human trafficking), founded 2010 with my wife

Educational Background: Eagle Point High School graduate

Prior Governmental Experience: None

Shady Cove is a Diamond on the Rogue—a special community with deep roots and strong potential. My vision is a vibrant place where neighbors come together to support one another, strengthen what we already love, and keep our town a safe, well-managed home where families thrive. I believe the people of Shady Cove are fully capable of solving the challenges we face. We need energetic citizens willing to serve on our commissions—people ready to share practical ideas and steady energy that help our community stay strong and full of life. Together we can protect the character of Shady Cove while building the future residents want. Just as important is a City Council that genuinely values and respects the ideas and opinions of its citizens. Open listening, transparent decision-making, and collaborative problem-solving must be the standard. When residents are heard and involved, better outcomes follow. I ask for your vote for Mayor. Let's work together so our Diamond on the Rogue continues to shine for the people who call it home.

(This information furnished by Terry D Rasmussen.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Shady Cove
Council Member



**Natalie
Swendener**

Occupation: Business Analyst/Consultant, Utilities Industry

Occupational Background: I have been a Systems Analyst/Technical Project Lead in the Utilities Industry for over 25

years. I have participated in Enterprise-level project planning, staffing, budgeting and contract reviews for many years, including projects with multi-million-dollar budgets.

Educational Background: Bachelor's Degree (Computer Science and Mathematics); League of Oregon Cities Local Budget Law Training - Spring 2026.

Prior Governmental Experience: Member, Shady Cove Emergency Management Commission 2024 - 2025.

I am running for office because I believe Shady Cove's tax dollars and financial resources should be spent in ways that provide common-sense benefits to residents. I believe that as a member of the City Council, I work for you -- the residents of Shady Cove. I will make every effort to be a respectful, thoughtful steward of Shady Cove's resources. Instead of spending large sums on legal fees and consultants, I believe our City needs to focus taxpayer resources on roads, supporting businesses and community events.

If elected, my goal will be to partner with Shady Cove's new City Administrator, fellow Council members, and the Budget Committee to improve our financial management in tangible, measurable ways.

I will champion a budget that clearly identifies the City's investment and cash reserves, so that residents can fully understand all of the City's resources.

I will work with fellow Councilors to make budget-to-actuals reviews a priority. One key goal is for budget reports to come directly from the City's accounting system, instead of being manually created.

I believe another area of improvement is to track and quantify errors in financial data entry, as problems continue to impact our ability to complete audits in a timely and cost-effective manner. As Councilors, our goal should be to ensure problems are tracked, causes are identified, and training and processes are put in-place to ensure that financial processes improve over time. Most importantly, the budget-to-actuals review process needs to be transparent and open to the public.

(This information furnished by Natalie Swendener.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Shady Cove Council Member



**Paige
Winfrey**

Occupation: Elected City Councilor 2022–2026; Board Chair of a Nonprofit 501(c)(3); Personal Chef for multiple nonprofit organizations

Occupational Background: Management roles in various

event-related businesses since 1986; Small business owner/operator since 1989; State certified peer support specialist; Board member, counselor, and cooking skills instructor at a nonprofit

Educational Background: Associate of Arts degrees in Christian Counseling and Biblical Studies from Pacific Bible College; two League of Oregon Cities conferences; Elected Officials, Public Meeting Law, and Budget Law workshops

Prior Governmental Experience: Appointed to Shady Cove City Council March 2022; currently serving as an elected City Councilor

It has been a pleasure to serve my community. I look forward to continuing this journey alongside my fellow citizens. Serving as a councilor has been a valuable educational experience, and I remain dedicated to learning more about city government.

I am most interested in unifying the citizens of Shady Cove and the city council. Many residents want to be involved and are eager to discuss what the future holds. Citizens are hungry for discussion, answers, and action. It is essential that our citizens feel heard, respected, valued, and included in the solutions that shape our community.

I believe it is both a privilege and a responsibility to serve Shady Cove's citizens. As servant leaders, we must listen with the intent of understanding our community so that our actions are guided by its desires.

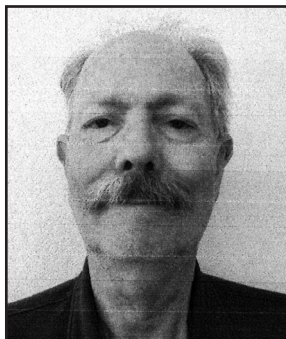
Regularly scheduled town hall meetings with council participation will create opportunities for face-to-face conversations that build relationships and lead to meaningful action. I also support greater citizen input and involvement during regular council meetings so that public voices are welcomed and considered in decision-making.

If given the privilege of serving another four years, I will focus on fully functioning commissions with council liaisons. It takes a unified community to maintain forward momentum. I want to walk alongside my fellow citizens on this journey. We are in this together, and together we can build a stronger Shady Cove.

(This information furnished by Paige Winfrey.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Shady Cove Council Member, 2-Year Unexpired Term



**Samuel
Clark**

Occupation: Retired

Occupational Background: Accounting Software Consultant; Controller

Educational Background: Vanguard University - BA

Prior Governmental Experience: 6 Years Costa Mesa Planning Commission; Current Shady Cove Planning Commission

I am running for the Shady Cove City Council because I believe our community is strongest when neighbors work together with respect, honesty, and a shared commitment to the future. City government should focus on solving local problems, being accountable to residents, and making decisions that reflect the best interests of our community.

If elected, I will listen carefully to residents, encourage open communication, and work collaboratively with fellow council members, city staff, local businesses, and community organizations. My priorities are maintaining safe neighborhoods, supporting responsible stewardship of public resources, improving infrastructure, preserving our parks and natural spaces, and planning thoughtfully for the future while protecting the character of Shady Cove.

I believe every resident deserves to be heard, regardless of their background or point of view. I will approach each issue with an open mind, ask thoughtful questions, and make decisions based on facts, sound judgment, and what will best serve our community over the long term.

It would be an honor to serve the people of Shady Cove. I respectfully ask for your support and your vote, and I pledge to represent our community with integrity, transparency, and a commitment to working together for the common good.

(This information furnished by Samuel Clark.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Talent Mayor



Daniel Collay

Occupation: Executive Director, Friends of Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument

Occupational Background: Director of Operations, Willow-Witt Ranch; Program Coordinator, The Crest; Natural

Resources and Environmental Education

Educational Background: Southern Oregon University, B.S. Environmental Studies

Prior Governmental Experience: Talent City Council (2024-present); Budget Committee, Chair; Urban Renewal Agency, Vice-Chair; Urban Forestry Committee; Rogue Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Committee

As Talent's next Mayor I will prioritize:

Communication and Transparency

City government is meant to work for the people. I will listen to the concerns and needs of all Talentonians and communicate clearly as issues arise and decisions are made.

Public Safety

Everyone deserves to feel safe and welcome, no matter who they are. I will work to find a sustainable approach to public safety funding and operations.

Economic Development

Business recovery and development after the fire is still catching up. I will work collaboratively with the Economic Development Commission and local business leaders to explore options to revitalize and grow our small town economy.

Environmental Stewardship

I will support the growth of Talent's urban tree canopy, care for our parks and green spaces, and pursue innovative, sustainable solutions, including clean energy, to ensure Talent's future resilience.

Collaboration

I will work with local and regional partners such as the school district, fire district, neighboring cities, and irrigation district to improve efficiency and deliver the highest quality, most cost-effective services for our residents.

"Daniel is a leader who listens, delivers results, and builds trust by bringing people together. I am proud to support him as the next generation of leadership our community needs." -**Mayor Darby Ayers-Flood**

"Daniel demonstrates a deep commitment to what our community values. I know he will continue with the same thoughtfulness and dedication as Mayor" -**Ana Byers, Talent community member**

"Daniel understands the importance of replanting Talent's urban tree canopy, creating a lasting asset for the people of Talent for generations to come." -**Jason Clark, Talent Urban Forestry Committee chair**

(This information furnished by Daniel Collay.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

City of Talent Council Member, Position 1



Colette Paré-Miller

Occupation: Talent City Councilor; Talent Business Alliance, Administrative Coordinator

Occupational Background: Family Nurturing Center, Community Engagement

Educational Background: Mills College, Bachelor of Arts, Research Psychology; Land Use Leadership Initiative, 1000 Friends of Oregon

Prior Governmental Experience: Talent City Council (2021-present); Talent Urban Renewal Agency (2021-present); Talent Public Arts Committee (2019-2020); Talent Citizen Advisory Committee: Urban Growth Boundary Alternatives (2018)

As your Talent City Councilor I will continue to focus on:

Affordability and Sustainability

The cost of housing in Talent has continued to go up since the Alameda Fire, pushing home ownership further out of reach for Talent's working families, young professionals, and seniors on fixed incomes. I will continue to support community-focused options like the Age Plus senior housing developments in Talent and sustainable and attainable housing at Talent's Gateway site.

Keeping Our Neighbors Safe

With the increased presence of ICE in the Rogue Valley, we need our leaders to stand up to federal authorities who are violating our constitutional rights. I will work alongside fellow councilors, staff, and residents to protect our community from federal overreach, enforce sanctuary laws, and to make sure all of our residents feel safe in Talent.

Supporting Our Small Businesses

Talent's small businesses are a huge asset to our town, but many are still struggling years after the fire. City support for initiatives like the Talent Art Walk and the city's Harvest Festival help to promote a more vibrant downtown and strengthen relationships and connection between businesses and community members.

Serving Our Community

I have witnessed the strength of our town while working alongside fellow residents – volunteering with neighbors for the Rogue Food Unites free farmers market, advocating for art in public spaces with the Talent Public Arts Committee, and supporting emerging entrepreneurs through my work with the Talent Business Alliance and with the Talent Artisans and Growers Markets.

These experiences have deepened my commitment to our community, and I am grateful to continue serving the City of Talent.

(This information furnished by Colette Paré-Miller.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

**City of Talent
Council Member, Position 2**



**Donna
Ruiz**

Occupation: Co-owner, Back Door Art Studio and Gallery; Jewelry Designer, Tucci'Z Designs

Occupational Background: Fidelity Information Systems: Program/Project Management, Client Services, Software Development

Educational Background: Bachelor of Arts, National University; certificates in Jewelry Design; Infinite Possibilities Certified Trainer

Prior Governmental Experience: Talent Public Arts Committee, Chair; Talent Parks Commission, former Chair

I love Talent and believe strongly in its future. I am running for City Council at the encouragement of friends, neighbors and community members who believe my experience, collaborative approach and commitment to service can help Talent thrive.

Small Business and Community

As a small business owner and organizer of the Talent Quarterly Art Walk, I have seen firsthand what we can accomplish when local businesses, artists and residents work together. I will support efforts that strengthen our local economy and create welcoming community events for people of all ages.

Affordability

Talent should remain a place where people of different ages and incomes can afford to live. I support a balanced mix of single-family homes, multifamily housing and manufactured-home communities, along with programs supporting older adults, young families and residents with lower incomes.

Safety and Fire Preparedness

Living through the Alameda Fire showed us how important preparedness is. I will support effective wildfire mitigation, emergency planning, and police and fire services that help protect our community.

Arts, Culture and Community Identity

Through the Public Arts Committee and Our Stories Through Art (OSTA), I have helped bring community stories into public spaces, including Talent's newest mural on the Historical Society building, with additional public art projects ahead. I am also excited about exploring a future Arts and Culture Center bringing together art, history and community programming.

I will listen to residents, encourage constructive dialogue and work collaboratively for the good of our community.

(This information furnished by Donna Ruiz.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

**City of Talent
Council Member, Position 3**



**Nicole
Greider**

Occupation: Talent City Councilor; Community Organizer; Student

Occupational Background: Community Engagement/Volunteer Coordinator, Rogue Action Center; Fire Relief Organizer,

Rogue Climate; Nonprofit Development, Communications and Event Coordination

Educational Background: BS, Psychology (in progress); Oregon Community Health Worker Certification; Oregon Youth Peer Support Specialist Certification; Immediate Post-Disaster Emotional Assistance Certification; Ashland Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Certification; FEMA Local Volunteer and Donations Management Certification; 1000 Friends of Oregon Land Use Leadership Initiative; International Teaching English as a Foreign Language Accreditation

Prior Governmental Experience: Talent City Council (2021-2024, present); Talent Urban Renewal Agency (2021-2024, present); Together for Talent Committee, Chair (2025-2026)

My work on Talent City Council and in fire recovery has taught me the importance of bringing people together to find collaborative solutions. These are the values I bring to public service:

Climate Justice and Sustainability

In my professional work, I've had the privilege of seeing communities recover and become more resilient. On Council, I hope to help the city leverage grant opportunities to create a just transition to clean, renewable energy and a more sustainable future.

Affordability and Equity

As a parent I understand how tough it is for busy families to make ends meet. In balancing the city budget, it is imperative that city leaders listen to our residents and small businesses to find solutions that support equity in the face of rising costs.

A Connected and Resilient Talent

Talent is a community that brings together people of diverse backgrounds, languages and cultures. This is our strength. City leadership can help support community connection so all our residents have the opportunity to thrive. We can create strong social networks of mutual support by working collaboratively with community-based organizations, our volunteer networks and committees and commissions, while incorporating inclusive planning to ensure that no one is left behind. My professional experience here and abroad has made me keenly aware of the need to communicate effectively, and be willing to meet people where they are.

(This information furnished by Nicole Greider.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.



**Kevin
Smith**

Occupation: Project Manager
Occupational Background: Field Electrician, Purchasing Agent
Educational Background: WyoTech Trade School

Prior Governmental Experience: None

When my wife Megan and I moved to Talent, we quickly learned what a welcoming town Talent is. Watching Megan participate in the community by being a member of the Talent Public Arts Committee inspired me to find where I could also be involved in the town we now call home.

The Experience I Bring to Council

I've worked in construction for the past 15 years, starting as a field electrician and now as a project manager, I've always been tasked with developing effective and practical solutions for complicated problems. I hope to bring my knowledge and experience to the council to help the city continue to develop towards the future in measured and sustainable ways.

My work as a project manager has also provided me with experience in budgeting on a large scale, working with diverse groups of people on short and long-term projects, and negotiating contracts with various providers of goods and services.

Keeping Talent Moving Forward

I'm so impressed with how Talent's leadership has helped the city recover from the tragedy of the Almeda fire, while maintaining the city commitment to strong community values: housing Talent families can afford, a vibrant downtown with thriving small businesses, and a green and sustainable future for future generations.

I'm invested in Talent's future. There is nowhere else I would rather live, whether it's meeting friends at a local pub and listening to live music, enjoying Talent's community parks, or meeting neighbors while walking our dog Oliver.

I am excited about joining the City Council, and serving this community. I respectfully ask for your vote.

(This information furnished by Kevin Smith.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.



**Katelyn
Detweiler**

Occupation: Senior Restoration Project Manager at The Freshwater Trust, a science-driven nonprofit that restores freshwater ecosystems using technology, policy and finance.

Occupational Background: Dedicated habitat restoration professional and field botanist with a strong background in small-scale farming and livestock husbandry.

Educational Background: Southern Oregon University; Bachelor of Science in Environmental Studies with concentration on Ecology and Natural Resource Conservation

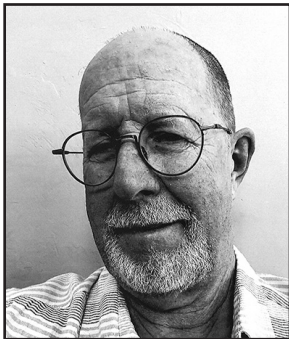
Prior Governmental Experience: None

The Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District is charged with the mission to conserve, protect and enhance the soil, water, and other natural resources in Jackson County. As a small farm owner and habitat restoration project manager, I know we must support working lands while advancing opportunities that improve our natural ecosystems. Committed to these goals, I look forward to serving the board by bringing hands-on experience as a working land manager and restoration practitioner.

(This information furnished by Katelyn Detweiler.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District
Director, At-Large, Position 2



**Stan
Dean**

Occupation: Civil / Environmental Engineer (retired)

Occupational Background: Sacramento Area Sewer District (1993 - 2013) Various positions progressing from Principal Civil Engineer to District Engineer

(General Manager); Nolte and Associates (1983 - 1993) Engineering consultant; Work during my career focused on planning, construction and management of facilities for drinking water and wastewater utilities. Other water resources areas of expertise include pollution control, water quality in our lakes and rivers, and environmental laws and regulations.

Educational Background: Lafayette College, Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, 1982; University of California at Davis, Masters of Science in Environmental Engineering, 1983

Prior Governmental Experience: Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District, Director, 2016 to present; Oregon Soil and Water Conservation Commission, Commissioner, 2016 - 2024

Our natural resources, including our soil, water, and ecosystems, must be used wisely so they can support our economic activities and a healthy environment. As a Director at Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District I will make sure that dollars and staff time are used in an efficient and effective manner. I believe that we need on the ground projects that protect our resources and allow them to be put to good use. I also support natural resource education so people in our County will be able to make good informed choices.

(This information furnished by Stan Dean.)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.