

1-The next Portland City Council will be unlike any that we've ever experienced in the past. How should Council operate and what will Council need to accomplish in the next two years to make the new form of government as effective and respected as it can be?

More important than any procedural system or interpretation of Robert's Rules, the City Council must demonstrate that they can work together on hard things, and quickly produce meaningful results for Portlanders in a tangible way. I have been hearing from countless individuals that it feels like nothing is getting better, and that they don't feel safe or welcome in public spaces. People want to live in Portland, and they are angry and sad that the city they love is hurting. We need to have some early wins to help the average neighbor feel like it's worth staying here. Otherwise, I fear they'll just move. The parks in Happy Valley are pristinely maintained. Vancouver's sidewalks are really clean. People want to be in Portland. But if the next City Council falls on their face on day one, I think they'll lose hope. That's going to require real leadership.

To that end, we cannot afford to have the next City Council learn on the job. We need 12 City Councilors who are focused on finding solutions, building coalitions, and working within complex bureaucracies and across governments. We have real problems in our community that require real solutions, and we cannot have our City Council distracted by performative politics or ego.

2-Current City Council members have suggested that we need to relax environmental and natural resource regulations in order to address the housing crisis. What is your perspective on this issue? What is your top natural resource and environmental priority?

I don't support relaxing environmental or natural resource regulations that provide meaningful solutions to the climate crisis or protecting the environment in general. However, I do not believe that every rule on the book makes sense and that we should blindly continue to follow outdated and irrelevant and overly complicated bureaucratic systems that don't provide value.

We have known that plastic waste is a huge global problem. In 2024 more plastic waste is being created than ever, all while the myth of plastic recycling has been proven to be a propaganda tool for the petroleum industry to continue creating as much plastic as possible. The City Council's response? Banning plastic straws. Give me a break. This doesn't do anything and continues the incorrect framing that consumers are responsible for recycling and reducing waste. That's nonsense. We need to stop companies from producing plastic waste in the first place. I would support robust changes to our procurement requirements in all of our contracts that prioritize specific shipping requirements, packaging requirements, and construction standards, like requiring battery-operated hand tools or new concrete supply techniques.

My top priority toward natural resources and the environment would be to change how the City does budgeting. The Portland Clean Energy Fund is an ongoing resource that the City Council continues to try and pilfer and use those dollars for things other than their intended purpose. I think that instead, we should reframe how the City's General Fund and procurement dollars are used to help compliment things that PCEF cannot pay for. We can use our city dollars in ways

that boost the effectiveness of the investment we're making through PCEF. That fundamental reframing will put a focus on the environment into HOW we do everything, instead of treating it as something we do.

3-Vehicles are Portland's largest source of emissions and continue to climb. For example, a number of cities have restricted downtown vehicle use. How should Council address this issue?

I support expanded car-free areas. I also support increased transit options in East Portland, especially additional North-Sound bus lines. I would fight to bring more family-wage jobs to East Portland so that the majority of our residents aren't forced to leave the district for work every day. Most of those workers use their individual vehicles and contribute to the immense traffic along I-84 and I-205, which East Portland residents are reliant on. I do not support tolling on I-205, as statistically these are the residents in Portland who are the most rent burdened, the most transportation cost burdened, and can afford additional transportation costs the least.

4-There are a number of new and recently built market rate apartment buildings listed for sale for under \$250,000 per unit. The Portland Housing Bureau is financing a number of affordable housing projects that are costing more than \$500,000 per unit. There are some extra costs associated with affordable housing financing and with building more 2BR and 3BR units, but not nearly enough to explain the difference.

What specifically would you do to more effectively use our limited resources for affordable housing?

There are a number of specific things I would like to see the City of Portland do to increase the supply of housing in general. I would like to see a focus on streamlining systems and permitting requirements that exponentially increase the time for development in Portland as compared to our neighbors in Gresham, Beaverton, Hillsboro, Milwaukie, or Happy Valley. They don't have lower community standards for permitting than we do, their systems just work better than ours.

I would encourage the City to incentivize and streamline processes needed for any developer of a downtown skyscraper who wants to convert their commercial space into housing. At the same time, the Portland Housing Bureau and Prosper Portland should be aggressively bidding on downtown buildings that are being foreclosed on. The Montgomery Park building sold for almost \$300M in 2019, and sold at auction earlier this year for \$37m. The City could have purchased this building and converted it into Single-Room-Occupancy or affordable housing or even market rate housing to help alleviate the market burdens on the entire system.

5-Ireland used Citizen Assemblies to deal with difficult issues such as Abortion. Please watch this two minute video and let us know if you think Citizen Assemblies could help Portland come together

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dKSgPtnN0s0>

I think this might be a good idea but shouldn't be the priority until the new systems we voted for have settled into place. The overwhelming majority of Portland City Council Members have been elected from the SW hills. Only one City Council member has ever lived East of I-205. The voters of Portland took the most dramatic action in our history to fundamentally change service delivery and community representation and I'm excited for the opportunity to represent East Portland for the first time in City Hall. Anything that brings the community further involved in the workings of their city is a huge step.

However I'm really interested in letting these new changes take effect before creating new systems. My experience has been that things like this start very excitedly and have great involvement, but excitement fades and participation dwindles. Folks with the most means and flexibility continue to show up but hard working families in East Portland matriculate away and we end up with the same privileged voices demanding specific action.

6-What is another City doing that Portland should replicate?

There's no single other city that Portland should be imitating because Portland is a weird unique beast. That said there are a lot of smaller things that I think Portland could quickly adopt that would make a meaningful difference in our city.

The City of Seattle has hired staff in their economic development agency to focus on supporting the nighttime economy, and partnered with their colleagues in King County to hire staff focused on supporting the music and performance industry. This has boosted tourism and business profits, reduced reliance on police for nonemergency situations, and helped encourage folks to come back into neighborhood businesses following the pandemic. Portland is the fourth largest music city in America and the only one without any formal recognition. By giving some basic recognition and some institutional support within city government, our \$3 billion local music industry can be a beacon for Portland's next great chapter.

New York City and countless others have implemented some form of Community Participatory Budgeting. I'm excited to hear what the organizers of the campaign will plan for 2026.

Washington DC and Austin Texas have implemented acoustic zoning requirements for new developments that are built in areas adjacent to noise-producing commercial areas, from heavy industry to live music. This protects new residents from disruptive noise, and protects existing businesses and vibrancy in our community.