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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?

There are many policy actions we need to take as quickly as possible, but the one thing that I think is fundamentally most important in the first year of the new council is establishing a framework for how we are going to govern.

As we shift to a legislative branch model we need to ensure we are creating systems for our council members to engage in real, authentic, accessible, equitable community engagement. That we are taking the initiative to have all Portland voices involved in decision making.

I also want us to establish metrics that give us a channel for prioritizing the human-impact of our policies as an input into our policy considerations. The human impact is too often considered only as a post-implementation qualitative assessment, but not a quantitative metric for deciding what our policy priorities should be before we finalize it.

An example of a model that moves us in this direction is the [Social Return on Investment Report](#) from So Others Might Eat (SOME) in D.C.

To note a few policy priorities as well ...

I want to see us move Portland Street Response to 24/7 operations as soon as possible, with a short term plan to get systems in place to access Medicaid/Medicare funding support.

I also want to quickly launch a feasibility study for incentivizing commercial conversions of our vacant office buildings to affordable homes, so we can bring large numbers of units online more quickly, while improving our built-in infrastructure's climate impact, and improving neighborhoods that are suffering from high vacancy rates.

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?

We cannot relax our environmental regulations; there is no more time to wait on prioritizing our climate impact in our decision making. What we can do is think more creatively about how environmental regulations and housing production can enhance and support each other. How can we incentivize more resilient and sustainable development without burdening the process? This could look like fast

tracking permitting for sustainable development, green redevelopment, and projects that leverage elements that reduce the development's impact on our infrastructure. We can use models from other communities and partners in our community, like EcoLloyd, to evaluate how to encourage climate forward decisions in development, instead of staying stuck in a model where it functions as a hindrance.

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?

Expand public transportation and find a path to working with TriMet to make public transportation free! It should not cost more for your family to travel by public transportation than by car (for just two people to go downtown on a Saturday it will cost \$10 round trip, but a parking garage all afternoon is \$5).

Expand safe and accessible active transportation. My community is talking about wanting to be able to commute and travel by active transportation without having dangerous connections or routes. We need to invest in comprehensive and city-wide safe active transit.

I would consider policies that discourage vehicular transportation as long as we do so from a place that is not negatively impacting low income and marginalized communities. We need to ensure that all communities have access to alternatives, and not make policies that are punitive for low income and working families when they don't have an option to meet their needs other than driving.

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?

First we need to answer the why behind this discrepancy. What is it about our systems that make affordable construction 2x more expensive than market rate? This is a flaw in our policy making. I'll also note it is a great example of how we need to embed feedback loops into our policy design so we have accountability to achieving our goals and pivoting our approaches when we don't get the outcomes we want.

We also need to clean-up our current policies around inclusionary housing. We need increased accountability for earmarked units coming online quickly and appropriately. We also need to streamline moving the fee payments received from

developers that don't want to include affordable units back into funding affordable housing.

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 would love to see Citizen Assemblies, I think that's a great example of the equitable community engagement I want to see established by our new city council. One of the things I most loved about this reference was that they specifically ensured that the room was representative of the entire community. Too often our government (at many levels) provides narrow access points for engagement and then only listens to the voices who had the privilege (capacity, access, time, technology) to participate. It is the council's responsibility to ensure that we engage the community and we do it in a way that is fully inclusive and representative.

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

I would like to see Portland replicate successful social housing models from other places nationally as well as internationally. I particularly like the [Alliance for Housing Justice](#) framework for social housing:

- Socially owned
- Permanently affordable
- Permanently decommodified
- Under community control
- Anti-racist & equitable
- Sustainable
- High quality & accessible
- With tenant security