



WHO'S WHO? in Oregon Politics

Elections matter because politicians create laws that help or hurt our families. The policies that shaped Oregon—theft of Native lands, our formation as a whites-only state, and laws discriminating against non-white immigrants—continue today. Whether it's gentrification, police violence, or the ongoing fight for immigrant rights, elected leaders are making decisions about what kind of Oregon we live in and who is welcome here.

That's why it's so important for women of color, trans and gender non-conforming people of color and Indigenous communities to bring our whole selves to the act of voting on November 3rd.

CAN I VOTE?

To vote in Oregon, you must be a U.S. citizen and at least 18 years of age at the time of the election.

- Oregon's expanded Motor Voter Act makes voter registration automatic when an eligible, unregistered voter applies for, renews, or replaces an Oregon driver's license, ID card, or permit.
- If you have a past felony conviction, you can re-register after release from prison. People on parole and probation can vote.
- Not sure if you're registered? Check at: sos.oregon.gov

HOW TO VOTE IN OREGON



Oregon is a vote by mail state. A ballot will be mailed to all registered voters.



- 1 Once you fill in your ballot, place it in the secrecy envelope, seal it, and put it in the return envelope.



2 Make sure to sign the return envelope after verifying that your name and current address are correct.



- 3 There is no need for a stamp, as your ballot already has postage. Just put the envelope in the mail!



If it's after October 29, you'll need to drop off your ballot at an official ballot site.

All ballots must be received by 8:00pm on November 3 in order to be counted.

OREGON STATEWIDE ELECTED POSITIONS

POSITION

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

SECRETARY OF STATE

Oregon's chief elections officer. First in the line of succession for Governor. Elected every four years.

- Helps ensure the right to participate in federal, state and local elections.
- Serves as the state's auditor, ensuring public money is used appropriately.



Helps ensure that no Oregonian is unfairly denied the right to vote.



If Oregon House Representatives and State Senators can't agree on how to draw lines for 2021 redistricting, the Secretary of State will draw the new districts, which determines if voters of color have power within their district.

LOCAL ELECTED POSITIONS • Positions in local government may be elected by voters in a specific district or citywide/countywide. City governments in Oregon have different structures. In some cities, the Mayor is the most powerful, and in others the City Council has more power. Learn more about your city government and how your city's structure effects how you cast your vote.

POSITION

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

CITY MAYOR

Elected official who leads city government. Serves a four-year term.

- Determines policies for all city services and sets the budget for a city.
- In Portland, the Mayor controls the police bureau budgets and oversees the police department.



Can provide financial support to community services, which support low-income families.



Makes zoning and budgetary decisions that could promote or prevent development of affordable and temporary housing, such as emergency homeless shelters for mothers and children.



Can introduce a new tax or fee for a council vote.

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council composition may vary by city. This elected position works with the Mayor to manage city government. Each member can serve a four-year term. Half of city council members are up for reelection every two years.

- Determine policies for all city services, such as building codes, zoning, and managing public services.
- Respond to emerging community needs and issues.



Can provide financial support to community services, which support low-income families.



Make zoning and budgetary decisions that could promote or prevent development of affordable and temporary housing, such as emergency homeless shelters for mothers and children.

Did you know that by late October, 50% of voters have already turned in their ballots? By now, many of your neighbors and friends may have already voted. Make sure your voice is heard too. **Vote by November 3**

WRITE-IN CANDIDATES

You can write in a name on your ballot for a candidate who is not listed on the printed ballot. Write in the candidate's name on the blank line next to "write in." For more guidance, check out your voter pamphlet or visit sos.oregon.gov.







OREGON STATEWIDE BALLOT MEASURES: Statewide ballot measures are either community driven efforts to pass new laws or referred to voters by the Oregon State Legislature. Below are ballot measures that Forward Together is particularly concerned about.

MEASURE	WHY IT MATTERS TO OUR FAMILIES	FORWARD TOGETHER'S RECOMMENDATION
M108 Raises price of cigarettes and vapes by \$2 per pack.	Raises revenue for the Oregon Health Plan and smoking cessation programs.	Vote YES
M110 Decriminalizes low-level possession of drugs. Expands drug addiction recovery, treatment and support services.	Works to eliminate racial disparities in drug arrests, establishing culturally responsive treatment.	Vote YES

LOCAL BALLOT MEASURES

MEASURE	WHY IT MATTERS TO OUR FAMILIES	FORWARD TOGETHER'S RECOMMENDATION
26-214 - Multnomah County Pre-K for All Creates a localized income criteria for free preschool for Multnomah County families.	Invests in early childhood learning. Caps preschool costs for all families at no more than 7% of household income and increases compensation and training for the early learning workforce.	Vote YES

FORWARD TOGETHER unites grassroots leaders to win rights, recognition and resources for all families.

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