

Candidate Engagement

Candidate Questionnaire | 2020 Primary Election

The Eugene Area Chamber of Commerce welcomes the opportunity to engage with candidates in our local non-partisan elections for the 2020 May Primary. While the Eugene Chamber will not be issuing endorsements for this election, we will provide opportunities for candidates to engage our members and for our members to be informed and evaluate candidates based on their alignment with the values of the business community.

Answers to the questions below will serve in evaluating candidates who are running in various local non-partisan races and may be available on the Chamber of Commerce's website. Please complete the following if you wish to participate in the Eugene Chamber of Commerce's candidate engagement process:

Full Name: Candice King

Position running for: City Councilor Ward 1

Campaign Email:

Campaign Website (if applicable):

www.solidarityplatformeugene.org

Please provide a brief bio including your professional background, volunteerism and any affiliations with local businesses or organizations.

This is Kalapuya land. I feel very grateful to be able to live in this beautiful valley, and excited that by the time they reach adulthood all four my children will be Oregonians. I am fortunate to have a wonderful partner, Eric, who is infinitely supportive of me personally and in all my (wild) ambitions.

I grew up in Wichita, KS. In 2016, I completed my bachelor's degree in International Political Economy from Berea College (KY). I work for Homes for Good Housing Agency, as the Housing Liaison, and I am a member (in good standing) of AFSCME Union 3267.

Prior to Berea College, I spent the better part of 12 years working (hard) in restaurant kitchens and a spattering of other random, odd and often weird jobs, sometimes two at a time.

I am a Certified Beagle Poverty Coach and have received training in Motivational Interviewing. Over the years, social and political activism have been a constant thread. Community work is

difficult and involves a lot of embarrassment and sacrifice. Nevertheless, I know that my family is safer, happier and more resilient when our communities are strong.

Please share with us your primary reason for running in this election and what impact you would like to make in the community.

I am running for Ward 1 City Councilor because marginalized knowledge, experiences and ideas deserve real inclusion, and I know I can help the city council find meaningful ways to achieve that. Eugene is a good place to live and has the potential to be a thriving beacon of resilience if we revolutionize and optimize our civic systems.

What individuals or organizations are either supporting your campaign, or are you seeking an endorsement from?

NONE

Do you have a fundraising plan for your campaign?

I pledge not to exceed \$750 in the primary. If I advance beyond the primary, I intend to fundraise the bare minimum necessary to participate in all aspects of the election, and not to waste any money on TV ads or signage. I will encourage my supporters to show solidarity through more environmentally sustainable and financially responsible means.

If elected, what is your number one priority?

My number one priority is to make city council and city government more accessible to working class families and individuals; including making radically different accommodations for people who experience disabilities.

What important leadership skill would you bring to the position and how would these skills be applicable to the business community.

I have an innate ability to accurately interpret and translate communication across misunderstandings. I am oriented toward egalitarianism and facilitate space for people who are typically marginalized. Marginalizing people and views leaves potential dollars and solutions on the proverbial "sidewalk".

The business community in Eugene is critical to our community's long-term viability. How would you propose that you, as an elected official, work with the business community to

ensure that fees, taxes, regulatory structures, tax incentives and service philosophy allow businesses to be successful?

Businesses are most successful when they exist in thriving communities. For communities to thrive we must carefully consider the concerns and needs of all community members, otherwise we continue to perpetuate the cycle of ghettoization that has plagued 20th and 21st century development. I understand development. I particularly understand the economic models and mechanisms used to analyze and project the scenarios of development. With me, you don't get a haphazard "shot in the dark" or second-hand analysis. You get someone who can look at the data and the methodologies and who knows principles and theories that should guide our analysis.

That said, without having the time or information about acute situations impacting our business communities it's difficult to say what would work. I can say that policies should be responsive, not reactionary.

How would you involve the business community in a discussion about the future of our community?

I think we can use the power of technology and the expertise of highly-skilled individuals to be maximally responsive and accessible for Eugene's business communities. However, I don't include businesses among marginalized groups, and I think they have plenty of representation within city government.

What strategies would you support to control government spending to lessen the need to increase taxes, fees or other charges.

I am not the "low business taxes" candidate. Businesses stand to gain the most benefit from thriving communities. Nice roads, functioning AND state of the art communications networks, healthy people, well-trained, educated and healthy workers and patrons are all benefits that can be captured by increasing certainty within the public sector. Resistance to business taxes effectively demonstrates to our communities that we can afford to support business, but they don't want to support us. I reject that notion.

I am currently working on the Oregon People Rebate campaign with Eugene Springfield Solidarity Network. This goal of this initiative is to levy a 2.5% tax on business revenues over \$25 million, for any business who earns that in Oregon annually, and to issue a tax rebate of around \$750 to all Oregonians who have resided in the state for more than 200 days in that year. This would effectively pump hundreds of millions of dollars back into our cities and towns, providing consumers with more choice of what to buy, and providing burgeoning entrepreneurs with additional potential capital to get their businesses off the ground.

As a member of an elected body, how would you work with your colleagues to build relationships and build consensus for your ideas?

I would use my advanced facilitation and consensus building skills to help us achieve outcomes based on best practices rather than special interests.

Please return completed questionnaire to:

Tiffany Edwards, Director of Business Advocacy

Email: TiffanyE@EugeneChamber.com

Fax: 541-484-4942

Phone: 541-242-2352

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Full Name: Eliza Kashinsky

Position running for: Eugene City Council, Ward 1

Campaign Email: eliza@electeliza.com

Campaign Website (if applicable): www.electeliza.com

Please provide a brief bio including your professional background, volunteerism and any affiliations with local businesses or organizations.

My career has focused on non-profit management, particularly for organizations that are in transition or growing. I have 15 years of experience with professional leadership roles in non-profit organizations, focusing on operational/administrative functions such as finance, IT, and human resources. I am currently the Human Resources Manager for South Lane Mental Health in Cottage Grove. Previously, I was the Senior Operations Manager for Freedom House in Washington, D.C.; the Chief of Staff/Acting Executive Director for the Secular Coalition for America in Washington, D.C.; and the Operations Director for the Organic Materials Review Institute in Eugene, OR.

I am a former vice-chair of the Eugene Active Transportation Committee. I am a current citizen member of the Eugene Budget Committee, in my third year of service in that role. I have served on a number of City working groups and committees, including the Housing Tools and Strategies Working

Group, the Community Safety Revenue Sub-Committee, and the Mayor's Ad Hoc Working Group for the Climate Action Plan 2.0.

I co-founded the Walkable Eugene Citizen Advisory Network (WE CAN) and have been a vocal advocate for housing and transportation options and sensible zoning code in Eugene for the past five years, particularly focusing on Accessory Dwelling Units. I also have volunteered for Oregon Contemporary Theater, serving as a stage hand in two productions, assisting with set deconstruction and volunteering at their annual fundraising gala.

Please share with us your primary reason for running in this election and what impact you would like to make in the community.

Through my work on the Budget Committee as well as my work on zoning and housing, I have seen how when it comes to addressing difficult or controversial issues, it can feel like Eugene can get stuck... we talk a lot, but it takes a long time for that talk to turn into action, and meanwhile the situations don't get better. I would like to help our community be more proactive about confronting the challenges that face us, and moving forward with solutions.

What individuals or organizations are either supporting your campaign, or are you seeking an endorsement from?

Former Eugene Mayor Kitty Piercy, State Representative Marty Wilde, the Eugene Association of Realtors.

Do you have a fundraising plan for your campaign?

Yes.

If elected, what is your number one priority?

Eugene is facing a severe housing crisis, which is impacting both our lowest-income residents, but also middle-income Eugeneans. These are the people who are starting businesses in Eugene, or who are the employees of businesses. Addressing this housing crisis for Eugeneans of all incomes is my number one priority, starting with removing the barriers to housing in our community.

What important leadership skill would you bring to the position and how would these skills be applicable to the business community.

Leaders must be able to sort through divergent needs and perspectives, identify the likely positive and negative outcomes of potential actions, and then come to a timely decision of which actions to pursue. It is unlikely that those decisions will ever make everyone happy, but a leader needs to pursue what is

going to benefit the community as a whole, and be willing to accept that not everyone is going to agree all the time. This is a skill I display on a daily bases, both in my professional life and in my volunteer activities. This creates an increase in certainty for the business community.

The business community in Eugene is critical to our community’s long-term viability. How would you propose that you, as an elected official, work with the business community to ensure that fees, taxes, regulatory structures, tax incentives and service philosophy allow businesses to be successful?

There is a careful balance that needs to be created to ensure that funding sources and regulations are sufficient to accomplish community goals while at the same time not placing the burden of that unduly on any one group. From a regulatory perspective, I think that we should be ensuring that regulations are producing the outcomes we are looking for, and if they aren’t, we need to revisit them. For funding, ensuring that we are using our money efficiently is a key element of this. Businesses benefit from much of the infrastructure we put in place (roads, etc.) and we all benefit from targeting our resources where they will do the most good for the most people. See below regarding discussions of the future and spending.

How would you involve the business community in a discussion about the future of our community?

When making decisions about the future of the community, it is important to ensure everyone has an opportunity to share both their visions and potential impacts. In addition to engaging with organizations like the Chamber that represent the business community, I would also encourage one-on-one conversation with individual business owners and representatives, both formally depending on the topic and more informally.

What strategies would you support to control government spending to lessen the need to increase taxes, fees or other charges.

First and foremost, we need to ensure that the funds we are investing in the City are producing the outcomes we need. This means evaluating projects and programs to ensure that they are efficiently delivering the services required, and that those services are having the impact we want. During the last budget cycle, I proposed an internal performance auditor to help City departments be more effective and efficient with service deliver. We also need to prioritize better—the City tends to invest a lot of time and energy in projects that have minimum impacts. By focusing on those items that are going to have greater impact, we spend our money better and have less need to increase charges. In addition, delay costs money. Ensuring timely decision making and action will help reduce costs.

As a member of an elected body, how would you work with your colleagues to build relationships and build consensus for your ideas?

Through my work with WE CAN and service on the Budget Committee, I already know most of the current Councilors. I feel like continuing to have opportunity for more informal interaction helps to build positive relationships. In addition, I think working with each Councilor to learn more about their areas of interest and expertise means that their views can be incorporated into my ideas and solutions, making consensus more likely.

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Full Name: Emily Semple

Position running for: Eugene City Council, Ward 1

Campaign Email: emily@emilysemple.org

Campaign Website (if applicable): emilysemple.org (not up yet)

Please provide a brief bio including your professional background, volunteerism and any affiliations with local businesses or organizations.

Eugene City Councilor

Semple Design (graphic design, since 2001)

Chef, Pastry Chef (Ambrosia et al)

Oregon Country Fair, Junior League, 4J Schools

Community Organizer, Occupy Eugene

Please share with us your primary reason for running in this election and what impact you would like to make in the community.

I would like to continue the work I have started in my first term on Council. I have made substantial differences in public safety, homelessness, downtown revitalization, and climate recovery. We have a lot of work ahead of us, even more so with Covid-19. Our world is changing everyday and we need leaders (like me!) who are innovative, intelligent, responsive, committed, passionate and calm. I also have the experience, connections, knowledge and momentum to get things done.

What individuals or organizations are either supporting your campaign, or are you seeking an endorsement from?

Betty Taylor, Chris Pryor, George Brown, Pat Farr

**Eugene Police Employees Association **

Firefighters Union

Home Builders Association

Oregon Basic Rights — Green Light Support

Do you have a fundraising plan for your campaign?

I took the Eugene campaign financial reform pledge to limit my fundraising/expenditures to \$7500 for the year and to accept no donation greater than \$100 from any individual or entity. I did think I could win with canvassing, lots of house parties, literature drops and lots of social media.

I am considering that my original strategy might fail considering the daily changes affecting our ability to interact in person. All I have right now, is phone calls because . . . major personal/campaign challenge . . . my Facebook profile has been locked down for nine months. I've sent everything they've asked for but get nowhere and no response. If I start a new account, a "friend" reports me as an imposter. Even more frustrating than the campaign hit, I can't communicate with my constituents to give them information, encouragement and my personal take on our situation. So, this is a sneaky way of asking for help. HELP! Do any of you know a way to get Facebook to look at my situation?

And, much as I want to stick to my pledge, reality might change that.

If elected, what is your number one priority?

I will continue my approachable, engaged and responsive community interaction and leadership. I came into this job (which I love and is a wonderful match for me) as an unknown with the goal of connecting with everyone. I learn so much every time I meet with individuals and groups and that's how I get the information I need to find clear, fair, equitable, do-able and effective decisions. Bringing us together (even from 6' away) will make our community stronger, more successful and happier. I like to say, "Let's make Eugene the place where the pursuit of happiness succeeds."

What important leadership skill would you bring to the position and how would these skills be applicable to the business community.

As above, my real job is to listen and I do it well. I am always on the lookout for and appreciative of every outreach I get from the business community. I do my outreach to you also! I work hard to look for fair answers which always include a look at how they affect business. For both the CET and payroll tax, I looked and voted for fairness. I am particularly interested in incentivizing and supporting our local businesses and entrepreneurs.

The business community in Eugene is critical to our community's long-term viability. How would you propose that you, as an elected official, work with the business community to ensure that fees, taxes, regulatory structures, tax incentives and service philosophy allow businesses to be successful?

I'm running out of time (apologies, things have been hectic and consuming) . . .

I'd always include the Chamber! Listen, brainstorm, evaluate, act.

How would you involve the business community in a discussion about the future of our community?

I'd always include the Chamber!

What strategies would you support to control government spending to lessen the need to increase taxes, fees or other charges.

We always have to look at what we want and need and what we can do without. These are difficult decisions and will certainly be changing. To lessen the need for revenue, we will have to curtail our spending. Doing it the right way — listen and be realistic.

As a member of an elected body, how would you work with your colleagues to build relationships and build consensus for your ideas?

We can only talk to three other councilors before we have quorum so it's important to pick the right three! Other negotiations, questions and understanding different viewpoints happen at our public meetings. Once again, it's all about listening with an open mind.

Please return completed questionnaire to:

Tiffany Edwards, Director of Business Advocacy

Email: TiffanyE@EugeneChamber.com

Fax: 541-484-4942

Phone: 541-242-2352

Full Name: Tim Morris

Position running for: Eugene City Council in Ward 1

Campaign Email: FriendsOfTimMorris@gmail.com

Campaign Website (if applicable): <https://www.friendsoftimmorris.com/>

Please provide a brief bio including your professional background, volunteerism and any affiliations with local businesses or organizations.

My community experience includes:

- Founding member and elected leader of Lane County for Bernie Sanders 2016
- Founding member and elected leader of Our Revolution Lane County
- Founding member and board president of the Springfield Eugene Tenant Association
- Citizen member of the Lane County Budget Committee
- Citizen member of the Lane Community College Budget Committee
- Former Chair and member of the Budget Committee of the Democratic party of Lane County
- Citizen member representing market rate rentals to the HB 2001 and HB 2003 ("Resident Renter Market Rate") Rulemaking Advisory Committee

My professional experience includes:

- [Current] Willamette Family (outpatient behavioral health program assistant)
- Emergence (administrative specialist and relief Court Liaison to Lane County Adult Treatment Court)
- Preferred Northwest Property Management (secretary/accounts payable)

Please share with us your primary reason for running in this election and what impact you would like to make in the community.

I am an LGBT Millennial community activist who is running for office because I believe it is time for dynamic and bold change in Eugene. My day job is in alcohol and drug recovery, which gives me a unique perspective to hear the lives of those who live on the streets, those who live near or in poverty, and those who are simply struggling to survive.

I'm running for office because I am a community organizer and activist. I am running because I want to make bold changes to how our city views housing, and to begin implementing changes to grow our woefully missing middle housing. I'm running for city council because we lack urgency from our city council to address climate

change, who's average age is 63, while my generation is fighting like hell to save our futures and the futures of generations after us. I am running because our elected leaders do not see the homeless population as I do in my role in substance recovery. Eugene is the #1 capital for homeless people and rising. Platitudes and vague plans will not address anything, and I believe that Eugene as a city can become a city of support for those in need. Eugene is hungry for change and I believe that I can bring bold leadership as a city councilor.

What individuals or organizations are either supporting your campaign or are you seeking an endorsement from?

Received:

Democratic Party of Lane County, Central Lane Labor Chapter, Medicare For All Lane County, Graduated Teachers Fellowship Federation, Joint Council of Teamsters #37, Many Rivers Group Sierra Club, Oregon League of Conservation, Sunrise Eugene, Pacific Northwest Regional Council of Carpenters

Former Eugene Mayor Kitty Piercy, Representative Marty Wilde,, 4J School Board Member Dr. Martian Shabram, Lisa Fragala, LCC Board Member Chelsea Jennings, LCC Board Member Angela VanKrause, LCC Board Member Melanie Munzer, LCC Board Member

Seeking:

Eugene Chamber of Commerce, United Academics of University of Oregon, Basic Rights Oregon

A full list can be found here: <https://www.friendsoftimmorris.com/>

Do you have a fundraising plan for your campaign?

Yes. Serving on several budget committees and being a community organizer and campaign consultant, we have a campaign budget that is evaluated frequently. We also are grassroots run and plan to organize several active volunteers to knock doors, make calls and encourage Ward 1 to vote!

If elected, what is your number one priority?

It is extremely difficult to name one priority, because many of the issues we face are so interwoven. Advocating and encouraging alternative transportation options will lead to changing the diversity of housing in our neighborhoods & will encourage more affordable and accessible housing which will lead to providing additional support for unhoused or transitioning people who will be able to find shelter and receive services that are sorely needed which will give city council more revenue to addressing climate

change in an intentional way, supplemented with progressive environmentally friendly policies from the City Council which will encourage alternative transportation options. On and on. Eugene City Council does not have a bold housing and environmental advocate serving and I am running for city council to change that. I believe the first step to addressing many of the major issues is lifting restrictions on our archaic zoning and land-use laws to bring a diversity of housing into our neighborhoods and will encourage compact communities.

What important leadership skill would you bring to the position and how would these skills be applicable to the business community.

I am bringing not only my passion and experience to the table but specifically my budgetary experience. I have served on both the Lane Community College budget committee but also the Lane County budget committee. I have learned so many invaluable skills throughout my time on these committees. During my time on the Lane County budget committee, I was able to advocate for the ending of the partnership with the Association of O&C Counties (AOCC.) I was the only citizen member to make any motion for the 2019 Lane County Budget cycle and it is a motion I was proud to make. I moved and advocated for Lane County to stop paying membership dues to the AOCC and for Lane County to put our values first. As a downtown renter living paycheck to paycheck, I bring a unique perspective to many decisions made by City Council. Decisions like the Payroll Tax, which disproportionately hits lower income families and small businesses with a tax that only one public hearing was made to discuss. I understand the need for public safety officers and for homelessness, I believe that it should not be on the backs of people who are already struggling to get by. I plan to bring my passion and my experience balancing budgets to Eugene.

The business community in Eugene is critical to our community's long-term viability. How would you propose that you, as an elected official, work with the business community to ensure that fees, taxes, regulatory structures, tax incentives and service philosophy allow businesses to be successful?

The taxes we pay should be ones that we as a community can agree on. I believe in openness and transparency in government. I am the only candidate in Ward 1 who has committed to hosting an annual town hall, to engage with my constituents and for us to come together to find solutions. Eugene is facing many budgetary challenges. When I was younger, my mom had a saying. "If everyone does a little, no one does a lot." I believe that we can all share the responsibility in making sure our critical services remain funded.

How would you involve the business community in a discussion about the future of our Community?

I hope to involve businesses a great deal in our discussions about the future of Eugene, specifically in the discussion surrounding homelessness. As our homeless population

rises, there is continued concern for what the means for business in the downtown area. I believe that addressing homelessness is a shared responsibility in Eugene, and that we need to critically evaluate what services we are providing. Social services are often overworked and disconnected from each other, there is only one shelter for people to go to, and many of the unhoused community are not aware that there are services available to them. I believe in working together with the business community in order to address some of our major concerns.

What strategies would you support to control government spending to lessen the need to increase taxes, fees or other charges.

I believe that Eugene is heading towards becoming a city focused on alternative transportation. Senator Jeff Merkley introduced a law at the same time as State Senator Lee Beyer boosting electric vehicles and limiting the sales of vehicle emissions. This is just one step in the reduction of vehicles on our roads, with an emphasis on public transportation and ride share programs continuing to expand. As a city councilor, I believe this trend is a great indicator to begin laying down the foundation to reduce vehicle use in Eugene and encourage alternative transportation. With this effort, we will reduce the amount of taxpayer dollars needed for road repairs and many major road surveys, which ties up valuable resources.

As a member of an elected body, how would you work with your colleagues to build relationships and build consensus for your ideas?

As a community organizer, I am often in positions where people disagree with me. As I stated above, I am the only candidate in Ward 1 who has committed to transparency in government and hosting an annual town hall to connect with my community. I believe that there is a difference between opinion and fact and the farther down the proverbial "rabbit hole" you go on a specific issue, the more those two lines are blurred. I plan to build relationships and consensus with my colleagues by always starting from a place of fact.

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Phone: 541-242-2352