



**For Immediate Release
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Transportation Community Releases Endorsements

Portland- Bike Walk Vote is pleased to announce our endorsements for the 2016 Primaries.

Bike Walk Vote PAC is the political voice for Oregonians who bike, walk, or take transit. We work to elect candidates who will best support transportation choices and livable communities. Bike Walk Vote PAC makes endorsements based on answers to written questionnaires, a review of public documents and forums, personal knowledge and experience, and interviews as necessary. Bike Walk Vote believes that the candidates we have endorsed will will work hard to improve active transportation.

Mayoral Race

Endorse: **Sarah Iannarone**

Green Light: *Ted Wheeler and Jules Bailey*

Bike Walk Vote is proud to endorse Sarah Iannarone for Mayor of Portland. Bike Walk Vote is also proud to give Green Lights to Ted Wheeler and Jules Bailey, affirming that they have strong records on active transportation and have the skills to represent the transportation needs of the city.

Sarah Iannarone has a depth of knowledge about the intersection between the built environment and public policy and how they influence transportation system design, safety outcomes, equity, and personal transportation choices. Additionally, she has the bold vision to move the city from it's current state of resting on laurels to re-emerging as a model city for active transportation. As the only citywide candidate who lives, works and rides in east Portland her perspective is needed at city hall.

Both Ted Wheeler and Jules Bailey have a complex understanding of the issues related to transportation that the city currently faces and when interviewed demonstrated a commitment to active transportation that will move Portland forward. Though we feel a more comprehensive understanding for the implementation of Vision Zero from them can be developed, they both have also been endorsed by Bike Walk Vote in previous elections. Hence, we are giving them a green light moving through the primaries.

City Commissioner Seat 1

No primary endorsement

Reason: Too few candidate responses

City Commissioner Seat 4

Endorse: **Steve Novick**

Commissioner Steve Novick's record demonstrates his commitment to active transportation. He has a history of pushing for innovative local transportation funding alternatives. One thing that set Novick apart from the other candidates that we interviewed was his clear understanding of parking policy and induced transportation demand. Additionally, any of the three major mayoral candidates would support a more progressive bike/walk agenda, we believe Novick will take full advantage of this new political landscape.

Metro Dist. 3

Endorse: **Craig Dirksen**

Green Light: *Gerritt Rosenthal*

Reason: Dirksen has a long record of work on trails and transit efforts in Washington County. As mayor of Tigard he worked to improve and expand the Fanno Creek trail. He was also an outspoken critic of Tigard's anti-transit measure in 2014. Since serving on the Metro council he has worked on the Metro Climate Smart Strategy, which identifies increased reliance and prioritization of bike, ped, and transit in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in our region. Bike Walk Vote endorsed Dirksen in his first run for the Metro council and we are proud to do so again.

Metro Dist. 5

Endorse: **Sam Chase**

Metro Council member Chase has shown a clear commitment to bicycle infrastructure by pushing capital projects like the Westside and North Portland Greenway trails. He has shown a clear commitment to walkable and affordable communities. He has fought for affordable transit so no one in the metro region will be left behind as we grow into a more bikeable and walkable region. His clear understand of the funding challenges we face lend us a voice that is much needed at Metro. Thus, Bike Walk Vote enthusiastically renews our past endorsement.

Metro Dist. 6

Endorse: **Bob Stacey**

Metro Council member Bob Stacey has yet again received the enthusiastic endorsement of Bike Walk Vote. His multi-decade dedication to active transportation in all forms is a boon to the entire Metro area. Recently he has co-chaired the Powell-Division Transit and Development Project and the Southwest Corridor Plan and is an avid proponent for Safe Routes to Schools funding regionally. We need his dedication to continue to move these projects forward.

Stacey is working to implement Vision Zero language into the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan building on his successes in active transportation's inclusion in the 2016 RTP. He has successfully worked with ODOT in the past and has the skills to continue to work with and put pressure on ODOT in future projects region-wide. His breadth of knowledge is invaluable, as such, Bike Walk Vote recommends that we send him back to Metro to continue to work for biking, walking and transit.

Governor

No Primary Endorsement

Reason: Too few responses

Multnomah County Commissioner Dist. 1

Endorse: **Mel Rader**

Rader most represents Bike Walk Vote's commitment to transportation choices and livable communities. He is an advocate for Vision Zero, the Safe Routes to Schools program, and locally driven community plans. When it comes to our roadways' infrastructure, Rader understands the complex barriers that need to be addressed, and he has a clearly outlined plan for how to overcome them. Combined with his broad experience in healthcare and climate action, Rader believes in the far-reaching benefits of walking and biking for the entire community. He has a clear understanding of the intersection of public safety, public health and active transportation and has a long record of accomplishments in this arena.

Multnomah County Commissioner Dist. 3

Endorse: **Jessica Vega Pederson**

Reason: While serving in the Oregon House of Representatives, Jessica Vega Pederson has consistently fought for safer more accessible transportation infrastructure including her service on the Outer Powell Transportation Safety Project Decision Committee, the Powell Division Steering Committee, and the Division-Midway Neighborhood Street Plan Work Group. She has worked to increase state and local investments for improved sidewalks and greenways. She also fought for and won over \$20 million for road safety projects in east Portland including sidewalks, crosswalks, and curb extensions. Bike Walk Vote x`endorsed her during her 2012 run for the Oregon House District 47 seat and we are proud to do so again in her run for Multnomah County Commissioner District 3.

Multnomah County Commissioner Dist. 4

No Primary Endorsement

Reason: Too few responses

Oregon House District 43

Endorse: **Tawna Sanchez**

Tawna Sanchez has a clear commitment to safety including a desire to end the disastrous nature of ODOT's management of their orphan highways. She will fight for inclusion of dedicated biking and walking transportation funding if sent to Salem. Her commitment to new, progressive funding sources and her dedication to use the new funding for vulnerable road users and populations lacking access to adequate transportation options is the leadership we need in Salem. She has a proven track record, community support, and a global understanding of active transportation issues. Bike Walk Vote is proud to stand alongside her long list of pro bike/walk/transit endorsements.

We look forward to the upcoming elections and hope to see the candidates that we have endorsed moving active transportation forward in the region.