

Statement on Our Endorsement of Carmen Rubio for Portland Mayor

The Street Trust Action Fund is disappointed by the news of Carmen Rubio's traffic infractions, and we are equally dismayed by her failure to disclose this issue to us during the endorsement process. This behavior falls short of the safety, transparency, and accountability we expect from leaders we endorse. However, after careful consideration, we believe that no other candidate in the race is as poised as Rubio to advance the The Street Trust Action Fund's mission or the urgent transportation safety reforms Portland needs.

While we do not in any way excuse Rubio's behavior and we unequivocally condemn her repeated infractions, we believe that her life experiences can teach her directly (albeit the hard way) the urgent need for reform and significant investment to ensure safe, equitable, mobility for our most vulnerable system users, and how we can adopt a more equitable approach to transportation justice.

Moving forward, Carmen Rubio has committed to creating safer streets for all Portlanders and has made it clear to us that she understands that Portland's traffic fatality crisis requires bold, immediate action. In response to this incident, she has committed to leading by example, not only by improving her personal behavior but through concrete policy measures.

To maintain The Street Trust Action Fund's endorsement, Carmen Rubio has pledged that she will:

- Prioritize full funding for street safety and active transportation through her role as mayor;
- Engage directly and in an ongoing basis with vulnerable street users and victims of traffic violence to better understand their experiences and system needs;
- Implement critical safety initiatives within the first 100 days of her administration including daylighting intersections (as promised by previous administrations), fully fund the Bicycle Plan for scheduled completion by 2030, and reducing speeds to 20MPH 24/7/365 around schools and parks.

While this incident is disappointing, we believe that Carmen Rubio remains the best candidate to deliver on the transportation safety issues that matter most to our community. We continue to support her candidacy because we know that her leadership will make Portland's streets safer for everyone.