



Barbie Walker has been a community member of Eugene for over 25 years. She was the first of her family to attend college. After work-studying her way through the University of Oregon for a degree in Biology and minor in Chemistry, she worked even harder in the medical field. She then built two businesses from the ground up, both have been running for over 10 years. Through the pandemic, she shifted, she adapted, she applied for and won grants. Grants totaling over 1 million dollars to keep her employees' jobs safe and the businesses running. She knows budgets, trouble shooting, researching and hard work ethic.

One of her proudest accomplishments is being a founding developer of the 15<sup>th</sup> Night Program. A movement to end youth homelessness alongside its Employment Pathways Workforce Innovation & Opportunity programs still going nearly 10 years now. These reflect her long-term concern and commitment to public safety, the unhoused and community of Eugene.

In Eugene we take pride in our unique community. I am proud to reflect on the progress I and notable others have made towards our communities' priorities. But we know there is work to be done. **I am here to do the hard work.**

There are a few main topics to address in this candidacy that differentiate from the last.

First, this being an official Election Year, not a special election, voters will tune in, be listening and at the ballot box we can have higher numbers. Messaging **Now is the time to Vote** is at the forefront.

Secondly, my opponent in Oct 2023 made a motion to bring back the Natural Gas Ban to the council table for June 2024. Where my voters will relate is during weather such as ice storms that cause weeklong power outages or heat waves that cause alerts for power grid loss, we leave our most vulnerable underserved we leave our established small business unrepresented.

So, as we move towards climate resilience, I would look to set an objective of reducing energy consumption by starting with incentives for better weatherization, grants for sustainable alternative energy options given to residences, businesses and builders. Then supply businesses

and community members with streamlined, easily acquired, easily understandable educational information for transparency. **Not a ban without a plan.**

Third, tying into the above, Eugene is facing a housing crisis. The council should be moving towards policies that help alleviate barriers for housing. By incentivizing the market thoughtfully, skillfully with advantageous conditions for investors to build would increase the number of available rentals and consequently generate a natural market pressure for more affordable housing.

On a social level, council should do its best to educate people by bridging the gap between what people place on one end of the spectrum as bad capitalistic elements in residential and commercial new & old builds that only increase our carbon footprint vs only healthy affordable housing environments on the other end. **Let's work together.**

Lastly, Safety. Businesses have had it with the lack of policies for safety from current council members. Crime in our neighborhoods, in and around our schools, parks, and beloved businesses is off the rails. People are moving out to a nearby town where policy making is supportive of the economic prosperity of their communities.

I am endorsed and stand with our first responders and their partnerships who are on the front lines of crime and behavioral health. I have endorsements and pledges from The Eugene Police, Eugene/Springfield Fire and now personal endorsements from battalion station chiefs and many prominent local businesses owners that are admired by voters in precincts areas I may have fell short at. The voters look to owners such as Red Apple, Brun's Market in the Whiteaker, I do too. I pledge to **make policy that makes movements** for safety in our neighborhoods, parks, schools, and the local businesses we love.

I am here to represent to ensure Eugene grows in a sustainable, equitable, economically prosperous way that is shared by all. I would be honored to have your support.

Barbie Walker

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