

# voters' pamphlet



Oregon Vote-by-Mail Primary Election | **May 19, 2026**



## **2026 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (K-5) "I VOTED" STICKER CONTEST**

Thank you to all of the local students who participated. To see all of this year's entries, visit [www.deschutescounty.gov/artcontest](http://www.deschutescounty.gov/artcontest)

Congratulations to the Elementary School (K-5) "I Voted" Sticker Contest winner:  
**Bodhi Andrews**, Kindergarten, Buckingham Elementary School

View the full color version of Bodhi's winning sticker design on our website.

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### **Attention**

This is the beginning of your Deschutes County Voters' Pamphlet. The County portion of this joint Voters' Pamphlet is inserted in the center of the State portion. Each page of the County Voters' Pamphlet is clearly marked with a color bar on the outside edge. All information contained in the county portion of this pamphlet has been assembled and printed by your County Clerk.



Dear Deschutes County Voter:

This is your May 19, 2026 Primary Election Voters' Pamphlet provided by your Deschutes County Clerk's Office. It contains information about candidates and measures from local jurisdictions within the boundaries of Deschutes County.

This pamphlet contains the ballot measures and explanatory statements designed to provide impartial information. It also contains paid arguments for or against certain measures. Candidates may also pay to place a statement in this pamphlet.

Ballots will be mailed on Wednesday, April 29, 2026 to each registered voter. Here are a few things you should know:

- ◆ **Mail** your voted ballot in your postage-paid return envelope or **drop it off** at an official drop site location by **8:00 pm, Tuesday, May 19, 2026**. Ballots that are mailed, postmarked by the United States Postal Service (USPS) by 8 pm on Election Day and received by the Clerk's Office by Tuesday, May 26, 2026 will be accepted. Remember to sign your ballot return envelope.
- ◆ Drop sites open Friday, May 1. Check the *Official Ballot Drop Sites* page in this pamphlet for more details.
- ◆ Candidate names on your ballot will appear in random alphabetical order. In accordance with ORS 254.155, random ordering of the letters is conducted prior to an election.
- ◆ Not all the candidates or measures in this Voters' Pamphlet will be on your ballot. Your residence address determines those districts for which you may vote. Your official ballot will contain only those issues on which you are eligible to vote, based on where you live.
- ◆ Not all candidates submit information for the Voters' Pamphlet, so you may have candidates on your ballot that are not in this Voters' Pamphlet.
- ◆ This Voters' Pamphlet is online at [www.deschutescounty.gov/elections](http://www.deschutescounty.gov/elections). After 8 pm on Election Night, preliminary election results will be posted online at [www.deschutescounty.gov/ElectionResults](http://www.deschutescounty.gov/ElectionResults).
- ◆ If a ballot was delivered to your address for someone who should no longer be receiving a ballot at your address, please write "RETURN" on the envelope and place it back in your mailbox.
- ◆ The signature on each voter's ballot return envelope is verified against the voter's signature on file. The signatures must match before a ballot can be counted. If your signature has changed, please update your voter registration by completing the voter registration card located at the back of this pamphlet.

# Translation Information

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Selected portions of this county voters' pamphlet are available in Simplified Chinese, French, Korean, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, and Vietnamese. These translations can be found online at [oregonvotes.gov/DeschutesVP](https://oregonvotes.gov/DeschutesVP)

本县选民手册的部分内容提供简体中文版本。可以访 [oregonvotes.gov/DeschutesVP](https://oregonvotes.gov/DeschutesVP) 获取该译本。

Des sections sélectionnées des brochures de l'électeur de ce comté sont disponibles en français. Ces traductions peuvent être consultées en ligne à l'adresse suivante : [oregonvotes.gov/DeschutesVP](https://oregonvotes.gov/DeschutesVP)

카운티 유권자 팸플릿 내 선택된 부분은 한국어로 준비되어 있습니다. 번역은 온라인 [oregonvotes.gov/DeschutesVP](https://oregonvotes.gov/DeschutesVP) 에서 찾아보실 수 있습니다.

Отдельные части брошюры избирателей этого округа доступны на русском языке. Эти переводы можно найти в Интернете по адресу [oregonvotes.gov/DeschutesVP](https://oregonvotes.gov/DeschutesVP)

Algunas secciones de este folleto para votantes del condado están disponibles en español. Estas traducciones están disponibles en línea en [oregonvotes.gov/DeschutesVP](https://oregonvotes.gov/DeschutesVP)

Ang mga piling bahagi ng mga pamphlet na ito para sa mga botante ng county ay mababasa sa Tagalog. Makikita online ang mga pagsasaling-wikang ito sa [oregonvotes.gov/DeschutesVP](https://oregonvotes.gov/DeschutesVP)

Các phần được chọn trong tập thông tin cử tri quận này có bản ngôn ngữ tiếng Việt. Bản dịch có thể xem trực tuyến tại [oregonvotes.gov/DeschutesVP](https://oregonvotes.gov/DeschutesVP)

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All candidates had the opportunity to submit a picture and statement regarding their candidacy in this pamphlet. The following candidates submitted information. The text of the candidate statements, measures and arguments were printed as submitted.

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# Voting Information

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## Registering to Vote

To be eligible to vote in the May 19, 2026 Primary Election, a completed voter registration card must be postmarked by Tuesday, April 28, 2026.

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### Closed Primary System:

For the May 19, 2026 Primary Election, the Democratic and Republican parties have chosen to close their primaries to voters not affiliated with their parties. Only voters registered with the Democratic or Republican parties may vote for those parties' candidates for partisan offices. All other voters will receive a nonpartisan ballot.

**To change your party affiliation, please update your voter registration by Tuesday, April 28, 2026.**

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### To register to vote in Oregon, you must be:

1. A resident of Oregon.
  2. A United States citizen.
  3. At least 18 years old by Election Day.
- 

### You must update your registration if:

1. Your residence or mailing address changes.
2. Your name changes.
3. You wish to change your party affiliation.

**Important Note:** If you have moved or changed your name and you have not yet updated your registration, you are still eligible to vote. Call the Deschutes County Elections Office at (541) 388-6547 or email at [elections@deschutescounty.gov](mailto:elections@deschutescounty.gov) for further information.

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### Contact:

Deschutes County Elections Office  
(541) 388-6547 [Deschutescounty.gov/elections](http://Deschutescounty.gov/elections)  
[elections@deschutescounty.gov](mailto:elections@deschutescounty.gov)  
1 (866) ORE-VOTES (se habla Español)  
[www.oregonvotes.gov](http://www.oregonvotes.gov)  
TTY 1 (800) 735-2900

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### Disclaimer:

**Information provided in statements or arguments by a candidate, a political party, an assembly of electors, or a person supporting or opposing a measure have not been verified for accuracy by the Deschutes County Clerk's Office.**

## Voting Instructions

Your Ballot Packet will contain the following items:

- Printed official ballot
  - Postage-paid ballot return envelope to be signed
- 

### Examine your official ballot and vote it:

Examine your official ballot and locate the candidate or measure response oval of your choice for each contest. To vote, you must fill the oval (●) completely with a pen (black or blue ink) next to your choices. Do not use a felt tip pen.

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### Review your ballot:

Ensure you correctly marked your choice for each contest. Your official ballot may contain contests/measures printed on both sides of your ballot.

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### Prepare to return your ballot:

Place your ballot in the postage-paid return envelope. Election staff will ensure the secrecy of your ballot. Read the voter's statement on the return envelope and sign in the signature box.

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### Signing your ballot return envelope:

Your ballot will not be counted if the return envelope is not signed. Every signature is checked against the registration signature on file and the signature must match for the ballot to be counted.

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### Return your ballot:

- **By mail:** Return your voted ballot in your signed and sealed ballot return envelope. A stamp is not required. Mail your ballot no later than Tuesday, May 19, 2026. Ballots that are mailed, postmarked by the United States Postal Service (USPS) by 8 pm on Election Day and received by the Clerk's Office by Tuesday, May 26, 2026 will be accepted. Postage is not required.
  - **At any official drop site:** Deliver your voted ballot in your signed and sealed ballot return envelope to an official drop site no later than 8 pm on Election Day. Postage is not required.
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### Voters with disabilities:

If you need assistance with voting or casting your ballot, call the Deschutes County Elections Office at (541) 388-6547. We will provide two staff to assist you in voting. You may also authorize a friend, family member, or other trusted person, who is not affiliated with your employer or union, to assist you.

An audio edition of the Voters' Pamphlet is available for download on the current election page of our website.

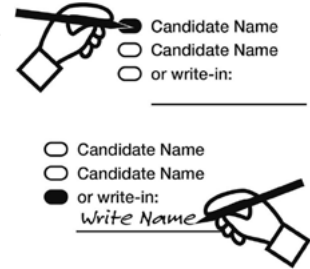
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**Remember, review both sides of your ballot. Some ballots may have contests/measures on both sides.**

# How To Cast Your Vote

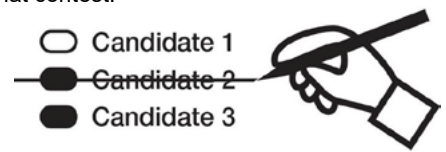
## 1 Complete your ballot

- To vote, completely fill in the oval next to your choice with a pen (black or blue ink). Do not use a felt tip pen.
- To vote for a person not on the ballot, fill in the oval next to the “write-in” line, then neatly write the name of the person on the line provided. Do not write a candidate’s name that already appears on the ballot.
- You do not have to vote on all contests. Those you do vote on will still count.



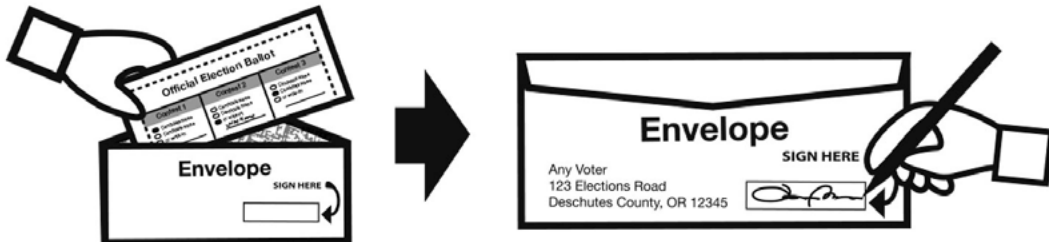
## 2 Check for errors

- If you vote for more options than are allowed, your vote **will not count** for that contest.
- If you make a mistake on your ballot, you may make your changes on the ballot. Draw a line through the entire candidate name or measure response. You then have the option of making another choice.
- Contact Deschutes County Elections Office at (541) 388-6547 to request a replacement ballot if:
  - you make a mistake that you cannot correct
  - your ballot is damaged or spoiled
  - your ballot is lost



## 3 Insert ballot & sign your return envelope

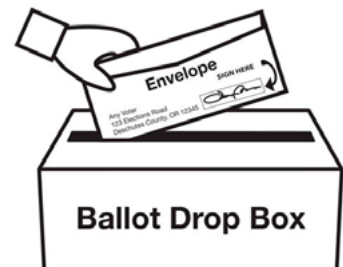
- Insert only your voted ballot (not another person’s ballot) inside your ballot return envelope. *(If we receive an envelope with more than one ballot inside, all enclosed ballots will be rejected and not counted).*
- You must sign your ballot return envelope or **your vote will not count.**



- The signature on each voter’s ballot return envelope is verified against the voter’s signature on file. The signatures must match before a ballot can be counted. If your signature has changed, please update your voter registration.

## 4 Return your ballot

- By mail:** Return your voted ballot in your signed and sealed ballot return envelope. Postage is not required. Mail your ballot no later than Tuesday, May 19, 2026. Ballots that are mailed, postmarked by the United States Postal Service (USPS) by 8 pm on Election Day and received by the Clerk’s Office by Tuesday, May 26, 2026 will be accepted. Postage is not required.
- At any official drop site:** Deliver your voted ballot in your signed and sealed ballot return envelope to an official drop site no later than 8 pm on Election Day. Postage is not required.



# Deschutes County May 19, 2026 Primary Election Official Ballot Drop Sites

**Drop off** your voted ballot in your signed and sealed ballot return envelope to an official drop site location by **8 pm, Tuesday, May 19, 2026**.  
Remember to sign your ballot return envelope.

## Drop Site Hours:

**Open:** Friday, May 1, 2026

**Close:** Election Day, Tuesday, May 19, 2026 at **8 pm**

## Drop Site Locations:

Bend					
<b>Deschutes Services Center</b> 1300 NW Wall St, Bend <i>(Walk-up &amp; Drive-through Drop Boxes located at west side of building; additional walk-up Drop Box located in Clerk's Office lobby)</i>	<b>Deschutes County Road Department</b> 61150 SE 27 <sup>th</sup> St, Bend <i>(Drive-through Drop Box located at south end of parking lot)</i>	<b>Old Mill</b> 459 SW Bluff Dr, Bend <i>(Drive-through Drop Box located on the knoll above Old Mill District in parking lot south of Hilton Garden Inn hotel)</i>	<b>Bradbury Park &amp; Ride</b> 1000 SW Bradbury Way, Bend <i>(Drive-through Drop Box located across from the Park &amp; Rec Pavilion off of Simpson Ave &amp; Columbia St)</i>	<b>Pine Nursery Park</b> 3750 NE Purcell Blvd, Bend Open usual park business hours <i>(Drive-through Drop Box located at east end of parking lot)</i>	<b>Bend Public Works Campus</b> 21051 NE Talus Place, Bend, OR 97701 <i>(Walk-up &amp; Drive-through Drop Box located in roundabout in front of Headquarters building)</i>
Redmond		La Pine	Sisters	Sunriver	
<b>Deschutes County Expo Center (Fairgrounds)</b> 3800 SW Airport Way, Redmond <i>(Drive-through Drop Box located on roundabout in east end of parking lot)</i>	<b>Redmond Public Library</b> 827 SW Deschutes Ave, Redmond <i>(Drive-through Drop Box located at west end of Library parking lot)</i>	<b>La Pine Public Library</b> 16425 1st St, La Pine <i>(Drive-through Drop Box located at 1<sup>st</sup> St &amp; Huntington Rd)</i>	<b>Sisters City Hall</b> 520 E Cascade Ave, Sisters <i>(Walk-up Drop Box located in front of City Hall)</i>	<b>Sunriver Public Library</b> 56855 Venture Ln, Sunriver <i>(Drive-through Drop Box located at Sunriver Business Park)</i>	

-- OR --

**Mail** your voted ballot in your postage-paid return envelope by **8 pm, Tuesday, May 19, 2026**. Ballots that are mailed, postmarked by the United States Postal Service (USPS) by 8 pm on Election Day and received by the Clerk's office by May 26 will be accepted.

**County Clerk's Office, 1300 NW Wall St, Suite 202 (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor), Bend**  
**Monday through Friday, 8 am to 5 pm | Election Day, 7 am to 8 pm**  
 -- Voting Booths Available --

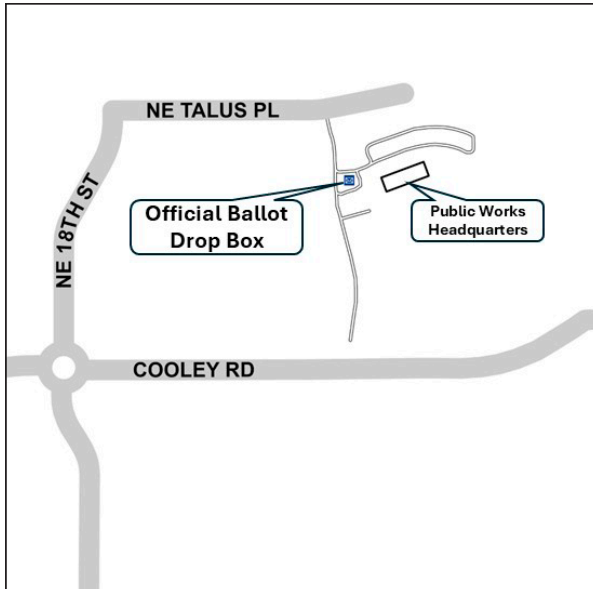
# Directions to Your Newest Ballot Drop Site

*Watch for signs and banners to direct you to this drop site.*

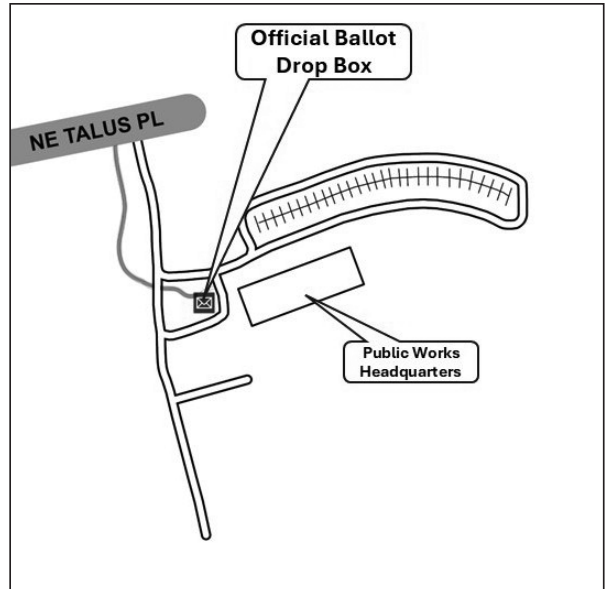
**Bend Public Works Campus  
21051 NE Talus Place, Bend**

Walk-up & Drive-through Drop Box located in roundabout in front of Headquarters building

Overview Map



Zoomed-In Map



## .... Reminders ....

### Your Ballot Packet

Your ballot packet will contain at minimum the following items:

- Printed official ballot
- Postage-paid ballot return envelope to be signed

### Signing Your Ballot Return Envelope

Remember to sign your ballot return envelope.

The signature on each voter's ballot return envelope is verified against the voter's signature on file. The signature must match before a ballot can be counted. If your signature has changed, please update your voter registration.

### Returning Your Ballot

- By mail: Return your voted ballot in your signed and sealed ballot return envelope. A stamp is not required. Mail your ballot no later than Tuesday, May 19, 2026. Ballots that are mailed, postmarked by the United States Postal Service (USPS) by 8 pm on Election Day and received by the Clerk's Office by Tuesday, May 26, 2026 will be accepted. Postage is not required.
- At any official drop site: Deliver your voted ballot in your signed and sealed ballot return envelope to an official drop site no later than 8 pm on Election Day. Postage is not required.

# Primary Elections in Oregon

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## How They Work & What They Mean for Voters

### What is a Primary Election?

Primary elections are partisan elections that *major* political parties use to nominate candidates to run for partisan offices in general elections. *Minor* political parties nominate candidates to run for partisan offices in the general election according to party rule, and those candidates do not appear on the primary election ballot. Winning candidates of a general election are elected into office. Partisan offices include U.S. President, U.S. Senator, U.S. Representative, Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Attorney General, State Senator, and State Representative.

At general elections, voters will receive a ballot containing both partisan and nonpartisan offices and can vote for any candidate of any party. Most statewide ballot measures are on the general election ballot.

### How are Primaries Conducted in Oregon?

#### Closed vs. Open Primaries

A *closed* primary requires a voter to be registered with a political party in order to vote for that party's candidate(s); the election for the partisan candidate(s) is closed to nonaffiliated voters as well as minor party affiliated voters. An *open* primary is an election that does not require voters to be affiliated with a political party to vote for partisan candidates.

#### Primary Elections in Oregon

Oregon's primary is closed, meaning only registered voters of a major political party can vote for candidates of the same party. At the primary election, voters who are not registered in one of the major political parties will receive a ballot containing nonpartisan contests, such as judges, which all registered voters may vote on. Major political parties (the Democratic and Republican parties) have the option of opening up their primary elections to allow nonaffiliated voters to vote in the party's primary. If the parties choose not to open up their primaries, only voters registered with the Democratic or Republican parties may vote for those parties' candidates for partisan offices.

#### Primary Elections in Deschutes County

All county positions in Deschutes County are nonpartisan. This means all voters will receive a ballot containing the same county offices.

#### Closed Primary System

For the May 19, 2026 Primary Election, the Democratic and Republican parties have chosen to close their primaries to voters not affiliated with their parties. Only voters registered with the Democratic or Republican parties may vote for those parties' candidates for partisan offices. All other voters will receive a nonpartisan ballot. To change your party affiliation, please update your voter registration by Tuesday, April 28, 2026.

# Measure 9-182 Sisters-Camp Sherman Rural Fire Protection District

## Ballot Title

# 9-182

## Levy to Fund Fire, EMS, and Wildfire Preparedness Staffing

**QUESTION:** Shall the District levy \$0.70 per \$1,000 assessed value for operating purposes for five years beginning 2026/2027? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

**SUMMARY:** The Sisters-Camp Sherman Rural Fire Protection District provides fire protection, emergency medical services, rescue, and wildfire response across approximately 800 square miles along providing mutual aid to neighboring fire districts.

Emergency calls for service have increased 65% over ten years. Medical calls now account for 70% of responses, and overlapping emergencies have increased 35% in the past eight years. Wildfire activity, remediation, and wildfire preparedness efforts have also illustrated a need for additional resources and staffing.

The levy would fund three additional firefighter/paramedics, one wildfire risk reduction coordinator, a mechanic to maintain vehicles, and seasonal wildfire risk reduction personnel.

If approved, the measure would authorize the District to levy taxes at a rate of \$0.70/\$1,000 of taxable assessed value for five-years. The estimated revenue over five-years is \$5,807,284 (Fiscal Year 2026-27, \$1,093,828; 2027-28, \$1,126,643; 2028-29, \$1,160,443; 2029-30, \$1,195,256; and, 2030-31, \$1,231,114).

It is estimated for a property having a taxable assessed value of \$317,000, the annual cost would be \$225. The revenue for this measure is an ESTIMATE ONLY based on the best information available at the time of estimate.

funding. Existing grant funding for the District's Community Risk Reduction and Fire Safety Specialist is scheduled to expire in 2026, and annual wildfire staffing grants are not guaranteed.

The District operates 22 emergency response vehicles across three fire stations. The District does not employ a full-time mechanic and relies on outside vendors for many vehicle repairs and maintenance tasks. This has created challenges in completing preventive maintenance and has resulted in increased vehicle downtime.

The District has implemented long-term cost controls, operational efficiencies, and careful financial management practices. However, rising costs for fuel, equipment, training, medical supplies, and staffing have increased at a faster rate than existing revenue sources. Current revenues are not sufficient to sustainably fund staffing levels needed to meet response time benchmarks and address increasing service demands.

The proposed local option levy would provide funding to maintain and improve emergency services within the District. If approved by voters, levy revenue would be used for purposes including, but not limited to, hiring additional full-time firefighter/paramedics, supporting wildfire preparedness and community risk reduction programs, funding seasonal wildfire staffing, funding a full-time mechanic to maintain emergency vehicles, and ensuring reliable emergency response capabilities.

The Board of Directors has identified staffing needs that include three additional full-time firefighter/paramedics (one per shift), one full-time Wildfire Risk Reduction Specialist, continued seasonal staffing to support wildfire preparedness and response, and one full-time mechanic.

The measure authorizes the District to seek voter approval for a local option levy pursuant to Oregon law. The election will be conducted by mail at the May 19, 2026 election. Approval or rejection of the measure is determined by voters within the District.

*(This information furnished by Anthony D. Prior, Sisters-Camp Sherman Rural Fire Protection District.)*

## Explanatory Statement

The Sisters-Camp Sherman Rural Fire Protection District provides fire protection, emergency medical services, rescue services, wildfire response, and community risk reduction services to a rural service area of approximately 800 square miles.

Over the past ten years, the District has experienced significant increases in demand for emergency services. Emergency calls for service have increased by nearly 65 percent during this period, while dedicated emergency response staffing levels have not increased in more than fifteen years. Medical emergencies now account for approximately 70 percent of all emergency responses. Ambulance incidents frequently require extended time commitments—averaging approximately two hours per call—due to transport distances to hospitals located outside the District.

The District has also experienced an increase of approximately 35 percent in overlapping or back-to-back emergency incidents over the past eight years. These overlapping incidents increase the risk of delayed response times and result in greater reliance on mutual aid from neighboring fire and emergency service agencies.

Wildfire activity in Central Oregon and within the District has increased in frequency, intensity, and complexity. These conditions have increased the demand for wildfire preparedness, year-round risk reduction efforts, and emergency response to protect life, property, and critical infrastructure. Seasonal wildfire staffing and community risk reduction efforts are currently supported by grant

# Measure 9-182 Arguments

## Argument in Favor

Eight years ago, I dropped dead. I was chatting with a friend, Clyde Dildine, at the Sisters Athletic Club (SAC) when I collapsed and crumpled to the ground. Clyde checked for a pulse and heartbeat. I had none. He immediately began administering CPR which, miraculously, he was well trained to do.

The SAC contacted emergency services while Clyde kept me alive until a team of paramedics from Sisters Camp-Sherman Fire District arrived. Employing a defibrillator, they restored my heartbeat and pulse and transported me by ambulance to St. Charles Hospital. Following heart surgery, I was placed in medically induced hypothermia and a coma. I opened my eyes a few days later. I was alive and there was no brain damage.

The paramedics from the fire district provided outstanding emergency care. Upon arrival they immediately took control of the situation and did everything exactly right when there was no room for error. When I needed emergency services, they were there.

I had suffered a Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA), without warning or any history of heart problems. Statistically, 93% of those who experience SCA do not survive and the majority that do suffer brain damage. The emergency response I received from the expert application of CPR and the exceptional team of paramedics from our Fire District saved both my life and brain function.

The Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District is a cornerstone and indispensable part of the Sisters community. It has seen a 63% increase in calls for help in the past 10 years with, unfortunately, no increase in emergency response staff. As in my case, time is critical in emergencies. To maintain the quality and timeliness of emergency care I received, the department urgently needs the additional resources included in Measure # 9-182. Your life, or the life of a loved one, may someday depend on it. Please support this local levy option.

*(This information furnished by David Adler.)*

## Argument in Favor

Thursday Afternoon, August 21, 2025  
A few miles west of Lake Billy Chinook and a lifetime away from Sisters, a small fire on private property ignites in Jefferson County.

Nineteen days later the Flat Fire is 100% contained but NOT before 23,000+ acres are scorched, 4,000 people are threatened, five homes and 11 structures destroyed. Level 3 evacuations cleared out entire neighborhoods while 1,200 firefighters and support staff joined the fight. Thousands can now say they survived the Flat Fire. We all lived through it. No one lost their life.

We got lucky in Sister's Country...this time, but risk is rising and there are significant weaknesses in our ability to deal with fires and emergencies. Measure 9-182 takes major steps toward reducing risk and improving the emergency services we expect.

Preparedness has been identified as a key to no loss of life and few structural losses in the Flat Fire, yet Sisters has no full-time wildfire preparedness staff. Measure 9-182 would change that by adding a permanent risk specialist. Seasonal wildfire staffing is also not currently guaranteed. Measure 9-182 would fund a seasonal crew to mitigate risk and fight fires.

Measure 9-182 would also give Sisters more lifesaving protection! Sisters' emergency services staff has not grown in 15 years despite a 65% increase in calls from 2015 to 2024. We're especially challenged when there are simultaneous emergency calls. Current revenues can't support additional staffing needed to ensure reliable service.

Measure 9-182 would change that by adding three full-time paramedics/firefighters to Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District.

What will this benefit cost the taxpayer if approved?

Approximately \$230 yearly or \$19 monthly based on the district's average home. VOTE YES ON LOCAL OPTION LEVY 9-182.

*(This information furnished by Tom Cohen.)*

*The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by the County of Deschutes, nor does the county warrant the accuracy or truth of any statement made in the argument.*

*The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by the County of Deschutes, nor does the county warrant the accuracy or truth of any statement made in the argument.*

# Measure 9-182 Arguments

## Argument in Favor

Thanks to firefighters our house survived the Flat Fire. It came within ten feet of our deck. And thanks to the Sisters-Camp Sherman crews, paid and volunteer, and so many other cooperating fire-fighting agencies for protecting our neighborhood during the fire. Thanks also to the local fire department program that provided education about defensible space and landscape management which helped protect our homes.

Thank goodness there were no other fires or emergencies during the Flat Fire or things could have been much worse. We have learned that the number of paid firefighter/paramedics in our fire department has not increased in 15 years! And the part-time wildfire risk reduction coordinator is paid by a grant that expires this year. This is not safe or sustainable. Our fire department needs our support for more resources. The Measure 9-182 fire district five-year levy would pay for three additional firefighter/paramedics and permanent full-time wildfire risk reduction staffing to ensure adequate fire protection and emergency services in Sisters Country. Please join us in supporting our community fire department in the May election. Vote YES for Measure 9-182.

Mike and Lori Faha

*(This information furnished by Lori Faha.)*

## Argument in Favor

As the upcoming Sisters–Camp Sherman Fire District levy request approaches, I'd like to offer a few thoughts. While many of you know me as one of the co-founders of Sisters Meat and Smokehouse, my primary career was in the fire service. I spent 33 years as a firefighter, including the last 15 years as Fire Chief of Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue, one of the nation's largest fire districts. During that same period, alongside my work with Sisters Meat and Smokehouse, I also served for 15 years as Executive Director of the Western Fire Chiefs Association, which represents fire leaders across the eleven western states.

As a Sisters Country resident and business owner, I deeply appreciate how special the Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District is. The firefighter-paramedics who serve this community provide the essential umbrella of fire and EMS protection that residents and visitors alike depend on. After decades without adding firefighter-paramedics, the time has come to strengthen our response capability.

Response readiness—having trained professionals available when emergencies happen—is critical. With increasing call volume, long response distances (think Santiam Junction), and lengthy transports to hospitals, our crews are often tied up and unavailable for the next emergency. The funds requested in this levy will deepen the district's staffing bench and improve the likelihood that crews are available when they're needed most.

I don't know about you, but I want our rescue personnel to be ready when my family—or yours—needs them.

The legacy of this fire district has always been one of stewardship and thoughtful growth. Now is the time to support the responders who serve this community by adding the staffing and capacity they need to do their jobs safely and effectively.

I encourage you to consider a yes vote on Ballot Measure 9-182 for the Sisters–Camp Sherman Fire District.

Jeff Johnson, Chief (Ret.)

Western Fire Chiefs, Chief Emeritus

*(This information furnished by Jeff Johnson.)*

*The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by the County of Deschutes, nor does the county warrant the accuracy or truth of any statement made in the argument.*

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# Measure 9-182 Arguments

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## Argument in Favor

The ballot for the May 19, 2026 election will include a local option levy to provide additional funding for the Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District. As the board of directors, we would like to share with our community some of the reasons we are proposing this levy.

We take our fiduciary responsibilities very seriously. Asking members of our community to pay more for services we provide was not an easy decision. We want to assure voters that we have explored every reasonable option to control costs before bringing this request forward. Below are several examples of steps we have taken.

We have taken several steps to reduce costs while maintaining reliable equipment. For example, we purchased two used fire engines in excellent condition rather than buying new ones, saving tens of thousands of dollars. Instead of replacing our oldest ambulance with an entirely new one, we remounted the existing patient care boxes onto new chassis (frame, engine, and transmission), significantly reducing replacement costs. We also secured a surplus water tender from the federal government at no cost to our taxpayers. In addition, the District has implemented long-term cost controls and operational efficiencies.

These efforts have allowed us to stretch existing tax dollars while continuing to provide reliable services every time we are called upon. However, despite our best efforts, current funding is no longer keeping pace with rising costs. Inflation, the increasing cost of living in our area, and growing demand for emergency services have all outpaced available tax revenue. As stewards of this District, it is our responsibility to ensure our community continues to receive the dependable emergency services they expect and deserve. This levy will help us meet that responsibility. We respectfully ask for your support and encourage you to vote **Yes on Measure 9-182**.

Respectfully,

Sisters-Camp Sherman Rural Fire District Board of Directors  
Kristie Miller, Jack McGowan, Tom Herrmann, Jeff Tryens, and  
Craig Matthews

*(This information furnished by Kristie Miller.)*

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*The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by the County of Deschutes, nor does the county warrant the accuracy or truth of any statement made in the argument.*

# Measure 9-183 Cloverdale Rural Fire Protection District

## Ballot Title

# 9-183

## Five-Year Local Option Levy for staffing and operations

**QUESTION:** Shall the district levy \$1.23/\$1000 of assessed value for five years beginning 2026/2027 to fund staffing and operations? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

**SUMMARY:** This Levy would authorize the Cloverdale Rural Fire Protection District to impose a \$1.23/\$1000 of assessed value operating levy to fund fire protection and emergency services. The district has seen a 43% increase in emergency responses since 2022. Recent wildfires have illustrated the need for additional staffing.

This is a Five-year fixed rate of \$1.23/\$1000 of assessed property value. This would replace the current levy of \$0.69/\$1000. An increase of \$0.54/\$1000

The levy would fund:

- Community Wildfire Risk Reduction Specialist: This position will be focused on developing programs to engage homeowners in lowering their wildfire risk, working on grant-funded and cross-boundary fuels mitigation projects, create a wildland fire resiliency plan and secure funding opportunities to support resident efforts.

- Three shift Captains

- Three student firefighters

- Offset operational costs associated with emergency response activities, equipment and personnel expenses.

The added positions strengthen daytime response capabilities when volunteer and student staffing is limited, providing added personnel for emergencies.

This Levy is estimated to raise \$3,689,497 over five-years.

Estimated revenue for each year of the levy:

\$692,440 in 2026/2027

\$720,130 in 2027/2028

\$748,943 in 2028/2029

\$778,901 in 2029/2030

\$810,057 in 2030/2031

The total increase for the new levy is \$0.54 vs the current levy. The district uses this levy to provide the community with 24-hour immediate response staffing. The new local option levy would be \$1.23 per \$1,000 of assessed property value for five years beginning in 2026.

Funds from this levy would allow us to hire a Wildfire Risk Reduction Specialist. This position will work directly with residents to reduce wildfire hazards on their property, assist in creating fire-adaptive communities, secure grant funding to support risk reduction efforts and enhance emergency response. These activities are critical to improving community resilience and reducing the threat of catastrophic wildfire. The levy would also fund the hiring of a full-time fire captain.

These two positions will increase available staffing for emergency response and increase daytime staffing when our students are in school and Volunteer firefighter's have limited availability to respond.

Effects of the Ballot measure:

If a "yes" vote: Would allow the district to maintain 24-hour paid staffing, improve daytime staffing and response capabilities for emergencies and covers the operational costs associated with improving fire and emergency response service levels in our Wildfire prone community.

If a "no" vote: The district would lose the funding that provides 24 hour paid staffing and response capabilities when the current levy expires in June of 2027. The current levy funds 2 Captains and 3 students.

*(This information furnished by Thad Olsen, Cloverdale RFPD.)*

## Explanatory Statement

The Cloverdale Rural Fire Protection District operates 2 fire stations and provides fire, emergency medical, rescue, wildfire and community risk reduction services to a rural service area of 50 square miles. The district is staffed with 1 Fire Chief, 1 Training Captain, and 3 student firefighters paid for by the general fund. 2 full-time Fire Captains, 3 resident student volunteers are paid by a "Local Option Levy" that expires in 2027. We are also supported by 15 volunteers. The district has seen a 43% increase in call volume since we started 24-hour staffing in 2022 with the Levy. The recent wildfires have shown the need for increased staffing and response capabilities.

With the approval of the new Levy, the current Local Option Levy (2022-2027) of \$0.69 per \$1000 of taxed assessed value would end in 2026 and replaced with the new Levy at the Rate of \$1.23 per \$1000 of TAX ASSESSED VALUE starting in 2026.

Official Deschutes County 2026 Primary Election Voters' Pamphlet

# Measure 9-183 Argument

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## Argument in Favor

### **Cloverdale Volunteer Firefighters urge you to vote YES**

As President of the Cloverdale Volunteer Firefighters Association, I am writing on behalf of our volunteer firefighters to express our strong support for this proposed levy.

Our volunteers are your neighbors. We live in this district and respond when our community calls for help. But like departments across the country, we are facing a steady decline in volunteer numbers while emergency calls continue to increase. This growing gap makes it harder to maintain the level of service our community depends on.

This proposed levy directly addresses those challenges. In a recent community survey, residents identified wildfire prevention as their top priority. In response, the levy would fund a Community Wildfire Risk Reduction Specialist who will work directly with residents to reduce wildfire hazards, improve defensible space, and help homeowners meet evolving insurance requirements.

It would also restore the Training Captain to a dedicated role. This ensures all firefighters, including career staff, student firefighters and volunteers, **receive consistent state required high quality training to serve the community safely and effectively.**

Importantly, these positions would also **strengthen emergency response.** Both the Wildfire Risk Reduction Specialist and the Training Captain would respond to calls. This increases weekday daytime staffing when volunteer availability is lowest. During wildfire season, staffing could be adjusted to provide additional coverage during high-risk periods, including Red Flag warnings.

This proposed levy is a **practical community focused investment in safety.** It would strengthen emergency response, improve training, and help residents better prepare for wildfire risk.

**As volunteers committed to protecting this community, we encourage you to vote yes.**

Mitch Turpen  
President  
Cloverdale Volunteer Firefighters Association

*(This information furnished by Mitch Turpen, Cloverdale Volunteer Firefighters Association.)*

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*The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by the County of Deschutes, nor does the county warrant the accuracy or truth of any statement made in the argument.*

# Measure 9-184 Alfalfa Fire District

## Ballot Title

# 9-184

## Five-Year Local Option Levy for Fire District Staffing

**QUESTION:** Shall Alfalfa Fire District impose \$1.75 per \$1,000 assessed value for five years beginning FY 2026 for staffing. This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

**SUMMARY:** This measure authorizes the Alfalfa Fire District to impose a local option property tax levy of \$1.75 per \$1,000 of assessed value for five years, beginning fiscal year 2026.

Revenue from the levy would be used exclusively to fund two full-time Firefighter/EMT positions. The positions would improve emergency medical and fire response capacity within the District by increasing staffing availability, reducing response times, and supporting 24-hour emergency services for residents, visitors, and businesses.

Funds may be used for wages, benefits, training, and other personnel-related costs necessary to recruit and retain qualified Firefighter/EMTs.

The levy is estimated to raise approximately \$180,000 annually based on current assessed values. Actual revenue may vary due to changes in assessed property values. Over five years, the levy is estimated to raise approximately \$955,644.

For a home assessed at \$200,000, the estimated cost would be \$350 per year, or about \$29.17 per month.

This measure does not exceed constitutional property tax limits.

The estimated revenue generated by the levy is approximately:

- \$180,000 in 2026–2027
- \$185,400 in 2027–2028
- \$190,962 in 2028–2029
- \$196,691 in 2029–2030
- \$202,592 in 2030–2031

These estimates assume an average annual growth rate of about 3% and are based on available information from the Deschutes County Assessor. Actual revenues may vary.

The proposed tax rate is \$1.75 per \$1,000 of assessed property value per year. For example, a property with an assessed value of \$250,000 would pay approximately \$437.50 annually. Assessed value is determined by the county and may differ from market value.

If approved, the levy would expire after five years unless renewed by voters. If not approved, the District would continue operating with its existing funding sources, which may include reductions or changes in staffing and service levels depending on available resources.

This measure does not authorize a permanent tax rate increase and is separate from the District's permanent tax rate limit.

*(This information furnished by Chad LaVallee.)*

## Explanatory Statement

This measure would authorize Alfalfa Fire District to impose a local option property tax levy at a rate of \$1.75 per \$1,000 of assessed value for a period of five years, beginning in the 2026–2027 tax year.

Local option levies are temporary property taxes that must be approved by voters and are used by local governments and special districts to fund specific services or operational needs. If approved, this levy would provide funding dedicated to staffing and maintaining fire protection and emergency response services within the Alfalfa Fire District.

The District currently provides fire protection and emergency services to a rural area in Deschutes County. At present, the District has two paid positions, one of which is funded through a source that is scheduled to expire on June 30, 2026. The District relies on a combination of paid staff and volunteers to respond to fire, medical, and other emergency calls.

Revenue from the proposed levy would be used to fund firefighter and emergency medical services staffing and related operating costs. This may include hiring additional full-time firefighter/emergency medical technicians (EMTs), retaining existing staff, and supporting volunteer response capacity. Funds may also be used for wages, employee benefits, training, certifications, and necessary equipment to support emergency response operations.

The District has indicated that additional staffing is intended to help maintain and potentially improve response times, ensure adequate coverage, and sustain emergency services as demand changes over time.

**Deschutes County  
Assessor**



**Zachary J  
Hastings**  
Nonpartisan

**Occupation:** Self-Employed  
**Occupational Background:** Chief Appraiser and Deputy Assessor, Jefferson County; Appraiser II, Deschutes County Assessor  
**Educational Background:** None

**Prior Governmental Experience:** Appointed Member, Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council Budget Committee

Zachary Hastings is a registered Oregon appraiser with extensive experience in property assessment and local government. He began his career in the assessor’s office at the entry level and worked his way up to Appraiser II with Deschutes County, valuing specially assessed and high-value properties. He later served as Chief Appraiser and Deputy Assessor in Jefferson County, overseeing appraisal operations and compliance with Oregon property tax law.

Zachary has hands-on experience valuing residential, commercial, industrial, farm, and forest properties, including Measure 50 administration and defensible appraisal practices.

As Assessor, Zachary supports a less intrusive approach to government by leveraging technology to improve efficiency, expand public access to information, and increase transparency while ensuring fair and accurate assessments for county residents.

*(This information furnished by Zachary J Hastings.)*

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

**Deschutes County  
Assessor**



**Tana  
West**  
Nonpartisan

**Occupation:** Deputy Director, Deschutes County Assessor; Small Business Owner  
**Occupational Background:** Benton County Appraiser; Tillamook County Chief Appraiser; Deschutes County: Assessment Manager, Deputy Director

**Educational Background:** Chemeketa Community College, A.A. Real Estate. Eastern Oregon University

**Prior Governmental Experience:** Served on multiple state and local committees

**Only Candidate Who’s Actually Done the Job**

I began my appraisal career at 21 and have spent over 30 years protecting the accuracy and integrity of Oregon’s property tax system. Having served 24 years as second in command, I am the only candidate with firsthand experience performing:

- ✓ Assessor’s core responsibility: preparing and calculating the annual assessment and tax roll
  - ✓ Only candidate with both Appraisal and Assessment management expertise including exemptions, urban renewal, and district calculations
  - ✓ Overseen departmental budgets, reviewed taxing district certifications, made difficult personnel and budget decisions
- Leadership isn’t just technical knowledge; it’s accountability, judgment, and maintaining public trust

**Why experience matters:**

- The Assessor’s Office oversees more than **\$85 billion** in real market value
- Nearly **\$600 million** in taxes fund essential services
- Errors at this level may affect every taxpayer and taxing district
- Mistakes can require reissued statements, financial corrections, and erode public trust

**What I’ve done:**

- ✓ Prevented costly errors by implementing a multi-step audit process adopted by other Oregon counties
- ✓ Created transparency tools such as the Tax Estimator and interactive tax breakdowns, because taxpayers deserve to understand where their money goes

**What I’ll Do:** Expand transparency tools. Use technology to improve efficiency, ensure fairness and accuracy, and educate taxpayers on available programs. Deschutes County deserves proven, experienced leadership—not a learning curve

“Tana has been the backbone of this office for decades. I rely on her judgment and leadership.”

**Scot Langton, Deschutes County Assessor**

“Tana is the steady, experienced leader Deschutes County needs. I value her knowledge and judgment.”

**Ray Soliz, Jefferson County Assessor**

“Knowledgeable, credible, experienced.”

**Bill Kuhn, Deschutes County Treasurer**

**Your Tax Statement Is Too Important for a Learning Curve**

[www.WestForAssessor.com](http://www.WestForAssessor.com)

*(This information furnished by Tana West.)*

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

**Deschutes County  
Commissioner, Position 1**



**Jamie  
Collins**  
Nonpartisan

**Occupation:** Scientist; Military Reservist

**Occupational Background:** US Coast Guard; Emergency Response Officer, Central and Eastern Oregon, Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality

**Educational Background:** Yale, BA and Masters; MIT, PhD, Oceanography & Climate Science; US Naval War College, Advanced Studies

**Prior Governmental Experience:** Bend Transportation Bond Committee; Bend City Council Liaison, Larkspur Neighborhood; US Coast Guard

**Jamie Collins is a 22-year Coast Guard veteran, climate scientist, disaster response leader, 4-Her and proud dad who has helped our region through more than 300 emergencies, from wildfires to oil spills.** Jamie brings people together to solve tough problems. Now he's bringing that proven leadership to the Deschutes County Commission.

As Commissioner, Jamie will fight for affordability and safety:

- **Tackle our housing crisis** by partnering with cities to build homes working people can afford. Zoning decisions that put families first — not luxury resorts that waste our water
- **Prepare us for increasing wildfire, extreme heat and other disasters**, bringing compassion and science to make our fire-prone communities safer and keep people from losing homeowners insurance
- **Lower utility bills** through renewable energy projects, improving the electric grid and creating better paying jobs

"Deschutes County deserves a Commissioner who wants to solve tough problems. I'm running to deliver a safer, more affordable future for everyone growing up or growing old here."  
- Jamie Collins

Supported By:

**Oregon League of Conservation Voters  
Central Oregon Labor Chapter, AFL-CIO  
Ironworkers Local 29**

**Sierra Club  
North Coast States Carpenters  
VoteVets  
SEIU 503**

County Commissioner **Phil Chang**  
Former Redmond Mayor and Commissioner **Alan Unger**  
Bend Mayor **Melanie Kebler**  
**Jennifer Letz**, Sisters Mayor  
Redmond and Bend City Councillors **John Nielsen, Clifford Evelyn, Steve Platt, Mike Riley, Ariel Méndez, Gina Franzosa**  
Deschutes County Rural Fire Protection Board **Ray Miao**  
Bend Fire & Rescue Operations Chief (Retired) **Bob Madden**  
Bend Police Chief (Retired) **Jim Porter**

Secretary of State **Tobias Read**  
State Senator **Anthony Broadman**  
State Representative **Emerson Levy**

And more:

[www.Collins4Deschutes.com](http://www.Collins4Deschutes.com)

*(This information furnished by Jamie Collins.)*

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

**Deschutes County  
Commissioner, Position 1**



**Tony  
DeBone**  
Nonpartisan

**Occupation:** Deschutes County Commissioner

**Occupational Background:** Aerospace Software Engineer (Contractor for US Air Force); Associate Computational Biologist, Small Business Owner

**Educational Background:** BS-Electronics, Northern Michigan University

**Prior Governmental Experience:** Deschutes County Commissioner; La Pine Park and Recreation District Board

**Committed to Steady Common-Sense Leadership**

As your Commissioner, I'm proud to do the essential work of keeping Deschutes County thriving — lean, accountable, and focused on results. While many local governments are facing economic pressure and rising costs, Deschutes County remains strong because I prioritize fiscal responsibility and thoughtful stewardship of your tax dollars.

**Protecting Your Tax Dollars**

Government must live within its means, just like you do. I will continue to prioritize responsible spending while delivering high quality essential services. I stand firmly against the current state gas tax increase.

**Proven Results**

Built a 24-hour stabilization center to provide real help for mental health and addiction— optimizing taxpayer costs and boosting public safety.

Made targeted investments in affordable housing to support working families and local businesses without overregulation.

Strengthened wildfire preparedness to protect homes, ranches, and lives—because safeguarding people and property is a core duty. We must stop illegal camping.

**Common-Sense Solutions**

Rising costs hit families and small businesses hard. I'll keep county taxes low, slash more red tape, and promote practical, community-driven solutions to homelessness and housing that emphasizes responsibility and results.

**Trusted by Your Neighbors:**

*"Tony's deep knowledge of the county, dedication to wildfire prevention, smart growth, groundwater protection, CORE3 ensures every voice is heard and valued."*

**La Pine Mayor- Jeannine Earls**

*"Commissioner DeBone is a proven leader who deeply understands that our economic vitality depends on strong regional partnerships. His commitment to collaborative development ensures that Deschutes County remains a competitive, thriving place for all!"*

**Former Bend City Councilor- Chris Piper**

**Endorsed by:**

**State Representative Vikki Breese Iverson  
Oregon Small Business Association  
Oregon Family Farm Association  
Deschutes County Farm Bureau  
ElectTonyDeBone.com | Call me: 541 728-3012**

*(This information furnished by Tony DeBone.)*

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

## Deschutes County Commissioner, Position 1



### **Brooke West** Nonpartisan

**Occupation:** Business Owner  
& Operator

**Occupational Background:**  
Construction Operations  
Manager; Bookkeeping;  
Administrative Management;  
Compliance Coordination

**Educational Background:**  
Summit High School Diploma; COCC, Associate's Degree  
in Business; OSU-Cascades, Bachelor's Degree; Licensed  
Contractor

**Prior Governmental Experience:** None

I have grown up alongside the rapid expansion of Deschutes County and understand both the opportunities and the growing pains that come with it. As a third-generation contractor and business owner, I bring **practical**, hands-on experience in construction operations, budgeting, compliance, and project management. I know how decisions made at the county level affect real people, working families, small businesses, farmers, and tradespeople.

Deschutes County deserves steady leadership rooted in accountability and **common sense**. I believe growth must be responsible and sustainable, protecting our rural character, strengthening local agriculture, and **preserving the natural beauty that defines Central Oregon**.

My background combines formal education with real-world experience. I understand regulatory systems, but I also understand the day-to-day realities of building homes, running businesses, and working the land. That balance matters. It allows me to approach complex issues with fiscal responsibility, transparency, and long-term vision.

**As County Commissioner, I will prioritize:**

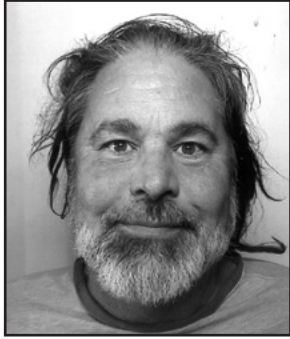
- Responsible, sustainable growth
- Support for local businesses and agriculture
- Transparent budgeting and fiscal responsibility
- Local decision-making

Our county thrives when leadership listens, plans carefully, and puts the community first. I am committed to serving with integrity, clear communication, and deep respect for the people who call Deschutes County home. I will work to ensure Deschutes County remains a place where families, businesses, and **future generations can succeed**.

*(This information furnished by Brooke West.)*

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

**Deschutes County  
Commissioner, Position 3**



**Charles Webster Baer**  
Nonpartisan

**Occupation:** BASX  
**Occupational Background:** N/A  
**Educational Background:** graduated from the university of hawaii at hilo on the big island in 1994 with a BA in political science

**Prior Governmental Experience:** N/A

please vote for me , charles webster baer , of redmond , oregon , for deschutes county commissioner , position 3 ( 4 years ) , on may 19th , 2026 . thank you . I am a libertarian , which means that I am for less government and more freedom . I always have and always will completely support total freedom of speech and democracy on line and off line , globally . over the last 18 years I have worked to make deschutes county a leader in international environmentalism . oregonians have always been leaders and trail blazers and pioneers in progressive international politics and the world needs oregonian leadership now more than ever .

as a deschutes county commissioner I would work to secure state and federal funds to make a central oregon six lane and light rail by pass from terrebonne to sunriver many many miles east of redmond and bend . I would create a facility in millican where all the homeless people in deschutes county could go and recieve aid and benefits that are available to them . I would create programs to be completely owned and operated by deschutes county and the oregon state government that would cost the tax payers nothing as they would be done by private donations and volunteer work . these programs would create artificial intelligence and crypto currency and social networks and search programs that would be available to oregonians first and then the whole humn race and be entirely transparent .

I have been a depopulationist for over 40 years and depopulationism would be my number one priority forever whether I am elected or not . the definition of the word depopulationism is that it is illegal for humans to reproduce a second time for the first few centuries of this millennium . vote charles webster baer for deschutes county commissioner .

*(This information furnished by charles webster baer.)*

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

**Deschutes County  
Commissioner, Position 3**



**Gary W (GW) Campbell**  
Nonpartisan

**Occupation:** Retired School Bus Driver for Special Needs, Bend La-Pine School District No. 1; Driver's Ed Teacher/ Instructor for High Desert Education Service District

**Occupational Background:** Rancher/Farmer – Tractor Operator; Knowledge of raising

livestock, Grand Champion Black Angus Steer, 1965-66; Knowledge of training and breaking horses; Knowledge of trimming, horse shoeing, etc.; Truck Driver, mill worker, forklift operator, lab technician, ordained minister since 1968; Volunteer at High Desert Stampede Rodeo, Sisters Rodeo, Crooked River Round-up, Jefferson County Rodeo, Paulina Rodeo, Deschutes County Rodeo and Pendleton Round-up.; Teach roping to whoever wants to learn; 10 years as Swalley Irrigation District Director

**Educational Background:** Knox City High School, Knox City, Texas graduated in 1966; Texas A&M University, 1966-67; Abilene Christian University, BA – Major Theology, Minor Psychology & Communications, 1970

**Prior Governmental Experience:** Swalley Irrigation Director from 1997 – 2007

*(This information furnished by Gary W (GW) Campbell.)*

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

## Deschutes County Commissioner, Position 3



**Lauren  
Connally**  
Nonpartisan

**Occupation:** Administrator,  
Deschutes Defenders

**Occupational Background:**  
Nonprofit Executive Director;  
Business Consultant; Small  
Business Owner; Project  
Manager & Business Analyst;  
Substitute Teacher; Logistics  
Officer, US Marine Corps

**Educational Background:** Bachelor of Arts, Texas A&M  
University; Officer Leadership Course, US Marine Corps

**Prior Governmental Experience:** US Marine Corps

### A LIFETIME OF SERVICE AND INTEGRITY

Lauren has spent her life putting service into action. She served two tours in Iraq as a United States Marine. After her military service, she owned and operated small businesses, she led nonprofit and volunteer efforts supporting public land stewardship, neighborhood organizing, veterans' advocacy, local schools, community elders, and families in need.

Lauren's proudest service though is to her family. Realizing how special Deschutes is, she brought her family here after her service in the Marines.

### A STRONG COMMUNITY FOR EVERYONE

Our local economy must work for everyone. From families to individuals, workers to business owners, all must thrive if our county is to succeed. Housing, tax burdens, and programs must be balanced to allow for more opportunities for our community.

### PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

Investing in mental health early saves lives and taxpayer dollars, proactive wildfire mitigation will protect homes and public lands, and fully funded and accountable law enforcement keeps our communities safe for everyone.

### STEWARDSHIP OF OUR COUNTY

Whether it's our natural resources or our public services, Lauren will protect taxpayer dollars and ensure county government operates efficiently. She is committed to managing our natural resources responsibly so they remain healthy and accessible for generations to come.

### PROUDLY ENDORSED BY:

Taxpayers Association of Oregon  
Deschutes County Farm Bureau  
Oregon Family Farm Association  
Patti Adair Deschutes County Commissioner, Position #3  
Commissioner Tony DeBone  
Chris Piper, Former Bend City Councilor  
Cat Zwicker, Redmond City Councilor  
Shannon Wedding, Redmond City Councilor  
George Endicott, Former Redmond Mayor  
Keith Rockow Chair of the Deschutes County Republican Party  
[connally4deschutes.com](http://connally4deschutes.com)

*(This information furnished by Friends of Lauren Connally.)*

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

## Deschutes County Commissioner, Position 3



**Samuel J  
Facey**  
Nonpartisan

**Occupation:** C.E.O of Sams  
Fishfood

**Occupational Background:**  
Jel-Wen

**Educational Background:**  
Central Oregon Community  
College, Deschutes County  
College

**Prior Governmental Experience:** Precinct Committee Person  
2024-2026

Deschutes County is growing fast, and so are the challenges that come with it. As your next County Commissioner, I'm running to ensure that growth benefits *all* our residents – not just a few.

I'm not a career politician. I'm a lifelong Oregonian, small business owner, and community builder. I believe government should serve people, protect our shared land, and create opportunity without overreach or waste. I want to restore balance, integrity, and common sense to local leadership.

From La Pine to Redmond, from Bend to Sisters, our county is made up of hardworking families who deserve affordable housing, reliable infrastructure, and a voice in how our future is shaped.

If elected, I will:

- **Establish a County Agriculture Department** to support family farms, improve food security, and help the next generation of producers thrive.
- **Promote smart housing growth** that fits our communities – balancing affordability, land use, and infrastructure so our towns grow without losing their character.
- **Protect our natural resources** – water, forest, and wildlife – through practical conservation and rural fire prevention measures.
- **Strengthen local business** by cutting red tape, supporting entrepreneurship, and encouraging clean, resilient industries.
- **Improve public safety and emergency response** with investments that protect residents and ensure efficient use of taxpayer funds.
- **Increase transparency** in county decision-making so citizens know how every dollar is spent.

I believe Deschutes County's future depends on leadership that values both *people and place* – leadership that listens, plans, and acts for the long-term good of our communities.

This campaign isn't about politics – it's about responsibility, service, and faith in what we can accomplish together.

Together, we can build a Deschutes County that honors its rural roots, protects its natural beauty, and provides opportunity for every resident to succeed.

**Let's move forward – together.**

*(This information furnished by Samuel J Facey.)*

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

## Deschutes County Commissioner, Position 3



**Amanda  
Page**  
Nonpartisan

**Occupation:** Flight Paramedic

**Occupational Background:**  
Program Development Manager  
– Klamath Tribal Health

**Educational Background:**  
WGU, BS – Business  
Administration

**Prior Governmental Experience:** Redmond School Board Director

***Crypto Millionaires and Greedy Developers are investing hundreds of thousands in local politicians.***

The result is a commission that is exposing our community to more wildfire risk, letting private equity exploit our natural environment for profit, attempting to undermine our status as a sanctuary state, and is attacking our local democracy with a gerrymander.

***I choose to invest in our community.***

As a member of **The Klamath Tribes**, my elders taught me a simple responsibility: **protect the land and take care of people**. Those teachings guide how I serve our community.

I have lived the challenges many families face. As a **single working mother**, I balanced long shifts and two jobs while raising my daughter. I built my career as a **critical care flight paramedic**, responding to emergencies and making difficult decisions when people's lives are on the line.

I bring that same commitment to public service — listening carefully, thinking critically, and working with others to build a **strong, healthy community where everyone belongs**.

"Amanda has earned strong support from teachers and parents during her time on the Redmond School Board. She's taken politics out of decision-making and delivered results for our community. Amanda is the only candidate in this race with real governing experience." -Liz Goodrich, Redmond School Board

***Amanda is backed by a broad coalition of labor, environmental and social justice groups, and leaders in our community.***

Central Oregon Labor Chapter, AFL-CIO

United Food and Commercial Workers Local 555

Oregon Working Families Party

SEIU 503

Basic Rights Oregon

Next Up Action Fund

Oregon Futures Lab & Color PAC

Sierra Club

Oregon League of Conservation Voters

Gina Franzosa, Bend City Council

Clifford Evelyn, Redmond City Council

Kina Chadwick, Bend-La Pine School Board

Marcus LeGrand, Bend-La Pine School Board

Ashley Proctor, Redmond School Board Director

*(This information furnished by Amanda Page.)*

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

## Deschutes County Commissioner, Position 3



**Amy  
Sabbadini**  
Nonpartisan

**Occupation:** Educator

**Occupational Background:**  
National Board Certified  
Social Studies Teacher; Senior  
Manager, Civics Learning  
Project; Instructor OSU  
Cascades, Bilingual Educator  
(Spanish), Land Use Planner

**Educational Background:** UCSB, Master of Education, Environmental Studies BA

**Prior Governmental Experience:** None

**Big decisions are ahead. It matters who's sitting at that table.**

*"We need leaders like Amy who care deeply about the people they disagree with as the ones who stand beside them. Amy brings the practical, common-sense approach required to move us forward as a united Deschutes County." ~ John Nielsen, Redmond City Councilor*

### ACCOUNTABLE REPRESENTATION

During federal chaos our County needs steady, **responsible leadership who listens** to working folks and **spends tax dollars wisely**. I am a classroom teacher and working mom with 25 years of public service. I am a uniter, not a divider. I'll **find common ground** and **pursue practical solutions** that create a **better future for my family and yours**.

### SAFE & HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Local government is our front line for public health and safety. I will **fight for better law enforcement and mental health staffing** and **protect Healthy Schools**. I will **support preventative public health care and keep county clinics open**.

### SENSIBLE PLANNING

More destination resorts and luxury developments demand water but don't solve housing affordability. Instead, **let's build homes for working families** serving our communities. Let's **expand community wildfire preparation**. Let's **protect our water, agriculture, and open spaces**.

### LOCAL LEADERS SUPPORT AMY

Representative Emerson Levy

Bend Mayor Melanie Kebler

Redmond Mayor Ed Fitch

Bend City Councilors Steve Platt, Megan Perkins, Megan Norris, Ariel Mendez

Alan Unger, Former Redmond Mayor & County Commissioner

Redmond City Councilors John Nielsen, Kathryn Osborne

BLP School Board Amy Tatom, Shirley Olsen, Jenn Lynch

Judy Stiegler, Former State Representative

Gena Goodman-Campbell, Former Bend Mayor

Susan Cobb, Former Sisters City Councilor

Laurie Wimmer, NWOR Labor Council

Chief Jim Porter, Retired Bend Police

Brian Lepore, Soil-Water Board

*Oregon League of Conservation Voters*

*Deschutes Democrats*

*Indivisible Bend*

*SEIU 503*

[www.vote4sabbadini.com](http://www.vote4sabbadini.com)

*(This information furnished by Amy Sabbadini.)*

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

**Deschutes County  
Commissioner, Position 4**



**Rick  
Russell**  
Nonpartisan

**Occupation:** Non-Profit Executive, Pastor

**Occupational Background:** Housing and shelter developer- Mountain View Community Development; Pastor- Mountain View Fellowship; Volunteer hospice chaplain

**Educational Background:** Bachelor of Arts, Greenville University; Master of Divinity, Portland Seminary

**Prior Governmental Experience:** Saint Charles Health System, Regional Advisory Council; Redmond School District, Superintendent Community Advisory Committee

**What I've Built**

- ▶ Created the region's largest Safe Parking Program
- ▶ Developer of Redmond's first permanent supportive housing community
- ▶ Brought over \$5 million of government and private investments for homelessness solutions into Deschutes County

**What I'll Prioritize as Your Commissioner**

- ▶ Housing affordability — solutions for working families
- ▶ Regional homelessness — a comprehensive, housing focused approach
- ▶ Wildfire preparedness — insurance affordability and defensible space
- ▶ Election integrity — protecting our trusted vote-by-mail system
- ▶ Health services — protecting public and mental health

**My values are simple: Courage. Collaboration. Community.** 22 years in Central Oregon has taught me that we shouldn't face the hardest challenges alone. Bringing people together where everyone has a stake is how I believe real solutions are found. I'm running to build an affordable Deschutes County for all.

*"Rick Russell has spent years doing the work - not just talking about it.*

*We need his results-driven leadership on the commission. That's why so many of us support him."*

*- Phil Chang, County Commissioner*

**We support RICK**

- ✓ Phil Chang, Deschutes County Commissioner
- ✓ Anthony Broadman, State Senator
- ✓ Emerson Levy, State Representative
- ✓ Western States Carpenters Unions
- ✓ Jim Porter, Bend Chief of Police, Retired
- ✓ Independent Party of Oregon
- ✓ Melanie Kebler, Mayor of Bend
- ✓ Ed Fitch, Mayor of Redmond
- ✓ Sarah McDougall, Sisters City Council
- ✓ Central Oregon Labor Chapter, AFL - CIO
- ✓ Central Oregon Building and Construction Trades Council
- ✓ SEIU 503
- ✓ Working Families Party
- ✓ Brad Porterfield - Former Director of Latino Community Association
- ✓ Alan Unger, Deschutes County Commissioner, Retired
- ✓ David Brandt - Housing Works Director, Retired
- ✓ Janice Gareau - Deschutes County Health Services Director, Retired

Courage ★ Collaboration ★ Community

[www.voterickrussell.com](http://www.voterickrussell.com)

*(This information furnished by Friends of Rick Russell.)*

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

**Deschutes County  
Commissioner, Position 4**



**Chet  
Wamboldt**  
Nonpartisan

**Occupation:** Safety Consultant; Project Manager

**Occupational Background:** Firefighter; FEMA Search and Rescue; Entrepreneur, Risk Assessment; Corporate trainer, COCC; non-profit volunteer (Riverbend Church)

**Educational Background:** Azusa Pacific University, Organizational Development; Fire Technology Management, AS.

**Prior Governmental Experience:** Chief's Assistant Sierra Madre Fire Dept; FEMA Strike Team Lead

Chet Wamboldt's a devoted father, community leader, and 15 year county resident committed to strengthening the future of Deschutes. During his time as firefighter and FEMA team lead, he gained experience in emergency response, wildfire management, and community safety. Today, he works as a risk assessor, helping organizations make decisions to protect people, property, and natural resources. Chet also holds a leadership role at his church, supporting local families and strengthening community connections.

**WILDFIRE MANAGEMENT**

With years of experience as a firefighter and risk assessor, Chet understands the critical need to prioritize fire preparedness in Deschutes County. Chet will invest in fire resilience measures that protect our communities from the threat of wildfires. He knows reducing dangerous fuels, fully funding first responders, and proper water management are key to protecting Deschutes.

**SUPPORTING FAMILIES**

As a father, Chet understands how challenging it can be to balance work, family, and child care. Access to affordable, high quality child care is essential for both families and the local economy. Investing in family wage jobs, lowering tax burdens, increasing home inventory, and expanding affordable child care builds a community where everyone can succeed.

**SUSTAINABLE GROWTH**

Chet will ensure that growth is sustainable, responsible, and aligned with community needs. Ensuring that farmland and public parks are protected, while adding affordable housing inventory is a top priority for Chet.

**PROUDLY ENDORSED BY:**

- Taxpayers Association of Oregon
- Deschutes County Farm Bureau
- Oregon Family Farm Association
- Commissioner Patti Adair
- Commissioner Tony DeBone
- Former Commissioner Phil Henderson
- Cat Zwicker, Redmond City Councilor
- Shannon Wedding, Redmond City Councilor
- Jay Patrick, Redmond City Councilor
- George Endicott, former Redmond Mayor
- Keith Rockow Chair of the Deschutes County Republican Party

[votchet.com](http://votchet.com)

*(This information furnished by Friends of Chet Wamboldt.)*

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

## Deschutes County Commissioner, Position 5



### **Ron (Rondo) Boozell** Nonpartisan

**Occupation:** community activist  
and unpaid volunteer

**Occupational Background:**  
Waiter and Manager

**Educational Background:**  
some college

**Prior Governmental Experience:** US Navy, USS Wadsworth

Optional Information: NO PARTY LOYALTY

#### **RONDO IS THE BEST DEI CANDIDATE**

We value diversity but we haven't elected a Veteran to our commission for some time. When was the last time we hired a Senior to the Board. It's safe to say that we've never elected a Homeless Man to do the job.

On the subject of DEI:

We will reinstate our County DEI Committee complete with new definitions, and new goals.

**WE NEED TO REFUSE ICE** admission to our county.

Make them show names on a warrant.

Refuse them access to our community.

No investigations in Deschutes County!

The first goal of every candidate for every public position in this nation should be to **END THIS WAR ECONOMY NOW**. Rondo is the only candidate for seat five that is not a Party Loyalist. He loves democracy. Rondo is passionate about ending war and genocide,

and about ending this Debt Culture.

Deschutes County Resident, for 36 years.

Served as an unpaid Volunteer for many NonProfits,

Elected to the Boards of three.

Longtime unpaid Volunteer, and blood Donor for the American Red Cross.

-Chaired 21 blood Drives

-Donated 123 Pints

Student of local government.

-attended over fifty Deschutes County Commission meetings every year since the pandemic.

-Owned and managed Central Oregon Collections.

Worked as a bill collector for almost two decades.

Asset investigation, payment negotiation, and filing lawsuits.

Employee management.

Before that, spent almost two decades waiting tables, including a few years of restaurant management. At 18, served in the US Navy for four years. Lived and worked aboard the USS Wadsworth for three years.

The difference between Rondo and the others is that he shows up. Attending weekly county commission meetings every Wednesday for over four years. He knows how the world works.

Meet him on LinkedIn.

*(This information furnished by Rondo2026.org.)*

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

## Deschutes County Commissioner, Position 5



### **Rob Imhoff** Nonpartisan

**Occupation:** Small Business  
Owner

**Occupational Background:**  
Owner, BrokenTop Window  
Coverings, Inc.

**Educational Background:**  
NNU – BA, Business

**Prior Governmental Experience:** None

My wife and I built our business here, raised our family here, and invested our lives in this community. Running a business means balancing budgets, signing paychecks, and making decisions with real consequences. **I'll demand the same from county government.**

#### **Smart Growth**

Growth is coming. Let's lead it. People want to live and raise their families here. The question is how we manage it. We need more homes and fewer lawsuits. Endless appeals delay housing and raise costs. Responsible planning protects rural character while allowing housing where it makes sense.

#### **Real Solutions**

End the homelessness cycle: Enforce a 6 mile no-camping zone around UGBs and move people from streets to stability with clear expectations. Treatment must demand recovery and services must deliver results.

A 50-year road plan, including a Hwy 97 bypass from Redmond to Sunriver.

Reduce wildfire risk through juniper removal and community buffer zones.

"I trust Rob Imhoff to protect taxpayers and hold the line on taxes in Deschutes County." - Bruce Starr, Chief Petitioner, Gas Tax Referendum

#### **Big Ideas**

Award 75% of county contracts to local businesses to keep county dollars here and strengthen jobs.

Build a sports complex at the fairgrounds to cement Central Oregon as the Best Place to Raise a Family in America.

Mt. Bachelor is central to our identity and economy. Let's explore ways for the county and local partners to play a larger role in its future, to protect access, support local jobs and keep recreation affordable.

#### **Endorsed by:**

Bruce Starr, Senate Minority Leader  
Taxpayers Association of Oregon  
State Rep Vikki Breese Iverson  
State Rep. E. Werner Reschke  
Libertarian Party of Oregon  
Deschutes Republican Party  
Deschutes County Farm Bureau  
Deschutes Commissioner, Patti Adair  
Deschutes Commissioner, Tony Debone  
Mayor of La Pine, Jeannine Earls  
Jefferson Commissioner Seth Taylor  
Seth Crawford Crook County Commissioner

**ROBIMHOFF.com**

*(This information furnished by Rob Imhoff.)*

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

## Deschutes County Commissioner, Position 5



**Jennifer Letz**  
Nonpartisan

**Occupation:** Mayor, City of Sisters; Co-Owner, Tamarack Wildfire Consulting

**Occupational Background:** Sustainable Operations Specialist, Deschutes and Ochoco National Forests

**Educational Background:**

Bend Senior High School; Willamette University, BA Film and Media Studies; Prescott College, MA Sustainable Management

**Prior Governmental Experience:** Sisters City Council; Governor's Fire Service Policy Council; Deschutes County Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee; Economic Development for Central Oregon Board; Central Oregon Area Commission on Transportation

### Homegrown - Independent - Experienced

I've enjoyed serving on the Sisters City Council since 2021, building meaningful relationships with citizens, nonprofits, government agencies, and businesses. This has allowed me to understand the needs, concerns, and hopes of people all across Deschutes County.

Now, I'm excited to leverage these experiences and work on issues important to all of us, including:

#### Wildfire

As a former wildland firefighter, I'll continue partnering with fire agencies to protect lives and property by championing defensible space and home hardening initiatives. And I'll keep fighting alongside our allies in Salem for solutions to the wildfire insurance crisis.

#### Housing

During my time on the Sisters City Council, we successfully pursued a variety of creative housing solutions with affordable builders to help our graduates, workforce, and seniors put down roots in the communities they call home.

#### Economy

I'll work with economic development partners to ensure we have reliable and clean energy, an efficient and safe transportation infrastructure, daycare options, and a workforce trained to get the job done.

#### Livability

We can live anywhere, but we choose to live here... for good reason! I'm dedicated to preserving the places we love while creating new recreation amenities.

#### Endorsements include:

Gary Ross, Sisters City Councilor  
John Nielsen, Redmond City Councilor  
Asa Sarver, Sisters School Board Chair  
Nancy Connolly, former Sisters City Councilor  
Christy Nickey, Small Business Owner  
Peter Grube, Affordable Housing Developer  
John Williamson, Commercial Construction Company Vice President  
Lester M. Friedman, Realtor  
Oliver Tatom, Vice President, Deschutes County Rural Fire District #2  
David C. Green, Bicycling Advocate

[www.letzfordeschutes.com](http://www.letzfordeschutes.com)

*(This information furnished by Jennifer Letz.)*

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

## Deschutes County Commissioner, Position 5



**Morgan Schmidt**  
Nonpartisan

**Occupation:** Executive Director, Red Cross of Central and Eastern Oregon

**Occupational Background:** Presbyterian Pastor, Pandemic Partners Founder

**Educational Background:** Gordon College, Bachelors; The Seattle School, Masters

**Prior Governmental Experience:** Larkspur Neighborhood District Representative

### STRENGTH IN LEADERSHIP. KINDNESS IN ACTION.

Morgan has devoted the last ten years to public service in Deschutes County: responding to community crises, leading emergency shelters, and directing volunteer wildfire response.

Raised by a hardworking single mother and the first in her family to graduate college, Morgan knows the hard work it takes to afford life in a changing world.

We need a County Commissioner with the fortitude to meet the moment, make informed decisions, and plan for:

**AFFORDABILITY:** Morgan will fight for accessible housing so families, workers, and businesses aren't priced out of our communities. She will take collaborative, evidence-based action to reduce homelessness.

**PEACE OF MIND:** Everyone deserves to feel safe in our communities. Morgan will ensure public safety programs and mental health services are inclusive, equitable, and available.

**ACCOUNTABILITY:** Morgan will prioritize wildfire resiliency and sensible stewardship of our lands and waters. Your tax dollars are a matter of public trust. Morgan will ensure every cent is invested with purpose and transparency.

**FIERCE ADVOCACY:** Morgan will fight for Deschutes County at the state and federal level to secure every dollar possible to fund our infrastructure and local services.

### Endorsements

*Independent Party Of Oregon  
Deschutes Democrats*

*Oregon Working Families Party*

*Congresswoman Janelle Bynum*

*State Senator Anthony Broadman*

*State Representative Emerson Levy*

*County Commissioner Phil Chang*

*Bend Mayor Melanie Kebler*

*Redmond Mayor Ed Fitch*

*Sisters City Council President Sarah McDougall*

*Wildland Fire Incident Commander Joe Stutler*

*Redmond City Councilor Kathryn Osborne*

*Retired Bend Police Chief Jim Porter*

*Central Oregon Veterans Ranch Board Member Marv Kaplan*

*La Pine Planning Commission Chair Teri Myers*

*Oregon League of Conservation Voters*

*Indivisible Bend*

*Central Oregon Building & Construction Trades Council*

*Central Oregon Labor Chapter, AFL-CIO*

*MorganLovesOregon.com*

**Give A Schmidt, Vote for Morgan**

*(This information furnished by Morgan Schmidt.)*

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county.

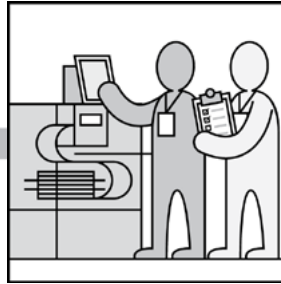
# The Elections Process in Deschutes County



## Step 1. Voter Registration

To register to vote, you are required to provide valid identification proving that you are eligible to vote. After reviewing and verifying your information, we enter it into our voter registration database.

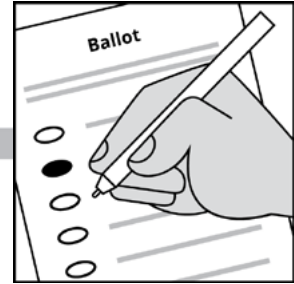
ORS 247.012



## Step 2. Election Equipment Testing

We use election equipment that is certified according to State and Federal standards. We test our election equipment before, during, and after each election.

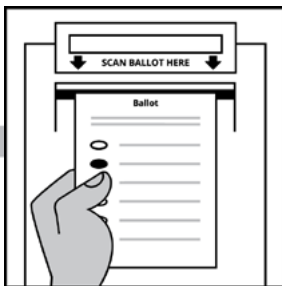
ORS 254.235



## Step 3. Ballots Are Mailed

All registered voters are mailed a ballot packet containing their ballot and a postage-paid return envelope that has a printed security weave on the inside that protects your privacy and the secrecy of your vote. We provide registered Uniformed and Overseas Civilian voters access to their ballots via mail or online portal.

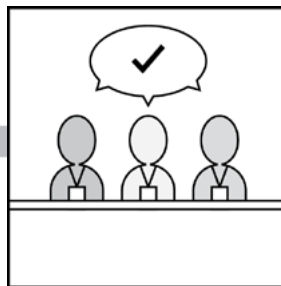
ORS 253.065, 253.545, 254.470



## Step 7. Ballot Scanning & Tabulation

After ballots are removed from their envelopes, we scan the ballots and count all the valid votes to determine the results of each contest in the election. Our federally and state certified voting system is secure and never connected to the internet.

ORS 254.485, 254.500

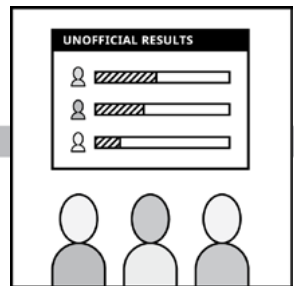


## Step 8. Ballot Adjudication

Teams of two staff, each of different political parties, review if ballots are damaged, have stray marks, or have corrections, undervotes, overvotes, and blank contests to verify voter intent and ensure accurate tabulation.

All ballots are stored in a secure location under 24/7 surveillance.

ORS 254.476, 254.482, 254.483



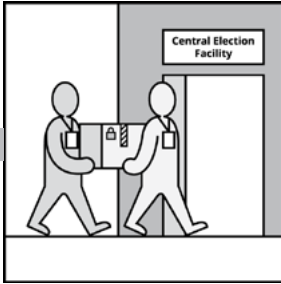
## Step 9. Unofficial Results

We begin publishing unofficial results after 8pm on Election Day. Results are unofficial until after all ballot return deadlines have passed and after we have counted every valid ballot we received.

ORS 254.545

**Find unofficial results on**  
[deschutescounty.gov/electionresults](https://deschutescounty.gov/electionresults)

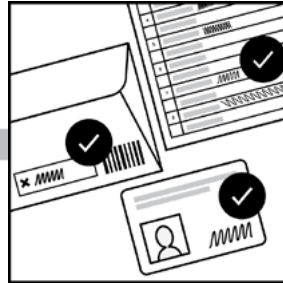
# The Elections Process in Deschutes County



## Step 4. Ballot Collection

In Deschutes County, voters can return their voted ballot by mail or at one of our eleven Official Ballot Drop Site locations, conveniently located throughout the county. Drop Site ballots are collected, and mailed ballots are received at our Clerk's Office located in the Deschutes Services Building for ballot tabulation.

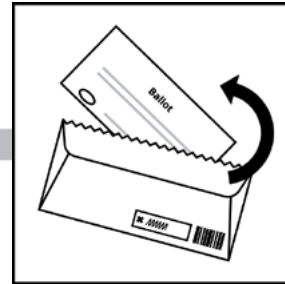
ORS. 254.470



## Step 5. Verify Voter Eligibility

Upon receipt of your ballot, it is sent through our ballot envelope sorting machine, which scans an image of your signature while sorting your ballot by voting precinct. Trained elections staff verify your envelope signature by comparing it to your signature on file in the voter registration database.

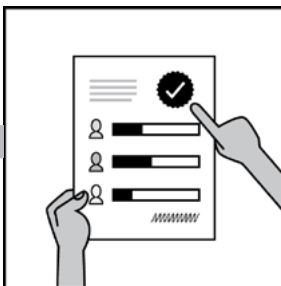
ORS 247.012, 247.019, 247.025, & 254.470



## Step 6. Processing Ballots

If your signatures match, your ballot envelope moves on to be opened. If they don't match, we contact you by mail to resolve the issue so we can count your ballot. If a ballot is damaged or contains machine-unreadable marks, we flag it for manual review. Our goal is to count all eligible ballots as voters intend.

ORS 254.478



## Step 10. Certification of Official Results

After the Board of Canvassers reviews and verifies the outcome of the election, official election results are certified by the county.

ORS 254.545(3)

**Certified election results are published 27 days after Election Day on**

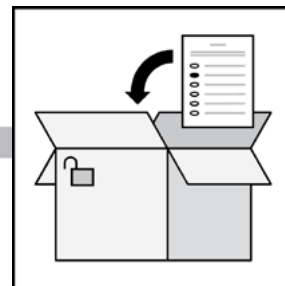
[deschutescounty.gov/electionresults](https://deschutescounty.gov/electionresults)



## Step 11. Audit

Audits are a normal check and balance that are part of every election. We use audits to confirm that election equipment accurately interpreted and tallied voters' ballots, that the outcome of the election reflects how voters voted, and that election workers followed procedures.

ORS 254.529



## Step 12. Ballot Storage

We securely store all paper ballots and other records as part of the official record for two years. After two years, the ballots are destroyed.

OAR 166-150-0035(14)(a)

# Deschutes County Clerk's Office Elections Website

www.deschutescounty.gov/elections

The Deschutes County Clerk's Office Elections Website is your primary source for official, accurate and up-to-date election information. Our website now has a .gov domain, which means you can trust that our website and content are authentic, secure and factual. Our site contains:

- Candidate and measure information
- Current and past Voters' Pamphlets
- Key election dates & deadlines
- Ballot Drop Box Locations
- Election results
- Voter statistics and maps

The screenshot shows the website's navigation menu on the left, a search bar, and a main content area titled "Elections and Voting". The navigation menu includes: Clerk's Office Home, Current & Upcoming Elections, Elections and Voting (selected), May 19, 2026 Primary Election, May 20, 2025 Special District Election, Ballot Drop Box Locations, Elections Dates & Deadlines, Voter Statistics & Maps, Voter Information Request, Voter Resources and FAQ, Election Results, Election Archives, Marriage Licenses, Passport Services, Property Value Appeals Board, Recording, Other Services, 2024 "I Voted" Sticker Contest, and About the County Clerk. The main content area features a "Register to VOTE" button and a section for "Current and Upcoming Elections - Click Here". A large "I VOTED" sticker is also visible. Three callout boxes provide additional information: the first box points to the "Elections and Voting" menu item and lists: Track election dates and deadlines, See what offices are up for election, and View a list of candidates and measures; the second box points to the "Voter Resources and FAQ" menu item and lists: Register to vote and update your registration, Answers to FAQs, and Learn about how your ballot is processed; the third box points to the "Election Archives" menu item and lists: Find current & past election results and voters' pamphlets.

# Accessible Voting in Deschutes County

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To ensure that every citizen can vote privately, securely and independently, the Deschutes County Elections Office offers many accessible options for voters to cast their ballot. Information regarding this election is available in print, electronically as a PDF and as an audio file at [www.deschutescounty.gov/clerk/page/may-19-2026-primary-election](http://www.deschutescounty.gov/clerk/page/may-19-2026-primary-election).



## **Vote by Mail**

Every voter will be mailed a ballot starting 20 days before Election Day. Each voter must sign the return envelope so it can be compared to the voter's signature on file in accordance with state law. Voters who are unable to sign the return envelope can update their voter registration signature to a "mark", an "X" or a signature stamp by filing with our office an SEL 540 Signature Stamp Attestation form and a new SEL 500 Voter Registration Card.



## **Oregon's Online Ballot-Marking Tool**

For voters who are unable to vote by mail:

All voters can access and mark a ballot in a screen-readable format from any computer. Ballots must be printed and returned to the Deschutes County Elections Office by using the provided ballot return envelope. Access this service at any time, day or night, through Election Day at 8 pm. To find a link to your ballot, visit [oregonvotes.gov/myvote](http://oregonvotes.gov/myvote) and enter your information.



## **Accessible Ballot Marking Device**

An accessible ballot marking device is available upon request at the Deschutes County Elections Office for voters with disabilities. The system includes audio ballot reading technology, uniquely shaped large buttons with Braille descriptions, a low height to permit wheelchair-based use, and use of adaptive interface devices such as sip-and-puff and tactile input switches to control the input, allowing voters with hearing, visual or physical disabilities to vote with ease. Voters may authorize a friend, family member, or other trusted person, who is not affiliated with their employer or union, to assist them.



## **Elections Office Voting Assistance Team**

For voters who are unable to use any of the above services, alternative voting options may be available to you. Contact us by calling 541-388-6547 or emailing [elections@deschutescounty.gov](mailto:elections@deschutescounty.gov).

# Understanding Different Types of Measures

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A ballot measure is a proposed tax levy, bond, or law that is presented to voters for approval or rejection. Measures can amend an existing law or implement a new one, and can be placed on the ballot by a citizen, a group of citizens, or a jurisdiction. Voting thresholds (simple majority and double majority) are determined by the election date of the measure. The ballot measure text will clarify when a measure goes into effect if it passes.

## Taxes

A **levy** is an imposed collection of local or state tax(es) for operating purposes or capital projects, by voter approval. Through voter approval, a taxing district can seek to implement a tax with a permanent rate limit or seek a “local option tax” with either a rate per \$1,000 of assessed value or an amount of property tax in dollars. A levy may be a new tax, a renewal of existing taxes, or an increase to a tax through a local option tax. If a levy occurs at a March or August election, it may only be approved if at least 50% of registered voters eligible to vote in the election cast a ballot and if a majority of the voters vote affirmatively for the measure.

**Bonds** are debt obligations issued by jurisdictions to fund major capital improvement projects. Similar to a home mortgage, they are used to finance large purchases over time. Bonds are generally repaid through property taxes. The financial impact of a bond election will vary from resident to resident based on property values and the number of bonds issued.

## Laws

A **ballot initiative** is a proposed law drafted *by citizens* and placed on the ballot to be approved or rejected by voters. Ballot initiatives are usually drafted by a group of residents who are passionate about a particular issue.

A **ballot referral** is a measure that is a proposed law placed on the ballot *by a jurisdiction*.

A **ballot referendum** is a proposed *amendment to a recently passed law* (within 90 days) and can be placed on the ballot by a citizen or group of citizens or a jurisdiction.

# Your Signature Matters

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Your signature matters! Signature verification is the essential step that safeguards your vote, protects against fraud, and ensures the integrity of our election process.



Every ballot return envelope signature is verified by trained elections staff and compared to the signature on the voter registration file. Most signatures come from either the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) or paper voter registration cards.



If your signatures match, your ballot return envelope is accepted and moves on to be opened.



If your signatures don't match, your ballot return envelope is flagged as "challenged" and we will contact you by mail to resolve the issue so we can count your ballot. Voters with challenged signatures have up to 21 days after Election Day to respond to our letter and resolve their ballot signature.

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