

Oregon artPAC — 2016 Primaries

Contest: **Washington County Commissioner (Aloha, Beaverton, Cooper Mountain)**

Candidate Name: Dick Schouten

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Candidate Web Site: SupportSchouten.com

Date of Questionnaire Submittal: February 11, 2016

In a 140-character “tweet” format, tell us why you are running for office.

Finish Aloha Community Park and Library, address affordable housing and end homelessness in the County, and further grow the arts on the Westside.

How many donors have contributed to your campaign?

Four.

How much money have you raised for your campaign?

\$4,250

What endorsements have you received?

A number are pending, not officially received

What role do the arts and culture play in the life of our region and what do the arts personally mean to you and your family?

The arts and culture play a large role to enrich all of our lives, and attract the well educated work force we need. I'm a Portland Opera season holder, go to plays and shows regularl, and a recent Bach Christmas Oratio was a critical part of our family' past year grieving process.

How will you address the growing affordability crisis in our region for artists, arts organizations, and small arts businesses as it relates to housing and creative space?

We need to greatly ease land use and zoning restrictions inside our Urban Growth Boundaries so that we can significantly increase the supply of market rate and as well subsidized affordable housing in our UGB.

How will you foster the growth of the creative economy in our region?

I will help the City of Beaverton successfully fundraise for a performing arts center in that city, a center which could serve the entire Westside as well.

How will you enhance the delivery of and support for arts education in school and neighborhood settings?

Join with other local officials to fund strong STEAM programs in all of our schools.

How will you further the values of equity and access to the arts and culture? What do you see as the biggest challenges to progress in this area?

Funding. The Commission needs to allocate more existing County funding for the arts and find new revenues as well.

What other public policies would you pursue to strengthen the creative capacity of our region?

Washington County needs to help fund early childhood STEAM education and effectively push for County voter approved money measure to do exactly that.

The following question is for candidates in City of Portland contests only. Do you support the voter-approved Arts Education and Access Fund and do you commit to maintaining it? What changes, if any, would you make to improve its administration?

The following question is for candidates in City of Portland, Clackamas County, Multnomah County, or Washington County contests only. Each year, you will have the opportunity to vote to approve a budget for arts funding through the Regional Arts & Culture Council (RACC). Do you commit to maintaining or increasing this budget allocation and funding level?

I commit to increasing Washington County's budget allocation and funding level for RACC.