

2016 Primary Election Questionnaire

Please fill in your information and go on record with your answers to the questions below.

Responses are due no later than 5:00 PM on February 12, 2016

* Required



1. Candidate Name * Paul Savas
2. Contest * Clackamas County Chair
3. Candidate Web Site www.electpaulsavas.com
4. Date of Questionnaire Submittal 2-15-2016 (on-line form not functioning per discussion w/Stan)

Questions for all candidates.

The following questions are for all candidates submitting a questionnaire.

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

"I am acting on my commitment to public service which is founded on improving the quality of life for our citizens and future generations."

6. How many donors have contributed to your campaign?

I am not prepared to respond at this time.

7. How much money have you raised for your campaign?

I am not prepared to respond at this time.

8. What endorsements have you received?

I am not prepared to respond at this time.

9. 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?

Arts and Culture are part of the community fabric and are an important component in the lives of our citizens. While it is the livelihood of some it provides the social balance that enriches our lives. My wife Suzanne and I have found great pleasure in listening to music, most especially in youth and school programs. We find our experiences with arts and culture most impactful when youth are involved. Having diversity in cultures encouraged in youth and presented by youth enriches us.

10. 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?

As we witnessed during the recession housing prices and rents dropped as the vacancy rate climbed. Supply and demand is a market reality. We need to have a greater supply of housing and creative space in the region. Creating more livable communities around the region would also help balance the demand. The common denominator is a lack of supply, we must increase supply in all types of housing, which includes commercial and industrial settings where unique creative spaces happen.

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

It is challenging to separate the world economy from our national economy, just as it is to separate our state economy from our local economy. Creating more livable communities around the region and investing more in infrastructure would allow many unique economies to grow. Involving more youth and diversity would also help communities to thrive and engage. Bringing communities together creates opportunities. Our creative economy can be grown by strategic marketing of our unique culture and assets. With a good local economy more resources can be injected via grants to arts and culture.

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

At the county level we have little leverage in school settings but we do create opportunities for youth to engage in community activities. We have and will continue to

invest in grant programs that support art and culture.

13. 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? **In the current structure of the county we rely upon you, the RACC, and others to bring these to our attention. In the realm of funding the challenge I see is providing an equitable share of resources to areas outside of the Portland area's inner core. Hearing directly from you would be a good first step.**

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

I am open to ideas on policies, but I would also like to look into exploring programs. Similar to the last question I would suggest opening up better lines of communication between schools and government leaders. Showcasing successes by telling the stories and highlighting the pathway(s) to success would be inspiring and informative.

The following question is for candidates in City of Portland contests only.

Click 'NEXT' if you aren't running for office in the City of Portland.

15. 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.

Click 'NEXT' if you aren't running for office in the City of Portland, Clackamas County, Multnomah County, or Washington County..

16. 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?

Yes

