

Art PAC
Clackamas County Commissioner Candidate Questionnaire
Larry Sowa
August 10, 2006

- 1. What steps would you take to help significantly increase private sector funding in Clackamas County for local arts organizations so that the community's arts organizations can present more high quality arts programs for all citizens?**

Throughout my years in public service and as a long time member of the Clackamas Community, I have been a firm believer in public and private partnership and would be an advocate to the private sector to seek funds for local arts organizations. I would personally make calls and visits to Clackamas County corporations to solicit funds.

- 2. Clackamas County currently does not have a "Percent for Art Program". Would you support the institution of a 2% "Percent for Art Program" for Clackamas County?**

I would support a "Percent for Art Program" in Clackamas County however, as with many new programs, I would seek citizen input and involvement. I would also ask the Clackamas County Budget Committee to research available funds and make a recommendation. I have always believed that art is important to a Complete Community and I support the arts.

- 3. In addition to seeking more funding for arts and cultural endeavors, what other public policies will you pursue to strengthen the creative capacity of Clackamas County and the region?**

I am a strong supporter of the Clackamas County Arts Action Alliance and helped create our new Public Art Steering Committee to assure all new (and hopefully existing) Clackamas County buildings are enhanced by public art. I have approved funding for this committee and their projects. I will continue to provide leadership that makes the arts and cultural endeavors an important fabric of our life...such as establishment of the visual art program in the lobby of the Public Services County Building.

- 4. How much of an increase in ongoing arts funding will you support for Clackamas County? Please provide a specific amount.**

Just this year I was involved in creating the Public Art Steering Committee. It was funded and created a public/private partnership with local artists to showcase their work. One of the first examples is in the Public Services Building and at North Clackamas Park. I will continue to encourage art at the new Light Rail Transit stations. I will have my Arts Action Alliance questionnaire with me at the

interview. The only change in the answers to that questionnaire is the increased funding that we put in the Arts Program when we did the final approval of the county budget.