

The Conservation Voter

Electing Pro-Environment Candidates Up and Down the Ballot

Unique Challenges facing us this Unprecedented Election

Barack Obama is indeed changing the shape of Oregon's electorate, providing unique challenges and opportunities for OLCV in our work to elect pro-environment candidates.

In Lane County, as with the nation, we have seen a huge increase in voter registration this year, with the biggest increases among younger voters, people of color, non-college voters and unmarried women. These voters tend to be pro-environment, but they are also much harder to reach: they are less likely to watch network television, they don't read their mail, and many don't read local newspapers.

The challenge we face is how to take the energy around this historic Presidential election and transfer it to environmental leaders running for state and local offices. Many new voters are unfamiliar with down-ballot races and they resist casting an uninformed vote, so it is critically important that we make direct connections with these voters to inform them about our endorsed state and local pro-environment candidates.

This is why it's essential that every one of us works to spread the word to voters about the importance of voting for candidates at every level of government. We need to let them know which candidates will take responsible action to curb global warming and who has a vision for protecting our farm and forestland, keeping our air and water clean, and preserving the special places in Oregon. In short, we need to let them know who has received OLCV's Seal of Approval.

We can't do it without your help. We're asking you to spend one afternoon or evening between now and November to educate voters about the candidates and inform them about what's at stake for these local, down ballot races. Here is a snapshot of the two exciting pro-environment candidates OLCV is working hard to elect in Lane County:

Mayor Kitty Piercy

Eugene Mayor Kitty Piercy is in a tough re-election battle. As mayor,

Piercy cast a number of crucial pro-environment votes that broke the tie in a divided city council.

In contrast, her opponent, former Mayor Jim Torrey, has received record-breaking donations from developer, land speculator, construction, timber and other special interests who stand to make huge profits from the urban sprawl and freeways he envisions as mayor.

Rob Handy

OLCV is spreading the word about Rob Handy who is working hard to unseat long-term incumbent Bobby Green for the North Lane County Commission seat. Rob is a community leader who will focus on finding a sustainable and vibrant path for the future of Lane County. In contrast, Green, who scored a 40% on our last scorecard, has consistently voted in favor of big developers and sprawl. The defeat of Green will help solidify our pro-environment majority on the commission.

One on one conversations will make the difference this election. Join other pro-environment activists as we change the shape of Oregon politics, one voter at a time. Sign up to volunteer at www.olcv.org/events.

Help OLCV re-elect Kitty Piercy as our Mayor!

Join us at one of these phonebanks:

**When: Wednesday, October 8, 15, 22, 29,
6:00-8:30 PM**

**Where: SEIU office, 488 E. 11th Ave. (also
the home of the Oregon Community
Credit Union).**

Please consider making a donation to support our work in Lane County. Remember, through the Oregon Political Tax credit the first \$50 for an individual (\$100 for a couple) will come back to you on your state tax return.



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www.olcv.org/lane

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November 2008 OLCV Lane County Endorsements

US Senate
 Jeff Merkley

Statewide

Attorney General – John Kroger
 Secretary of State – Kate Brown
 Treasurer – Ben Westlund

House

House District 8 – Paul Holvey
 House District 11 – Phil Barnhart
 House District 12 – Terry Beyer
 House District 13 – Nancy Nathanson
 House District 14 – Chris Edwards

Statewide Measures

YES on Measure 56
 NO on Measures 59, 61, 62, 63 & 64



Lane County
 Lane County Commission District 3 – Pete Sorenson
 Lane County Commission District 4 – Rob Handy
 Eugene Mayor – Kitty Piercy
 Eugene City Council Ward 1 – George Brown
 Eugene City Council Ward 5 – Betty Taylor
 Eugene City Council Ward 7 – Andrea Ortiz

Forward OLCV's endorsements to your friends, neighbors, and colleagues!
 Visit www.olcv.org/votersguide to find out how.

Protect Oregon's Environment and get involved with
 OLCV Today!

I am interested in volunteering to elect pro-environment candidates

I am sending a check to OLCV PAC to help elect pro environment candidates in Lane County.

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City, Zip: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____

Jim Baker
 Karen Booth
 Michael Carrigan
 Mike Helm
 Sally Nunn
 Jan Wilson
 Hans Wittg
 Meredith Shield, staff

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