

Eugene City Council Candidates

The following is a summary of the three Eugene City Council candidates for ward three, which includes the University. The primary election will be on May 21.



Bobby Lee

FIVE MAIN ISSUES:

- Affordable housing — He said he supports plans to create low and moderate income housing throughout the community and to find locations for affordable housing.
- Public safety — He wants to provide

efficient emergency response city-wide by increasing community policing, education and prevention programs, he said. Better city planning can reduce transient population and crime.

- Transportation — He said he wants to reduce dependence on automobiles by increasing the use of alternative modes of transportation.
- Environment — He will make environmentally responsible decisions by providing adequate open space and creating

a framework for ecologically sustainable development, he said.

- Youth and recreation — He wants to develop additional recreation facilities and opportunities for youth, especially youth-at-risk, he said. He also wants to support top-rate educational programs for Eugene into the 21st Century.

HOW WILL YOU REPRESENT THE UO?:

He wants to build a "bridge" between the University and the city. "Without the University, Eugene would not exist," he said. "Students are the fuel for the local economy."

EXPERIENCE:

Lee has been in several government positions including University Student Body President, Oregon State Board of Higher Education member, Planned Parenthood Board member and Higher Education 2010 committee member. Currently, he is a university graduate student in planning, public policy and management working on his master's degree in city management.



Adam Young

FIVE MAIN ISSUES:

- Affordable Housing — He said he would like to see the City Council make affordable housing its number one agenda item. He has been working with St. Vincent DePaul, Metropolitan Housing and the Lane County

Housing Authority to develop a plan to build 120 new two bedroom units for Lane Community College students and their families.

- Transportation — He supports alternative transportation, he said. He said he believes there needs to be a gross receipts tax on banks, fast food restaurants and any place that has a drive-up window in order to have fewer automobiles on the roads.
- Environment — He said he believes the city should have a clean environment. If Eugene is going to invite corporations

into town then the city should require full accounting for all toxic chemicals trucked in and how they are disposed, he said.

- New library — He endorses a new strong central library with Internet access. "A library is more than a place where a bunch of books are stored," he said.
- Women's rights — He wants women students to receive educational access through a self-initiated training program. He also said there should be more women representatives.

HOW WILL YOU REPRESENT THE UO?:

• He said he would get students at the University and at LCC involved with the city by speaking in classes and showing them how to get involved. "I would create committees or programs solely around students," he said.

EXPERIENCE:

Young is currently the student body president at Lane Community College. He has been a district 4J Natives Advisory Board member, Lane County Human Rights and Affirmative Action Committee member and a Community Colleges of Oregon Student Coalition member.



John Walsh

FIVE MAIN ISSUES:

- Affordable Housing — He said the West University neighborhood is in desperate need of low-income housing and strict rent control. He said he also believes the city should declare an emergency and require that increases

in rent be controlled by city ordinance.

- Public safety — He believes the Eugene police should be more accountable to the citizens of Eugene, he said. He would push for a citizens review board representative for Eugene that would be empowered to make meaningful changes addressing EPD law enforcement abuses.
- Transportation — He would work to encourage bicycling, walking and public transportation, he said. He plans to work on getting a better mass transit system.

- Legalization of hemp — He is a strong advocate for the legalization of hemp for personal, medicinal and industrial use. He said hemp is an excellent alternative to wood fiber for paper and could replace the 60 percent of the trees currently cut for paper products.
- Health Care — He said he supports a woman's right to choose and opposes Sacred Heart and other large medical conglomerates efforts to monopolize health care in Eugene, eliminating abortion and midwifery services.

HOW WILL YOU REPRESENT THE UO?:

"I would make sure all the public school laws are enforced," Walsh said. "Students belong in the classrooms instead of on the streets selling drugs."

EXPERIENCE:

He has worked at a variety of jobs, including at the Providence Housing Authority, as a janitor, handy-man and gardener. He has been a life-long political activist and is the current president of the Eugene Hemp Club.

Compiled by: Melissa Lebahn Design by: Matt Garton

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