

Primary

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Primary

ister through My Vote or can download and fill out the voter registration form available at sos.oregon.gov/elections/Documents/SEL500.pdf then mail it to or drop it off at the county elections office at 555 Court Street NE in Salem. People also can register in person at the county elections office.

Voters should have received notification cards about their registration within the past week. The cards include the voter's precinct, senate and representative districts based on the recent redistricting process.

New county commissioner districts will go into effect for the 2023 election cycle, and will not be reflected on the voter notification.

The deadline to register to vote is 11:59 p.m. April 26.

Seats on the ballot and who's running

There are multiple county and city seats up for election this year.

Marion County

Board of Commissioners

Two seats on the Board of Commissioners are up for election.

- Position 1** is currently held by Republican Kevin Cameron. Cameron is running unchallenged for the Republican nomination. Andrew Dennis, a program analyst at Oregon Housing and Community Services, a state agency, is running unchallenged for the Democratic nomination.

- Position 2** is currently held by Republican Colm Willis. Willis has filed for the Republican nomination and is unchallenged. Mark Wigg is running for the Democratic nomination and is unchallenged.

District Attorney

- Incumbent Paige Clarkson is running for reelection.
- Clarkson is being challenged by Spencer Todd, a public defender.

Other offices

Sam Brentano, a former county commissioner, has filed unchallenged to run for county treasurer. Current Justice of the Peace Justin Kidd has also filed to run for the office and is unchallenged.

State Legislature

Four state house and senate seats in the Salem area will have primary contests.

Senate District 11

Next January, for the first time since 1999, Salem will not be represented in the Oregon Senate by Senate President Peter Courtney. Five people are running, two Republicans and three Democrats.

Sen. Kim Thatcher, R-Keizer, will square off against small business owner Marcello De Cicco in the Republican primary.

The Democratic race will be among Anthony Rosilez, executive director of the Oregon Teacher Standards and Practices Commission; Eric Swenson, Woodburn mayor; and Richard Walsh, former Keizer city councilor.

House District 19

With current Rep. Raquel Moore-Green running for Senate, this race also is without an incumbent but is full of current and former elected politicians.

Only one Republican is running, former Salem city councilor TJ Sullivan.

Two current Salem city councilors are competing against each other in the Democratic primary — Tom Andersen and Jackie Leung. Rep. Brad Witt, who currently represents House District 31 northwest of Portland, will also join the mix.

House District 21

Five candidates are seeking the seat formerly held by Rep. Brian Clem, who announced his resignation from the

House of Representatives in October. Salem City Councilor Chris Hoy was appointed to replace Clem, but does not live in the re-drawn district.

In the Republican primary, long-time Oregon politico Kevin Mannix is running against forklift operator Kyler McNaught.

Among the Democrats, the race is among small business owner and veteran Ramiro Navarro Jr., farm and outdoor store manager David McCall and financial analyst Robert Husseman.

House District 22

Two Republicans and two Democrats will compete to fill the seat vacated by State Rep. Teresa Alonso Leon and her campaign for Congress.

Accounts receivable clerk Karl Emmrich and senior education policy analyst Anthony Medina will face off in the Democratic primary. The Republican race will be between cybersecurity analyst Jim Lowder and former dental assistant Tracy Cramer.

The remaining seats in the greater Salem area won't have a contested primary on either side of the aisle:

Senate District 10

- Democrat: Sen. Deb Patterson (incumbent).
- Republican: Rep. Raquel Moore-Green.

House District 18

- Republican: Rep. Rick Lewis (incumbent).
- Democrat: Jesse Smith, former small business owner and part-time web developer.

House District 20

- Democrat: Rep. Paul Evans (incumbent).
- Republican: Dan Farrington, medical consulting business owner.

House District 23

- Republican: Anna Scharf (incumbent).
- Democrat: Elise Yarnell Hollamon, Newberg city councilor.
- Oregon governor

More than 30 people have filed to run for governor and been determined eligible.

Republican candidates

Nearly 20 are seeking the Republican nomination.

- Raymond Baldwin, from Clackamas County.
- Bridget Barton, from Clackamas County.
- Court Boice, who serves on the Curry County Board of Commissioners.
- David Burch, from Marion County.
- Reed Christensen, from Washington County.
- Christine Drazan, who's currently serving as a state representative for part of Clackamas County and is the House minority leader.
- Jessica Gomez, from Jackson County.
- Nick Hess, from Washington County.
- Tim McCloud, from Marion County.
- Kerry McQuisten, the current mayor of Baker City in Baker County.
- Brandon Merritt, from Deschutes County.
- Bud Pierce, from Polk County.
- John Presco, from Springfield.
- Stan Pulliam, the current mayor of Sandy in Clackamas County.
- Amber Richardson, from Jackson County.
- Bill Sizemore, from Deschutes County.
- Stefan Strek, from Eugene.
- Marc Thielman, who resigned as superintendent of the Alsea School District to run for governor.
- Bob Tieman, a former state representative from Clackamas County.

Democratic candidates

More than a dozen are seeking the Democratic nomination:

- David Beem, from Marion County.
- Julian Bell, from Jackson County.
- Wilson Bright, from Multnomah County.
- George Carrillo, from Washington County.
- Michael Cross, from Marion County.
- Ifeanyichukwu Diru, from Washington County.

- Peter Hall, a city councilor for Haines in Baker County.

- Tina Kotek, who's served as a state representative for part of Multnomah County since 2007 and House Speaker since 2013; she resigned the posts to run.

- Dave Lavinsky, from Deschutes County.
- Keisha Lanell Merchant, from Benton County.
- Tobias Read, a Washington County resident who's served as state treasurer since 2017.
- Patrick E. Starnes, from Linn County.
- John Sweeney, from Multnomah County.
- Michael Trimble, from Multnomah County.
- Genevieve Wilson, from Multnomah County.
- Peter Winter, from Clackamas County.

BOLI Commissioner

Seven people have filed to lead the state agency in this nonpartisan race:

- Aaron Baca, a small business owner from Washington County.
- Brent Barker, a banker and small business owner from Washington County.
- Cheri Helt, a business owner from Deschutes County.
- Chris Henry, a union linehaul truck driver from Clackamas County.
- Casey M. Kulla, a Yamhill County commissioner who was running for governor until recently.
- Robert Neuman, a Baker County resident who describes himself as a general laborer.
- Christina Stephenson, a civil rights attorney and small business owner from Washington County.

Congressional District 5

Oregon's fifth congressional district includes some suburbs south of Portland, the Salem area and stretches south and eastward over the Cascades. Incumbent Kurt Schrader, a Democrat, will face Jamie McLeod-Skinner, of Terrebonne, who challenged former U.S. Rep. Greg Walden, R-Ore., prior to redistricting in 2018.

Five Republicans are running in that party's primary: Lori Chavez-DeRemer, formerly the mayor of Happy Valley; Jimmy Crumpacker, a Bend investor; John Di Paola, a retired doctor, of Wilsonville; Madison Oatman, a Bend mitigation technician for a restoration company; and Laurel Roses, a Mulino co-owner of a trucking company.

Congressional District 6

Oregon was granted a sixth congressional seat for the first time during the nationwide redistricting process last year, and 15 candidates have emerged to become its inaugural representative.

The new district encompasses Polk and Yamhill counties as well as portions of Marion County (including Salem), Clackamas County and Washington County.

Six are on the Republican side: Rep. Ron Noble of McMinnville; former Keizer city councilor Amy Ryan Courser; clean energy executive Nate Sandvig; former U.S. representative and state senator Jim Bunn; Dundee mayor David Russ; and U.S. Air Force veteran Angela Plowhead.

Among the Democrats, Rep. Teresa Alonso Leon of Woodburn, Rep. Andrea Salinas of Lake Oswego and former Multnomah County commissioner Loretta Smith are the candidates with the most government experience. But there are a host of well-funded, if inexperienced, candidates also vying for voters' approval.

Here are the top five candidates in the race when looking at funding, according to Federal Election Commission data. Campaign finance information for federal races is reported quarterly to the FEC; the next report will be on April 15.

- Democrat Cody Reynolds, United States Army veteran — \$2 million in campaign account (from a loan he made to himself).

- Democrat Matt West, Intel development engineer — \$620,000 in campaign account.

- Sandvig — \$185,000 in campaign account.

- Salinas — \$180,000 in campaign account.

- Smith — \$175,000 in campaign account.

U.S. Senate

U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden, a Democrat, is seeking reelection.

He faces two primary challengers:

- William E. Barlow III, from Yamhill County.
- Brent Thompson, from Curry County.

More than half a dozen Republicans are seeking the party nomination to run in November:

- Jason Beebe, the current mayor of Prineville in Crook County.
- Chris Christensen, a Washington County resident who ran for the First Congressional District in 2020.
- Robert M. Fleming, from Multnomah County.
- Darin Harbick, a business owner from Lane County whose name people might recognize from Harbick's Country Inn.
- Sam Palmer, a commissioner in Grant County.
- Jo Rae Perkins, from Linn County.
- Ibra A Taher, a Eugene resident who describes himself as a self-employed philosophy teacher.

Ballot measures

There are four ballot measures in Marion County so far:

- Measure 24-460**, regarding whether the city of Sublimity should continue to put fluoride in its water supply.
- Measure 24-461**, regarding whether the city of Donald should assess residents to pay for police services.
- Measure 24-462**, regarding whether the city of Aurora should issue bonds for water system improvements and construction projects.
- Measure 24-463**, regarding whether Gervais School District No. 1 should issue bonds for school construction, improvement and repair projects.

What district are you voting in?

All Marion County residents vote for U.S. Senate and for statewide offices like governor and BOLI Commissioner. Marion County commissioners are elected countywide.

State legislators are elected by district. To see which district you live in, go to oregonlegislature.gov/findyourlegislator/leg-districts.html, which is valid through 2022 and has links to redistricting information.

Salem residents can find their ward at cityofsalem.net/Pages/ward-map.aspx.

Getting a ballot and voting

Active registered voters will receive an official ballot in the mail to complete and return. Ballots are being mailed out April 28.

People can mail ballots back or drop them off at an official dropbox, which opens April 28. Dropbox locations will be available at sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/drop-box-locator.aspx 20 days before the election.

Ballots must be received or mailed with a valid postmark by 8 p.m. on Election Day.

Get more information on elections

Oregon residents are expected to receive pamphlets with information on ballot measures and candidates two to three weeks before the election to give them time to research what's on the ballot.

There's also more information on voting and elections available on various webpages:

- Oregon:** sos.oregon.gov/voting-elections/Pages/default.aspx
- Marion County:** co.marion.or.us/CO/elections

Contact city government watchdog Megan Banta at mbanta@register-guard.com. Salem reporters Whitney Woodworth, Connor Radnovich and Claire Withycombe contributed reporting.

Extremism

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target key infrastructure, like water systems, or hospitals.

"Domestic terrorists draw from many philosophies and worldviews to justify illegal acts," they wrote.

Their report pointed to Oregon's "history of violent extremism" — ranging from the 1984 contamination of a salad bar in The Dalles by the followers of the spiritual leader Rajneesh, which sickened more than 700 people, to the occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in Harney County in 2016. Oregon saw a "spike" in these incidents in 2020, including the breach of the state Capitol and the shooting of a protestor by another protestor in Portland.

That history means the state must focus more on ways to diminish the risk that extremist activities pose, auditors said.

"Attacks on the Oregon state capitol

and the U.S. capitol over the last couple years clearly demonstrated the risk to public safety and the high cost on public resources resulting from domestic terrorism and violent extremism," said Audits Division Director Kip Memmott. "Our report notes that Oregon is especially at high risk for this type of violence."

The report also suggested the state's homeland security council come up with a statewide strategy that includes "specific, measurable outcomes" to counter extremist activities, and that the state revise its plan to protect critical infrastructure like hospitals and power plants with the "latest information" on threats of domestic violent extremism.

Different agencies on different levels of government have overlapping jurisdiction over extremist acts, which could be inefficient and can lead to "confusion and miscommunication," auditors said. Formal working agreements between levels of government could mean that time-sensitive information could flow more efficiently between parties.

The report also recommended the

state should look for more federal money to support its efforts to mitigate the risk of domestic extremism, and that more training for police and state employees could mean the state could do a better job "identifying potential threats," auditors said.

And they said the state should have a system for being transparent about domestic extremism because policymakers have a hard time understanding the "nature and extent of the threat" because public information is so limited. Neither Oregon nor the feds publish reports on terror plots or incidents, but auditors said they should be reported to the public when the information doesn't compromise privacy or security. They said the state should boost awareness of extremism, and how extremist groups recruit and target people online.

The state's Department of Justice and the Oregon State Police are responsible for preventing and responding to crimes that could meet the definition of domestic terrorism or violent extremism.

"Oregon must be an inclusive place

where everyone is and feels safe," Secretary of State Shemia Fagan said in a statement. "The rise in domestic terrorism is an immediate threat to Oregonians and we cannot simply wait for the next incident to occur. We can and must take immediate steps to prevent individuals at risk from being radicalized and becoming violent."

State Rep. Paul Evans, D-Monmouth, who sits on the Oregon Homeland Security Council, said the report "underscores the critical nature of the work we still haven't finished."

"We must become more focused upon strengthening our statewide security posture against cyber and physical attacks upon our people and place," Evans said in a statement. "...I look forward to working with stakeholders to build upon the reforms we have made over these past few years."

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