

Harold Williams



Harold Williams is a labor negotiator and former affirmative action officer for the State. He is involved in the NAACP, and Bethel AME Church.

What new sources of revenue do you support? How would you balance the state budget?

"I am looking at tax incentives to established businesses who will hire in the area. Oregon is depressed because of unemployment. There will be no assistance from the federal government so the state must fill

that role."

Williams would favor building a structure so all economic grants coming to the state would go to the most depressed areas to entice business to put people to work.

The budget would be balanced if the cuts were spread across all agencies. Now cuts are usually made at the expense of human services. "We need to look at priorities in the whole structure of government." The tax structure needs to be revamped.

What is your opinion of public utility districts?

The whole structure and alignment of utilities should be studied. If there is a lower rate with PUDs, Williams would support them.

Do you favor the fair share concept for state employees?

"If they get the benefits they should pay."

Should public employees have the right to strike?

"Definitely they should have a right to strike. A strike by public employees has the same impact as private employees. It is wrong to assume that the adverse effects of a strike by public employees is different than those created by a strike of private employees."

How would you reorganize the state system of higher education to economize yet provide quality education?

Williams would look at the skill areas needed for the future. "We

have to steal concepts from the junior colleges—we need to move away from the elitist attitudes and be more in tune with reality."

"Academic freedom is not enough"—the schools are taking too much money. We have to see where people go to work—about types of employment—and make the colleges more productive.

What Committees would you like to serve on? What are the main issues you would address in these Committees?

Land Use and Economic Development because they have an impact on future growth. More money should go to the department of economic development to attract business—they haven't put enough money into this.

He is also interested in human resources. "I would want to make sure that no person has to suffer because of not having the basics of life. We need to provide more money so people can live with dignity." The administration of funds in human resources is often dehumanizing. To have food people must go through this when there should be resources to help. "We need to have a system with humaneness."

What are the major problems for the people of District 18? What would you do?

"The number one problem is economics—the 20 per cent plus unemployment." We need to attract business to put people to work. Image is

another problem. "It is a positive community but a negative approach is given. We never see the 95 per cent who are the successes."

Who would you consult regularly regarding legislative decisions? How would you keep in touch with your constituents?

"I would like to see an ongoing community body made up of the churches, business, etc., to touch bases monthly and have a continued voice to make sure what we are doing has insight. This would need to be continuous."

"I would talk with people who are involved in the particular issue."

What is your opinion on crime in the area?

"I would approach it from two sides—not put more people in jail. I would get social groups involved, look at black on black crime, make sure law-enforcement is not negative and causing things to happen. How the police relate to the community is very important."

What is your opinion of the Tubman decision? Do you support the BUF's tactics?

"The School Board made the promise; it can't be changed just because two School Board members change." As for the BUF, "I respect the results, you can't argue with that. Because of their actions the Board is reassessing. The bottom line is the result. People are working together who haven't spoken for a long time."

Roger Troen



Roger Troen's major interest is in the rights of domestic animals—dogs and cats. He is active in related organizations. He is a printer by profession.

What new sources of revenue would you support? How would you balance the budget?

"No tax," Troen said. "I am a Libertarian-Democrat." State services would have to be curtailed. The fire departments would have to be maintained; legalization of drugs would have an impact on crime, lowering the incidence of burglaries, so the police would not have to be expanded.

"I can't understand how people so alienate themselves that they can't go to family or friends for help. I've swallowed my pride and maintained control with my family; I try to have friends. If I have a

problem I don't want to have to rely on someone down in Medford. People need to look after themselves."

Troen explains that because government has taken the citizens' money through taxes it would be necessary to continue social programs for the poor for some time, to phase them out gradually. Ultimately the poor would be assisted voluntarily. "People are better than the politicians make them out to be."

Do you favor public utility districts?

"We have in 11-D in the constitution to provide funding for public power and I think it should be put into effect." He is in favor of PUDs: "Hydro power belongs to the people."

Do you favor the fair share concept for state employees?

"If I wanted union help, I would join. To force people to pay union dues is wrong." As to people who reap the benefits of union activity and do not pay, "Let the union people call them freeloaders." If the workers are getting better wages because of union organizing, and still do not want to join, they will have to put up with the scorn of the union members.

The employer, the employees and the union should work out their problems together.

"Employers are not their own boss... I developed a skill, decide what to charge for it, and sell it at that price... People have the same opportunity; they are not restricted from the libraries. I see kids in school while some others were out playing." If people are not satisfied with their working conditions they should go elsewhere.

Should public employees have the right to strike?

"Public employees should have a right to strike and the state should have the right to fire them."

How would you reorganize the state system of higher education to economize yet provide quality education?

Troen would abolish all public schools, including the colleges and universities.

He favors a system where anyone who wants to teach could set up a class and find students. The increase in the level of education "would be phenomenal." Different classes would teach different things; there would be an exchange of ideas. "Minds would expand on every level."

Troen believes this will happen automatically. "The people are at a point where they won't be told what to do."

What Committees would you like to serve on? What are some issues you would address?

Troen would choose the committee on environment and would spend much of his time speaking on behalf of animals—especially dogs and cats. Thousands of cats and dogs are killed annually—strays and animals turned over to the Humane Society. "The people still have not been told the truth about what happens out there." The consciousness of the media is low. Troen would aggressively push for expanded consciousness about the plight and the rights of domesticated animals.

What are the major problems for the people of District 18 and how would you address them?

The major problem is the lack of home ownership. If everyone who wants to own a home could obtain one, the district would not be as

drab as it is. There is a lack of color, a flatness. "The district has tremendous potential. It is close to downtown, access is good, but there is a lack of sense of community. Neighborhoods are very important."

Who would you consult on pending legislation? How would you keep in touch with your constituents?

"I would talk to all of the Libertarians." He would seek advice from the other candidates since they are the natural leadership. He believes they would want to be involved.

What is your opinion on the crime problem?

Legalization of drugs would diminish crime. Unemployment causes much crime. "I am basically for creating jobs—having the type of education that would allow people creativity in finding jobs for satisfaction not just for money."

He advocates no more prisons because prisons create criminals. The state should offer treatment, not punishment.

What do you think of the Tubman decision and the Black United Front's tactics?

The Tubman decision was wrong. They are talking money. It causes other spin-offs that could cost a lot more in the long run. The School Board should have honored its commitment. "They want to manipulate, not be manipulated. They are out of touch."

The Black United Front: "I love them." They are very imaginative and it works—it's working now. They wouldn't have gotten media attention without the disruptions. The fact that has been overlooked is that "the School Board disrupted the lives of all those kids."

Walter Backstrom

(Editor's note: Mr. Backstrom did not provide a photograph for this interview.)

What new sources of revenue would you support? How would you balance the budget?

Backstrom would support a graduated income tax to ensure that persons on the upper end of the income scale pay their share of taxes. He also supports a graduated corporate income tax.

Backstrom supports and would work for the designation of Northeast Portland as an "enterprise zone." Under the Reagan administration's plan enterprise zones would offer tax benefits and a relaxation of federal regulations on employers within the zone.

Do you favor public utility districts?

"Yes, if cost effective."

Do you favor the fair share concept for state employees?

"Yes, one for all and all for one."

Should public employees have the right to strike?

"Yes."

How would you reorganize the state system of higher education to economize yet provide quality education?

Backstrom would support a commission to look at the colleges and universities to see where there is duplication of programs. In order to economize it might be necessary to see if particular programs should be located at one school and other programs at another. He would support closing schools if their programs duplicate and are available elsewhere.

What committees would you like to serve on?

Backstrom would select the trade, judiciary and labor committees. He would work for a 10 per cent set-aside to ensure that minority firms get a share of state contracts.

He would advocate for an enterprise zone and would seek economic funding to bring jobs to the area. He advocates modernization of the Port of Portland to compete with

Seattle and San Francisco.

Legislators should have local offices in the community—staffed by senior citizens—where people can give suggestions and file complaints.

What are the major problems for the people of District 18. What would you do?

Backstrom considers the major problems to be housing, crime, economic recovery. His goal would be to bring new business to the area to provide employment.

What is your opinion on the crime problem?

Crime is compounded by lack of jobs and money. Providing jobs would do much to alleviate the crime problem.

Who would you consult on pending legislation? How would you keep in touch with your constituents?

(Charles Stoudamire and Rose Gangle were featured in our May 6th issue.)

Register now
vote on May 18th.

Elect a man who is
EXPERIENCED
to the
Court of Appeals
JUDGE WALKER

In a recent statewide
JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE SURVEY
lawyers rated Judge Walker very high in

- Analytical Ability
- Open Mindedness
- Common Sense & Practicality
- Legal Knowledge

Pd for by the Committee to elect Judge Walker to the
Court of Appeals



re-elect

Gretchen Kafoury
state representative
democrat

A Proven Record

Paid for by: Gretchen Kafoury for State Representative Committee, Anne Kelly Feeney, Treasurer, 1508 NE Stanton, Portland, or 97212

David
Weiss

M.S.D.#11



"Let's have a new M.S.D."



Re-elect
Margaret STRACHAN
City Council

Because
we're all in this
together.

Paid for by Committee to Re-elect Margaret Strachan