# CHALLENGING PEOPLE TO SHAPE A BETTER FUTURE NOW

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Oregon voters have until Oct. 18 to register to vote. Washington voters have until Oct. 10 to register online or through the mail, but can register in person through Oct. 31.

## Voter Registration Deadlines, **Events Loom**

In Oregon, voters must register by Oct. 18; in Washington, by Oct. 10

The Skanner News Staff

he 2016 election is eight weeks away, and Oregon voters receive their ballots in six weeks (and must mail them by Nov. 3 if voting by mail, or submit by 8 p.m. Nov. 8 if visiting a dropbox) — but it's not too early to check on one's registration status.

Last year the Oregon legislature passed a law making voting registration automatic for anyone who's had contact with the state's Department of Motor Vehicles – whether to get a license or renew it, or apply for a state

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In this Sept. 11. 2016 file photo. Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton waves after leaving an apartment building in New York. Hillary Clinton's doctor says she is recovering from her pneumonia and remains "healthy and fit to serve as President of the United States."

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# CAMPAIGN FINANCE



Commissioner Amanda Fritz held a forum at Matt Dishman Community Center on publicly-financed elections. The proposed plan would match small donations, up to \$50, at a six to one rate.

### Fritz Proposes Public Campaign Finance Plan

Advocates say the program would make it easier for minorities to run

Arashi Young Of The Skanner News

ortland City Commissioner Amanda Fritz wants to bring back publicly financed elections through a new campaign funding system. Under the proposal, small donations would be matched six times - amplifying the contributions of average voters.

call to action to increase diversity in the Portland City

"We've had two people of color on council in 164 years. We've had seven women on the council in 164 years, and that is not reflective of the values we hold," Fritz said.

Under the proposed plan, every donation from \$5 to \$50 would be matched by public funds at six to one rate - a \$50 donation would effectively turn Fritz held a forum on the into a \$350 contribution. plan last Thursday in the Money to match donations and \$300,000 in the gen-Matt Dishman Communi- comes out of the City of eral election. Those runty Center auditorium. She Portland general fund. To ning for mayor can spend opened her remarks with a participate, candidates opt into the matching funds program and then commit

to not accept any donations over \$250.

Before receiving these funds, city commissioner candidates will have to have collected \$2,500 from 250 individuals. Mayoral candidates need to have \$5,000 collected from 500 people.

Candidates who use this program have spending limits; city council hopefuls can spend up to \$250,000 in the primary \$380,000 in the primary and \$570,000 for the general election.

Fritz said that she hopes to have the proposal in front of city council for a vote before the end of the

This would be the second time the City of Portland has publicly-financed elections. In 2005, the council voted for a program that would give a lump sum to council candidates who had collected 1,000 signatures and \$5 donations.

In 2006, council hopeful Emilie Bovles defrauded the program, violating election laws with falsified signatures and inappropriate spending - in-

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#### **IntersectFest II Opens Thursday**

Organizer Anna Vo talks about arts festival, which centers and celebrates people of color

By Christen McCurdy Of The Skanner News

ast fall a small group of organizers decided to put together a Portland arts festival focused specifically on work by people of color. Now that festival is entering its second year.

IntersectFest II - a festival of art, self-publishing and do-it-yourself and punk culture, organized by peo-

ple of color - kicks off Thursday with a dance circle and an inter-tribal art and film festival at Ford Food and Drink in southeast Portland. The festival continues through Sunday with events ranging from a Friday comedy show at Ford Food and Drink, and hip-hip and punk shows. The latter will be headlined by Breathing Light, an all-Black punk band from Chicago who, according to organizer

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Chicago punk band The Breathing Light will headline a punk show Saturday night featuring bands primarily composed of people of color. The show is part of IntersectFest II, an arts festival organized for and by people of color.