

# Portland's Charter Reform

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Text Message  
Today 10:50 AM

AMY R, This is Multnomah  
County Elections. Your ballot  
for the next election has  
been sent. Look for it soon in  
your mailbox!

# POLITICO

THE FIFTY

## This proud liberal city is throwing out its entire government

After a tumultuous four years marked by violent protests and drug decriminalization, Portland is poised for big changes.



# Portland's Old Form of Government

- The “Galveston model” since 1913
- Mayor & four City Commissioners
- All five elected city wide
- Commissioners legislate AND run bureaus
- Mayor votes with the council
- Mayor assigns / re-assigns bureaus (at any time) and proposes the budget
- Commissioners hire and fire bureau directors

## Also in 1913:

- Woodrow Wilson was president
- Federal income tax begins
- Henry Ford invents a moving assembly line

# Everything is about to change...

November 2022: Portland voters  
approved Ballot Measure 26-228

- Ranked choice voting
- Four geographic districts
- Three City Council members per district
- City Council will set policy
- Mayor and City Administrator will have day-to-day oversight of bureaus

# TODAY



Vote for one candidate



# FUTURE



Rank candidates  
*(November 2024)*



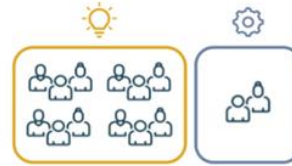
Citywide elections



Four geographic districts  
*(August 2023)*



4 commissioners  
+ mayor who create policy  
AND oversee bureaus.



12 Councilors who create  
policy. Mayor manages city  
with a city administrator.  
*(January 2025)*

Graphic: City of Portland

# Ranked Choice Voting

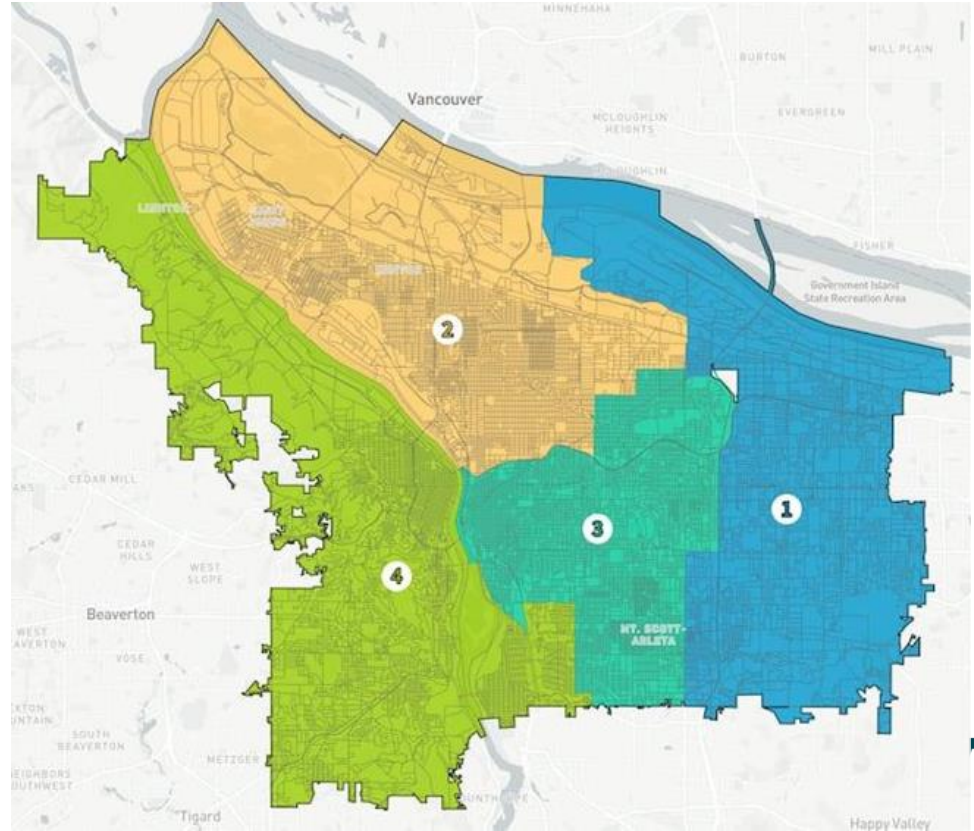
| City of Portland Contests   |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| City of Portland,<br><b>Mayor</b><br>Rank as many candidates as you wish, up to 6 |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |
|   | Rank 1                | Rank 2                | Rank 3                | Rank 4                | Rank 5                | Rank 6                |
| <b>Candidate 1</b>  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <b>Candidate 2</b>  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <b>Candidate 3</b>  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <b>Candidate 4</b>  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <b>Candidate 5</b>  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <b>Candidate 6</b>  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <b>Candidate 7</b>  | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| <u>Name</u><br>OR Write-in on the above line                                      | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |





# Districts

- Districts 1 and 2 electing four-year terms
- Districts 3 and 4 electing two-year terms
- Starting in 2026, rotating four-year terms





# Twelve Member City Council

- Council President sets agenda
  - Elected by the 12 Councilmembers
- Legislation
  - Committee process
- Budget
- Constituent services



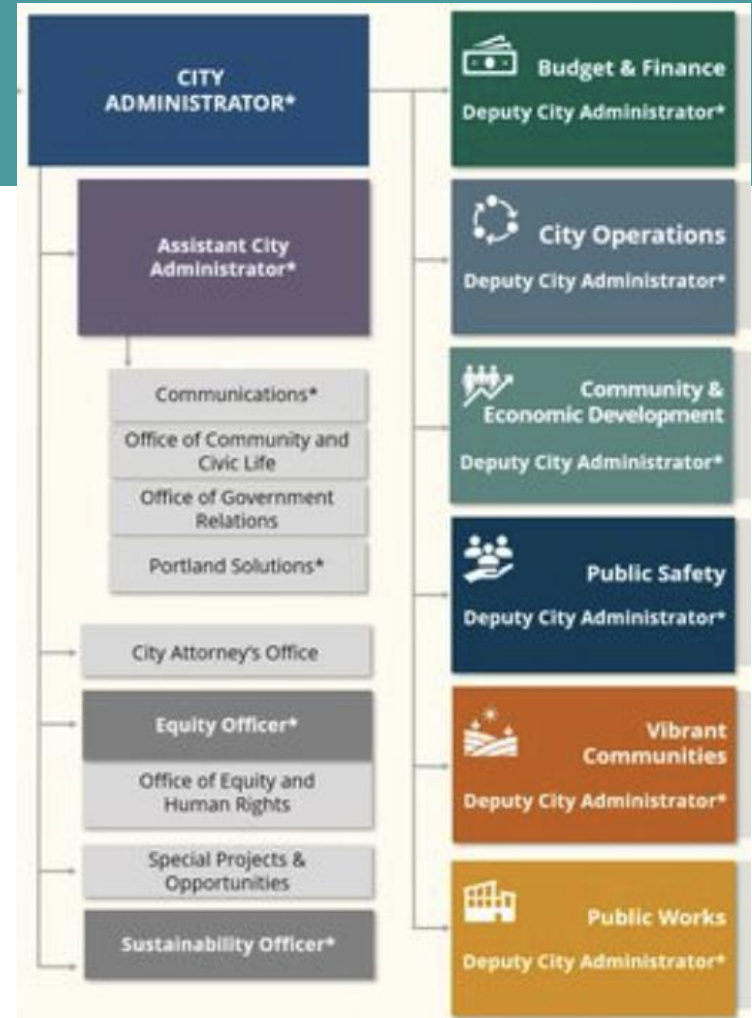
# Mayor

- Mayor only votes to break ties
- Mayor can introduce legislation
- Mayor proposes the budget
- Mayor cannot veto legislation passed by council
- Mayor hires and fires the City Administrator
- Mayor hires and fires the Chief of Police & City Attorney



# City Administrator

- City Administrator oversees all bureaus
- Six Deputy City Administrators (DCAs) have expansive power over the bureaus



# November 2024 Election

- No primary in May
- November election (nonpartisan)
- Mayor elected in a one-winner ranked-choice vote (RCV)
- Council members elected in multi-winner ranked-choice vote
- Mayor and council candidates can opt in to public campaign financing system (small donor elections)
  - \$350 contribution limit. \$20 matched 9:1. Temporary match caps.

# Mayor

- 19 candidates!
- 5 have qualified for small donor elections
  - Three sitting City Council members: Rene Gonzalez, Mingus Mapps, Carmen Rubio; Keith Wilson, Liv Østhus



# City Council

- District 1, East Portland: 16 candidates running
- District 2, North & Northeast Portland: 22 candidates running
- District 3, Southeast Portland: 30 candidates running
- District 4, West Portland: 30 candidates running
- 47 of 98 have qualified for small donor elections

# How Are Votes Counted?

Minnesota Public Radio  
YouTube Explainer!





**Don't Forget to Vote!**

**Ballots due / postmarked by Nov 5.**

# Thank You!

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