

NORTH CLACKAMAS COUNTY CHAMBER QUESTIONNAIRE –METRO COUNCIL

The North Clackamas County Chamber of Commerce is made up of more than 600 businesses, representing more than 26,500 employees, located in the Clackamas County and Metro area. We may be considering endorsing in your current race, and need to know more about your beliefs to assist us in making our recommendations. Please complete the following questionnaire and return promptly.

Responses to these questions may be the basis of the topics at the Candidates' Issues Events at which you may be invited to speak. Questions at the issues event may include any of the following.

Responses to this questionnaire will also be posted on the Chamber's website, www.yourchamber.com.

Please return this by email to ceo@yourchamber.com before Monday, March 1, 2010.

Please limit your response to each question to no more than 100 words.

Name: **Shirley Craddick**

Office Sought **Metro Council District #1**

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- 1.) What do you believe are the most significant problems Metro is dealing with that affects business and communities in general today?

Developing and sustaining a healthy economy are both the goals and challenges facing our region. Businesses are stressed by the current economic recession so we need to do what we can to help get them through this difficult time, while also properly planning for future growth to develop and sustain a healthy economy once we recover from the recession. Metro's job is the latter.

There are some strategic decisions that need to be made to ensure we have a healthy economy:

- **Continue to focus on the development of the Metro area centers, so there is a critical mass of residents and workers to sustain businesses**
- **Make sure the transportation system ensures there is good freight mobility and reliability. Goods need to be transported quickly and efficiently. Time is money in business**
- **Find a solution to help the cities build the infrastructure, so the urban growth boundary expansion areas can be opened for jobs. We need more jobs on the east side of the Metro region. I want the east side of the Metro region to be as prosperous as the west side.**

- 2.) What are the solutions to the above problems and how would electing you help achieve the solutions?

I will do the following to help find a solution to the above:

- **Help the private sector have a stronger voice. Get private businesses and professional organizations involved in Metro discussions to have a voice.**
- **Keep Metro on its mission**
- **Work with leaders in District #1, elected, business and community, to identify a set of common goals for the District, or east part of the Metro region, that I can represent at Metro. These goals would come out of each city's aspirations. The regional direction is determined by the local community direction.**

- **Work with the leaders in District #1 to identify the local transportation needs that will ensure efficient and reliable freight movement, so I can lobby for their interests.**
- **Work with the state and regional leaders to find a solution to help cities build infrastructure to open the urban growth expansion areas for jobs**

3.) What would you propose to do differently at Metro if you were elected Metro Council member; or, is there a need to conduct any part of the agency or its business differently?

One size can not fit all in the Metro region. Those of us that have chosen to live in the suburbs do so for reasons different then those that live in the inner city. I want to represent the cities in my District. I will do what I can to facilitate discussion and the development of some sub-regional aspirations and goals for District #1. I will then work with the regional leaders and Metro Council to do what I can to accomplish these goals for my District.

3.) Can you give an example of a way in which you have supported a business/community position in the past?

The economic recession has been extremely difficult for the small businesses in Gresham. To help, the Gresham City Council has developed a commercial small business assistance and incentive program that focuses on filling vacant store fronts. As a member of the Gresham City Council, I fully supported this program and want the best for our small businesses. As you know, 80% of jobs are created by small businesses.

The goal of the program is to attract small businesses to the City's centers, both historic downtown Gresham and the Rockwood Town Center. The Council wants to create a vibrant and dynamic business environment.

The program also includes lifting for one year both system development charges and permit fees for any business that opens in a vacated store front in historic downtown Gresham and the Rockwood Town Center.

5.) List briefly the three top reasons voters should elect you to this position.

The Metro Council's job is to work collaboratively with the cities in the Metro region to identify and resolve regional issues. The Metro Councilor needs to listen and work with the regional leaders to resolve these challenges. A good Metro Councilor needs to be a collaborator and listener. These are my strengths.

1. **I am a collaborator**
2. **I am a listener**
3. **I have the experience representing the City of Gresham on Metro and already have developed relationships with the Metro Council and leaders in the region. I am experienced.**

6.) List briefly your biographical information limited to age, former/current elected positions, years in State/region/County/district, community involvement.

I have lived in Metro District #1 all my married life. We first lived in east Portland, then Troutdale and Gresham since 1979. We have raised our girls in the area. Our roots are here. I care for the area deeply and want it to prosper. I want the east side of the Metro region to be most desirable place to live and house your business.

Age: 62

Elected Positions: Gresham City Councilor, elected 2004 and 2008

Years in State/region/County/district: 5 years. I am in my sixth year.

Community Involvement:

Gresham City Council: 2004, 2008

Council President 2007

Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MP AC), alternate, 2005 to date

Metro's Bi-State Coordinating Committee

Gresham's representative to the Regional Water Providers Consortium, 2005 to date

Council Liaison to the following Council Advisory Committees:

- **Planning Commission**
- **Urban Forestry Committee**
- **Natural Resource and Sustainability**
- **Community Development and Housing**
- **Transportation**
- **Parks and Recreation**
- **Mt. Hood Cable Regulatory Commission**