

**Clackamas County Candidate Questionnaire for:**

James G. Needham | 680 Mary Drive | Molalla, Oregon 97038

Candidate for Clackamas County Commission, Position 3

What skills do you possess that make you the best candidate for this position?

I have established innovative leadership skills and abilities to develop innovative solutions to difficult issues which uniquely qualify me for leadership during this recession. These skills include leadership in civic as well as community service organizations.

Discuss the leadership experiences you have had in business and/or within the community that illustrate your use of these skills.

Many years of leading classroom discussions as an instructor at Clackamas Community College, Portland Community College, and Pioneer Pacific College. Continual advocacy of unprecedented approaches to resolving government issues in elective leadership for Carus Board of Education, Molalla River Board of Education, Molalla City Council, Clackamas County Community Action Board; Clackamas County Advocacy Committee, Clackamas County Coordinating Committee Delegate, and Clackamas County Reserves Policy Advisory Committee Delegate. Civic Activities include Molalla Chamber of Commerce, Molalla Kiwanis Past President & Pacific Northwest Kiwanis Builders Club Administrator; Molalla FFA Alumni Board of Directors, and Molalla Christian Church Deacon.

Why should the Chamber endorse your candidacy?

I have demonstrated over 10 years of leadership initiating collaborative plans and programs engaging stakeholders in removing obstacles to environmentally harmonious & sustainable private sector jobs.

What can the County do to create and promote economic vitality for business in the south metro region?

The Clackamas County area is ideally suited to expansion of private sector business and transportation by creating fast-track approval of new or expanded businesses & commercial projects and elimination of red tape which only prevents new development from flourishing.

Name one County program or department you would like to improve, and why.

I would like to see Clackamas County explore all possible alternate funding resources for the Health, Housing and Human Services Department, especially the Social Services department.

What are your top three priorities that you will pursue if elected and why?

All my objectives occupy a very high priority, but my first and foremost objective is to remove obstacles to production of private sector employment. Another priority will be engagement of all stakeholders in comprehensive evaluation of all options for expanding timber harvests. In all my objectives I will be keeping a continuous priority on protecting citizen rights and revisiting codes, ordinances, rules, etc. which are redundant, obsolete, or obstructive including exercising the land use options made available to Clackamas County by HB 2229.

What are the two most detrimental issues affecting business in Oregon today and how are you going to correct them?

There are simply too many financial and legislative obstacles which government has created. We need to re-evaluate creation of more obstacles (like the "Tree Ordinance") and find methods of removing red tape and 'fast-tracking' permitting procedures.