

If I Were Mayor

They say nothing is perfect. That it's nearly impossible to create a faultless society. However, should these mere sayings get over our heads? It's true that everything has mistakes, but why should that stop us from trying to build a flawless community? Although not everyone has the power to make changes, there are certain people in the government that can. Within that government, are people who are elected in each city and state to improve, plan, and maintain the city, such as city councilors, and mayors. On the assumption that I was mayor, I would be exposed to many opportunities, and possibilities that a regular citizen would not have, and would get the chance to reach out to more people, and to give back to my community.

The school district should expand the budget for education, because it will later contribute, and help in improving the daily lives of our citizens. According to <http://www.edweek.org>, the 2013 education state ranking states that Oregon isn't even in the top 30. In fact, Oregon has not gotten above the bottom 10 for three years in a row. We have not done very well in the category of spending. More money should be spent for education, instead of cutting school days to save money. As the future leaders of our generation, as well as the country, we should be receiving a good education. The Beaverton School District cut 5 days due to the budget cut, but instead, we should invest in education, for the reason of that the more knowledge we contain, the better society we can create. Also, as a mayor, I would be able to decide which programs and organizations should be included in the budget cut, as well as whether or not to create new/more programs or organizations.

If I were mayor, I would have the ability to create or expand programs/organizations. Although most people assume that Portland would have the highest number of homeless students, Beaverton actually has the highest number in all of Oregon. According to <http://www.oregonlive.com>, in 2011-2012, Beaverton had 1,809 homeless students. Even though there *are* programs designated to help these students, are there enough? I agree that the first step in solving a problem is identifying it, but with only a limited amount of programs in the area, there isn't going to be a large amount of students being helped. Also, another problem is that there are no family shelters in Beaverton, which causes low income families and unemployed families to struggle and become homeless. As a mayor, I would create more programs for homeless students, and creating a family shelter in Beaverton. If I were mayor, I would have the privilege of getting to create programs, and I would also try to maintain the city.

As a mayor, I would try my hardest to maintain the city. Frommer's Travel Guide ranked Beaverton as number three in cities to live in, in the year 2007. Beaverton is made up of tight knit communities, many schools, and beautiful sights to see. However, I would like to make an addition of more community gardens, parks, hiking trails, as well as biking trails. This would encourage families to exercise, and also to spend some time together, as well as meet new people, and create new relationships. Community gardens would also let different people come together, and contribute to the environment, as plants create more oxygen. These additions would bring the city closer together, and also would be a great opportunity for families and individuals to exercise, and meet new people. On the

assumption that I was mayor, not only would I try to bring people closer together, I would also like to improve the environment.

Beaverton should heavily encourage the use of reusable bags, and ban plastic bags in all grocery shops, stores, restaurants, and pharmacies. About five hundred billion to one trillion plastic bags are used worldwide, each year. Plastic bags are not only harmful to the environment, they can also harm animals. They take a very long time to decompose, and so when an animal/organism consumes plastic, and then dies and decays, the plastic is then exposed to the environment once again. It is estimated that each square mile of the ocean has forty-six thousand pieces of floating plastic in it. Maryland uses a method to encourage using reusable bags, grocery shops could possibly credit customers a few cents for using their own bags. We could also completely ban plastic bags, instead of just charging an extra fee for them. Many states still provide plastic bags, and charge a fee. However, many people will still buy the plastic bags, so it would be a wiser choice to get rid of all plastic bags. In order to save the environment, I propose to get rid of plastic bags, and even credit customers for bringing their own usable bags.

No, failure, never, why? These are all words that we've probably heard more than once in our lives. They're the monsters inside of us that are constantly bring us down, and making us flee and hide. But if we overcome them, and rise beyond the little insults that have edged their way into our minds, we can become invincible. As the mayor, I would create more programs for homeless students, and creating a family shelter in Beaverton. I would also create more hiking and biking trails, and also creating more parks and community gardens. The last proposal I would make is to ban the usage of plastic bags to minimize ocean pollution. My goal would be to join different people together, and to create a powerful generation. As the mayor, I would have the opportunity to help more people than I could ever before. Their suggestions and proposals would be would be put into action, with the help of others. If I were mayor, I would hold the power to change people's lives.