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**Name: Steve Redman**

**Running for: Corvallis Ward 6**

**Please review your background and describe the leadership qualities and experiences you bring to this office and why you want to serve.**

I have 25+ years in business (real estate, banking & finance) in addition to being a military veteran. I appreciate all levels of politics: in fact, my major in college at OSU was political science. My interest in serving is to help rebuild citizen trust in local government with foresight, experienced based judgment and integrity.

**1. Oregon State University and Linn-Benton Community College are key partners of our local economy. What role do you think these institutions should play in economic development in our region?**

These partners are vital to our successful efforts in economic development and can help by seeking to keep many of the research spin-offs here in the area. They also should continue to educate our work force in a way that many new businesses will feel they could move here and attract a solid workforce from the area.

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**2. How do you see yourself working with the business community?**

I see myself continuing to support small businesses in the community and promoting a climate of intelligent commerce. Without a healthy business community we can not solve our city's financial challenges.

**3. With the departure of HP & Evanite, Corvallis/Benton County has lost a substantial number of jobs. Those two businesses accounted for 10% of our collective income over the last 30 years. What would you do to replace that income? If you believe we don't need to, what would you eliminate to cover what we have historically paid for?**

**The loss of those business entities hurt, no doubt about it. I feel that if clearer priorities are established and long-range goals the focus and conversations can be more on what the community really needs, versus what it wants. To me the job of local government is to supply the basics like fire & police protection, roads, libraries and such.**

**One major idea to replace lost income is to add more entry-level housing in the community (via annexation) to accommodate the many families that would like to live here. Even a few hundred new homes would broaden the tax base and help avoid deep cuts to city services in the years to come.**

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Entry-level housing in this market is often defined as being between \$200,000 - \$250,000 and there are not nearly enough of these homes for our citizens. There were only 111 sales in this price range (year-to-date) in Corvallis and that's less than a third of what it could be.

**4. From your perspective, what is the largest problem Corvallis & Benton County have, and what do you plan to do about it?**

**My major concern is cuts to public safety, especially the police department.**

**Right now the Corvallis police department is 60% lower than the state average for police officers in a comparable community. The state average is 1.6 officers per 1,000 residents and Corvallis is at .97% officers per 1,000. As OSU continues to add students, cutting the police force seems to be a bad idea – especially since now over 50% of police calls involve OSU students.**

**I plan to draw a line in the sand and say “NO MORE CUTS TO POLICE!” Public safety must be our highest priority.**