



Candidate Name:
Campaign Manager's Name:
Phone Number(s):

2012 Candidate Questionnaire: Mayoral, Primary

ABOUT US:

What is The Mother PAC?

We are mothers. Oregon mothers. Who came together in 2010 because we envision a better Oregon with strong, pro-family public policies. And we're fighting for it. Because we know from experience how dated and inadequate our current system is for families – especially for mothers.

What does The Mother PAC do?

Our goal is to build an Oregon where today's families can thrive. To do this, we need more pro-family elected officials. So we're pooling our resources to elect key pro-family candidates who will champion the strong, family-friendly public policies Oregon families need.

ABOUT YOU:

1) Child Care:

Parents across the city are experiencing a shortage of child care, with 2-year long waiting lists in some cases. What exists, often, doesn't adequately meet the needs of working parents. Parents tell us they pay too large a percentage of their wages on child care and that they can't find child care that is conveniently located to their workplace. This also impacts employers, who benefit when employees are focused on work, rather than juggling child care issues.

Parents across the city need accessible, strategically-located, affordable, and high-quality child care. What can you do to make sure Portland makes child care a priority? (unlimited response allowed)

2) Earned Sick Time:

40% of all private-sector workers in Oregon and 80% of low-income workers lack access to a single paid sick day from their job. These workers don't have PTO, vacation or another source of time off. They literally lack a single paid day to recover from illness, seek medical care, or stay home with a sick child.

Employees who lack earned sick time are concentrated in restaurants, retail, child care and home health care – also people who also have regular and ongoing contact with the general public, which means their lack of access to sick time should be a public health concern.



(sick days continued)

Our neighbors to the north and south (Seattle and San Francisco) have both recently passed ordinances that require employers to let employees accrue earned sick time so ALL workers can recover from illness or take care of sick kids without losing critical income – or their jobs.

Do you support this? Yes No (check one)

And what would you do to make Portland next? (unlimited response allowed)

3) Air Quality:

We want Portland's economy to get back to work, but believe that dumping 1.7 million pounds of air toxics into the air our children breathe shouldn't be the price we pay to do it.

Here is the problem: Without meaningful efforts to limit toxic emissions from industrial sources, even in one of the greenest cities in America, the air pollution rises when the economy does. That meant almost 10% more pollution in 2010 than 2009. And there is no foreseeable limit, since many of the biggest polluters are playing by rules established almost 50 years ago - rules that don't fully consider the health impacts of pollution such as asthma and cancer. These legal, but toxic emissions, mean the air at 35 Portland schools is ranked among the worst 5% in the nation due to exposure to industrial air pollution - and that **does not** include vehicle pollution. Not one single Portland school ranks better than the bottom 30% of schools in the nation.

We know that the state plays an important role in air quality regulation, but the city can't just blame the state or hope it'll do something.

What will you do to help reduce industrial air emissions in the city? (unlimited response allowed)

AUDIENCE QUESTIONS (from our recent forum):

For Mayoral Candidates:

4) School Funding and Equity:

We know the Mayor doesn't have direct control over the city's schools, yet the educational outcomes of our students and the quality of our public schools have a direct impact on livability, city services, crime rates, property values and a host of other very relevant city concerns -- that affect *all* residents. What will you do to work with the 6 Portland school boards to ensure that our kids are receiving an equitable, top-notch education from safe, stably-funded schools?



5) School and Work Gap:

Our kids' school schedules and parents' work demands are clearly out of sync in today's economy: while our school-aged children have almost 18 weeks (4 ½ months) off a year, very few working parents have any where near that much vacation time. This creates added stress on already tight family budgets and also contributes to other problems when so many kids are unsupervised for long stretches of time. What can the city do to help fill this gap, which also has significant and well-known educational downsides for children - especially in low-income families?

6) Equity for Families

What do you think the city's role should be in addressing disparities in health, income, education, and access to services that families experience in Portland?

What does equity mean to you with regard to Portland families?

7) Pesticides in Parks

If the parks in Portland are so important for children, why do we spray pesticides all over them?

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. Please email your completed questionnaire – saved with your name in the document name – to andrea@motherpac.org.