



Candidate Name: Scott Rose
Campaign Manager's Name: Same

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)

Coming from an educational planning background, I am a strong supporter of the positive learning effects of early childhood education and define the "P" in PK-12 as "from birth". The City alone would have a difficult time financially supporting child care initiatives, but coupling them with the new state initiative for cradle to career would enable us to leverage other funds to assist in making child care accessible and affordable. Successful Early Childhood Programs include infants, 18 mos - 24 mos, 3-4, and Head Start programs all rolled into a single multi-functional facility. I would advocate for expansion of this program tied to each elementary across Portland. The challenge is in making these self-sustaining. A stand-alone facility would be hard pressed financially, but tied to a school, the subsidy would help to offset enormous costs to the parents (not eliminate, just reduce). Placed in each neighborhood makes them conveniently located and brings the schools back as the center of the community.



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.

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)

Yes, I support this. To make Portland next, we have to be as aggressive as San Francisco's. Simply put, an employee works 30 hours, they earn 1 hour of sick leave, with a cap of 40 hours for small employers and 72 hours for large employers, provided other time off options are not otherwise provided. These can roll over annually. I would put to our businesses, that sometimes, illnesses occur that are beyond typical flu and require more time off than may be accrued. What is not covered in San Francisco's is the ability to borrow time in excess of what they have accrued. If extreme situations occur where more time is needed, I would advocate that additional time can be taken, up to a single full pay period, so if the employee suddenly leaves, that time can be deducted from the last pay check. This affords greater flexibility for things beyond their control. To make this affordable in Portland, we need to couple the program with City and County health initiatives for wellness training to minimize chronic issues. We have to bring these programs into the employers, to mitigate some of the added costs. I would fully support such an initiative.

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)

The thing that you don't want to hear is that we can do little about the industries already here and that too stringent requirements will keep potential other industries from developing here and bringing those jobs, but that is a reality. What Portland can do, and what I am willing to do is two-fold: tighten requirements on incoming industries and reduce car usage, which has a volume that does rival industrial pollution. California has managed to put in place tighter safeguards on pollutants that have not driven out businesses. 16 of the 20 fastest growing companies are in the health care, green / technology, and fashion / retail. None of them are in Portland, all want to expand in the Northwest, and all practice sustainability, including stringent air emissions. They prove it is economically viable. My job as Mayor is to court these types of businesses to Portland that are environmentally responsible, but also bring jobs locally. I would not take planning from Commissioner Dan Saltzman but instead partner with him on placing such environmental controls on expansion projects for existing industries, such that, "you want to grow, we need you to reduce emissions".

As for emissions from vehicles, we are not going to push people out of their cars no matter how much light rail we develop. What we can do is shorten the trips. Restore the 20-minute neighborhoods with everything people need within close proximity of their neighborhoods. By getting groceries, postal, laundry, dining, entertainment, retail, at each community across the City, rather than concentrated, we get families in their cars less time, and reduce emissions.

The solution is multi-faceted and will take time. This is not meant to minimize what our children face, but to address the breadth of the problem, while not creating an economic backlash that takes away other positive aspects to a child's development. It has been proposed to move the schools, but doing so takes away the neighborhood aspect and will be as detrimental.

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?

The City cannot change school funding. What we can do is positively impact the schools by partnering businesses with schools to sponsor programs that cannot otherwise be funded. Being in educational planning, I have seen the positive effects of partnering health institutions with schools to generate nursing, records, and technician programs in the schools. McMinnville HS graduates certified welders because Oregon Cascade Steel is 3 miles away and donates equipment and supplements instruction. We have to get vocation back in the schools through these partnerships, so the education remains relevant, and the children have options. The Districts have been forced to make tough choices. I would actively lead efforts to bring programs back to schools and would keep the Office of Equity under the Mayor's leadership to identify the inequitable education models and target those first with these partnerships.

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?

The City can neither require employers to give employees 4-1/2 months off nor require the District to go to year-round schools. Portland has lost many of its communities where parents could entrust their children to neighbors. The City can work to restore the smaller 20-minute neighborhoods to improve those connectivities. We can place greater emphasis on parks and community centers to provide children localized alternatives. We can re-prioritize police patrols toward school routes, transportation hubs, and parks, so you can feel safe letting your children walk to these locations. We can support early childhood education centers coupled with child care, so there are alternatives for young children. We can and will do those things under my administration. However, we also have to ask families and parents what responsibilities you can take on. What are you willing to do without or change in your lifestyle to allow one of the parents to work part time? Are you willing to network in your community to make friends and social clubs that can support the working families? The Office of Neighborhood Improvement can take on the charge of identifying those opportunities in each neighborhood, but we need families to be willing to engage in those opportunities. The City cannot do it alone - we need your help.

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?

The City's role in righting disparities within families is to bring in rapid growth business with better paying jobs, developing adult education opportunities like the proposed Gateway Education Center,



maintaining parks and community centers in each of the 92 neighborhoods, making transportation available in all areas of the City, keeping affordable housing while developing community infrastructure to avoid gentrification, partnering with schools to balance offerings at each through strategic partnerships with businesses, and keeping health and social support services located at each school, so clinics are available and affordable to all families. Equity for families, to me, means the City removing the financial, educational, and health obstacles that keep a family from succeeding. It means to restore community safety, commerce, and micro-cultures respecting diversity, so the community can grow. It also means families putting this as a priority and wanting it as bad as the City and wanting to give of themselves to make it happen. It can only be sustained when EVERYone wants it.

7) Pesticides in Parks

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

There is no reason to continue to use pesticides, with all the alternatives readily available. We want great looking parks, and some of the pesticides sell cheap right now, because they know they are being phased out, so in shrinking budgets, it has seemed like the good idea to Parks. However, again, there are comparable safe, non-toxic products on the market right now, and I would push the Office of Sustainability to do the research and partner with Parks to identify, implement, and regulate the use of safe alternative products. Other cities have successfully switched over - Portland can be responsible to the safety of our families and do the same.

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.