

## OREGON STATEWIDE ELECTED POSITIONS

### GOVERNOR

#### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

#### WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

Chief of the state. Elected every four years.

- Chief of the state military and armed forces.
- Appoints representatives to commissions and vacant agency positions.



Signs bills into law.



Can veto legislation, recommend laws, and ensures existing laws are being executed properly.

### ATTORNEY GENERAL

#### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

#### WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

Heads the state's chief legal and law enforcement office. Elected every four years.

- Represents the state in legal matters.
- Supports statewide crime victim service programs.



Represents the state's position in all legal matters in court, including housing discrimination and racial profiling.



Issues opinions and interpretation of Oregon law or proposed laws, including voting rights, immigration, and healthcare implementation.

### SECRETARY OF STATE

#### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

#### WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

Oregon's chief elections officer. First in the line of succession for Governor. Elected every four years.

- Helps ensure the right to participate in federal, state, and local elections.
- Serves as the state's auditor, ensuring public money is used appropriately.



Helps ensure that no Oregonian is unfairly denied the right to vote.

**OREGON STATE LEGISLATURE** • The Oregon Legislature is divided into two houses: the Oregon State Senate and the Oregon State House of Representatives. During odd years, Oregon Legislators meet for 160 days, and meet for 35 days during even years.

### OREGON STATE SENATOR

#### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

#### WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

The state is divided into 30 State Senate Districts and each district elects one senator. State Senate seats are up for election every four years.

- Enacts state laws in areas such as state taxes, education, child care and conservation of natural resources.
- Shares budget-making responsibilities with the Governor.



Makes decisions about funding priorities, such as Oregon public schools and other services, including English Language Learning programs throughout the state.



Can expand healthcare access for API communities facing barriers due to citizenship status or income.



Can change planning regulations to ensure development of low and moderate income housing.

### OREGON STATE REPRESENTATIVES

#### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

#### WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

There are 60 State House Districts. Each district elects one representative. All State House seats are up for election every two years.

Same as above.

Same as above.

## LOCAL ELECTED POSITIONS

Positions in local government may be elected by voters in a specific district or city/county wide. City governments in Oregon have different structures, in some the Mayor is the most powerful and in others the City Council has more power. Learn more about your city government structure to cast your vote.


### CITY MAYOR


#### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES


#### WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

Elected official who leads city government. Serves a four-year term.

- Determines policies for all city services and proposes the budget for a city.

 Can provide financial support to community services which support low income families.

 Makes zoning and budgetary decisions that could promote or prevent development of affordable and temporary housing, such as emergency homeless shelters for mothers and children.

 Can introduce a new tax or fee for a council vote.


### CITY COUNCIL


#### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

#### WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

Council composition may vary by city. This elected position works with the mayor to manage city government. Each member can serve a four year term. Half of city council members are up for reelection every two years.

- Determines policies for all city services, such as building codes, zoning, and managing public services.
- Responds to emerging community needs and issues.

 Can provide financial support to community services which support low income families.

 Makes zoning and budgetary decisions that could promote or prevent development of affordable and temporary housing, such as emergency homeless shelters for mothers and children.

### COUNTY COMMISSIONER

#### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

#### WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

Elected officials who lead county government. Each commission has between three and five members.

- Determines policies for all services provided by county agencies.
- Provides community services like county health departments, public transportation, public housing and libraries.

Same as above.


### SHERIFF


#### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES


#### WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

Sheriffs are the only locally elected law enforcement positions. Each of the 36 counties elects a sheriff.

- Provides law enforcement for unincorporated areas of a county, but sheriffs do not normally patrol in cities which have their own police agency.
- Maintains the county jail.

 Serves warrants and civil papers.

 Has enforcement discretion regarding federal immigration detainees in county jails.

 Makes arrests.

## DISTRICT ATTORNEY

### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

### WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

Prosecutes all felonies, misdemeanors, and serious traffic offenses.

- Screens, files, and prosecutes all criminal cases in the county.
- Has discretion to decide which cases to pursue and how to pursue them.
- Provides assistance to victims including navigating the Victims Compensation program.



Decides what to charge in prosecuting cases from domestic violence to drugs.



Decides if cases should be referred to drug court or other alternative sentencing or diversion programs.

## LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD

### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

### WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

Oregon has 220 school districts, and each one has a locally elected school board. School boards usually have five to seven members, elected at-large or by district.

- Adopts policies to guide the school district.
- Hires and evaluates the superintendent for the district.
- Approves the annual budget.



Decides what is taught in local public schools, such as Ethnic Studies, which APANO successfully campaigned for in 2016.



Makes decisions about campus security including the level of police interaction with youth.