



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**STEPH ROUTH FOR EAST PORTLAND CAMPAIGN ANNOUNCES OVER 300 DONATIONS, ENOUGH TO QUALIFY FOR THE CITY OF PORTLAND'S SMALL DONOR ELECTION PROGRAM**

*Steph Routh's grassroots campaign is the second to reach this Small Donor Elections milestone with 60% of donations under \$25*

**Portland, OR**—Within two days of officially announcing the campaign, the [Steph Routh for East Portland](#) effort has exceeded the threshold of receiving 250 donations from Portland residents—enough to qualify for matching funds under the [Small Donor Elections](#) program. On Monday, September 18th, 2023, Steph Routh for East Portland has 346 individual donors, over 300 of which are Portland residents. 60% of donors to Steph's grassroots campaign donated \$25 or less. Steph is proud to join [Angelita Morillo](#) as the two candidates known to have enough donors to qualify for SDE funding as of today.

[Steph Routh for East Portland's priorities](#) are community safety, shelter and housing, climate action, and creating better government in this historic race. Thanks to the passage of the Portland Charter Reform last November, the 2024 election is a rare chance to build a more collaborative organizational culture in Portland city government. Steph Routh for East Portland's team knows that successful action on the campaign trail will rely on collaboration with other candidates. Steph is engaged with good-governance campaigns and is committed to advancing a coalition of voices that are ready to build our future.

"The [Small Donor Elections](#) program reduces the influence of big money in politics and makes values-based campaigns like ours winnable," said Steph Routh, [Portland City Council Candidate for District 1, East Portland](#). "We developed our movement as a grassroots campaign, and I am honored that Portlanders affirmed our vision with resounding local support. I feel deep gratitude and the responsibility of the trust that Portlanders have placed in our campaign. We have a great deal of work to do, and we're just getting started."

Steph has been endorsed by numerous Portland community leaders including Rev. Katie Larsell, East Portland Advocate; Mac Prichard, Founder & CEO of Mac's List; Metro Councilor Duncan Hwang; and more—view a sampling of [Steph for East Portland's endorsements here](#).

Steph is participating in the City of Portland's [Small Donor Elections](#) program because Steph for East Portland is running a grassroots campaign and she knows that big money doesn't belong in local politics.

But don't let us speak for this amazing movement—the [League of Women Voters](#) put it best:

***"The involvement of money in our elections is a huge barrier for everyday Americans who run for public office but lack significant financial resources. Every person has the right to run for public office—but because the role money plays in our elections, not everyone has an equal shot."***  
***-[League of Women Voters](#)***

It's vital for every person considering a run for Portland City Council to familiarize themselves with our local election protocols and for every Portland voter to understand why this equalizing force in our politics is meaningful—[Steph Routh for East Portland](#) encourages everyone to review the Small Donor Elections guidelines, and their guiding principles, as stated on the [SDE webpage](#):



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***“The Small Donor Elections program is designed to ensure that every Portlander’s participation in our democracy is important. Our government works best when every person is engaged in the elections process and can make a difference in the community. The program fosters an inclusive democratic process where everyone participates and everyone’s contributions matter. A community where people from all walks of life can run for and win office, while avoiding concerns about the influence of large donations in City elections. We’re strongest when our elected city leaders reflect the full range of talent and lived experience that Portland has to offer, and when the community trusts that elected leaders share the community’s values. People from every neighborhood in Portland should have meaningful opportunities to influence who is elected to City offices, and to run effective citywide campaigns.”***

**[-City of Portland Small Donors Elections Program](#)**

Read more about the [Small Donor Elections](#) program and [contact them](#) if you’re considering a run.

Read more about [money in politics](#).

The [Steph for East Portland](#) campaign encourages any Portlander considering a run in this historic election cycle to reach out—send a note to [hello@steph4eastportland.com](mailto:hello@steph4eastportland.com).

Every Portlander and Pacific Northwest fan-of-good-governance can donate to [Steph for East Portland here](#).

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