



Joint County Voters' Pamphlet

Candidate Statement

JCVP-01

ORS 251.335

Filing Information

Election Date: 11/2026

This Filing is an: Original

Name of Candidate (as it should appear on ballot): Cristal Otero

Filing for the Office of: Portland Councilor, District 3

"This information furnished by": Cristal Otero for City Council District 3

Candidate Information

Submitted by (Candidate or Candidate's Agent): Cristal Otero

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Occupation (Present Employment)

Government Administration, Social Work Policy

Occupational Background (Previous Employment)

Homeless Services; City and County Government

Educational Background (Schools Attended)

MSW, Portland State University; MA, Pacific Northwest College of Art; BA, The Evergreen State College

Prior Governmental Experience (elected or appointed)

Mark O. Hatfield Fellow, City of Fairview; Program Specialist Senior, Homeless Services, Multnomah County

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Portland has difficult choices ahead. Costs are rising, budgets are tight, and residents need public services that actually work.

FROM POLICY TO PEOPLE

I started in direct service and now work on budgets, contracts, and accountability behind public services. I listen to longtime employees who know these systems and look for early signs of success. We should not need a year to see a policy fail. I will change course when evidence shows it is not working.

LOWER THE BILLS GOVERNMENT SENDS

Nearly half of District 3 households live on \$75,000 a year or less. Portland's affordability problem includes the bills City Hall sends. The Water Bureau pays about \$100 million a year in debt service; water rates rose 8.1% this year. Financing decisions become household costs. I will judge major projects and borrowing by what they cost Portlanders each month.

HOUSING THAT LASTS

Portland should set a concrete goal: end homelessness for people with intellectual disabilities and brain injuries through stable housing, not repeated moves. Separately, some publicly supported apartment buildings can transition to resident ownership and management, creating predictable costs for people with disabilities and fixed incomes.

MY UNION JOB

A union job gave my family wages, healthcare, protections, and the ability to buy a home. As an AFSCME Local 88 member, I will back prevailing wages, apprenticeships, safe working conditions, and labor standards on public projects.

CLIMATE MONEY FOR CLIMATE

PCEF should fund climate work, not budget gaps. I will reduce seismic risk at the Critical Energy Infrastructure Hub and direct climate dollars toward lower bills, cleaner air, more shade, and greater resilience to heat and earthquakes.

ENDORSED BY: Sierra Club Oregon Chapter; Oregon Futures Lab & Color PAC

www.cristalforportland.com

Candidate Statement Attestation

By typing my name below, I am attaching my electronic signature and I hereby state that:

1. I am the candidate or candidate's agent and am the author of this Candidate Statement (ORS 251.415)
2. All of the information provided by me in this filing is true
3. I have read and understand the instructions for submitting this Candidate Statement, and
4. The portrait, if provided, is less than 4 years old

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Any person who supplies information in the Required Information portion of a Voters' Pamphlet statement, knowing it to be false, is subject upon conviction of a Class C felony; to imprisonment for up to five years or to a fine of \$125,000; or both. ORS 260.715(1); 260.993; 161.605; and 161.625.

Note: Language which violates any provision of ORS 251.415 will be excluded from the Voters' Pamphlet.

No circulators will be compensated based on the number of signatures obtained by the circulator on a prospective petition

Signature (Candidate or Candidate's Agent):

Date Signed(or amended):

