

Evrek Smith - Ward 4

One of the youngest candidates running for City Council, Evrek Smith has put together a comprehensive plan of action centered around cost-of-living improvements, safety, and government responsiveness. As a transgender woman and former Mormon, Smith would bring a valuable perspective to the City Council. Unlike many other candidates, she does not support 4-year terms, which limit the ability of students to participate; nor does she support decreasing the number of wards and councilors, disagreeing with the argument that a more competitive race is more democratic, “1,000 candidates for 1 Congressional seat is less democratic than there being 1,000 seats.” While Smith’s large variety of proposed policies may not be practical to address in one term (or even several), it is clear that she has thought in detail about how to move Corvallis forward.

Biography

- Born in Utah, raised in Hawaii until age 14 and graduated high school in Oregon
- Has lived in Corvallis since 2025
- Education:
 - Banks High School, 2025 honors diploma
- Current Occupation: OSU student, Research assistant
- Previous employment:
 - Harvester Crew
 - Educational Actor

Governmental, Organizational, and Leadership Experience

- Fundraised and managed finances for her high school’s club (First Tech Challenge Program)
- Phone banking for Zohran Mamdani’s (New York) and Kat Abughazaleh’s (Illinois) campaigns

Priority	Proposed Actions
Affordability: Housing Childcare Taxation	• Incentivize affordable housing development through tax exemptions, rent subsidies, and zoning density bonuses • Develop publicly owned housing projects • Implement free universal preschool • Support childcare facilities with subsidies and public-private partnerships • Expand Dept. of Parks and Recreation summer camps • Implement progressive taxation plans that make large employers and wealthy residents pay more
Transparency and accessibility of City government	• Mandate regular engagement in Ward events • Create volunteer liaisons to connect Councilors to constituents • Implement a clear way to evaluate City Manager and City staff performance • Give neighborhoods more control over how they are run
Safety	• Proactively ban AI surveillance Automated License-Plate Readers (ALPR) • Promote anti-racist police trainings • Oppose wasteful uses of money such as on the new jail/police station • Adopt humane alternatives to homeless sweeps (e.g., managed campgrounds) • Improve public transit so fewer people need to drive • Increase walkability and improve safety for pedestrians, bikers and commuters • Support the wages, benefits and security of transit workers • Reinforce Corvallis's sanctuary status, and work with community partners to protect residents by keeping ICE out