

Danielle Chambers - Ward 7

Since moving to Corvallis less than two years ago, Danielle Chambers has volunteered for multiple local governmental and social justice organizations and authored two city resolutions. She has ideas for everything from increasing citizen involvement, encouraging new businesses, zoning reform, increasing the use of renewable energy, and reducing homelessness, to promoting progressive taxes while eliminating regressive fees. While some of these may be unrealistic within a short, 2-year time frame, her enthusiasm and willingness to learn from others would help her shape these into workable solutions. Her lived experience as a trans woman would provide a valuable perspective on the city council.

Biography

- Moved to Corvallis from Oklahoma due to persecution of trans population
- Education: University of Oklahoma; BA cum laude in computer science
- Occupation: Software Engineer

Governmental, Organizational, and Leadership Experience

- Graduate of Leadership Corvallis, 2026
- Charter Review task force, phase 2, 2025-26
- Housing Operational Committee, 2025-26
- Author of unanimously passed 2025 Transgender, Intersex, and Gender Diverse Sanctuary City Resolution
- Author of 2026 Anti-Immigration Enforcement Resolution, portions of which passed
- Board President for 2025/26 of CORE Corvallis, a social justice-focused 501(c)(3)
- Currently working on an anti-surveillance-state-technology resolution with BC Dems, which would ban ALPRs, cell phone tower simulators, data brokers, and both public/private mass surveillance

Priority	Proposed actions
Growing our local economy to improve daily economic life for residents	• Use small, locally owned businesses as a driver of economic development • Implement a New Market Tax Credit program, which offers tax credits to investors to help underserved community members start new businesses • Crowd-source financing for small businesses, similar to Kiva 0% interest loans • Ban dynamic pricing at grocery stores
Housing accessibility	• Initiate zoning reform to allow more neighborhood-led solutions to land use • Host housing development conferences to help residents navigating our local code and requirements • Develop community land trusts for affordable, first-time home ownership • Enact a tenant/landlord bill of rights • Invest money and organizational ability in proven housing-first solutions to homelessness, such as ○ Provide grace period payments for renters who miss a paycheck ○ Establish another moratorium on evictions • Establish a heavily resourced, managed encampment zone
Improve sustainability of Corvallis city services	• Reduce restrictions on small-scale solar and battery installations • Prioritize buses, active transit, and walking over driving wherever possible, including in the upcoming 2027 Capital Improvement plan • Electrify city equipment, from buses to leaf blowers • Consider caps/taxes on carbon emissions/generation of waste • Rethink car-centric city planning • Push for similar measures at higher levels of government

Jerry Ingersoll - Ward 7

A civil servant throughout his career, Jerry Ingersoll brings a wealth of policy, administrative, and personnel management experience with the Forest Service, where he was known as a collaborator, bringing together a diverse array of stakeholders in decision-making and forest/watershed restoration. He stewarded forest management through times of lean budgets. As the National Director for Forest Service Job Corps, he oversaw a budget of \$170 million annually. Jerry emphasizes, and his career attests, to his focus on collaboration, transparency, and proactive outreach to all stakeholders, stating, "This isn't about me but about service." **Jerry is a registered non-partisan voter and does not wish to be endorsed by Indivisible Benton County, nor by anyone.** However, he is willing to accept the help of anyone to wishes to volunteer.

Biography

- Has lived in Corvallis for 16 years
- Education:
 - UC Berkeley: MS in Wildland Resource Science
 - UC Berkeley: BS in Forestry
- Occupation (retired): Federal civil service employee (Forest Service), 38 years
- Family: he and his wife, a teacher at Corvallis schools, raised three children here

Governmental, Organizational, and Leadership Experience

- As the National Director for Forest Service Job Corps, oversaw 24 Civilian Conservation Centers across the country, leading a staff of 1000, with a total budget of \$170 million annually. This program trained, educated, and provided leadership development to 3500 underserved youth for careers in firefighting and construction trades.
- Forest Supervisor of the Siuslaw National Forest for 8 years, managing public forests for restoration, recreation, and partnerships
- Brought together diverse stakeholders, including: motorized/nonmotorized recreators enjoying the coastal dunes; loggers, environmental and nonprofit groups, landowners and tribal governments around a program of old growth and salmon habitat restoration and stewardship
- Also served the Forest Service in Arkansas, Nevada, Colorado, and Alaska, and has been a land management planner, a district ranger, a national program manager, a deputy forest supervisor, forest supervisor, and deputy regional forester

Priority	Proposed Actions
Budget gap	• Adopt a combination of cost controls, economic growth, cuts in services, and/or increases and broadening of the tax base • Prioritize core services • Collaborate to avoid duplicating services across levels of government • Consider payroll and progressive income tax • He pledges to support new taxes on Corvallis residents only through a vote of the people.
Affordability, especially housing	• Support development of more affordable housing • Reduce barriers to housing • Continue to encourage multi-family housing • Do not mandate disclosure of Home Energy Score to home buyers
Economic development	• Continue reducing regulatory burden on development • Collaboratively plan with OSU, the business community, local organizations and other levels of government

Asa Jorg - Ward 7

As one of the youngest candidates and a pre-med student at OSU, Asa Jorg has stepped up with ideas to address Corvallis' budget and a desire to address the challenges faced by the City. However, as yet he has relatively little experience in governmental/organizational leadership, and there isn't very much information on his platform and values. At a recent candidate forum for Indivisible, Asa stated that he is running for City Council because of issues such as declining infrastructure, rising costs, inaccessible childcare, and the need for a sustainable budget facing the City of Corvallis. In addition, he stated that he wants to put political agency back in the hands of working people and retirees. **Note that Asa did not submit a candidate questionnaire in time for the endorsement meeting and thus does not qualify to be considered for an Indivisible Benton County endorsement.**

Biography:

- Born to immigrant parents and raised in Portland, OR
- Education:
 - OSU pre-med and engineering student
 - US Grant high school, valedictorian
- Occupation: undergraduate student

Governmental, Organizational, and Leadership Experience

- In high school, partnered with community organizations to provide hundreds of fentanyl test kits for PPS in response to student overdose issue
- Handled project and budget management through involvement with OSU
- Student strike leader in 2023 for the Portland Association of Teachers

Priorities	Proposed Actions
Affordable housing	None elaborated
Childcare	None elaborated
Budget	• Increase taxes and fees paid by OSU, hospital to increase community revenue • Look at payroll and progressive tax options • Raise limit on business land tax and lobby through League of Oregon Cities to alter measures 5 and 50

Ward 7 Comparison

Note: a third candidate, Asa Jorg, is not included here because he did not submit a candidate statement in time for the endorsement meeting.

Jerry Ingersoll participated in the forum and completed the candidate questionnaire. However, he does not wish to be endorsed by Indivisible Benton County, nor by anyone. Therefore, he will not appear as an option on the Indivisible BC endorsement ballot.

	Jerry Ingersoll (not on endorsement ballot)	Danielle Chambers
Budget	- Neither service cuts nor new taxes can fill the budget gap alone. - Use a combination of cost controls, prioritization of/cuts in services, economic growth, and/or broadening of the tax base - Promote economic development through collaboration with OSU and the business community - Refer any new taxes to voters	- Pursue progressive taxes (e.g., progressive income tax) - Cut regressive taxation (city service fees) - Pursue taxes that won't be passed down onto the people, such as - Higher licensing fees on garbage, electricity, and internet which, if structured correctly, could not be passed onto consumers - Focus on economic revitalization, which provides larger tax base and keeps money local
Affordability	- Support development of more affordable housing - Reduce barriers to housing - Continue to encourage multi-family housing. - Do not mandate disclosure of Home Energy Score to home buyers	- Develop community housing land trusts and implement zoning reform - Assist homeless residents with safe, resource-rich encampments and Housing First strategies - Establish greater tenant rights - Educate residents on local codes - Ban dynamic pricing at area stores
Engagement	- Emphasize local communication - Hold in person Ward meetings at least monthly - Distributing a monthly electronic newsletter - Seek out other opportunities to connect directly with Ward 7 residents "Focus on the work of the City. ... At the community level, we have our best hope to come together as members of a common place and a shared experience without political division."	- Build interpersonal trust with historically underrepresented communities by creating or reforming city-sanctioned bodies to incorporate them and then delegating power to them as collaborators. - Reform existing boards, such as the Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Advisory Board and the Climate Action Advisory Board, with binding powers to put motions and resolutions before the Council without requiring approval (but with Council still maintaining a veto) - Adopt community-oriented guidelines for policy implementation, including grassroots meetings and minimum outreach requirements