

Position 4 Chet Wamboldt

OPB: How can the county address housing shortages and rents that are out of reach for many residents? What is your proposal for a long-term solution to the management of shelters and sanctioned camps?

Wamboldt: As far as rent is concerned we've had some major headway in that department. There are many more apartments available on the market. With that increased supply has driven prices down. But the demand for single family homes in Bend is still high. Part of my plan for the county is to encourage the production of single family homes to give Millennials and Gen Z a greater opportunity to build a family. And for multigenerational families to live near each other, improving the knit of our community.

OPB: What measures would you champion to address resident concerns about natural hazards like winter storms, wildfire and extreme heat? Please address each type of disaster in your response.

Wamboldt: As a firefighter, addressing natural disasters was a regular occurrence. Finding new solutions to difficult problems was part of the job. And in Deschutes County we've seen our share of natural disasters. I'm sure we can all remember the fire a couple of summers ago in north east Bend, when a wildland fire nearly jumped the railroad tracks. We were saved by an airtanker that happened to be running a drill. We cant rely on luck anymore. Deschutes county must implement more effective strategies at avoiding and handling fires and I am the only candidate with wildland fire, municipal fire, and disaster leadership experience.

OPB: How would you approach applications to rezone parts of the county for denser development? How do you propose the county grows to accommodate a growing population?

Wamboldt: The biggest issue on the table right now is designation. Making sure we accurately designate land as sub prime so that we can effectively develop homes for families. There are several development types of construction including Rooted Homes that have worked right here in Deschutes county....we just need to work with builders to start leaning in that direction.

OPB: Where would you propose the county build a new solid waste facility and how do you propose helping the county reach the state's Department of Environmental Quality goal of reducing waste disposals in landfills to 45%?

Wamboldt: East of town is the strongest choice at this point, there are a few options. The key will be the sensitivity required to current landowners and proximity to city hubs so that we can make things as efficient as possible for transportation.

OPB: Do you support the district map going before voters in November? Why or why not? If not, how do you think commission seats should be apportioned? Why?

Wamboldt: I agree with the commissioners choice to include the district map decision on the November ballot. Maximizing representation is key to making all of our voices heard. I support efforts to include all voters equally.