

## CITY OF DAMASCUS

### CANDIDATE FILING INFORMATION

#### KEY POINTS FOR 2010 COUNCIL ELECTION

- Positions Open for 2010 Election (candidates must state position for which they are running):
  - Position 3 (Four-year term)
  - Position 4 (Four-year term)
  - Position 5 (Four-year term)
  - Mayor (two-year term)
  
- Earliest Date to file for City Council/Mayor Candidates: June 2, 2010
  
- Filing Deadline for City Council/Mayor Candidates: August 24, 2010
  
- Election Day: November 2, 2010

See the following for specific information regarding eligibility and filing requirements.

**City Council Positions.** With the adoption of the Damascus City Charter, which was approved by voters in September 2005, two additional positions were added to the original 5 member Council, bringing the total number of Councilors to seven. One of these is a Mayor elected by majority vote of Damascus' electors. The Mayor is a voting member of the Council and is elected for a two-year term. Other City Councilors are elected for four-year terms.

City Councilors and the Mayor are elected at large, meaning they do not represent any particular geographic zone in the City, but may be elected from anywhere in the City to represent the entire City. Each City Council position is assigned a number, one through six.

At the November 2010 election, three City Councilors and a Mayor will be elected. Those running for election must indicate which position they are running for at the time they file their candidacy with the City elections officer.

**City Council Election Date and Filing Deadline.** Pursuant to Section 24(a) of the Damascus City Charter, elections for vacant City Council Positions and for Mayor are held at the general elections, which are in November of even-numbered years. The next scheduled election will be November 2, 2010. There is no nominating election. The time period to file either a final Petition for Candidacy or a Declaration of Candidacy for the November 2, 2010 election is between June 2, 2010 and August 24, 2010.

**Candidate Qualifications.** Except where the Damascus City Charter and ordinances provide otherwise, state election laws apply to candidates for elected office in Damascus. Candidates are responsible for knowing applicable State laws and City ordinances relating to candidate filing requirements.

Eligibility requirements for City Council and Mayor are spelled out in Section 27 of the City Charter. Other state requirements also may apply. Pursuant to that Section of the Charter, the City Council is the final judge when determining whether eligibility requirements have been satisfied.

Minimum qualifications for a citizen to run for City Council or Mayor are as follows:

- Candidates must be registered to vote in Oregon (and thus, must be at least 18 years of age)
- Candidates must reside within the City of Damascus for at least one year immediately before the election or appointment to office
- No person may be a candidate at a single election for more than one City office
- No City Councilor or Mayor may be employed by the City

**Required Forms.** Candidates may file either by Nomination Petition or by Declaration of Candidacy. Candidates must use the City's adopted filing forms. These are the same forms provided by the Oregon Secretary of State's Election Division, and include but are not limited to the following, as applicable:

- Form SEL 120, "Filing for Candidacy for Nonpartisan Nomination"
- Form SEL 121, "Petition for Nonpartisan Nomination Signature Sheet"
- Form SEL 300, "Statement of One or More/No Petition Circulators Will Be Paid"
- Form SEL 220, "Statement of Organization for Candidate Committee"
- Form SEL 223, "Campaign Account Information"

Copies of these forms will be provided by the City in a packet for candidates. They are also available at the Elections Division's website, <http://www.sos.state.or.us/elections/elechp.htm>.

**\*\*\* All prospective petition forms and signature sheets must be approved in writing by the City Elections Official before circulation begins. Failure to obtain such approval will result in the rejection of the completed petition.** The minimum number of signatures required is 500 signatures, or 1 percent of the votes cast in the City for Governor at the last general election at which a candidate for Governor was elected to a full term, whichever number is less. The City will calculate this number after prospective petitions is filed.

**Filing Fee.** There is no filing fee for candidates who file a completed Nomination Petition or Candidates who file a Declaration of Candidacy.

Please direct questions to City staff at (503) 658-8545

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