



CITY OF  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**June 12, 2018**

**OPEN AND ACCOUNTABLE ELECTIONS DIRECTOR SELECTED**

PORTLAND, OR – After a thorough and collaborative process involving community members, Council offices, and Office of Management & Finance staff in evaluating a pool of highly qualified applicants, Susan Mottet (pronounced Mow-TAY) has been selected as the Director for the City of Portland’s Open and Accountable Elections program. Ms. Mottet has been working to promote equity for her entire career. She helped pass marriage equality while working for Councilmember David Catania in DC; worked to ensure access to women’s health care services and providers for Planned Parenthood Federation of America; partnered with state legislators across the nation on progressive policies for Progressive States Network; and pursued policies to ensure our democracy works for everyone at the national non-profit highlighting the influence of money in politics, Every Voice.

While at Every Voice, Ms. Mottet advised Portland on the Open and Accountable Elections program adopted by City Council in 2016, in addition to programs for other states and cities. As a national expert in small donor public financing of elections, Ms. Mottet has the knowledge, skills and experience needed to get Portland’s program up and running and meeting goals for the 2020 election cycle.

The Open and Accountable Elections program creates a small donor campaign finance program, incenting candidates that are able to connect with a broad base of voters rather than relying on large donations from a few wealthy individuals and businesses. Candidates may opt into the program and receive matching funds for every small donation collected from registered Portland voters, once qualifying standards and specified limitations are met. The program is intended to empower Portlanders and candidates by reducing the influence of big money in the election process, and providing incentives for grassroots outreach to residents citywide.

Commissioners Amanda Fritz and Chloe Eudaly have championed implementation of the program. “I’m excited someone of Susan’s caliber and experience has been selected to lead the new program,” said Commissioner Fritz. Commissioner Eudaly added, “I’m grateful for Commissioner Fritz’s leadership. Susan is a great hire and I’m looking forward to working with her.” Ms Mottet starts work today.

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