

# If I Were Mayor

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We all live in a city, calling this place our home, and doing everything we imagined in this one town. In our city, we engage in community activities, explore local areas, go to work or school, and go to stores in our area. But, who is responsible for ensuring that everything we do in our town runs smoothly? This person is the mayor. Mayors are crucial for a city's success and are essential for the well-being of others in the city. Without them, we wouldn't be able to do many things that we tend to take for granted.

Mayors work to engage with their community, to ensure that residents are satisfied with the city, and to make their voices heard. They also work to promote economic growth, while also managing the city's budget and finances. Mayors also make policies and work with law enforcement to prioritize a resident's public safety. Finally, mayors work to ensure that their city is running efficiently and come up with solutions and new ideas that make their city an even better place for its residents.

If I were the mayor of Lake Oswego, I would strive to increase the availability and affordability of housing, while also making the houses and buildings in our city more sustainable, by creating green buildings.

Lake Oswego is an excellent place to live. We have several green spaces and promote sustainability. In addition, our community also offers diverse cultures and inclusion, and we place value on our education and school systems. However, despite these positive aspects, some of us aren't able to experience these things, as Lake Oswego has failed to provide enough housing for new residents.

So, if I were mayor, I would work to increase housing options and affordability, while also creating more sustainable houses for our future residents. To execute this task, I would initially work to increase the supply of housing, by encouraging new construction in our area and providing the budget and approval for new construction projects. I would also collaborate with organizations within my community to recognize areas that could be utilized to create more homes for future residents.

Additionally, I would also like to target affordability when creating these houses. Several people strive to live in a community as great as ours, and if these people were to live here, this could be immensely beneficial to our city, as well. However, because of price restrictions, several individuals aren't able to afford the pricing of our current homes. This is why I would strive to create more affordable houses for our residents.

Additionally, I wouldn't only increase housing supply and affordability, but I would also promote utilizing green building practices, and create buildings that are more sustainable, affordable, and beneficial for our current world. Currently, our city has several houses from the 1970s-2000s, and these buildings aren't too sustainable, nor do they provide an optimal life for

people. This is true since these houses are often outdated, not providing energy efficiency, and they often have structural problems and safety hazards. So, to divert from this, I would ensure to create new houses and buildings, while also encouraging others to renovate their current houses. For our green buildings, I would ensure that we incorporate solar panels, heating, and cooling that are energy efficient, and include rainwater harvesting systems, which would also benefit the water waste management in our city. In addition, I would strive to include green roofs to improve our air quality, reduce heat, and create a more sustainable environment for wildlife. Furthermore, I would opt for the usage of renewable energy sources, such as solar panels. This would cause an immense benefit since we are utilizing the best materials for energy conservation, and this is likely to impact our city in a tremendously positive way. These green and sustainable buildings will decrease our city's carbon footprint, create less energy wastage, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, help to combat climate change, lower utility bills for residents, improve indoor and outdoor air quality, create a healthier environment, stimulate economic growth, and even create positive impacts on our community and our mental, social, and physical health.

However, to execute this task, I would also need to collaborate with specialists, and crucial stakeholders, and educate them, as well. So, I would collaborate with corporates and homeowners to introduce them to this concept and idea, and present them with the benefits of green buildings and sustainability, in order to ensure that the majority of our city's residents utilize green building practices. Furthermore, I would encourage the community to help us out in any way they can in order to achieve these goals.

Finally, I wouldn't just incorporate green buildings and practice sustainability for our houses and buildings, but I would also prioritize sustainability in all aspects of our city. I would do this by adding EV cars and charging stations, providing more sustainable transportation options, improving our electricity and water waste management, and creating more local green areas and farms.

This will be beneficial to our city as it will allow our community to be more diverse and inclusive, while also making lives easier for our residents. We will also have a more sustainable city, making the world better for future generations and creating a better space not only for humans but also for other forms of life in the environment. To create the best outcome for our nation, taking this action and promoting green building and affordable housing is necessary for the city of Lake Oswego.

Overall, my mission as mayor would be to make Lake Oswego the best city, in all aspects. While green buildings and sustainability may be my primary focus, this would only be the beginning of my mission as mayor. I would ensure to work to the best of my ability to make our city and our community the best place to live for anyone and everyone.

