

Tara Kroft

If I Were Mayor

If I were the mayor, I would eliminate all graffiti. This is important because we have a very beautiful city and people that live here care about it but the defacing of our buildings and signs can ruin that. Getting rid of graffiti is crucial to me because on a school field trip we were waiting at the bus stop and right in front of us there were crude words written about our president. 7th and 8th graders were forced to look at words that should never be used to describe people. We can fix graffiti by having volunteer cleanup crews that would clean graffiti around town. We can also have cops crack down more on people that make graffiti. Too many people treat graffiti like its not a real crime but it is and we need to start showing people that.

As mayor I would also make people all together stop smoking in public spaces. Smoking is extremely dangerous to the person with the cigarette to their lips, however it can be just a harmful to the people around them. When I am walking down the street in town I am often thrown into a coughing attack because of a smoker that walks by. People who choose not to smoke because of the dangers should not have to suffer through other's choices of smoking. Free will is important and people should get to make their own choices such as smoking in their own home or outside of their house, but they should not have the free will to hurt other people with their second hand smoke. If we ban smoking in public it will make our streets cleaner and citizens healthier.

The last thing I would do as mayor is improve our crosswalks. We need crosswalks everywhere due to the close knit community of Forest Grove, people can walk to almost anything in our city and we need to make it safer. I would put crosswalks with lights telling people when to walk in order to make people be safer when walking. Most of our town is well prepared for walkers that cross streets but there are some parts that need to have better crosswalks. Crosswalks are important because driving is a dangerous thing for people on the sidewalk and we want to make sure that our city is as safe as possible.

I would accomplish these tasks by making committees of people willing to supervise these new projects. I would also present this new law to the City Council. All of these tasks are very important to me so I would start with these projects as soon as I was mayor. Once I was finished I would ask the community what they would want fixed. I would have a drop box for people to write their concerns and I would follow through once I wasn't busy to make their concerns fixed.