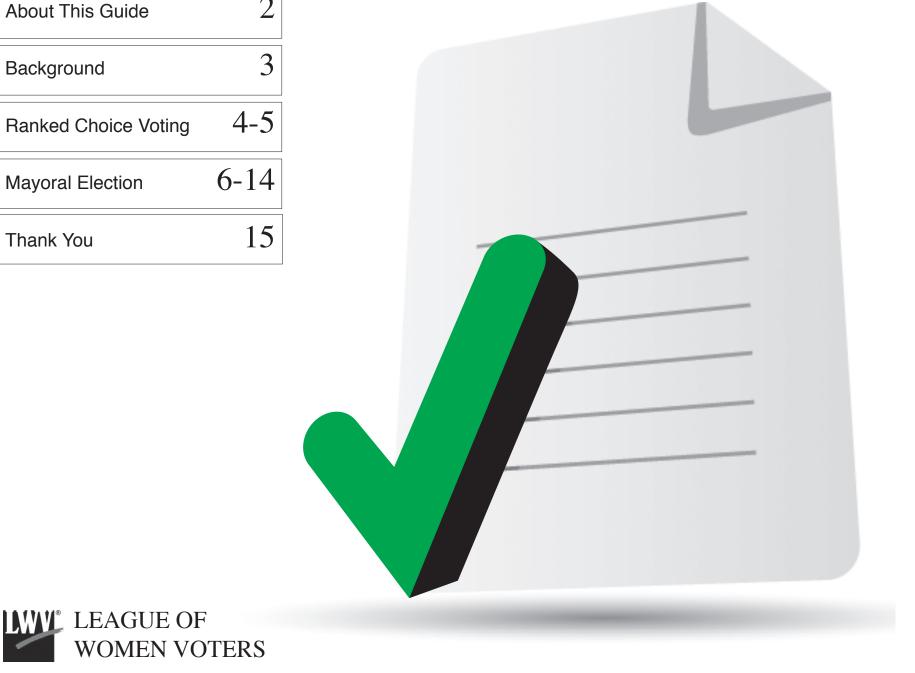
# **Easy-to-Read Voter Guide**

### Portland Mayoral Race: November 8, 2011

### LOOK INSIDE





# About this guide



**The League of Women Voters produced this 2011 Easy-to-Read Portland Voter Guide.** We printed and gave away 15,000 copies in Greater Portland. Literacy Volunteers of Maine helped make the guide easy to read.

The Portland Guide is nonpartisan. This means that the Portland Guide does not endorse or support any candidate. We do not promote any platform or political party.

We have tried our best to make the Guide accurate. The candidates wrote their own statements for the Guide. We printed their statements as they were written. We did not change their spelling, grammar or punctuation. When candidate responses were more than the 30-word limit, we cut their responses at 30 words. Candidates are listed in alphabetical order by their last names.



### **Copies of this Guide**

The text is online at www.lwvme.org or www.lvmaine.org.



If you would like more copies of the Guide, call 1-888-207-1839 or email voterguide@lwvme.org.

To hear someone read the Easy-to-Read Voter Guide, you can download it to your computer from http://www.theiris.org/Airs/MaineAirs/htm. You can ask for a CD by calling 1-888-207-1839.

#### PAGE 2

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# **Elected Mayor**

### For the first time in 90 years, Portland citizens will elect a mayor.

Since 1923, the City Council has selected one its members to serve as mayor. He or she served for a oneyear term. Last fall, citizens in Portland adopted a change to the City Charter. This change calls for an elected mayor. One of the at-large city council seats was chosen to be the seat for the new mayor.

All city of Portland races are nonpartisan. The political parties for all the candidates are not listed on the ballot. If you want to know the political party for the candidates, you can visit their websites or call their campaign offices.

### When making your choice for Portland mayor, keep the following items in mind. Portland Mayor—

- Serves a four year term
- Can serve up to two terms
- Is a member of the Council
- Chairs Council meetings
- Acts as a leader of the city
- Helps change city policies
- Oversees hiring and removing the City Manager, City Clerk and Corporation Counsel
- Provides advice to the City Manager
- Helps prepare city budgets and improvement plans

#### Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) or Instant Runoff Voting (IRV)

For the first time, Portland voters will use a new way to choose a mayor. Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) or Instant Runoff Voting (IRV) is a way to vote for more than one candidate, choosing a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> choice, and so on. The next page has more information on RCV/IRV.

Your ballot will include other races such as City Council, School Board, and Water District. Due to space limitations, information about these races is not included in this guide.



PAGE 4

# Portland Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) or Instant Runoff Voting (IRV)

Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) or Instant Runoff Voting (IRV) gives you a chance to select a candidate in order of preference.

#### Why use Ranked Choice Voting (RCV)?

- More than two candidates are running for one office
- Gives voters a chance to select all the candidates by their 1st choice, 2nd choice, 3rd choice and so on
- Allows for the possibility of a compromise candidate
- Helps voters elect a candidate they like
- Eliminates need for a runoff election
- Computer recalculates the votes automatically

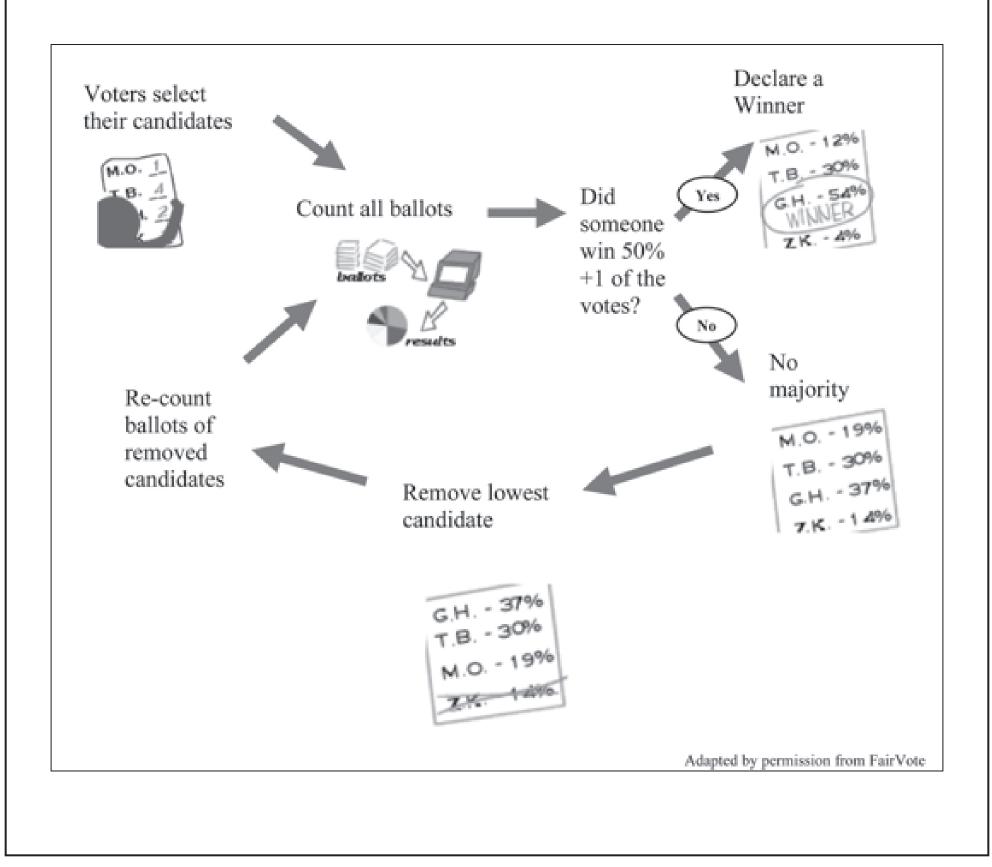
### How does Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) work?

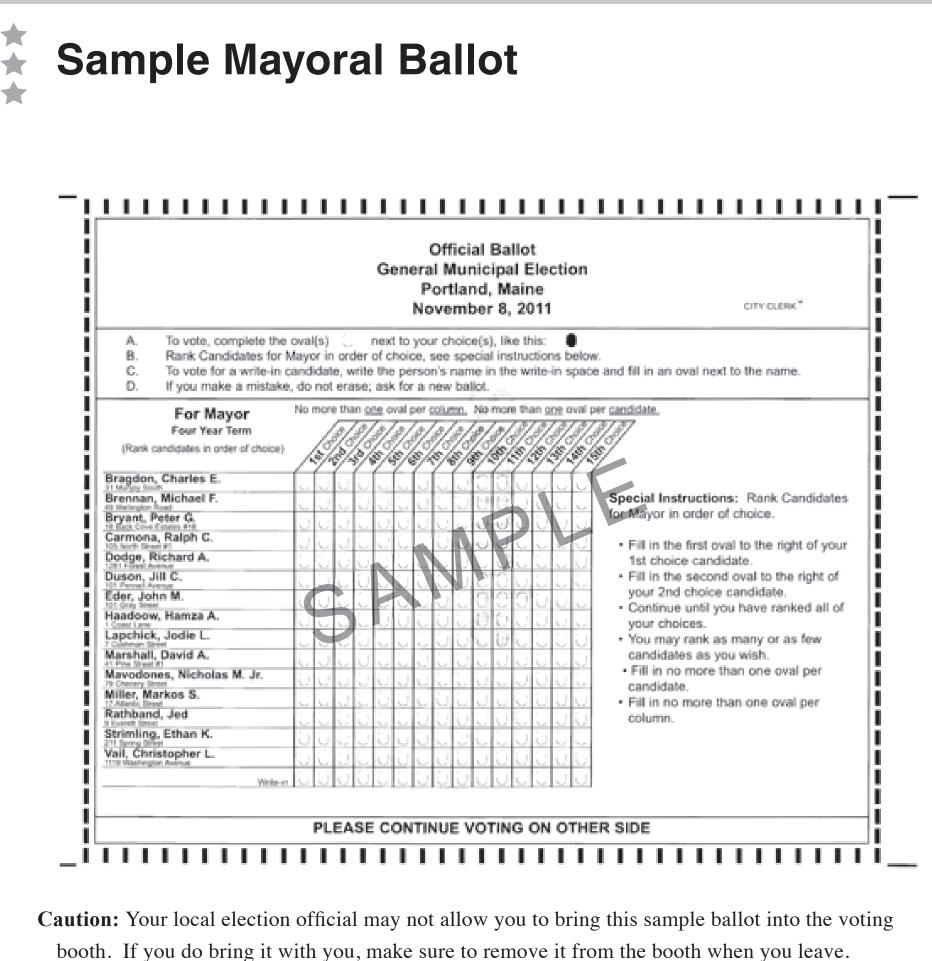
- **Step 1:** Voters select their 1<sup>st</sup> choice, 2<sup>nd</sup> choice, 3<sup>rd</sup> choice and so on. Voters can rank up to 15 candidates.
- Step 2: Count all ballots. Did someone get 50%+ 1 of the votes?

Yes--they win! No--go to Step 3:

- Step 3: Last place candidate is removed.
- **Step 4:** All voters who ranked the removed candidate as their first choice will have their vote added to the totals of their second choice candidate.
- **Step 5:** Repeat process until someone gets 50% +1 or majority of the remaining votes. That person wins!

# How does Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) work?

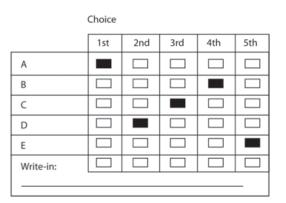






### How do I fill in my ballot?

- Select your favorite candidate and mark as your 1st Choice
- Select your second favorite candidate and mark them as your 2nd Choice
- Continue ranking candidates until you have voted for as many candidates as you want
- The more candidates you rank, the greater the chance that your vote will count for one of the candidates in the final round
- Remember that your choices for other candidates never count against the vote for your first choice candidate



### What to keep in mind when filling out the ballot

- Rank only one candidate as your first choice
- Rank a different candidate as your 2nd, 3rd, and 4th choices and so on.
- Fill in ONLY ONE oval per row or column
- See an election clerk to get a new ballot if you make a mistake

#### Who wins?

The winning candidate is the one who receives the majority of support (50% + 1) in the final round of counting.

### **Questions about Ranked Choice Voting (RCV)**

Portland City Clerk 389 Congress St. Room 203 Portland, ME 04101 874-8677 www.portlandmaine.gov/voter/voter.asp cityclerk@portlandmaine.gov League of Women Voters of Portland Area PO Box 863 Augusta, ME 04332 622-0256 www.lwvme.org voterguide@lwvme.com

# **Mayoral Candidates**



### CHARLES E BRAGDON

Age: 43 Address: 31 Munjoy South Neighborhood: Munjoy Hill Current Job: **Publisher of the Portland Maine Gazette** Campaign Phone Number: **207-899-6321** 

#### GOALS

PAGE 8

- 1. Create more jobs
- 2. Get people back into homes and off the street
- 3. Help small businesses open in Portland



### MICHAEL BRENNAN

Age: 58 Address: 49 Wellington Road Neighborhood: Back Cove Current Job: Policy Associate, Muskie School of Public Service Website: www.brennanformayor.com Campaign Phone Number: 939-6462

- 1. Build a prosperous economy and create quality jobs for the future.
- 2. Improve public transportation options to reduce street congestion.
- 3. Work with local legislators to increase funding for schools and housing.



### PETER G. BRYANT

Age: 68 Address: Unit 18, Back Cove Estates Neighborhood: Ocean Ave, East Deering Current Job: **Retired merchant seaman** Campaign Phone Number: **207-210-6465** 

### GOALS

- 1. Bring back the big Trash pick-up, twice a year where they will take refrigerators and everything.
- 2. One call does it all. If have a problem, call me, Peter, the mayor



### RALPH CARMONA, PH.D

Age: 60 Address: 105 North St., #1 Neighborhood: Munjoy Hill Current Job: Retired Government Affairs Executive

Website: www.CarmonaMayor.com Campaign Phone Number: 207-518-9177

- 1. Create decent jobs through increased revenues. This will put more money in the pockets of Portland people
- 2. Improve schools, safety, and transportation.
- 3. Listen and act to solve problems.



PORTLAND VOTER GUIDE

# **Mayoral Candidates**



### RICHARD ALAN DODGE

Age: 59 Address: 1281 Forest Ave Current Job: Sams Lobsterbakes and Catering, Broker for Balfour Commercial

Campaign Phone Number: 797-6719

#### GOALS

- 1. Bringing more businesses to Portland w/less regulations
- 2. Running city like a business, not like a charity
- 3. Chosing between "Wants" and "Needs", we can not afford to be everything to everybody.

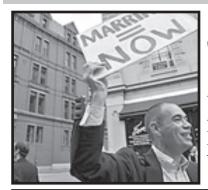


### JILL DUSON

Age: **57** Address: **101 Pennell Avenue** Neighborhood: **North Deering** Website: **www.jillduson.com**  Current Job: Former Director, Bureau of Rehabilitation Services, Maine Department of Labor Campaign Phone Number: 207-878-0769

- 1. Implement performance measurement across all city departments.
- 2. Expand partnerships to sustain safety net services for struggling families.
- 3. Execute the Unified Economic Development Plan and expand Development Division staff.





### JOHN EDER

Age: 42 Address: **101 Gray Street** Neighborhood: **West End** Website: **www.johneder.org** 

#### GOALS

Economic justice through: 1. Affordable housing

- 2. Living wages
- 3. Healthcare for all

Please note: Candidate Hamza Haadoow did not respond in time for printing.



### JODIE LAPCHICK

Age: 49 Address: 7 Cushman Street Neighborhood: West End Current Job: Independent Marketing Strategist Website: www.LapchickForMayor.com Campaign Phone Number: 207-329-4454

- 1. Oversee implementation of the City's current (first-ever) Economic Development Plan.
- 2. Find ways to improve efficiencies within City Hall.
- 3. Support, improve access and outreach to grass-roots community-based programs.



PORTLAND VOTER GUIDE

# **Mayoral Candidates**



### DAVID A. MARSHALL

Age: 33 Address: 41 Pine Street Neighborhood: West End Current Job: fine artist, small business owner, property manager and City Councilor Website: marshallmayor.com Campaign Phone Number: 207-409-6617

#### GOALS

- 1. Improve our school buildings.
- 2. Save on heating bills by switching from oil to cleaner fuels.
- 3. Grow our city by 10,000 people.



### NICK MAVODONES

Age: 51 Address: 79 Chenery Street Neighborhood: Back Cove Current Job: **Operations Manager**, **Casco Bay Lines** Website: **portland4nick.com** Campaign Phone Number: **207-774-0257** 

- 1. Create jobs by getting more projects from planning to paycheck.
- 2. Save our waterfront and make the most of its economic potential.
- 3. Prepare all of our kids for today's economy.





### MARKOS MILLER

Age: 43 Address: 17 Atlantic Street Neighborhood: Munjoy Hill Current Job: **Spanish Teacher, Deering High School** Website: **markosmillermayor.com** Campaign Phone Number: **370-9639** 

#### GOALS

- 1. Coordinate and empower the Portland community.
- 2. Bring strategic vision to City Hall and build consensus around it.
- 3. Strengthen neighborhoods, schools, and our local economy.



### JED RATHBAND

Age: **39** Address: **9 Everett Street** Neighborhood: **East Bayside**  Current Job: **Consultant** Website: **jedformayor.com** Campaign Phone Number: **207-332-1513** 

- 1. Harness Portland's rising momentum by proactively seizing opportunities, embracing innovation
- 2. Promote Portland Public Schools in greater Portland and beyond
- 3. Inspire individuals to become more civically engaged through accessibility and accountability



PORTLAND VOTER GUIDE

# **Mayoral Candidates**



### ETHAN STRIMLING

Age: 43 Address: 211 Spring Street Neighborhood: West End Current Job: **CEO of Learning Works** Website: **StrimlingForMayor.com** Campaign Phone Number: **207-828-8634** 

#### GOALS

- 1. Create jobs by making it easier to open businesses.
- 2. Make it cost less to live in Portland by lowering taxes.
- 3. Provide a good education to all kids.



### **C**HRISTOPHER VAIL

Age: **39** Address: **1119 Washington Ave** Neighborhood: **North Deering**  Current Job: **Portland Fire Department** Website: **Vailformayor.com** Campaign Phone Number: **207-807-3507** 

- 1. Bring common sense to city hall.
- 2. Building a powerful and respected mayoral position.
- 3. Growing and marketing Portland as the leader of Maine's economic, educational and environmental hub of growth.



# Thank you

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## **EASY-TO-READ VOTER GUIDE**



### League of Women Voters of Maine 207-622-0256 www.lwvme.org

The League of Women Voters of Maine is a nonpartisan political organization encouraging informed and active participation in government. It influences public policy through education and advocacy. The League of Women Voters of Maine never supports or opposes any political party or candidate.

LWVME is the organization where hands-on work to safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement!

### Join the League of Women Voters of Maine!

Since women gained the right to vote in 1920, we have educated voters to register and vote. We invite you to become a part of this organization, which is rich in history and accomplishments.

The League of Women Voters of Maine is one of the most respected groups directly involved in keeping citizens engaged in local, state, and national government.

Join today online at www.lwvme.org/join.html. Or mail your contact information and a check for \$55 for one membership, or \$82.50 for two members at the same household to:

League of Women Voters of Maine PO Box 863 Augusta, ME 04332-0863