

OLYMPIC CLIMATE ACTION CANDIDATE ENDORSEMENT POLICY

(revised 8-13-26)

I. Endorsement Committee Structure:

1. For each election cycle, the OCA Board will solicit committee members from among the general membership to volunteer for the committee.
2. The OCA Board or President will appoint Endorsement Committee members from among the volunteers.
3. Participation on the Endorsement Committee will be consistent with the [OCA Bylaws](#) and [Conflict of Interest policy](#), including:
 - a. As a committee, avoiding having a majority of members who may be perceived as having a conflict of interest in regard to any given electoral contest.
 - b. As members, disclosing circumstances in which there exists a potential conflict of interest and potentially standing aside on a given electoral contest, following OCA policies cited above.
4. The Endorsement Committee has a limit of 7 members, with a quorum of 3.

II. Endorsement Committee Procedures:

1. For each election cycle, consult the election calendar to develop a list of target action dates to:
 - a. Decide on which races/ballot issues to consider for endorsement
 - b. Research and report on candidates/ballot issues
 - c. Recommend endorsements
2. Research candidates/ballot issues:
 - a. Decide on which races/ballot issues to consider, given OCA's mission and Endorsement Committee capacity.
 - b. Develop a brief list of relevant issues and establish criteria for evaluation.
 - c. Gather information about candidates/ballot issues from websites, government documents, social media, voting records, news reports, publications, campaign funding sources, etc.
 - d. Consider suggestions from the OCA board and members, as well as the community.
 - e. Consider information/endorsements from other organizations, e.g. Sequim Indivisible, Washington Conservation Action, Sierra Club, etc.
 - f. Optional: Send questionnaires to candidates for certain offices or to groups backing or opposing certain ballot measures.
 - g. At the option of the Endorsement Committee and/or Board; invite potential endorsees to meet with the OCA board and other interested members at a regularly scheduled OCA board meeting or other venue.
3. Decide on endorsement recommendations, considering OCA's mission and following [OCA Bylaws](#) (see Article IV Section 5), and relay the Committee's recommendations to the OCA Board, including a bulleted rationale for each endorsement.

III. Board action:

1. Board, considering Endorsement Committee recommendations, deliberates and votes on candidates/ballot issues to endorse.
2. Board notifies endorsed candidates or ballot measure proponents, explaining what endorsement entails. Give a deadline for candidates/proponents to request withdrawal of their name from the OCA list of endorsees.
3. After withdrawal deadline, proceed with endorsements, for example, in the following ways:
 - a. Distribute to the OCA email list and post on the OCA website and social media.
 - b. Advertise in local media.
 - c. Provide support, e.g. by advertising candidates' campaign events.