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Randy Leonard files for re-election to the Portland City Council

Portland, OR -Portland City Commissioner Randy Leonard filed today for re-election to the Portland City Council.

Since first elected to the city council in 2002, Randy Leonard has executed an ambitious agenda, producing solid results for our economy, our environment, and the livability of our city. Here are just some of the highlights:

- Recognizing the benefits to our local economy and the environment, as well as the dangers of our dependence on foreign oil, Randy wrote and passed an ordinance that makes Portland the only city in the U.S. to require that all diesel fuel sold in Portland contain at least **5% biodiesel**. This established a reliable market for Oregon farmers and refiners, who will now produce and sell nearly 5 million gallons of biodiesel to Portland each year.
- Randy negotiated the first agreement of its kind in Oregon requiring the City of Portland to purchase biodiesel produced from Oregon grown crops to fuel the City's fleet, which now consumes nearly 500,000 gallons of biodiesel each year. This agreement strengthens the urban-rural bond and keeps Oregon dollars inside Oregon.
- In response to the overcrowding of County jails, and the resulting release of meth dealers and other criminals who would normally be jailed, Randy initiated "**Project 57**," which gave Portland Police exclusive access to 57 jail beds to be used for Portland criminals who would otherwise be released. Randy's Project 57 program has reduced repeat offenses among Portland's top 300 criminals by **71%**.
- Randy led the charge to **eliminate tax abatements** for high priced market rate condominiums and instituted checks and balances for low income housing abatements granted by the Portland Development Commission.
- When others were wringing their hands about the growing graffiti problem in Portland, Randy stepped up and delivered an **anti-graffiti** measure that regulates the sale of spray paint, and institutes anti-theft requirements for retailers who sell spray paint. Other communities outside of Portland are already working on similar measures of their own to attack the regional graffiti problem.
- Randy formed the "**Housing Interdiction Team**" (**HIT**) that coordinated the enforcement efforts of the police and fire bureaus, housing inspectors, building inspectors and mental health providers to target slum lords who have allowed low income and mentally handicapped residents to live in squalid living conditions for years. As a result of Leonard's unique and enforcement-focused approach, each of these targeted properties has been upgraded in order to provide decent housing to some of our city's most vulnerable people.

In addition to these initiatives, Randy led major changes in the City's permitting system, wrote and passed the City's "Time, Place, and Manner" ordinance to regulate misbehaving neighborhood liquor establishments, and created the City's nationally recognized "*Living Smart*" program, which has led to innovative infill designs that match the character of Portland's neighborhoods.

Commissioner Leonard will be up for re-election on the May 20, 2008 election ballot.

Paid for and Authorized by the Friends of Randy Leonard
Julie Ann Leonard, Treasurer

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