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Whether he's reading from the Federalist Papers during a council meeting, sparring with another commissioner over public campaign financing, or leading the charge to ban duct tape along parade routes, you can always count on Randy Leonard for one thing: He's going to speak his mind. Whether you agree with him or not is another matter entirely.



On the whole, we do agree with him. He's usually got Adams' back, and he pushes a progressive (and aggressive) agenda on everything from housing and clean energy to drug treatment. He's been a leader in bringing biofuels to Portland (and growing Oregon's industry in the process), and has helped lead the effort to tighten the city's oversight of the Portland Development Commission.

But there are times where we worry that Leonard is focused solely on the big picture—especially on things like his Project 57 program—and isn't paying attention to the details. He can be so sure he's doing the right thing that he may not notice if he's doing it the wrong way.

Still, for all his swagger, Leonard is usually right where we are on the issues. Challenging him are a trio of political novices with the best of intentions—but not a single one has a beef with Leonard or is critical of the job he's done. Vote for Leonard.