

## **The Oregonian**

# **Portland Commissioner Dan Saltzman Will Not Run for Re-Election, Nick Fish Will**

*By Jessica Floum  
September 12, 2017*

Longtime Portland Commissioner Dan Saltzman announced Tuesday that he will not run for re-election next year.

The announcement came as a surprise to many. Saltzman previously said he planned to run, and he raised about \$66,000 in cash contributions for his campaign since April.

"Gnawing at me was the fact that I'd be signing up for another tour of duty," he said in an interview. "This is maybe not what I want to do for another five years."

In the meantime, Commissioner Nick Fish announced this week he plans to seek a fourth term.

Saltzman, a commissioner for five terms and a public servant for nearly 25 years, is the longest serving city commissioner since 1969. He said in an earlier statement that he has largely checked off the to-dos on the list of things he's passionate about.

His announcement touched off speculation about who might declare their candidacy to replace him in the May 2018 primary election.

Saltzman led the campaign for a voter-approved Portland Children's Levy fund that pays for abuse prevention and other child programs. He established The Gateway Center for Domestic Violence Services, and he recently led a campaign as the Housing Bureau director for a \$258 million bond to tackle affordable housing.

"I am very proud of my accomplishments and the relationships I have built while achieving them," Saltzman said.

But he also missed a lot of work, including multiple votes at council meetings. In 2014, Saltzman took off more time than any other — 33 days, not including holidays or sick time. He spent the fewest hours in council meetings that year, an analysis by The Oregonian/OregonLive found. His absences increased the following year after he bought a vacation home. His truancy and early departures from meetings drew criticism from colleague Commissioner Amanda Fritz at the time.

Saltzman said he plans to focus on child welfare, foster care and domestic violence and that he would "enjoy working on those causes in a less scheduled life." He said he also plans to look into becoming a court-appointed volunteer who works with foster kids in the system.

Saltzman, 63, told The Oregonian/OregonLive Tuesday that he started to rethink how he wanted to spend his "twilight years" after Commissioner Nick Fish was diagnosed with cancer in August.

"That reflection has led me to the conclusion that I can have the greatest impact on the issues that truly motivate me outside of City Hall," Saltzman said.

Meanwhile, in another corner of City Hall, Fish has begun telling supporters that he plans to run for re-election.

"Public service is essential to my life," Fish said. "It's what drives me."

Fish's announcement followed his first round of chemotherapy treatment for abdominal cancer.

"Frankly, I think serving is part of my treatment," Fish said. "I believe I can win this fight, and I have a lot of work to do on this council."

Saltzman's open seat is likely to attract many candidates, said political consultant Jake Weigler. That's because it's easier to make a runoff in a race for an open seat than it is to beat an incumbent.

Jo Ann Hardesty, head of the NAACP of Portland and a former state legislator, officially declared her candidacy for the seat in early August. She has raised about \$20,000 since.

## **Portland City Council Identifies Citywide Concerns Discusses Major Projects**

*Jessica Floum*

*September 12, 2017*

Portland city officials started formal discussions Tuesday about how to increase satisfaction with local government, improve efficiency within the city and help its bureaus collaborate to better serve the public. The Portland City Council turned their focus to "major projects" that they hope will help address citywide concerns.

### **Repair roads, parks and other infrastructure**

The Portland City Council adopted Mayor Ted Wheeler's plan to spend \$50 million over the next 20 years to repair roads, parks and other long-neglected city assets that are losing value faster than Portland can repair them. Dubbed "Build Portland," the project will draw money from 10 urban renewal areas. The city caps the amount of property taxes it collects from these districts for the general fund and uses any additional taxes to develop the area. Once urban renewal areas expire, the additional taxes will go to paying off the bonds issued for infrastructure projects.

### **Speed up permitting for development**

Portland's permitting process for development moves notoriously slowly, delaying development of affordable housing and other projects. Permit applications sometimes require review from as many as 17 different review groups who operate in different bureaus and often fail to collaborate. The city's second major project is improving coordination between bureaus and increasing staffing to help speed up this process.

### **Launch a 311 system**

The city is looking into developing a 311 hotline where Portlanders can call with questions about city services. The call center would help route calls to appropriate city officials to relieve current confusion about who to call. It is also intended to lessen call volume to 911 and the Police Bureau's non-emergency hotline.

### **Improve recruitment and contracting**

The city will also focus on cleaning up its own shop. Its recruitment process is too slow, lacks diversity and could use more outreach, a Bureau of Human Resources survey found. The bureau hopes to hire new staffers, improve their technological tools and train against biases against minority and disabled candidates. City officials also said they need more resources in order to

speed up the time it takes to contract for expert services such as engineering or technology services.

## **The Portland Tribune**

# **City to Support New Downtown Swimming Hole on the Willamette**

*By Steve Law  
September 12, 2017*

### **Kevin Duckworth Memorial Dock could become legal haven for swimmers, sunbathers and paddlers**

Portlanders are about to get a new place to sunbathe and swim in the river that cuts through the central city.

Mayor Ted Wheeler and other city leaders are pledging to re-configure a Willamette River dock now reserved for motorized boats so it can be legally used by swimmers, paddlers and others on the inner-city stretch of the river.

The Kevin Duckworth Memorial Dock, located north of the Burnside Bridge a short walk from the Rose Quarter, technically is reserved for motorized boaters, under terms of an original grant, and is scheduled to remain so until August 2021.

But the city has agreed to seek a change in those terms with the Oregon State Marine Board, and vows to seek creative uses for the dock by those more likely to use it: swimmers, fishers and those on standup paddle boards, kayaks, canoes, and inner tubes.

"It's good government to better utilize assets that have value that aren't being used to their potential," says Willie Levenson, ringleader of the Human Access Project, which has crusaded for more active use of the Willamette River in the central city.

The dock was built in 1997 and funded by the Oregon State Marine Board to attract motorized boaters and serve water taxis. But those uses largely failed to materialize.

An earlier plan to relocate the dock to Swan Island near the Daimler Trucks North America headquarters was dropped in the face of community opposition.

Sun-bathers and fishers sometimes use the dock, but such uses are technically banned.

Wheeler has participated in swims across the river sponsored by the Human Access Project, and put money in the city budget last year to create a "pop-up" beach at Poet's Beach this summer on the west side of the river south of RiverPlace, complete with a lifeguard.

The Duckworth dock, named for the popular former Trail Blazers center who loved to fish, is the best ADA-accessible way to get to the river in the inner city, Levenson says.

The dock is 11 feet wide and 290 feet long, located off the Eastbank Esplanade.

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# Saltzman Will Not Seek Re-Election

*By Jim Redden*

*September 12, 2017*

In surprise announcement, commissioner says he can accomplish more of the things he cares about outside of office.

In a surprise announcement, Commissioner Dan Saltzman announced Tuesday afternoon that he will not run for reelection next year.

Saltzman had previously announced he would run for reelection and has been raised over \$72,000 for his campaign so far this year. But in a Sept. 12 email, he said he has concluded he can accomplish more about the issues he cares about out of office.

"I have enjoyed the myriad duties of City Commissioner, and I am very proud of my accomplishments and the relationships I have built while achieving them. But with respect to things I am passionate about, the items on my 'to do' list largely have check marks next to them. Meanwhile, there is much more I wish to do in areas such as child welfare, foster care and domestic violence. I have come to the conclusion that I can accomplish more on those issues if they become my primary focus, instead of their having to share my attention. And I would enjoy working on those causes in a less scheduled life," Saltzman said.

Because seats so rarely become open on the City Council, the announcement is likely to trigger many candidates to announce they'll run.

So far, Jo Ann Hardesty, president of the NAACP of Portland, and Multnomah County Commissioner Loretta Smith, who is prevented from running for reelection because of county term limits, have announced. Although Hardesty has a campaign committee that is raising money for the race, Smith cannot formally file until the first of next year without resigning

Here is Saltzman's email:

"As I have been talking to community members about campaigning for another term as City Commissioner, I have been humbled by the deep support and encouragement I have received. Indeed, that support has far exceeded what I have experienced in any of my past races. I believe that is because of progress made together on so many issues that have a real impact on the people and community we all care so much about. Just a few of these accomplishments include:

- The initial passage and two subsequent renewals of the Portland Children's Levy, which has over the past 15 years improved the lives of thousands of kids and families.
- Passage of Portland's first Affordable Housing Bond and leading an unprecedented response to Portland's affordable housing crisis as Housing Commissioner. We made record investments, reforms and commitments that will result in thousands of units of desperately needed new homes.
- The opening of the Gateway Center for Domestic Violence Services, a one-stop resource for survivors of domestic violence. I was also proud to have led new initiatives for combating gang violence and the continuing effort to improve police accountability.
- Improvements to fire and ambulance services that will save money and lives.
- Reordering transportation priorities to focus on the basics, including accelerating the repair of potholes and other damage done by the winter storms of 2017.

- Delivering the Big Pipe on-time and on-budget, fixing the Water Bureau billing system and reforming the Fire & Police Disability and Retirement system.
- Always pursuing these and other goals with a sharp eye on protecting taxpayer's dollars, while striving to make Portland a more just, equitable, sustainable place that provides opportunity for all.

"Over the last few weeks I have reflected on that record of nearly 25 years of public service as a commissioner at Multnomah County and at the City of Portland. As satisfying as it might be to look back at accomplishments, what really counts is what comes next.

"That reflection has led me to the conclusion that I can have the greatest impact on the issues that truly motivate me outside of City Hall.

"I have enjoyed the myriad duties of City Commissioner, and I am very proud of my accomplishments and the relationships I have built while achieving them. But with respect to things I am passionate about, the items on my 'to do' list largely have check marks next to them. Meanwhile, there is much more I wish to do in areas such as child welfare, foster care and domestic violence. I have come to the conclusion that I can accomplish more on those issues if they become my primary focus, instead of their having to share my attention. And I would enjoy working on those causes in a less scheduled life.

"Therefore, I will not file for a sixth term as City Commissioner and will complete my term at the end of 2018. I will also lead the renewal of the Portland Children's Levy in 2018.

"It is my hope that an open seat will encourage a number of people to consider running: this is a great opportunity for a new generation of leadership in City Hall. I want to deeply thank all my staff members, supporters and community members that I have had the privilege of working with over these many years. I eagerly look forward to continuing to work together as we strive to make Portland an even greater place for all the people who share it — today and tomorrow."

## **Multnomah Commissioner Loretta Smith Will Run for Portland Council**

*By Nick Budnick  
September 12, 2017*

### **Smith will challenge Hardesty, others to succeed Dan Saltzman, who is not running**

Mere hours after City Commissioner Dan Saltzman dropped his re-election bid, Multnomah County Commissioner Loretta Smith announced that she would enter the race to succeed him.

Former lawmaker and prominent activist Jo Ann Hardesty has already announced her plans to run, and filed for the office, and others are expected to file in the wake of Saltzman's surprise announcement.

Here is Smith's statement:

"I want to thank Commissioner Dan Saltzman for his 25 years of dedication to the place we all call home. I wish him well on his new path.

"Today I am announcing my intention to run for Portland City Council Position No. 3.

"I have been in public service my entire professional life, first serving with Senator Ron Wyden for twenty-one years, and then as a Multnomah County Commissioner for the past seven years

where we have created hundreds of jobs for young people, educated seniors about scams and dangers of opioid abuse, and have been a voice for so many Oregonians who have been left behind.

"The opportunity to continue to fight for the most vulnerable on the Portland City Council would be an honor and a privilege.

"Our next leaders need build a shared vision for Portland's future that ensures it remains affordable for working people, stand up for progressive values, and provide every community a meaningful voice in City Hall."

## Willamette Week

### If Portland's a Sanctuary City, Where Are All the Homeless Latino People?

By Thacher Schmid  
September 13, 2017

Deportations, sanctuary and a possible end to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or "Dreamer," program are the big issues facing undocumented immigrants in the United States.

But people in Portland's Latino community say immigration often takes a back seat to poverty's daily grind.

"*Suben las rentas, y quieren pagar menos*, what the fuck?" a man named Marco says, in perfect Spanglish: Rent's going up, employers pay less.

Standing on Aug. 30 outside the offices of workers' rights organization Portland Voz near the corner of Northeast Everett Street and Grand Avenue and a cluster of tents next to the I-84 freeway ramp, Marco is one of a dozen *esquineros* who tell a similar story. (The word translates as "guy on the corner," but also "day laborer.")

Most speak Spanish, or Spanglish, and some decline to give a last name. Some are citizens; others have "green cards" or work visas, or are undocumented.

Antonio says he's renting a living room in Gresham *de palabra*, by word of mouth, meaning no signed rental contract. "When you don't speak much English, [apartment managers] take advantage of you," he says. "They don't think you're going to defend yourself."

The *esquineros*' words help answer a conundrum found in the most recent homeless count released in June: Despite high poverty levels among Multnomah County's Latino population, only 10.2 percent of local homeless people counted were Latino—fewer than the group's 11.1 percent of the county population.

The statistics suggest Latinos—the largest immigrant group and largest group of non-native English speakers in Oregon—aren't often homeless in Oregon's most populous county.

*Todo lo contrario*, say people in the Latino community. They're homeless, but less likely to sleep in a tent or doorway. So their struggles may be more hidden.

Joaquin Pastor, a manager at El Programa Hispano Católico, says the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development definition of homelessness—sleeping in shelter or places "not meant for human habitation"—counts only the tip of the iceberg. In fact, Pastor says, "a lot of

[Latinos] are doubled up," meaning they have no signed lease, and may be "unauthorized guests," in property management parlance.

Pastor says his organization is encouraging people to share units, "but do it in such a way that they're actually on the lease, so the landlord is not able to evict them."

Executive director Romeo Sosa of Portland Voz says half his agency's clients are homeless: 20 percent in shelters, 20 percent on the street, 10 percent in cars. He notes that many travel lightly, with a few basics in a small backpack, rather than pushing a shopping cart.

"Homeless Latinos, they're always thinking to get a home immediately," Sosa says. "They just stay on the streets for a little bit, try to get a job and move forward."

Several Latino housing experts point to another factor: The strength of extended family bonds in Hispanic culture makes it more likely someone with unstable housing is living with family, not in a shelter or tent.

"We are Latinos, we live in big families, so we help each other," says Cristina Castaño-Henao, a housing retention coordinator at JOIN. "It is not just one kid. So the struggle is different."

But the same cultural traditions that help keep Latino people off the street also make finding a decent apartment harder.

That extended family structure can make it harder for Latinos to access small apartments like "single room occupancy," studio or one-bedroom. Castaño-Henao pointed out that many local affordable housing units have smaller unit sizes.

Portland Housing Bureau spokeswoman Martha Calhoon showed WW a breakdown of the bureau's inventory of affordable units by bedroom size, which shows 26 percent of the apartments are two-bedroom or larger—10 percent are three- or four-bedroom.

The draft policy framework for the city's new \$258 million housing bond calls for "50 percent family-sized units (two- to three-bedroom)."

Lately, Sosa and others say, housing discrimination has become more frequent, and brutal: "Before, they just like try to hide, but now it's more I think they can openly discriminate against people who are brown or speak a different language."

The net result may be a city in which Latinos are pushed farther to the urban fringes and more apartments pack more people in.

"That's the future for poor America," Pastor says.

Pepe Quiroz, another esquinero, has been homeless for the past four of his 23 years in the U.S. At the end of August, a man leaned out of the cab of a semi-trailer truck and offered Quiroz, 38, his empty soda can. Quiroz declined.

"I say, 'I don't need cans, I need a job,'" Quiroz recalls. "He say, 'Fuck you, go back to Mexico!'"

Quiroz reported the interaction to police. "I've never seen someone be so racist," he says.

# **Murmurs: Wheeler Hints at Funding Cuts for City-County Homelessness Agency**

*By WW Staff  
September 13, 2017*

## **Wheeler Hints at Funding Cuts for City-County Homelessness Agency**

In a meeting earlier this month, Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler laid the groundwork for cutting funding for the agency responsible for homeless shelters and other services, despite a campaign pledge to provide every Portland homeless person a shelter bed by the end of 2018. Wheeler indicated in a Sept. 5 City Council work session that he was looking for ways to reduce city funding for the Joint Office of Homeless Services, a combined city-county agency. "I don't think the current service level is sacrosanct," Wheeler said. "We stretched really, really hard during the last budget process to get to where we thought we were in a good, honorable partnership with the county. But now the target is very, very high for us to be able to continue to maintain it." Mayoral spokesman Michael Cox says any determinations about a city budget are premature. "There is a process to arrive at the mayor's proposed budget," he says, "and we're not even at the beginning."

## **Vancouver Cops Release Man Who Sped Truck Toward Protesters**

Police in Vancouver, Wash., say they didn't arrest a man who sped his truck toward antifascist protesters Sept. 10 because he told them he was frightened and trying to escape the crowd. The man drove his truck, which had Oregon plates and was bedecked with several American flags and a Confederate flag sticker, toward a group of masked demonstrators marching after protesting a far-right rally organized by Vancouver-based right-wing Patriot Prayer. Police let him drive away from the scene. The man, whom Vancouver police declined to identify, told officers "he was in fear for his life," says Vancouver police Lt. Kathy McNicholas. "If you were in that truck and being attacked, wouldn't you want to get out of there?"

## **Sirens Wail on County Ambulance Contract**

The chase for Multnomah County's ambulance contract, which covers 90,000 calls a year, just hit a speed bump. On Sept. 8, the unions that represent Portland and Gresham firefighters, who are first responders on medical calls, filed a formal protest with the county. It alleges the Aug. 4 request for bids on the five-year contract is marred by a consultant's potential conflicts of interest and requirements that bidders use a specific dispatch system and create a new, independent dispatch center. The unions ask the county to start from scratch. "We will be working to respond to these concerns as quickly as possible," says county spokeswoman Julie Sullivan-Springhetti.

## **Saltzman Out, Smith In for 2018 Council Race**

Hours after Portland City Commissioner Dan Saltzman announced Sept. 12 he will retire, Multnomah County Commissioner Loretta Smith announced her plans to seek his seat in 2018. Jo Ann Hardesty, a former state legislator who heads the NAACP of Portland, had already filed to run for Saltzman's spot. That means two black women will face off in the contest to replace Saltzman. He says he's satisfied with five terms. "With respect to things I am passionate about, the items on my to-do list largely have check marks next to them," says Saltzman, who has served on the City Council since 1999.

# Facing a Challenge From Jo Ann Hardesty, Portland Commissioner Dan Saltzman Decides He Won't Run for Reelection After All

*By Rachel Monahan  
September 12, 2017*

**In a statement, Saltzman says he's accomplished what he wanted to.**

After repeatedly insisting that he would run for reelection in the face of significant competition, Portland Commissioner Dan Saltzman announced today he will retire.

Saltzman, who has served he was first elected since 1998, says he has achieved what he set out to on Council.

"I have enjoyed the myriad duties of City Commissioner, and I am very proud of my accomplishments and the relationships I have built while achieving them," Saltzman said in a statement. "But with respect to things I am passionate about, the items on my "to do" list largely have check marks next to them."

Jo Ann Hardesty, a former legislator who head the NAACP of Portland, has already filed to run for Saltzman's spot. Last month, she visited his office, asking him to retire and endorse her.

"I think it's respectful to say eyeball to eyeball, 'I'm here to take you out. You can go peacefully. Or you can go kicking and screaming," she told WW. "I think the city is ready for new leadership."

Saltzman has not endorsed Hardesty or anyone else.

Hardesty says she believes she intimidated Saltzman out of the race.

"Yes, I think he has not had a difficult race since 18 years ago," says Hardesty. "I think everything is telling him this would be a tough race, and he had a good chance of losing."

Hardesty says she expects others to eye the seat now, but "we're so far ahead of the game that they'll have a hard time catching up," she says.

County Commissioner Loretta Smith's name has been floated as a possible contender as well, but she can't officially enter the race until January, if she wants to keep her seat on the county commission.

Here is Saltzman's full statement.

“ Serving my community as a commissioner at Multnomah County and the City of Portland has been both the privilege and the honor of my life, and I am proud of the many accomplishments we have achieved together over the last 25 years. After deep reflection, I have decided not to file for election to a sixth term as Portland City Commissioner. I explain my reasons at greater length in the statement below.

As I have been talking to community members about campaigning for another term as City Commissioner, I have been humbled by the deep support and encouragement I have received. Indeed, that support has far exceeded what I have experienced in any of my past races. I believe that is because of progress made together on so many issues that have a real impact on the people and community we all care so much about. Just a few of these accomplishments include:

- The initial passage and two subsequent renewals of the Portland Children’s Levy, which has over the past 15 years improved the lives of thousands of kids and families.
- Passage of Portland’s first Affordable Housing Bond and leading an unprecedented response to Portland’s affordable housing crisis as Housing Commissioner. We made record investments, reforms and commitments that will result in thousands of units of desperately needed new homes.
- The opening of the Gateway Center for Domestic Violence Services, a one-stop resource for survivors of domestic violence. I was also proud to have led new initiatives for combatting gang violence and the continuing effort to improve police accountability.
- Improvements to fire and ambulance services that will save money and lives.
- Reordering transportation priorities to focus on the basics, including accelerating the repair of potholes and other damage done by the winter storms of 2017.
- Delivering the Big Pipe on-time and on-budget, fixing the Water Bureau billing system and reforming the Fire & Police Disability and Retirement system.
- Always pursuing these and other goals with a sharp eye on protecting taxpayer’s dollars, while striving to make Portland a more just, equitable, sustainable place that provides opportunity for all.

Over the last few weeks I have reflected on that record of nearly 25 years of public service as a commissioner at Multnomah County and at the City of Portland. As satisfying as it might be to look back at accomplishments, what really counts is what comes next. That reflection has led me to the conclusion that I can have the greatest impact on the issues that truly motivate me outside of City Hall. I have enjoyed the myriad duties of City Commissioner, and I am very proud of my accomplishments and the relationships I have built while achieving them. But with respect to things I am passionate about, the items on my “to do” list largely have check marks next to them. Meanwhile, there is much more I wish to do in areas such as child welfare, foster care and domestic violence. I have come to the conclusion that I can accomplish more on those issues if they become my primary focus, instead of their having to share my attention. And I would enjoy working on those causes in a less scheduled life. Therefore, I will not file for a sixth term as City Commissioner and will complete my term at the end of 2018. I will also lead the renewal of the Portland Children’s Levy in 2018. It is my hope that an open seat will encourage a number of people to consider running: this is a great opportunity for a new generation of leadership in City Hall. I want to deeply thank all my staff members, supporters and community members that I have had the privilege of working with over these many years. I eagerly look forward to continuing to work together as we strive to make Portland an even greater place for all the people who share it – today and tomorrow.”

# County Commissioner Loretta Smith Will Run for Dan Saltzman's Portland City Council Seat

*By Rachel Monahan  
September 12, 2017*

**Hours after Dan Saltzman announced he'd retire, Smith announced she was entering the race.**

Hours after City Commissioner Dan Saltzman announced his plans to retire, County Commissioner Loretta Smith announced she's planning to run for his seat.

Smith, who faces term limits for her county seat, can't officially enter the race until January without losing her spot on the county commission.

"The opportunity to continue to fight for the most vulnerable on the Portland City Council would be an honor and a privilege," Smith says in a carefully worded statement.

That will mean two black women will be facing off to replace Saltzman.

Jo Ann Hardesty, a former legislator who runs the NAACP of Portland, is already in the race.

Here is Smith's announcement.

“ Loretta Smith Announces Intention to Run for Portland City Council Portland, OR – Multnomah County Commissioner Loretta Smith released the following statement today announcing her intention to run for Portland City Council Position #3. “I want to thank Commissioner Dan Saltzman for his 25 years of dedication to the place we all call home. I wish him well on his new path. Today I am announcing my intention to run for Portland City Council Position #3. I have been in public service my entire professional life, first serving with Senator Ron Wyden for twenty-one years, and then as a Multnomah County Commissioner for the past seven years where we have created hundreds of jobs for young people, educated seniors about scams and dangers of opioid abuse and have been a voice for so many Oregonians who have been left behind. The opportunity to continue to fight for the most vulnerable on the Portland City Council would be an honor and a privilege. Our next leaders need build a shared vision for Portland's future that ensures it remains affordable for working people, stand up for progressive values, and provide every community a meaningful voice in City Hall. In the coming days and weeks, I look forward to talking with voters throughout the City of Portland. Join us at <https://www.facebook.com/LorettaSmithOR>.”

## **The Portland Mercury**

### **In a Shocking Turnaround, Dan Saltzman's Not Running for Re-Election**

*By Dirk VanderHart  
September 12, 2017*

Dan Saltzman, the longest tenured elected official in Portland City Hall, is calling it quits.

In an announcement that's caught City Hall staff and a political opponent off guard, Saltzman announced this afternoon he won't run for re-election next year as planned, meaning his career in city governance is over at the end of 2018.

"Over the last few weeks I have reflected on that record of nearly 25 years of public service as a commissioner at Multnomah County and at the City of Portland," the statement read. "As satisfying as it might be to look back at accomplishments, what really counts is what comes next. That reflection has led me to the conclusion that I can have the greatest impact on the issues that truly motivate me outside of City Hall."

It's a hugely surprising about-face for an official who's been collecting money hand-over-fist in preparation for a race next year, and who's office had guaranteed "110 percent" that Saltzman would be running. The commissioner, who'd been accepting campaign contributions as recently as last Wednesday, has raised \$65,850 in cash so far this year, and been accepting in-kind donations for office space, records show. He'd also been paying influential campaign adviser and long-time ally Mark Wiener for support.

There's little doubt the decision was influenced by the announcement last month by local NAACP president and former state lawmaker Jo Ann Hardesty that she would challenge Saltzman for his seat. As I reported at the time, Hardesty's candidacy has had people in Saltzman's corner bracing for his toughest race since 1998.

Hardesty first heard news of Saltzman's announcement when the Mercury called her for reaction.

"Oh really?" she said. "I expected that in January. I didn't expect that now."

Asked to elaborate, Hardesty says she figured Saltzman would decide after the holiday season he "wasn't going to be up for a tough race."

She says Saltzman's exit might actually make things tougher for her. "I thought he was the perfect opponent—an 18-year incumbent," she says. "Nice guy, but 18 years in office."

Saltzman currently oversees the city's fire and transportation bureaus, along with the police and fire disability and pension fund. Until earlier this year, he'd been at the helm of the city's housing bureau, where he helped push for a \$258 million affordable housing levy.

The commissioner was also conspicuously absent last week when—following a week-long planned absence for vacation—he didn't show up for a hearing that touched on a plan to widen Interstate 5. As transportation commissioner, Saltzman had indicated he'd take an active role in that discussion, but his staff said he was out with an illness. His office released a letter on the matter instead.

Update, 5:02 pm: It did not take long for Saltzman's decision to attract another candidate. Multnomah County Commissioner Loretta Smith has announced she'll run for the seat, meaning the only two declared candidates at this point are women of color. Electing a woman of color to city council would be a first for Portland.

Meanwhile, Commissioner Nick Fish tells the Mercury he was caught completely off guard by Saltzman's decision. "I'm as shocked as anybody," Fish said earlier today, adding he'd put in a call to Saltzman. "I will tell you what I'm gonna tell him, which is it's been an honor to serve with him. He's been the council champion for children and families, for victims of domestic violence and many other causes for both the county and city."

We've reached out to Saltzman for comment.

His full announcement is after the jump:

As I have been talking to community members about campaigning for another term as City Commissioner, I have been humbled by the deep support and encouragement I have received. Indeed, that support has far exceeded what I have experienced in any of my past races. I believe

that is because of progress made together on so many issues that have a real impact on the people and community we all care so much about. Just a few of these accomplishments include:

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- Always pursuing these and other goals with a sharp eye on protecting taxpayer's dollars, while striving to make Portland a more just, equitable, sustainable place that provides opportunity for all.

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That reflection has led me to the conclusion that I can have the greatest impact on the issues that truly motivate me outside of City Hall.

I have enjoyed the myriad duties of City Commissioner, and I am very proud of my accomplishments and the relationships I have built while achieving them. But with respect to things I am passionate about, the items on my "to do" list largely have check marks next to them. Meanwhile, there is much more I wish to do in areas such as child welfare, foster care and domestic violence. I have come to the conclusion that I can accomplish more on those issues if they become my primary focus, instead of their having to share my attention. And I would enjoy working on those causes in a less scheduled life.

Therefore, I will not file for a sixth term as City Commissioner and will complete my term at the end of 2018. I will also lead the renewal of the Portland Children's Levy in 2018.

It is my hope that an open seat will encourage a number of people to consider running: this is a great opportunity for a new generation of leadership in City Hall. I want to deeply thank all my staff members, supporters and community members that I have had the privilege of working with over these many years. I eagerly look forward to continuing to work together as we strive to make Portland an even greater place for all the people who share it – today and tomorrow.

# Portland Plans Upgrades, “World Class, Urban Swimming Hole” at the Duckworth Dock

*By Doug Brown  
September 12, 2017*

The Kevin Duckworth Memorial Dock—named after the former Trail Blazers great—will be getting some upgrades to create "world class, urban swimming hole" in the Willamette River in Portland, the city announced today, and the design looks it will be an interesting summer hangout spot.

The project is a part of the City of Portland's "Central City 2035" plan, an ambitious blueprint for how the city will grow in the coming years.

As of now, thanks to the terms of a grant to the city by the Oregon State Marine Board that runs through 2021, only motorized boats are allowed to use the dock. The city said in a press release that officials are "actively working with the Oregon State Marine Board to explore mutually beneficial ways to release these restrictions before 2021." They want to make way for swimming, fishing, stand-up paddleboards, kayaks, canoes, inner tubes—all things currently not allowed.

Here's today's announcement from the city:

Over the last several years, the City of Portland has engaged in a major public outreach project called the Central City 2035 plan which will guide Portland's growth over the next 18 years. Six big Ideas emerged from this process, one of which is a focus on the Willamette River. Portlanders involved in the outreach process expressed a strong and almost universal desire to invest and reconnect with our city's river.

In celebration of this historic day, Mayor Wheeler, in partnership with Commissioners Saltzman and Eudaly and Human Access Project is announcing a new vision for an underutilized dock located off the floating section of the Eastbank Esplanade. It's called Kevin Duckworth Memorial Dock, memorializing beloved Portland Trail Blazer Kevin Duckworth. Landscape architecture firm MIG will unveil a rendering providing a vision for how this re-imagined dock could be reconfigured with minimal investment.

The Willamette River is owned by the citizens of Oregon and is Portland's largest public open space. By Portland Parks and Recreation's estimates only 5% of the Central City has access to the Willamette River's edge. Portland residents paid \$1.44 billion for The Big Pipe project which has largely eliminated sewage from the Willamette River. In large thanks to the success of The Big Pipe, there is no scientific disagreement that the Willamette River is now safe for swimming and recreation in the summer.

The Kevin Duckworth Memorial Dock's use is currently restricted for the sole purpose of motorized boating until 2021. In preparation for this date, the City of Portland will actively begin the planning and preparation to convert the Kevin Duckworth Memorial Dock to a non-motorized facility which will allow swimming, fishing and a rest area for stand-up paddleboards, kayaks, canoes, even innertubes. All of which are presently not allowed by the terms of a grant given to the City of Portland by the Oregon State Marine Board until 2021. The City of Portland is actively working with the Oregon State Marine Board to explore mutually beneficial ways to release these restrictions before 2021.

“It’s good government to better utilize this \$1.5 million asset that has had little use over the last 20 years. The re-envisioned Kevin Duckworth Memorial Dock will be a world class, urban swimming hole. It will be a one of a kind amenity for the emerging Lloyd District and Inner Northeast Portland which is expected to get more densely populated. Every quadrant of Portland needs to have a way to have access to our cities river and different ways to do it. The more we can get people to the river’s edge and playing in it, the greater connection our citizens will have to our river. Citizens who are connected to our river will take greater care and ownership. Our city needs more river stewards”, Mayor Ted Wheeler.

“From a planning perspective, this will be an innovative way to encourage people to walk or bike to the river’s edge. The Duckworth Dock is less than a five-minute walk from the major transit hub of the Rose Quarter Transit Center and has direct access of the heavily used Eastbank Esplanade. PBOT is excited to contribute to this creative and innovative project”, Commissioner Dan Saltzman.

“Our office is very excited to preserve and enhance Portland’s most accessible opportunity to get to the water’s edge of the Willamette River. The Willamette River needs to be accessible for all”, Commissioner Chloe Eudaly.

City officials will be holding a press conference at 10:10 Wednesday morning at the dock.

In 2009, the dock was named after the great 7-foot former Trail Blazers center, who passed away a year earlier at the age of 44. Duckworth was good at basketball.

## **The Daily Journal of Commerce**

### **Northeast Portland Redevelopment Could Add Hundreds of Housing Units**

*By Chuck Slothower  
September 12, 2017*

A Seattle-based developer plans to build up to 1,200 housing units at the site of a PepsiCo facility bottling plant off of Sandy Boulevard, in Northeast Portland.

Security Properties recently announced it purchased the 4.7-acre site from PepsiCo. The property’s size gives the developer the flexibility to respond to changing markets during a build-out phase that could last several years.

“In general, we think the property provides an opportunity for a pretty wide variety of uses,” said John Marasco, chief development officer at Security Properties.

Housing is a likely focus for the developer, which has built several projects in Portland.

“The housing, we think, is a no-brainer,” Marasco said. “That’s what we do. We’re a housing developer, primarily.”

Security may reintroduce streets within the superblock to encourage movement within the property.

“We will re-establish what used to be a circulation grid there so we can break that site into smaller chunks,” Marasco said. “I really think we can create a village off of Sandy that will be cool.”

The property is located at 2505 N.E. Pacific St., just off of Sandy Boulevard. The purchase price was not disclosed and has not yet been recorded in Multnomah County records.

Developers such as Guerrilla Development, Koz Development and Urban Development Group have brought more apartment units to Sandy Boulevard, a broad corridor that was long associated with industrial businesses and auto shops. As much of Northeast Portland has gentrified with luxury apartments, Sandy Boulevard has increasingly attracted developers' attention as an underdeveloped street.

Marasco said Security expects Portland's multifamily housing market to continue to be buttressed by strong job growth. Also, more residents are renting homes rather than buying them, boosting demand for apartments, he said.

A boutique grocery store is a possibility for the property as well, he said. A Fred Meyer store and a New Seasons store are within a mile of the property.

Offices are another possibility, Marasco said. The site is not far from what's becoming an office corridor in Portland's Central Eastside. The PepsiCo site's proximity to Providence medical facilities may make health care offices an attractive use, he said.

PepsiCo's use of the site had become increasingly incongruous with its neighbors. Complaints about the truck traffic from outbound soda deliveries have grown louder, and the value of the land has grown along with Portland's bustling market.

Also, the site is smaller than most of PepsiCo's modern distribution facilities, which tend to be 10 to 15 acres.

"The facility in general – even though it's significant at five acres – it does not represent their model for distribution," Marasco said. "You put that together with what the market's doing in Portland, it provides an opportunity for them to realize a significant value on that property."

The fate of a mid-century modern office building has not been decided, Marasco said. The building, designed by Scott & Payne, was included in the city's 1984 Historic Resource Inventory as a significant example of "Fifties modern" architecture.

"We haven't studied it in any detail, but we agree it's a cool building," Marasco said. "Again, a development of the size we're talking about, there certainly could be a spot where it could be relocated – or maybe it stays where it is. So we're going to take a hard look at how that can be incorporated in the site."

The development stands to be the first project to go through a large-site master plan after implementation of the city's Central City 2035 plan, which is scheduled to be adopted by the City Council early next year.

Security Properties is interested in moving quickly. If permits can be secured, the firm plans to begin construction in the first quarter of 2018, Marasco said.

## **The Portland Business Journal**

# **Longtime Portland Commissioner Dan Saltzman Won't Seek Reelection**

*By Andy Giegerich  
September 12, 2017*

In a surprise announcement, longtime Portland City Commissioner Dan Saltzman said Tuesday he won't seek reelection in 2018.

That means Saltzman, a frequent swing vote who's served under five mayors — and grappled publicly with at least two of them — will end his tenure after five terms. He'd been widely expected to seek a sixth go-round.

"I have enjoyed the myriad duties of City Commissioner, and I am very proud of my accomplishments and the relationships I have built while achieving them," Saltzman said in a release. "But with respect to things I am passionate about, the items on my 'to do' list largely have check marks next to them ... Therefore, I will not file for a sixth term as City Commissioner and will complete my term at the end of 2018."

Saltzman said he'll also work to renew the Portland Children's Levy, a longtime pet project, in 2018.

Former Oregon State Rep. Jo Anne Hardesty, who's president of the Portland NAACP chapter, has already filed to run for the seat. Saltzman's chief of staff Brendan Finn has also been mentioned as a candidate for public office in the past.

"It is my hope that an open seat will encourage a number of people to consider running: this is a great opportunity for a new generation of leadership in City Hall," Saltzman said.

Saltzman had quarreled with Mayor Sam Adams over the commissioner's oversight of the police bureau in 2010. The city had at the time experienced a spate of police shootings.

He also proved to be a swing vote on several issues, including the 2016 push by Mayor Charlie Hales and Commissioner Steve Novick to raise fees on city businesses. He eventually crafted his own proposal that passed the Council approved.

He's also taken strong stances on Airbnb, proposing a measure that would dedicate 25 percent of visitor taxes paid by short-stay vacation rental businesses to support affordable housing programs.

## **The Skanner**

# **Loretta Smith Announces Intention to Run for Portland City Council**

*By Loretta Smith  
September 12, 2017*

Multnomah County Commissioner Loretta Smith released the following statement today announcing her intention to run for Portland City Council Position #3.

“I want to thank Commissioner Dan Saltzman for his 25 years of dedication to the place we all call home. I wish him well on his new path.

Today I am announcing my intention to run for Portland City Council Position #3.

I have been in public service my entire professional life, first serving with Senator Ron Wyden for twenty-one years, and then as a Multnomah County Commissioner for the past seven years where we have created hundreds of jobs for young people, educated seniors about scams and dangers of opioid abuse and have been a voice for so many Oregonians who have been left behind.

The opportunity to continue to fight for the most vulnerable on the Portland City Council would be an honor and a privilege.

Our next leaders need build a shared vision for Portland's future that ensures it remains affordable for working people, stand up for progressive values, and provide every community a meaningful voice in City Hall.

In the coming days and weeks, I look forward to talking with voters throughout the City of Portland. Join us at <https://www.facebook.com/LorettaSmithOR>.”

# **Dan Saltzman Not Running for Sixth term as City Commissioner**

*By Dan Saltzman  
September 12, 2017*

As I have been talking to community members about campaigning for another term as City Commissioner, I have been humbled by the deep support and encouragement I have received.

Indeed, that support has far exceeded what I have experienced in any of my past races. I believe that is because of progress made together on so many issues that have a real impact on the people and community we all care so much about.

Just a few of these accomplishments include:

- The initial passage and two subsequent renewals of the Portland Children’s Levy, which has over the past 15 years improved the lives of thousands of kids and families.
- Passage of Portland’s first Affordable Housing Bond and leading an unprecedented response to Portland’s affordable housing crisis as Housing Commissioner. We made record investments, reforms and commitments that will result in thousands of units of desperately needed new homes.

- The opening of the Gateway Center for Domestic Violence Services, a one-stop resource for survivors of domestic violence. I was also proud to have led new initiatives for combating gang violence and the continuing effort to improve police accountability.
- Improvements to fire and ambulance services that will save money and lives.
- Reordering transportation priorities to focus on the basics, including accelerating the repair of potholes and other damage done by the winter storms of 2017.
- Delivering the Big Pipe on-time and on-budget, fixing the Water Bureau billing system and reforming the Fire & Police Disability and Retirement system.
- Always pursuing these and other goals with a sharp eye on protecting taxpayer's dollars, while striving to make Portland a more just, equitable, sustainable place that provides opportunity for all.

Over the last few weeks I have reflected on that record of nearly 25 years of public service as a commissioner at Multnomah County and at the City of Portland. As satisfying as it might be to look back at accomplishments, what really counts is what comes next.

That reflection has led me to the conclusion that I can have the greatest impact on the issues that truly motivate me outside of City Hall.

I have enjoyed the myriad duties of City Commissioner, and I am very proud of my accomplishments and the relationships I have built while achieving them. But with respect to things I am passionate about, the items on my "to do" list largely have check marks next to them.

Meanwhile, there is much more I wish to do in areas such as child welfare, foster care and domestic violence. I have come to the conclusion that I can accomplish more on those issues if they become my primary focus, instead of their having to share my attention. And I would enjoy working on those causes in a less scheduled life.

Therefore, I will not file for a sixth term as City Commissioner and will complete my term at the end of 2018. I will also lead the renewal of the Portland Children's Levy in 2018.

It is my hope that an open seat will encourage a number of people to consider running: this is a great opportunity for a new generation of leadership in City Hall.

I want to deeply thank all my staff members, supporters and community members that I have had the privilege of working with over these many years. I eagerly look forward to continuing to work together as we strive to make Portland an even greater place for all the people who share it – today and tomorrow.

**OPB**

## **Portland Commissioner Dan Saltzman Won't Seek Re-Election**

*By Amelia Templeton  
September 12, 2017*

Longtime Portland City Commissioner Dan Saltzman announced Tuesday that he won't seek re-election next year.

Saltzman has served five terms on the City Council. In a statement, he said he has largely accomplished his goals working for Portland.

"I have enjoyed the myriad duties of City Commissioner," he said on Facebook. "But with respect to things I am passionate about, the items on my 'to do' list largely have check marks next to them."

After 25 years with the city, Saltzman said he would like to now focus on issues like child welfare, foster care and domestic violence.

In an interview with OPB, Saltzman said Portland's unique form of government — where commissioners both legislate and directly oversee city services — has its challenges.

"Portlanders seem to like this form of government, I mean, they've rejected attempts to change it," he said. "I've sort of had to come to accept it. I do think it has its problems though."

Saltzman said, at times, he's been frustrated when wanting to take on issues in other city departments that are technically the responsibility of other commissioners.

"There are areas one can't go in because that's in somebody else's domain," he said. "I try and violate it all the time because I don't believe in the silo mentality. I feel we should all be pulling for the same direction. But it's a reality I've come to deal with over 20 years and I have to accept it."

Saltzman told his long-serving staff about his retirement Monday and apologized for the impact it would have on their careers.

"I'm committed to working with each one of them to find them a job, be sure they land in a good place," he said.

Saltzman's now open seat is likely to attract plenty of candidates.

Just hours after Saltzman's announcement, Multnomah County Commissioner Loretta Smith said she was running.

"Our next leaders need build a shared vision for Portland's future that ensures it remains affordable for working people, stand up for progressive values, and provide every community a meaningful voice in City Hall," Smith said in a statement announcing her candidacy.

Jo Ann Hardesty, a former Oregon state representative and the president of the local chapter of the NAACP, has told the Portland Mercury she is running for Saltzman's seat — in part — on a platform of housing and police reform.

Saltzman said his reelection campaign had been going well. But he recently took time to reflect on his future.

“I’ve watched my friend [former Multnomah County Chair] Jeff Cogen have a stroke, my colleague Nick Fish be diagnosed with stomach cancer. Those things give you pause about how much time you have left and do you want to spend that time,” Saltzman said. “I don’t know how much time I have left, but I just didn’t feel like I wanted to spend five more years in City Hall.”