

Mayor Saylor

If I Were Mayor
By Saylor Sager

Have you ever wanted to make a change in your community? Being the mayor gives you a great opportunity to make a difference and make your community a better place for everyone to live in. As mayor, you get to know members of the community and their needs and concerns. Then you are able to work together to make the changes needed to better the community. If I were mayor these are some of the ideas I would implement and are important to me.

I just wanna start out by saying that McMinnville is awesome to me because of all its festivals and the diverse group of people that call McMinnville home and make McMinnville so unique. Speaking of festivals, some of my favorite things about our city are the UFO festival, Teen Night Out, and all the amazing, fun activities and opportunities that are available to everyone in the community. Something you might not know about McMinnville is that on May 11, 1950, someone named Evelyn Trent spotted a slow-moving, metallic disc-shaped object heading in her direction and that's why we have the UFO festival every year that draws thousands of people to our city.

I am actively involved in our community by helping my dad with Mac Locals, which is trying to get people excited and passionate about our city McMinnville. We do that by participating in community events and fun social media posts about local shops, restaurants, and events to encourage people to support and get involved in our community. Some things our current mayor has already done to support the city and everyone who lives here are co-founding the nonprofit Wine Country Pride, she has been involved in the McMinnville Affordable Housing Commission since its inception, and collaborating with the McMinnville Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force and Visit McMinnville.

If I were mayor I would preserve McMinnville's culture by trying to keep the small-town feel that McMinnville has and continuing the annual festivals and events that everyone loves and that make McMinnville so special. If I were mayor, it would be important to me to make sure that our city is accessible and inclusive to all. Every park, every sidewalk, and every place should be easy and accessible for everyone to access. This is important to me because my brother has a disability, and just walking downtown is a challenge for him because of the uneven sidewalks. A big need our city currently has is affordable housing and helping our unhoused neighbors. If I were mayor I would prioritize this by encouraging the use of funds and calling on local churches and nonprofits to help by buying/using vacant buildings and turning them into temporary housing for the unhoused and providing resources to get them back on their feet and what they need to succeed.

Being mayor takes a lot of responsibility and dedication to the community. It is a job that is important in trying to keep the community safe and happy. If I were mayor, I would do my best to ensure the city is accessible to everyone, has affordable housing, preserves McMinnville's culture, and prioritizes the use of funds to help our unhoused neighbors. So next time you think about becoming mayor DO IT!!! It is a great opportunity to help the community grow and thrive.