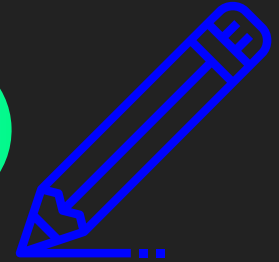




**THINK**

**CREATE**



**WIN**

**2022 IF I WERE MAYOR STUDENT CONTEST**

**3 CATEGORIES: 4-5 GRADE; 6-8 GRADE; 9-12 GRADE**

**\$150 FIRST PLACE & \$50 SECOND PLACE PRIZES**

**SUBMISSIONS DUE MARCH 28**

**[www.sthelensoregon.gov/news](http://www.sthelensoregon.gov/news)**



# If I Were Mayor...

## Student Contest

### 2021-2022



**The Oregon Mayors Association and your city invite you to enter the "If I Were Mayor..." contest.**

Share your creative ideas about what you would do as mayor.

Local winners are entered into the state contest for a chance to win a prize worth \$500!

**LOCAL CONTEST DEADLINE:** Monday, March 28, 2022, 5 p.m.

#### Contest Rules:

##### GENERAL RULES:

- All submissions must be accompanied by a completed entry form. All forms for students under age 18 must be signed by the student's parent or guardian. Entry forms may be photocopied.
- Only one submission per student will be accepted at the state level.
- Previous statewide winners may participate, but are not eligible to receive a prize in the same category (grade level) they previously won in. They are eligible to receive a prize in a new category.
- State level submissions become the property of the Oregon Mayors Association (OMA).
- OMA retains the right to publish state-level entries along with the names and likenesses of each student.
- League of Oregon Cities (LOC) employees and dependents are not eligible to enter.

##### POSTERS (Take a photo of the poster, save as PNG, JPEG or BMP file)

- The poster contest is open to students enrolled in grades 4 and 5 or being home-schooled at the same grade level for the 2021-22 school year.
- Poster size must be a minimum of 17" and a maximum of 28" in height or width.
- Students are encouraged to be creative and may use any art medium (e.g., poster paints, felt pens, colored pencils, pastels, crayons, three-dimensional art, etc.). The poster may be in color or black and white.
- The student's name and a daytime phone number or email address for their parent or guardian must appear on the back of the poster.

##### ESSAYS (Formats allowed: Word, PDF, PowerPoint, Prezi)

- The essay contest is open to students enrolled in grades 6 through 8 or being home-schooled at the same grade level for the 2021-22 school year.
- Essays must be 500 to 1,000 words in length and typed.
- The student's name and a daytime phone number or email address for their parent or guardian must appear at the top of the essay.

##### DIGITAL MEDIA PRESENTATIONS (Formats allowed: MP4, Visme, Pitcherific, VideoScribe. PowerPoint is now for Essays only.)

- The digital media presentation contest is open to students enrolled in grades 9 through 12 or being home-schooled at the high school level for the 2021-22 school year.
- Presentations must be one to three minutes in length and may be submitted on disk or emailed.
- The student's name and a daytime phone number or email address for their parent or guardian must be written on the disk or disk sleeve or in the title of the electronic file.

*First-place statewide winners will receive their prizes during the **OMA Summer Conference, to be held August 11-13, 2022 in Newport at Best Western.***

For more information about the state contest please contact Debi Higgins at [dhiggins@orcities.org](mailto:dhiggins@orcities.org) or Angela Speier at [aspeier@orcities.org](mailto:aspeier@orcities.org).

For more information about your local city contest, please contact your city at [Deputy City Recorder Lisa Scholl 503-366-8216 / lscholl@sthelensoregon.gov](mailto:Deputy City Recorder Lisa Scholl 503-366-8216 / lscholl@sthelensoregon.gov)

# IF I Were Mayor

## **TINY VILLAGE**

- Create tiny houses for the homeless
- People can donate furniture
- We can grow a garden for the villagers to care for
- Make more buses to Portland area
- Make a ferry between Oregon and Washington to lower pollution

MAKE PEOPLE FEEL WELCOME  
ADD MORE BIKE TRAILS  
ADD MORE CAMPGROUNDS

## **EARTH TO LUNCH PROGRAM**

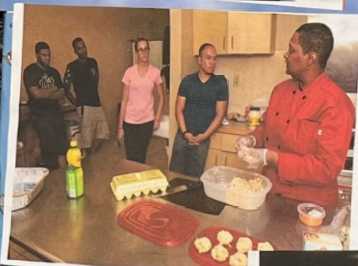
- A garden program for each school
- Gardening would be an added special
- Kids will learn how to care for and grow a vegetable garden
- Added fresh local food for lunch
- Garden vegetables reseed lowering food costs



# Being Healthier B



Be Active  
Be Healthy



If I were mayor, I would teach people a healthier way to live. As mayor I would stop new fast-food places from coming into town. I would encourage restaurants with healthier foods to come to town with meals with lots of fruits and vegetables. I would encourage making more home-made foods. I would provide classes for healthy home-made cooking. Then, anyone who doesn't know how can learn, and more people can start being healthy. We could offer the classes at the rec centers for free. At the end of the classes, we will have a cooking competition. Everyone will get four random ingredients and they have to make something healthy and yet delicious out of it. They will be allowed to bring ingredients from home as well. The winner will get a grocery store gift card.

As mayor I would like to have more ways to exercise to keep people in shape and healthier. I think we should have more places to run, walk, bike, scooter and many other things. I would have more exercising paths and places people can exercise that are free.

I want people to be able to get exercise equipment and classes at a discount. I would do this at the rec center, every Friday people could come and get discounted days to workout at local, private gyms.



As mayor I would like to make it so there is a hospital here for people to get care and go to when they're having babies.

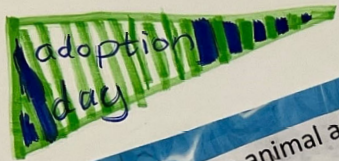
I have known a lot of people who have had to drive a long way to get to the hospital to have a baby and it's not nearly as safe to have a baby in a car than in a hospital.

Thank you for listening to me and my ideas for if I were mayor. Being healthier means being able to run, go on walks, do yoga and sports and that's a lot more fun than sitting on the couch and you feel good too!

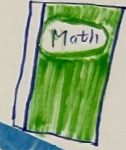
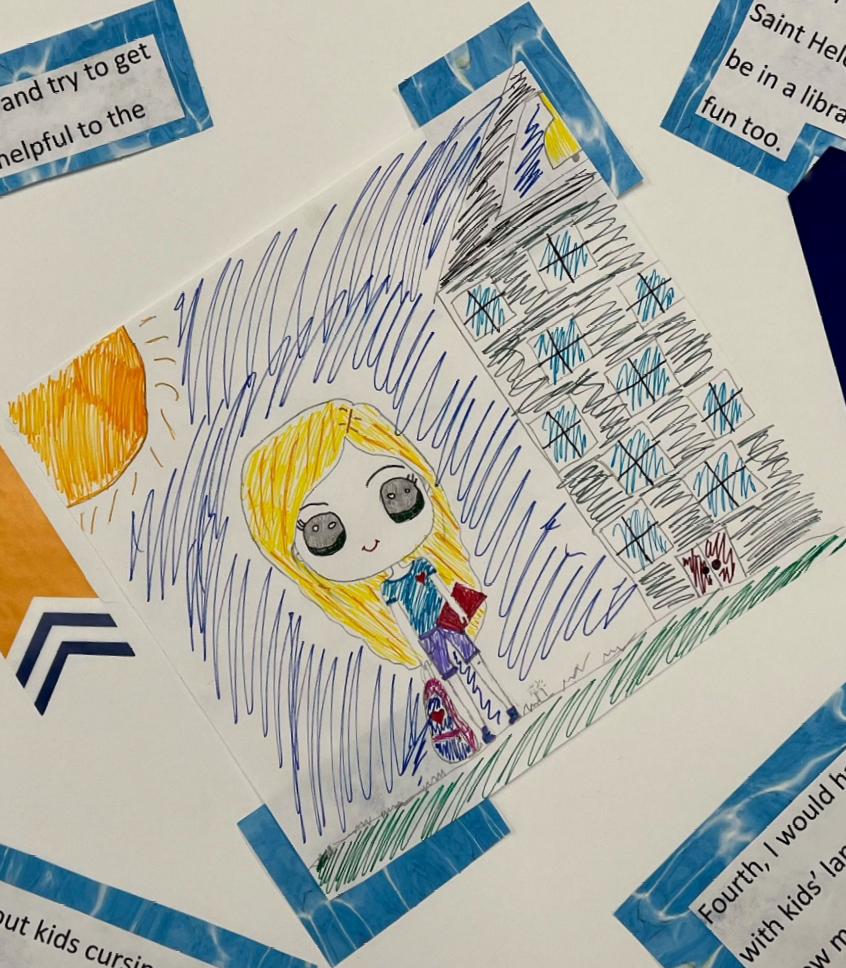
Good  
Bye!



# MAYOR MORGAN

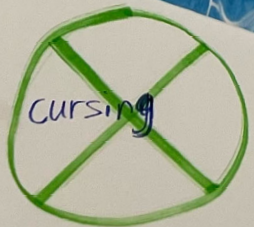


First, I would hold an animal adoption fair and try to get better homes for pets that will be more helpful to the pets and their needs.



Third I would create a program that would help kids in Saint Helens with school. I would run it myself. It would be in a library, or a bookstore and the kids would have fun too.

Fourth, I would have parenting support classes to help with kids' language, racism, and bullying. If the parents know more about proper public manners, then there would be fewer school issues. That also means less parents being called every day for improper school behavior.



Second, I would enforce rules about kids cursing in public places or making up inappropriate jokes. Those kids would be punished. The kids would be punished by having to do chores for the household and/or city.



# If i was the mayor I would...

D

## Charity

I would like to open up a store where people in need can visit and pick out the stuff they need. All the items for the people in need would be free. The items that are free came from donations to the store. The items would be clothes, food, school supplies and books. I think this would really help our community.

## Free store

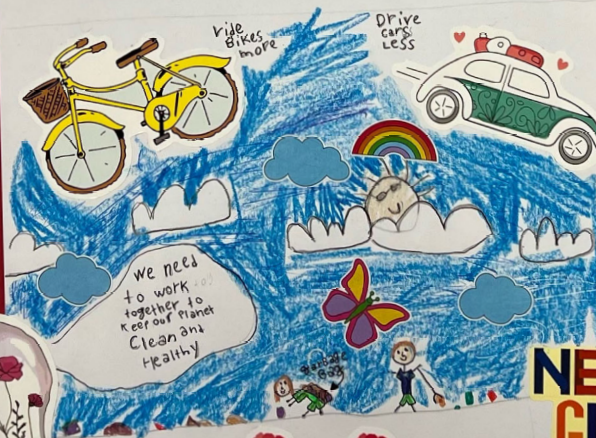


## Reducing pollution

Elliott Luke  
2/25/2022

### Reducing Pollution

In this Essay we will talk about how to reduce pollution. Most ways of reducing pollution are the three R's which are Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. Some people do not use the three R's and that is bad for our environment. One way to reduce pollution is you can drive less. Driving cars pollutes the air. Another way to reduce pollution is picking up litter. Throwing away trash on the ground also makes our air bad, so pick up litter to make the air better. In conclusion reducing reusing and recycling makes our world better and is making asthma, bronchitis, allergies and coughs better. So now you know some ways to reduce pollution.



NEVER  
GIVE  
UP

Keep it CLEAN!

## Community garden

Along with my charity store, I would like to plant a very big community garden where people can get fresh fruits and veggies. The Saint Helens community can come donate their time to keep our garden growing. It would also be fun for kids to learn how to garden.



Mayor



Elliott

Another thing I would do if I was the Mayor is I would put a swimming pool in all neighborhoods. I think this would be a fun idea because it would get a lot of kids or there electronics. It also would be a good idea because teenagers could get a job and be a lifeguard at the pool.





## Keeping our cars safe

If I were mayor, I would cut down on automobile crime. In our neighborhood a series of car thefts and break-ins has been happening. During the night burglars have been coming into our neighborhood and breaking into cars, even stealing cars a few times. Over ten cars in our neighborhood have been broken into. On November 27<sup>th</sup> a jeep was stolen. January 31<sup>st</sup> was the second time a big group of burglars trespassed into our neighborhood and our next-door neighbor got his car burglarized. It's not just our neighborhood though, multiple neighborhoods besides ours were also victims. Some consequences of this happening are increased danger of being outside at night, especially for those who get home late in the night such as my dad does. Some other consequences of the burglars is if you are on a trip, and a package you ordered arrives at your door, it would be easy for a burglar to steal it. Not even to mention having to replace everything the burglars stole from your car. There are some ways that we can help fix the problem though.

of keeping your cars unlocked. There is a way to remedy that as well though. I would send out messages, emails, or letters to everyone in St. Helens informing them of the dangers of keeping their cars unlocked, and suggest considering buying a camera. Another way of helping to fix the problem is keeping your porch lights on at night so as to make it more obvious if the burglars try to break into or steal your car. Perhaps, even setting up neighborhood watches. If a camera gets a video of a burglar breaking in, or stealing a car. We could send the video to the police station, put it on Facebook for people to look out for them, as well as reinforcing the idea of keeping your cars locked. Additionally, I would put reminders on Facebook to lock your cars, even put the message on a billboard. I would also meet up with mayors of towns close to us and discuss how the crime rate has gone up and encourage the others to take similar measures that I am taking. Lastly, but most importantly I would hire more police officers, then more neighborhoods could be patrolled which would help to not just decrease car crime but also all crime.

All of the things that I have talked about in this paper, are the things that have been happening in my neighborhood lately. I have talked about some ways to



help fix it. Sending out letters, emails, or texts to people informing them about the dangers of keeping their cars unlocked. Keeping your lights on during the night, creating a neighborhood watch, or buying a camera are ways to help prevent thievery. Any pictures they get can be sent to the police. Also having a meeting with other mayors discussing my ideas, and most importantly hiring more police officers, would make it so more neighborhoods could be patrolled. I believe that taking these measures will help to strongly decrease car crime.



## IF I WERE MAYOR

### IF I WERE MAYOR...

If I was the Mayor of St Helens, the first issue I would address would be the homeless people in our community. For example, setting aside city land for a centralized homeless camp. To do this I would call upon The City Council, Fire Department, Police Department, Columbia County Mental Health, City Engineer and Waste Management to discuss my proposal. I would then inform the residents of St Helens in a Town Hall Meeting about my proposal. In this meeting I would get as much feedback as possible from residents and business leaders of St Helens.

### OKAY, LETS TALK TRASH...

The litter and graffiti in our community has become a problem and we need to fix it. I would do so by organizing a city clean-up day event, where volunteers such as clubs, teams, organizations, local businesses, city government people and even inmates of our local jail would come together and not only clean up but also beautify our beloved city. The people that helped clean up the city would be able to attend a community picnic and carnival.

### SAFETY IN OUR COMMUNITY...

Safety is a very important aspect of any community. People want to feel safe walking in their neighborhoods and having their children play outside. Police have a huge impact on safety. I personally believe that we should have more police officers patrolling the streets of St. Helens, not just on the Highway but having officers patrol neighborhoods so they get to know the people and create a relationship with them.

### WE THE PEOPLE...

As Mayor I would try very hard to make a relationship with the people of St Helens. I would try to meet as many people as possible and take into account everyone's ideas and options. I would go about meeting people by going to different restaurants, stores, going to community events, making phone calls, going to retirement and nursing homes to parks to schools and meeting with the homeless. Hopefully meeting and hearing people's ideas of what they want in our community.

### HEY DOC...

I would set up a program to encourage Doctors, of all sorts, to work and live in our community. I would give different perks to Doctors so that they would want to live here and continue to work here. My ideas would be that the city should pay for health club membership, property tax discounts and arrange for realtor discounts when buying a home. I would also like to see a place built to make it easier for moms to have babies in St. Helens.



### PLAY TIME...

I would set up a place for kids to hang out and have fun in St. Helens. Something like a trampoline park with an arcade where kids could go in the afternoon and on weekends to socialize and build relationships. This would be a safe place with security. The facility would also have a dance floor/ roller rink. This place could even have food to buy and rooms for clubs to use for activities or parties. This would make our city a fun place for the youth and keep them active and out of trouble.

### IN CONCLUSION...

I have lived in this area all of my short life and love Oregon. St Helens is my hometown and I would love to serve my community. If I was Mayor, I would do my best to help the homeless, clean up trash and beautify the city, keep the people safe, get to know as many people as possible, encourage doctors to work and live here and make the city a fun place for children like me.

THE END



## If I Were mayor.....

I think our community would benefit from a community garden. I've heard people talk about wanting their own garden but don't know how to get started, and people that do know but do not have the space they need. There are also people who don't have the money to buy fresh fruits and vegetables at the store. A community garden or co-op would also make our little city more independent instead of buying from other countries. Covid has really impacted our sense of community where it isn't really seen. There are kids who grow up not knowing where the vegetables in the store come from, much less how to grow anything from seed. The community garden idea is one of the most basic ideas, but I feel it would positively impact our community.

My idea would be to use a space the city already owns, so there would be no rent cost. Perhaps some of the areas behind the courthouse in Saint Helens, or the park by the river. There could also be multiple little gardens, specializing in different items, or at least giving multiple groups their own garden. There would be a fenced in garden with raised beds and maybe a watering system on a timer. People could sign up in the spring, and they would grow the little gardens from start to finish, getting a portion of the harvest. In order to get the end product, they would have to help regularly. That includes researching which fruits and veggies grow best in our climate and what would be the most beneficial, planting, growing, watering, pruning, and harvesting. It would also include tearing all the plants down at the end of the season, and learning and how to compost it themselves.

In the end, depending on how much space and how many people sign up, we could either sell for a low price, or donate the extra food to the food bank, nursing homes, or the homeless people of St. Helens. This would not only feed those gardening, but provide to those who do not have the time or resources to be able to participate in the program.

Having a community garden would not only affect the people's lives through feeding them, but it would help the children who are growing up, know how to provide for their families and be more self-sufficient. It would also provide an outlet for people to take care of something. The sense of community that develops from working on such a worthwhile project would also help, where our

lives during the pandemic in the last two years has struggled socially. This would also lead to more connections being made, such as teens finding summer jobs, and property owners who are less able-bodied would be able to hire out landscaping or physically demanding work. This has been a problem in the past several years, as well. I would love to see the solutions outlined here become a reality, because it could help us in many ways.



# If I Were Mayor of St. Helens

[Digital Presentation Link](#)

# If I Were Mayor 2022

**Digital Presentation Link**