



PRESS RELEASE  
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### **Clean Elections on the Portland Ballot in November**

[PORTLAND, ME] – The City Council has officially ordered that a charter amendment enacting Clean Elections and a list of other amendments and ordinances be placed on the November 8 ballot. Fair Elections Portland is pleased to announce its campaign to support the Clean Elections measure now going to the voters.

The quest for municipal Clean Elections began in 2019 with a petition drive that would amend the City Charter and allow for public funding for City Council, School Board, and Mayor races. That petition garnered over 6,800 signatures, more than four times the number of signatures that the citizen initiatives received that will also appear on the November ballot.

“Voters in Portland overwhelmingly support measures that allow everyday people to run for office without raising money from wealthy special interests,” said **Anna Kellar, spokesperson for Fair Elections Portland**. “Public support is strong. We will focus this campaign on lifting up this particular ballot question so it does not get lost among other potentially contentious local issues.”

The measure is broader than the charter amendment proposed by Fair Elections Portland in 2019. For example, the proposal before votes in November 2022 will ban foreign contributions in ballot questions and also ban corporate contributions in candidate elections. Despite these important differences, Fair Elections Portland strongly supports the proposal.

Clean Elections will appear as **Question 3** on the ballot. The ballot question will establish a voluntary clean election fund that would provide public campaign money to qualified candidates running for municipal offices.

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*[Fair Elections Portland](#) is a campaign of the League of Women Voters of Maine and Maine Citizens for Clean Elections. For more about the campaign please email [info@fairelections.org](mailto:info@fairelections.org)*