Open and Accountable Elections
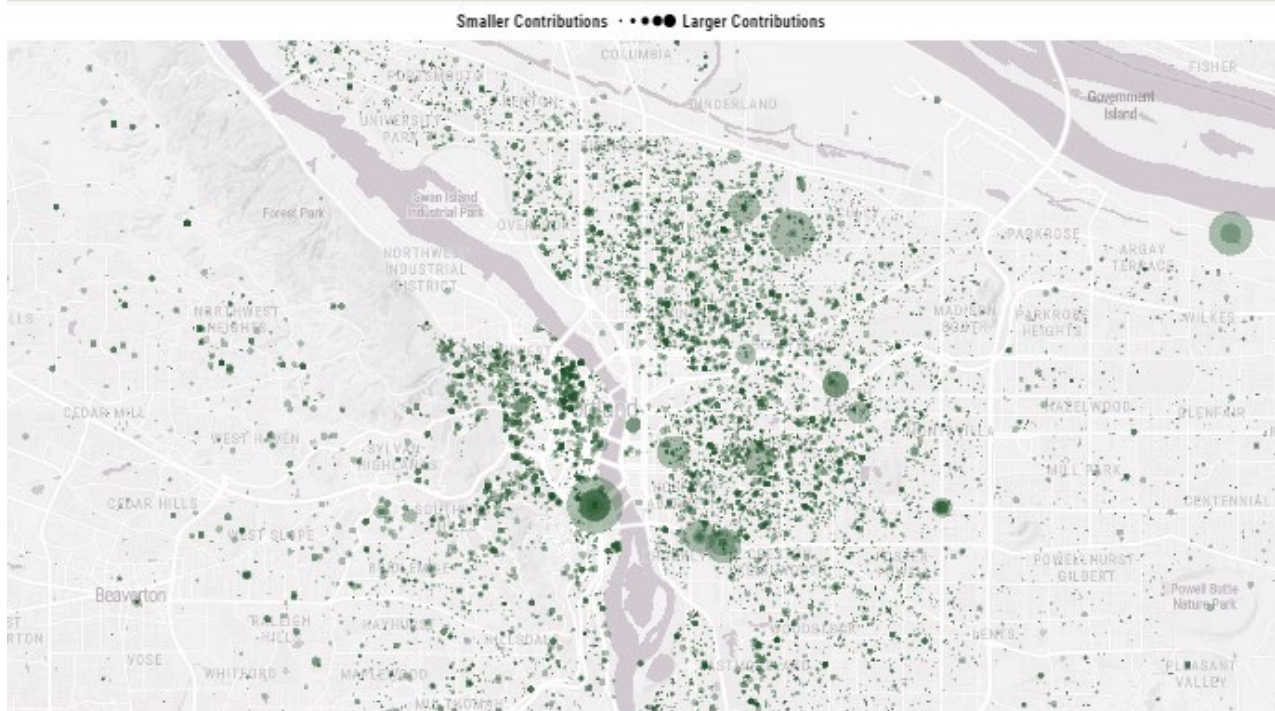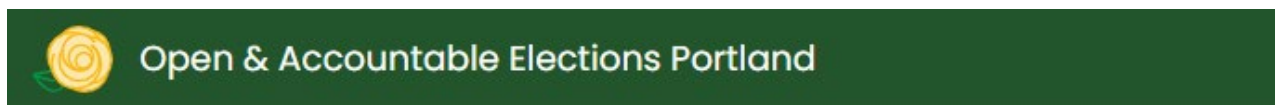## Update - 2020 Election Cycle
December 9, 2020

Susan Mottet, Director of Open & Accountable Elections

Amanda Fritz, Commissioner in Charge

OAE Performance - 2020 election cycle

▶ Program launched in time for 2020 elections

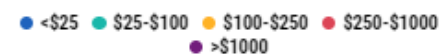▶ Software launched in time – thanks to Civic Software Foundation
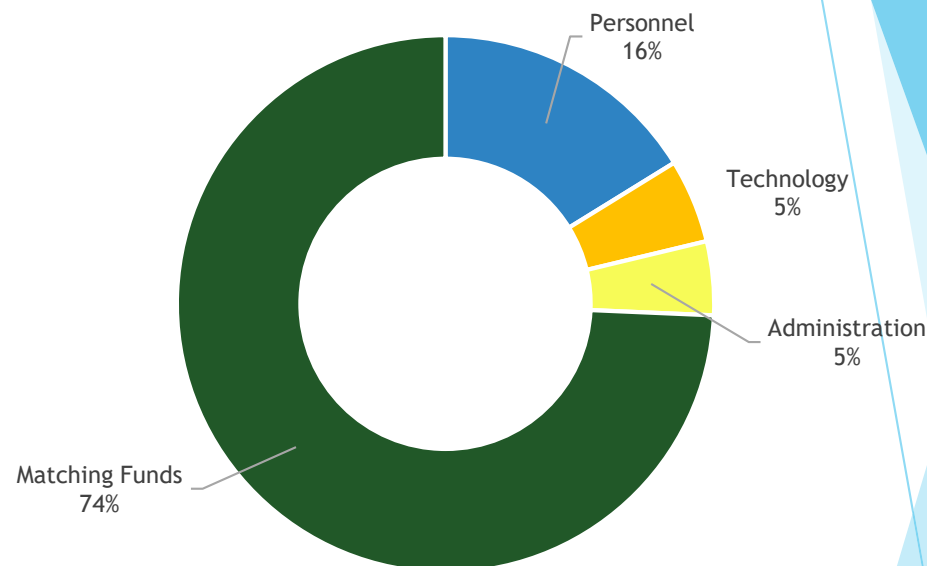
OAE Performance - 2020 election cycle

▶ Weathered challenges

   ▶ Special election: doubled certified candidates from 8 to 16

   ▶ Honest Elections: sudden legal changes to campaign finance climate –contribution limits applied shortly before primary

   ▶ Legal: no lawsuits or appeals of program determinations

   ▶ Program integrity: protocols were successful

OAE Budget 2020 Election Cycle (July 1, 2018 - December 31, 2020)

2020 ELECTION CYCLE BUDGET

Personnel	$605,790
Technology	$188,721
Administration	$165,815
Matching Funds	$2,778,668
TOTAL	**$3,738,993**

Personnel 16%
Technology 5%
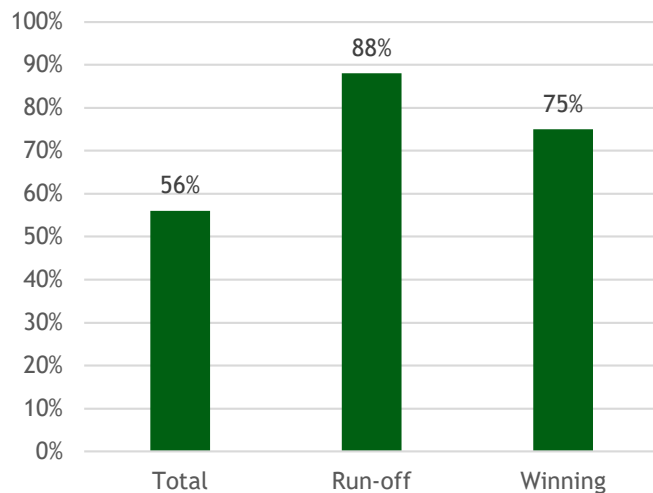Administration 5%
Matching Funds 74%

- Open & Accountable Elections had sufficient funds for 2020 election cycle.
- Vast majority of funds dedicated to matching dollars.
- The technology project enables the program to keep personnel costs low through efficient administration.
- The newly-enforceable contribution limits are anticipated to result in more candidates opting into OAE in future election cycles, leading to higher expenditures in matching funds.
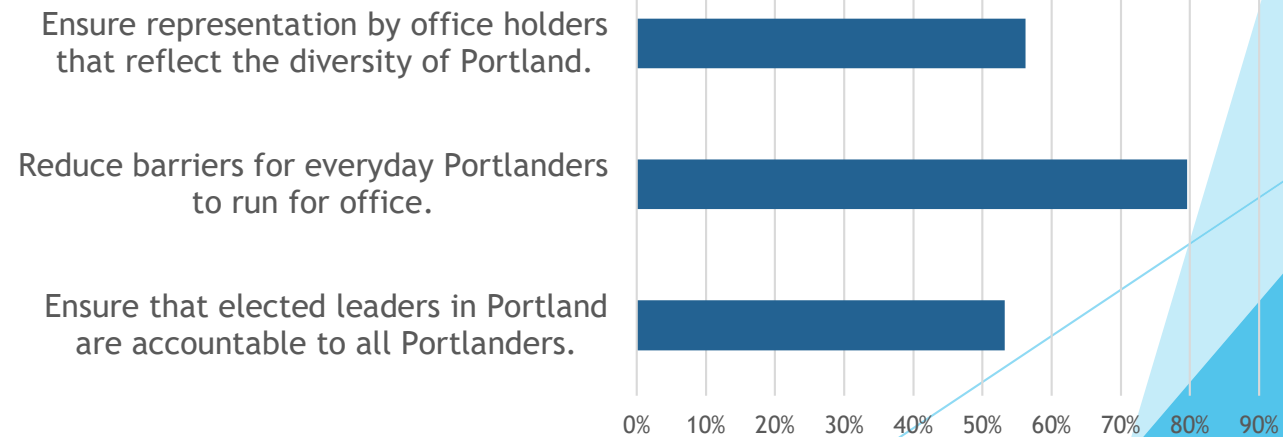
Initial OAE Performance Metrics

- Most candidates opted in
  - 23 of 41 candidates (with political committees)
  - 7 of 8 candidates in run offs
  - 3 of 4 winning candidates
- Small donor participation broadened:
  - 55% said they had never given to a City candidate before
  - Initial data suggests OAE participants collected 2x as much from zip codes that contributed little in previous election cycles, showing broader and more even engagement across the city.
- Over half of small donors felt the program was achieving goals in 2020 cycle.

Candidate Participation Rate

Total	Run-off	Winning
56%	88%	75%

Small Donor Impressions of what OAE achieved in 2020 election cycle

- Ensure representation by office holders that reflect the diversity of Portland.
- Reduce barriers for everyday Portlanders to run for office.
- Ensure that elected leaders in Portland are accountable to all Portlanders.

OAE Performance – Upcoming Reports

▶ User Experience Research report – anticipated early 2021

▶ OAE Commission Report – anticipated early Spring 2021

  ▶ Qualitative and quantitative metrics of program performance

  ▶ Highlights from user experience research

  ▶ Results of internal audit

  ▶ Recommendations to improve program – Code, Rules, internal policies and practices