

For Immediate Release September 14, 2023 Contact: (503) 935-4504 press@demelo4portland.com

## Daniel DeMelo Enters Race for Portland City Council District 3

**Portland, OR** — Today, dedicated community leader, Daniel DeMelo, has announced his candidacy for Portland City Council District 3 seat with a strong commitment to accountability and progress. <u>DeMelo recently made waves by uncovering significant red flags in Multnomah County's homelessness spending and outreach, shedding light on significant financial irregularities that have obstructed progress on the #1 issue Portlanders identify in their communities.</u>

DeMelo – a queer, second-generation, car-free Portlander sharing his home with roommates – brings a fresh perspective as he hopes to be the first Gen Z member of Portland City Council. DeMelo's campaign is committed to government accountability and delivering real, progressive change for Portland.

Portland's homelessness response has been a topic of concern for years, with residents often left wondering whether their tax dollars are being spent effectively. In his role as Chair of both the Multnomah County Central & Joint Office of Homeless Services and the Community Budget Advisory Committees, Daniel DeMelo took it upon himself to dig deep into the county's spending practices and uncovered serious oversights. Despite considerable obstruction, DeMelo used his position to shed light on the County inefficiently using Portland's tax dollars and subsequent lack of progress on ending homelessness.

"It's crucial that we hold our local government accountable. Every misspent tax dollar is a dollar that could have sheltered our neighbors," DeMelo stated. "Portland finally has the resources to end our homelessness crisis but now they don't have a plan. We must ensure our city has a plan to shelter those without homes. I am ready to bring my experiences to Portland City Council to deliver bold, progressive results for our community and make sure we tackle the top issues Portland faces: homelessness, housing affordability, and livability."

"I'm of the lockdown generation, the mass shooting generation, the generation that can't afford a home in which we might choke on the smoke of a burning planet. For far too long, the voices of young Portlanders have been sidelined. I'm running for Portland City Council to ensure we finally make progress on our progressive commitments."

DeMelo is determined to bring his generation's experiences and values to the forefront of local politics. DeMelo knows the impact local government can have and he knows Portland can do better.

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