



PRESS RELEASE

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PORTLAND BUSINESS ALLIANCE CITY ELECTION ENDORSEMENTS

PORTLAND, OR — April 13, 2004 — The Portland Business Alliance, representing nearly 1,500 members in the Greater Portland Metropolitan Area, announced its endorsements in the Portland City Mayor's race and in the two contested city council seats:

Mayor:	Jim Francesconi
City Council #1:	Nick Fish
City Council #4:	Randy Leonard

Mayoral Endorsement

"The Alliance believes a strong local economy is the most important issue in this race. While the national recovery seems to be underway, Portland still has the highest unemployment rate of any major urban area in the country. We believe Mr. Francesconi, Mr. Fish, and Mr. Leonard are the candidates best suited to support a strong economy in Portland," said Mr. Kenneth M. Novack, President and CEO of Schnitzer Investment Corporation, and current Chair of the Alliance Board of Directors.

"Jim Francesconi has been the voice for small business and a positive business climate on the Portland City Council for the past four years," said Novack. "He has

the experience, knowledge, and ability to work with the entire community to get Portland on the road to recovery and strong economic growth. We look forward to working with Jim to make this vision a reality.”

City Council #1 Endorsement

“This endorsement was a close call. We interviewed two very strong candidates,” said Novack. “Nick has articulated a vision for the City that we support. From reducing the City Business License Fee to reforming the City budget process, Nick has outlined a strong platform for economic recovery and growth. We also believe he will bring a fresh look to the Council’s work.”

City Council #3 Endorsement

“Over the last two years, Randy Leonard has proven that his basic mission is to make the City work better for all citizens. He has shown he is willing to do what it takes to reform the bureaucracy, support a stronger economy, and make tough choices,” Novack said. “Randy has been accessible, straightforward, and willing to work with us to solve problems. We look forward to working with Randy as he is elected to a full Council term on creating jobs, streamlining regulations, and building a better Portland.”