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Mayor Essay
Mrs. Hunt
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If I Were Mayor...

If I were the mayor of Tigard I would put our community first. As Mario Batali once said, "One of the most important leadership lessons is realizing you're not the most important or the most intelligent person in the room at all times." I would listen to the community and give them a voice. I could put in a recreational center, homeless shelter/soup kitchen, environmentally friendly art, and many more of your ideas.

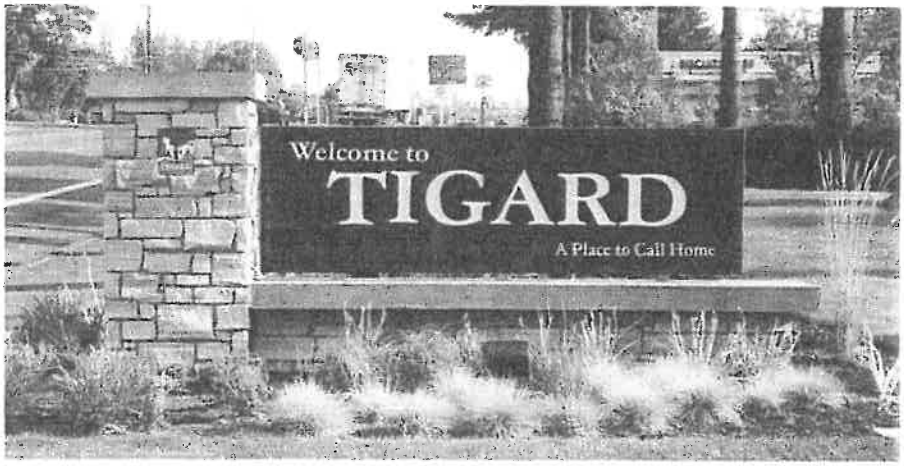
Furthermore, first I would put in the recreational center. I would make this available to all families in Tigard. This would allow families to have some quality family time, while still getting exercise. A recreation center is also a great place to make friends and meet new people. In addition, it can make Tigard a much more cohesive community. By promoting fitness to the community we can make Tigard a much healthier place.

Next I could put in a homeless shelter and soup kitchen. Every day when I drive to school, I see countless people sitting on the curb with signs. Most of them say, "Anything can help." By putting this in we can keep people off the streets. According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, "About 47,725 veterans are homeless on any given night." If they were willing to risk their lives for us, shouldn't we be willing to help them? The homeless shelter and soup kitchen could give them a

second chance to get their life back on track. Everyone has a story, but not everyone has a fair chance.

Additionally, I could fill Tigard with environmental art. Instead of having public art made of metal and other harsh materials, it could be made of recycled materials and other eco-friendly materials. By making our art eco-friendly, the community would be doing the earth a favor. As David Orr said, "When we heal the earth, we heal ourselves. If I could invite some life back to Tigard, I could attract more tourist. For example, I could add more flower beds and encourage stores to advertise with eco-friendly materials. Instantly people will start to recognize the beauty within Tigard. Tigard is like a stone. All it needs is to be polished, to be beautiful again. Right now Tigard is full of car fumes, signs, and buildings, but this could all change. I could add more nature reserves, introduce eco-friendly advertisement options, and encourage people to ride in carpools or on the city bus. All Tigard needs is a little bit of care and hard work. This art would make Tigard a much cleaner and nicer place for tourists to visit.

In conclusion, if I were the mayor of Tigard I would make all of these things happen along with many more of the community's ideas. At any time you could give me a suggestion and I will try to make it happen. "It's not you, not me, always we." As a team, the possibilities are unlimited. Together let's make Tigard a better place.



Mayor Bibliography

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