I am writing to express interest in the City Council position #6 for the City of Ashland. Here are my answers to the questions below.

- What do you think are the biggest issues facing the city? Affordable housing is probably our biggest issue. This has been a problem for several years now and is most likely one of the reasons we have had so many closings of elementary schools in Ashland. Families starting out in life simply can't afford to live here. Another issue that has been ongoing for our community is successful ways to support our homeless populations.
- 2) What is your primary motivation for seeking the vacant council seat? I want to be a part of thoughtful and inclusive solutions for our community. It's far too easy to sit on the sidelines and not support positive growth for our community. I want to be a part of solutions that are well thought out and seek to support or at least understand the many perspectives that our community might have on issues that we face.
- 3) What community and city activities have you been involved in recently? I am a board member for a small non-profit that supports arts education in the Rogue Valley. I have lead long range planning retreats for AIFF and the Repertory Singers and I am the Outreach Programs Manager for the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. My job has me working with students and teachers throughout the Rogue Valley.
- What is the role of the city councilor?
 To work with the mayor, city staff and ultimately to support and serve our community in important decision making regarding city policies and use of city resources.

Thank you for this opportunity to apply for such an important position.

Sincerely,

Katherine Gosnell (she, her, hers) Education & Outreach Manager Oregon Shakespeare Festival <u>kathg@osfashland.org</u> 541-482-2111 ext. 244

OSF School Visit Program application deadline is extended to April 30!