

I am overwhelmed with the thoughtful analyses by my fellow bookies, and have nothing to add about the future except -- pave over 405. We need the central city land.

However, I'm going to take a bit of issue with John's emphasis on the leadership of Neil and Vera. They were critical, no question. But they were the vanguard of, and truly a part of, a historic takeover of the reins of government, city, county and state, by the young Turks of our generation, stimulated in large part by Demoforum and even Dorchester. Not just Neil and Vera, but Earl, Hardy, Gretchen, Dennis, Steven, even the old Turk, Ted -- and many others, who saw that Oregon was in a rut and, as Bob said, the leaders had chosen not to act and therefore had made their choice.

The vibrant activism of the Perrys, the Walshes, the Webers, Buels, Scotts, and too many others, some including those in this group, created a sea change in Oregon. Yes, we had terrific leadership, but it also rose from within.

So how does the younger generation take over from us, and our remnants, the Kate Browns, the Courtneys, the old tired faces, or not so old but anemic faces now in power? City Hall gets new faces, but they are not dynamic leaders who have built a base of strong, like-minded volunteers who are available not just to run for office but can create and then carry out new approaches to our old problems. We integrated the City Club for women -- who will integrate our social networks with immigrants, refugees, the homeless, those presently left outside? I am hoping those teenagers who have risen up over the gun issue will figure out how to extend their passion into political arenas. But the age of instant gratification, Instagram, Facebook, may have prevented them from being capable of sticking to the long haul, as we all learned to do with Vietnam. If they can sustain it, I have hopes.