

Measure Argument for County Voters' Pamphlet

Important! Please read all instructions before completing this form. This form is to be used when filing a 'Measure Argument for County Voters' Pamphlet' with your County Elections office. Please note that each county produces a separate County Voters' Pamphlet. If the jurisdiction or district is located in more than one county a separate 'Measure Argument for Voters' Pamphlet' form must be filed and the fee paid to each county where the argument is to be printed.

Filing Information

Election: Primary 20____ General 20¹⁶____ Special _____

Measure # 26 - 178 Original Statement Amended Statement

Order # A 1 Argument in Favor Argument in Opposition

"This information furnished by" (as it should appear in the Voters' Pamphlet):

Cascade Policy Institute

Argument paid for by:

Cascade Policy Institute E-Mail: john@cascadepolicy.org

Name of person or organization paying for argument

Phone: Cell: _____ Work: (503) 242-0900 Home: _____

Contact information for authorized changes:

John A. Charles, Jr. E-Mail: john@cascadepolicy.org

Name of person authorized to make changes to Argument

Phone: Cell: _____ Work: (503) 242-0900 Home: _____

Filer checklist for Measure Argument for County Voters' Pamphlet (VP).

- Typewritten & signed Measure Argument form and Argument for County VP.
- Fee or certified petition provided.
- (If applicable) Endorsement Statement #: _____
- Word Count (325 MAX).

By signing this document, I (we) hereby state I (we) am (are) responsible for the content of this argument. ORS 251.415

John A. Charles, Jr. *John A. Charles Jr* 09/12/16
 Printed name of person furnishing argument Signature of person furnishing argument Date

Printed name of person furnishing argument Signature of person furnishing argument Date

Printed name of person furnishing argument Signature of person furnishing argument Date

Organization name person(s) is(are) authorized to represent, if applicable: Cascade Policy Institute

Note: If this argument is not being filed by a registered Oregon Political Committee, you may be required to register as a political committee with the Secretary of State. Refer to the Campaign Finance Manual for further details.

For Office Use only:

County: Mult

Cash-receipt #: 23696

Check #: 1154

Amount \$ 400

Required Info? Yes No

Signed? Yes No

Endorsements? Yes # _____ No

Intake Staff Initials: _____

Word Count (325 max): 283

Digital copy? Yes No

Review Staff Initials: TC

RECEIVED
 16 SEP 12 PM 1:57
 TIM SCOTT
 DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS

Opposition statement to Metro's Five-Year Operating Levy – Measure 26-178

Metro is asking for a new tax levy **despite the fact that it already has sufficient funds** to operate all its parks.

According to the Metro Auditor, for the 10-year period 2003-2013:

- Total annual revenue for Metro went up by 22%, while expenses increased only 16%
- Annual property revenue increased by 40%
- Excise tax income went up 37%

In more recent years, these trends have actually accelerated. **Since 2006, annual property tax revenue collected by Metro has gone up by 122%** — from \$28.6 million to \$63.6 million.

Unfortunately, this money is not even being used to improve public access to Metro's parks. In fact, **large portions of Metro's 17,000 acres of parklands are not open to use by taxpayers.**

Many Metro properties are gated and locked; most have inadequate signage so no one can find them.

At a September town hall meeting in Forest Grove, Metro employees stated that 73-81% of the Chehalem Ridge nature park — Metro's largest single land holding — will be **zoned as "conservation areas" and off-limits to human use.**

Even if you are lucky enough to find a Metro park, **don't even think about bringing your dog.** Metro prohibits dogs and other pets on virtually all its parklands.

Since 1995, Metro has spent hundreds of millions of tax dollars buying up large tracts of lands far from where most people live. **The Metro Council doesn't want you to use most of these lands, but they do want you to pay for them.** This an elitist conception of nature.

Metro is awash in tax money. **There is no justification for a new property tax levy,** regardless of its stated purpose.

Cascade Policy Institute urges you to vote NO on Measure 26-178.

(Statement submitted by John A. Charles, Jr., President and CEO, Cascade Policy Institute)