



Joint County Voters' Pamphlet
Measure Argument

JCVP-03
ORS 251.335

Filing Information

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Argument in Opposition

Measure #: 26-265

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Contact Information

Argument paid for or petition provided by: Eric Anderson

Phone: 503-849-2318

Email: eric.anderson1167@gmail.com

Contact information for authorized changes: Eric Anderson

Phone: 503-849-2318

Email: eric.anderson1167@gmail.com

This information furnished by: Eric Anderson

Organization Name:

Phone: 503-849-2318

Email: eric.anderson1167@gmail.com

Formatted Statement

MEASURE 26-265 - ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

PUBLIC SAFETY NEEDS A PLAN, NOT A FIVE-YEAR PATCH

Measure 26-265 asks Troutdale voters to approve a five-year property-tax levy of \$1.60 per \$1,000 of assessed value for police, fire and 911.

The City estimates it will collect nearly \$18.9 million over five years. For the "average" home cited by the City, the levy costs \$428.48 annually. Eliminating the current \$300 Public Safety Utility Fee leaves that homeowner paying about \$128 more each year.

But here is the problem: the City itself acknowledges this levy is not a permanent solution.

We have a structural public-safety funding problem. A temporary tax does not fix the underlying cost structure; it buys five years while taxpayers pay more.

Before asking voters for nearly \$19 million, City Hall should finish the work already underway.

In July, the Council directed the City Manager to negotiate a reduced-services agreement with the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office. City projections showed that revised MCSO service combined with Gresham Fire could save more than \$8.1 million over five years compared with the status quo. The City is also evaluating long-term fire-service alternatives.

Those decisions matter because police, fire and 911 costs are the problem we are trying to solve.

Public safety should be Troutdale's highest priority. That means protecting essential services first, negotiating aggressively, making sustainable service decisions and then asking taxpayers for only the amount actually necessary.

Measure 26-265 reverses that order.

And remember: voting NO does not eliminate police, fire or 911. Troutdale has existing service agreements. It tells City Hall to complete the restructuring work and return with a long-term plan - not another temporary funding mechanism.

I supported contracting with MCSO in 2015 because regional service could deliver professional policing efficiently. Eleven years of experience should inform what we do next.

Fund public safety responsibly. Solve the problem before raising the tax.

VOTE NO ON 26-265.

Eric Anderson
Former Troutdale City Councilor

Measure Argument Filing Attestation

By typing my name below, I am attaching my electronic signature and I hereby state that:

1. I am the author of this Measure Argument (ORS 251.415)
2. All of the information provided by me in this filing is true
3. I have read and understand the instructions for submitting this Measure Argument

Warning: Any person who supplies information in the Required portion of a Voters' Pamphlet statement, knowing it to be false, is subject upon conviction of a Class C felony, to imprisonment for up to five years or to a fine of \$125,000, or both. ORS 260.715 (1); 260.993; 161.605; and 161.625.

Note: Language which violates any provision of ORS 251.415 will be excluded from the Voters' Pamphlet.

Signature: Eric Anderson

Date Signed(or amended): 9/8/2026 11:41 AM