

CITY OF PORTLAND

Measure 26-156

BALLOT TITLE

Proposed by Initiative Petition.

AMENDS CHARTER: CREATES WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT WITH ELECTED BOARD

QUESTION: Shall Portland create district not subject to city council control, with elected board, transfer city water, sewer services to it?

SUMMARY: Measure creates water and sewer district outside City Council or City Auditor supervision; transfers control of water and sewer operations and assets to board of seven uncompensated members elected (initially by plurality vote) for three year terms from zones approximating Portland Public School zones (area outside Portland Public School District not addressed). Board fills board vacancies by appointment. Persons disqualified as Board candidates: persons holding any elected position; persons formerly working or contracting with City related to water/sewer; current District contractors and employees. Earlier City employment disqualifies lawyer or auditor to work for District. Board can legislate; create civil and criminal liability; hire and fire employees; set rates; adopt budgets; provide for financial audits; purchase and condemn property; borrow funds; create City sewer and water bond liability; assess properties for water and sewer local improvement districts. City water and sewer employees transfer to District. District cannot mix Bull Run water except with water from existing well field, without emergency; cannot make watershed regulations less "protective," by undefined standard; cannot take certain other actions. Other provisions.

No explanatory statement submitted per City code.

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Measure 26-156 Arguments

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

The Oregon Taxpayers Association Recommends Voting Yes On Measure 26-156

Measure 26-156 transfers Portland's water and sewer bureaus away from Portland City Hall and into an independent, Portland-citizen-owned public utility district.

1. Will help prevent new taxes from being added to our water and sewer bills.

Portland City Hall politicians will no longer be able to easily add new taxes and fees to water and sewer bills for items not related to water and sewer service. Portland City Hall has proposed charging water and sewer customers a street "maintenance" fee in recent years, attempting to expand the Portland Transportation Bureau budget with water and sewer monies. Portland City Hall has in the past charged water customers higher franchise fees than it charges natural gas and electric utility customers.

Passing Measure 26-156 will shield water and sewer bills from new taxes levied by City Hall politicians.

2. Will Add Important Checks and Balances to Portland's Governance.

For too long Portland's water and sewer bureaus have been managed by just one politician at City Hall, who frequently acts on ambitions which conflict with the interests of water and sewer customers. This Measure would put seven unpaid elected citizens in charge of selecting and overseeing an experienced administrator to run the water and sewer bureaus, with the paramount goal of stabilizing water and sewer rates while preserving water quality.

3. It Can Be Done Successfully.

The Multnomah County Library system was recently transferred to a citizen owned, independently operated District; transferring it from Multnomah County Commission control. Likewise, the leaders of Measure 26-156 are citizen volunteers who have experience in reviewing Portland's water and sewer operations, and their experience should help ensure a smooth transition of water and sewer services.

For The Taxpayers Association of Oregon,
Bob Clark
Economist and longtime Portlander

(This information furnished by Robert Clark, Taxpayers Association of Oregon)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

I served on the Portland Utility Review Board and Water Quality Advisory Committee for over a decade and have seen how Portland Water Bureau (PWB) prioritizes and manages basic services. Change is needed.

- PWB debt continued increasing to over \$610 million in 2013. 3 bond offerings of \$150 million each over of the next 4 years are planned, pushing ratepayers close to unsustainable \$1 billion debt, increasing our rates. (City of Portland Budget Office 2012-2013)
- Instead of budgeting to maintain distribution system infrastructure, PWB has wasted hundreds of millions of dollars to create reservoir water capacity that is not needed. \$140 million was budgeted on Powell Butte 2, a reservoir that is not necessary. It had severe engineering and construction problems that allowed it to leak hundreds of thousands of gallons of water a day. Seattle built 4 reservoirs 2 of which were equal or larger in size for total of \$130 million. Less money than we spent for one, by the same people working on both cities' projects.
- Maintenance of the PWB water distribution system

infrastructure has been disregarded for years. Office of the City Auditor reports from 2004, 2011, and 2012 indicate severely neglected infrastructure maintenance levels falling short of industry standards. Replacement of aging water mains and routine flushing of pipes are dismissed by PWB as low priority, resulting in an insurmountable backlog demand of tens of thousands of hours of needed repairs. "Although water quality and reliability had not been affected yet, continued decline in the maintenance of the water system assets could negatively affect water service performance in the future." (Office of the Auditor 2004) Summer 2013 another warning came true. Water sampling showed extensive fecal contamination throughout the system reported by KOIN 6 journalist Carla Castaño.

My interests are public health and ratepayer benefits. Placing public health at risk and continued wasteful spending is unacceptable.

Please vote Yes.

Scott Fernandez M.Sc. Biology

(This information furnished by Scott Fernandez)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

END CITY HALL PET PROJECTS

Lower Water Rates

VOTE YES on MEASURE 26-156

FACTS about your water and sewer bill:

- **Portland has 3rd highest sewer rates** in the nation among large cities
- **Higher water rates than Phoenix, Arizona**
- Sewer rates rose 164% since 2000
- Water rates have risen 161%

(Sources: American Water Intelligence 2012 Rate Tariff, Portland Water Bureau)

- **Commissioner Nick Fish proposes water rate increase of 55%** over next five years (Water Bureau requested budget, 2-3-14)
- Lawsuit has identified **\$127 million in questionable water and sewer spending, including City Hall pet projects**

The Portland Public Water District Measure 26-156 will stop the spending of water and sewer money on City Hall pet projects.

Measure 26-156 converts Portland's utilities into a public water district with an independent elected board.

A Public Water District is not a new idea. The City of Eugene has managed its water system with an independent elected board since 1911. Eugene's water rates are 36% lower than Portland's. (<http://www.eweb.org/waterrates>)

Measure 26-156 will:

- End pet projects, by only allowing water money to be spent on water projects
- Require annual financial audits by an independent accountant
- Establish conflict-of-interest provisions where currently none exist
- All City residents still own and control all water and sewer assets
- Covers the whole City, including East Portland

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Measure 26-156 Arguments – Continued

Send a Message to City Hall

Please **Vote YES** on 26-156

Floy Jones and Kent Craford
Chief Petitioners, Portland Public Water District
www.waterreform.org

(This information furnished by Kent Craford, Portlanders for Water Reform)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Ratepayer Watchdogs Urge YES on 26-156

A Public Water District will end the practice of spending water and sewer funds on City Hall pet projects.

Two years ago, ratepayer watchdogs filed a lawsuit against Portland City Hall over restricted water and sewer funds spent on pet projects with little or nothing to do with the water and sewer systems.

Questionable water and sewer expenditures identified in the lawsuit total **\$127 million**.

(Aaron Mesh, *Willamette Week*, 12-23-13)

Examples of City Hall pet projects funded by water and sewer dollars include:

- \$1.2 million to fund political elections campaigns (Carla Castano, *KOIN 3-11-14*)
- \$1.6 million to remodel a building for the Portland Rose Festival Association, a decision Commissioner Nick Fish called “the deal of the century for the Water Bureau.” (Brad Schmidt, *Oregonian 10-7-12*)
- \$70,000 to acquire police bureau office space. According to the *Oregonian*, “The \$70,000 diversion from water and sewer funds is an apparent violation of the city’s charter, which prohibits spending utility money on unrelated projects.” (Brad Schmidt, *Oregonian 11-12-13*)
- The “Water House,” a \$940,000 project approved by City Council in 2009. Water Bureau Commissioner Nick Fish voted for the project (Brad Schmidt, *Oregonian 8-13-13*), and then sold it in 2014 for \$394,950, a **\$545,050 loss to ratepayers** (Andrew Theen, *Oregonian 1-9-14*). Commissioner Fish claimed the sale would “stabilize rates,” a statement ruled “False” by Politifact Oregon (*Oregonian 8-13-13*).

Measure 26-156 will prevent these abuses. Specifically, provisions in the measure require:

- **Stricter limitations** against spending funds on projects not connected to the water and sewer systems
- Annual **financial audits** by an independent outside accountant
- **Benchmarking** of Portland water and sewer rates against similarly-sized U.S. cities

It’s time to reform Portland’s mismanaged water and sewer utilities. Vote YES on 26-156.

Richard Leonetti
Treasurer
Citizens for Water Accountability, Trust and Reform

(This information furnished by Richard Leonetti, Citizens for Water Accountability, Trust and Reform)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Grassroots environmental activists support Portland Public Water District

Measure 26-156 is good for Portland ratepayers and protection of Bull Run

Since 2002, the all-volunteer Friends of the Reservoirs has worked to protect Portland’s Bull Run water system and ratepayer pocketbooks. We have engaged on all issues impacting Portland’s Bull Run watershed, water system and utility budget.

The failure of Portland City Council leadership, the lack of comprehensive, independent financial audits and the prevalence of political cronies in utility leadership positions has resulted in unnecessary spending, **skyrocketing rate increases and massive debt**.

The status quo benefits the political elite, not Portland’s ratepayers. It’s time for an elected citizen-controlled utility board to protect our resources and interests.

There are significant **Bull Run protection provisions included in measure 26-156**, including:

- A prohibition against water system privatization (page 1 of measure)
- A prohibition against co-mingling our Bull Run drinking water with inferior water sources such as the Willamette River.
- A prohibition against “regionalizing” our water system, or in effect turning control of it over to Portland’s suburbs, as the Water Bureau Commissioner proposed in 2002.
- The measure memorializes in the City Charter current City codes protecting the Bull Run watershed from entry and logging. The measure reads, “The district may not adopt regulations for the Bull Run Watershed that are less protective or enhancing of water quality than the regulations in place on July 1, 2013.” This refers to Bull Run watershed protection city code chapter 21.36.010- 21.36.050, which can currently be overturned by a simple 3/5 vote of the City Council. After measure 26-156 passes, those protections will be enshrined in the City Charter, and can only be changed by a vote of the people.

Floy Jones, Retired Parole Officer, Past President Federation Parole and Probation Officers
Co-founder Friends of the Reservoirs
Co-Chief Petitioner Portland Public Water District
www.waterreform.org

(This information furnished by Floy Jones)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Former Portland Utility Review Board Chair:

Vote **Yes** to get politics out of our water

I served for five years on the Portland Utility Review Board which advises the City Council on water, sewer and solid waste budgets and rates.

Over those years we dug deeply into Portland’s water and sewer budgets, and often found expenditures that were too expensive, not related to the water or sewer systems, or just entirely unnecessary. And yet, time and again our concerns were heard but ignored.

Portland’s utility governance is fundamentally broken. Our water and sewer operations are not run like professional utilities, but instead managed as political organizations due to the old-fashioned Commission form of government. Let me offer a practical example of how this works.

The top Water Bureau managers have no prior utility experience—the heads of construction and resource management, and even the Administrator (CEO) himself. What

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else do they have in common? They were all City Hall political staffers appointed to higher-paying jobs at the Water Bureau.

And how do people with no utility experience run a \$150 million utility? Not very well.

They've spent millions in water money on City Hall pet projects. The \$137 million Powell Butte reservoir is four months behind schedule, and is leaking enough water to fill an Olympic sized swimming pool--every 48 hours.

It's little wonder Portland has higher water rates than Phoenix, Arizona.

So how do we get out of this mess? Get the politics out of our water and sewer bills. Establish a Public Water District.

Measure 26-156 will remove professional politicians from the equation and substitute them with an independent elected board. It requires financial audits and annual benchmarking. The City of Eugene has an independent water board, it works well, and they have lower water rates than Portland.

Please vote Yes.

Tracy Marks
Past Chair
Portland Utility Review Board

(This information furnished by Tracy Marks)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

YES on Measure 26-156 From the Personal Perspective of a Neighborhood Advocate

I used to assume our greatest public asset, our incredible drinking water and the uniquely "green" system providing for it, was looked after by all the minds on City Council. I was wrong. My experiences as a board member of a Portland neighborhood association convinced me that current governance leaves our publicly-owned utilities unacceptably vulnerable and without the board-level oversight that is a widely accepted best-practice for public utilities.

What seems a sensible division of labor -- each Commissioner takes charge of a few city bureaus -- in practice removes the balances that keep bad decisions in check. With each Commissioner becoming lord of his own fiefdom, individual bureaus no longer receive thorough board oversight. Functioning in separate silos, the Commissioners are rewarded for ignoring a colleague's sloppy work and nonsensical decisions.

We are the last major city in the US still using this style of Commissioner government. This means we are the last to leave our public utilities in the hands of a single, distracted, non-technical, politically influenced City Commissioner. Measure 26-156 establishes one board where all members are clearly accountable to one job = managing our water and sewer utilities. The proposed water board structure is not risky, it is widely used for all types of public utilities around the country and it specifically mimics that structure successfully used in Eugene since 1911.

Measure 26-156 doesn't create an additional layer of government; it substitutes the people sitting at the board-level. City Council steps aside and a dedicated elected board steps in. Utility assets, bureau employees, everything stays within the City structure, only, under active oversight from a dedicated, multi-member, single-mission board.

Stephanie Stewart
For my complete support statement, search for my blogspot.com blog called "From the Co-Chair"

(This information furnished by Stephanie Stewart)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

JOIN THE FREE WORLD

Vote YES for representative government!!!!!

Portland has no representative government!

Portland is the last major city to retain an at-large form of government outlawed in the South with the Voting Rights Act and subsequently abandoned everywhere else.

We deserve representation!

This leaves our "representation ratio" (an official measurement of voters' power) exponentially worse than any other city's.

Water activists know it!

I've worked with this Measure's sponsors as they've fought to protect our pristine Bull Run open-water system from logging, regionalization, and commingling with Superfund-polluted water. Under our current system I've seen activists labeled "terrorists," whistleblowers harassed, court orders flouted, and city contractors allowed to lobby at our expense for pro-industry regulations that degrade our water and waste hundreds of millions of dollars. Measure 26-156 was drafted to address these problems at their antidemocratic source.

Voting rights activists know it!

"'Rugged Individualists?' Asks Paul Gronke, a political science professor at Reed College....'Quite the opposite....our system is stacked against individuals and in favor of incumbents and the entrenched powers that be.'....Researchers say district-based elections address those criticisms...."There's greater access to elected office, and more importantly less monied special interests," says Jason Malinowski, who researched district elections...at the University of Washington....[A] nother crucial advantage of district races: They each cost about \$76,000 less to run. "There are very few downsides," says Eric Lindgren, a political science professor at Whittier College...."People get better representation. It increases participation all across the board, and it costs a lot less money...."

--"Odd City Out," *Portland Mercury*, 11/13/2013

Our Time Has Come!

Vested interests are fighting to preserve the status quo, telling us tales of how horrible representative government "might" be. Portland voters are smarter than that. We know that our most precious resource deserves to be placed in the care of an independently audited, representatively elected body.

VOTE YES! ON 26-156!

Christopher S. Johnson

(This information furnished by Christopher S. Johnson)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Measure 26-156 Fixes a Toxic Failure of Leadership

I'm an activist who's worked with this measure's sponsors for over a decade, protecting our pristine Bull Run system and reservoirs from degradation by corporate interests and corrupt city officials.

When I first saw water bureau reports showing high radon levels in the Columbia Well Field (Portland's backup drinking water source), I paid attention. After radon levels climbed steadily for two years, I noticed that our water bureau abruptly removed radon from its yearly public reports.

Radon is a radioactive carcinogen with no safe exposure level. It's released from rock into groundwater by the seismic activity common in our area.

Because I have a medical condition putting me at high risk for stomach cancer, I contacted the country's top researchers,

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and studied the peer-reviewed radon publications they sent me. I learned much. When groundwater is stored in the open, radon dissipates safely. But in closed storage, radon remains trapped until poured into a glass, out of a shower head, or onto laundry--where it then contacts human respiratory and digestive tissues.

With further research, I learned that while the nation's scientists were warning that open aeration is the best mitigation for radon-contaminated water, our City leaders and their industrial tank-building campaign donors used our rate dollars to lobby EPA to push the nation's drinking water into closed storage.

And when other cities' leaders fought to change the EPA's mind, our City leaders ensured that local and state regulations would continue to put their industrial cronies' interests before our health.

Such corruption is the inevitable result of Portland's outmoded commission style of government, which the civil rights movement eradicated from virtually every other city. Until Portland wises up, experience tells me that our resources will continue to be mismanaged, and our public health risks will continue to be swept under the carpet.

We deserve better.

Vote YES! on Measure 26-156!

Katherin Kirkpatrick

(This information furnished by Katherin Kirkpatrick)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

**Support Measure 26-156
THE OPPOSITION HAS IT WRONG**

We've long served alongside Measure 26-156's sponsors as part of a bipartisan coalition to protect Bull Run and reform City Hall. We are thousands of people from all walks of life--hardcore environmental activists, commercial water users, and ordinary folks.

Ironically, just about the only people absent from our ranks are the few organizational leaders who now oppose this measure. While we respect the work their organizations do, their claims about Measure 26-156 don't hold water.

The opposition slanders the legal work done by the measure's corporate backers. But we've worked alongside the measure's backers as they've asked for lawful apportionment of water and sewer funds; provided City leaders with legal strategies for saving our open-water system and hundreds of millions of dollars; and succeeded in getting our pristine Bull Run open-water system a variance from building a costly treatment plan at Bull Run. Where were these organizations during this fight?

The opposition slanders corporate backers. These environmental organizations complain loudly while receiving corporate sponsorships as well.

These organizations owe their donors, both corporate and private, a thoughtful discussion about what is probably the most important issue to come before Portland voters in recent history.

Instead, they dismissed this measure before it was drafted.

They outright oppose dedicated, representatively-elected citizen oversight of our most precious environmental resource, Bull Run. They claim YOU can't be trusted to vote responsibly for a Public Water District, so YOU should trust our current regime to police itself with a nonbinding oversight committee.

We deserve better. We trust that, despite their protests, these groups will have to join the rest of the environmental community in cooperating with the newly elected Water District, and we'll all be better for it.

Vote YES! on Measure 26-156!

Dee White

Laura Orr

Jeff Boly

Past President

Arlington Heights Neighborhood Association

2000-2013

(This information furnished by Dee White)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

"Plan's critics have ties to city

Most of the 11 environmental leaders who signed the statement against the proposed ballot measure belong to organizations that have received money from the Bureau of Environmental Services or partnered with the city on projects.

According to city records of BES grants and contracts during the past five years:

- Friends of Trees is paid more than \$7.9 million to plant thousands of trees to enhance watershed health in Portland.
- The Audubon Society is receiving more than \$43,290 to conduct a bird count on Mt. Tabor as part of a restoration project.
- Depave received \$10,000 to remove asphalt in a church parking lot.
- The Urban Greenspaces Institute received more than \$4,417 for a mural project.
- Friends of Gateway Green received \$4,200 for events related to the east Portland project.
- Jeri Williams, who identifies herself as an equity activist, is a city employee.
- The Trust for Public Lands partnered with the bureau to buy the Riverview Cemetery.
- The Oregon Environmental Council is partnering with Mayor Charlie Hales on a public poll about whether Portlanders will support a carbon tax."

Jim Redden, *Portland Tribune*, August 22, 2013

(This information furnished by Kent Craford)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Portland City Hall had responsibility for the best and safest drinking water in the world.

The cities of Rochester, New York and Portland, Oregon have very similar open reservoirs for their drinking water. These nature-based systems have been delivering safe, healthful, and delicious water to their communities for a hundred years.

Then, in 2006 Portland hired a multinational corporation to represent their interests in writing the Federal EPA regulation known as LT2.

LT2 was originally motivated by a horrible mixing of sewage and drinking water in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Milwaukee gets their drinking water from Lake Michigan and heavy rains dumped raw sewage into the drink.

No matter how inappropriate to our pristine Bull Run Water supply, Portland City Hall argued, the law is the law.

As part of this law, Portland City Hall incumbents were responsible for setting their own compliance timeline and they seem to be in a big hurry. They are fast tracking a billion dollars worth of burial projects to, guess who, the same

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multinational corporation that helped write the law. What's the hurry? Well, **LT2 is known to be flawed for its 'one-size-fits-none' approach and is up for major revision in 2016.**

Meanwhile, Rochester wrote a simple letter asking for a reprieve from the law. This simple request was simply met and **Rochester has not spent a dime on covering their open reservoirs.** Since LT2 is known to be flawed and up for revision in two years, this is a no-brainer.

The current director of the Water Bureau has been the point person and spin-doctor for all of Portland's water shenanigans. That he is still running the show is clear evidence that City Hall incumbents are not interested in reform, only in protecting their honey-pot politics.

Join us in voting YES and taking responsibility for our water, for our pocketbooks, and for our democracy.

Joe Meyer

(This information furnished by Joe Meyer)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

City Club of Portland recommends NO on Measure 26-156

No evidence suggests measure would lower sewer and water rates.

Changes are needed in oversight of city bureaus, but this is not the solution.

City Club's research committee, including members experienced in utility management and water issues, spent seven months studying 1) management of Portland's water and sewer bureaus, 2) how budgets and rates are set, and 3) whether Measure 26-156 is a good idea.

City Club members have voted, and overwhelmingly agree:

- Measure 26-156 is poorly structured and unlikely to survive legal challenges. Some provisions make no sense.
- It won't lower rates. In fact, rates are likely to rise, regardless of governance structure. Portland must continue to replace its aging infrastructure and comply with federal regulations.
- **Portland citizens should vote NO.**

Still, we don't support the status quo. We share citizens' frustrations with improper use of ratepayer funds.

City Club recommends **creating an appointed Portland Water and Sewer Authority**, within the structure of City government, that would provide independent management and oversight of the bureaus. The Authority board - experienced in utility finance, engineering and other relevant fields - would set rates and propose budgets to City Council. City Council would set policy for the bureaus and approve overall budgets, but **would not be allowed to shift ratepayer dollars to unrelated expenses.**

We believe **these changes will help take politics out of utility management** without creating yet another branch of local government with another elected board.

Vote NO.

Then join us in pressing City Council to make significant, sensible changes to improve oversight of our sewer and water bureaus.

Visit pdxcityclub.org to read the full report and recommendations.

City Club of Portland is a nonprofit, nonpartisan civic organization committed to making a positive difference in our community. Members encompass all ages and come from a wide range of ethnic, racial and religious backgrounds. Membership is open to all.

(This information furnished by John Horvick, City Club of Portland)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

The **Pacific Green Party** opposes this measure.

When the measure was proposed, Pacific Green Party policy analysts pored over it closely and offered feedback before the ballot-qualified version was submitted. We demonstrated major language problems that should be corrected:

- The independently-elected City Auditor would be explicitly **stripped** of the **Charter mandate** to audit the City's utilities.
- The district election process would be in extremely **low turnout elections** and would bias against environmentalist areas of the city by aggregating them together.
- The redistricting process would be vulnerable to **gerrymandering**, being done by the board itself.
- **Barring publicly involved citizens** on the proposed Board to control the Water Bureau and Bureau of Environmental Services regardless of real conflicts of

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interest would keep out active citizens most concerned about water issues.

- Conflicts of interest regarding **large corporate donations** would be allowed.
- Not paying compensation to elected Board members would ensure **few qualified people** would desire to serve. Note that the Portland City Charter, which would apply to this Board, bars an elected officer from holding another job while serving.
- **Corporations would be encoded in the Charter** with additional language granting them assurance that, as ratepayers, they would not have to pay for forward-thinking and cheaper stormwater management such as bioswales.
- The mandate to use Portland Public School Boundaries would **disenfranchise much of East Portland**.
- There are **no enforcement mechanisms**, nor definitions for anti-“commingling” and “protections” for the Bull Run Watershed, and no protections **whatsoever** for the watershed inside city boundaries.

None of our issues were corrected in the final draft because it is backed by **large industrial water wasters and polluters**. We've been advocating for much-needed election and campaign finance reform for decades, but this measure is **NOT** legitimate **NOR** effective environmental reform.

Simultaneously, our policy analysts were creating an **alternative proposal** on which we are now collecting signatures for the November general election:

peopleswatertrust.org

portlandgreens.org

(This information furnished by Seth Woolley, Portland Green Party and Pacific Green Party)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

Oregon Progressive Party urges NO on the Corporate Takeover of Portland's Water and Sewer System

For 27 years, I have been in the forefront of creating new electric and water cooperatives and public districts in Oregon. I oppose this measure.

This measure is a corporate takeover of the City's water and sewer systems, under a misleading cloak of populist rhetoric.

This measure would graft onto the Portland water and sewer systems a 7-person board of directors, elected with unlimited campaign contributions and expenditures. I would expect the big commercial and industrial water users to select their candidates and overwhelm the voters with political ads.

So far their effort has been funded 99.4% by big corporate water users and water polluters and their lawyers. See <http://tinyurl.com/waterdistbackers>.

The measure would prohibit nearly anyone with Portland water or sewer experience from serving on the board, clearing the field for the big money candidates.

The resulting corporate-dominated board would have less concern for the environment and residential ratepayers. Portland's overall progressive voters ensure that the Portland City Council, which now controls the system, has a generally pro-environment, pro-consumer outlook.

But a board elected from gerrymandered districts, solely on the basis of water and sewer issues and without limits on political spending, would likely:

- (1) gut expenditures necessary for environmental protection, and
- (2) increase rates for residential customers in order to decrease rates for the largest customers.

Big water users are already suing the City to halt

environmental protection efforts.

The attorney for the measure backers is John DiLorenzo, who for decades has led the charge in challenging campaign finance reform laws.

There are some policy statements in the measure, like very vague (and unenforceable) prohibitions on “regionalization” (not defined) and on regulations allowing greater harm to Bull Run Watershed. But the measure leaves out protecting the environmental regulations governing all other parts of the water and sewer system.

Dan Meek

Oregon Progressive Party
progparty.org
info@progparty.org

(This information furnished by Daniel Meek, Oregon Progressive Party)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

Written by a special interest lobbyist and funded by his corporate polluter and large industrial water user clients, 26-156 is wrong for Portland. The measure does NOTHING to lower our rates, prohibits anyone with any experience in water or sewer management from serving on the board that it creates, and threatens our most critical environmental programs.

We're voting No on 26-156:

Oregon State Council for Retired Citizens	Elders in Action Commission
Oregon Environmental Council	Sierra Club
Oregon League of Conservation Voters	Friends of Zenger Farm
Audubon Society of Oregon	Depave
Oregon AFL-CIO	Urban Greenspaces Institute
Oregon Consumer League	Food and Water Watch
Oregon Nurses Association	Friends of Gateway Green
Willamette Riverkeeper	Verde
WaterWatch of Oregon	Bark
Northwest Oregon Labor Council	Sandy River Basin
LIUNA (Laborers) Local 483	Watershed Council
Lents Neighborhood Association	Oregon Progressive Party
Friends of Trees	IBEW Local 48
Trust for Public Land	Climate Solutions
Coalition for a Livable Future	Oregon Wild

Pacific Green Party
Portland Firefighters Association, IAFF Local 43
District Council of Trade Unions- City of Portland
AFSCME Locals 88, 189, 328, 3135, 3336, 3580, 3580-1
Professional and Technical Employees Local 17, COPPEA Chapter

Columbia Pacific Building Trades Council

Partial list. For a complete list, please go to [www. StoptheBullRunTakeover.com](http://www.StoptheBullRunTakeover.com)

(This information furnished by KJ Lewis, Stop The Bull Run Takeover PAC)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF PORTLAND URGES A “NO” VOTE.

- This measure **does NOT promise lower water and sewer rates.**
- It creates a **powerful new layer of government** exempt from oversight by the independently elected City Auditor and the City Council.
- **Thousands of Portland citizens** who understand water, sewer and environmental issues **wouldn't be allowed to serve on the board.**
 - The measure disqualifies anyone who, during the

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past six years, was an employee of the City or of any firm that contracted with the City on matters related to water and sewer services.

- It even disqualifies volunteers who served on budget advisory committees.
- This **carelessly designed** measure raises troubling questions about how the new board would be elected and the district governed:
 - As this measure is written, some citizens in East Portland would not be able to vote for a board member. **What would be necessary to correct the election districts** described in the measure, so that all Portland citizens could vote for the board and be represented?
 - Since the board and its employees **cannot be investigated** by the City Council, and the board chooses its own auditor, **who would provide effective independent oversight of the district's operations and spending?**
 - Did the measure's sponsors neglect to read Section 2-204 of the City Charter that would prevent members of this unpaid board, as "elective officers" of the City, from holding any other "position of profit" and pursuing "any other business or vocation"? **How many potential board members would this eliminate?**
 - Would the new board's power to direct the issuance of bonds without approval of the City Council lower the City's bond rating—making other city projects more expensive?
 - How would the new district interact with other city bureaus to carry out projects that need coordination?

THIS MEASURE WOULD CREATE MORE PROBLEMS THAN IT WOULD SOLVE.

PLEASE VOTE "NO"!

(This information furnished by Margaret Noel, League of Women Voters of Portland)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

To see a complete list, read what other Democratic leaders are saying, and learn more about Democrats United Against Measure 26-156, go to www.StoptheBullRunTakeover.com and visit the Democrats Say No page.

Democrats Say No To Measure 26-156

"I believe strongly that Measure 26-156 is wrong for Portland families and citizens. This take-over of our city's water is led by corporate lawyers and huge water users. It is a damaging blow to our environment, our water quality, and protection of this vital natural legacy."

Governor Barbara Roberts

"This is a measure that is designed to help a few narrow interests instead of Portlanders' interests. Voting No is the way to protect our water, our environment and our families."

Earl Blumenauer
Democratic Congressman, 3rd District

Democratic leaders from across Portland are united in saying No to Measure 26-156. **Join Barbara Roberts, Earl Blumenauer and other Democratic leaders in opposing this attempt by corporate polluters to take control of our water system.**

(This information furnished by Carol Butler)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

Audubon Society of Portland urges you to vote NO on Measure 26-156

As an organization that has fought to protect the health of Portland's environment and communities for more than a century, we urge you to **VOTE NO** on Ballot Measure 26-156.

Measure 26-156 is an industry-financed attack on Portland's most important environmental programs. The industry lobbyists and lawyers who wrote the measure have tried unsuccessfully for years to dismantle Portland's innovative, nationally recognized, environmental programs--programs that keep our water clean and our urban watersheds healthy. Now they are trying to transfer control of Portland's Bureau of Environmental Services and Water Bureau, and more than \$15 billion in public assets including our precious Bull Run, to a new unproven board that is inexperienced and much more susceptible to their corporate influence.

If you care about clean water, Please Vote NO! The backers of this initiative have argued that our most important environmental programs to protect our water, including programs to force corporate polluters to clean-up their contaminated sites, that protect our creeks, rivers and floodplains, and to plant trees in our neighborhoods, should be eliminated.

If you care about, government accountability, Please Vote NO! This initiative does **NOTHING** to lower rates. It will likely significantly increase ratepayer costs by jeopardizing the City's excellent bond rating, creating a duplicative governmental entity, and eliminating oversight of the city auditor of these bureaus. The new district will be **LESS ACCOUNTABLE** and **LESS ACCESSIBLE** to the public and more susceptible to their big corporate money and their big corporate influence.

Make no mistake, this initiative is not reform, it is a corporate takeover of our water systems.

Please protect the health of our water, our environment and our communities. Audubon Society of Portland urges you to please vote no on Measure 26-156!

Meryl Redisch, Executive Director,
Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director
Jim Labbe, Urban Conservationist
Audubon Society of Portland

(This information furnished by Jim Labbe)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

Vote NO on Measure 26-156 STOP THE BULL RUN TAKEOVER

As Portland Fire Fighters, we pride ourselves on being guardians of the City. Whether it's saving lives and property from the devastation of fire or being rapid responders to medical emergencies, we have based our lives on giving back to our community.

Measure 26-156 flies in the face of our values. It's an effort to take control of our water supply, our sewer system, our world-renowned system of environmental protections and more than \$15 billion of City assets. Why? **So that a small group of large industrial water users can shift their costs on to Portland taxpayers.**

This measure would likely result in mass layoffs of hard working Portlanders who go to work every day to keep our water safe and clean, putting their families- and ours- in jeopardy. And while the proponents claim that they can lower your water and sewer rates, read the fine print: there is no guarantee of any rate reductions. In fact, there is a strong likelihood that rates would go up for the average user, while going down for the largest users.

CITY OF PORTLAND

Measure 26-156 Arguments – Continued

Were Measure 26-156 to pass the Fire Bureau and other bureaus that provide vital city services would likely face budget cuts. In our case that will make it even harder for us to perform an already tough job, saving lives and keeping our City safer.

Join us, your neighborhood Fire Fighters, in voting NO on Measure 26-156.

(This information furnished by Alan Ferschweiler, Portland Fire Fighters' Association)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

OREGON NURSES ASSOCIATION

As a public health nurse, my colleagues and I are devoted to the health and well-being of our community. That is why Oregon Nurses are voting NO on Measure 26-156, and asking you to join us in rejecting this risky, poorly written attempt to take control of Portland's water supply.

Public Health Is At Stake

Few things are as critical to a community's health as access to clean, fresh, and safe drinking water – it is one of our most valuable commodities as a city. We are lucky in Portland to have some of the cleanest and best water in the country, but this measure puts our water at risk.

By specifically prohibiting anyone with experience in working with our water system from serving on this board, this measure puts our drinking water in the hands of first time politicians with NO experience in running a very complicated utility system – one that is vital to our public health, both as individuals and as a community.

Our Environment Is At Stake

Also vital to our health as a city, and crucial to our quality of life, is our environment. By putting the Bureau of Environmental Services under the control of a new and inexperienced board, Measure 26-156 threatens the funding for and existence of some of our most important green infrastructure and environmental protection programs that help keep our communities healthy.

Vote No

Nurses work every day with the most vulnerable members of our community, people who would be dramatically impacted if there is a cost shift for paying for water from the large industrial users who use most of the water, to the smaller residential customers. There is no system built into Measure 26-156 to guarantee lower rates for consumers.

The public health and environmental implications of this proposal have risks for the entire community.

Please join Oregon Nurses in voting NO on Measure 26-156.

Anna Stiefvater, RN
Public Health Nurse
Oregon Nurses Association

(This information furnished by Anna Stiefvater, Oregon Nurses Association)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

Sierra Club: Vote No

Nothing is more vital than our water. This initiative is a destructive, deceptive, and misguided attempt at a greedy corporate takeover.

Destructive because:

- It excludes our Auditor from financial oversight. This is outrageously irresponsible.
- It excludes East Portland residents from voting for the board. This is incredibly incompetent, and undoubtedly unconstitutional.
- It transfers \$15 Billion in assets to an unpaid, non-professional board, prohibited from having prior management and work experience in our own water, sewer, and stormwater systems. This is a recipe for fiscal, policy, and functional disaster.

Deceptive because:

- It implies that rates can go down under this scheme. But that could only happen if the board slashes our fundamental water, sewer, and stormwater protections – destroying the very system they claim to protect.
- It also claims to eliminate conflicts of interest. But it only prevents participation by people who know what they are doing – leaving the door wide open to corporate special interests and big-money campaigns.

Misguided because:

- Many of us, justifiably and sincerely upset by the City's recent financial and policy mismanagement, may think this scheme will solve that. It won't. Instead, it will lead to a few major corporations reducing their costs at our expense, while we lose water protections.
- Many of us, struggling or limited financially, may think this scheme will stop rising bills. It won't. Instead, we will see destructive policies reducing water quality, system maintenance, and environmental safety.

Let's be clear: We too are deeply unhappy with the City treating utilities as piggybanks for pet projects. This has to stop. We've disagreed with City leaders before, and we will not hesitate whenever that's necessary.

But new Council leadership has made important progress, and we strongly support that.

This initiative is deeply flawed and would be a major mistake. **Please vote no.**

Ted Gleichman, Chair, Columbia Group, Oregon Sierra Club

(This information furnished by Ted Gleichman, Sierra Club)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

The Oregon Consumer League has fought corporate domination for nearly 40 years.

One egregious corporate rip-off is using natural resources the public owns. They turn our public resources into a money-making racket that profits the owners.

Now corporations want to control Portland's water supply, as they are doing in several states and two Canadian provinces.

Because we take our roles as watchdogs seriously, we looked into Ballot Measure 26-156's claims that its' passage would save ratepayers money.

Our findings: it won't. And we don't like it.

This troubling ballot measure has NOT ONE GUARANTEE that rates will go down. It does establish a new layer of government, one that will be filled with inexperienced politicians making serious decisions that will affect you, me and our water system.

What's worse, the way the measure is written means that a

CITY OF PORTLAND

Measure 26-156 Arguments – Continued

large part of the City—East Portland—won't even have a voice in who serves on this board. As an organization that fights to make sure all voices are heard, this lack of representation seems downright undemocratic.

Maybe the Portland City Council hasn't hit a home run managing the water supply. But they aren't lining their pockets with profits from the public's water. Unlike the corporations, they aren't trying to monopolize the city water supply and using the money to enrich their friends. The City government is chosen by a vote of the people.

Who would stand to benefit from this measure? Just look who is behind it: A handful of large industrial water users and their lobbyist. We're not convinced they have the average consumer's best interest at heart.

It's time for all of us to tell these corporations to keep their hands off our water supply (and the groundwater, the air we breathe, the airwaves).

There's a lot not to like about 26-156. Vote NO on this corporate takeover.

(This information furnished by Steve Weiss, Oregon Consumer League)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

The Oregon League of Conservation Voters, a non-partisan political voice for thousands of Oregonians who care about our environment, **asks that you to join us in voting NO on Measure 26.**

Measure 26 is being led and funded by a coalition of industrial water users that want to weaken environmental protection, not lower your rates. More than 90% of the funding raised to date has come from 5 large corporations. Some of these same backers have sued the City claiming that important programs for tree planting, superfund clean-up, and water shed protection are illegal.

Measure 26 would prohibit those with the most expertise from serving on the newly formed board. A poorly written conflict of interest provision would disqualify many of Portland's most knowledgeable people from service, particularly those with an expertise in water policy. It doesn't make sense that anyone would want to trust our water quality to anyone but the most qualified individuals.

Measure 26 fails to include much of East Portland in the new voting districts that would elect the new Water District Commissioners. That's about 20% of Portland water users who aren't included – and who the backers weren't planning to include. This measure should have never gone forward with this flaw.

Portland has been a leader in moving away from pipe-based stormwater strategies to more sustainable strategies such as planting trees, building greenstreets and protecting flood areas and stream corridors to address storm runoff. These efforts have improved our environment, created jobs, increased neighborhood livability, and saved the City tens of millions of dollars.

That is why OLCV is urging all of our members and all Portland voters to vote NO on the measure...

(This information furnished by Andy Maggi, OLCV)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

We the undersigned East Portland community leaders urge a no vote on BM 26-156 because:

- 1. Lack of Voice for East Portland:** In certifying the 26-156 ballot title, Multnomah County Judge Leslie Roberts determined the proposed Water District would leave areas outside Portland Public School District - including most East Portland neighborhoods- unrepresented. Judge Roberts wrote: "There is a serious issue about what would be the result of the large area of the city not within the Portland School District... whether it is the exclusion of those areas from the District, or whether it is the abandonment altogether of the zones as described in the measure." *Certification of Ballot Case No. 1308-12012 and 1308-12024, 10/7/2013.*
- 2. Less Equity for East Portland:** East Portland residents have made considerable progress through the East Portland Action Plan in compelling the City Bureaus and City Auditor to track whether East Portland neighborhoods get an equitable share of services and capital improvements. Creating a Water District outside the review of the City Auditor would reduce this accountability to East Portland.
- 3. Voting Restrictions:** BM 26-156 would restrict who Portlanders can elect to represent them in water-related issues, including law-abiding citizens who have volunteered their time on city oversight committees. These are precisely the informed citizens Portlanders should want to represent them.

This measure inserts anti-democratic provisions into the City Charter reducing government representation, transparency and accountability, especially for East Portland.

The following East Portland leaders urge you to vote no on BM 26-156.

Tom Lewis, Rockwood Water PUD Board Member
Linda Robinson, East Portland Advocate
Jesse Cornett, Lents Neighborhood Association
Jeremy O'Leary, Centennial Neighborhood resident
Richard Dickinson, East Portland advocate
Mike Vander Veen, co-chair EPAP
Jean DeMaster, Human Solutions
Nick Sauvie, Executive Director ROSE CDC
Frieda J. Christopher, Hazelwood Resident
Paul Grosjean, Pleasant Valley Neighborhood Association
Lori Boisen, Powellhurst-Gilbert Neighborhood resident
Gladys Ruiz, Audubon Society of Portland
Arlene Kimura, EPAP co-chair
Annette Mattson, Zenger Farm
David Porter

(This information furnished by Jim Labbe)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

We are workers- some of us pave Portland's streets and keep our parks maintained. Some of us have jobs ensuring our rivers are clean and our wildlife is protected. We are your neighbors, your family, your friends. And whether we belong to a trade union or work for an environmental organization, one thing is clear- we are all Portland.

And Portland is under attack by a few large corporate polluters looking to escape their responsibility and pass it on to you.

We live and work in a city that prides itself on progressive values, on helping each other out rather than tearing each other apart. We cherish our rivers, our forests, our natural heritage and do so in a way that still allows us to build our economy and lead a remarkable quality of life. Measure 26-156 threatens that quality of life by allowing a new layer of governance to cut down our trees, tear up our streets and dig up our parks without any public process or independent

CITY OF PORTLAND

Measure 26-156 Arguments – Continued

oversight. Why? To foist the bill for years of toxic polluting in our river on to you.

We are Portland, and so are you. So join us- your neighbors, family and friends- in saying NO to Measure 26-156.

Oregon Environmental Council
AFL-CIO
Climate Solutions
LIUNA (Laborers) Local 483
BARK
Columbia Pacific Building Trades and Construction Council Verde
IBEW # 48
The Trust for Public Land

(This information furnished by KJ Lewis)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

Dear Voter,

Measure 26-156 simply does not make sense for our City. If this measure is passed, it could have a real impact on the City of Portland's ability to provide clean drinking water, and to protect our Willamette River from pollution. The polluters behind this initiative have little reason to try to protect our river, but every reason to protect their own bottom line by getting out of their Superfund cleanup responsibilities.

Some people don't know about the work the City has done to comply with the federally-mandated Clean Water Act, which ensures our drinking water doesn't make us sick, and the Endangered Species Act, which helps restore habitat for fish and birds. Raw sewage often used to run into the Willamette River during heavy rain. But thanks to the Big Pipe, that is a very rare occurrence. I, for one, would rather see wildlife than sewage in our beautiful river. Green infrastructure programs such as green streets prevent dirty, foul water from flooding basements and help clean runoff before it joins with waste from our households.

We are rightly known as a green city, and one that cares deeply about the environment we live in and that we will leave as a legacy to our children and our children's children. As a Portland resident, and one who works to protect and restore the Willamette and its tributaries, I can see that passing this corporate backed measure would set us back years, environmentally. It's not the legacy I want to leave behind.

Vote no on Measure 26-156. We don't need big business controlling our water, sewers and rivers.

Travis Williams
Riverkeeper and Executive Director of Willamette Riverkeeper

(This information furnished by Travis Williams, Willamette Riverkeeper)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

The Urban Greenspaces Institute urges a **NO** vote on Measure 26-156

It will:

- Lead to decreased water quality in our streams and rivers
- Eliminate the city's efforts to recover salmon in Johnson Creek, the Willamette River and other city waterways
- Eliminate fish and wildlife habitat protection and restoration
- Eliminate the city's efforts to remove invasive species in Forest Park, Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge, Powell Butte, Smith and Bybee Lakes and other city natural areas
- Eliminate the city's tree planting programs

Measure 26-156 would eliminate the city's Bureau of Environmental Services (BES). The measure's language is misleading. BES is no longer a "sewer bureau." Thanks to the

public's insistence that the city improve environmental quality in the Willamette River and its tributaries, the bureau has transitioned from its former role as the city's "sewer bureau" to become a broader human health, watershed health, and environmental bureau.

Backers of Ballot Measure 26-156 have two goals in mind: 1). Reduce utility rates for some of the city's biggest corporate polluters and shift those costs to individual rate payers; and 2). Eliminate the city's environmental programs.

You should know that Measure 26-156:

- Was written by and is backed by some of the city's worst polluters
- Puts our water and watershed health programs in the hands of people with little or no experience
- Creates another layer of costly bureaucracy and will do nothing to reduce your utility rates.

If you:

- Care about the city's environment
- Support the city's successful removal of raw sewage from the Willamette River and Columbia Slough
- Support significant improvements in water quality and flood reduction in Johnson Creek
- Agree with the city's efforts to restore salmon habitat in the Willamette and its tributaries
- Support the city's efforts to respond to climate change

You will **vote no** and **reject** Measure 26-156's attack on the city's water quality, fish and wildlife habitat and healthy watersheds

Mike Houck, Executive Director
Urban Greenspaces Institute

(This information furnished by Mike Houck, Urban Greenspaces Institute)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

Portland citizens have a history of setting a high standard for their public water system. As one of the first communities to succeed in protecting its drinking watershed to ensure access to affordable clean safe drinking water in perpetuity, we have always been visionaries.

Portland has become a national and international food mecca-our local fish and fresh produce in the hands of talented chefs make us truly worthy of such attention. And they both start with one essential ingredient: our pristine water. Our rivers, creeks and streams have largely survived generations of industry and expansion, allowing us to eat well and safely.

Measure 26-156 attacks us right in Portland's breadbasket by putting our water at risk. Leaving our complex water system in the hands of an inexperienced new district could be a recipe for disaster.

It's telling that the proponents of Measure 26-156 represent a small group of industrial water users and polluters, perhaps looking to escape potential liability for polluting our rivers. Measure 26-156, were it to pass, would allow the newly created district to opt out of ratepayer contributions to Superfund program, meaning that large, corporate polluters would not pay their fair share. Instead, the city's general fund would be on the hook, making Portland taxpayers, not the polluters, responsible for cleaning up our rivers.

We at Food & Water Watch care deeply about the integrity of our public water. Join us to vote NO on Measure 26-156 and help us protect our food, our water and our legacy.

(This information furnished by Julia DeGraw, Food & Water Watch)

CITY OF PORTLAND

Measure 26-156 Arguments – Continued

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

The Professional and Technical Employees Local 17 urges you to vote “NO” on Ballot Measure 26-156.

Our 300 members who work in the Bureau of Environmental Services and the Water Bureau provide innovative, cost effective, and green services that help make Portland a leader amongst utility providers nationwide:

- Botanists coordinate re-vegetation and invasive species removal programs in Portland’s watersheds, which protects our water and environmental quality while managing runoff and storm water.
- Engineers, ecologists, planners, and hydrologists have been instrumental within innovative Watershed Services programs, including the “Grey to Green” initiative, which have saved ratepayer’s money while providing habitat and green spaces across Portland.
- Watershed restoration and pollution prevention programs led by environmental technicians, field scientists and environmental program coordinators have steadily improved the water quality of our rivers, creeks, and streams.

These highly-skilled professional public employees are an asset to the City of Portland’s environmental quality, and the programs they coordinate are known throughout the country. However, these same programs are at risk. Ballot Measure 26-156 would allow an inexperienced group of utility managers to do away with great swaths of the Bureau of Environmental Services and Water Bureau if activities are deemed “non-essential” to operations. However, we know from decades of experience that these programs and services **are vital to maintaining Portland’s unique environment and water quality, and that hasty decisions to cut services would result in higher rates in the long-term.**

Portland’s Bureau of Environmental Services and Water Bureau are award-winning national leaders in innovation, providing clean water in our faucets and rivers, while restoring and enhancing the environment in our neighborhoods.

We hope that you will stand behind the hundreds of skilled, highly trained, and experienced employees who work every day to make Portland the best city in the world to live in. Please join us in VOTING NO.

(This information furnished by Amy Bowles, Professional and Technical Employees Local 17, COPPEA Chapter)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

The undersigned community leaders urge a no vote on Ballot Measure 26-156

Community greening efforts like tree planting, rain gardens, green space preservation, and removal of under-utilized pavement safeguard clean water, revitalize our communities, and protect public investments in our storm drain network.

Initiative proponents have mistakenly characterized these efforts as examples of “pet projects” and government waste. Numerous studies confirm the cost- and environmental-effectiveness of these green solutions, which save ratepayers money over the long-term. For most community greening projects, each ratepayer dollar is matched with \$2-4 of nonprofit and/or volunteer resources, stretching our public dollars farther.

Please vote no on Ballot Measure 26-156.

Carl Axelsen, Arnold Creek Neighborhood
Maria Cahill, Green Girl Land Development Solutions LLC
Ron Carley, Westmoreland Neighborhood
Scott Fogarty, Friends of Trees
Angela Goldsmith
Ted Labbe, Depave
Joseph Purkey, Convergence Architecture
Barbara Quinn, Friends of Baltimore Woods Board
Kelly Rodgers, Confluence Planning
Noelle Studer-Spevak, Cully Neighborhood
Eli Spevak, Orange Splott LLC

(This information furnished by Ted Labbe)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

AFSCME Statement:

The Men and Women that protect the quality of your water oppose Measure 26-156.

AFSCME represents the workers at the Portland Water Bureau working on the frontlines to make sure your water is safe. We also represent the workers at the Department of Environmental Quality who test our water and work to keep it clean. Both of these groups believe that this measure is a bad idea. It will move control of Portland’s water to a new organization with a board comprised of people forbidden from having experience working with Portland’s water. That makes no sense to us.

Lobbyists and a handful of big water users are not the people we want making water policy for the city of Portland. Our members who keep your water safe everyday would be banned from the board even after retirement but a paid lobbyist for the largest water users in the city would be able to get elected. Whose interest do you think that person would represent? This measure is a move by a few to take over the City’s water and make it work for them. It’s not for regular payers and voters like the rest of us. We need to say no and work on solutions that work for the majority and not for a few.

AFSCME believes it is not true that rates for regular users will go down. We think that the rates will go down for the biggest water users and regular folk will have to pick up the rest. We don’t know that, but no one knows for sure and that is also part of the problem. There are no guarantees with this measure and a great many questions. We need to work together for a solution not put a measure full of unintended consequences on the ballot.

The people that keep your water safe ask you to please vote No on Measure 26-156.

(This information furnished by Joe Baessler, Oregon AFSCME)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

As your elected Portland City Council, we urge you to vote NO on Measure 26-156

We welcome discussion on the functions of Portland’s utility bureaus, and ideas on how to make them work better. Measure 26-156’s purpose, however, is to lower the utility bills of a very small group of corporate polluters, at the expense of Portland residents. It is an extreme and dangerous measure that is not in the interest of Portland residents.

City water and environmental services bureaus perform vital city functions like ensuring clean, safe water comes out of your tap; making certain that our roads don’t flood; and keeping our rivers free of sewage. They are complicated, forward-looking systems, providing innovative technologies in the most cost-effective way for ratepayers.

Measure 26-156 could threaten our water quality, our street trees, our parks, our City general fund budget. It could affect Fire & Rescue and Police services and our safety. It would likely add cost, complexity and huge delays to businesses

CITY OF PORTLAND

Measure 26-156 Arguments – Continued

seeking to build in Portland, at a time when working families are finally beginning to get back on their feet. And it would result in years of expensive lawsuits due to the shoddy drafting of the measure.

Every Portlander should have equal opportunity to affect public policy and wise investment of ratepayers' money, but based on the language of the measure, only people in the Portland Public school district can vote for directors of the new district; people in Parkrose, David Douglas, Reynolds and Centennial can't vote.

Your City Council will continue to provide safe and clean water and environmental services to you at the lowest responsible cost, and will work with you to make necessary changes in accountability and cost-effectiveness. Don't let in an extreme new layer of government that could do irreversible and significant harm to our city.

Please vote NO on Measure 26-156.

Mayor Charlie Hales
Commissioner Nick Fish
Commissioner Amanda Fritz
Commissioner Steve Novick
Commissioner Dan Saltzman

(This information furnished by Carol Butler)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

OREGON STATE COUNCIL FOR RETIRED CITIZENS SAYS NO TO 26-156!

Since 1969, the Oregon State Council for Retired Citizens has been the foremost grassroots senior advocacy group in the state. OSCRC has long been devoted to legislative and consumer issues that promote a life of opportunity, equity and dignity for people of all ages.

We make a real difference in the lives of disadvantaged populations in Oregon. We've defeated attempts to cut in-home and community based long-term care services. We've protected low-income access to prescription drugs. Most importantly, we've fought utility rate increases.

We work for the rights of senior citizens, because we know what it's like to live on a fixed income.

The "yes" side to this dangerous measure claim that they only have ratepayers interests in mind, but we've read the fine print. This measure does not guarantee rate reductions for anyone. It just creates a new, expensive layer of government. And it makes it easier to allow a few industrial water users to lower their costs, while **sticking the rest of us with the bill.**

It just doesn't seem right.

The Oregon State Council for Retired Citizens is watching closely to make sure past issues are being addressed and that seniors and low-income people are protected. We can't place our future in the hands of an inexperienced board with very little transparency.

This measure won't solve anything. **If anything, this measure creates a lot more problems** for ratepayers. Vote no. We are.

The Oregon State Council for Retired Citizens urges you to VOTE NO on 26-156!

(This information furnished by Steve Weiss, Oregon State Council for Retired Citizens)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

WaterWatch of Oregon strongly opposes Measure 25-156.

When weighing your vote, please consider:

1. Measure 25-156 would result in the elimination of valuable City programs that protect our local waters and benefit local fish and wildlife. Protecting and restoring our local waterways benefits all Portland residents, and we shouldn't be gutting these important programs.
2. The initiative is an effort by large corporations – including large industrial water users – to dictate the management of Portland's public water system. We shouldn't allow this. Many of the corporations backing Measure 25-156 have liability for polluting Portland Harbor. These corporations could use the new water Commission created by this initiative to unfairly push the costs for harbor cleanup onto Portland taxpayers.
3. Measure 25-156 bans individuals with experience in local water management issues from serving on the new water Commission. Language in the initiative expressly disqualifies people from serving on the Commission who have worked for, or are under contract with, Portland's Water Bureau. Preventing people with knowledge of our water system from serving on the Commission is counterproductive and makes no sense.

Since 1985, WaterWatch of Oregon has worked to protect and restore flows in our rivers to sustain the native fish, wildlife, and people who depend on healthy rivers. Visit us at waterwatch.org.

(This information furnished by John DeVoe, WaterWatch of Oregon)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

The Coalition for a Livable Future urges you to VOTE NO on 26-156!

For 20 years, the Coalition for a Livable Future has worked to protect, restore, and maintain healthy, equitable, and sustainable communities, both human and natural, for the benefit of present and future residents of the greater metropolitan region.

Equity means that everyone has access to essential resources, the ability to influence public decisions that affect them and the opportunity to benefit from the bounty of our region.

The backers of 26-156 are using this initiative as a way to defund the City's most important environmental programs. These programs improve water quality, clean up our rivers, and provide green infrastructure that manages storm water runoff and makes our communities healthier and more sustainable.

Just as troubling is that this ballot measure will put severe restrictions on who can serve on the board. Most of East Portland will be unrepresented, underscoring the fundamental flaws of this measure. People with experience caring for our water will also be prohibited by law from serving on the board.

It's not equitable. It's not smart. And it's not right.

If you care about protecting water quality and public health, don't hand one of our most precious resources off to an inexperienced board that serves special interests instead of our communities. Let's protect the environment we care so much about.

The Coalition for a Livable Future urges you to VOTE NO on 26-156.

(This information furnished by Mara Gross, Coalition for a Livable Future)

CITY OF PORTLAND

Measure 26-156 Arguments – Continued

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

Friends of Trees urges you to vote NO on the Portland Water District.

We are joining dozens of other nonprofit organizations, neighborhood groups and unions in opposing this measure, which would remove control of the water and sewer bureaus from Portland City Council.

We DON'T believe this measure would do anything to lower water or sewer rates (except maybe for the large industrial water users who are bankrolling the campaign).

We DO believe that it will remove funding from green infrastructure projects like planting trees along neighborhood streets. The thousands of volunteers who have helped us plant more than half a million trees in our region over the past 25 years know this: TREES = CLEAN WATER.

Please join is in voting NO on this measure so that we can ensure a future with clean water and vibrant, healthy neighborhoods.

Scott Fogarty
Executive Director
Friends of Trees

(This information furnished by Scott Fogarty, Friends of Trees)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

PROTECT OUR GREAT RIVERS!

Vote NO on 26-156!

We are the Sandy River Watershed Basin Council and we urge a NO vote on this attempt to dismantle important environmental programs. We care deeply about keeping the Lower Columbia's watersheds healthy, clean and safe. That's why we believe that **this ballot measure is wrong for our rivers.**

Portland Water Bureau commitments are vital not only to the Bull Run River's future as our water supply, the lifeblood of Portland's health and economy, but also to restoring the Sandy's threatened wild salmon. The Bureau of Environmental Services' Clean River programs treat and clean sewage and keep storm water runoff out of local waterways and natural areas, and its green infrastructure initiatives save money, enhance neighborhood livability, and protect the Willamette. These are just a few of the City's environmental programs that deliver profound benefits to our rivers and natural areas. This ballot measure makes no guarantee that these critical protections will remain. If this measure passes, programs that keep our rivers clean could be eradicated, and with them our recent gains toward river health and wild salmon recovery. **Our great rivers, the Bull Run, Sandy, Columbia, and Willamette, can't afford the uncertain future this ballot measure offers.**

If you love our beautiful rivers, and want to preserve them, join us in voting NO.

(This information furnished by KJ Lewis)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

Measure 26-156, were it to pass, would create a new government body, which isn't particularly unusual. What IS unusual and concerns us, and what should concern you, is that Measure 26-156 would create a new government body NOT subject to public independent audits- there would be no impartial independent analysis of how this new district performs.

We believe public independent audits are always a good idea. What makes public audits even more necessary should Measure 26-156 pass are two fold- cost and our health and safety.

There is no guarantee that the district created by Measure 26-156 would lower anybody's water and sewer rates, and there are several reasons why it's a good assumption that water and sewer rates would rise. This new district would be divorced from the City's administrative functions- human resources, attorneys, shared materials and services- the things that make a government function and things that this new district would have to retain and pay for. And because Measure 26-156 prohibits anybody with any relevant government experience from being elected to this board, those services would be authorized without any knowledge of government procurement. Without a public, independent audit, there would be no indication of whether this district would be spending ratepayer money wisely.

Even more compelling a reason to require public, independent audits of this new district? The \$15 billion worth of assets controlled by an inexperienced, annually-elected board charged with providing clean and safe drinking water to hundreds of thousands of Portlanders. There is no greater reason for auditing than ensuring the public is protected.

Measure 26-156 puts your health and safety in jeopardy, as well as the health and safety of your family, friends and neighbors. It also runs a great risk of increasing your water and sewer rates without any public, independent oversight.

Please join us in voting NO on Measure 26-156

Jewel Lansing, retired City of Portland Auditor
Anne Kelly Feeney, retired Multnomah County Auditor

(This information furnished by KJ Lewis)

CITY OF GRESHAM

Measure 26-157

BALLOT TITLE

FIVE-YEAR LOCAL OPTION LEVY FOR POLICE, FIRE, AND PARKS

QUESTION: Shall Gresham levy \$1.25 per \$1,000 of assessed value for five years beginning 2014-2015 for police, fire, and parks? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

SUMMARY: Revenue generated from this levy would fund police, fire, and parks services, with 95% of the revenue going to public safety and 5% of the revenue going to parks. The City of Gresham would use the revenue to fund police, fire, and parks services, and maintain the services that were funded by the temporary \$7.50 per month Police, Fire, and Parks Fee, which is set to expire on June 30, 2014 and would no longer be collected on utility bills. The City Council has established the following priorities for levy funds: targeting gang activity, keeping fire stations open and operating, maintaining police, fire, and emergency service response times, and addressing crimes that impact neighborhood livability. Levy revenue would be placed in a dedicated and protected fund for the specific purpose of providing police, fire, and parks services. The City's Finance Committee, which is made up of citizen volunteers, would provide oversight over the use of levy revenue.

This local option levy would expire in five years. The proposed rate would generate approximately \$5,443,132 in 2014-2015; \$6,126,679 in 2015-2016; \$6,824,353 in 2016-2017; \$7,532,113 in 2017-2018; and \$8,227,201 in 2018-2019, for a total of \$34,153,478.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Over the past few years, Gresham's Long-Term Revenue Roadmap project has been the topic of public outreach including seven town-hall style community meetings, five City Council meetings, forums with the Coalition of Gresham Neighborhoods and the Chamber of Commerce, and multiple citywide mailings.

The City of Gresham communicated with residents about Oregon's property tax system, which set Gresham's permanent property tax rate at \$3.61 per \$1,000 of taxable assessed value, one of the lowest rates of any major city in Oregon. In a recent study of the average household tax and fee burden, the average Gresham household cost for conventional General Fund services including police, fire and parks was the lowest of Oregon's 10 largest cities.

In the Fall of 2012, the Gresham City Council approved a \$7.50 per month Police, Fire, and Parks Fee as a temporary measure to prevent immediate service reductions. The temporary fee expires on June 30, 2014. Community feedback regarding Gresham's Long-Term Revenue Roadmap was to replace the temporary fee with a voter approved local option property tax levy.

Gresham's permanent tax rate impacts police and fire services. Of the Oregon cities tracked by Federal Bureau of Investigation statistics, without the police positions funded by the temporary fee, Gresham would have the next to lowest ratio of police officers per capita of Oregon cities. In a recent analysis of fire/emergency service staffing in urban populations similar in size to Gresham's service area, Gresham ranked 38 out of 40 in fire/emergency service employees per capita.

Ninety-five percent of levy revenue would be used for police and fire/emergency services. The City of Gresham has identified the following priorities for public safety: enforcement and prevention of gang activity, police and fire response times, keeping fire stations open, and addressing crimes that impact neighborhood livability.

The remaining 5 percent of the levy would be used for Gresham's parks system. The City of Gresham has established keeping Gresham's parks open, clean, safe, maintained and accessible as priorities for the parks portion of levy revenue.

Levy funds would be placed in a dedicated and protected fund, and used only for police, fire/emergency services, and parks maintenance. The City's Finance Committee, which is made up of citizen volunteers, would provide oversight over the use of levy revenue.

Submitted by
Susanjoy Baskoro
City of Gresham

CITY OF GRESHAM

Measure 26-157 Arguments

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Dear Gresham resident,

With the prospect of investing in vital services that improve safety, livability, and home values, it is time to send a strong message to the region that we will do what it takes to combat gangs, violent crime, and protect our fire/emergency response services.

This proposed levy is the result of years of work with the community over many town halls, City Council meetings, grocery store conversations and community forums. It is also the result of first taking prudent financial actions to identify efficiencies and save public money.

Over the past few years we have heard from thousands of people, formally and informally, who have shared their earnest optimism for Gresham, and their preferred ways of protecting critical services. Two strong themes emerged: Residents want to see solid financial control mechanisms in place, and they want Gresham to be a safe, livable, attractive place for our families. We heard you, and have prepared a proposal that accomplishes both.

During the course of this process, people who have lived in Gresham for three, four, five decades or longer came out of the woodwork and showed the spirit that built our community to begin with. I admire those residents and the mark that they have left, and I am eager for us to once again step forward and invest in our future.

It is Gresham's unique community spirit that gave me confidence when I opened my first business here, and it is that spirit that continues to show me that this is a terrific community in which to raise my three boys. But we must not rest on the work and investment of those who came before us. A "YES" vote for this levy is a statement that we collectively own this community, its safety and livability, and its iconic image.

Thank you for the great honor of serving as your mayor.

Shane Bemis

Mayor of Gresham

(This information furnished by Shane Bemis)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Gresham City Council Unanimously Supports Levy for Police, Fire, and Parks

As independently elected city leaders, we don't always agree on every issue, but there is no question that we all agree that this levy is critical for Gresham's stability and safety.

This conclusion comes after multiple years of public process, and a robust citizen outreach effort. Not only did our residents help us understand the perspectives of those we represent, but this proposal specifically reflects feedback we received during that process. Here are some of the important points we heard:

- Public Safety is the top priority. This was loud and clear, and as a result, 95 percent of levy revenue will go to police and fire services, and 5 percent will go to keeping Gresham's parks clean, safe, and open.
- Gresham's home values, business climate, and image in the region depend on our ability to address safety and livability issues and demonstrate our community pride by investing in our hometown.
- Gangs are increasingly an issue citywide, and trying to skate by with one of the lowest police staffing ratios in Oregon does not meet our community's need.
- There is nothing more basic than the connection between dialing 9-1-1 and having a police officer or firefighter/EMS arrive rapidly. Keeping Gresham's fire stations open and

operating and maintaining speedy emergency response is critical.

- The financial control mechanisms are important. The levy term will be temporary (5 years), and funds will be placed in a dedicated and protected fund, with the watchdog oversight of the citizen Finance Committee.

Our pledge to you is that we will continue to do everything possible to keep government services in Gresham efficient and affordable, and we will use levy resources very prudently to provide critical services.

PLEASE VOTE YES FOR GRESHAM

Lori Stegmann, City Council President
Karylenn Echols, City Councilor
Jerry Hinton, City Councilor
Mario Palmero, City Councilor
Michael McCormick, City Councilor
Kirk French, City Councilor

(This information furnished by Lori Stegmann)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Whether your family has been here for generations, or you are new to Gresham, it is likely clear that we have seen our share of urban challenges in recent years. Gresham has an unrivaled spirit, and the time has come to make an investment and ensure that we protect our community.

Gangs are not new in Gresham, but their presence across the city is a growing threat. Last summer there was a gang homicide in Red Sunset Park. That is unacceptable, and gang enforcement resources are a critical component of the City's response.

It would be hard to name a single function of government more important than basic emergency response. With fewer police officers per capita than the vast majority of cities in Oregon, and fewer fire/emergency service employees per capita than any comparable fire/ems department in nation, **levy funds are critical to maintaining emergency response times in both Police and Fire** and keeping Gresham's fire stations open. The link between dialing 9-1-1 and rapid emergency response must not be interrupted.

When it comes to **home values and neighborhood livability**, the connection between critical services and protecting our investments is obvious. We must take the actions necessary to keep our community strong so that our families will be safe, our neighborhoods will be livable, and our homes will keep their value.

We enjoy **one of the lowest property tax rates in Oregon**, and we're proud of our fiscal responsibility. That said, we cannot watch nearly every other community in the region invest in services at the ballot while we do not, and we cannot sustain further cuts.

Gresham is a great hometown. But that does not come easily, or by accident. Your "YES" vote is a vote for our safety, livability, and collective future.

The Gresham Outlook encourages a YES vote on Measure 26-157

Keep Gresham Safe Committee

Learn more at www.keepgreshamsafe.org

(This information furnished by Joan Albertson, Keep Gresham Safe)

CITY OF GRESHAM

Measure 26-157 Arguments – Continued

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Gresham Police, Fire, Parks Levy has Broad Community Support

Measure 26-157 is supported by a large contingent of community members from all walks of life: families, business owners, neighborhood leaders, retired folks, long-time residents, and new arrivals, alike.

**Please join with us.
We are voting YES for Gresham!
We are voting YES for our future!**

Betty Chisum
Wilma Konkell
Juanita Syron
Mark Eisenzimmer
Shannon Chisom
Lynn Snodgrass
Lee Dayfield
Kathi Schneider
Alyson Hunting
Rosemary Wolfe Griffith
John G Vandermosten
Aaron Sanstrum
Rita K Painter
Greg J Matthews
Kathryn Anderson
Doug "Spud" Henderson
Catherine Nicewood
Richard Anderson
Gregory Painter
Timothy M Welch
Christy Brewster
Sue O'Halloran
Shirley Vandermosten
Dick Schneider
Roseanne E Zales
Cody Clark
William (Bill) Hay
Jennifer H Kaiser
Craig Junginger
Dwight D Unti
Stan & Barbara Hatkoff
Jim Francesconi

Senator Laurie Monnes Anderson
State Representative Chris Gorsek
Shirley Craddick, Metro Councilor
Daniel Staton, Multnomah County Sheriff
Retired Gresham Police Chief Carla Piluso
Gresham Professional Firefighters
Gresham Police Officer's Association

Shane T. Bemis, Mayor of Gresham
Lori Stegmann, Gresham City Council President
Gresham City Councilors:
Jerry Hinton
Mario Palmero

Former Gresham City Councilors:
Mike Bennett
Carol Nielsen-Hood

Matt Miller
Bess R Wills
Wendell Cook
Andre Wang
Carol Rulla
Greg Moen
Joan Albertson
Kathie Minden
Travis Stovall
Curt Hugo
Michael R Miller
Jackie Bennett
Julie Smith
John M Bildsoe
Steven J Dyer
Chris Lyons
Karen Johnson
Ebonie Johnson
Mardy Stevens
James L Rulla
Penny Krueger
Joyce E Miller
Michael Patrick
Martin L Stone
Geoffrey Kaiser
Janine Ross
Michael McKeel
Hank Stevens
Sue Piazza
Rick Dwyer
Ian Hefeneider
Deborah Kafoury

A complete list of supporters is available at www.keepgreshamsafe.org

(This information furnished by Joan Albertson, Keep Gresham Safe)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

GRESHAM AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
ENCOURAGES YES VOTE

The Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce fully endorses Ballot Measure 26-157. We know that public safety is critical to economic development, job creation, and a viable merchant environment.

Alison Hart, CEO

Local business leaders are saying:

"Public safety is one of the most important variables for businesses looking to invest, expand, or locate in our area. This is a vote to invest in the future of Gresham. This levy is significant. It is the potential tipping point for economic development in our region."

Matt Miller, President, Chamber Board of Directors

"I am not a big tax guy, but investing in public safety is about as basic as it gets. We exist within a competitive regional environment. We cannot let Gresham get left behind when it comes to our quality of life that draws businesses and families to our city."

Mark Eisenzimmer, Cascade Athletic Club

"As a local business owner, and a mother whose family resides in Gresham, this is an easy call for me. Our economy, livability, and safety are ultimately linked to the quality of services our city provides. It takes investment from all of us, as a community, to keep the quality of those services at a high level."

Karen Johnson, President, All About Automotive

"Be it a home, business, or both, many of us have substantial investments in Gresham. We all have a lot at stake when it comes to protecting our community. This measure helps us retain a safe community, a thriving business climate, and maintains our home and business values."

Janine Ross, Gresham Resident, Branch Manager, US Bank

"As a business owner, I have learned that staying competitive in my industry requires regular reinvestment in my business. This levy feels the same to me. We need to step up and invest in Gresham so we all can enjoy the benefits of a safe, productive future."

Bess Wills, GM, Gresham Ford

(This information furnished by Alison Hart, Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce)

CITY OF GRESHAM

Measure 26-157 Arguments – Continued

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

City of Gresham

26 - 157

IS IT FAIR ?

Historical Real Median Family Income for Oregon has suffered a loss of 9.2% from 2007 to 2012. (WWW.deptofnumbers.com)

According to the city of Gresham's website from the budget year 07/08 to the proposed budget for this year the Police Department has had an 11.2% increase and fire department a 16.3% increase.

Over and above the property taxes the city now collects you have been paying an additional \$7.50 per month (\$90 per year) on your utility bill to augment the police and fire budget. If you approve this measure and your home is tax assessed at \$200,000 this figure will jump to \$250 a year. (277% increase the first year) and that increase is projected to grow by 25.5% over the five-year duration of this measure. Those of you who rent would likely see a \$21 a month increase in your rent the first year in addition to the normal increase as a result of property taxes.

Will your net income increases equal or exceed these percentages?

Are our public employees uniquely entitled to these large increases regardless of the taxpayer's ability to pay?

Is it reasonable we should guarantee our public employees jobs, benefits and increases when we can't guarantee our own?

(This information furnished by Allen Cox)

**Ballots can be
delivered to any
Official Drop Site in
Oregon.**



**To find an Official
Drop Site in Oregon
visit:**

www.OregonVotes.gov

CORBETT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Measure 26-158

BALLOT TITLE

BONDS FOR SAFETY IMPROVEMENT, SEISMIC RENOVATIONS AND OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCIES

QUESTION: Shall Corbett School District replace, renovate, save operating costs and improve safety by issuing \$9,415,000 in general obligation bonds? If the bonds are approved, they will be payable from taxes on property or property ownership that are not subject to the limits of sections 11 and 11b, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

SUMMARY: If approved, this measure would renovate/replace buildings to reduce maintenance costs; replace plumbing, electrical, heating and ventilation systems; meet seismic, fire and life safety building codes; improve safety and traffic; comply with federal ADA and equity laws. Specifically, this measure is expected to:

- Make seismic, fire protection, and energy upgrades to the Multi-purpose cafeteria (1970), the 1954 Gym, 1970's Gym and High School (1977).
- Replace the seismically challenged Middle School with a safe energy-efficient building.
- Address campus ADA and Title IX issues.
- Renovate/replace buildings, as needed, to address traffic and parking issues associated with new construction.
- Furnish, equip and make site improvements for all projects; pay for demolition and costs of issuance.
- Leverage additional available state funding for seismic and energy efficiency projects.

Bonds would mature in a period not to exceed twenty-one (21) years. The overall tax rate for bonds is estimated to be approximately \$1.71 per \$1,000 of assessed property value which represents no tax increase from 2013-14 due to retirement of existing debt.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The last significant investment in Corbett School facilities occurred in 1994 when voters passed a \$6.5 million bond to construct a new elementary school.

In January 2013, the District appointed a diverse group of Corbett citizens who, along with professional architects, engineers and construction experts studied facility needs. Community meetings gathered feedback from the general public and Corbett voters were surveyed about different options.

Except for the elementary school, District buildings are between 35 and 90 years old. Since their original construction, building codes have been updated to reflect new requirements for fire and life safety and earthquake resistance. The Middle School (1923) is constructed almost entirely of hollow clay tiles and classified as "dangerous" according to building codes.

The Middle School has been maintained, but does not contain energy-efficient mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems that could save on operating costs and protect the community's investment.

With the expiration of the 1994 bond, and a lower interest rate climate, a new \$9.415 million bond would cost an estimated \$1.71 per thousand of assessed value. If this new bond were approved, property taxpayers in the Corbett School district are estimated to see no increase in their property tax rate above the rate paid in 2013-2014 for the expiring Grade School levy. This is an estimate only.

With a new bond, the District would replace the 1923 building while working with the State Historic Preservation Office to mitigate the historical impacts of replacing the building. The new building is expected to reduce maintenance costs; replace

old plumbing, electrical, and heating/ventilation systems; meet building codes for seismic, fire and life safety; improve campus safety and traffic flows and comply with federal ADA and educational equity laws.

Additionally, bond proceeds will be used to make seismic and fire life safety upgrades to the 1954 gymnasium and the Multipurpose Cafeteria (1970). Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Title IX upgrades will be addressed across campus. The District will renovate or replace buildings as needed to address traffic and parking issues associated with new construction.

Specifically, the bond is expected to:

- Make seismic, fire protection, and energy upgrades to the Multipurpose Cafeteria (1970), Old (1954) Gym, (1970's) Gym and High School (1977) to improve safety and security.
- Replace the seismically challenged Middle School with an energy-efficient building to increase safety and save money on operating costs.
- Address ADA and Title IX issues across campus.
- Renovate or replace buildings as needed to address traffic and parking issues associated with new construction.
- Furnish, equip and make site improvements for all projects; pay for demolition and costs of issuance.
- Use some bond proceeds to leverage any additional available state funding for seismic and energy efficiency projects.

A citizen bond oversight committee would be appointed by the School Board to ensure that bond proceeds are spent properly and only on projects described in the ballot title and this explanatory statement.

Submitted by

*Randy Trani,
Superintendent
Corbett School District*

NO ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF THIS MEASURE WERE FILED.

CORBETT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Measure 26-158 Argument

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

What has changed?

The dollar amount is slightly less but the proposed new building is the same. This building is 10,000 sf larger than the size currently in use.

We Don't "Intend" to Grow the District?

We have heard that statement over the past 6 years and our district population has more than doubled during that time.

Charter Removal?

Instead of agreeing to an amicable plan to phase out the charter school, our school district chose to gamble a lawsuit and the reality is the Charter could remain, this is still currently in mediation. The district created 476 new open enrollment spots. That means whether the charter stays or goes the district intends to keep the students, over 1,300 students with only about 650 being Corbett residents

Student Numbers?

We are allowed up to 1,730 students/staff, those numbers were approved last year. The extra 10,000 square feet gives them ample room to reach that number and continue to add more each year. There is no true "need" for a building this size, other than expansion.

STEM School?

The district is applying for a STEM school to open next year. This is another school within a school, like the Charter. This allows us to continue receiving small school funding, even though Corbett will be 4A.

Vague Language

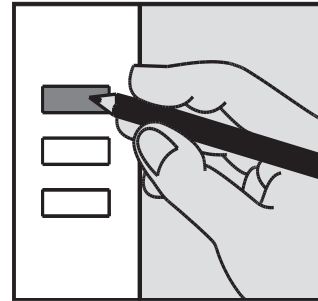
There is nothing that states where the new school building will actually go. It's possible we could end up with the old building and a new one. There is language giving the district permission to tear down, move, or build new buildings as needed, and It looks like this could include purchasing property. There is no list of what projects will be completed at this point, nor do they have any price comparisons as to looking into saving the historic building compared to the cost of a new building.

All these decisions will be made after they have your money.

Please Vote NO!

Find out more here: www.corbettsos.com

(This information furnished by Lynette Kerslake, S.O.S. Save Our Schools PAC 16451)



May 2014 Primary
Election Results in
Multnomah County will
be available beginning
at 8:00 PM,
May 20, 2014.

www.mcelections.org

Results will be available
at the Secretary of
State's website for
state and federal
contest.

www.OregonVotes.gov

TUALATIN VALLEY FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT

Measure 34-211

BALLOT TITLE

REPLACEMENT LOCAL OPTION LEVY FOR FIRE AND MEDICAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE

QUESTION: Shall TVF&R maintain fire and medical emergency response by levying 45¢ per \$1,000 AV for five years, beginning in 2015. This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

SUMMARY: Voters first approved a local option levy for Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue (TVF&R) in 2000 and renewed it in 2004 and 2008. This proposed levy would replace the current levy, which expires June 2015.

The replacement levy would keep 42 current firefighter medics. These firefighters help ensure each crew can take immediate action at complex incidents like fires, heart attacks, car crashes, and rescue situations.

Additionally, an increase in 9-1-1 calls, traffic congestion, and an aging population are impacting emergency response throughout the service area. The replacement levy would also add up to 44 firefighter medics, apparatus, and contribute towards new stations. These resources would help TVF&R meet its objective of fast and effective emergency response.

Staff that support safe and reliable emergency operations would also be funded.

The replacement levy rate is 45¢ per \$1,000 AV, a 20¢ increase over the current rate. For a typical home with an assessed value of \$230,000, the annual increase would be \$46.

If the levy fails, property taxes on a typical home would decline \$58.

The replacement levy is projected to raise \$109,280,075 over five years:

2015-16	\$20,277,124
2016-17	\$21,037,516
2017-18	\$21,826,423
2018-19	\$22,644,914
2019-20	\$23,494,098

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue (TVF&R) provides firefighting, emergency medical, rescue, and fire prevention services. TVF&R serves residents and businesses in the cities of Beaverton, Durham, King City, Rivergrove, Sherwood, Tigard, Tualatin, West Linn, and Wilsonville, and unincorporated portions of Washington, Clackamas, and Multnomah counties.

Why is this called a replacement levy?

It would take the place of the current levy that expires June 2015. It would appear for the first time on the November 2015 property tax bill.

What is its purpose?

The levy supports TVF&R's highest priority of fast and effective emergency response by:

1. Retaining 42 current firefighter medics hired since 2000. These firefighters help ensure each crew has enough personnel to immediately enter a burning building and to provide immediate life-saving care at medical and rescue incidents.
2. Adding up to 44 firefighter medics, apparatus, and contributing towards new stations in areas where response challenges exist.

Why are new personnel and stations proposed?

Consistent with industry standards, TVF&R's travel time objective is 5 minutes 12 seconds or less. Increases in 9-1-1 calls, traffic congestion, and an aging population are contributing to longer response times.

Additional firefighters, at new and existing sites within TVF&R's network, would improve response times and increase the reliability of current stations to serve their immediate neighborhoods. Positions that support safe and reliable emergency operations such as fire prevention, training, and apparatus maintenance would also be funded.

What steps has TVF&R taken to address response challenges?

1. Single-person paramedic units respond to less severe incidents (serving 8% of calls).
2. Crews review incident data and address community risks through education (e.g., fall reduction for senior care facilities, fire safety for apartment managers).
3. Partnerships with businesses have reduced false alarm calls by 28% since 2006.
4. A new Tigard station was constructed and staffed in 2009.
5. Staff works with city, county, and state transportation agencies to encourage improvements that facilitate rapid response.
6. "Citizen responders" to cardiac patients (before paramedics arrive) are engaged through Hands Only CPR education, TVF&R's PulsePoint app, and public access defibrillators which can shock a failing heart.

If the replacement levy is approved, what is the impact on a homeowner's property tax?

The replacement levy has a tax rate of 45¢ per \$1,000 of assessed value*, a 20¢ increase over the current rate. This would result in a total levy cost of \$104 for a typical home, a \$46 increase over the expiring levy.

*Assessed value is different from real market value and is listed on the property tax bill.

What is the impact if the replacement levy fails?

Response challenges would continue to degrade the speed and effectiveness of emergency response services. While maintaining emergency response services would remain TVF&R's priority, the current levy provides 14% of total District operating revenues. As a result, reductions in staffing and operations would be required. Property taxes on a typical home with an assessed value of \$230,000 would decline by \$58/year.

More information is available at www.tvfr.com

Submitted by

Mike Duyck

Fire Chief

Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue

NO ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION TO THIS MEASURE WERE FILED.

TUALATIN VALLEY FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT

Measure 34-211 Arguments

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

PHYSICIANS SUPPORT 34-211

A minute delay, or even seconds, in emergency response has a huge impact for individuals suffering from a heart attack, acute stroke, severe trauma, and other medical emergencies. **Please consider this when voting on TVF&R's replacement levy.**

Take the example of cardiac arrest.

Slightly larger than a human fist, the human heart beats continuously over your lifetime, 80,000 to 100,000 times a day, pumping approximately 2,000 gallons of blood to your body.

In sudden cardiac arrest, an electrical malfunction causes your heart to suddenly stop beating, ending blood flow to your brain and body. The most important therapy is an electrical countershock, and each minute of delay brings a 10% decrease in survival.

The Cardiac Arrest Chain of Survival must start immediately:

- Calling 9-1-1
- Bystander CPR
- Countershock with a defibrillator (AED)
- Advanced medical therapies to support the heart and brain from firefighter paramedics until hospital staff take over

TVF&R promotes each link in this chain.

- As an early champion of "hands only CPR" instruction by 9-1-1 dispatchers.
- As Oregon's first fire department to promote the "PulsePoint" app, TVF&R tracks AEDs in hundreds of high-use locations and recruited over 3500 CPR-trained citizen responders who are alerted if a cardiac arrest occurs close.
- By equipping and training police departments on AED use.
- As an industry leader in quickly sharing patient information between on-scene paramedics and receiving hospital staff.

TVF&R's replacement levy addresses the last two links in our community's chain of survival. It retains 42 current firefighter medics and helps fund several additional new fire stations and new firefighters to reverse the trend of long response times.

TVF&R is smart, adaptive, and driven by data towards new strategies that best serve our changing community. Measure 34-211 ensures our firefighters have the resources to be fast and effective.

Please vote "Yes" on 34-122.

Oregon Chapter, American College of Emergency Physicians

(This information furnished by Melissa Johnson, Oregon Chapter, American College of Emergency Physicians)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Expect A Good Return on Your Investment

We are citizen volunteers who participate in TVF&R's annual budget process.

We are acutely aware that our input can impact your property tax bill, and we understand that **you want the cost of service to be as value-driven as possible.**

We also understand that when something bad happens to you or your family, **you want TVFR's firefighters and paramedics fast and ready to act.**

As Budget Committee members, **our job is to balance these two competing interests.**

TVF&R provides excellent stewardship of your tax dollars by exercising prudent financial controls and emphasizing long-term stability. Others share this view, including Moody's Investment Services, which rates TVFR's bonded debt Aaa, the best credit rating possible.

As part of its conservative financial management, **TVF&R has maintained the same local option levy tax rate for the past 14 years.** At the same time, it utilizes cost-effective strategies to meet its public safety mission such as:

- Single-person paramedic units respond to less serious incidents rather than a four-person engine crew.
- Active follow-up with commercial property owners reduced false alarms 28% since 2006.
- Partnerships with businesses, apartment managers, and local governments reduce community risks through education.

Demographic changes and trends in 9-1-1 call volume make it clear that demands on TVF&R firefighters and paramedics will continue to increase. With that and **our concern about long travel times for TVF&R crews** in mind, we are fully supportive of the proposed replacement levy.

By retaining 42 current firefighters and strategically adding additional personnel and stations, **the replacement levy ensures that we meet the community's top priority for TVF&R: fast and effective emergency response.**

TVF&R is keenly focused on the future. This levy addresses today's operational challenges and positions TVF&R to maintain the service you have come to expect when you need them the most.

Respectfully submitted:

TVFR Budget Committee

Angie Fong
Paul Leavy
Jim Petrizzi
Michael Smith
Jon Walsh

(This information furnished by Jon Walsh)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Seniors for Measure 34-211

We have lived in our home for 39 years. We raised three children here, and we hope we can live out the rest of our lives in this special place.

We're lucky – we have never called 9-1-1. Richard's background as a retired physician means we are practical about our health though. We are in our mid and late-70's and we exercise every day, but **we know that we will eventually need to make that 9-1-1 call.**

That is one of the reasons we are big supporters of TVF&R's replacement levy. Count us in for two "YES" votes.

We are active people, and we have little interest in anything less than independent lives.

Knowing that we can count on our neighborhood firefighters and paramedics when we have a medical emergency, or a fire, makes us feel secure.

We have high expectations of our public agencies.

TVF&R's drive to evolve as an organization to meet the needs of our changing community impresses us. It's clear that they provide high quality service at a good value to the taxpayer. A good example is the way they send a single paramedic in a car to less serious calls, instead of four firefighters and a big fire engine. That makes great sense, but our friends who live elsewhere remind us that it's not common. **TVF&R seems way ahead of the curve.**

TUALATIN VALLEY FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT

Measure 34-211 Arguments – Continued

We are positive people, so it's hard to imagine that the replacement levy won't be approved. **"Yes" on Measure 34-211 ensures that TVF&R can adjust to our changing community and remain responsive to what we all want – fast and reliable emergency service. And it takes the place of a levy voters approved three times!**

We've had 39 great years in our home and our neighborhood firefighters and paramedics are one reason why we believe we can have many more.

Please join us in voting "YES" on Measure 34-211.

Marcy Lowy
Richard Lowy, MD

(This information furnished by Marcy Lowy)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

A grateful mother supports the replacement levy

I was home with my two active children on July 10, 2013. My three year-old daughter was playing "tea" in another room when I heard her cry out.

I found her at the bottom of two small steps leading into the playroom.

Scooping her into my arms, I asked what hurt. **My little girl, who always has something to say, was silent and unresponsive.** Then her back arched, her eyes rolled back into her head, and her lips went blue.

In full panic mode I dialed 9-1-1. Within moments, the dispatcher told me responders were on the way.

"Please hurry!" was all I could say.

I heard the sirens. Fortunately, we live just two miles from a fire station. Within minutes firefighter paramedics were helping us.

Each had a job: issuing instructions, providing advanced medical care to my daughter, taking notes to share with hospital staff, comforting my horribly frightened son, calling and reassuring my husband, transferring my daughter to the ambulance, securing my son's car seat alongside so we could join her, and locking the door as they left.

These collective actions made an absolutely terrifying situation somewhat bearable.

It took many weeks, but my daughter has fully recovered. She has little memory of that day, but whenever we see a fire truck, she makes a comment about "the day I bonked my head."

Parents want to believe their children will always be healthy. Mine are today, but only because of the fast, intelligent, and compassionate care of TVF&R firefighter paramedics.

I will never forget that day, nor will I assume it can't happen again to people I love.

I always want TVF&R firefighters close, fast, and ready to take action no matter what the emergency. I will vote "yes" on Measure 34-211 to ensure that for my family. I would strongly encourage you to do the same for yours.

Tara Hipps

(This information furnished by David Hipps)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

TVF&R BOARD SUPPORTS MEASURE 34-211

As the voter-elected Board of Directors for Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue (TVF&R), we are referring this replacement levy to the ballot for these reasons:

- 1. We understand the public's #1 priority for TVF&R is fast and effective emergency response.**
The levy retains 42 current TVF&R firefighter medics. They are critical to meeting the federal safety mandate of "two in, two out." This allows a crew of four to immediately send two firefighters into a burning building to make a rescue. This staffing also allows immediate action at motor vehicle accidents and serious medical incidents.
- 2. The levy improves response times that have grown too long.**
Increases in 9-1-1 calls and traffic congestion are two of several factors pushing response times in the wrong direction. Additional firefighter medics working from new and existing stations will significantly improve the speed of emergency response.
- 3. Many other strategies have come before this replacement levy request.**
TVF&R is much more than a reactive, respond when the bell goes off, fire department. Our personnel work with commercial property owners to significantly reduce false alarms, use single person units to respond to 8% of calls that are less severe, target community risks with education strategies, and employ alternative resources such as volunteers and citizen CPR responders to help provide responsive service at a good value.
- 4. The replacement levy is part of a long-term plan.**
Our current levy expires in June 2015 and was first approved in 2000 (renewed in 2004 and 2008). The replacement levy was developed based on an exhaustive review of incident response data. That review makes us confident that TVF&R will meet the community's expectation of "fast and effective" fire and emergency medical operations for at least ten years.

Please join us in voting "YES" on Measure 34-211.

Robert Wyffels, President
Randy Lauer, Vice President
Gordon Hovies, Secretary
Clark Balfour, Board Member
Brian Clopton, Board Member

(This information furnished by Robert Wyffels, Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue Board of Directors)

BEAVERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Measure 34-219

BALLOT TITLE

BONDS FOR REPAIRS, REDUCING OVERCROWDING, MODERNIZATION, SAFETY AND TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES

QUESTION: Shall Beaverton Schools repair, build schools, modernize, improve safety, technology; estimated to maintain current tax rate by issuing \$680,000,000 bonds? If the bonds are approved, they will be payable from taxes on property or property ownership that are not subject to the limits of sections 11 and 11b, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

SUMMARY: This measure would provide funds for repairs, construction and improvements over a projected eight-year period. Due to retiring previous bonds, the District's overall bond tax rate of \$2.11 per \$1,000 of assessed value is not expected to increase over the next eight years.

- Provide repairs throughout the District: replace and upgrade deteriorating roofs, outdated heating, ventilation and plumbing systems.
- Relieve overcrowding in existing schools. Construct a new high school, a middle school and an elementary school in high growth areas, reducing the use of portables and relocating portables.
- Replace schools at Hazeldale, Vose and William Walker elementary schools and Arts & Communication Magnet Academy.
- Modernize and renovate existing schools and facilities; provide furnishings, equipment and site improvements.
- Update learning equipment, digital curriculum, technology infrastructure in classrooms, libraries, computer, science labs and facilities.
- Purchase buses and office equipment.
- Update fire protection, security systems and make seismic improvements.
- Purchase land.
- Pay bond issuance and building costs.

The bonds would mature in twenty years or less from issuance date and may be issued in one or more series.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Due to the Great Recession, Beaverton did not propose a bond measure in 2010, which would have been in keeping with the four-year schedule of asking Beaverton area voters to consider repairs, renovations, new school construction for additional capacity and other improvements for our schools. It has been eight years (2006) since the last capital bond measure in the Beaverton School District.

Since 2006, Beaverton School District's enrollment has increased by over 2,600 students. District enrollment now exceeds 39,400. According to District facilities planning information, four of the five comprehensive high schools are near or over 100% capacity. There are a number of elementary schools near or over capacity. Enrollment projections by Portland State University Population Center and District project approximately 5,400 additional students will enroll in Beaverton schools by 2025.

What would the Bond do?

The \$680,000,000 bond would address repairs, provide new capacity, modernize and renovate all facilities, improve safety and replace outdated learning technology, curriculum and equipment over a projected eight-year period.

What would the Bond cost?

Due to retiring previous bonds, this measure is expected to result in no increase in the District's existing overall bond tax rate of \$2.11 per \$1,000 of assessed value for a projected eight years.

Proceeds from bond measure # 34-219 would help Beaverton School District to:

- Provide repairs throughout the District such as replacing deteriorating roofs and upgrading outdated heating, ventilation, dirty drinking water pipes and other plumbing systems. For example, there are about 20 deteriorating roofs that need to be replaced.
- Construct and furnish a high school, a middle school and an elementary school in high growth areas to relieve overcrowding in existing schools and to provide more capacity for an additional 4,050 students. A number of portables would be removed from schools as a result of this additional capacity.
- Replace four outdated schools: Hazeldale, Vose and William Walker elementaries and the Arts & Communication Magnet Academy (formerly an elementary school) and construct new schools with improved learning environments and additional capacity.
- Modernize and renovate existing schools and District facilities and provide furnishings, equipment and site improvements.
- Update learning equipment, digital curriculum and materials, technology in classrooms, libraries, computer and science labs to improve teaching and learning environments. Over 51% of computers in classrooms and facilities are more than seven years old. Establish a replacement cycle to keep technology systems current and operating efficiently in all schools and facilities.
- Update school safety and security systems to improve student and staff safety. Replace the District's failing twenty-year old telephone system to improve 9-1-1 emergency response capabilities.
- Purchase land for future facilities.

The bonds would mature in twenty years or less from issuance date and may be issued in one or more series.

Informing the Public

Regular audits would be performed. District staff would provide monthly progress reports to the Beaverton School Board and regular updates to the Beaverton community.

Submitted by

Jeff Rose

Superintendent

Beaverton School District

NO ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION TO THIS MEASURE WERE FILED.

BEAVERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Measure 34-219 Arguments

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Reduce Overcrowding
Make Critical Repairs
Improve Technology

No Increase in Current Bond Tax Rate

VOTE YES ON MEASURE 34-219 FOR BEAVERTON SCHOOLS

It's been 8 years since our last school bond, and now over one third Beaverton's schools are over capacity and all need critical maintenance and repairs, and technology upgrades. That is why this May's Beaverton School Bond is so important.

Overcrowding

Our district has grown by 2,600 students in just the last 8 years and overcrowding is a serious problem. We have students jammed into **over 200 portable classrooms**.

Critical Repairs

Schools throughout the district require major repairs to protect their structural integrity, including 20 deteriorating roofs.

Outdated Technology

Classrooms, libraries, and computer and science labs have outdated technology, meaning that students are not getting the tools needed for an up-to-date education.

Safety

Many schools have critical safety issues. There is brown drinking water from rusty pipes, asbestos, and outdated safety and security equipment.

Measure 34-219 will address these and other urgent issues that will reduce overcrowding, improve the safety and learning environment for students and teachers, protecting the investment we have all made in our schools.

Real Accountability and No Increase in Current Bond Tax Rate

Beaverton School District has a proven track record of sound fiscal management that includes audits, accountability and transparency. We can trust them to manage these bond funds to provide the maximum benefit to our schools.

Measure 34-219 will continue the accountability and good financial stewardship that the Beaverton School District is known for, with audits, regular progress reports, and updates to the community.

The Bond will raise \$680 million maintaining the current bond tax rate of \$2.11 per \$1,000 of assessed value. And because this bond measure replaces expiring bonds, in addition to maintaining the current rate we are paying today, **and it will lock in that rate for eight years.**

Please Vote Yes on Measure 34-219

For more information:
www.yesforbeavertonschools.com

(This information furnished by Linda Degman, Yes For Beaverton Schools)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Please Join Us in Supporting Our Beaverton Schools

As volunteer School Board members, we are responsible for protecting our community's investment in schools. Our children, teachers, and staff deserve schools that are safe and sound. That is why this May's Beaverton School Bond is so important. This bond will reduce overcrowding, make critical repairs, improve safety, and upgrade technology.

The bond will raise \$680 million by maintaining a bond tax rate of \$2.11 per \$1,000 of assessed value. **Because we are retiring some previous bonds, this measure will not increase the current bond tax rate we are paying today.**

Over a third of Beaverton's schools are over capacity. Every school has a backlog of critical repairs. While the Beaverton School District works hard to make do, it has been eight years since we passed the last school bond.

Reduce overcrowding

Our district has grown by 2,600 students in just the last 8 years and overcrowding is a serious problem. Students are jammed into over 200 portable classrooms. The bond will build three new schools and provide capacity for 4,000 additional students.

Protect the Community's Investment in Schools

The bond proposal will provide critical repairs throughout the District such as replacing 20 deteriorating roofs and upgrading outdated heating, ventilation, dirty drinking water pipes and other plumbing systems.

Improve Safety and Security

The bond will update safety/security systems, replace the District's failing twenty-year old telephone system to improve 9-1-1 emergency response capabilities, and make seismic and ADA improvements.

Update technology infrastructure

Students are not getting the tools needed for an up-to-date education. Over 51% of computers in classrooms and facilities are more than 7 years old. This bond will update technology infrastructure, equipment, digital curriculum and materials in classrooms, libraries, computer, and science labs.

Protect our investment in our schools. Vote Yes for our Beaverton Schools!

Anne Bryan	Jeff Hicks
Linda Degman	LeeAnn Larsen
Susan Greenberg	Donna Tyner
Mary VanderWee	

(This information furnished by Linda Degman, Yes For Beaverton Schools)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Beaverton Businesses Say: Vote YES for Beaverton Schools

Local businesses understand the critical building-blocks of a local economy:

- A community that people want to live and work in.
- A workforce that enables businesses to function, grow and prosper.
- Accountable and sensible financial investments

These needs are important reasons to vote YES on Measure 34-219, the bond for Beaverton's schools.

STRONG, HEALTHY SCHOOLS FOR BEAVERTON-AREA STUDENTS

Good schools mean strong neighborhoods and successful kids – and Beaverton has great schools. But when it comes to the buildings our children, teachers, and staff are working in, there are serious challenges.

- **Many schools are aging – needing critical repairs.** There are over 20 deteriorating roofs, plumbing that delivers brown water and obsolete safety, electrical and other systems. **Measure 34-219 will address each of these areas.**
- Beaverton is already the third largest district in Oregon, and growing fast. Overcrowding is a day-to-day struggle, even with 200 portable classrooms. **Measure 34-219 will renovate and build schools to ease the overcrowding that is impacting our educational environment.**
- Students today need up-to-date technology if they are to succeed in a 21st Century economy. **Measure 34-219 will replace obsolete computers and upgrade Internet access to allow students to learn at today's speeds,**

BEAVERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Measure 34-219 Arguments – Continued

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Reduce Overcrowding
Make Critical Repairs
Improve Technology
No Increase in Current Bond Tax Rate

**VOTE YES ON MEASURE 34-219
FOR BEAVERTON SCHOOLS**

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Susan Greenberg
Mary VanderWeele

Jeff Hicks
LeeAnn Larsen
Donna Tyner

(This information furnished by Linda Degman, Yes For Beaverton Schools)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Beaverton Businesses Say: Vote YES for Beaverton Schools

Local businesses understand the critical building-blocks of a local economy:

- A community that people want to live and work in.
- A workforce that enables businesses to function, grow and prosper.
- Accountable and sensible financial investments

These needs are important reasons to vote YES on Measure 34-219, the bond for Beaverton's schools.

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BEAVERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Measure 34-219 Arguments – Continued

with access to today's knowledge.

Financial Accountability

Local businesses believe that this bond measure makes good financial sense. For example, by replacing four outdated schools, the district will lower operating costs. And this bond will be subject to public accountability measures, audits and citizen review.

No Increase in Tax Rate

Because some previous bonds will be retired, a YES vote on Measure 34-219 will not increase the current bond tax rate we are paying today.

Local Businesses Supporting Measure 34-219

Nike
Lorraine Clarno, Beaverton Area Chamber of Commerce
Terry Newsom, Pacific Office Automation
Christine Vernier, Vernier Software & Technology
Tom Holt, Regence BlueCross/BlueShield of Oregon

Vote for our schools, our economy and our community.
YES ON MEASURE 34-219

(This information furnished by Linda Degman, Yes For Beaverton Schools)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Last year, the Beaverton community proved its commitment to delivering a quality education to our children. Beaverton voters and state legislators worked together to provide the funding that allowed the Beaverton School District to add back teacher jobs, course offerings, and a school day.

This year, our district is in need of roof repairs, plumbing improvements and basic upgrades to technology and infrastructure, among many other items, that will improve the educational opportunities for our kids. We have a chance to support these at the same tax rate we pay right now. Members of the Beaverton chapter of Stand for Children Oregon reviewed the proposals, and believe that every improvement is necessary. The school board diligently prioritized projects to minimize the bond amount. If the bond measure does not pass, money meant to fund our renewed programs and school staff will be diverted to fund these projects. This bond absolutely deserves the support of our community.

Kids in school today have one chance at an excellent education. Please join Stand for Children Oregon members in supporting a safe and supportive teaching and learning environment for the next generation of leaders and innovators.

(This information furnished by Beth Gilstrap, Stand for Children Oregon)



**WHEN YOU ARE
FINISHED WITH THIS
VOTERS' PAMPHLET
PLEASE
RECYCLE
IT**