

MULTNOMAH COUNTY VOTERS' PAMPHLET

May 21, 2024, Primary Election

Need Assistance? Contact Us

**Multnomah County
Duniway-Lovejoy
Elections Building**
1040 SE Morrison Street,
Portland, OR 97214

 503-988-VOTE (8683)
800-735-2900 TTY
 Elections@MultCo.us
 [MultnomahVotes.gov](https://www.MultnomahVotes.gov)



Letter to the Voter

Dear Multnomah County Voter:

This part of your Voters' Pamphlet is provided by Multnomah County Elections. It includes information about candidates and measures from local jurisdictions within the boundaries of the County. The State Pamphlet (on either side of this color bar portion) includes federal and state candidates. Here are a few things you should know:

- Candidate contests for the City of Portland will not appear on the May 2024 ballot. Candidate contests for Portland elected offices will next appear on the Nov. 5, 2024, ballot — which will also be the City's first use of ranked choice voting. To learn more about ranked choice voting in upcoming City of Portland elections, visit www.Portland.gov/Vote.
- **Six official drop sites have been impacted by library construction closures this election. These include: Albina, Fairview-Columbia, Hillsdale, Holgate, Midland, and North Portland libraries.** If you frequent one of these library locations, you can view our 24-Hour Official Ballot Drop Sites page for more details on how to return your ballot at one of our new official ballot box locations.
- **For a list of official ballot drop sites in Multnomah County, please visit our website: MultCo.us/DropSites.**
- You can view your registration status at oregonvotes.gov/myvote. There you can update your voter registration or track your ballot. The Voter Registration/Party Change Deadline is April 30, 2024.
- **All voters will receive a ballot that contains nonpartisan contests and measures (where applicable). If you wish to vote for the Democratic or Republican Party candidates in the May Primary, you must register with one of those parties by the Voter Registration/Party Change deadline, April 30, 2024.**
- You can choose or change your party by updating your voter registration information online (with Oregon DMV ID) at OregonVotes.gov/MyVote or by filling out an Oregon Voter Registration Card found in this pamphlet or any Multnomah County library or post office. The Voter Registration/Party Choice Deadline is April 30, 2024.
- If you change your party affiliation near the April 30, 2024 deadline you may receive two ballots. Vote only the second ballot with your new party. The first ballot will not count.

- If you are registered with the Democratic or Republican party you will also receive a separate precinct committeeperson ballot. Precinct committee candidates do not appear in this Voters' Pamphlet. More information can be found on the back side of the precinct committeeperson ballot.
- Ballots will be mailed beginning on Wednesday, May 1. If you do not receive your ballot by Thursday, May 9, 2024, please call 503-988-VOTE (8683) or email Elections@MultCo.us.

To be counted, **voted ballots must be received at any County elections office in Oregon or official drop site location by 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 21, or postmarked by Tuesday, May 21.**

If you have any questions, you can contact our office at 503-988-VOTE (8683).

Sincerely,



Tim Scott, Multnomah County Director of Elections

PLEASE NOTE: Multnomah County Elections prints information as submitted. We do not correct spelling, punctuation, grammar, syntax, errors or inaccurate information.

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Translated Voting Information Available

Selected portions of this county voters' pamphlet are available in Simplified Chinese, Korean, Russian, Spanish, Ukrainian, and Vietnamese. These translations can be found online at OregonVotes.gov/MultnomahVP.

本县选民手册的部分内容提供简体中文版本。可以访 OregonVotes.gov/MultnomahVP 获取译本。

주 유권자 팜플렛의 선택된 부분은 한국어 준비되어 있습니다. 번역은 온라인 OregonVotes.gov/MultnomahVP 에서 찾아볼 수 있습니다.

Отдельные части брошюр избирателей этого округа доступны на русском языке. С данными переводами можно ознакомиться в Интернете по адресу: OregonVotes.gov/MultnomahVP.

Algunas secciones de este folleto para votantes del condado están disponibles en español. Estas traducciones están disponibles en línea en OregonVotes.gov/MultnomahVP.

Окремі частини брошур для виборців Мултнома каунті доступні українською мовою. Ці переклади можна знайти онлайн на веб-сторінці OregonVotes.gov/MultnomahVP.

Các phần được chọn trong tập thông tin cử tri quận này có bản ngôn ngữ tiếng Việt. Bản dịch có thể xem trực tuyến tại OregonVotes.gov/MultnomahVP.

Do you need support voting in your preferred language?

Interpretation services are available at no cost to you.

¿Necesita ayuda para votar en su idioma materno? Hay servicios de interpretación disponibles sin costo.

您在投票时是否需要母语帮助？可以免费为您提供口译服务。

Quý vị có cần sự trợ giúp bầu cử bằng ngôn ngữ ưu tiên của mình hay không? Các dịch vụ thông dịch có sẵn sẽ được cung cấp miễn phí cho quý vị.

هل أنت في حاجة إلى مساعدة للتصويت بلغتك الأم؟
توجد خدمات ترجمة فورية متاحة لك مجاناً

языке? Услуги устного языкового перевода предоставляются вам бесплатно.

모국어로 투표 관련 안내를 받고자 하시는 경우, 무료 통역 서비스를 받으실 수 있습니다.

Ma u baahantahay caawinta aad ku codeyneysid luuqaddaada hooyo? Adeegyada turjubaanka waxaa laguugu helayaa lacag la'aan.

Kailangan mo ba ng tulong sa pagboto gamit ang sarili mong wika? May makukuha kang libreng mga serbisyo sa pagsasalin.

貴方の母国語で投票するにあたって、手助けが必要ですか？通訳サービスは無料で利用できます。

Multnomah County Elections | 503-988-VOTE (8683) | Elections@MultCo.us

Return Your Ballot



Send us your ballot through the U.S. Mail. It must be postmarked on or before Election Day, Tuesday, May 21, 2024. No postage necessary.



Drop your ballot at any Official Ballot Drop Site in Oregon by 8:00 p.m. on or before Election Day, Tuesday, May 21, 2024.

24-Hour Official Ballot Drop Sites

Portland

North

- **Rose Quarter** – located on the south side of the Rose Quarter by the fountain & Rip City sign – **walk-up only**.
- **St. Johns Library** (Library Book Drop) – 7510 N Charleston Ave.
- **North Portland Library** – CLOSED – View Official Ballot Drop Box Location Changes page.
- **Kenton Library** (Library Book Drop) – 8226 N Denver Ave.
- **Formerly Green Zebra Grocery** – 3011 N Lombard St. (Official Ballot Drop Box located in rear parking lot off of N Curtis Ave.)
- **McCoy Park** – located on the southeast corner of McCoy Park (near the intersection N Trenton St. and Newman Ave.) – **walk-up only**.

Northeast

- **Albina Library** – CLOSED – View Official Ballot Drop Box Location Changes page.
- **Hollywood Library** (Library Book Drop) – 4040 NE Tillamook St.
- **McDonald's Restaurant** – 2010 NE César Chávez Blvd. – Official Ballot Drop Box located on west side of NE 40th Ave. between NE Tillamook St. and Hancock St. near the Hollywood Library.
- **Gregory Heights Library** (Library Book Drop) – 7921 NE Sandy Blvd.
- **Parkrose Neighborhood** – 4390 NE 102nd Ave. – Official Ballot Drop Box located in the east parking lot across the street from MHCC Maywood Park Center on NE 102nd Ave. and Prescott St.

Northwest

- **Northwest Library** (Library Book Drop) – 2300 NW Thurman St.

Southeast

- **Multnomah County Elections** – 1040 SE Morrison St.
 - **SE 11th Avenue** – Official Ballot Drop Box located on the east side of SE 11th Ave. between SE Morrison St. and Belmont St.
 - **SE Belmont Street** – Official Ballot Drop Box located on north side of SE Belmont St. between SE 10th Ave. and 11th Ave.
 - **1040 SE Morrison Street** – Walk/Bike-up Official Ballot Drop Site is a slot on the side of the building located at corner of SE 11th Ave. and Morrison St.

- **Belmont Library** (Library Book Drop) – 1038 SE César E. Chávez Blvd.
- **Sellwood–Moreland Library** (Library Book Drop) – 7860 SE 13th Ave.
- **Woodstock Library** (Library Book Drop) – 6008 SE 49th Ave.
- **Holgate Library** – CLOSED – View Official Ballot Drop Box Location Changes page.
- **Midland Library** – CLOSED – View Official Ballot Drop Box Location Changes page.
- **Regal Cinemas Movie Theater / M & M Car Wash** – SE Division St. and 165th Ave. – Official Ballot Drop Box located in Regal Cinemas parking lot behind M & M Car Wash.
- **Rockwood Library** (Library Book Drop) – 17917 SE Stark St.

Southwest

- **A–Boy Supply** – 7365 SW Barbur Blvd.
- **Capitol Hill Library** (Library Book Drop) – 10723 SW Capitol Hwy.
- **Hillsdale Library** – 1525 SW Sunset Blvd. – Official Ballot Drop Box is located on the sidewalk near the book drop – **walk-up only**.
- **Central Library** (Library Book Drop) – 801 SW 10th Ave. – Ballots can also be deposited in the **drive-up** book drop on SW 11th Ave. between SW Yamhill St. and Taylor St.
- **Pioneer Courthouse Square** – 700 block of SW Broadway (next to Starbucks and across from Nordstrom) – **walk-up only**

Fairview

- **Fairview–Columbia Library** – CLOSED – View Official Ballot Drop Box Location Changes page.

Gresham

- **Gresham Library** (Official Ballot Drop Box) – 385 NW Miller Ave.
- **Voting Center Express – Limited Hours** – Multnomah County East Building, 600 NE 8th St. – There is an Official Ballot Drop Box located inside the Voting Center Express on the first floor of the Multnomah County East Building. It is open only during voting center open hours. You will need to park and walk inside to drop your ballot.

Troutdale

- **Troutdale Library** (Library Book Drop) – 2451 SW Cherry Park Rd.

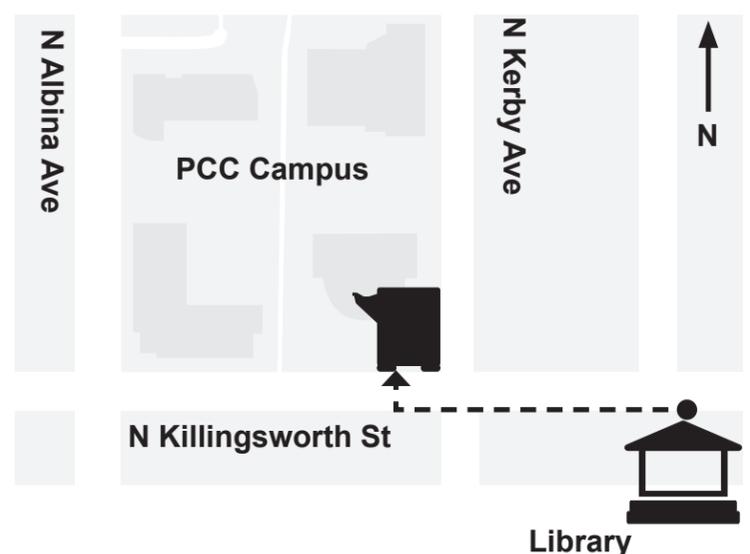
Official Ballot Drop Box Site Location Changes

The following six Official Ballot Drop Sites have been impacted by library closures. For Multnomah County Library closure information visit: [MultCoLib.org/library-construction-closures](https://multcolib.org/library-construction-closures). For a list of current official ballot drop sites in Multnomah County visit: [MultCo.us/DropSites](https://multco.us/DropSites).

North Portland

North Portland Library – 512 N Killingsworth St.
Library closed for construction.

If you use the North Portland Library to drop your ballot, please note: the nearest official ballot drop box is located at Portland Community College (PCC) Cascade Campus (705 N Killingsworth St.) at the corner of N Killingsworth St. and Kerby Ave. This is a walk-up ballot box.



Northeast Portland

Albina Library – 216 NE Knott St.

Library closed for construction.

If you use the Albina Library to drop your ballot, please note: the nearest official ballot drop box is located outside the Matt Dishman Community Center (77 NE Knott St.) This is a walk-up ballot box.

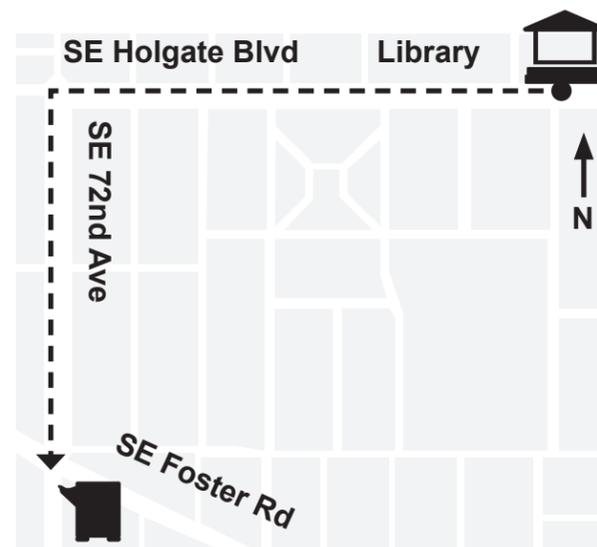


Southeast Portland

Holgate Library – 7905 SE Holgate Blvd.

Library closed for construction.

If you use the Holgate Library to drop your ballot, please note: the nearest official ballot drop box is located in the plaza of the Portland Mercado (7238 SE Foster Rd.) at SE Foster Rd. and 72nd Ave. This is a walk-up ballot box.



Midland Library –
805 SE 122nd Ave.

Library closed for construction.

If you use the Midland Library to drop your ballot, please note: the nearest official ballot drop box is located in the parking lot of the Multnomah County Hansen Bldg. (12240 NE Glisan St.) at the intersection of NE Glisan St. and 122nd Ave. This is a drive-up ballot box.

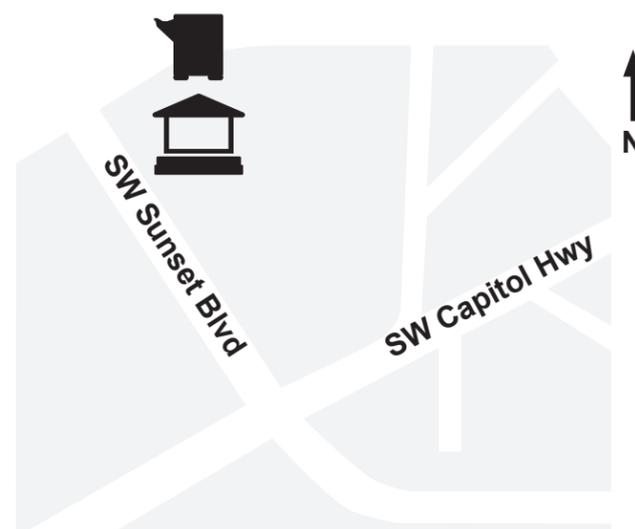


Southeast Portland

Hillsdale Library – 1525 SW Sunset Blvd.

Library closed for construction.

The 24-hour Official Ballot Drop Box (walk-up only) is located on the sidewalk near the book drop.



Fairview

Fairview-Columbia Library – 1520 NE Village St.
Library closed for construction.

If you use the Fairview-Columbia Library to drop your ballot, please note: the nearest official ballot drop box is located near the flagpole outside Fairview City Hall (1300 NE Village St.) This is a walk-up ballot box.



Sign up to Track Your Ballot!

Sign up for alerts via text messages, phone or email. Know when your ballot is mailed to you. After you vote and return your ballot, be alerted when it has been accepted for counting. Register online for Track Your Ballot at **Multnomah.Ballottrax.net**. This service is free to the voter.

Facts to Know About Voting

Who can register to vote in Oregon?

- You must be a United States citizen,
- A resident of Oregon,
- And at least 16 years old. You will get your first ballot in the mail once you are at least 18 years old.

You must register to vote at least 21 days before Election Day.

How can I register to vote?

- Online at OregonVotes.gov/register or
- On a paper Oregon Voter Registration Card that can be picked up at an elections office, DMV, public library, or post office.

How does vote by mail work?

All elections in Oregon are conducted by the county elections office. The elections office mails ballots directly to voters. Voters complete their ballots, and then return them to the county elections office in the mail or by putting them into an Official Ballot Drop Box.

Vote by mail in a few simple steps:

- 1) Register to Vote
- 2) Receive a Voter Notification Card
- 3) Receive a Voters' Pamphlet
- 4) Receive Your Ballot
- 5) Vote Your Ballot
- 6) Return Your Ballot

How do I vote my ballot?

Vote for One

Candidate 1

Candidate 2

OR Write-in on line above

Find the candidate or measure response (YES or NO) of your choice. Completely darken the oval to the left of your choice with blue or black ink. Do not use felt tip markers.

Write-in Votes

Vote for One

Candidate 1

Candidate 2

Candidate 3
OR Write-in on line above

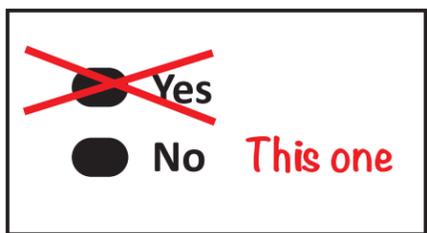
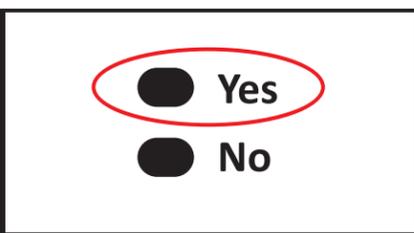
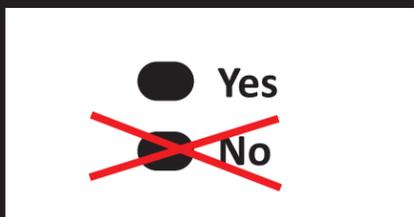
To vote for a write-in candidate who does not appear on the ballot, completely darken the oval to the left of the line provided for the office and write the full name of the candidate on that line.

- Make sure you have correctly marked your choice for each contest.
- Your official ballot may have contests printed on both sides.
- Place the ballot in the return identification envelope.
- Read the Voter's Statement on the return envelope and sign in the signature box.
- **Your ballot cannot be counted if you do not sign the return envelope.**
- Every signature is checked against the registration signature on file. The signatures must match for the ballot to be counted.

If you vote for more candidates than allowed for an office or if you vote **both Yes and No** on a measure, it is called an overvote and your vote **will not count** for that contest.

If you make a mistake or change your mind while marking your ballot,

- You may correct it yourself. See example below
- **Make your choice obvious** so that your intent is understood and your vote is counted correctly.

- If you are unable to correct your ballot, you may request a replacement ballot from the elections office.

Multnomah County Voters' Pamphlet

Multnomah County - County Commissioner, District 1



Kevin Fitts

Occupation: Executive Director, Oregon Mental Health Consumers Association

Occupational Background: 30+ years in the behavioral health field

Educational Background: Portland Community College

Prior Governmental Experience: Oregon Consumer Advisory Council; Multnomah County Behavioral Health Advisory Council; Governor's

Behavioral Health Advisory Council; Oregon Psilocybin Advisory Board; National Advisory Council Subcommittee on Consumer/Survivor Issues for CMHS; Oregon Addictions and Mental Health Planning Advisory Council; Oregon National Guard, SCC/DPO.

"I'm running for County Commissioner because I have the work experience and productive working relationships with stakeholders to revitalize county leadership. My perspective- including lived experience overcoming challenges related to mental illness, addiction, and homelessness- will energize partnerships for crucial progress towards fulfilling shared community values."- Kevin Fitts

Endorsements:

- "As a long term Union advocate with AFSCME, I worked with Kevin for affordable and accessible Mental Health Services in Multnomah County. I am happy to endorse his candidacy." **Mary Botkin, retired AFSCME union advocate**
- "If you are like me, embarrassed by local government, how about trying someone who knows what they are doing. I have known Kevin for thirty years and there is no one I respect more." **Michael T. Bailey, Past President of the National Disability Rights Network.**
- "Kevin is passionate and caring and can articulate solutions and build bridges between people with different perspectives in ways that are remarkable. He would do an amazing job in this position" –**Mark Salzer, Ph.D., university professor, and internationally-known researcher in the area of MH services**
- "Kevin is a long-time champion for people suffering mental health challenges, which is PRECISELY what Multnomah County needs RIGHT NOW to help resolve the public health crisis in the county." - **Julie Parrish, Former Oregon Legislator & House Health Care Committee Member, Attorney**
- **Other Endorsements:** Deborah Kafoury; Amanda Fritz; Laura Rose Misaras, MPA NFPM Consultant and Advocate; Jim Robison; Molly Griggs; David Oaks; Braunwynn Franklin, Chair, National Coalition for Mental Health Recovery; Daniel Fisher, MD, PhD; Amy Baker; Ali Koch; Ronald W. Mandersheid, PhD., **and others!**

www.Vote4KevinFitts.com

(This information furnished by Friends of Kevin Fitts)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by Multnomah County

Multnomah County - County Commissioner, District 1



Chris Henry

Occupation: Chair, Oregon Progressive Party

Occupational Background: 100% Working Class through-and-through, From Long Haul Trucking to Concrete Mixer Driver & Equipment Operator to Brick Mason, Concrete Finisher, Aircraft Mechanic & Restaurant Worker.

Educational Background: Currently attending Portland Community College and Portland State University (2024) Communication (major), Civic Leadership (minor).

Prior Governmental Experience: soon

Prior Candidacies: Ran for US Congress, US Senate, Attorney General, Governor, Treasurer, Labor Commissioner and Shop Steward.

Civic Leadership: Co-Chair: Pacific Green Party and Willamette Neighborhood Association. Board member: Oregon Voter Rights Coalition, Oregon Consumer League & Honest Elections Oregon.

WORKER SOLIDARITY PEOPLE'S CANDIDATE

I was born 9th to a large family of 12, which is utterly intrinsic to who I am and my view of the world. As one of many, I'm hardwired to serve the needs of the many. At 60, I have one daughter and three granddaughters... and I'm the grandson of Eisenhower's speechwriter, Kevin McCann.

HUNGER, HOUSING, HOMELESSNESS & MENTAL HEALTH

Affordable housing and addressing homelessness are fundamental rights. I'll advocate for policies ensuring safe, affordable housing, and robust support services for stability and self-sufficiency.

HEALTHCARE, TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE

Equitable healthcare and a well-connected transportation network are crucial. I'll champion Universal Healthcare and prioritize investments in public transit, bicycle infrastructure, and pedestrian safety.

EQUITY, SOCIAL JUSTICE & A PUBLICLY OWNED BANK

Social justice is core to my platform. I'll work to dismantle systemic barriers and champion policies addressing racial disparities and economic inequality. I'll advocate for a publicly owned Multnomah County Bank to fund public works projects and cut out Wall Street middlemen.

RADICALLY SUSTAINABLE PEOPLE'S ENERGY GRID

To combat energy rate hikes, I'll advocate for a Publicly Owned Utility and policies promoting renewable energy, including replacing timber harvest with industrial hemp.

I humbly ask for your support to be a voice for progress and positive change in Multnomah County. Let's build a just, equitable, and resilient community together.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

www.chrishenry.org

(This information furnished by Chris Henry for Oregon)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by Multnomah County

Multnomah County - County Commissioner, District 1



Vadim Mozyrsky

Occupation: Administrative Law Judge

Occupational Background: Lawyer; Volunteer; Community Board Leader

Educational Background: UT Austin; UT School of Law

Prior Governmental Experience: Portland Charter Commission; Committee on Community Engaged Policing; Citizen Review Committee; Commission on Disability

Community Experience: President, Goose Hollow Neighborhood; Vice-Chair, NAACP PAC; Regional Vice President, IFPTE (AFL-CIO)

Let me be blunt: Too many of our local systems are broken.

People in our community can't count on a quick response from first responders. We've funded first-rate mental health and addiction services, but too few people actually get services. Unsheltered homelessness has reached emergency levels, and it's gone on far too long.

As an experienced public servant and administrative law judge, I can make these systems finally work for our community.

I've volunteered thousands of hours with citizens' committees in our city. I've always been a collaborative problem solver that brings people together for practical, commonsense solutions.

"Vadim has the experience and sense of urgency we need on the Multnomah County Commission." ~Maria Rojo de Steffey, former District 1 County Commissioner.

We must make faster progress to end homelessness.

Unsheltered homeless people need access to services to deal with poverty, addiction, and mental health challenges. We must rapidly expand temporary shelter and dedicated camping sites and ban camping everywhere else.

When you call 911, you expect a fast response. The county must move immediately to fix the ambulance crisis.

Community Leaders & Organizations Support Vadim:

Willamette Women Democrats

Portland Fire Fighters Association

Northwest Oregon Labor Council

Columbia Pacific Building & Construction Trades Council

IBEW Local 48

Avel Gordly, former state senator

Dan Ryan, city commissioner

Mingus Mapps, city commissioner

Rene Gonzalez, city commissioner

Keith Wilson, community leader

Vince Jones-Dixon, Gresham city councilor

Maria Rojo de Steffey, former county commissioner

Loretta Smith, former county commissioner

Eddie Wang, school board member

Lisa Schroeder, Mother's Bistro

Neighborhood Association Leaders Support Vadim:

Marita Inglasbe, Hayhurst

Chris Eykamp, Hosford-Abernethy

Scott Schaffer, Goose Hollow

Jessie Burke, Old Town

Kim Silverman, SW Hills

More: votevadim.com

(This information furnished by Friends of Vadim)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by Multnomah County

Multnomah County - County Commissioner, District 1



Meghan Moyer

Occupation: Policy Director, Disability Rights Oregon

Occupational Background: Construction Management; Business Owner; Government Relations Director, Portland Community College; National PTA

Educational Background: BA, MA, Political Science, American University

Prior Governmental Experience: Oregon Commission on Child Care; Oregon Youth Development Council; Governor's Healthcare Transition Team

Community Service: Director, Basic Rights Oregon; Director, Oregon Tradeswomen

Dear Neighbors,

I'll get right to the point. **WE CAN DO BETTER.**

How? **Vote for doers, not talkers.**

I'm running to change the way the County does business and delivers on critical responsibilities:

- Fixing our Broken Mental Health and Addiction Systems
- Fixing Preschool for All
- Creating Safe Communities

This is not the time to abandon compassion or give up.

Multnomah County needs to be in emergency mode until our homeless are sheltered and our neighborhoods are safe for all our residents.

We need proven leaders at the helm to make it happen.

Proven Record of Results:

- 20 years of creating comprehensive policies and services for the most vulnerable members of our communities.
- As a general contractor with her own small business, Meghan built low-income housing on time and on budget.
- As a project manager for Skanska, Meghan successfully guided projects that required zero tolerance for failure.

"Meghan successfully fought to get health insurance for over 30,000 home care workers." Joye Willman, President SEIU Local 99

"I've worked with Meghan to fight discrimination in health care, and I know she's the right person for the job." – Senator Elizabeth Steiner

Now is not the time for on-the-job training.

Join us in supporting a proven leader.

AFSCME Local 88

Oregon AFSCME Council 75

Portland Association of Teachers

SEIU Oregon

Oregon League of Conservation Voters

Basic Rights PAC

Building Power for Communities of Color

Portland for All

The Street Trust Action Fund

Advocates for Disability Supports

Governor Kate Brown

Senators Elizabeth Steiner, Chris Gorsek, Sara Gelser-Blouin

Representative Zach Hudson

Metro Councilor Mary Nolan

Sonja Fischer

Mary Jaeger

Bob Joondeph

Diane Rosenbaum

Chip Shields

www.MeghanforMultnomah.org

(This information furnished by Meghan Moyer)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by Multnomah County

Multnomah County - County Commissioner, District 2



**Jessie
Burke**

Occupation: Small Business Owner: The Society Hotel

Occupational Background: Founder, Posies Bakery & Café; Education Coordinator, Native American Youth & Family Center; After-School Teacher, Roosevelt High School; Athlete, U.S. World Team (Fencing)

Educational Background: Portland State University, Public Administration, Masters; Pennsylvania State University, Elementary Education, Bachelors

Prior Governmental Experience: Governor's Task Force; Prosper Portland Central City TIF Committee; Chair of Old Town Community Association; President of Kenton Business Association; U.S. Fencing Association Board of Directors

Brave Leadership. Real Solutions.

Every day I see outside my doors the failed leadership and misguided policies of Multnomah County. From organized crime to human trafficking, and overdoses on our sidewalks; there are always promises of solutions, only for each plan to fall short. Yet these are solvable problems.

We need a **central database of available shelter beds** using software like hotels use; We need to **increase walk-in shelter beds** - no one plans to be homeless, so reservation requirements are unreasonable; We need **sobering centers** because it's unsafe for those high on methamphetamines or fentanyl to roam the streets. Meth highs are a risk to others, and unconscious fentanyl users are at risk of being assaulted and trafficked. We must act with urgency.

If we want different results, it's time for a new generation of leadership.

COMMUNITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Creator of 90-Day Reset model used in Old Town, St Johns, and Central Eastside
- \$2MM from State Legislature to bring housing and jobs to Old Town.
- \$1MM to improve Old Town infrastructure and keep small businesses safe.
- Restarted the Kenton Business Association
- Co-founder of the Kenton Street Fair

ENDORSEMENTS:

- Sharon Meieran, Multnomah County Commissioner
- Dan Ryan, Portland Commissioner
- Vince Jones-Dixon, Gresham City Councilor
- Amanda Fritz, Former Portland Commissioner
- Mike Lindbergh, Former Portland Commissioner
- Portland Fire Fighters' Association
- Portland Police Association
- Multnomah County Deputy Sheriffs Association
- Future Portland
- United for Portland
- Theotis Cason, Cason's Fine Meats
- Mimi Adams, Mimi's Fresh Tees
- Lisa Schroder, Mother's Bistro
- Tom Griffin-Valade, Former Executive Director of North Portland Community Works

Full list: www.JessieBurke.com

(This information furnished by Jessie Burke's Positivity PAC)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by Multnomah County

Multnomah County - County Commissioner, District 2



Sam

Adams

Occupation: Policy Advocate

Occupational Background: World Resources Institute; City Club of Portland

Educational Background: University of Oregon (BA Political Science)

Prior Governmental Experience: Portland Strategic Innovations Dir, Mayor, City Commissioner, Chief of Staff

MULTNOMAH COUNTY: LET FIX IT!

We have no more time to waste.

Too often, **Multnomah County decision making lacks focus, urgency, and accountability.** I offer a track record of success bringing people together to tackle big bureaucratic problems.

Day one, I will hit the ground running:

- Starting in Portland, adopt a **countywide phased-in ban on self-sited camping.**
- New County support to **help fund 20,000 new rental housing units** in 10 years.
- **Reopen County sobering center**, more effective drug, and mental illness services.
- Open more County jail beds, hire more DAs, public defenders, expand recovery programs to **stop violence and crime.**

“Sam is a man of action... **And sometimes he moves faster than others might like...** Under the circumstances, **action is really important.**”

- *Jim Middaugh, Portland Monthly, July 2022*

“**He is a strong leader... He is accessible,** decisive and executes quickly.”

- *The Skanner, May 1, 2020*

“Adams... cutting through City Council opposition by advising the mayor to **declare a series of emergency orders that cleared campers.**”

- *Willamette Week, Jan. 17, 2024*

“**His upbringing included tough times,** made tougher when government failed to help his family, and **that fuels his deep passion for getting public services right,** especially those going through their own tough times.”

- *Antoinette Edwards, Community Elder*

Endorsements include:

- **Willamette Women Democrats**
- **United for Portland**
- **Multnomah County Commissioners from when the county worked better:** Gary Hansen, Diane McKeel, Lisa Naito, Dan Saltzman, Judy Shiprack, and Maria Rojo de Steffe.

See more at www.multcoforsam.com

Ideas? Questions? Call or text me 503-421-8925 Sam

(This information furnished by Friends of Sam Adams)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by Multnomah County

Multnomah County - County Commissioner, District 2



Carlos Jermaine

Richard

Occupation: Warner Pacific University, Adjunct Professor; Multnomah County Department of County Human Services, Equity & Inclusion Manager

Occupational Background: United Way of the Columbia-Willamette, Director of Successful Families 2020; Multnomah County Department of Community Justice, Program Manager; State of Oregon Department of Human Services, Child Welfare Caseworker, Human Service Case Manager, Human Service Specialist, Office Manager

Volunteer Experience: Former SEIU Sub-Local 202 (Local 503) President; Former Chief Steward SEIU Local 503; Former Shop Steward SEIU Local 503

Educational Background: BS Political Science, Portland State University; MA Theology, Warner Pacific University; Masters Divinity, George Fox University; Doctorate Leadership, George Fox University

Prior Governmental Experience: Former Chair & Commissioner Oregon Commission on Black Affairs; Historic Albina Advisory Committee

Carlos Jermaine Richard is a lifelong resident of N/NE Portland and has spent decades in the trenches supporting, advocating, and providing direct services to the most vulnerable and marginalized members of the district. He understands the needs of youth gaining experience at Self Enhancement, Inc., the needs of working families at the State of Oregon, and small business owners shadowing his late uncle JB, former owner of One Stop Records in Portland, Oregon. The focus of his leadership will encompass the following:

- Community Safety and Livability
- Youth and Working Families
- Economic Stability
- A strategic plan for housing and shelter
- Support and Advocacy for Immigrants and Refugees
- Support and Advocacy for Small Businesses
- Support and Advocacy for Mental Health Services
- Veterans Services
- Support and Advocacy for Seniors

Connect with the movement:

E-mail crichard10@georgefox.edu
Facebook [facebook.com/carlos.richard.98](https://www.facebook.com/carlos.richard.98)
Phone 503-894-3941

(This information furnished by Dr. Carlos Jermaine Richard)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by Multnomah County

Multnomah County - County Commissioner, District 2



Nicholas (Nick)

Hara

Occupation: Data Consultant

Occupational Background: Data Director – Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez for Congress; Technical Data Consultant – Tableau; Public Involvement & Facilitation Associate – Triangle Associates

Educational Background: Skidmore College – Political Economy – BA

Prior Governmental Experience: NONE

I believe in a thriving future Multnomah.

I'm a fourth generation Japanese-American, father, and expert in data for local governments. During WWII my family was forced from Multnomah and interned for being Japanese. Fear and division meant neighbors did not help; instead, we were moved out of sight.

Today, I see seeds of division around addiction, mental crisis, and safety. We experience not just our own insecurities, but our neighbors' as well. As safety nets fail, everyone becomes more exposed.

We are stuck in a cycle of ineffective half-measures as the same old political voices play tug-of-war.

There is another way. **Local government is our collective commitment to each other**, its funds and policies should help our neighbors. We keep us safe. We support one another. We hold each other accountable.

I'm invested in meaningful effective change--not political points. I will use science-backed policies that reflect our community's values to build the future we believe in. That means coalitions that include Black, LGBTQIA+, Hispanic/Latine, Indigenous, and immigrant communities. It means supporting local businesses and creating high wage job opportunities.

I will fight for real accountability and transparency, and I have the background to make that a reality. I applied impactful data with food banks, international corporations, the United Nations, and congressional campaigns. I studied how local governments collaboratively manage scarce resources.

I will champion:

- Collaborative governance that includes vulnerable communities.
- Impactful data-informed policies reflecting on-the-ground experiences.
- Modern budgeting in line with national standards.
- Understandable and accessible resources for all Multnomah citizens.
- A complete inventory of vacant units in Multnomah. Matching policies that disincentivize unreasonable vacancies.
- Direct incentives that reduce pollution and prepare us for climate change.

Proudly endorsed by Oregon Futures Lab and Color PAC.

(This information furnished by Hara for Multnomah)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by Multnomah County

Multnomah County - County Commissioner, District 2



Shannon Singleton

Occupation: Social Work; Project Management

Occupational Background: Governor's Housing Policy Advisory and Director of Equity and Racial Justice, JOIN's Executive Director;

Educational Background: BSW, MSW

Prior Governmental Experience: Home for Everyone Coordinating Board, Portland Housing Advisory Commission, Metro Housing Bond Oversight Committee

"You will hear lots of candidates list the problems we face. But you will find very few who can lead us to real, lasting solutions. Shannon has the experience and the vision to accelerate the change we need in Multnomah County" **Marcus Mundy**

Now more than ever we need leaders with direct experience in the complex systems the County is responsible for. That's why I'm running to be your next Commissioner.

I will prioritize:

- Cost effective, proven and measurable solutions.
- Listening to the people most impacted by the decisions I'll make because they know what change is needed.
- Real time public facing data and information.

My track record:

- Introduced new transparent data reporting to Multnomah County's Joint Office of Homeless Services.
- Helped thousands of people move off the streets and receive the care they needed to stay housed.
- Worked with Democrats and Republicans to house Oregon youth leaving foster care.
- Launched Portland's first behavioral health street outreach team.
- Led Governor Brown's Racial Justice Council, securing millions of dollars for priorities in Oregon's communities of color.

"With Shannon's leadership, Oregon landed \$450 million in federal funding for the Rose Quarter project to reconnect the Historic Albina neighborhood." **Governor Kate Brown**

Join Us In Supporting Shannon!

AFSCME Local 88

Oregon AFSCME Council 75

IBEW Local 48

Basic Rights PAC

Color PAC

Oregon Futures Lab

SEIU Oregon

Portland Association of Teachers

Working Families Party

APANO Action Fund

East County Rising AF

Portland for All

Building Power for Communities of Color

Governor Kate Brown

Senator Kayse Jama

Representatives Maxine Dexter
and Travis Nelson

Loretta Smith

Marcus Mundy

Willy Meyers, Labor Leader (retired)

Salomé Chimuku

Stephen Green

Danny Cage

Tina Edlund

Candace Avalos

Brian Hoop

www.shannonsingleton.org

(This information furnished by Friends of Shannon Singleton)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by Multnomah County

Multnomah County - County Commissioner, District 3



Julia

Brim-Edwards

Occupation: Multnomah County Commissioner

Occupational Background: Small business owner; Sr. Director, Nike; PPS School Board; OSU Board Trustee

Educational Background: Oregon State University, BA; Washington-Monroe HS

Prior Governmental Experience: Staff: Oregon Legislature, U.S. Senate

MULTNOMAH COUNTY HAS BIG PROBLEMS. ELECT JULIA TO FIX THEM.

Dear Eastside Neighbor:

Eleven months ago, you elected me to a partial term to get the County back on track. County leadership failed to effectively act on the crises in our neighborhoods: rising homelessness, untreated drug addiction, declining neighborhood safety, and increasing costs of living. Every day, I'm working for you, focused on delivering change and results, not excuses. I ask for your vote for a full term as your county commissioner. –Julia

JULIA IS DISRUPTING THE STATUS QUO

“(T)he midyear election of Julia Brim-Edwards...brought new drive to the Multnomah County Commission.... Brim-Edwards not only helped shape subsequent spending plans to address a spectrum of outcome focused investments, but she is leading efforts to create a sorely needed sobering center and pushed the commission to fund proposals it rejected under the rigid direction of...” previous leadership. --*The Oregonian*, 12/31/23 Editorial

JULIA: JUST GETTING STARTED:

- **LESS TENTS, MORE SHELTER:** Led efforts for more shelter beds, life-saving services, and housing to transition people safely off the streets.
- **EMERGENCY DRUG/ALCOHOL SOBERING:** The leader creating a 24/7 Drop Off Sobering Center as a first step to sobriety and a connection to treatment.
- **NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY:** Insisted on critical community corrections funding, more first responder staffing.
- **ACCOUNTABILITY:** Demanding transparency so tax dollars are effectively spent.
- **SMART DECISIONS:** Strongly opposed closing warming shelters during the ice storm.

**“We can count on Julia. She’ll fight for families, local businesses, and East Portland.”
—Michael Liu, Fubonn Shopping Center**

We Support Julia!

Portland Firefighters Association, IAFF Local 43

AFSCME Local 88

SEIU

Oregon AFSCME Council 75

Deputy Sheriffs Association

Oregon League of Conservation Voters

former County Auditor Gary Blackmer

State Representatives Thuy Tran, Rob Nosse

Community Leaders: Duncan Hwang, Lisa Naito, Eddie Wang, Herman Green

More: www.JuliaBrim-Edwards.com

(This information furnished by Friends of Julia Brim-Edwards)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by Multnomah County

Multnomah County - County Commissioner, District 3



TJ Noddings

Occupation: Housing Navigator for unhoused Oregonians

Occupational Background: Community organizer & advocate; Program manager; Policy researcher

Educational Background: University of Florida, BA; American Heritage School

Prior Governmental Experience: None

The cost of living is simply too high. Rent is unaffordable, and as things are it will only get worse. Every year rent and utilities go up, but our wages do not. Every week residents are served evictions, more than 80% of which are for non-payment (EvictedinOregon.com), pushing us out of our homes and onto the street so that landlords can increase profits. Multnomah has the highest per-capita eviction filing rate in Oregon.

Our current commissioner running for re-election, who owns 2 investment properties in Portland and is an honoree of a real estate big interest group, has not and will not serve us. Ask yourself: is the path we're on working? How easy is it to pay your bills? How many missed paychecks away are you from eviction or foreclosure?

We need an immediate, radical shift in our approach to housing and affordability now.

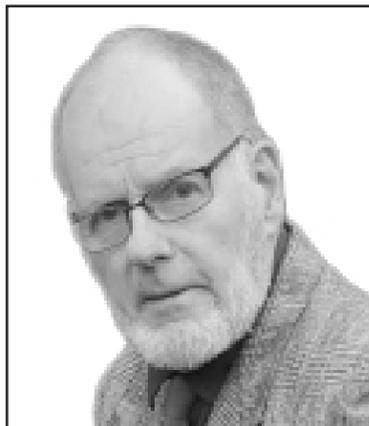
- Call for the repeal of Oregon's ban on local rent control, so that Multnomah can freeze rents – keeping more renters housed, rather than evicted because they cannot keep up with rising rents.
- Establish the right to legal representation for all tenants facing an eviction.
- Adopt the successful Renters Bill of Rights passed in Tacoma, WA (tacoma4all.org) to cap excessive fees like pet rent and late fees, among other protections.
- Repurpose the 26% of retail and 16% of offices that are sitting vacant as affordable housing for the lowest income and houseless residents.
- Create a publicly-funded Social Housing Developer, like Seattle and Montgomery County in Maryland, to build decommodified social housing.
- Pursue rent caps tied to the local minimum wage, such that anyone working full time on minimum wage can afford a standard 1-bedroom apartment with no more than 30% of their income.

Read more at www.tj4housing.com

(This information furnished by TJ Noddings)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by Multnomah County

Multnomah County - County Commissioner, District 4



**Timothy O.
Youker (T.O.Y.)**

Occupation: Philanthropist, Information Research, Teacher

Occupational Background: Portland and Gresham business owner, Portland Candidate for commissioner (2010), Non-profit Information Research, Dump Trucking business, US Bank employee, City of Portland employee, Utility work, Community service Entertainment business

Educational Background: Completed High School, Community College, Trade School, Project Management, Problem Solving and Decision Making, OSHA, Heavy Equipment Operation

Prior Governmental Experience: Oregon National Guard, City of Portland, Contract work for the Multnomah County and the City of Portland.

Community Service, Education, Public Service

I have donated product, time and services to my community and general public since 1980

Timothy O. Youker (T.O.Y.)

I will focus on:

As a County Commissioner: **A** Lifetime resident of our community, I plan to help make much needed changes to our community; by facilitating **solar power** incentives, advocating for **preschool** access for all, **education**, **mental health**, funding **housing** for the homeless, including access to **vocational training** for our lower income residence and the homeless, I will also support a **GUN BUY BACK** and destroy program, **Accountability**.

Votetoy2024@gmail.com

<http://m.facebook.com>tim.youker>

(This information furnished by Tim Youker)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by Multnomah County

Multnomah County - County Commissioner, District 4



Brian Knotts

Occupation: Small Business Owner/Consultant

Occupational Background: IT Consultant; Software Developer; Broadcasting

Educational Background: Humboldt State University, Speech Communication, B.A.

Prior Governmental Experience: None

The problem

The current commissioners have been running things for years. What is the result? We have declining quality of life, addicts dying in the streets, petty crime going unpunished, rampant vandalism/graffiti, and roads that are nearly impassable. In addition to the damage to personal vehicles, this creates dangerous conditions where emergency services cannot function effectively. Meanwhile, more and more tax revenue is being collected at the county level.

This isn't a question of ideology, but one of competence and priorities.

We need a new direction.

The solution

Instead of embarking on quixotic pursuits that are firmly within the domain of the state or federal governments, the county should be:

- Joining, as an amicus curiae, an appeal of Martin v. Boise and Black v. City of Grants Pass, which together are tying the hands of counties and municipalities in addressing unsafe and unsanitary camps on public property
- Reemphasizing proper road maintenance in the budget
- Encouraging the District Attorney's and Sheriff's offices to undo some of the ill-advised soft-on-crime policies adopted in recent years
- Exploring new solutions to the homeless mental health crisis, instead of rewarding the nonprofit-industrial complex, possibly revamping the Wapato Jail as a secure drug treatment facility
- Concentrating on the core functions of county government

The challenges

I am under no illusion that any of this will be easy to accomplish, in the face of powerful entrenched interests, who will fight any real reforms. Nevertheless, we need someone to stand up to the powers that be. Should I prevail, I would be honored to represent you, and provide a voice on the board against this dysfunctional system that wastes your tax dollars and fails to serve you.

I humbly ask for your vote.

Let's start the long process of fixing our broken county government and bringing some order to the chaos.

(This information furnished by Brian Knotts)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by Multnomah County

Multnomah County - County Commissioner, District 4



Vince Jones-Dixon

Occupation: Gresham City Councilor; Business Development Manager; Community Affairs Consultant

Occupational Background: Funeral Director, Nonprofit Executive

Educational Background: Mt. Hood Community College; De La Salle North Catholic High School

Prior Governmental Experience: Gresham City Council, 2020- Present; Metro Policy Advisory Committee, Chair 2022-2023; Local Public Safety Coordinating Council, Executive Committee Member

Dear East County Neighbor,

I'm running to be your County Commissioner to bring urgency and accountability to our emergency and safety net systems. The lingering challenges from the COVID pandemic and the surge in fentanyl and other drugs are threatening many in our community.

Despite good intentions of past leaders, many of our systems are failing to meet the stress tests we are now facing.

We need to let go of "the way it used to be" and get with the now. We have the opportunity to create a better future for us all, and as we have all learned from recent new reports, our county, regional, and state government has the money to fund solutions.

My top priorities are:

- Real solutions to prevent and manage homelessness
- Mental health and addiction services
- Community Safety

Our community deserves:

- Emergency services that provide essential care and respond quickly.
- Easy access to information regarding services for those in need or at risk.
- Efficient and accountable government that uses its resources effectively.

Proudly Endorsed by Community Leaders and Advocates

Gresham Professional Fire Fighters IAFF Local 1062

Portland Firefighters Association (PFFA), IAFF Local 43

Northwest Oregon Labor Council, AFL-CIO

SEIU Oregon - Local 49 & 503

Oregon AFSCME Council 75

Portland Metro Chamber

Oregon League of Conservation Voters

East County Rising (ECR)

Home Building Association of Greater Portland

APANO Action Fund

Building Power for Communities of Color

Future Portland PAC

Oregon Working Families Party

Governor Tina Kotek

State Senator Chris Gorsek

State Representative Zach Hudson

State Representative Ricki Ruiz

State Representative Hoa Nguyen

Former Commissioner Diane McKeel

Mayor Joe Buck

(This information furnished by Friends of Vince Jones-Dixon)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by Multnomah County

Metro - Metro Councilor, District 5



**Mary
Nolan**

Occupation: Councilor; Co-Owner, Artsify LLC

Occupational Background: CEO, Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon; VP, FamilyCare Health Plans; President, AvroTec avionics hardware.

Educational Background: public high school; Dartmouth College

Prior Governmental Experience: Oregon State Representative; Portland Director of Environmental Services

kHanuNakwst

Juntos Cùng nhau 一起 Вместе معا Together

Proven Leader.

Authentic Ally.

Generous Mentor.

We support Nolan to achieve these priorities for Metro:

- * A Climate our Kids can Live with
Rep. Khanh Pham
Oregon League of Conservation Voters
- * People Moving from the Streets into Homes
Oregonians for Affordable Housing
- * Lions and Tigers and Music!
Dañel Malan-Gonzalez, Performing Arts Leader
Willamette Women Democrats
- * Land, Air, Water, Wonder
Robert Liberty, former Director, 1000 Friends of Oregon
Sen. Kayse Jama
- * Equity and Justice
Sen. Lew Frederick
NW Oregon Labor Council

Gracias Cảm ơn bạn 谢 Спасибо شكرا Masi

Thank you

(Please visit nolanformetro.com for insight and details on my priorities and accomplishments with community.)

(This information furnished by Mary Nolan)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by Multnomah County

Metro - Metro Councilor, District 6



Duncan

Hwang

Occupation: Metro Councilor; Community Development Director, Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO), Adjunct Professor, Portland State University

Occupational Background: Attorney; Law Clerk, Clackamas District Attorney

Educational Background: JD, Lewis and Clark Law School; BA, University of Michigan

Prior Governmental Experience: Metro Affordable Housing Bond Stakeholder Committee; Portland Economic Recovery Task Force; TriMet Low Income Fare Task Force, Portland Central City Task Force

My tenure representing District 6 on the Metro Council has been guided by an unwavering commitment to provide progressive representation to my diverse constituents while also prioritizing government accountability and fiscal responsibility.

I am proud of my accomplishments over the past two years on the Metro Council, among them:

- Guided implementation of the affordable housing measure; the 2018 housing bond is set to produce 4,700 new affordable housing units, 20% more than originally planned.
- Held counties accountable through a corrective plan to ensure they are spending their share of Metro's Supportive Housing Measure to address our region's houselessness crisis.
- Co-chaired committee working to plan FX Bus Service to 82nd Ave to improve transit, including securing \$5 million working with state legislature for land banking to mitigate displacement.

I'm honored for the opportunity to once again ask for your vote in my reelection campaign.

Labor, Business, Environmental and Community Leaders Agree:

Reelect Duncan for Metro!

"We're lucky to have Councilor Duncan Hwang's collaborative leadership to champion the revitalization of 82nd Avenue and to guide our regional government. I strongly endorse reelecting him to another term at Metro."

- Earl Blumenauer

Representative Khanh Pham

Representative Thuy Tran

Metro Councilor Ashton Simpson

Multnomah County Commissioner Julia Brim-Edwards

Portland Commissioner Carmen Rubio

Northwest Oregon Labor Council

Ironworkers Local 29

IBEW Local 48

Portland Association of Teachers PAC

Oregon League of Conservation Voters

East County Rising

Portland Metropolitan Association of REALTORS®

Home Building Association of Greater Portland

Portland Metro Chamber

很荣幸得到你的投票。 I'd be honored to have your vote.

Learn more: www.duncanformetro.com

(This information furnished by Friends of Duncan Hwang)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by Multnomah County

Multnomah County Voters' Pamphlet

City of Gresham

Measure 26-247

BALLOT TITLE

Five-year operating levy, retain and hire firefighters and police officers.

Question: Shall Gresham improve fire, police, and public safety responsiveness with a five-year levy, \$1.35/\$1,000 assessed value, beginning July 1, 2024? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

Summary: Gresham's population has grown 19% over the past twenty years, while daily minimum firefighter staffing only increased 9%. Gresham has one less sworn police officer than twenty years ago.

Over the same time, calls for fire service have increased 69% and shootings in Gresham have spiked 400% in recent years. The combination of rising need and fewer personnel means slower emergency response times and fewer patrol officers to prevent crimes.

This levy will retain existing positions, fund 13 new firefighters and 9 new police officers. By law, the levy can only be used for police and fire services.

The current \$15 per month Police, Fire and Parks fee only funds 9% of public safety services and is not enough to meet the growing demand for services. A dedicated levy will enhance fire and police protection and responsiveness. The levy will not replace the existing fee.

The average cost of the levy on a Gresham home would be \$25.65 per month (based on an average assessed, not market, value of \$228,000), beginning July 1, 2024.

Estimated revenue:

- \$12,100,000 in 2024/25
- \$12,450,000 in 2025/26
- \$12,800,000 in 2026/27
- \$13,200,000 in 2027/28
- \$13,600,000 in 2028/29
- Five-year total: \$64,150,000

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

To meet the growing need and demand for additional fire and police services and to better serve and protect all Gresham residents, the City Council is asking voters to support a dedicated five-year levy to fund 13 new firefighters and 9 new police officers. If passed, voters will decide in five years whether or not to renew it.

Why is a levy needed and how will it be spent?

More people need more first responders. The number of firefighters and police officers has not kept pace with city population growth. Gresham's population has grown 19% over the past twenty years, while daily minimum firefighter staffing has only increased 9%. Gresham has one less sworn police officer than twenty years ago.

A dedicated levy will result in more firefighters and police officers to better serve and protect all Gresham residents.

In an emergency, every second counts. Increasing calls for emergency, and often life-saving, fire and police services combined with too few first responders means slower response times.

This levy retains an average of 30 public safety positions per year and funds 13 more firefighter positions and 9 more police officer positions, leading to quicker response times and a safer community. By law, the levy can only be used for police and fire services.

More safety for seniors, children, and neighborhoods. 20% of Gresham residents are age 60 and over and 23% are age 18 or under. The city is home to 28 senior living communities, 138 adult foster care homes, and 3 school districts serving more than 30,000 children.

A dedicated levy will mean more neighborhood patrols to prevent, engage, and investigate drug related crimes and property and violent crimes that threaten community safety.

The current public safety fee is essential but not enough. The \$15 per month Police, Fire, and Parks fee paid on utility bills funds just 9% of existing public safety services. The fee is not enough to meet the growing need for additional firefighters and police officers to enhance public safety.

A dedicated levy will allow more neighborhood patrols to prevent and investigate drug related crimes, property crimes and gun violence.

An independent taxpayer committee will ensure oversight, accountability, and annual audits. Levy revenue will be placed in a dedicated and protected account overseen by a 7-member committee of Gresham residents. The committee will make annual reports to the City Council and levy spending will be audited each year. The levy will raise an estimated \$64 million over five years (\$12 to \$14 million each year).

Visit GreshamOregon.gov/Fire-Police-Levy for more information.

Submitted by:

*Rachael Gangelhoff, City Recorder
City of Gresham*

NO ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION WERE FILED.

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Dear Gresham Voters,
As a lifelong advocate for our community, I am committed to enhancing the safety and security of our city. My husband is a retired firefighter, and my son currently serves as a firefighter, which deepens my resolve to support the proposed five-year operating levy for fire and police services (measure 26-247).

Gresham's growth has outpaced our public safety resources, leading to increased emergency response times and a spike in crime rates. In fact, our population has grown 19% over the past twenty years, while daily minimum firefighter staffing only increased by 9%. **And Gresham has one less sworn police officer than twenty years ago.** But as you know, calls for fire service have increased 69%, and shootings in Gresham have spiked

400% in recent years. The rising need for public safety and inadequate staffing mean slower emergency response times and fewer patrol officers to prevent crimes.

I am only supporting this levy because it is critical for our safety, especially that of our seniors and children. Let's show our firefighters and police officers that they have our support.

The proposed levy aims to address these challenges at \$1.35 per \$1,000 of assessed property value. With an average monthly cost of less than \$30 for homeowners, the levy is a prudent investment in our collective safety and security. The levy's strict accountability measures, including oversight by an independent committee of residents and annual audits, guarantee that funds are used effectively for public safety enhancements. I am personally committed to holding the city accountable to these safeguards.

I urge you to support this levy to fortify our city's resilience against emergencies and crime. It's a commitment to our community's safety, honoring the dedication of all first responders.

Vote for a safer Gresham. Your support is crucial.

Warm regards,

Cathy Keathley

(This information furnished by Cathy Keathley)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

GRESHAM FIREFIGHTERS URGE A YES VOTE ON MEASURE 26-247

Dear Gresham Residents:

We are proud to serve as Gresham firefighters. We take our responsibility to protect you very seriously.

In an emergency or crisis, like a house fire, a medical emergency, or devastating storms... **we don't wait... we respond.**

Fires double in size every minute. And we only have 6-8 minutes to save the life of a heart attack victim.

For too many years, Gresham has failed to invest in more firefighters and better equipment to serve our city. While the city population has grown, the daily minimum fire staffing has not kept pace. That means slower response times and crews stretched thin.

Measure 26-247 will begin to fix this problem. A dedicated levy will allow us to retain existing personnel and, critically, hire 13 new firefighters to serve the community.

The levy will provide an additional rescue truck at our busiest fire station and would add one new Fire Marshall to ramp up school inspections and support arson investigations.

**IN AN EMERGENCY OR CRISIS,
EVERY SECOND COUNTS.**

**AS GRESHAM FIREFIGHTERS,
WE DON'T WAIT - WE RESPOND.**

“As Gresham Fire Chief, I respectfully urge a yes vote on this public safety levy. It will give us the dedicated, stable funding to hire more firefighters and an additional rescue truck for our busiest station. A yes vote will allow us to better serve and protect you.”

- Chief Scott Lewis

“As President of the Gresham firefighter’s union, I urge you to vote yes. Our men and women love their work and care about this community. Calls for service are increasing, but our staffing hasn’t kept pace with demand and need. Help us help you when you need it most.

Kevin Larson, President IAFF Local 1062

VOTE YES ON MEASURE 26-247 FOR PUBLIC SAFETY

(This information furnished by John Freudenthal, Safer Gresham)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

**Neighborhood Leaders Support the
Gresham Fire and Police Levy**

Neighborhood leaders in the Coalition of Gresham Neighborhood Associations regularly review city issues and advocate for improvements and good government.

We understand the need for more firefighters and police officers for a safer Gresham.

Any of us can need our first responders at any time, such as:

Medical Emergencies Traffic Accidents House Fires

Random Violence Missing Persons

Extreme Weather Events Burglaries & Theft

In these changing times, calls for emergency services have significantly increased.

- We need more firefighters and police officers to improve life-saving response times.
- We need more officers to restore our specialty police units that focus on crime prevention and traffic enforcement, and to support investigations of drug, property and violent crimes.
- We need funding for an additional rescue truck to improve response times, for another Fire Marshall to support arson investigations, and to add fire inspections to keep our schools, businesses and community spaces safe.

The Coalition of Gresham Neighborhood Associations endorses Measure 26-247.

We need this funding to retain positions plus add more in our Fire and Police Departments.

Please join us – Vote YES for A Safer Gresham

Vote Yes for the Gresham Fire and Police Levy!

For more information go to SaferGresham.org

Coalition of Gresham Neighborhood Associations

Gresham Butte Neighborhood Association

Jim Buck

Richard Dwyer

Mary Edmeades

Stephen Estes

Chris Fast

Greg Hartung

Ken Howard

Catherine Nicewood

David Porter

Carol Rulla

Kat Todd

Theresa Tschirky

Karin Zachow

(This information furnished by John Freudenthal, Safer Gresham)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

THE SMART PUBLIC SAFETY INVESTMENT

VOTE YES ON MEASURE 26-247

A DEDICATED LEVY TO HIRE MORE FIREFIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS

As business people, we know that **smart investments are critical to our success. And that includes investing in the safety of our community.**

Gresham Firefighters have the same staffing level they did in 1994, yet our population has almost doubled. Our firefighters are now stretched too thin.

In 2023, the Gresham Police Department saw 3,323 more calls for service than in 2022. But Gresham has one of the smallest police-to-resident ratios among Oregon's biggest cities. We need more officers.

The current \$15 per month Police, Fire and Parks fee only funds 9% of public safety services. It is essential, but not enough to meet the growing demand for emergency services.

Levy is A Net Gain for Gresham:

1) **22 more first responders.** A dedicated five-year levy will help retain existing fire and police personnel and fund 13 more firefighters and 9 more police officers.

2) **Faster response times.** More firefighters and police officers will help improve response times and strengthen public safety.

3) **Restore specialty police teams.** Restored specialty teams will help prevent crime and allow proactive traffic enforcement.

4) **Add fire resources.** An additional rescue truck at the busiest fire station will improve emergency response. An additional Fire Marshall will increase fire inspections in schools and support arson investigations.

5) **Ensure Financial accountability.** Levy spending will be **audited each year** and will be **overseen by an independent committee of Gresham citizens.**

As Gresham residents we are asking you to join us and Vote Yes for this Safety Levy.

Historic Downtown Gresham Business Association
Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce
East Metro Association of Realtors
Home Building Association of Greater Portland
Bob Avila
Kayla Brown
Amee Curtis
Pat DeLaquil
Uriah Edmonds
Karen & Steve Johnston
Michael & Diane McKeel
Greg Moen
Sue O'Halloran
James Parker
Jared Tjaden
Doug Walker
Hilda Williams
Bess Wills

(This information furnished by John Freudenthal, Safer Gresham)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Dear Gresham Residents:

Gresham is not immune from the public safety challenges facing our region. Last year, the Gresham Police Department had 3,323 more calls for service than in 2022 – a 7% increase in just one year.

At the same time calls for police service are increasing; Gresham actually has about the same number of sworn police officers as we did twenty years ago.

Bottom line: Gresham has too few police officers for a city our size. In fact, Gresham has one of smallest police-resident ratios among Oregon's largest cities (we are the fourth largest city in the state).

Right now there are only 7 to 9 patrol officers on duty to serve a city of over 114,000 people.

From 2002 to 2004, an average 19 officers were assigned to the Investigations Division. At the same time, the city averaged two homicides per year. Today, there are 20 officers assigned to the investigations Division. Over the past three years the city of Gresham has averaged over 10 homicides per year. The Police Department's resources no longer match the needs of the community.

We can solve this problem – with your help. **Please vote YES.**

Measure 26-247 will:

- ✓ Fund 9 new police officer positions.
- ✓ Allow Gresham PD to staff more officers on the road and investigate crime.
- ✓ Help reduce emergency response times and strengthen community safety.
- ✓ Require annual audits of public safety spending.

Vote YES to Keep Our City Safe

The Gresham Police Officer Association (GPOA)

(This information furnished by John Freudenthal, Safer Gresham)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

WHY GRESHAM NEEDS A LEVY DEDICATED TO MORE FIRE AND POLICE:

DID YOU KNOW?

Gresham is Oregon's fourth largest city but actually has fewer police per residents (1.04 per 1000) than the smaller cities of Beaverton, Medford, Tigard, Corvallis, and Hillsboro.

DID YOU KNOW?

Gresham's population has grown 19% since 2004, but the city actually has one less sworn police officer than we did then. During the same time, calls for fire service have increased 69% but the number of firefighters has not kept pace with demand for service.

DID YOU KNOW?

Over the past 30 years, Gresham's population has grown 46% yet the daily minimum staffing for the Gresham Fire Department is the same as it was in 1994 – 30 years ago.

DID YOU KNOW?

Since 2018, verified shootings in Gresham have increased more than 400%, and in 2023

alone, calls for police service increased by over 3,000 calls.

But today, due to police staffing shortages, there are only 7 to 9 patrol officers on duty at any given time.

VOTING YES ON MEASURE 26-247 = MORE FIRE AND POLICE PERSONNEL

- A dedicated five-year Fire and Police levy will help retain existing personnel and **13 more firefighters and 9 more police officers.**
- More firefighters and police officers will help **improve emergency response times** and strengthen public safety.
- Levy spending will be **audited each year** and will be **overseen by an independent committee of Gresham citizens.**

WE URGE A YES VOTE ON MEASURE 26-247

**State Senator Chris Gorsek
State Representative Zach Hudson
State Representative Ricki Ruiz
Metro Council President Lynn Peterson
Metro Councilor Duncan Hwang
Metro Councilor Ashton Simpson
Multnomah County Commissioner Lori Stegmann
Gresham Mayor Travis Stovall
Gresham Council President Sue Piazza
Gresham Councilor Dina DiNucci
Gresham Councilor Janine Gladfelter
Jerry Hinton Gresham City Councilor
Gresham Councilor Vince Jones-Dixon
Gresham Councilor Eddy Morales**

For more information go to SaferGresham.org

(This information furnished by John Freudenthal, Safer Gresham)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Even Rivals Agree on the Safer Gresham Levy

Gresham United for Safety and East County Rising don't agree on much. But we both are working to make Gresham to a safe and thriving city where we all can live, work, and play – a place where our kids can safely walk to school, where our local businesses grow and thrive, and where our neighborhoods are safe for us all.

We often disagree, but not on the Safer Gresham Levy.

Here's Why Rivals Agree:

Gresham has too few firefighters and police officers to meet the growing number of

emergency calls. Our city has grown, and so has the demand for emergency services.

We have rigorously examined other options to finance the additional safety resources we need. And we have pushed the city to do the same. Cost have been and belts have been tightened, but we need more to keep up with demand.

The current \$15 per month Police, Fire and Parks fee only funds 9% of public safety services and is not enough to meet the growing demand for emergency services. **A dedicated public safety levy will enhance fire and police protection and responsiveness.**

Gresham Fire Department is 30% smaller than similar-sized cities and is understaffed at the city's busiest station. This measure will help ensure that Gresham has the firefighters and paramedics it needs so they are there when the community needs them the most.

Gresham is experiencing the impacts of dangerous street drugs, including fentanyl and new types of meth. Gresham needs additional police resources to fight this powerful threat to the community.

The levy will restore funding for Gresham's specialty police units that are focused on crime prevention and working with community members to reduce conflicts before a full police response is needed.

This levy is a responsible and reasonable investment in the future of our city and our overall safety.

Please Vote Yes on 26-247

East County Rising Gresham United for Safety

(This information furnished by John Freudenthal, Safer Gresham)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

DEMOCRATS AND REPUBLICANS AGREE

As unbelievable as that might sound in today's world, it's true!

Here in Gresham there is a long tradition of putting aside partisan differences to work together on our most critical issues. And **nothing is more critical to a community than safety.**

OUR FIRST RESPONDERS NEED OUR SUPPORT

Gresham Fire Department is 30% smaller than similar-sized cities and is understaffed at the city's busiest station. This measure will help ensure that Gresham has the firefighters and paramedics it needs so they can be there when we need them.

Violent crime has been on the rise - shootings in Gresham have increased more than 400% in recent years.

We are experiencing the impacts of dangerous street drugs, including fentanyl.

Gresham needs additional police resources to fight this powerful threat to the community.

This levy will make it possible to restore funding to Gresham's specialty police units focused on crime prevention, and to investigate serious crimes.

Gresham's population has grown, but the city actually has one less sworn police officer than twenty years ago.

We are the fourth largest city in Oregon but for too long we deferred hiring more police and fire personnel to keep up with population growth.

The current \$15 per month Police, Fire and Parks fee only funds 9% of public safety services and is not enough to meet the growing demand for emergency services.

Measure 26-247 will allow the city to retain existing police and fire personnel and add 22 new first responders.

Our first responders put their lives on the line for us every day.

In May, Gresham voters can support our Fire and Police by Voting Yes on Measure 26-247.

John & Shirley Vandermosten
Michael Patrick

For more information go to SaferGresham.org

(This information furnished by John Freudenthal, Safer Gresham)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

IF YOU CAN ONLY SAY YES TO ONE ASK THIS

ELECTION SAY YES FOR COMMUNITY SAFETY

For many of us, every dollar matters and can be the difference between affording our medication, our food or other necessities.

As you are considering the asks coming to you this election, **please make the Fire and Police Levy your top priority.**

- **Gresham still has one of the lowest city tax rates in the state – but the cost of that is we now have some of the lowest numbers of first responders per person in the state. And that is not good.**
- **Fewer police than even smaller cities.** Gresham has fewer police officers per one thousand residents than smaller cities in the region like Tigard, Medford, Beaverton, and Hillsboro.
- **Calls for fire and police growing.** Over the past 30 years our population has nearly doubled, and calls for fire and police service in Gresham have grown while staffing levels have not.
- **In an emergency, every second counts.** With population and calls for service increasing, fewer fire and police first responders are doing a lot more – with a lot less.

MORE FIREFIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS

- 1) **22 more first responders.** This five-year levy will help retain existing fire and police personnel and fund 13 more firefighters and 9 more police officers.
- 2) **Faster response times.** In an emergency every second counts. More fire fighters and sworn officers will help improve emergency response times.
- 3) **Financial accountability.** Levy spending will be audited each year and will be **overseen by an independent committee of Gresham citizens.**

**This levy is an insurance policy
that could save the life of someone you love.**

Help Ensure a Safer Gresham - Vote Yes on 26-247

SnowCap Community Charities
Dads Helping Dads
My Father's House
Allan Richard
Former Mayor Karylenn Echols
Amanda Orozco-Beach
Andy Miller
Claire Lider
Hugh Harris
Jairo Rios-Campos
Mayra Gomez
Se-ah-dom Edmo
Shannon Chisom
Sho Dozono
Thomas Slyter

(This information furnished by John Freudenthal, Safer Gresham)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Everyone Deserves a Safe Community

As your Gresham neighbors, we not only believe that statement, we work every day to make it a reality.

Among our ranks are volunteers, business owners, elected leaders, students, teachers, community advocates, parents, grandparents, and more.

To keep our city safe for all our families in all of our neighborhoods we need more funding for Fire and Police.

It's just that simple.

We know that means many of us will be asked to pay a little more every year, but we respectfully remind you to consider the value you place on your home, your family, or your business.

As the saying goes, “an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure”.

**Please join us in Voting Yes on Measure 26-247
For the safety of our families and our community.**

Carla “KC” Hanson
Dave Dyk
Erin Beggs
Gini Moldovanyi
Jacquenette McIntire
Jim Kirwan
Jim Rulla
Mishawn Nelson
Patton Echols

(This information furnished by John Freudenthal, Safer Gresham)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Customer and employee safety is vitally important to business. Rising crime affects the livability of our community and the prosperity of businesses. Controlling and reducing vandalism, shoplifting and car theft are concerns for businesses. Gresham will not continue to be the vibrant community we value without a healthy business environment and that starts with safety measures.

When businesses invest in a community, they are all in. They purchase property, improve existing buildings, hire staff, and plan for growth. All are in jeopardy when crime rises to an unacceptable level. Businesses leave seeking safer communities for their customers and staff. The Gresham Fire and Safety levy will stabilize our public safety departments.

The Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce represents over 450 businesses in the area and over 24,000 employees. All industries in the chamber are concerned about safety. It starts at the homes of their employees and customers, traveling to work or to shop, at the office or store, and on their days off safety is a concern even in neighborhood parks. There isn't a moment of the day when safety is not of utmost importance to businesses, whether it's for their customers or staff.

If essential fire and police services are understaffed, the business climate suffers. We all suffer. The levy addresses fire and safety staffing concerns. It has a five-year duration, offering Gresham voters the chance to evaluate the city's performance when they consider a renewal.

“The small tax increase on property owners whether business or home, is a price worth paying for safety and peace of mind that someone will answer the emergency call.” Lynn Snodgrass, CEO Gresham Area Chamber.

The Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce strongly supports a yes vote on the Gresham Fire and Police Levy.

Submitted by Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce

(This information furnished by John Freudenthal, Safer Gresham)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Gresham's Center For The Arts Foundation values the importance of responsive and readily available fire and police services. As presenters of Music Mondays, Wednesday Music in the Parks, and now Gresham's Arts Festival in July and Winter Holiday celebrations including the Christmas Tree lighting on December 7, safety is always a top concern.

In the recent past, the shortage in particular of police presence in our Historic Downtown area and the Arts Plaza has caused concern. Unfortunately in today's world of increasing violence, a rapid response is especially important. In bringing crowds of people together enjoying the sense of community, we are cognizant that the safety factors are greater when there is a shortage of responders available.

In recognizing the City of Gresham does not have an adequate number of police or fire personnel, we support the efforts to correct this via the proposed Safer Gresham ballot measure. Please vote Yes to ensure we can continue to gather publicly in a safe environment.

Sue O'Halloran, President
Center For The Arts Foundation

(This information furnished by John Freudenthal, Safer Gresham)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

WHY YES VOTE ON MEASURE 26-247 MAKES SAFE SENSE FOR GRESHAM? IN AN EMERGENCY, EVERY SECOND COUNTS...

Fire and Police services are like homeowners' insurance. You hope you will never need to use them, and you might not like paying for them, but you want them to be there in an emergency.

Fire and medical emergencies require fast response times to save lives and property.

A fire doubles in size every minute – it goes from the heat and flame of one candle to that of over 1,000 candles in just 10 minutes. That's enough to engulf a whole house.

When a heart stops, there are fewer than 10 minutes to save that life.

Gresham is Having Growing Pains:

Over the past 30 years, Gresham's population has almost doubled but daily minimum firefighter staffing is the same as it was in 1994.

Right now, **Gresham has one less sworn police officer than we did in 2004.** Last year alone, calls for police service increased by more than 3,000 calls.

***Too few Gresham firefighters and police officers means longer response times...
making our community less safe.***

This Levy is an Investment in Our Safety:

Hire more firefighters and police officers to help improve emergency and police response times.

A new levy dedicated to public safety will retain existing fire and police personnel and fund **22 new first responders** - 13 new firefighters and 9 new police officers to enhance public safety.

**Vote Yes to Hire More Firefighters and Police Officers
Vote Yes to Improve Emergency Response Times**

April Avery
Cassandra Meza
Donald Kozacek
Elizabeth Livingston
Jef & Jen Kaiser
Jesus Duran
Jim Kirwan
Joyce Shea
Kymberlee Lake
Larry Williams
Lloyd Anderson
Marlene Byrne
MaryAnn Armas
Michael & Kathryn Henton
Michelle Metzger
Patricia Gutierrez
Susan Foster

(This information furnished by John Freudenthal, Safer Gresham)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Keep Gresham Safe for All Ages and All Families

Dear Neighbors,

Did you know that our city is growing older AND younger at the same time? That's exciting because it means grandparents and grandchildren in the same community.

But it also means we have two groups of more vulnerable people.

- In 2025, 20.1% of Gresham is forecast to be 60 or older.
- In 2025, 23.9% of Gresham is forecast to be under 18.
- Gresham is home to 28 senior living communities, 138 adult foster care homes, and 3 school districts serving over 30,000 children.

And speaking of growing - Gresham's population has almost doubled over the last 30 years, but our police and fire staffing has remained about the same. We need more first responders to keep us safe.

The current \$15 per month Police, Fire and Parks fee only funds 9% of public safety services and is not enough to meet the growing demand for emergency services.

A dedicated public safety levy will improve fire and police protection and responsiveness.

Our first responders are there when we need them, now they need us to step up for them.

Please join Safer Gresham in voting Yes for the Fire and Police Levy – Measure 26-247 on your May ballot.

For more information please go to SaferGresham.org

(This information furnished by John Freudenthal, Safer Gresham)

City of Portland

Measure 26-245

BALLOT TITLE

Renew Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax for Street Repair, Maintenance, Safety

Question: Shall Portland renew four-year, 10 cents per gallon fuel tax for maintenance (paving, potholes) and safety (crossings, lighting, sidewalks)?

Summary: Portland's 10 cents per gallon fuel tax was approved by voters in 2016 and 2020. If renewed at the same tax rate, this measure is estimated to raise \$70.5 million over four years, beginning January 2025.

The funding would continue to be dedicated to street repair, maintenance and safety projects, including paving, pothole repair, sidewalk, crossings and other safety improvements.

Specific proposed investments include:

Street Repair and Maintenance

- \$23.5 million for paving, with programs focused on busy and neighborhood streets

Safety

- \$9 million for safety on busy streets
- \$6 million for safety on neighborhood streets
- \$6 million for Safe Routes to School projects
- \$2.5 million for additional safety improvements

Community Street Services

- \$17 million for potholes, gravel streets, pavement base repair, signal and street light maintenance
- \$6.5 million for basic safety improvements, including intersection safety improvements and traffic calming

Expenditures are reviewed by a public oversight committee and go through independent financial audits. Establishes license requirements.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

In 2016 and 2020, Portland voters approved a 10 cents per gallon fuel tax to fund street repair, maintenance, and safety improvements. Portland City Council also approved a companion heavy vehicle use tax.

Over the past eight years, the fuel tax has raised approximately \$150 million dedicated to the Fixing Our Streets program, which repaved 80 lane miles of city streets, repaired over 40,000 potholes, and over 200 additional safety improvements across Portland.

If renewed by voters at the same tax rate, the 10-cent fuel tax is estimated to raise \$70.5 million over four years beginning January 2025.

Renewing the fuel tax will allow the Fixing Our Streets program to invest in Portland's streets and benefit both current and future users. Program investment areas are outlined below and project selection is guided by existing plans and public input from neighborhood stakeholders, transportation justice advocates, and business groups.

The Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) currently anticipates budget cuts to core transportation services. If the fuel tax is not renewed, PBOT will be forced to further reduce funding for maintenance and safety services.

STREET REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE

If renewed, Fixing Our Streets would continue to fund paving projects that prevent expensive full replacement of worn-out streets. Proposed investments include \$23.5 million dedicated to paving with programs focused on busy and neighborhood streets.

SAFETY

If renewed, Fixing Our Streets funds would continue to be invested in safety projects for people driving, biking, and walking in neighborhoods across Portland, including creating safer intersections, reducing vehicle speeds on cut-through routes, retrofitting existing Neighborhood Greenways, and Safe Routes to School improvements.

Proposed program areas include \$9 million for safety improvements on busy streets, \$6 million for safety improvements on neighborhood streets, \$6 million for Safe Routes to School Projects and \$2.5 million for safety enhancements to existing projects.

COMMUNITY STREET SERVICES

If renewed, Fixing Our Streets will fund programs that allow PBOT to respond to routine maintenance and safety requests and help to keep assets in good condition, keep streets safer, and make the city more livable.

The proposal allocates \$17 million for potholes, gravel streets, pavement base repair, signal and street light maintenance. \$6.5 million is proposed for safer intersections; pedestrian, bicycle, and public space retrofits; and residential street safety and traffic calming.

SAME TAX RATE

This is a proposed renewal so the 10 cent per gallon tax rate would remain the same as it is today. The average Portland driver would continue to pay approximately \$5.00 per month.

AUDITS AND INDEPENDENT OVERSIGHT

The Fixing Our Streets program will continue to go through annual independent financial audits. Spending from the program will be overseen by the Fixing Our Streets Oversight Committee representing the many communities with a stake in Portland's streets and roads.

Submitted by:

*Mingus Mapps, Commissioner
City of Portland*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

City Club Continues to Support Portland Local Gas Tax

Portland cannot afford to postpone investing in its streets, sidewalks and bike lanes. After nearly 30 years of insufficient investment, we face a massive maintenance backlog, and every year we delay, it gets more expensive. If we don't act, future City Councils will have to choose between repairing crumbling roads and funding vital services like affordable housing and public safety.

City Club of Portland conducted an exhaustive study to determine how to address this crisis. Our citizen committee concluded that a temporary local gas tax is the best way to raise funds immediately for transportation while developing a comprehensive strategy.

- **The gas tax will improve safety citywide:** East Portland bears the brunt of pedestrian fatalities in tragic crashes. Gas tax revenue will go towards building sidewalks, improving crossings at intersections and expanding the Safe Routes to School program throughout Portland.
- **The gas tax is fair:** People who use roads more will pay more. Non-Portland residents who fill their tanks in Portland will help fund the streets they use, too.
- **The gas tax is equitable:** On average, high-income households drive more than low-income households. And anyone can save by using public transit, biking or walking.
- **The gas tax is affordable:** The 10-cent tax has not been increased since being implemented in 2016.

A local gas tax will fund life-saving road improvements and cost-saving maintenance.

City Club urges Portlanders to vote yes!

(This information furnished by Jon Stride, City Club of Portland)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Workers Support Safer Streets at Lower Costs

The workers of Municipal Employees Union LiUNA 483 are on the frontlines of building infrastructure in the City of Portland. We know firsthand the resources needed to do this work well. **Renewing Measure 26-245 will save Portland money.** Insufficient funding leads to catastrophic failures, which are more expensive to repair than the proper maintenance and improvements that prevent them. If this measure fails, we will find ourselves in constant infrastructure crisis response, which will lead to worse outcomes at a higher price point.

More importantly, **Measure 26-245 keeps Portlanders safe.** It does this while creating good jobs in our community. Money raised by this measure is earmarked for specific programs repairing our roads and making travel in the city safer for our families. It supports a multimodal transportation plan that anyone can get behind. Simply put, Measure 26-245 does what it says: Fixes our Streets. And since this is a tax renewal, it will not raise taxes on anyone.

Support essential workers doing essential work by voting Yes on Measure 26-245.

*(This information furnished by James O’Laughlen,
LiUNA Local 483)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

SAME TAX RATE. BETTER STREETS.

Vote YES on Measure 26-245 to renew our local gas tax, and continue funding street repair, maintenance, and safety projects across Portland.

Because this is a renewal, the tax rate will remain the same as it is today.

Just a few dollars a month ensures our streets are safer and well-maintained for people driving, walking, biking, and riding transit.

VOTE YES FOR STREET REPAIR & MAINTENANCE

Measure 26-245 saves money by funding repair and maintenance projects today, to avoid expensive rebuilds of worn-out streets later:

- **\$23.5 million dedicated to paving**
- **\$13.5 million to fund pothole, gravel street, and pavement repair**

VOTE YES FOR SAFETY FOR KIDS, SENIORS, AND FAMILIES

Measure 26-245 funds neighborhood safety projects that improve intersections, reduce vehicle speeds, expand neighborhood greenways, and add safety enhancements to other projects:

- **\$9 million for safety projects on busy streets**
- **\$6 million for safety projects on neighborhood streets**
- **\$6 million for Safe Routes to School**
- **\$2.5 million to add safety improvements to maintenance projects**

VOTE YES FOR THE SAME TAX RATE

Because this is a renewal, the 10-cents per gallon tax rate will remain the same as it is today. The average Portlander pays just a few dollars a month.

VOTE YES FOR AUDITS & INDEPENDENT OVERSIGHT

The Fixing Our Streets Oversight Committee oversees the program, and spending is audited annually.

Learn more at FixOurStreetsPDX.com

JOIN US AND VOTE YES ON MEASURE 26-245:

1000 Friends of Oregon
AFSCME Local 189
Amalgamated Transit Union Local 757
APANO
BikeLoud PDX
City Club of Portland
Coalition of Communities of Color
Columbia Corridor Association
Families for Safe Streets
Getting There Together
Laborers' Local 483
Latino Network
Neighbors for Clean Air
Northwest Oregon Labor Council
Oregon League of Conservation Voters
OPAL Environmental Justice Oregon
Oregon Walks
Our Portland
Portland Metro Chamber
PROTEC 17

Rose Community Development
The Rosewood Initiative
The Street Trust
Sunrise Movement PDX

*(This information furnished by Natalie Sept,
Fix Our Streets Portland)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

SMALL INVESTMENT, BIG RETURN

**Business and Labor Leaders are voting YES on Measure 26-245
Better Roads — Same Tax Rate**

BETTER ROADS

Thanks to voters' support in 2016 and 2020, Portland has invested \$150 million to catch up on a backlog of crumbling streets, dangerous potholes, and missing sidewalks. Now, voters have a chance to renew the local gas tax—maintaining the tax rate and continuing this hard work.

Business and labor leaders agree: This investment keeps our streets in good condition for current and future users, and keeps our local economy moving.

Renewing the gas tax helps Portland invest in lower cost maintenance projects now, avoiding larger bills to replace worn-out streets later. **Every dollar spent on standard road maintenance can save approximately \$10 in the future by avoiding a complete and more costly rebuild of our roads.**

INVESTMENT IN OUR LOCAL ECONOMY

Measure 26-245's continued investments in our community is more important than ever—and the average Portlander pays just a few dollars a month. It's a solid investment in our local economy.

“Our transportation infrastructure is an incredible asset owned by the people of Portland, and we all benefit from the ability of people, goods, and services to safely move around the City. Investing in safety and maintenance now will save money in the long term, and help our community every day.” - PROTEC 17, representing 979 transportation workers in the City of Portland.

SAME TAX RATE

Because this is a renewal, the 10 cent per gallon tax rate would stay the same for another four years. Spending would continue to be audited annually.

Please join Portland's business and labor leaders in voting YES on Measure 26-245 to renew our investment in better roads.

AFSCME Local 189
Columbia Corridor Association
Laborers' Local 483
Northwest Oregon Labor Council
Portland Metro Chamber

PROTEC 17

*(This information furnished by Natalie Sept,
Fix Our Streets Portland)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

VOTE YES TO KEEP OUR KIDS SAFE

Portland students should be able to safely walk and bike to their neighborhood school.

But too many children do not have a sidewalk, bike path, or safe crosswalk on their route to school.

That's why we're voting YES to renew the local gas tax that fixes our streets and funds safety improvements — so kids across Portland have a safe route to school. And because it's a renewal, the gas tax rate would stay the same as it is today.

Funding from the local gas tax over the last eight years has completed over 75 Safe Routes to Schools projects across Portland. But there are hundreds more needed improvements, big and small, to keep our kids safe.

When kids can't walk or bike to school, it increases neighborhood traffic, hurts air quality, and deprives students of the opportunity for healthy physical activity. This is unacceptable.

We must continue to fix dangerous intersections, improve street lighting, and extend sidewalks. These projects support our city's students as they pursue a brighter future for themselves and their families.

Students are healthier and perform better academically when they have the opportunity to physically exercise in the morning—and they create habits of walking and biking throughout their life.

Voting YES on Measure 26-245 to Fix Our Streets would provide desperately needed funding to ensure students have a safe route to school, with \$6 million dedicated to Safe Routes to Schools projects, and millions more for sidewalks, traffic signals, and other neighborhood safety improvements across Portland.

A YES vote on Measure 26-245 is a vote for our community, our schools, healthier children, and safer streets across the city.

Families for Safe Streets
Sam Balto, teacher
Audrie Abernathy, parent
Abe Cambier, parent
Nicholas Cunningham, parent
Peter David, parent
Brian Ellin, parent
Rob Galanakis, parent
Cynthia Lewis, parent
John Randak, parent

Tamara Taylor, parent

*(This information furnished by Natalie Sept,
Fix Our Streets Portland)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

AN INVESTMENT IN CLEANER AIR MEANS HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES FOR ALL

Portlanders cherish our city's commitment to livable, sustainable communities. That's why public health and environmental advocates across the city have endorsed the Fix Our Streets measure, 26-245. **This is our opportunity to vote for a cleaner environment.**

Carbon emissions from transportation use represents a **significant threat to local air quality** in Portland's neighborhoods. A local tax on gasoline will encourage Portlanders to consider walking, biking and taking transit for their daily trips, and will raise revenue to ensure Portlanders can safely walk, bike, and take transit in every neighborhood.

Fix Our Streets taxes pollution to invest in infrastructure. The gas tax gives us an opportunity for cost-effective, green transportation options for every neighborhood—greenways, crosswalks, bike lanes, and bus lanes. **This improves local air quality, supports walkable neighborhoods, and is an investment in a low-carbon transportation future.**

For these reasons, prominent environmentalists have joined with public health advocates to endorse the campaign. Better air quality and accessibility to our green spaces are important components of a sustainable, healthy, equitable Portland.

Portland's future depends on green transportation options to fight climate change. This gas tax provides much needed support for Portlanders to bike, walk and take public transit while building the necessary infrastructure to make it happen.

We encourage a YES vote on 26-245:

1000 Friends of Oregon
Neighbors for Clean Air
OPAL - Environmental Justice Oregon
Oregon League of Conservation Voters
Sunrise PDX

*(This information furnished by Natalie Sept,
Fix Our Streets Portland)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

**LET'S KEEP OUR STREETS
SAFER TO WALK, SAFER TO BIKE**

Measure 26-245 funds important investments in basic safety and maintenance projects across the city, from filling potholes, paving, and maintaining gravel streets, to improving signals and lighting, installing high-visibility crosswalks, and calming traffic.

This includes bicycle and pedestrian safety projects, like new or repaired sidewalks, replacing reflective plastic wands with concrete traffic separators, replacing a painted curb extension with a concrete one, adding curbs and ramps, or adding striped buffers to bike lanes where space allows.

These projects are important. That's why we're asking Portlanders to renew the local gas tax at the same rate we pay today, by voting **YES on Measure 26-245**. This small investment helps maintain our streets and make them safer for people driving, biking, and walking.

SAFETY AND ACCESSIBILITY

“Our streets can be places that promote local economic growth, support small businesses, and ensure the safety and accessibility of everyone who uses them. We are asking all Portlanders to support Fix Our Streets. Let's work together to make our streets as equitable, beautiful, and resilient as they can be.” - The Street Trust

DEDICATED FUNDING

Measure 26-245 is expected to generate \$70.5 million over the next four years for safety and maintenance projects across Portland. That includes:

- \$9 million dedicated to safety upgrades on Portland's busier streets, including those marked high priority in PedPDX, Portland's citywide pedestrian plan.
- \$6 million dedicated to safety projects on neighborhood streets, including deficiencies in Portland's pedestrian and bicycle networks.
- \$6 million for Safe Routes to Schools
- \$2.5 million for pedestrian, bicycle, and public space retrofits
- \$2 million for residential street safety and traffic calming

JOIN US IN VOTING YES ON MEASURE 26-245!

**Bike Loud
Getting There Together
Oregon Walks
The Street Trust
Sam Balto**

*(This information furnished by Natalie Sept,
Fix Our Streets Portland)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

BETTER STREETS FOR ALL PORTLANDERS

Measure 26-245 provides transportation system improvements throughout all of Portland. People across Portland will see needed updates to their streets, sidewalks, crossings and roadways.

FUNDING TO UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES

When determining when and where to allocate resources, Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) looks to census data on income, race, and ethnicity to identify communities that have often been historically excluded from infrastructure investments.

Measure 26-245 guarantees street improvements in every one of the four new city council districts. Historically marginalized or underrepresented communities will have greater

mobility, and access to social and economic growth, as a result of these investments.

A HISTORY OF EQUITY

From 2016 through 2024, Portland’s existing Fixing Our Streets program has generated approximately \$150 million for basic transportation safety and maintenance projects. PBOT has repaved 80 lane miles of city streets, repaired over 40,000 potholes, and completed hundreds of safety improvements across Portland.

Many of these funds have been prioritized in East Portland and other high need areas, and they have leveraged additional investments, including a \$20 million federal grant that will be used for safety investments on 122nd Ave.

A FOCUS ON COMMUNITY NEED

Projects and priorities are shaped by extensive community feedback that informs project designs and implementation. PBOT engages with community and neighborhood stakeholders, transportation justice advocates, and business groups throughout the city and in specific project areas of impact. The Fixing Our Streets Oversight Committee, with wide geographic and interest-based representation, provides ongoing oversight of the overall program.

“Every Portlander deserves safer, well-maintained streets. The Fixing Our Streets program addresses the highest safety and maintenance needs in the communities that need it the most. And because this is a renewal, the tax rate would remain the same as it is today.” - Coalition of Communities of Color

Fixing Our Streets helps all Portlanders. Join us in voting YES on Measure 26-245

APANO

**Coalition of Communities of Color
Latino Network**

*(This information furnished by Natalie Sept,
Fix Our Streets Portland)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

MEASURE 26-245: WE CAN’T AFFORD TO LOSE THIS IMPORTANT SOURCE OF LOCAL TRANSPORTATION FUNDING

Your YES vote on Measure 26-245 helps ensure we can continue to fund important safety and maintenance projects on Portland’s streets for another four years.

What will happen if Portland’s local gas tax is NOT renewed? Simply put, the loss of an estimated \$70.5 million in funding for maintenance and safety projects means those projects won’t happen. And it’s an important list of projects — you can review the full list at www.portland.gov/transportation/proposed-measure-26-245

Losing funding from Portland’s local gas tax will not only reduce funding for these important maintenance and safety projects, but it will have a domino effect on PBOT’s already strained budget.

Portland’s Bureau of Transportation is already facing a budget shortfall—losing this critical

source of dedicated local funding means PBOT won't be able to fix nearly as many potholes, keep up with pavement repair and maintenance needs, or adequately fund important safety programs like Safe Routes to School.

Our community can't afford to let that happen. Fortunately, the solution is as easy as voting YES on Measure 26-245, and renewing the local gas tax — at the same rate we pay today — for another four years.

Join us in supporting Measure 26-245
Congressman Earl Blumenauer
Representative Mark Gamba
Representative Khanh Pham
Metro President Lynn Peterson
Metro Councilor Duncan Hwang
Metro Councilor Christine Lewis
Metro Councilor Ashton Simpson
Mayor Ted Wheeler
Commissioner Rene Gonzalez
Commissioner Mingus Mapps
Commissioner Carmen Rubio
Commissioner Dan Ryan
City Council Candidate Timur Ender
City Council Candidate Steph Routh

*(This information furnished by Natalie Sept,
Fix Our Streets Portland)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

AARP Oregon urges a “Yes” on 26-245

AARP Oregon supports Measure 26-245. It is a critically needed and balanced approach to keeping our streets safe for all of us whether we are walking, rolling, biking, busing, ride sharing or driving.

We are a “yes” vote on Measure 26-245 because:

- Livable and age-friendly communities require transportation and mobility options for all, regardless of age.
- We need to allow for vibrant communities where everyone can actively participate. Key to this is the opportunity for everyone, regardless of age or ability, to travel safely.
- Access to housing, senior centers, libraries, parks, and vital public safety services that allow the 50+ and their families to age-in-place all depend on a safe transportation system.

Just as we did in 2016 and 2020, AARP once again supports this balanced approach to repair our infrastructure. Safety on all types of streets must remain front and center in our public infrastructure.

AARP Oregon urges a yes vote to ensure we can have the infrastructure required to enjoy livable communities into the future.

(This information furnished by Bandana Shrestha, AARP Oregon)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

URGES A *YES* VOTE ON MEASURE 26-245

Even though we need to reform how we fund infrastructure, some needs can't wait.

Our region's most vulnerable neighborhoods have roads that are literally crumbling.

This Measure renews the existing 10-cent per gallon charge on gasoline that voters already renewed in 2020. The city's prioritization process will ensure that low-income and working-class neighborhoods receive a significant portion of the resulting improvements, and the continuance of the program will prevent the elimination of good union jobs.

WHY HAVING THE RIGHT STATE TREASURER MATTERS:

A State Treasurer with the right priorities can help stretch infrastructure dollars even further... by minimizing Wall Street fees and maximizing the money that stays in Oregon!

In 2009, the federal government allowed state and local governments to sell bonds as "tax subsidy" bonds instead of "tax-exempt" bonds. Individually, this would be a wash for both the borrower and the lender. But with so many lenders looking to invest in tax subsidy bonds, Oregon was one of the few states still selling into the tax-exempt market.

With plenty of eager lenders bidding down interest rates for Oregon bonds, our project capacity increased 5% without increasing costs. That may not sound like much, but for every 20 workers usually hired on a project, we were able to get a paycheck to an additional Oregon family... instead of just making a larger interest payment to a New York bank.

As State Treasurer, I will work with our Congressional delegation to bring back these options and ensure that we don't leave anything on the table when it comes to our infrastructure or our working families.

We need a State Treasurer who isn't afraid to dig into the details and do the boring but effective work. We need a State Treasurer who's outside of the Salem echo-chamber!

**VOTE YES ON MEASURE 26-245,
THEN VOTE JEFF GUDMAN FOR STATE TREASURER**

See sources: jeffgudman.com/bonds

(This information furnished by Zachary Bayer)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

**Taxpayers Association of Oregon
urges No vote on 26-245**

No gas tax increase until
Portland stops wasting our existing tax dollars

Here is how your tax dollars are wasted:

- Over \$175 million of transportation tax dollars were spent studying the Columbia River Crossing Bridge that was never built. (Oregonian 7/4/13)
- Politicians wasted \$134 million on the Tilikum Crossing bridge and \$19 million on the Blumenauer bridge and neither bridge allows cars to use it to relieve traffic congestion.
- Portland uses transportation dollars to remove perfectly good, well-used and paid-for roads and converts them into seldom-used bus/bike-only lanes. (Willamette Week 10/30/19). Removing existing roads only increases traffic congestion.
- Portland wasted tax dollars by erecting countless orange construction barrels across the City to close off an astounding 100 sections of streets during Covid as a completely ludicrous effort to block people from driving during the pandemic. (KGW 4/28/20).
- Millions of extra tax dollars have been spent on graffiti removal of our highways and roads because vandals are arrested and quickly released. Just weeks ago, one of the City's most notorious and prolific graffiti vandals dubbed KASR "*has been arrested and released multiple times in the past few years for alleged acts of vandalism.*" (KGW 2/22/24). Letting repeat vandals off the hook is costing you and I millions in added costs.

As we have just shown you -- the politicians have wasted over \$328 million on transportation projects that have nothing to do with paving roads and fixing potholes. The government waste and abuse won't stop until taxpayers say enough is enough.

VOTE NO ON 26-245

The Taxpayers Association of Oregon has protected you from higher taxes and government waste for 25 years. follow us at OregonWatchdog.com.

(This information furnished by Jason Williams, Taxpayers Association of Oregon)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

Taxpayers Association of Oregon
urges No vote on 26-245

The road taxes keep Increasing;

- On January 1, 2024 the state gas tax increased 5%
- Portland wants a 10-cent gas tax hike
- In 2026, we could see \$2 to \$5 tolling costs

Here is how to stop the tax-and-toll madness:

#1. Vote NO on the gas tax #26-245

#2. **Sign the statewide petition** (IP#4) to give voters the right to vote on any future Oregon tolling projects. You should have a say and a right to vote on toll and tax increase. Read more on this petition at OregonWactchdog.com/petition.

#3. Spread the word on this gas tax and the "right-to-vote" petition with friends.

VOTE NO ON 26-245

The Taxpayers Association of Oregon has protected you from higher taxes and government waste for 25 years. follow us at OregonWatchdog.com.

(This information furnished by Jason Williams, Taxpayers Association of Oregon)

Metro

Measure 26-244 *Referred to the People of the Metro region by the Metro Council*

BALLOT TITLE

Bonds to protect animal health; provide conservation, education; increase sustainability

Question: Shall Zoo protect animal health; save water, energy; provide conservation, youth education; issue bonds estimated not to increase tax rate?

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 authorizes \$380 million in general obligation bonds for the Oregon Zoo to:

- Protect animal health and well-being by updating aging exhibits with more natural, modern habitats, including but not limited to penguins, sea otters, giraffes.
- Improve facilities to enhance educational opportunities for children and other zoo visitors to learn about animals and habitat conservation.
- Conserve water and energy in zoo operations and updated infrastructure.
- Improve facilities supporting the zoo's conservation work protecting and restoring threatened/endangered species in the Northwest and beyond.
- Increase accessibility for visitors of all abilities, including improved paths and exhibits.
- Improve protection from heat and extreme weather for animals, visitors.
- Improve facilities to prepare for animal care in a natural disaster or emergency.

This measure is estimated not to increase current bond tax rates, due to scheduled debt service reductions. Bonds may be issued in multiple series and mature in no more than 30 years. The estimated average rate is 8.5 cents/\$1,000 assessed value.

Requires annual financial audits, and annual reports to Metro Council by community oversight committee.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Measure 26-244 would continue funding for the Oregon Zoo to replace outdated animal habitats, improve educational exhibits, conserve water and energy, and make the zoo more accessible for people of all ages and abilities.

Nearly 1.3 million people visited the zoo in 2023, including more than 400,000 schoolchildren. The zoo is a hub for science, conservation, education and animal well-being, delivering the highest quality of care to roughly 1,200 animals.

In 65 years at Washington Park, the zoo has needed to upgrade habitats and facilities to keep up with high standards for animals and visitors. These upgrades have depended on public support.

Voters approved a zoo bond in 2008, funding habitat overhauls for elephants, primates, and polar bears, the veterinary medical center, and the education center – about 40 percent of the campus. These investments helped make the zoo one of two zoos worldwide with 50

years of accreditation by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums.

However, there is more to do. The 2008 bond citizen oversight committee's final report noted the bond's projects were "completed on schedule and within budget," but also recognized more "habitats in need of improvements, aged buildings in need of replacement, and infrastructure in need of upgrading."

Priorities

Measure 26-244 would continue funding to address these identified needs, including some of the zoo's oldest existing habitats, facilities and infrastructure.

Measure 26-244 proposes these investment priorities:

- Protect animal health and well-being by updating aging animal areas with more natural, modern habitats, including but not limited to penguins, sea otters and giraffes.
- Improve facilities to enhance educational opportunities for children and other visitors to learn about animals and habitat conservation.
- Conserve water and energy in operations and updated infrastructure.
- Improve facilities supporting the zoo's conservation work protecting and restoring threatened and endangered species in the Northwest and beyond.
- Increase accessibility for visitors of all abilities, including improved paths and exhibits.
- Improve protection from heat and extreme weather for animals and visitors.
- Improve facilities to prepare for animal care in a natural disaster or emergency.

No estimated increase in current tax rates

Measure 26-244 is not estimated to increase current bond tax rates, as debt service on previous bonds is completed. The measure authorizes \$380 million in general obligation bonds. The average estimated tax rate is 8.5 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value, roughly \$1.95 monthly for a property with assessed value of \$275,000. Bonds may be issued in multiple series and mature in 30 years or less.

Investment timeline

Measure 26-244 prioritizes the most significant needs from the long-range Oregon Zoo campus plan, identified by zoo staff, community members and animal health experts. Investments are expected to be complete in ten to fifteen years. If the measure passes, zoo staff will present a detailed bond implementation plan to Metro Council in fall 2024.

Accountability

A community oversight committee will monitor bond spending and issue annual reports to the public and Metro Council. Measure 26-244 requires annual financial audits of revenue and spending.

Learn more: <http://oregonzoo.org/bond>

Submitted by:

*Carrie MacLaren, Metro Attorney
Metro*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

A Message from The Association of Zoos and Aquariums

Support 50 years of recognized excellence Vote YES for Oregon Zoo.

The Oregon Zoo is something special.

This year marks 50 years of continuous accreditation from the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), the world's premiere zoological accrediting body. The Oregon Zoo is one of only two zoos worldwide to achieve that recognition of excellence worldwide!

As President and CEO of the AZA, former director of the US Fish and Wildlife service, and lifelong conservationist, I can say that the great pride your community takes in your zoo is well-earned. AZA is the global gold standard and earning our accreditation requires a meticulous onsite inspection of all aspects of a Zoo's operations: animal care and training; safety; educational programs; conservation efforts; veterinary programs; species survival plans and much more are evaluated.

Thanks to your support, the Oregon Zoo doesn't just keep pace, it's a leader helping set the pace for ever-rising standards worldwide.

But excellence in animal care and education takes constant work, and the Oregon Zoo is no exception. Our most recent inspection identified areas needing attention including outdated habitats like the Penguinarium and indoor giraffe area. With your support, this Zoo bond will meet these issues head-on and continue your zoo's devotion to the highest standards.

I've been privileged to visit zoos all across the globe, and you have something very special in Oregon.

During the Oregon Zoo Education Center opening--made possible by community support of the 2008 bond--I saw school children at the Nature Exploration Station and held a tiny Northwestern Pond Turtle that would be released later that year to help save its species from extinction.

Your renewal of support will ensure the Oregon Zoo continues its legacy of excellence, being among the world's very best.

I encourage you to **VOTE YES for Measure 26-244.**

Dan Ashe
President and CEO
Association of Zoos and Aquariums

*(This information furnished by Elizabeth Smith,
Yes for the Oregon Zoo)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Help Save the Sea Otter!

One of the missions of the Oregon Zoo is the preservation and restoration of endangered species.

The Elakha Alliance is a nonprofit organization focused on restoring a viable population of sea otters to the Oregon Coast. The Oregon Zoo has been a critical partner in supporting this mission — raising awareness of the cultural connections between sea otters and Oregon's indigenous peoples, while highlighting the ecological and economic benefits that can be realized from their reintroduction.

Sea otters have been missing from the Oregon Coast for over 100 years as a result of the marine fur trade in the 18th and 19th centuries. They are a keystone species with a profound effect on the nearshore habitat and species. In their absence, Oregon's marine ecosystem has suffered, becoming ecologically less robust.

The public no longer has an opportunity to experience these incredible creatures in the wild; something that the Elakha Alliance and partners like the Oregon Zoo hope to change for the future. The Zoo has a unique ability to provide in-person opportunities to connect with this critical species and programming to educate thousands of visitors about conservation and how we can help wildlife.

Unfortunately, the sea otter habitat is one of the campus' older areas. It has infrastructure issues, including an aging life-support system, that need to be addressed in order to provide spaces for rescued orphans and foster moms to recuperate.

Measure 26-244 will provide renovations that will improve sea otters' safety and welfare; it will allow for updating educational displays so visitors can learn more about this Oregon native species and their conservation; and provide better accessibility for a more inclusive visitor experience.

Sea otters are just one of the species that will benefit from these improvements, with residents of the Marine Life, Penguins, Africa, and more also receiving much needed improvements.

Please VOTE Yes on Measure 26-244

Jane Bacchieri,
Executive Director,
Elakha Alliance

*(This information furnished by Elizabeth Smith,
Yes for the Oregon Zoo)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Another Reason to Vote YES for Oregon Zoo:

A Better Economy!

The Oregon Zoo is a fun and enriching experience for local families, seniors, and students. But there is another reason to support our zoo: its role as a **significant part of our local economy**.

The Oregon Zoo attracts 1.3 million visitors annually, many from outside our area, boosting economic activity in the region.

Zoo visitors support local businesses, hotels, restaurants, and the tourism industry as a whole, boosting the local economy in the short-term and benefiting the long-term prosperity of our community as a whole.

The economic impact of the Oregon Zoo is undeniable, in FY2023 zoo-related activities were estimated to generate \$63 million in direct spending and \$110 million in total output, supporting 700+ living wage jobs and \$54 million in labor income resulting in \$5 million in tax revenues.

The economic impact of a thriving zoo extends well beyond its gates, creating jobs, revenue

for businesses, and a positive ripple effect throughout the community. It contributes to the cultural vibrancy of our city, serving as a hub, bringing people together, and fostering a sense of community pride.

The Oregon Zoo is a reflection of our community, but in popular areas such as the Penguinarium, PNW Marine Life, and parts of Africa it is clear that the zoo has aging infrastructure in need of attention; some with outdated facilities from the 1950's.

The 20 year campus plan builds on successes from the community supported 2008 bond projects, prioritizing renovations and improvements to enhance animals' welfare and the zoo's appeal, ensuring a positive experience for all.

I urge you to **renew your support and vote YES on Measure 26-244.**

Your yes vote is a sound investment in our community, our economy, our culture, and our city, and **it does that without increasing taxes.**

Yang Yang

Tourism Advocate and Resident of Portland, Oregon

*(This information furnished by Elizabeth Smith,
Yes for the Oregon Zoo)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

ZOO VETERINARIANS URGE YOUR SUPPORT OF MEASURE 26-244 FOR ANIMAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING

As zoo veterinary professionals, we treat thousands of animals, representing hundreds of species, many of them threatened or endangered in the wild. It's a responsibility we don't take lightly. Our patients deserve the best care possible — and we know first-hand the positive impact that our community's support can have for them.

The 2008 zoo bond measure allowed for replacement of the former veterinary hospital — crumbling, outdated and deficient — with a new state-of-the-art facility supporting the best in modern care. The improvements made possible by that bond were transformative for the veterinary hospital and life-changing for some of the species in the Oregon Zoo's care.

But great care doesn't just start when a patient arrives at the hospital; animals need healthy environments to thrive and live their best lives. Many habitats and structures remain in dire need of attention. Some date back to the 1950's when animal areas were less naturalistic and typically featured a lot of concrete which was easy to clean but not designed with animals' needs or natural behaviors in mind. And they are certainly not equipped to withstand today's extreme weather events or a natural disaster.

We've seen the difference community support like yours can make. Measure 26-244 will provide much needed funding to update these areas, among many others, and provide modern facilities better suited for the animals in our care now, and in the future.

**Please renew your commitment to animal health & well-being!
Vote YES on Measure 26-244.**

Carlos R. Sanchez DVM MSc
Director of Animal Health

Heather Brittingham, CVT, MA, VTS
Lead Veterinary Technician

*(This information furnished by Elizabeth Smith,
Yes for the Oregon Zoo)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

**Vote Yes on Measure 26-244
A Better Zoo for Animals and You!**

We are proud of our Oregon Zoo as the place we gather to celebrate and care for animals, open the natural world to children, and help protect endangered species in the Pacific Northwest and around the world.

But parts of the zoo are aging. Some exhibits were built more than 50 years ago, making it difficult to maintain the high standards of animal care the Oregon Zoo is nationally known for.

Voting YES for the Oregon Zoo Bond is critically important for ensuring the well-being of animals, strengthening conservation and education, and improving the visitor experience – all without increasing the tax rate we are paying today!

Your YES vote will support:

- **Renovating outdated habitats** with larger, more natural environments to keep the animals healthy and thriving.
- **Investments in sustainable systems** to improve heating, cooling, electrical systems, and fresh water for pools for animal health and responsible stewardship of resources.
- **Protecting animals and visitors** from heat, extreme weather and natural disasters.
- Improving facilities to **enhance educational opportunities for children and visitors of all ages** to learn about animals, habitat conservation and nature in a way that just isn't possible through videos or books.
- Improve facilities that support the zoo's conservation work to **protect and restore threatened and endangered species** in the Northwest and beyond.
- **Conserving water and energy** in zoo operations to help combat climate change.
- **Accountability and transparency** with inclusion of citizen oversight committee

**Your YES vote will support all this and more --
while keeping within the current tax rate!**

PLEASE VOTE YES ON 26-244

Yes for the Oregon Zoo

*(This information furnished by Elizabeth Smith,
Yes for the Oregon Zoo)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

VOTE YES TO ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY!

The chairs of the 2008 Oregon Zoo Bond Citizens' Oversight Committee urge you to vote YES for Oregon Zoo Bond Measure 26-244.

Sixteen years ago, the community entrusted the Oregon Zoo with \$125 million to fund habitat and infrastructure upgrades that prioritized **animal welfare, conservation education, and resource conservation**. Almost 40% of the zoo's campus was transformed through those efforts.

Part of the bond measure established the Oregon Zoo Bond Citizens' Oversight Committee to ensure the public's money was well spent and that the project honored Metro voters' values. Community members from a variety of professions with expertise in animal welfare, sustainability, budgeting, finance, planning, social equity, education, construction, and more participated on the committee, providing independent review of the zoo's stewardship of bond resources, standing in for the public to guarantee project accountability.

The committee's final report stated the 2008 bond funds were spent wisely, all projects were completed on schedule and within budget, and the program successfully delivered on voter expectations.

The report also noted that work remains to be done—habitats are in need of improvements, buildings are in need of replacement, and infrastructure is in need of upgrading—across the remaining 60% of the zoo grounds.

We encourage you to review the final report and see for yourself what was accomplished: bit.ly/OversightReport

Voting YES for Measure 26-244 renews your commitment to our zoo, the animals in its care, education programs, and species conservation efforts—**without raising taxes**—and **continues the requirement of a citizen's oversight process** for accountability and transparency.

The **Oregon Zoo has proven that they can be trusted** and we, former chairs of the 2008 Oregon Zoo Bond Citizens' Oversight Committee, support Measure 26-244 and hope you will, too.

Susan G. Hartnett,
Bill Kabeiseman,
Deidra Krys-Rusoff,
and Ruth G. Shelly

**For the animals, for the community, for you.
Vote YES for the Oregon Zoo!**

*(This information furnished by Elizabeth Smith,
Yes for the Oregon Zoo)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Local Treasure. Global Impact.

The Oregon Zoo is an amazing resource for its community. But you may not know that your support has a global impact.

As former US Ambassadors who have served for decades in Africa and Southeast Asia, we appreciate the Oregon Zoo's work in animal care, wildlife conservation and species recovery. In each country we served, we observed first-hand the devastating threats to animals in the wild. We applaud the steps the Oregon Zoo is taking to address those challenges.

Because of habitat loss, the once thriving elephant population in Borneo has shrunk to under 1,500. The Oregon Zoo supports local wildlife officials to rescue and care for orphaned elephants displaced by human-elephant conflict who cannot be returned to the wild, providing needed milk powder and medicine.

We have personally observed the tragic extinction of rhinos while serving in Malaysia and Cameroon. In Africa, illegal wildlife trade has wiped out 96% of the world's black rhino population, at a rate of over one a day. The birth of Tamu at the Oregon Zoo is an important part of a national Species Survival Plan (SSP) to breed genetically diverse populations for the long-term future of these animals.

The zoo also participates in the SSP for Madagascar lemurs, West African and Central African chimpanzees, and Borneo orangutans—all threatened by deforestation. Providing homes and care for these critically endangered species is not just a necessity to prevent extinction; it is a vital educational tool. By exposing millions of visitors to the wonder of wildlife as well as to the many threats these keystone species face in the wild from human behavior, the Oregon Zoo is creating the next generation of conservationists.

Please vote Yes to support the Oregon Zoo so that it can continue the important work.

Steven Browning, Uganda, Malawi
Harriet Isom, Benin, Cameroon
Niels Marquardt, Madagascar, Cameroon
John Yates, Benin, Cameroon
Mary Carlin Yates, Ghana, Burundi
Joseph Yun, Malaysia

*(This information furnished by Elizabeth Smith,
Yes for the Oregon Zoo)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

A Senior Perspective on Measure 26-244

As longtime community members from Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington Counties, we wanted to share our thoughts on why seniors love the Oregon Zoo, and why we are enthusiastically voting Yes on Measure 26-244.

Our zoo is well-loved and well-used. Time and again we have gone to the zoo: as young people, as parents, with grandchildren and friends. It is incredibly rewarding every time, providing experiences that connect us closer together with each other and with the natural world.

Our zoo needs this critical investment. Funding from Measure 26-244 will go to maintaining high standards of animal care, update aging exhibits, improve safety and accessibility, and expand educational opportunities for people of all ages.

Our zoo is a community legacy. We can be proud of our zoo; it is one of the only zoos in the world with 50 years of unbroken accreditation by the internationally respected Association of Zoos and Aquariums. That means it follows the highest standards of animal care. Our zoo – and the values behind it – are a legacy that was passed down to us. Measure 26-244 means we can continue to pass that legacy on.

It's a sound and responsible investment. We are careful with our money, and so is the

zoo. It has been an excellent steward of the public's support, delivering on its promises with transparency and citizen oversight. **And Measure 26-244 will not increase the taxes we are paying today.** In fact, it is projected to come in at a lower rate than the last Zoo bond. Life teaches you the value of maintaining your property. It's no different with the property we all own in common.

Please join us in voting YES on the Zoo Bond!

Mark and Ellen Masterson, Multnomah County residents

Janet Putnam and Mike Klain, Clackamas County residents

Kym Amador, Washington County resident

*(This information furnished by Elizabeth Smith,
Yes for the Oregon Zoo)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

TRI-COUNTY PARENTS SUPPORT MEASURE 26-244

The Oregon Zoo has been an integral part of almost every Oregon family experience for over 135 years.

More than just a destination for laughter, learning and fun, it's a place where memories are made, generations bond, and children grow up. From first visits as babies, to summer camp as kids, to first dates and special events as parents, the Oregon Zoo is a safe space and a trusted resource for all; a place where the community comes together.

At every stage of life, the Oregon Zoo has something to offer; it is a place for putting down our devices, discovering the wonders of wildlife, and finding our sense of place in this world.

As parents and residents of Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington Counties, we support Measure 26-244 and urge you to vote yes.

"The Oregon Zoo is truly a gem in our region, for locals and visitors! All year, our family comes to the zoo to have fun, to learn, and to mark the circle of the seasons together."

-Emily Barrett and John Hall, Multnomah County

"The Oregon Zoo is a special place for our family. From ZooLights to summer events, there is something exciting to experience all year long. Seeing animals for the first time, meeting friends for playdates, and visiting the red pandas are special highlights where our child has made enduring memories."

-David and Misha Isaak, Clackamas County

"There is never a moment when our kids aren't excited to visit the zoo. It's the perfect place to swing in for a short visit or stay for the whole day. It is a safe space, the staff and volunteers are friendly and helpful, and we love seeing the kids make connections in real-time to the things they are reading about in books and learning about at school."

-Anna and Doug Lewis, Washington County

*(This information furnished by Elizabeth Smith,
Yes for the Oregon Zoo)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

The Oregon Zoo Volunteers Advise a YES Vote on Measure 26-244

Oregon Zoo volunteers play an important role in supporting the zoo's success by engaging with guests, communicating conservation messages, and supporting the evolving needs of the zoo.

We see first-hand the expertise, dedication, and resources that go into making the best home for the animals in the zoo's care. We are witnesses to children and adults learning about conservation and species recovery, and we see the magic that happens when a guest watches a sea otter crack open a clam on a rock, just as they would do in the wild.

Being on zoo grounds each day, we also see first-hand the needs of the zoo, including the need to expand accessibility, improve sustainability in energy and water use, and the need to always provide the highest quality of care and enrichment for the animals. We also see the exhibits that are in significant need of upgrades, some of which are almost 50 years old.

Our zoo relies on community support to make these improvements, to be the best zoo for animals and guests, to make the world a better place for humans and animals alike, and to come together for wildlife.

We urge you to vote yes on Measure 26-244 to support the zoo in saving species, providing homes and second chances for rescued wildlife, and bringing the community together for generations to come.

Oregon Zoo Volunteers:

Sean Scott, 1 Year
Nancy Emery, 4 Years
TaMara Glavan, 11 Years
Dana Clark-Scott, 13 Years
Christina Crawford, 14 years
Karen McCandless-Buck, 16 Years
Kathy Street, 16 Years
Barbara Wegner, 19 Years
Roger Williams, 20 Years
Scott Blackburn, 20 Years
Deanna Blackburn, 21 Years
Dave Berkley, 22 Years
Jennie McKee, 25 Years
Sandy Sampeer, 27 Years
Mary Epler, 29 Years
Rex Wheeler, 34 Years
Cathy Ann Thomas, 38 Years
Judy Post, 38 Years

*(This information furnished by Elizabeth Smith,
Yes for the Oregon Zoo)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Oregon Zoo Foundation Board Members Urge a YES Vote on Measure 26-244

As community members, we share a deep commitment to the Oregon Zoo and its mission of providing the highest quality animal care, conservation and education and we urge your support of Measure 26-244.

Since the passage of the community supported 2008 Oregon Zoo Bond, our zoo has earned national recognition for its state-of-the-art Veterinary Medical Center, Education Center, and its spacious, naturalistic, more environmentally sustainable habitats for elephants, polar bears, primates and condors. The 2008 bond funded projects that transformed a full 40% of the zoo grounds—projects that were all completed on time and on budget.

But there are significant areas that remain in need of updating. Measure 26-244 would fund critical habitat upgrades across the remaining campus. It would fund improved water and energy management and enhance accessibility for people of all ages and abilities—all without increasing today's tax rate.

Our zoo relies on the community's support to continue being a source of pride across our region.

Please help the Oregon Zoo continue its essential role in caring for wildlife and the natural world, while educating current and future generations on our collective role in sustaining it.

Join us in voting YES on Measure 26-244. Together for Wildlife!

Oregon Zoo Foundation Board Members:

Charissa Anderson, Treasurer

Melanie Billings-Yun, Vice-Chair

Melissa Bobadilla

Laurie Christensen

Tracey A. Clark

Kregg Hanson

Nina Harrington

Susan Hartnett

Lance Inouye

Josef Kiesenhofer

Niels Marquardt

Kim Overhage, Chair

Ron Petersen

Sharla Settlemier

Randy Tesar

Becky Tymchuk

Nancy Visenberg

Doug Wade

Barbara Wegner, Secretary

Chelsea Williams

Yang Yang

Gina Zejdlik

*(This information furnished by Elizabeth Smith,
Yes for the Oregon Zoo)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Empower Learning, Preserve Wildlife: Vote YES On Oregon Zoo Bond!

Hundreds of thousands of children visit the zoo or participate in the zoo's educational programming each year. But the zoo isn't just a place for children to learn; teens, college students, adults, and seniors also participate in educational opportunities through local partnerships and outreach.

A Place Where Education Meets The Natural World

We've seen first-hand the zoo's commitment to education, conservation, and animal welfare. It's a living classroom, where community members of all ages and backgrounds learn through field trips, hands-on experiences, and immersive programming.

A Zoo For Everyone

The zoo is a unique educational center that serves a wide variety of learners. For children it's a place where they can develop connections to the natural world and nurture a sense of responsibility for wildlife. For older visitors, interactive exhibits reveal animal behaviors and crucial conservation efforts. For aspiring veterinarians, technicians, scientists, and biologists, it's a place where classroom knowledge comes to life.

Measure 26-244 will fund investments that will help the zoo remain an open classroom, accessible to all. Voting yes shows your commitment to the community so the zoo can remain an educational resource for everyone.

A Legacy To Be Proud Of

Your support is about more than just bricks and mortar: it's also about building a community dedicated to learning, moving animal welfare standards forward, and preserving wildlife and habitats for generations of learners.

Vote YES for Measure 26-244

a Future where Learning and Wildlife Flourish Together!

NAYA Family Center

TaMara Glavan, Elementary School Associate Principal
Oregon Zoo Teen Program Alumni

Meggie Feutrier, Title One Elementary School Teacher, Multnomah County

Juan Pablo Benitez, University Student, Mechanical Engineering Oregon Zoo Animal
Presenter Program Alumni 2019-2023

Dr. Elin Crockett, Wildlife Veterinarian
Graduate of Oregon Zoo Veterinary Preceptorship Program

*(This information furnished by Elizabeth Smith,
Yes for the Oregon Zoo)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Conservation Partners say YES for Oregon Zoo

The Oregon Zoo plays a crucial role in conservation efforts, in Oregon, in the Pacific Northwest, and around the world.

The zoo has answered the call, working side by side with conservation partners to save species on the brink of extinction, contributing time, talent, and resources to restore habitats, recover species, and contribute conservation science that could not otherwise be accomplished.

Their dedication spans the entire spectrum: from contributing vital scientific research on polar bears to partners in the arctic to raising tiny caterpillars to save native butterfly populations, to inspiring community action through the Cascades Pika Watch program, or educating about responsible pet ownership and making better consumer choices for deforestation free palm oil products. And so much more!

By using their unique platform to amplify our work, the Oregon Zoo encourages their community to get outside and connect with the natural world to discover the critical role species play in our ecosystems, and how everyday actions – big and small – can make an impact on wildlife.

A visit to the Oregon Zoo is just the beginning; their work extends far beyond the gates.

By supporting Measure 26-244, you’re showing your commitment to much more than just one institution. **Your YES vote supports conservation partners all across the globe** and is a tremendous opportunity to build capacity and connect a much wider community to our work.

Vote YES on Measure 26-244.

- Marc Ancranaz, Founder, HUTAN.org, Malaysia
- Amy Cutting, VP of Conservation, Polar Bears International
- Amanda Greenvoss, former Program Manager for Cascades Pika Watch
- Charlie Plybon, Surfrider Foundation
- Kyle Smith, The Nature Conservancy of Oregon

*(This information furnished by Elizabeth Smith,
Yes for the Oregon Zoo)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

URGES A *YES* VOTE ON THE METRO ZOO BOND

The Oregon Zoo is a great place to visit. It also plays an important role in species and habitat conservation work all over the world! From working by hand to repopulate condors, to using cutting-edge spectroscopy to research marine predation trends, what we see when

we visit the Oregon Zoo is only a small part of the globally-renowned work our Zoo staff does.

Measure 26-244 builds on the success of the 2008 Zoo bond, with no estimated increase in current tax rates. The measure will help replace aging infrastructure, improve educational programs and animal habitats, and help staff continue their amazing conservation efforts.

WHY HAVING THE RIGHT STATE TREASURER MATTERS:

A State Treasurer with the right priorities can also help address climate change and preserve the natural habitats and biodiversity that are at risk!

Jeff Gudman is the ONLY candidate for State Treasurer who has pledged not to take money from fossil fuel donors.

As State Treasurer, Jeff Gudman will:

- Create a coalition of other like-minded institutional investors to combine our proxy voting powers and push aggressively to ensure that our holdings are meaningfully and prudently planning to move past fossil fuel reliance — and act on those plans!
- Daylight the financial risks of climate change by including a climate risk factor statement in the State’s bond issuances. Bond buyers are already factoring these concerns into pricing; it’s time we acknowledged the costs.
- Examine the possible use of Oregon’s trust lands with regard to leveraging climate-friendly opportunities. For example, selling carbon credits for forestlands, or constructing solar arrays in rangelands (which would still be able to be utilized as rangeland).

We need a State Treasurer who’s not beholden to fossil fuel interests. We need a State Treasurer who is ready to get serious about climate change!

**VOTE YES ON MEASURE 26-244,
THEN VOTE JEFF GUDMAN FOR STATE TREASURER**

Sources: jeffgudman.com/climate

(This information furnished by Zachary Bayer)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

**\$380,000,000.00 “Whatever” Zoo Bond
What do you call a prison for wild animals? A Zoo**

Confining wild animals in small enclosures and cages, so that people can walk by and gawk at them is unnatural. Elephants can travel 25 miles a day in the wild.

- With our access to the internet, movies, videos, etc., we can see wild animals in their wild natural settings.
- The day of wild life circuses and zoos is ebbing.
- The Zoo’s \$8.5 million annual budget comes from property taxes, tickets and other sources. This \$380 million “Whatever” bond does not define, what the funds will be used for.
- We need to rethink the future use of Zoo’s 640 acre compound. It could be a OSU

extension school in food science, where our young citizen learn hand-on about the the food they eat, it could include 4-H, Nature Conservancy. Oregon Humane Societies, a place where animal organizations could work together.

- The Zoo has 1,600 animal inmates, who's only crime is they are "wild". **What do you think?**

Macdonald, J.F.

(This information furnished by J.F. Macdonald)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

In December 2023, the Governor along with prominent business leaders announced a **three-year moratorium on ALL new taxes** in order to revitalize Portland's downtown and the region's economy.

Make no mistake: this bond is a **\$380,000,000.00 NEW TAX**. Property tax bonds raise the cost of housing for owners and renters alike. **This bond makes no sense during a housing affordability crisis.**

Why can't Metro behave like other cultural institutions by fundraising? The Oregon Zoo Foundation already has \$11,000,000.00 annual revenue, \$22,000,000.00 assets, and it pays its Executive Director \$235,615.00 per year. Oh, and then there's Metro's hotel tax levied on the tourists who actually go to the Oregon Zoo.

I guess the cronies over at Metro are typical lying politicians up to yet more monkey business for their pet projects. At a minimum, you should demand our local leaders work together to coordinate tax policy. The only reason Metro put this bond on the ballot is their previous tax is expiring. The zoo has no pressing new capital needs or expansion plans, and Metro has no concrete spending plan. It's just a **pork barrel slush fund** greenwashed with vague "climate resilient animal shelters" at a time when Portland can't even house people. We should conserve our limited bonding capacity for transformative infrastructure investments such as high-speed rail.

The Peoples' Republic of **Metro already has an unallocated \$450,000,000.00 "Parks and Nature" bond** (aka slush fund) it can use for its animal farm. The last I heard, in Oldspeak, animals count as "nature," and the Oregon Zoo is in a park. That bond came under a scathing audit in 2023 for its mismanagement and skewed priorities: overpaying for farmland purchased from politically connected insiders, making it off-limits to the public, leasing it to agribusiness corporations for profit, and calling it a Newpark. All parks are equal, but some parks are equaler than others, I guess.

Monkey Vote NO.

(This information furnished by Thomas J Busse)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

Taxpayers Association of Oregon urges
No on 26-244

The Zoo has been extremely wasteful and now wants you -- the taxpayers -- to reward their mismanagement with a huge tax hike.

Voters last approved a Zoo bond in 2008. A lot has changed since then. Metro has run the Zoo into the ground, and they want you—the taxpayers—to bail them out.

- **Zoo wants higher taxes to pay for 19% fewer visitors** (since 2008). (1)
- **Zoo chases away families by recklessly raising prices 160%** (since 2008).
- **Zoo raises both prices and taxes while providing less service.** In 2008, the Zoo had a summer concert series with 16 national and international acts. The Zoo has “eliminated concerts” according to Metro’s latest budget. (2)
- **Zoo is doing less even though we give them more money.** 2008 Zoo bond funds were used to build two big new exhibits (Serengeti, Red Ape Reserve). The current Zoo bond merely “updates” three already existing exhibits.
- **Zoo is cutting service even though we give more money.** In 2008, the Zoo Train ran a 40 minute loop through Washington Park for only \$4 a ride. Today, the trip is only 5 minutes long and costs \$5 a ride. In 2019, Metro’s President announced that the Zoo Train’s original route would not be restored and it would be replaced by a trail. The trail was never built.

Stop rewarding wasteful spending with tax hikes.

Stop rewarding Zoo mismanagement with tax hikes.

The Taxpayers Association of Oregon has protected you from higher taxes and government waste for 25 years. follow us at OregonWatchdog.com.

Sources: (1) 1.6 million visitors in 2008. Today, it’s 1.3 million. (2) Metro Budget, FY 2023-24. (3) the penguin, sea otter, and giraffe exhibits.

(This information furnished by Jason Williams, Taxpayers Association of Oregon)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

METRO sits on \$1 billion surplus

Portland sits on \$170 million surplus

Yet, they both want \$380 million more from you!

Metro, which runs the Zoo, has an estimated \$1 billion surplus from their recent tax as explained by OPB;

“Portland metro area’s homeless tax could bring in nearly \$1 billion in unexpected revenue by 2029” --- OPB 10/26/23

Portland has an estimated \$170 million surplus from their recent energy tax as explained by The Oregonian;

“The fund’s authors estimated it would raise about \$30 million a year ... Since then, the revenue has grown exponentially every year...The tax is now expected to raise more than \$200 million annually.” Oregonian 2/29/24

There you go.

Metro has a \$1 billion surplus.

Portland has a \$170 million surplus.

If both Metro and Portland are swimming in nearly **\$1.2 billion surplus**, why are they asking voters to approve a **\$380 million property tax increase** to fund Zoo construction projects?

Metro regional government can afford to be wasteful because there are effectively only two similar regional Metro governments in the entire United States. Thousands of cities are able to fund their local area Zoos without a third layer government Metro government bureaucracy driving up the cost.

Stop punishing taxpayers with tax hikes when politicians are sitting on surplus tax revenue.

Taxpayers Association of Oregon urges
No on 26-244

The Taxpayers Association of Oregon has protected you from higher taxes and government waste for 25 years. follow us at OregonWatchdog.com.

(This information furnished by Jason Williams, Taxpayers Association of Oregon)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

Vote NO on 26-244

This \$380 million bond is an expensive **money grab** by Metro after failing to address homelessness. It enriches zoo management and contractors, **not** animals. Special interests are spending over \$600,000 with a PAC to promote this giveaway.

The zoo has no clear spending plan for \$380 million. It is plainly NOT based on need. Misleadingly termed a bond renewal, it is **over three times** the previous \$125 million bond!

The previous bond was an **expensive failure**:

- A mere 1.5% of the money was spent on native wildlife.
- Over \$57 million was spent on “Elephant Lands” which enriched construction companies but has been devastating for elephants.
- Four elephants (Rama, Tusko, Packy and Lily) have died of avoidable causes since its opening nine years ago.
- Chendra has gone through an ill-advised pregnancy, aggressive tuberculosis and a tragic miscarriage – all entirely avoidable.
- All surviving elephants have foot diseases caused by zoo captivity.
- Medical records show fighting and bullying among the elephants resulting in injuries.
- In Defense of Animals rated Oregon Zoo among the ten worst zoos for elephants.

Learning about Chendra’s sad plight a reputed elephant sanctuary, Elephant Refuge North America, made an all-expense paid offer to rehabilitate her. **The zoo rejected it!** Chendra is still languishing in poor health.

Do not reward failure with more money!

Oregon Zoo is a failing institution:

- Attendance has been on a downward trend for over a decade.
- Its expenses have been going up over the years, always well-exceeding revenues.
- Last year alone we bailed them out with \$25 million of our tax dollars.
- Homeowners and renters should not be forced to pay for the zoo's wastefulness!

Vote NO on 26-244
 The Zoo **squandered** the last tax handout!
NO TO AN ADDITIONAL \$380 MILLION

For details, visit www.voteno2zoo.bond

Free the Oregon Zoo Elephants
 Gimme Shelter Portland
 In Defense of Animals
 Heart of Ganesh
 Animal Rights Collective Portland

(This information furnished by Bala Seshasayee, Free the Oregon Zoo Elephants)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

VOTE NO ON METRO'S ZOO BOND MEASURE 26-244

\$380 MILLION ASK

Metro is once again asking taxpayers to approve another zoo bond, this time for a shocking \$380 million. This is the just second of Metro's many planned cash grabs - the last zoo bond measure, for \$125 million, passed in 2008.

WHO BENEFITS?

Stakeholders are pouring hundreds of thousands of dollars promoting a yes vote on this latest measure, hoping for a \$380 million windfall to benefit zoo leadership, management, highly paid consultants, contractors and sub-contractors. Don't be fooled - this has nothing to do with animal welfare.

STAGGERING LOSSES

According to Metro's own records, zoo attendance was down 28% in 2023 from its 2018 high, while expenses are increasing. In the year 2023, the Oregon Zoo lost \$25 million or \$68,943 per day. Taxpayers are on the hook to subsidize this loss. If voters approve the latest bond, the daily subsidy will increase to \$108,000 per day.

DECEPTIVE MARKETING

In its attempt to sell voters on Measure 26-244, Metro is deliberately using vague, generalized terms to describe attractive sounding projects that they state will "update exhibits", "improve facilities", "conserve water and energy" and "increase accessibility". No goals, objectives, timelines or specific outcomes governing how the money will be spent are offered. In fact, as stated in the measure, a "plan" will not be presented to the Metro council, for months after it passes.

**NO MORE \$\$\$ FOR METRO
 VOTE NO ON METRO'S ZOO BOND MEASURE 26-244**

(This information furnished by Barbara Spears)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

METRO vs. TAXPAYERS

Once again, an insatiable Metro attacks not only the intelligence, but also the strained pocketbooks of beleaguered taxpayers by nonchalantly floating a massive \$380 million dollar bond that, yet again, promises to fix all the ongoing problems at the zoo. Forget that none of the animals want to be forced to live in tiny artificial environments, and focus instead on why it costs so much public money to maintain this place. With falling attendance from a disinterested public, Metro taxpayers have to bail out the zoo every year with massive infusions of cash.

The Oregon Zoo is an entertainment facility that generates an unconscionable and accelerating deficit of over \$25 million dollars per year. Metro then subsidizes that deficit to the tune of \$68,943 dollars per day. Yes, you read that right. \$68,943... per day. Every day. 365 days a year. And that deficit is growing at an accelerating rate. Add in the money Metro requests in this bond and the deficit balloons to more than \$108,000 per day. That's your money, by the way.

Most disturbingly, this bond is written with a flagrant disregard for specifics, and assumes you are stupid by proclaiming they're allowed to ponder and discuss what to do with the money until months after its passage. Given Metro's track record, do you trust them to invest your money in projects that promise we won't be called on yet again? You'd better think no as this measure is now titled Phase 2, implying Phase 3 is next, as is Phase 4, and 5, and 6, and on and on until taxpayers decide they no longer want to subsidize Metro's unsustainable debt. Do the animals a favor. Do yourself a favor:

**Vote NO on Metro's favorite money pit, the latest
Zoo Bond, Measure 26-244**

(This information furnished by Jon Gramstad)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

Signs that Metro & Portland may have an addiction problem

... an addiction to taxes.

Portland isn't just addicted to meth ... they're addicted to taxes.

Here are 8 signs of addiction:

Addiction Sign #1 = "Addicts always need one more hit": Portland voters have suffered 10 major local tax increases since 2018. There are 3 more local taxes on the ballot right now.

Addiction Sign #2 = "Addicts lack any moderation". Portland is rated the second highest tax place in America (KOIN 2/17 /23). There's no moderation, just extreme taxes.

Addition Sign #3 = "Addicts chase away friends". Portland area lost 14,000 taxpayers in 2022.

Addiction Sign #4 = “Addicts can’t hold a job”. High taxes kill jobs. Oregon Business reported “Portland Office Vacancies Reach Historic Highs” (10/9/23). The vacancy rate hit 30%.

Addiction Sign #5 = “Addicts never stop at one drug”. We have local taxes that seldom exist anywhere else in America like ... the Portland Arts Tax, Portland’s Clean Energy Surcharge, Multnomah Income Tax for preschool, METRO’s 1% income tax for homeless, and METRO’s (\$652 million) property tax for private housing programs.

Addiction Sign #6 = “Addicts use more for a smaller high”. We keep getting higher taxes but we somehow end up with fewer police, fewer new roads, fewer school days and more pot holes, more graffiti, more crime and more homeless.

Addiction Sign #7 = “Addicts can’t be trusted”. Think of the politicians broken promises.

Addiction Sign #8 = “Addicts seek a higher high”. The next tax to hit you in 2025 is tolling. If you want to stop tolling, please sign petition (IP#4) which gives voters the right to vote on tolling projects in their neighborhood at OregonWatchdog.com/petition.

The Taxpayers Association of Oregon has protected you from higher taxes and government waste for 25 years. follow us at OregonWatchdog.com.

(This information furnished by Jason Williams, Taxpayers Association of Oregon)

Portland Public School District

Measure 26-246

BALLOT TITLE

Levy Renewal to Maintain Teachers and Classroom Support Staff

Question: Shall district maintain teachers, classroom support staff; renew levy of \$1.99 per \$1,000 assessed value for five years beginning 2025? This measure renews current local option taxes.

Summary: Portland Public Schools' local option levy was approved by voters in 2019 to provide funding for schools over five years. The renewed levy will provide an estimated \$101.5 million in the first year and is projected to fund approximately 660 teachers and classroom support staff annually over five years.

This renewed local option levy would fund teaching and other positions to:

- Support a well-rounded education, including career and technical programs and enrichments and electives, so students graduate with the skills they need to be career or college ready.
- Provide classroom supports, such as educational assistants and reading specialists for students struggling with academic or mental/behavioral health issues.
- Help maintain class sizes and prevent significant increases across the district.

Levy rate remains \$1.99 per \$1,000 assessed property value, the same as the 2019 levy.

Funds will be placed in a separate account; independent community oversight will review expenditures to verify funds are used as approved by voters. No levy funds will be spent for administration. District is subject to annual independent financial and performance audits.

The levy will raise an estimated \$101.5 million in 2025-2026; \$103.0 million in 2026-2027; \$106.0 million in 2027-2028; \$109.3 million in 2028-2029; and \$112.5 million in 2029-30.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Portland Public Schools currently serves over 44,000 students in 81 schools and other programs throughout the neighborhoods of Portland.

PPS's graduation rate of 84.5% remains above the statewide average and has risen 26 percentage points since 2010.

In serving the students of Portland, the district continuously strives to be fiscally responsible with taxpayer resources. Through many years of volatile budgets and the pandemic, school district leaders have worked to preserve classroom education and class sizes. At the same time, PPS has advocated for a greater level of state investment by the Legislature and worked to ensure that dollars are spent well and focused on the classroom. PPS is subject to regular independent financial and performance audits to monitor effective use of taxpayer resources.

Continued investments are needed in our schools to continue to build career and technical programs, prevent class-size increases, and better support struggling students, especially coming out of the pandemic.

If renewed, the levy is estimated to produce \$101.5 million for Portland Public Schools in school year 2025-2026. The proposed levy renewal:

Funds teachers at every school in the District

- The funds help support a well-rounded education, with enrichments for elementary and middle grades, and electives in varied interest areas for high school students.
- The funds help support career, technical, science, technology, engineering, and math programs, including computer science education, so students can graduate with the skills necessary to be career or college ready.
- The funds provide academic supports, such as reading specialists for students working to recover from learning loss.
- The levy is projected to fund teaching positions / classroom supports at every school in the district, approximately 660 positions annually over five years—nearly one-fifth of all teaching positions in the district.

Allows funding for other classroom support positions

- The levy revenue could also fund other classroom support positions across the District, such as educational assistants, reading specialists, and special education certified personnel to help identify and support students with mental or behavioral health issues, academic issues, or other needs.

Continues to provide fiscal accountability and independent oversight

- This local option requires independent community oversight so that tax dollars are used only for purposes approved by local voters.
- Funds will be placed in a separate account to ensure their correct use and accurate reporting.
- No funds from this local option levy will be used for district administration.

Maintains the existing tax rate of \$1.99 per \$1,000 of assessed value

- This local option levy replaces the one passed by voters in 2019 and maintains the existing tax rate.
- For a home at the current average assessed value of \$275,706, the levy cost is \$45.72 per month, or \$548.65 per year.

Submitted by:

*Dr. Sandy Husk
Interim Superintendent,
Portland Public Schools*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Renew the Portland Teachers Levy! Taxes remain the same!

YES FOR TEACHERS, YES FOR KIDS urges a YES Vote on Measure 26-246 this May.

We are parents, community members, seniors, educators, businesses, and elected officials who have all come together to support Measure 26-246.

A YES vote on the local levy ensures the district can maintain over 660 teaching and classroom support positions across the district without raising your taxes.

Portland Public Schools – serving over 44,500 students – has relied on this levy since 2007.

Having a high-quality teacher in every classroom, class sizes that allow for individual attention, and diverse well-funded instructional programs are fundamental to reaching this goal.

A YES VOTE ON 26-246 to RENEW THE LOCAL OPTION LEVY MEANS:

Preserves Over 660 Teaching Positions

- Teachers are the heart of our schools. Renewal of the levy funds over 660 high quality teaching and classroom support staff positions across the District that help the children in our community thrive. One fifth of all teaching positions in Portland Public Schools are funded by the Levy.

Funding Programs for a Comprehensive Education

- Levy funds help support a well-rounded program, with enrichments for elementary and middle grades and electives in varied interest areas and disciplines for high school students.

Maintains Current Tax Rate

- This levy is a renewal. Taxpayers would continue paying the same local option tax rate of \$1.99 per \$1,000 assessed value they pay today.

Independent Oversight

The levy renewal requires independent oversight to ensure tax dollars are used for purposes approved by voters. The Community Budget Review Committee will continue to provide this oversight and all levy funds will be placed in a separate account for transparent reporting.

Please join the Renew the Teachers Levy campaign and vote **YES** on Measure 26-246 to support Portland's children, teachers, and classrooms. **Renew the Portland Teachers Levy!**

*(This information furnished by Terri Waller -
Renew the Teachers Levy)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Votar A FAVOR de la Medida 26-246 renovará el impuesto actual de los maestros de las Escuelas Públicas de Portland y preservará la financiación para más de 660 maestros en las escuelas del distrito. Aproximadamente uno de cada cinco puestos docentes está financiado por el impuesto actual. Un voto A FAVOR renueva este impuesto por cinco años adicionales sin aumentar la tasa fiscal actual. Únase a nosotros para votar A FAVOR de la Medida 26-246.

Ваш голос ЗА (ориг. «YES») принятие законодательной меры 26-246 (ориг. Measure 26-246) обеспечит продление действующего в настоящее время налога, предусмотренного Управлением образования государственных школ г. Портленд для поддержки преподавательского состава, и сохранит финансирование более 660 рабочих мест учителей в школах района. Примерно каждое третье рабочее место преподавателя финансируется за счет действующего налога. Ваш голос ЗА продлит действие этого налога еще на пять лет без повышения существующей налоговой ставки. Пожалуйста, присоединяйтесь к нам и отдайте свой голос ЗА принятие законодательной меры 26-246.

Biểu quyết “YES” (đồng ý) cho Dự luật 26-246 sẽ gia hạn tiền thuế cho giáo viên tại các Trường Công lập Portland và bảo toàn kinh phí cho hơn 660 giáo viên tại các trường học trên toàn quận. Khoảng một trong ba giáo viên được tài trợ bởi tiền thuế hiện tại này. Biểu quyết “YES” sẽ gia hạn khoản thuế này thêm năm năm nữa mà không tăng mức thuế hiện tại. Hãy cùng chúng tôi tham gia biểu quyết “YES” cho Dự luật 26-246.

Cod bixinta ah HAA ee Xeerka 26-246 waxaa dib loogu cusbooneysiin doonaa canshuurta la isa saaro iyada oo la ilaalin doono maalgelinta loogu talagalay in ka badan 660 macallin ee dugsiyada ku yaala guud ahaan degmada. Qiyaastii saddex boos oo dhanka waxbarida ah hal ka mid ah ayaa lagu maalgeliyaa canshuurta hadda la isa saaro. Cod bixinta ah HAA waxaa dib loogu cusbooneysiin doonaa canshuurtan la isa saarayo taasi oo loogu talagalay shan sano oo dheeraad iyada oo aan la kordhinayn heerka canshuurta ee hadda jira. Fadlan nagula soo biir coddeynta la coddeynayo HAA ee Xeerka 26-246.

对第 26-246 项措施投赞成票将延续现有的波特兰公立学校教师征税，并为该地区的660多名教师提供资金。目前的征税为约三分之一的教职岗位提供资金。投赞成票将令该征税在不提高现有税率的前提下续期五年。请加入我们，对第 26-246 项措施投赞成票。

*(This information furnished by Terri Waller -
Renew the Teachers Levy)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

A Message from the Portland Association of Teachers

Classroom teachers across the District know that the existing local option levy is critical to our ability to educate all of Portland’s students.

The Portland Association of Teachers - representing over 4,000 educators - stands with numerous community leaders across the city in calling for a renewal of the local option teachers’ levy.

A YES vote on Measure 26-246 would renew the existing teachers’ levy without raising

existing taxes. Passage of the levy would:

- Maintain teachers, counselors, and specialists in every school across the District
- Support individualized attention for students
- Maintain opportunities for enrichment courses, electives, and Career and Technical Education (CTE) programming

Teachers are the heart of our schools. Losing nearly 20% of the educators in our classrooms would have devastating impacts on our kids, schools and the city as a whole.

We simply cannot afford to lose this critical funding at a time when we know our schools need more resources. Portland Association of Teachers is fighting every day for more funding, but we must also hold onto what we have. That is why we are strongly recommending a YES vote on Measure 26-246 to ensure over 660 teaching jobs remain in our community. Measure 26-246 is an opportunity for Portlanders to renew their commitment to our schools and provide the individual attention and excellent education that children in every corner of our District deserve and need without raising taxes.

This May, please support Portland's teachers and vote YES on Measure 26-246.

Portland Association of Teachers

*(This information furnished by Angela Bonilla -
Portland Association of Teachers)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Parents, Portland Council PTA urge YES vote for students, teachers.

For over 100 years, PTA volunteers who are parents, teachers and community members have tirelessly worked for all Portland Public Schools students. We are in our schools everyday helping students and assisting our teachers and staff. We witness firsthand the profound impact Portland teachers have on our children.

Exceptional teachers in every classroom, complemented by specialists who bolster their efforts, are the best way we can help our kids. A well-rounded education also engages students in music, art, exploration, experimentation, and hands-on learning as well as career, tech-focused opportunities for every student. Measure 26-246 specifically funds the professionals who teach these subjects.

Please join Portland Council PTA & continue the critical support for PPS children and teachers. Vote YES on Measure 26-246!

Portland Council PTA

Abernethy PTA

Alameda PTA

Atkinson PTA

Beach Community Union

Beaumont, Megan Nelson

Bridger Creative Science, Heather Lee

Bridlemile, Ashley Schofield

Buckman PTA

César Chávez, Blake Goud
Chapman, Katie LaBonte
Cleveland, Kayla Gulbranson
Creston PTA
da Vinci Arts PTSA
Duniway PTA
Faubion, Gina Levine
Franklin, PTSA
George, Christine Vial
Glencoe, PTA
Grant, Alison Kalmonson
Grout, Ryan Phillips
Harriet Tubman, Rachel Oh
Hayhurst PTA
Hosford, Abby Nilson Kirby
Irvington, PTA
Jackson, Kate Cockrill
James John, Eva Rippeteau Chavira
Kellogg, Reneé Bercerra
Lane Access, Anna Cox
Laurelhurst, Megan Mermis
Lent PTA
Lincoln, David Heffernan
Llewellyn, Sarah Erickson
Maplewood PTA
Markham, Margaux Wagenmann
Marysville Family Association
McDaniel, Smyth Lai
Metropolitan Learning Center PTSA
Mt. Tabor, Jennifer Dahlin
Ockley Green Supporters
Rieke, Sasha Pollack PTA President
Rigler PTA
Robert Gray PTA
Roosevelt, Suzanne Clark
Rose City Park, Alison Taylor
Roseway Heights, Smyth Lai
Scott PTA
Sitton PTA
Skyline PTA
Sunnyside Environmental PTA
Vernon PTA
Vestal, Kelly Skellenger
Winterhaven School, Jennifer Baker
Woodstock PTA

(This information furnished by Lisa Kensel)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

A Community Committed To Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Needs Public Teachers To Thrive

The promise of equal access to public education is an integral to the promise of a community for all. Working families, immigrants, LGBTQIA2S+, Indigenous peoples, people living with disabilities and communities of color, deserve fully funded public schools with educators of excellence that reflect our communities.

As Portland grows, the demographics of our city - and of PPS' students - continue to change. Portland Public Schools serves over **44,500 Portland students:**

- 45.5% are students of color;
- 31% are offered free meals;
- 9.5% are in English as a Second Language services; and
- 16.6% are enrolled in special education programming.

For PPS to appropriately serve this growing share of students and families with their educational needs and rights, the district needs robust, reliable funding for teachers and classroom support staff.

Measure 26-246 maintains crucial funding for over 660 teaching positions across the district without raising existing taxes. If we don't approve the levy we risk losing 660 teachers, and the burden would disproportionately impact our most vulnerable students in most need of a stable, excellent public education.

An investment in our public schools is a crucial component of making sure every community succeeds. A YES Vote on Measure 26-246 is a vote of affirmation that the next generation of Portlanders are entitled to an education in a learning environment that is welcoming, supportive, and equitable.

Please join community leaders in supporting a YES vote this May on Measure 26-246. Renew the Portland Teachers Levy!

Latino Network
APANO
Self Enhancement Inc.
Coalition of Communities of Color
Word is Bond
Albina Vision Trust
Stand for Children
Families for Equity in Schools
Portland Backpack
NAYA Family Center and NAYA Action Fund

(This information furnished by Duncan Hwang)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

RETIREES & SENIORS CALL FOR A YES VOTE ON MEASURE 26-246

A VOTE FOR PORTLAND SCHOOLS IS A VOTE FOR A BETTER PORTLAND

Some of us went to PPS schools, others have grandchildren in school today while some retired here and never attended our local schools.

We are united in our support for Measure 26-246.

Schools are the connective tissue that form a great community, whether or not you personally have school-age children. Oregon's public schools are financed on a 'pay it forward' model - if you attended public school yourself or had kids in schools previously, those schools were funded by those before us.

Measure 26-246 is our intergenerational commitment to young children of today and in the future.

Even if you don't have school-age children, an investment in public schools supports the prosperity of our community for generations to come.

Many of us are on fixed incomes and understand the impact of taxes. The good news is renewing the Local Teachers Levy is not a new tax. **It maintains the current tax rate** and will keep our community thriving.

Now it's time to renew the Teachers Levy. We ask you to join us in supporting our schools.

- Barbara Dudley
- Nan Stark
- Wendy Rankin
- Richard Adams
- Sharon Meigh-Chang
- Kim Osgood
- Mike Roach
- A.J. Zelada
- Robin L. Shellcross
- L. Otto Schell
- Martine R. Sacks
- David Salniker
- Esther Moe
- Barbara Byrd
- Katherine Lee
- Ken Lee
- Jo Anne H. Dean
- William B. Dean
- Roger Kent Kirchner

(This information furnished by L. Otto Schell)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

PPS Board Members: Local Option Levy Essential For Students and Staff

We are honored to serve PPS students and are deeply committed to providing an excellent education across the district. **It is our responsibility to provide our students with the educational opportunities they need to prepare them to thrive in the future.**

Right now, Portland schools are facing challenges on a number of fronts. Our public school system is badly in need of additional funding and resources in order to meet these

challenges. We are committed to advocating for these additional funds.

However, we must maintain what we have and our ability to support our schools with local funds is more critical than ever.

PPS voters have supported a Teachers Levy since 2007. We are asking you to again join the teachers, parents, students, and community leaders across the district and vote **YES on Measure 26-246**.

Your yes vote helps ensure that PPS will be able to access the resources we need to keep our teachers in classrooms with the support needed to provide an excellent education in our city's beloved public schools.

Let's Renew the Levy. Vote YES on Measure 26-246.

PPS Board Chair Gary Hollands
PPS Vice-Chair Herman Greene
PPS Board Member Andrew Scott
PPS Board Member Michelle DePass
PPS Board Member Patte Sullivan
PPS Board Member Julia Brim-Edwards
PPS Board Member Eddie Wang

PPS Student Representative Francesca Silverstein

(This information furnished by Gary Hollands)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

ELECTED OFFICIALS ACROSS THE CITY ARE UNITED: RENEW THE TEACHERS LEVY!

As elected officials who represent teachers, students and families at multiple levels of government, we see firsthand how public education is directly related to our economy, our neighborhoods and our quality of life. Ensuring Portland schools have high-quality teachers with enough specialists and support staff to deliver an excellent education is a top priority for all of us as we work to serve our constituents and govern our community.

The Teachers Levy is a crucial part of our funding model ensuring more than 44,500 students in Portland Public Schools are provided with excellent teachers for a modern education. A YES vote on Measure 26-246 secures funding for over 660 teaching positions across the district. Independent community oversight will ensure that funds from this local option will be used only for purposes approved by local voters.

With this perspective, we are unified in agreement: **it is imperative that voters renew the local option levy this May. Our schools and our children's futures depend on it.**

We urge you to vote YES on Measure 26-246.

Congressman Earl Blumenauer
Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici

State Senators:

Sen. Michael Dembrow
Sen. Elizabeth Steiner

State Representatives:

Rep. Maxine Dexter
Rep. Mark Gamba
Rep. Hoa Nguyen
Rep. Rob Nosse
Rep. Khanh Pham
Rep. Thuy Tran

Metro Council:

Chair Lynn Peterson
Councilor Juan Carlos González
Councilor Duncan Hwang
Councilor Christine Lewis
Councilor Mary Nolan
Councilor Ashton Simpson

Multnomah County Commissioners:

Chair Jessica Vega Pederson
Commissioner Jesse Beason
Commissioner Julia Brim-Edwards
Commissioner Dr. Sharon Meieran

Portland City Council:

Mayor Ted Wheeler
Commissioner Rene Gonzalez
Commissioner Mingus Mapps
Commissioner Carmen Rubio
Commissioner Dan Ryan

PCC Board Member Tiffani Penson

A full list of elected officials, candidates and community leaders endorsing YES on Measure 26-246: RenewTeachersLevy.com

(This information furnished by Jacq Tjaden - Renew the Teachers Levy Campaign)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

URGES A ***YES*** VOTE ON **MEASURE 26-246**

Supporting our shared K-12 education system is one of the foundational responsibilities of

any community. Our students should be able to learn, play, and explore in a safe and well-appointed place, with quality teachers and programs. Measure 26-246 simply asks voters to renew an existing levy in order to maintain current programs and staffing levels.

... But why do we feel that our schools are so strained even when hearing about record K-12 funding?

WHY HAVING THE RIGHT STATE TREASURER MATTERS:

Last year, the Legislature patted itself on the back for “record” K-12 funding. But the truth is that they fudged the numbers:

On August 2, 2023, Legislative leaders described a \$10.2 billion appropriation as “record funding” for K-12. Oregon’s Department of Education reported enrollment of 547,424 students for the 2023-24 school year. That’s \$18,632.72 per student.

In 2021, the K-12 appropriation was \$9.3 billion (Senate Bill 5514), and the Department of Education reported enrollment of 551,977. At first glance, that makes the 2023 appropriation seem like an increase given that those numbers show \$16,848.53 per student. But according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the inflation-adjusted value of that 2021 appropriation would be \$18,920.55 per student in 2023 dollars.

Or to put it another way: **The Legislature actually shorted the K-12 budget about \$287 per 547,424 students, making total cuts of over \$150 million.**

Senator Elizabeth Steiner, who is currently running for State Treasurer, signed onto that August press release describing these cuts as “Historic Gains for Oregon Students,” which mean that either she doesn’t understand inflation, or she’s counting on YOU to not understand inflation.

Either way, we need a Treasurer who’s not afraid to be honest about Oregon’s finances.

**VOTE YES ON MEASURE 26-246,
THEN VOTE JEFF GUDMAN, DEMOCRAT FOR STATE TREASURER**

See sources: jeffgudman.com/k12315

(This information furnished by Zachary Bayer)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

Taxpayers Association of Oregon
urges NO on 26-246

Enrollment down, yet staffing is up?

- Since the pandemic, PPS enrollment is down by 9.5%, but the number of employees

increased 4.2%.

Cost per-student is higher than attending University of Oregon!

- Since the pandemic, PPS spending per student on instruction and support has increased 34.2% to \$17,800 per student. That's more than the typical private school tuition. That's more than tuition at the University of Oregon! Where is all the money going? (Source: Tax Supervising Commission & Conservation data for 23/24)

The teacher strike hurt students

- The teachers strike, criticized by Oregon Governor Tina Kotek and The Oregonian Editorial Board, kept nearly 45,000 students out of school for nearly an entire month. This followed on the heels of our once-in-a-century pandemic that put our students three years behind in schooling.

Teachers to make \$100,000 a year

- Because the district caved to teacher demands, over half of PPS teachers will soon make more than \$100,000 a year. The Willamette Week reported, "The union negotiated about a 13.8% cumulative cost-of-living increase over the next three years that will catapult more than half of Portland Public Schools **teachers over the \$100,000 annual salary mark...**" (11/26/23)

Fake graduation rates

- PPS brags about increasing graduation rates, but that's because Oregon students won't have to prove basic mastery of reading, writing or math to graduate from high school until at least 2029 (Oregonian 10/22/24). Simply put, PPS handled Oregon's nationally low graduation rate by lowering requirements in order to make the schools look better but it meant that our students were less educated and less prepared for the world.

PPS should fix spending problems before
asking for more money.

NO on 26-246

The Taxpayers Association of Oregon has protected you from higher taxes and government waste for 25 years. follow us at OregonWatchdog.com.

(This information furnished by Jason Williams, Taxpayers Association of Oregon)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

Taxpayers Association of Oregon
Urges No on 26-246

**In just over 10 years,
Oregon schools got \$6.8 billion from brand "new" sources!**

**Portland schools got an additional \$2.1 billion
on top of that \$6.8 billion.**

In 2012, politicians helped a pass measure stealing the business Kicker Tax Refund and diverting it to education. Result = **\$2,000,000,000 more** for education since.

In 2012, Portland Arts Tax passed to fund schools.
Result = **\$112 million more** for education since.

In 2014, school advocates backed legalizing marijuana because the pot tax would fund schools. Result = **\$220 million more** for education since.

In 2016, voters approved Ballot Measure 99 to divert lottery funds towards funding school outdoor programs.
Result = nearly **\$50 million more** for education since.

In 2017, Measure 26-193 school bond passed.
Result = **\$790 million more** for Portland schools.

In 2019, lawmakers approved one of the largest taxes in Oregon history (Corporate Activities Tax) to fund schools. Result = **\$2,800,000,000 more** for education since.

In 2020, Measure 26-215 school bond passed.
Result = **\$1.2 billion more** for Portland schools.

In 2020, Measure 26-214 Multnomah County income tax passed. Result = **\$366 million more** for Portland schools.

In 2022, Congress had fully awarded Oregon \$1.7 billion in Covid school assistance. Result = **\$1.7 billion more** for schools.

Simply put, the politicians keep raising our taxes for schools only to keep coming back for more, again and again. It never stops.

Taxpayers Association of Oregon urges Vote NO on 3-604

The Taxpayers Association of Oregon has protected you from higher taxes and government waste for 25 years. follow us at OregonWatchdog.com.

(This information furnished by Jason Williams, Taxpayers Association of Oregon)

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

Signs that Metro & Portland may have an addiction problem

... an addiction to taxes.

Portland isn't just addicted to meth ... they're addicted to taxes.

Here are 8 signs of addiction:

Addiction Sign #1 = "Addicts always need one more hit": Portland voters have suffered 10 major local tax increases since 2018. There are 3 more local taxes on the ballot right now.

Addiction Sign #2 = "Addicts lack any moderation". Portland is rated the second highest tax

place in America
(KOIN 2/17 /23). There's no moderation, just extreme taxes.

Addition Sign #3 = "Addicts chase away friends". Portland area lost 14,000 taxpayers in 2022.

Addiction Sign #4 = "Addicts can't hold a job". High taxes kill jobs. Oregon Business reported "Portland Office Vacancies Reach Historic Highs" (10/9/23). The vacancy rate hit 30%.

Addiction Sign #5 = "Addicts never stop at one drug". We have local taxes that seldom exist anywhere else in America like ... the Portland Arts Tax, Portland's Clean Energy Surcharge, Multnomah Income Tax for preschool, METRO's 1% income tax for homeless, and METRO's (\$652 million) property tax for private housing programs.

Addiction Sign #6 = "Addicts use more for a smaller high". We keep getting higher taxes but we somehow end up with fewer police, fewer new roads, fewer school days and more pot holes, more graffiti, more crime and more homeless.

Addiction Sign #7 = "Addicts can't be trusted". Think of the politicians broken promises.

Addiction Sign #8 = "Addicts seek a higher high". The next tax to hit you in 2025 is tolling. If you want to stop tolling, please sign petition (IP#4) which gives voters the right to vote on tolling projects in their neighborhood at OregonWatchdog.com/petition.

The Taxpayers Association of Oregon has protected you from higher taxes and government waste for 25 years. follow us at OregonWatchdog.com.

(This information furnished by Jason Williams, Taxpayers Association of Oregon)

Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue District

Measure 34-332

BALLOT TITLE

LOCAL OPTION LEVY FOR FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Question: Shall TVF&R levy \$0.69 per \$1,000 assessed value for five years, beginning Fiscal Year 2025-2026?

This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

Summary: Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue is seeking a levy for \$0.69 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. Levies must be approved by voters and are limited to a maximum duration of five years. For a property assessed at \$305,000, the average in TVF&R's service area, the levy would cost approximately \$17.54 a month.

If the levy does not pass, funding for at least 92 of 450 firefighters and paramedics would be lost and staffing reductions would be required.

If passed, levy funds will:

- Retain existing first responders and add 36 more.
- Improve service levels as emergency incidents are projected to increase over the next five years.
- Ensure prompt response times and reliability when multiple emergencies happen at the same time.
- Purchase specialized medical equipment such as cardiac monitors and defibrillators as well as critical firefighting tools including thermal imagers that aid in search and rescue and breathing apparatus worn by firefighters in burning buildings.
- Purchase vehicles used to fight wildfires, shuttle water, and transport patients.
- Add personnel who train and equip first responders.

An estimate of the revenue raised for each year of the proposed levy is:

FY 2025-2026:	\$ 54,032,329
FY 2026-2027:	\$ 56,354,401
FY 2027-2028:	\$ 58,776,263
FY 2028-2029:	\$ 61,302,205
FY 2029-2030:	\$ 63,936,696

The estimated tax cost for this measure is an ESTIMATE ONLY based on the best information available from the county assessors at the time of estimate and may reflect the impact of early payment discounts, compression, and the collection rate.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue (TVF&R) provides fire suppression, emergency medical care, technical rescue, water rescue, hazardous material response, fire prevention, and risk reduction services to the cities of Beaverton, Durham, King City, Newberg, North Plains, Rivergrove, Sherwood, Tigard, Tualatin, West Linn, and Wilsonville, as well as unincorporated portions of Washington, Clackamas, Yamhill, and Multnomah counties.

What is the history behind this proposal?

TVF&R has had operating levies in place since 2000 to supplement its permanent tax rate which was frozen in 1997 due to Ballot Measure 50. Levies have primarily funded first responders. State law requires voter approval of levies, which are limited to a maximum duration of five years

What does this measure call for?

This measure proposes a five-year operating levy with a rate of \$0.69 per \$1,000 of assessed value. If the levy passes, collections would begin in July 2025.

What would the levy pay for?

If the levy passes, TVF&R will retain 92 existing levy-funded firefighters and paramedics, hire 36 more, and add support personnel who train and equip first responders to provide reliable service amidst rising emergency incidents and wildfire risk. Proceeds will also be used to purchase specialized medical equipment such as cardiac monitors and defibrillators, critical firefighting tools, including thermal imagers that aid in search and rescue and self-contained breathing apparatus worn by firefighters in burning buildings, and vehicles used to fight wildfires, shuttle water, and transport patients.

How much will the levy cost?

For a property assessed at \$305,000, about the average in TVF&R's service area, the cost of the levy would be approximately \$210 per year or \$17.54 per month.

What happens if the levy does not pass?

If the levy does not pass, reductions in staffing and operations will be required, which may impact response times and reliability.

What has TVF&R done with the levy funds voters approved in 2019?

- Hired or retained 92 levy-funded firefighters and paramedics
- Acquired fire hose, breathing apparatus, heart monitors, and medical kits

Will property tax bills increase if this measure is approved?

Yes, this measure may cause property taxes to increase by more than three percent. TVF&R intends to maintain the same levy rate for 10 years.

If passed, when would this levy first be collected?

The levy will appear on the November 2025 property tax statement.

What will the total tax rate for TVF&R be if the levy passes?

The total tax rate for TVF&R would be \$2.3527 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

\$1.5252/\$1,000	Permanent rate
\$0.69/\$1,000	Levy being voted on
\$0.1337/\$1,000	Bonded debt

Submitted by:

*Cassandra Ulven, Division Chief,
Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue District*

NO ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION WERE FILED.

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

This past year, our infant daughter had an allergic reaction to sesame seeds. She was struggling to breath, and we became fearful of her worsening condition when we dialed 911.

When firefighters arrived, they began aggressive treatment to stabilize our daughter. We felt so relieved.

A few days after the scary event, the same firefighters came to our home to check on us. They showed our young son, who had witnessed his baby sister's ordeal, the fire engine. Later, we visited the fire station as a family.

While we feel these firefighters are our own personal helpers, we know they provide the same caring touch to other people every day, which is why we will be supporting their levy.

Sincerely,
Marci Bifone

(This information furnished by Marci Bifone)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Hello, my name is Mike Trotter. I was on patrol as a sheriff's deputy in April of 2022 when I was struck by a drunk driver going nearly 100 mph.

I sustained severe life-threatening injuries. Firefighters were there immediately, freeing me from my badly damaged patrol car and providing life-saving medical care until they got me to a hospital.

The firefighters and paramedics at TVF&R have always stood out to me because of their combination of professionalism, knowledge, and abilities. They also bring a level of compassion and humanity to their work that most people don't get the opportunity to see.

The public expects a certain level of service from us as first responders...as they should.

Because our population and number of emergencies continues to rise, we need more resources to provide quality service and meet demands. We need to be strategic to keep ahead of the curve.

If funding for firefighters and paramedics is lost, I feel it will be detrimental to our community. In my case, fewer medically trained responders treating my injuries on the worst night of my life could have meant I wouldn't be here today working toward my goal of returning to active duty.

(This information furnished by Mike Trotter)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Firefighters and Paramedics Support Measure 34-332

Every day, our members feel proud and grateful to serve you. We're willing to risk our lives to save yours.

Thanks to the support of our community, we have had the resources to provide compassionate and professional emergency response when someone calls us for help, which happens at least 160 times on a normal day.

Over the past five years, we have experienced a significant increase in emergency incidents. This levy will fund existing responders at every fire station and will add 36 firefighters and paramedics throughout our service area so that when multiple calls occur at the same time -or there are complex incidents- we will be able to arrive quickly and mobilize an effective number of responders to administer life support, perform rescues, minimize fire loss, and solve problems.

We do not take your support for granted. There are a lot of things we do to ensure we're prepared to answer a call for help:

- We train hard.
- We act with integrity.
- We exercise kindness.
- We work as a team.
- We diligently care for our publicly-funded vehicles, stations, and equipment.

We are equally committed to using education and other prevention strategies to reduce the frequency and severity of avoidable emergencies.

As you read this, we are poised and ready to respond when you need us.

In service,
Rocky Hanes, President
Tualatin Valley Firefighters
IAFF Local 1660

(This information furnished by Rocky Hanes, IAFF Local 1660)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

We are local residents elected by you to oversee Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue. Combined, we have 91 years of service. We are committed to quality public safety.

We referred this levy to the ballot because:

1. We know through decades of research that your **top priority for TVF&R** is to provide fast and effective emergency response. Levy funds are used for frontline positions, as well as people who maintain our fleet, train our responders, investigate fires, and ensure supplies and equipment get to our fire stations. If passed, this measure will maintain staffing and add three dozen more responders to ensure reliability for our growing community.
2. Life threatening emergencies (such as cardiac events, strokes, high-speed crashes, rescues, and serious falls) **require many hands to perform essential tasks**, including CPR, defibrillation, extrication, airway management, stabilization, and medication administration.
3. **Having a sufficient number of firefighters is critical** for meeting the federal safety mandate of "two in, two out" meaning a first-arriving crew of four firefighters can immediately send two into a burning building to make a rescue with two ready to intervene if something goes wrong.
4. We feel that **TVF&R has a solid track record of keeping promises**. Since voters first approved an operating levy in 2000, TVF&R has fulfilled commitments made to you, our investors.
5. We believe **this levy is a good value**. For \$17.54 per month, we will have an adequate number of responders to send the right resources to the right call at the right time. It will also provide funding for firefighting tools, medical equipment, and vehicles used for

wildfire response and transporting patients.

6. If passed, we do not expect TVF&R to increase the levy rate for the ten years.

Please join us in supporting this measure.

Justin Dillingham, Board President

Robert Wyffels, Vice President

Clark Balfour, Secretary/Treasurer

Gordon Hovies, Board Member

Randy Lauer, Board Member

*(This information furnished by Justin Dillingham,
TVF&R Board of Directors)*

Urban Flood Safety and Water Quality District

Measure 26-243

BALLOT TITLE

Bonds to upgrade levees, floodwalls, water pumps, natural floodplain restoration.

Question: Shall Flood Safety District issue bonds to upgrade infrastructure, protect water quality, communities, businesses, environment from flooding; require independent oversight?

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 passed, bond proceeds would upgrade aging flood safety infrastructure along the Columbia River. The current system is over 100 years old. In a changing climate, the system does not meet federal requirements.

Congress authorized nearly \$100,000,000 for flood safety projects, which may be unlocked for a limited period with local match. This measure would authorize issuing up to \$150,000,000 in principal amount of general obligation bonds for Urban Flood Safety and Water Quality District.

Estimated annual tax rate for bonds would be \$0.11 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The owner of a home assessed at \$246,712 would pay approximately \$2.19 per month, \$26.27 annually. This is the average assessed home value in the District, according to County Assessor. Bonds may be issued in multiple series, each maturing within 20 years of issuance.

This measure would finance capital costs for District purposes to protect communities, businesses, PDX airport, and the environment, including by:

- Raising levees, upgrading floodwalls, pumps, pipes, drains.
- Supporting natural floodplain restoration and resilience projects.

District would establish bond oversight committee. Audits required.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Background

A system of flood safety infrastructure along the Columbia River – including 27 miles of levees, pump stations, pipes, drains, and wetlands – protects the Portland region from floods. The managed floodplain extends 13,000 acres from North Portland in the west to the Sandy River in the east. The area includes residential neighborhoods, more than 2,000 acres of natural areas and habitat, and the Portland International Airport. It is the largest industrial employment area in Oregon.

The flood safety system is over 100 years old. Many sections have not been upgraded since the 1948 flood that destroyed the city of Vanport. Extreme weather events are increasing in a changing climate, and the system no longer meets federal standards. Flooding could release toxic chemicals, raw sewage, and other hazardous materials into rivers and streams. Without infrastructure upgrades, the resulting cost of flood insurance could cause homeowners to move and small businesses to relocate or close.

Use of Funds

This measure would authorize the Flood Safety District to issue \$150 million in general obligation bonds if passed. The bonds would provide the required match to access nearly \$100 million in federal funds authorized by Congress for flood safety. The bonds would also provide funds needed to:

- Elevate and repair sections of the levees and floodwalls to address aging and under-built parts of the system, including raising portions of the levees, to provide consistent protection from flood events.
- Upgrade aging pump stations to increase pumping capacity and provide back-up power in case of electricity outages. Seven pump stations will undergo upgrades or full replacement, reducing the risk of local flooding during heavy rain.
- Integrate design features for climate resilience, environmental improvement, equity, cultural history, or other community values. Features would be tailored to the project location and opportunities, such as energy efficient design, fish and wildlife habitat, murals, or signage related to the cultural history of the floodplain.
- Provide natural protection from flooding through floodplain restoration. Approximately \$27 million of the funds will be dedicated to natural floodplain restoration and resilience projects to slow and store floodwaters and improve flood safety outcomes. These projects would contribute to improvements in water quality, fish and wildlife habitat. Floodplain restoration is a widespread practice in modern flood safety supported by federal agencies.

If passed, what would the bond cost?

The estimated annual tax rate for bonds would be \$0.11 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The owner of a home assessed at \$246,712 would pay approximately \$2.19 per month, or \$26.27 a year. This represents the average assessed property value in the District area, according to Multnomah County assessors.

Accountability and Oversight

An independent community oversight committee would review bond expenditure reports and provide annual reports. An independent public accounting firm would perform an annual audit of the District's financial statements, including expenditure of bond funds, and an elected Board of Directors will oversee projects and adopt annual budgets.

Submitted by:

*Jim Middaugh, Executive Director
Urban Flood Safety and Water Quality District*

NO ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION WERE FILED.

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

It's Cheaper to Prevent a Flood Than To Clean One Up Vote YES on Measure 26-243

Our region is at risk of major flooding – potentially costing lives and billions of dollars in damage to property and infrastructure like the PDX airport.

By voting YES on Measure 26-243 we can make an affordable investment now to prevent billions in flood damage costs later.

Measure 26-243 is the AFFORDABLE OPTION

At just \$2.19 a month, or \$26.27 a year, for the average homeowner, Measure 26-243 is an affordable way to invest in life-saving infrastructure. This local investment would make our community eligible for nearly \$100 million in federal matching dollars.

The RISKS ARE BIG!

A lot is currently at stake in our floodplain. At risk in the event of a major flood would be:

- 8,000 residents
- The 2nd largest source of drinking water in the state
- The Portland International Airport
- Access to the I-5, I-205, and I-84 freeways; rail lines for freight; and major distribution centers for shipping, materials, and consumer products
- 2,000+ acres of natural habitat and open space

And FLOODS ARE EXPENSIVE

When the levees failed during Hurricane Katrina, it cost HUNDREDS OF BILLIONS of dollars in disaster relief, recovery, and restoration. As taxpayers, we will pay these costs one way or the other. Let's pick the smart option and prevent a major disaster now.

Vote YES on Measure 26-243

The rising cost of housing, groceries, and medicine is impacting many of us. But our region NEEDS reliable core infrastructure.

Even for those of us who don't live inside the floodplain, there are major components of our region at risk that we rely on everyday.

By coming together to make this small investment now, we can save our region billions of dollars down the line! Vote yes on Measure 26-243.

Multnomah County Commissioner Lori Stegmann
Home Building Association of Greater Portland
Gerry Heslin

*(This information furnished by Andrew Purkey,
Yes for Flood Safety)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

We All Benefit From Our Flood Protection System VOTE YES ON 26-243

Many of us enjoy the beauty of the Columbia River without realizing the important work happening to keep us safe. The reality is a system of flood-control infrastructure protects our region from devastating floods. The bad news is that the system is over 100 years old, and does not meet federal standards implemented after Hurricane Katrina.

While you may not live in the floodplain, the truth is we all benefit from flood protection because items we all depend on are located in the floodplain. This area includes infrastructure that you and I rely on daily and that we would need in the case of a disaster like a major flood.

Risks to the Portland International Airport

The PDX Airport transports 16+ million passengers annually, including tens of thousands of tourists interacting with many sectors of our economy while in Portland, as well as transporting goods. Additionally, the Airport serves as its own economic hub, employing 10,000 people and housing more than 80 businesses.

In the event of major flooding, effective operation of the airport and moving people and goods would be impacted. Critical infrastructure that we rely on for effective response in a disaster like a major flood, is at risk. Our ability to move people and supplies could be compromised, worsening the impacts of extreme weather events on our region.

Other Infrastructure At Risk

- 2nd largest source of drinking water in Oregon
- The I-5, I-205, and I-84 freeways
- Railways for freight
- Major distribution centers for clothing and household goods
- 50% of the region's manufacturing and warehouse jobs

The truth is that wherever you live in our region, the infrastructure along the Columbia River is critical to daily life. Vote YES on Measure 26-243: an affordable option to upgrade this infrastructure and prevent major floods.

Metro Councilor Ashton Simpson
Washington County Commissioner Pam Treece
Evan Oneto, FedEx
Curtis Robinhold

*(This information furnished by Andrew Purkey,
Yes for Flood Safety)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

We Must Prepare for a Changing Climate: Vote YES on Measure 26-243

Climate change is causing extreme weather events up and down the West Coast, including major floods caused by unprecedented rain, rising temperatures, and accelerated snow melt.

We've experienced more extreme weather here with heat domes and ice storms taking lives and damaging property. We've learned from these events that we need to be prepared, which is exactly what Measure 26-243 does.

We Are At Risk

Our current flood safety infrastructure along the Columbia River is over 100 years old. It does not meet the federal standards implemented after Hurricane Katrina. In the event of a major flood, water quality, communities, businesses, and the environment are at risk.

Urban Flooding Causes Ecological Damage

An uncontrolled urban flood would spread surface pollution from industrial operations and other sources of hazardous waste across the flood area. Cleaning up this pollution would be a slow, costly process that would cause long-term damage to ecosystems, nature, and wildlife.

How Measure 26-243 Will Help

Measure 26-243 will provide the funding to upgrade our flood safety system to handle climate induced flooding. That includes improving systems for flood control like raising levees, upgrading floodwalls, pumps, pipes, and drains; as well as increasing the resilience of natural flood protection, such as the restoration of wetlands to store floodwaters and upgrade fish and wildlife habitat.

Measure 26-243 is an Affordable, Preventative Solution

Measure 26-243 is low-cost, about \$2.19 a month for the average homeowner, and will save us billions of dollars if we have to recover from a major flood event. It will also unlock \$100 million in federal funding!

Vote YES on Measure 26-243

Let's not wait until it's too late. Let's take this reasonable and necessary step to upgrade our flood safety infrastructure and prepare, as much as possible, for climate change.

**Oregon League of Conservation Voters
1000 Friends of Oregon
Portland Harbor Community Coalition**

*(This information furnished by Andrew Purkey,
Yes for Flood Safety)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

ANTIQUES MAKE GOOD FURNITURE, AND RISKY FLOOD SAFETY INFRASTRUCTURE

VOTE YES ON MEASURE 26-243 TO MODERNIZE OUR SYSTEM

When it comes to protecting our community, the risk of floods probably doesn't come to mind. But currently, our risk is high – especially given that much of the flood control infrastructure along the Columbia is nearly a century old - leaving us at risk of a catastrophic flood.

Systems Are Inadequate and Outdated

Like in most areas, we've made a lot of progress in the past century improving technologies and techniques to prevent floods. Measure 26-243 will help us bring those improvements to the Columbia River to correct problems like:

- A key area of the levee system was actually built to be a railroad embankment - not to stop water. It is built of the wrong materials and is not available for regular inspections due to railroad company restrictions.
- There are multiple low spots and incomplete sections of floodwall in the system and other sections that fail to meet model geotechnical safety standards.
- Pump stations do not have backup pumps or power supplies, meaning they will fail to operate if cut off from the electrical grid. They also cannot be operated remotely during a flood event, compromising their effectiveness.

The Risk of Levee Failure Is Growing, Greater Than The “Big One”

A 2021 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers study found that there is already a higher risk each year of a levee failure than of the Cascadia Subduction Zone “Big One” Earthquake. This will only grow higher each year we delay improving it.

Measure 26-243 Will Keep Us Safe

Informed by nearly a decade of study and research, the improvement projects funded by this Measure will update the flood control system we need to keep us safe. We Can't Delay, Vote Yes Today!

Reed Wagner, Co-founder of Levee Ready Columbia

*(This information furnished by Andrew Purkey,
Yes for Flood Safety)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

A Major Flood Would Have Massive Economic Impacts VOTE YES ON 26-243

A significant portion of Portland's supply chain is located in the floodplain along the Columbia River. Major flooding would impact 75% of the region's businesses. Improving the levee system means protecting our economy, and preventing critical interruptions to the flow of goods and services .

Such a flood would have ripple effects, as the floodplain is a hub for economic activity, including industrial production and the movement of goods. Warehouses, fulfillment centers, and other infrastructure makes this area a key link in the regional supply chain. It is also a central transportation hub including the Portland Airport and the I-5, I-205, and I-84 freeways; rail lines for freight; and major distribution centers for shipping, materials, and products.

Key Components of Our Economy Are In the Flood Zone

- \$16 billion in annual economic activity
- 50% of the region's manufacturing and warehouse jobs
- The Portland International Airport, which is key to our supply chain and employs 10,000 people and 80 businesses

Measure 26-243 is the Economic Solution to This Problem

- It Is Affordable: Just \$2.19 a month or \$26.27 a year for the average homeowner.
- It Will Multiply: This local investment will unlock nearly \$100 million in federal matching funds.
- The Cost of Doing Nothing Is Much Greater: A study found that cleanup costs from a major flood could amount to nearly \$7 billion.

Measure 26-243 Is Thoughtfully Developed and Well-Planned

- The Urban Flood Safety and Water Quality District has spent years working to address this problem, and has thoughtfully developed this measure as the best solution.
- It will make critical improvements, including:
 - Raising levees, upgrading floodwalls, pumps, pipes, and drains in vulnerable areas
 - Increasing back-up power capacity to critical pump stations in case of a power failure
 - Improving safety and efficiency of infrastructure operations and maintenance

Measure 26-243 is an easy YES vote this May. Join us!

Portland Metro Chamber

*(This information furnished by Andrew Purkey,
Yes for Flood Safety)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

VOTE YES ON MEASURE 26-243 TO MODERNIZE OUR SYSTEM

As we watch the impacts of climate change collide with the impacts of old and outdated infrastructure, I am hearing stories of flooded neighborhoods, streets, manufacturing plants, and businesses from across the United States. But thanks to the Biden Administration, Portland area folks have a chance to leverage hundreds of millions of federal dollars and make sure that our families and businesses are protected from flood risk.

Much of the flood control infrastructure along the Columbia is nearly a century old - leaving us at risk of a catastrophic flood.

Our Flood Control Systems Are Inadequate and Outdated

Much of the flood control infrastructure we depend on is nearly a century old. We've made a lot of progress in the past century improving technologies and techniques to prevent floods, but in order for our region to take advantage of it, we need to rebuild our infrastructure. Measure 26-243 will help us bring those improvements to the Columbia River to help protect the businesses and families who live along the Columbia River and in flood zones.

The Risk of Levee Failure Is Growing, Greater Than The "Big One"

A 2021 *U.S. Army Corps of Engineers* study found that there is already a greater risk each year of a levee failure than of the Cascadia Subduction Zone "Big One" Earthquake. Acting now leverages federal funds to help us minimize this risk.

Measure 26-243 Will Keep Us Safe

Informed by nearly a decade of study and research, the improvement projects funded by this Measure will update the flood control system we need to keep us safe. Rebuilding our levees will protect critical places we all rely on, like the Portland airport and some of our industrial areas, as well as neighborhoods, community parks, and schools.

Vote yes to rebuild and renew Portland levees- and keep us safe for years to come.

Congressman Earl Blumenauer

*(This information furnished by Andrew Purkey,
Yes for Flood Safety)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

**Support Your Neighbors in the Columbia River
Flood Zone**

Vote YES on Measure 26-243

We live and work within the flood zone along the Columbia River. We're voting YES on Measure 26-243 and we urge you to do the same.

What's Inside the Flood Zone

The flood zone along the Columbia River includes 8,000 residents, the Portland International Airport, 50% of the region's manufacturing and warehouse jobs, and \$16 billion in annual economic activity.

The Cost of Doing Nothing

Whether you are inside or outside the flood zone, the cost of doing nothing to upgrade our flood protection system is too high.

- A 2018 state of Oregon study found that in the event of a major flood, 75% of the local businesses could be forced to close, and it could take up to two years or longer for some businesses to fully recover. Cleanup costs could amount to nearly \$7 billion.
- Businesses and residents in the floodplain could lose access to the National Flood Insurance Program. Without federal flood safety accreditation, the high cost of mandatory and unsubsidized flood insurance will force homeowners and small businesses to relocate or close down.

An Affordable, Prevention-Focused Solution

Instead of spending billions to recover from a major flood, Measure 26-243 presents an affordable solution to prevent disaster. Measure 26-243 will cost the average homeowner just \$2.19 a month or \$26.27 a year (\$0.11 per \$1,000 of assessed value) – and it will unlock nearly \$100 million in federal matching funds, making your investment go even further. These funds will be used to make upgrades to our system, including raising levees, upgrading floodwalls, pumps, pipes, and drains.

The Columbia River is a wonderful part of living here. Let's make sure it continues to be by making the critical upgrades needed to our infrastructure. Vote YES on Measure 26-243!

**Columbia Corridor Association
Jubitz Travel Center
NAYA Family Center
Community Leader Gary Kunz**

*(This information furnished by Andrew Purkey,
Yes for Flood Safety)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Environmental Groups Urge You to Vote Yes on 26-243!

The 100+ year old Columbia River Levee System which runs from Portland to Troutdale which encompasses more than 12,000 acres is at risk of failure. The good news is that by passing this ballot measure, we can not only make the Columbia Corridor flood safe, but also do so in a way that improves environmental health, advances environmental justice and protects water quality.

Historic flood management was too often done without regard for nature and environmental

health. It harmed our environment and has resulted in catastrophic failures across our country. In an age of climate change where we are going to see increased flood events, we can and must do better.

We support 26-243 because the Urban Flood Safety and Water Quality District which manages the levees has made a commitment to do better. In fact, it is built into its legislative mandate passed in 2019 and into this measure.

Specifically the measure will include the following:

- At least 15% of ballot measure funds will be dedicated to green nature-based flood strategies such as floodplain reconnection and natural flood storage strategies.
- It will protect the region's drinking water well fields.
- It will protect more than 2,000 acres of natural area located within the levee boundaries.
- It will help ensure that contaminants and hazardous materials from Portland's industrial areas are not released into local waterways during a flood event.
- The district is required under its legislative mandate to incorporate environmental justice into all aspects of its operations.

This ballot measure moves our region towards a climate smart, ecologically responsible, environmentally just approach to flood management. We urge you to vote yes!

**Willamette Riverkeeper
Urban Greenspaces Institute
Bird Conservation Oregon
Columbia Slough Watershed Council**

*(This information furnished by Andrew Purkey,
Yes for Flood Safety)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

PROTECT YOUR POCKETBOOK: VOTE YES ON 26-243

Avoid Destructive and Costly Floods

There are few things more devastating to a community than a flood. Flood waters destroy homes and business, as well as spreading surface pollution across the flood zone. Cleanups are long and costly, displacing families for months and years. Most small businesses lack the operating capital to cover such a disruption, and many are forced to close after such an event.

Despite living in a wet climate, we rarely think about the risk of flooding because of the systems we have built to keep us safe. But without the proper upkeep, those systems can fail when we need them most. And the systems preventing flooding along the Columbia River have reached that point. In 2021 the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers concluded that there is already a higher risk each year of those systems failing than of the Cascadia Subduction Zone "Big One" Earthquake. Those risks are growing each year.

Avoid Costly New Federal Requirements and Restrictions

Independent of the costs of a flood, Measure 26-243 will ensure our flood control systems remain in compliance with federal standards. If we fall out of compliance, residents and small businesses in the floodplain would pay a costly price. That would include:

- A mandatory requirement that every property buy a costly, private-market flood insurance

policy;

- Major development restrictions on new construction and updates to existing homes and buildings; and
- Loss of access to many federal loans and other financing programs.

Don't Believe the Anti-Tax Zealots!

Some may argue that residents can't afford this bond. But that is being pennywise and pound foolish. Critical parts of transportation and supply chain infrastructure are in the Columbia River floodplain. A flood would impact the entire metro region, disrupting the economy and creating major cleanup costs for taxpayers. Join me in supporting this no brainer proposal to protect the community!

Former Congressman Peter DeFazio

*(This information furnished by Andrew Purkey,
Yes for Flood Safety)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

PROTECT OUR MOST VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES: VOTE YES ON 26-243

A major flood has a catastrophic impact on a community: taking lives, destroying homes, and leaving long-term disruption as we seek to recover. And throughout our nation's history, we've seen it is vulnerable communities that are hit hardest in these disasters.

As Portland has grown, the land of Columbia River floodplain offered an affordable location to build homes and businesses. Today, it contains a significant share of our affordable housing and heavy industry. And these conditions make it ripe for those who can least afford it to be hit hardest during a major flood. Low-income households will typically be less prepared for a flood and less able to rebuild after one. They are also more likely to rely on the blue-collar jobs located in the floodplain that would also be disrupted for years by a flood.

The reality is we know this because it has happened here before. The community of Vanport was built to provide affordable housing for workers who came to Portland to build ships during World War II. And when there were critical levee failures, the entire community was destroyed in a flood in 1948. We must ensure that doesn't happen again, and Measure 26-243 is the solution.

Measure 26-243 will make critical investments to upgrade flood control systems along the Columbia and protect vulnerable communities living in the floodplain. Throughout its development, the drafters worked closely with impacted communities and stakeholders to make it responsive to their concerns and ensure equitable outcomes. It is well designed and the right step for our community.

Please join us in voting YES on Measure 26-243!

**APANO
Columbia Slough Watershed Council
NAYA Action Fund
Portland Harbor Community Coalition
Intertwine Alliance**

(This information furnished by Andrew Purkey, Yes for Flood Safety)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Recognize Our History, Protect Our Community: Vote Yes on 26-243

The history of the Columbia River is inextricably linked to the peoples that have used it over millenia for transportation, sustenance, and connection to our natural systems. Measure 26-243 is an important step for the community to recognize the histories of communities of color connected to the floodplain of the Columbia.

For generations, Native Americans inhabited the floodplain, which served as a hub for trade among the tribes and bands. When settlers arrived, they repurposed the floodplain for agriculture and in the early 20th Century built a series of berms and levees to protect against flooding. Later this land was converted to provide housing and support industry.

One area, near what is today the Expo Center, was used to build housing for the workforce that had come to build ships during World War II. This community of Vanport grew rapidly - it was also one of the few parts of this community that welcomed Black families.

On Memorial Day in 1948, the railroad embankment on the western end of the levee system collapsed under pressure from the river, sending waves of water into the city of Vanport, killing at least 15 people, leaving scores more injured, and displacing over 18,000 people from their homes.

To ensure no one experiences this again, Measure 26-243 will upgrade the flood control system along the River. Early and collaborative planning can save lives and avoid devastating losses in vulnerable communities.

Over the past 100 years, the people and wildlife of the Columbia River floodplain have experienced a significant cultural and community history of flooding, displacement, and environmental degradation. A small portion of the bond will go to honor and share the cultural history of this area.

Please join me in voting yes on 26-243

*(This information furnished by Andrew Purkey,
Yes for Flood Safety)*

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

HIKERS, BIKERS, ANGLERS, & BOATERS URGE YOU TO VOTE YES FOR 26-243

The recreational paradise of the Columbia River and the natural spaces of its floodplain are right by our city. It benefits the health, wellness, and economic vitality of our community. One catastrophic flood would do major environmental damage and cause long-term disruption to recreation along the Columbia. We strongly urge you to vote yes on Measure 26-243!

PROTECTING RECREATION ALONG THE COLUMBIA RIVER

Visit the Columbia River near Portland on a weekend and you will find residents boating, fishing, camping, windsurfing, biking, hiking, and many other outdoor activities that support healthy lifestyles and contribute to the local economy. We are lucky to have such great

opportunities so close to our urban area and it is important we preserve them for future generations.

A MAJOR FLOOD WOULD CAUSE LONG-TERM DISRUPTION

Throughout history, the Columbia has regularly experienced major flooding and this risk is growing with climate change. If flood control systems failed, such a flood would dramatically impact recreational opportunities in the area:

- Urban flooding frequently results in the spread of pollutants across the flood area, forcing major cleanup and restoration.
- Flooding will also damage docks, trails, and other infrastructure necessary to access recreational opportunities requiring major reconstruction work.
- It can take years for an area to recover from a major flood, creating extreme hardship for local small businesses that depend on recreation customers to keep their doors open.

MEASURE 26-243 WILL PROTECT OUR REGION

The upgrades and improvements funded by this bond are critical to protecting the floodplain from major flooding. In addition, they will fund investments in restoring our natural systems - expanding recreational opportunities within the floodplain. They will also help complete the 40-mile loop of trails and parks circling the city of Portland.

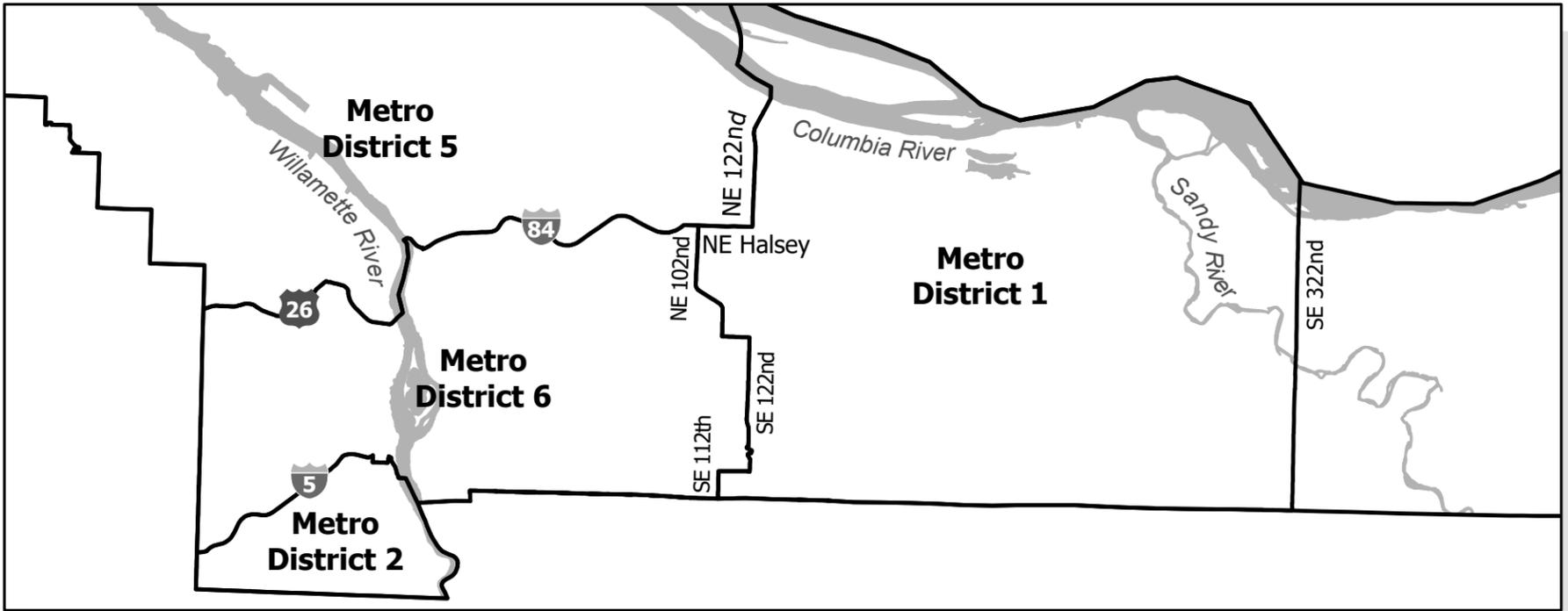
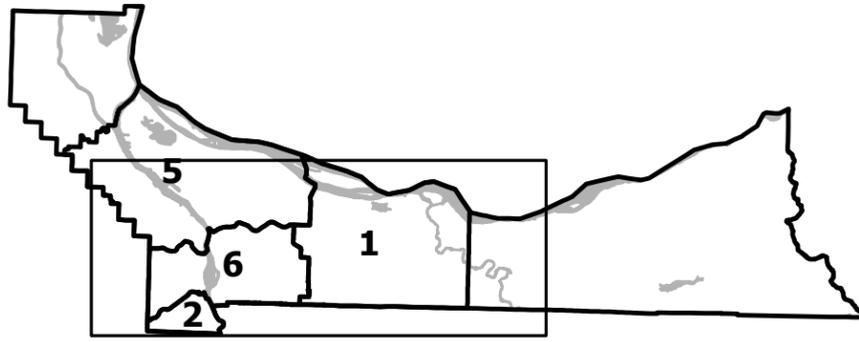
VOTE YES ON 26-243 TO PROTECT RECREATION ON THE COLUMBIA!

**The Street Trust
40 Mile Loop Land Trust
Recreation business owner Edward Chin
The Intertwine Alliance**

*(This information furnished by Andrew Purkey,
Yes for Flood Safety)*

District Maps

METRO COUNCIL DISTRICTS



MULTNOMAH COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS

