

# MULTNOMAH COUNTY VOTERS' PAMPHLET

## November 7, 2023, Special Election Information

### Letter to the Voter

Dear Voter,

Here are a few things you should know about the November 7, 2023 Special Election:




- Voted Ballots **MUST** be received at any County elections office in Oregon or Official Ballot Drop Site location by 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 7, 2023, **or postmarked** by Tuesday, November 7, 2023.
- Due to the small size of the districts involved in the election not every Multnomah County ballot drop site will be open. For a list of the closest ballot drop sites to your district, please visit our website, [www.multco.us/dropsites](http://www.multco.us/dropsites).
- As a reminder, postmarks now count to return your ballot. If your ballot is postmarked (and signed) by Election Day and received within 7 days after the election, your vote will be counted.
- Starting at 8:00 p.m. on election night, preliminary election results will be posted on our website [www.multnomahvotes.gov](http://www.multnomahvotes.gov).
- If you need a replacement ballot or have any questions, you can contact our office at 503-988-VOTE (8683) or [www.multnomahvotes.gov](http://www.multnomahvotes.gov).

Sincerely,

Tim Scott,  
Multnomah County Director of Elections

### 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](mailto:elections@multco.us)  
 [MultnomahVotes.gov](http://MultnomahVotes.gov)



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## Multilingual Voting Information

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](https://oregonvotes.gov/MultnomahVP)

本县选民手册的部分内容提供简体中文版本。可以访问 [oregonvotes.gov/MultnomahVP](https://oregonvotes.gov/MultnomahVP) 获取译本。

주 유권자 팸플릿의 선택된 부분은 한국어 준비되어 있습니다. 번역은 온라인 [oregonvotes.gov/MultnomahVP](https://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](https://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](https://oregonvotes.gov/MultnomahVP)

Окремі частини брошур для виборців Мултнома каунті доступні українською мовою. Ці переклади можна знайти онлайн на веб-сторінці [oregonvotes.gov/MultnomahVP](https://oregonvotes.gov/MultnomahVP)

Các phần được chọn trong tập thông tin cho cử tri quận này có bản ngôn ngữ bằng tiếng Việt. Các bản dịch có thể xem trực tuyến tại [oregonvotes.gov/MultnomahVP](https://oregonvotes.gov/MultnomahVP)

***Vote! ¡Votar! Голосование!***  
***Vỏ phiếu! Codeeya!***  
***Голосуйте! 投票!***

## Return Your Ballot



Send us your ballot through the U.S. Mail. It must be postmarked on or before Election Day Tuesday, November 7, 2023. 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, November 7, 2023.

# Official Ballot Drop Sites for the November 7, 2023 Special Election

## Multnomah County

- **Multnomah County Elections** (Official 24-hour Ballot Drop Site): 1040 SE Morrison St. – Walk/bike up Official Ballot Drop Site is a slot in the building located at the corner of SE 11th Ave. and SE Morrison St.
- **A-Boy Supply** – 7365 SE Barbur 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 NE Prescott St.
- **St. Johns Library** (Library Book Drop) – 7510 N Charleston Ave.
- **Sellwood-Moreland Library** (Library Book Drop) – 7860 SE 13th Ave.

## Clackamas County

- **Lake Oswego City Hall** – 380 A Ave., City of Lake Oswego

## Columbia County

- **Scappoose City Hall** – 33568 E Columbia Ave., City of Scappoose

For a full list of additional Official Ballot Drop Sites, visit:

**Multnomah County:** [multnomahvotes.gov](https://multnomahvotes.gov)

**Clackamas County:** [clackamas.us/elections](https://clackamas.us/elections)

**Columbia County:** [columbiacountyor.gov/departments/Elections](https://columbiacountyor.gov/departments/Elections)

**Washington County:** [washingtoncountyor.gov/elections](https://washingtoncountyor.gov/elections)

## 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.Balottrax.net](https://Multnomah.Balottrax.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](https://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.

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### 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

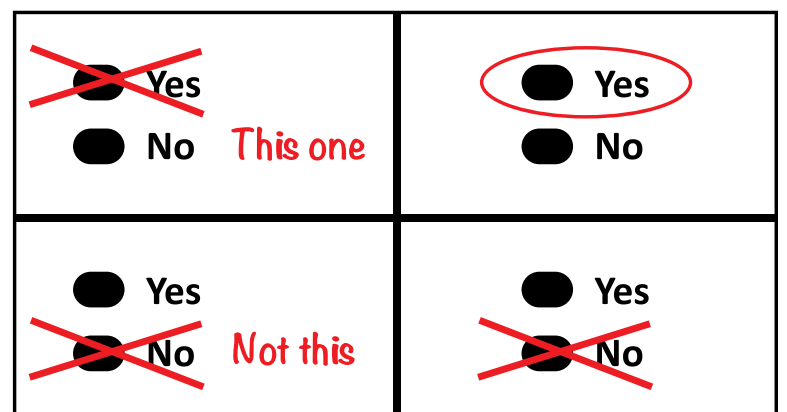
### How do I vote my ballot?

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.

- 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

## City of Maywood Park

### Measure 26-242

#### BALLOT TITLE

#### **Shall Maywood Park connect to the sewer at this time?**

**Question:** Shall Maywood Park begin the transition away from private onsite wastewater systems to a public sewer system at this time?

**Summary:** Proposes the adoption of the existing Wastewater Facilities Plan replacing individual onsite cesspool and septic systems with a public sanitary sewer system. "Yes" vote means the city will begin the process of forming committees to pursue funding options. Funding for this project is yet to be determined. There may be options for grants, local bonds, or low-interest loans to cover the costs of the project. This ballot measure does not endorse any particular method of funding, but rather seeks to gather input from the community regarding the adoption of the plan. The city would also begin working with The City of Portland to enter into an inter-governmental agreement (IGA) to connect to City of Portland sewer. Once funding methods are identified, a separate vote to fund and implement the wastewater facilities plan will be brought to the residents of Maywood Park in a future election.

"No" vote means the city will not move forward with plans to connect to sewer at this time, and residents will remain responsible for maintaining their own on-site wastewater systems.

#### EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

This ballot measure asks the residents to decide yes or no for connecting to the public sewer. A yes vote will trigger creation of an advisory committee to begin the process of identifying funding options for a proposed public sanitary sewer system in Maywood Park, and begin creating an Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) with City of Portland. A no vote means sanitary sewer will not be pursued at this time.

At this time, 85% of homes have a cesspool or septic system. Since 1980, 27% of those homes have a newer system. 73% of homes have original cesspools. 13% of homes have sewer available or are already connected.

The need for the project is not based on a regulatory finding of non-compliance or harm but is driven in part by regulatory change. Specifically, OAR 340-071-0335(1) states "A person may not construct new cesspool sewage disposal systems in Oregon." Today, homeowners must install a septic system when their cesspool fails. Recent years have seen some new septic system installations within Maywood Park cost homeowners more than the national average, often estimated over \$40,000 per household. On average, a properly installed and well-maintained septic tank can last 20 to 40 years, and many residents in Maywood Park have already installed a private septic system. Meanwhile, several residents whose homes are close to the City of Portland sewer lines have already connected to Portland sewer.

Installing a new septic system or connecting to Portland sewer is quite costly, so these residents may not be in favor of a "Yes" vote because they have already invested in their home's wastewater solution and do not wish to pay additional taxes to cover Maywood Park's transition. Meanwhile, residents whose systems haven't failed yet may want to get on public sewers BEFORE they fail. PACE Engineering estimated the cost of connecting

to sewer to be \$46,900 per household for Maywood Park. This estimate includes the cost of installing sewer in the street, individuals' connection to the sewer, and remediation of existing wastewater systems. As such, for individual households, the cost of maintaining things the way they currently are is possibly significantly less. One exception to this includes some residents on 102nd Avenue.

Regardless of the outcome of the Maywood Park sewer vote, residents whose homes are within 300 feet of "available public sewer" will be legally required to connect to City of Portland sewer if their on-site cesspool fails, instead of installing a new onsite septic system.

If passed, this ballot measure will direct the City Council to create advisory committees to find funding options for the project. Once funding methods are identified, a separate vote to fund and implement the wastewater facilities plan will be brought to the residents of Maywood Park in a future election. This advisory committee will work to ensure that the project is funded in a way that is fair and equitable to all residents of Maywood Park.

**Submitted by:**

*Dalene Bloom, Finance Director/City Recorder,  
City of Maywood Park*

**NO ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OR OPPOSITION WERE FILED.**

**Riverdale Rural Fire Protection District**

**Measure 26-241**

BALLOT TITLE

**Five-Year Local Levy to Pay for Emergency Services.**

**Question:** Shall the District renew five-year levy of \$0.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value for emergency services beginning in 2024-25? This measure renews current local option taxes.

**Summary:** This measure continues the five-year local option levy for the Riverdale Rural Fire Protection District initially adopted November 5, 2002. This measure authorizes the Board of Directors to levy taxes needed for the annual cost of emergency services provided to Riverdale residents. The District presently operates with the aid of a five-year local option levy which expires June 30, 2024. This measure continues the local option levy, which is \$0.50 per \$1,000 for five years beginning 2024-2025. The tax is necessary to pay the contract costs for emergency fire and medical services.

The estimated local option taxes over five years are:

- 2024-2025: \$438,673
- 2025-2026: \$451,639
- 2026-2027: \$465,209
- 2027-2028: \$479,186
- 2028-2029: \$493,583

The estimated total tax raised over five years if the maximum levy is assessed would be \$2,328,081.

The Board of Directors intends to levy taxes each year only in an amount that meets the

District's needs for emergency services. Although the current levy allows the levy of \$0.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value, the amount levied each year under the current levy has been \$0.25 per \$1,000 of assessed value for 2019-2020 through 2023-2024.

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

**EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

This measure proposes continuing a local option levy of \$0.50 (50 cents) per \$1,000 of assessed valuation to the current permanent levy of \$1.2361 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, bringing the total rate to \$1.7361 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for the 5-year period of the levy.

The Board of Directors is of the opinion that this local option levy rate of \$0.50 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation will be necessary to provide emergency fire and medical services to the District by contracting with an adjacent city or fire district. The District presently contracts with the City of Lake Oswego for these services.

The permanent tax rate of \$1.2361 per \$1,000 of assessed value established by Measure 50 was a substantial reduction of the prior tax rate. The District previously had a local option levy of \$0.50 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for both prior 5-year periods, spanning 2014-2019 and 2019-2024. The continuation of the current local option levy is requested to ensure that sufficient funds are available to meet projected increases in expenses.

Although the local option levy for the previous ten years has allowed the levy of \$0.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value, the Board of Directors has only levied the amount necessary each year, and that levy has not exceeded \$0.25 per \$1,000 of assessed value during the current 5-year period. Continuing the local option levy at a maximum of \$0.50 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation will provide flexibility, if needed, to meet increased costs of contracting for service to the district.

**Submitted by:**

*The Board of Directors, Riverdale Rural Fire Protection District 11JT*

**NO ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OR OPPOSITION WERE FILED.**

**Scappoose School District**

**Measure 5-296**

**BALLOT TITLE**

**Bonds to increase safety, repair schools; replace Scappoose Middle School**

**Question:** Shall district increase safety, receive state matching funds; replace middle school; issue \$110 million in GO bonds; audits required? 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:** Scappoose School District proposes a bond not exceeding \$110 million; eligible for \$4 million state grant if approved Bonds would finance capital costs to fund projects that:

- Replace 92 year old Scappoose Middle School with new safe & modern school campus adjacent to Scappoose High
- Improve Safety and Security:
  - Secure entrances, alarms, cameras
  - Fire, intercom improvements
  - Remove asbestos
  - Improve accessibility to meet ADA requirements
- Update & Repair Aging Schools:
  - Electrical, roofing, flooring, lighting, insulation, siding, windows, boilers
  - New HVAC to Improve air quality
  - Replace deteriorating sidewalks, parking lots
- Expand Student Opportunities:
  - Remodeled career and technical/vocational education spaces
  - Additional classrooms at high school for science, band
  - Improved access to band, math & CTE programs for middle school students
- Site Improvements, athletic fields, demolition, furnishings, equipment, bond issuance costs

Citizen oversight committee, audits required.

Bonds may be issued in multiple series maturing within 31 years from issuance. Estimated increase over FY 2023 bond tax rate is \$1.22 per \$1,000 assessed property value. Actual levy rate may differ due to changes in interest rates and assessed value.

## EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The Scappoose School District serves approximately 2,208 students in schools across 118 square miles.

### **The Scappoose School District Proposed Bond Measure**

The Scappoose School District is seeking approval for a bond not exceeding \$110 million, with the potential for an additional \$4 million state grant if the measure is approved. This proposed bond measure aims to address critical capital needs and fund various projects to enhance the educational environment and opportunities for our students.

### **Modernizing Education Facilities: A New Scappoose Middle School**

One of the key projects included in this proposed bond measure is the replacement of the aging Scappoose Middle School. This 92-year-old facility is due for an upgrade. The plan is to construct a new, safe, and modern school campus adjacent to Scappoose High School. This move provides students with a better learning environment and also promotes a more integrated educational experience within the community.

### **Prioritizing Safety and Security:**

Ensuring the safety and security of our students is paramount. This proposed bond measure includes investments in fire safety and communication systems to meet modern standards. Additionally, asbestos will be removed from school buildings, and accessibility will be improved to comply with ADA requirements. These measures are crucial for creating a secure and inclusive learning environment.

### **Renewing Aging Schools:**

Many of the District's schools are showing signs of age and wear. This proposed bond



measure allocates funds to update and repair these aging facilities. This includes critical updates to electrical systems, roofing, flooring, lighting, insulation, siding, windows, and boilers. New HVAC systems will be installed to improve air quality and comfort for students and staff. Deteriorating sidewalks and parking lots will also be replaced, enhancing safety and accessibility.

The proposed bond measure also funds site improvements, athletic field enhancements, demolition projects, and investments in furnishings and equipment.

**Expanding Student Opportunities:**

To expand student opportunities, the District needs to create spaces that support a wide range of learning opportunities. This bond will support the remodeling of career and technical/vocational education spaces, giving students access to modern, industry-standard equipment and facilities. Classrooms will be added at the high school, specifically for science and the band program. The District aims to improve access to band, math, and career and technical education programs for middle school students, helping them explore and develop their interests.

**Enhancing Our Community:**

While the current Middle School no longer meets educational standards, opportunities exist to repurpose the building. For example, the City of Scappoose could repurpose the current middle school building for use as a City Hall.

**Community Oversight and Fiscal Responsibility:**

A citizen oversight committee will be formed, and bond expenditures will be reviewed as part of regularly required audits. Bonds may be issued in multiple series, maturing within 31 years from issuance. While the estimated increase over the FY 2023 bond tax rate is \$1.22 per \$1,000 assessed property value, the actual levy rate may vary due to changes in interest rates and assessed property values.

**Submitted by:** *Tim Porter, Superintendent,  
Scappoose School District*

**NO ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OR OPPOSITION WERE FILED.**