

MULTNOMAH COUNTY

MCED 011 (Rev. 01/2011)

Measure Argument for County Voters' Pamphlet

Primary Election 20 14 General Election 20 Special Election (date)

Measure No.: 26-157 Argument in Favor Argument in Opposition

This Information Furnished By (as it should appear in the county voters' pamphlet):

Name of person: Shane Bemis

Original Argument Amended Argument

Name of organization person is authorized to represent, if applicable:

Name and Address of Contact Person (person who could authorize changes to argument) Joan Albertson 18233 SE Brooklyn Ct. Gresham OR 97030

Argument Paid For By: (name and address) Keep Gresham Safe 18233 SE Brooklyn Ct. Gresham OR 97030

Telephone (home) Telephone (work) 503.666.5723 503.666.5723

ATTACHED IS THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

Measure Argument Statement(s) of Endorsement, if applicable (number filed: )

Note: Language that violates any provision of ORS 251.405 or 251.415 may be excluded from the voters' pamphlet

By signing this document, I hereby state I am responsible for the content of this argument. ORS 251.415 (2)

Signature redacted

3/21/14 Date signed

Signature of person furnishing argument (must be person listed in "This information furnished by" box above)

Note: If this argument is not being filed by a registered Oregon Political Committee, you may be required to register as a political committee or submit a Statement of Independent Expenditures (PC 10) with the Secretary of State. Refer to the Campaign Finance Manual for further information.

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Staff Initials (LW) Cash or Check Number 100 Receipt Number 23260

Argument order number F-1 Statement(s) of Endorsement? YES # 1 Word/Number Count Total 318

RECEIVED 14 MAR 24 PM 3:09 TIM SCOTT DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS

Dear Gresham resident,

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

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

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

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

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

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

Shane Bemis

Mayor of Gresham

*318 words*

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Measure No.: 26-157

Argument in Favor Argument in Opposition

This Information Furnished By (as it should appear in the county voters' pamphlet):

Name of person: Lori Stegmann Gresham City Council President

Original Argument

Name of organization person is authorized to represent, if applicable:

Gresham City Council

Amended Argument

Name and Address of Contact Person (person who could authorize changes to argument) Joan Albertson, 18233 SE Brooklyn Ct, Gresh OR

Argument Paid For By: (name and address) Keep Gresham Safe, 18233 SE Brooklyn Ct Gresh, OR

Telephone (home) 503-666-5723

Telephone (work)

RECEIVED MAR 24 PM 3:09 JIM SCOTT DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS

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Measure Argument Statement(s) of Endorsement, if applicable (number filed: 6)

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3/21/2014

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Date signed

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Staff Initials TC

Argument order number 72

Cash or Check Number 1001

Statement(s) of Endorsement? NO YES # 6

Receipt Number 23260

Word/Number Count Total 325

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

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

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

- Public Safety is the top priority. This was loud and clear, and as a result, 95 percent of levy revenue will go to police and fire services, and 5 percent will go to keeping Gresham's parks clean, safe, and open.
- Gresham's home values, business climate, and image in the region depend on our ability to address safety and livability issues and demonstrate our community pride by investing in our hometown.
- Gangs are increasingly an issue citywide, and trying to skate by with one of the lowest police staffing ratios in Oregon does not meet our community's need.
- There is nothing more basic than the connection between dialing 9-1-1 and having a police officer or firefighter/EMS arrive rapidly. Keeping Gresham's fire stations open and operating and maintaining speedy emergency response is critical.
- The financial control mechanisms are important. The levy term will be temporary (5 years), and funds will be placed in a dedicated and protected fund, with the watchdog oversight of the citizen Finance Committee.

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

### **PLEASE VOTE YES FOR GRESHAM**

Lori Stegmann, City Council President

Karylinn Echols, City Councilor

Jerry Hinton, City Councilor

Mario Palmero, City Councilor

Michael McCormick, City Councilor

Kirk French, City Councilor

*325 words*

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This Information Furnished By (as it should appear in the county voters' pamphlet): Name of person: Joan Albertson, Keep Gresham Safe

Original Argument

Name of organization person is authorized to represent, if applicable: Keep Gresham Safe

Amended Argument

Name and Address of Contact Person (person who could authorize changes to argument): Joan Albertson 18233 SE Brooklyn Ct Gresham OR 97030

Argument Paid For By: (name and address) Keep Gresham Safe 18233 SE Brooklyn Ct Gresham OR 97030

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Measure Argument Statement(s) of Endorsement, if applicable (number filed: 1)

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3/24/14 Date signed

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Staff Initials AS

Argument order number F-3

Cash or Check Number 1001

Statement(s) of Endorsement? NO YES #

Receipt Number 23260

Word/Number Count Total 313

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Keep Gresham Safe Committee**

**Learn more at [www.keepgreshamsafe.org](http://www.keepgreshamsafe.org)**

313 words

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Measure No.: 26-157 Argument in Favor Argument in Opposition This Information Furnished By (as it should appear in the county voters' pamphlet): Name of person: Joan Albertson, Keep Gresham Safe Name of organization person is authorized to represent, if applicable: Name and Address of Contact Person (person who could authorize changes to argument) Joan Albertson 18233 SE Brooklyn Ct Gresham OR Telephone (home) 503.666.5723 Telephone (work) 503.666.5723 Argument Paid For By: (name and address) Keep Gresham Safe 18233 SE Brooklyn Ct Gresham OR 97030

ATTACHED IS THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION: Measure Argument Statement(s) of Endorsement, if applicable (number filed: 83) Note: Language that violates any provision of ORS 251.405 or 251.415 may be excluded from the voters' pamphlet.

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FOR OFFICE USE ONLY Staff Initials (AS) Argument order number F4 Cash or Check Number 1001 Statement(s) of Endorsement? YES # 83 Receipt Number 23260 Word/Number Count Total 280

Gresham Police, Fire, Parks Levy has Broad Community Support

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

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

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

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

Senator Laurie Monnes Anderson  
State Representative Chris Gorsek  
Shirley Craddick, Metro Councilor



Daniel Staton, Multnomah County Sheriff  
Retired Gresham Police Chief Carla Piluso  
Gresham Professional Firefighters  
Gresham Police Officer's Association

Shane T. Bemis, Mayor of Gresham  
Lori Stegmann, Gresham City Council President  
Gresham City Councilors: Karylinn Echols  
Jerry Hinton                      Michael McCormick  
Mario Palmero                      Kirk French

Former Gresham City Councilors: Thomas Griffith  
Mike Bennett                      Paul Warr-King  
Carol Nielsen-Hood                      David Widmark

A complete list of supporters is available at [www.keepgreshamsafe.org](http://www.keepgreshamsafe.org)

280 words

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Original Argument Amended Argument

Name and Address of Contact Person (person who could authorize changes to argument) 701 NE Hood Ave, Gresham, OR 97030

Telephone (home) Telephone (work) 503.665.1131

This Information Furnished By (as it should appear in the county voters' pamphlet):

Name of person: Alison Hart, Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce

Name of organization person is authorized to represent, if applicable: Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce

Argument Paid For By: (name and address) Keep Gresham Safe 18233 SE Brooklyn Ct Gresham OR 97030

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Staff Initials CW Argument order number F-5 Cash or Check Number 1001 Statement(s) of Endorsement? YES # 6 Receipt Number 23260 Word/Number Count Total 323

## GRESHAM AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ENCOURAGES YES VOTE

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

*Alison Hart, CEO*

Local business leaders are saying:

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

*Matt Miller, President, Chamber Board of Directors*

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

*Mark Eisenzimmer, Cascade Athletic Club*

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

*Karen Johnson, President, All About Automotive*

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

*Janine Ross, Gresham Resident, Branch Manager, US Bank*

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

*Bess Wills, GM, Gresham Ford*

323 words