Notice of Measure Election

District

26-178

SEL 803 rev 01/16 ORS 250.035,

Notice					
Date of Notice 07/2 6 /2016	Name of District Metro, a municipal government pursuant to ORS 268	Name of County or Counties Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas Countles	Date of Election 11/08/2016		
Ballot Title Prepare y	with assistance from the district attorney or an at	ttorney employed by the district.			
Caption 10 words whi	ich reasonably identifies the subject of the measu	ure.	· .		
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Question 20 words w	hich plainly phrases the chief purpose of the mea	asure.			
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Summary 175 words which concisely and impartially summarizes the measure and its major effect.					
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→ any measure referr	cing a voters' pamphlet an explanatory state red by the district governing body; or ferendum, if required by local ordinance.	ement must be drafted and attached to t Explanatory Statement Attached?	his form for:		
Authorized District	Official Not required to be notarized.				
Name		Title			
Martha J. Bennett	t	Chief Operating Officer	·		
Mailing Address	_	Contact Phone			
600 NE Grand Ave	e, Portland, OR 97232	(503) 797-1541			
	<i>ent:</i> I am authorized by the district elections aut a true and complete.	hority to submit this Notice of Measure (Election and I certify th		

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| Date Signed

BALLOT TITLE

Caption

Renews local option levy; protects natural areas, water quality, fish

Question

Shall Metro protect water quality, fish, natural areas, parks; renew 5-year operating levy, 9.6¢ per \$1,000 assessed value, beginning 2018?

This measure renews current local option taxes.

Summary

This levy does not increase taxes. It continues the same rate previously approved by voters.

This levy protects water quality, restores fish and wildlife habitat and connects people with nature across 17,000 acres of parks, trails and natural areas. About half the levy funding goes toward restoring natural areas acquired over two decades and two voter-approved bond measures. The other half of the money helps connect people with nature by improving Metro parks and natural areas, providing nature education programming and grants for community nature projects.

Result of a "yes" vote

- Maintain and improve water quality in local rivers and streams
- Restore habitat for salmon and other native fish on the Willamette, Clackamas, Sandy,
 Tualatin rivers; Johnson creek
- Restore wetlands, forests and floodplains that provide habitat for birds, wildlife
- Provide more parks and trails; construct or replace restrooms, picnic shelters, playgrounds
- Increase opportunities for children from low-income families and communities of color to connect with nature.

A home assessed at \$200,000 would pay \$20 per year for five years.

The proposed rate (9.6¢ per \$1,000 assessed value) will raise approximately \$14.8 million in 2018-19, \$15.5 million in 2019-20, \$16.1 million in 2020-21, \$16.7 million in 2021-22 and \$17.4 million in 2022-23.

Measure Explanatory Statement for County Voters' Pamphlet

Important! Please read all instructions before completing this form. This form is to be used when filing a 'Measure Explanatory Statement for County Voters' Pamphiet' with your County Elections office. If a local government is located in more than one county, the county clerk of the county in which the city hall of the city or the administrative office of the local government is located shall be the filing officer for the 'Measure Explanatory Statement for County Voters' Pamphlet'.

Filing Information +			
Election: Primary 20	X General 2016	Special	Measure # 26 - 178
Ballot Title Caption	·		•
Renews local option levy; prote	cts natural areas, water c	juality, fish	•
Name of Person responsible for co	ntent of 'Explanatory State	ement' (as it should ap	pear in the Voters' Pamphlet):
Martha J. Bennett, Chief Opera	ting Officer		
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Metro, a municipal governmen	t pursuant to ORS 268		CEI 26 IM SC DR OF
CONTACT INFORMATION			
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Phone: Cell:	Work: 503-793	7-1541 Ho	ome:
E-Mail: martha.bennett@oregor	metro.gov	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	.
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Measure 26-178 would help improve water quality, restore fish and wildlife habitat, and increase opportunities for people to connect with nature.

Result of a "yes" vote

This measure renews local option taxes at the current rate of 9.6 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value – approximately \$20 for a home assessed at \$200,000. That means it will not increase taxes currently being paid by homeowners within Metro's boundaries in Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties.

What would renewing the levy do?

Metro manages more than 17,000 acres of parks and natural areas in and among the greater Portland region – from Chehalem Ridge near Forest Grove to the Sandy River Gorge near Gresham, from Chinook Landing and Broughton Beach on the Columbia River to Graham Oaks near Wilsonville.

About half of the current levy funding maintains and restores wildlife habitat at these parks and natural areas. The other half of the money is used to construct park improvements, open new natural area sites to visitors, increase volunteer and education programming, and fund grants for community nature projects. Renewing the levy would continue these funding priorities.

Improve water quality and restore wildlife habitat

Restoring natural areas improves their ability to provide clean water, healthy wildlife habitat and opportunities for people to connect with nature. Planned projects would:

- Help improve water quality in the Willamette, Clackamas, Tualatin and Sandy rivers and Johnson Creek
- Benefit native fish in local rivers and streams
- Control invasive weeds that crowd out native plants wildlife need for food and shelter
- Restore rare Oregon white oak and prairie habitats
- Enhance wetlands to help control flooding and provide habitat for birds and amphibians
- Help improve forest health and reduce wildfire risk

Increase access to nature for people

Approximately 1.3 million people visit Metro's parks each year for walking, hiking, bird watching, camping, boating, fishing, picnicking, and family and community events.

Renewing the current levy would allow Metro to improve its sites for visitors at places such

as Blue Lake and Oxbow regional parks, Smith and Bybee Wetlands, Mount Talbert, Scouters Mountain and Canemah Bluff. Planned projects would:

- Provide people with access to local rivers and natural areas
- Ensure programs and facilities support the needs of underserved communities
- Increase visitor services in Metro's parks, including replacing or adding restrooms, group picnic areas, trails and playgrounds
- Provide more nature education programs, including for children from low-income families and communities of color
- Fund grants for community nature projects

Measuring performance

For accountability, an annual report detailing program expenses, major accomplishments and progress toward specific outcomes will be presented at a Metro Council meeting and made available on the Metro website. Program expenses will be subject to annual audits and presented in the budget adopted by the Metro Council. An independent oversight committee appointed by the Metro Council would review and report on levy-funded capital expenditures for compliance with program requirements.

Learn more at <u>oregonmetro.gov/nature</u>