



BALLOT MEASURES

- **Multnomah County**
- **City of Fairview**
- **City of Gresham**
- **City of Lake Oswego**
- **City of Portland**
- **City of Wood Village**
- **Portland School District**

MULTNOMAH COUNTY

Measure 26-143

BALLOT TITLE

FORM LIBRARY DISTRICT WITH PERMANENT RATE TO FUND LIBRARY SERVICES

QUESTION: Shall dedicated library district fund Multnomah County Library hours, services; rate limited to \$1.24 per \$1000 assessed value beginning 2013?

SUMMARY: If approved, the Multnomah County Library District would be formed with a permanent rate dedicated to library services, operations, books, materials, programs, activities and oversight of the district. Its boundaries would include all territory within Multnomah County. Formation of a District would do the following:

- Provide permanent and dedicated library funding up to \$1.24 per \$1000 of assessed value;
- Restore and retain library services such as summer reading, books, student and jobseeker support, and outreach to senior citizens;
- Prevent reductions in services, programs and activities, and hours.

Library services are a matter of county concern and the District will have the powers granted to library districts and public libraries under state and local law.

The formation of a District will ensure a dedicated long-term funding source for library services, allowing libraries to retain educational resources and programming. The Board of County Commissioners, sitting as the Library District Board, will serve as the governing board of the District to provide oversight and accountability. A Library Advisory Board will provide community input.

- **Programs and activities:** for school age children, story hours for babies and toddlers, summer reading, literacy services for children in child care, homework help, programs for teens and programs helping parents teach their kids to read
- **Summer Reading:** Over 100,000 kids participated in this year's Library's Summer Reading program, including the majority of the county's elementary school children
- **Events for kids and teens:** Nearly 255,000 people attend each year.
- **Book delivery** to homebound seniors and assisted living residents
- **Remote Online Access:** 24/7 online access to information, learning resources, and the library catalog

Among US libraries serving fewer than 1 million residents, Multnomah County Library ranks No. 1 in annual circulation of books and materials, according to the 2012 Public Library Data Service Statistical Report.

Providing library services is a matter of county concern and the voters authorized this method of formation in November 2010. The Library District will have the powers granted to districts and public libraries by state law and by the Charter. There are currently 25 library districts around the state of Oregon.

The Board of County Commissioners, sitting as the Library District Board, will serve as the governing board of the new Library District to provide oversight and accountability to the public. A Library Advisory Board will be formed to provide community input on matters of library services.

Submitted by

Jenny M Morf
County Attorney
Multnomah County

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Library services are currently provided by Multnomah County and funded through general fund dollars and a serial levy. These funding sources are not stable. The County's general fund has experienced budget shortfalls and a library serial levy requires voter approval every three to five years. This year, Multnomah County Libraries had to reduce services by 14% including cutting hours to 44 per week – the lowest of any library system in the region. Library programs for kids, families, senior citizens and jobseekers, book budgets and staffing have also been cut.

Formation of a Library District will secure a permanent source of funding for Library services in the County. All dollars collected for the library district would go only to library services. Library funds could not be used for other programs.

If approved, the Multnomah County Library District will be formed with a permanent rate up to \$1.24 per \$1000 of assessed value. The typical homeowner will pay \$49 a year above the cost of the current levy or \$.89 per \$1000 assessed value. The boundaries of the District will include all territory within Multnomah County.

The newly formed Multnomah County Library District will provide:

- **Libraries:** Hours at all 19 library branches including Central Library
- **Books,** research documents and other materials
- **Trained Staff:** Library staff answers 870,000 reference questions a year.
- **Career & Employment Services:** Library services for jobseekers, small business owners, and English language learners
- **Internet:** Free computer and internet services for those without access at home

MULTNOMAH COUNTY

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Good Libraries Make a Great Community

Vote Yes on 26-143 – a Library District for Multnomah County

With 19 locations throughout our community, our libraries help make this a great place to live.

Our libraries:

- **Teach children to love reading and learning**, with early reading programs and storytimes.
- **Are vital to schools and education**, with homework help, summer reading programs and by giving students a safe place to study after school.
- **Keep people connected**, delivering over 200,000 books a year to people with barriers to visiting the library.
- **Are an indispensable resource for job seekers**--one of the few places where unemployed people can get help searching for jobs--including resume and interviewing advice.

But our rollercoaster system of temporary funding means our libraries constantly face uncertainty and frequently must cut services, programs, hours, activities, and budgets for books.

Measure 26-143 Will Change That for the Better

By establishing a Library District for Multnomah County we can:

- **Provide dedicated, stable funding** for libraries into the future.
- **Restore recent cuts** – open hours will increase from 44 hours to 57 hours a week.
- **Protect and restore programs** for children, students, seniors and job seekers.
- **Ensure money collected for the Library District cannot be used for other programs.**

How Does It Work?

- Funds for the Library District will replace the current levy so we won't pay that anymore.
- The District permanent rate is limited to \$1.24 per \$1,000 assessed property value and cannot change. It will likely begin at \$1.18 per \$1,000 and will only rise over time if needed.
- The typical homeowner will pay an additional \$49 a year for the libraries.
- There will be no new layer of government: the Multnomah County Commission remains the Library District's governing body.
- There is real accountability, with independent oversight and audits.

Learn more at librariesyes.com

(This information furnished by Heather McGivney)

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Volunteers Support Our Libraries

We are volunteers at our local public libraries, and we love doing it!

We help out with activities like teaching computer classes, repairing books, and providing early literacy support to families and kids.

We know how important the libraries are because we see so many people there using them. And in the last few years, even more people are using them because they are a free resource open to everyone.

Our libraries have gone through ups and downs in funding. Sometimes they have full funding and sometimes not, which has meant big decreases in services.

- Right now the libraries are only open 6 days for a total of 44 hours a week, when they have been open as much as 70 hours a week in the past.
- Programs and services for families, kids, senior citizens, and job-seekers are not available as often and for as many people as want them.
- Money for new books, materials, and equipment has been reduced.

It's a problem for our libraries to only rely on temporary funding.

We support creation of the local Library District because it will dedicate stable funding to our libraries. We can restore cuts to services and hours, and fund them into the future without money being diverted to other programs.

The library has 1800 volunteers, like us, who contribute their time to the libraries. But volunteers can only do so much. We need enough open hours, and expert staff to provide individual customer service to the library users.

Please join us in supporting our libraries. They do so much for us. They make us a stronger community. Let's return the favor.

Andrea Dobson,
Volunteer,
Central Library
Anne Pearson, Volunteer,
Hollywood Library

Heather McGivney,
Volunteer,
Gresham Library
Mary Monson, Volunteer,
Central Library

Sandra Barker, Volunteer
Title Wave Bookstore

(This information furnished by Susan Kelly)

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MULTNOMAH COUNTY

Measure 26-143

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Libraries help people find jobs.

Vote yes for our Library District: Help provide stable funding for programs that help job-seekers.

My name is Tom, and like others I'm in the process of looking for a new job.

Looking for work can be hard, but the library is here to assist with computers, services, classes and programs that really help:

- Public libraries are the main source of Internet access for over 75% of people who don't have access at home or work. These days, it's hard to find a job without a computer
- Library staff and resources can assist people with applying for unemployment
- Libraries conduct free computer classes in everything from word processing to building a spreadsheet to designing your own web site

The library also provides more in-depth help for job-seekers in the new economy:

- Job search strategy workshops – a three-part series to help us deal with the new realities of looking for work
- Library classes on interview preparation help us build confidence, be ready to answer difficult questions and participate in practice interview and receive expert feedback so we feel fully prepared on interview day!

The library also has **resources for entrepreneurs** ready to launch or expand their own business!

People looking for jobs need the libraries, but our libraries are currently underfunded, and that means they're only open 44 hours a week--the shortest of any library system in our 4-county region.

They are currently closed Mondays and only open until 8PM two days a week. When the library has to close early, it makes it hard for job-seekers looking for new work to access services.

Please vote YES to restore and protect services to help job-seekers.

Good libraries mean a great community—and that includes getting people back to work. Vote YES for our libraries and our future.

Tom Mattox, Portland

(This information furnished by David Lewis)

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Join Local Teachers in Supporting a Local Library District!

Our Libraries are central to helping students and teachers succeed: we need them, we use them and we urge you to vote YES!

As local public school teachers, we depend on our local libraries. So do our students and their families.

As teachers, we need the Library District, to provide stable funding into the future for libraries—which we really count on!

Here are just some of the services the library provides to teachers, schools and students. With a Library District, they would be fully restored and funded into the future:

School Corps: Outreach to every single public school in our county, offering teachers:

- Books and materials on requested topics for individual teachers
- Creation of customized lists of books for teachers and students
- Detailed web assistance for students

Developing student research skills by teaching:

- How to use research tools at the library
- How to safely use the Internet for research

Extra help for kids who need it, including:

- Library staff, who visit 49 targeted schools, serving 3rd -6th graders who need extra help to succeed in school;
- A Booktalkers after-school program delivers books and presentations to 17 nonprofit sites serving at-risk youth and delivers book buckets to 19 more.

And, our libraries **offer homework help for free** to every student in Multnomah County, either in-person or through an on-line tutor. This is especially important for kids who need a safe, structured place to go after school.

Creating a Library District will help ensure that our libraries can continue to be an indispensable partner to schools, teachers and students.

Join us in voting YES for our Libraries!

Robin Corrigan,
9-12th grade teacher

Lisa Kane,
3rd grade teacher

Pat Gonzales,
12th grade teacher

Patty Klindt,
6th – 8th grade teacher

Emy Markewitz,
3rd grade teacher

Dawn Martin,
9-12th grade teacher

Jim Perenboom,
9-12th grade teacher

Nancy Sullivan,
Teacher-librarian

(This information furnished by Kirsten Leonard)

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MULTNOMAH COUNTY

Measure 26-143

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Our Libraries Help Kids Learn to Read and to Get Good at it!

Our libraries help prepare our community's youngest as well as our most vulnerable kids for learning and for lifelong success. But these programs are at risk because unstable funding makes it hard for the library to plan into the future and maintain services at the current level.

The library prepares thousands of young minds for school by sharing ways to read, sing, talk, write and play with books.

- First-time parents receive an invitation to the library when their child is born in Multnomah County.
- The library holds classes to teach parents how to help their kids learn to read.
- Each day, hundreds of children and their parents engage in storytimes both at libraries and in the community. Storytimes serve nearly 120,000 young children last year.
- Library staff visits child care centers, Head Start, teen parent programs, substance abuse treatment facilitates and incarcerated parents to teach people how to read to their kids.

The earlier kids learn to read, the greater their chances of success in school and lifelong achievement.

The library serves 26,000 individual children and parents at risk for low literacy and assists in preparing them to start school ready to learn.

- Working with community partners like local health clinics, homeless shelters, and mandated parenting classes, librarians teach techniques for developing early literacy skills through parent engagement and sharing of high quality books.
- The library's Early Childhood Services makes a monthly stop at 540 home and center based childcares facilities. Each site receives a fresh collection of books that encourages reading and early literacy. This effort provides over 5,000 young people with an ever-changing library of over 100,000 high quality books.

Let's keep these services available and accessible to make ^{sure} every kid can achieve school success.

Vote YES for stable funding. Vote YES for the Library District.

(This information furnished by Kristi Jo Lewis)

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

It's incredible how much the library does to promote learning, and how well the library partners with schools to help kids succeed!

Vote yes to restore and maintain programs like these:

- The library offers more than 17,000 different classes and events for youth each year. Last year, over 255,000 youth participated in library programs ranging from book discussions to arts and cultural exploration to life skill building.
- The library's innovative School Corps program connects students and educators with the resources of the public library – directly serving 48,000 students in FY12.
- Library staff create materials, gather books, and provide support to over 1,500 individual teachers.
- Books 2 U brings trained "book talkers" into 3-6 grade classrooms that post the lowest reading scores in the county. During the summer, B2U staff provide books and reading motivation to students where ever they happen to be – at a free lunch site, local park, or summer program. In FY12, over 30,000 students received B2U services.
- By partnering closely with the six largest school districts in the county, the library is able to ensure every student signs up for Summer Reading and starts tracking their reading as soon as summer begins. This year, over 100,000 babies, kids, and teens participated.
- Library staff serve over 30 S.U.N. School locations through afterschool programs including science investigation, cooking adventures, and arts and crafts exploration – always tying the experience back to materials available at the library.
- Throughout the summer, the library provides hundreds of arts and cultural programs throughout the county, offering thousands of families the opportunity to take classes, participate in the arts, and take in theatrical performances **free of charge.**

Libraries are an invaluable resource to kids no matter where they learn. We must restore and protect these services now!

VOTE YES for libraries!

(This information furnished by Kristi Jo Lewis)

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MULTNOMAH COUNTY

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Library Programs for Teens: a Safe Place and Help for their Future.

Our libraries provide access to learning resources and a safe place for teenagers to hang out after school. But the currently underfunded library system means that all branches are closed on Mondays, and close at five every day except Tuesday and Wednesday.

Creating a Library District by voting YES would restore hours and ensure that programs geared towards teens remain available.

Library programs and services for teens activate young people's participation in the community, promote good citizenship and further their education.

Volunteerism

The library trains and supports over 800 teens annually who volunteer for the library. Teens get their first volunteer experience by staffing the Summer Reading program, assisting with arts and cultural programs, or being a storytime helper. This opportunity provides teens with the experience of meeting deadlines, showing up on time, and learning how to function in a professional setting – all adding to their developmental assets.

Teen Council

Last year, library staff held 210 teen councils, connecting over 2,000 young adults with each other, library staff, and the community. Teen Councils plan programs, consult on policy, and influence library resources.

Teen Lounges

Teens have the opportunity to attend Teen Lounges – open space time for young adults to hang out, geek out, and mess around while feeling comfortable and welcome. Last year over 3,000 teens attended one of 443 Teen Lounges.

Educational Resources

Libraries help teens plan for the future through GED learning labs, access to ACT test preparation and information about financial aid, scholarships and how to apply for college.

Teens need a safe place to learn and prepare for the future.

We must protect these vital services and make them available to as many teens as possible.

We need the library to have stable funding.

We can do that by voting YES for the Library District!

(This information furnished by Elizabeth Kaufman)

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Our libraries are here to help!

Vote YES to restore important library programs and protect them into the future.

Multnomah County Libraries provide free workshops and assistance to all of us – tax help, job interview training, computer basics, GED preparation, financial and retirement planning, and more.

The Library District will restore hours from 44 to 57 per week, making these programs available to more people. The District also stabilizes the library's funding, so programs like these will be funded into the future.

- **Tax Help** Trained tax preparers volunteer their time and expertise to help you with your taxes.
- **Ace that Job Interview!** Build your confidence by knowing which questions to expect and preparing to answer difficult questions.
- **Build an Effective Job Search Strategy** Three-part series to help improve your job search strategy, including creating a strong resume.
- **Dig Yourself out of Debt** How to get back on track with strategies addressing debt obligations effectively, knowing your legal rights, and learning how to manage debt issues in today's economic environment.
- **Protect Yourself from Scams** How to avoid phone and Internet scams. Provides information on types of scams, how to avoid scams, and what to do if you are scammed.
- **Email 101** Get started with the free web-based email service Gmail. Learn the very basics of sending/replying and features such as contacts, labels, chat, attachments, spam filters and more.
- **Ebooks & more 101** Covers the basics including set-up and downloading of electronic books. Learn which devices support library e-books and audiobooks.
- **Introduction to Computers (also in Cantonese, Mandarin, Vietnamese)** In this fun, hands-on course, you will learn all the basic computer skills.
- **Citizenship Class** Learn the citizenship process. Study United States history and government and prepare for your citizenship interview.
- **Learning Labs: GED** Learn general information about GED testing requirements. Take a practice test, learn how to study online or with library study guides.

(This information furnished by Elizabeth Beekley)

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MULTNOMAH COUNTY

Measure 26-143

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

A Message from Former Library Advisory Board members: The Library District Makes Good Financial Sense

We are former Library Advisory Board members and we served as volunteers reviewing library budgets, spending and financial practices for years. We've seen firsthand that the library is financially responsible.

However, the library's temporary funding structure goes through frequent periods of decline and uncertainty. This leads to cuts in hours open to the public, programs, services and activities.

A Library District will provide stable, dedicated and reliable funding so the library can continue to provide these important services into the future.

Our libraries are efficient:

- Every possible dollar goes into services for the public.
- The library routinely receives clean bills of financial health from the independently-elected auditor and is part of the annual county audit.
- To stretch dollars, the library has over 1800 volunteers to backup the librarians and staff – doing nearly 70,000 hours of work annually.

The proposal on the November ballot for a Library District gives the public the opportunity to vote to protect and preserve our libraries into the future:

- Creating a Library District would mean that all dollars collected would go only to library services, providing adequate funding for the future.
- The district does not create another layer of government because the County remains the governing body;
- At the top rate, the typical home pays \$49 more than they are currently paying for the libraries. However, less than that would be levied to start.
- The library district would continue to be part of the county's annual audit.

As former Advisory Board members, we believe the library's strong and accountable strong financial practices should be matched by a stable and dedicated financial structure.

The Library District will do just that. It's an investment our community should make.

Terry McCall Alice Meyer Rick Gustafson
Former Members, Multnomah County Library Advisory Board

(This information furnished by Lori Hardwick)

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Libraries are critical to senior citizens in our community by providing continuing education and connection to others.

Join the Oregon State Council for Retired Citizens in Voting YES for our Libraries!

As we age, we can always use a little help keeping up-to-date and connected to the world. Fortunately, we have a wonderful library system that provides so much for seniors.

Lack of stable funding means the library faces constant budget uncertainty.

A Library District would change that by providing dedicated and stable funding for our libraries into the future.

Libraries help senior citizens plan for the future through educational and service programs like:

- Scam protection workshops
- AARP Tax Help
- Debt and credit management classes
- Retirement planning
- Wills, trusts and estate planning

Libraries help senior citizens learn new technology through classes and support like:

- Introduction to Computers: all the basics
- Email 101
- Ebooks & more 101
- Library2Go: learn how to operate e-books and electronic devices
- TechnoHosts, real people help you develop your computer skills

Libraries help senior citizens stay connected to the community with outreach programs like:

- Page-turners large print book group--talk about books and get to know your neighbors
- Library Outreach Services (LOS) visits hundreds of retirement homes, assisted living facilities, and shelters bringing books, movies, music, magazines, puzzles and helping people choose books based on their interests
- Visiting Voices--volunteers read to groups in Alzheimer's and memory care units

Our libraries also deliver over 200,000 books each year to homebound senior citizens and others with barriers to visiting the library.

These services help us to learn, stay active, and to live independently.

They are urgently needed by senior citizens in our community.

That's why we support the Library District. If you want to help support local senior citizens, please vote yes too!

Oregon State Council for Retired Citizens PAC

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

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MULTNOMAH COUNTY

Measure 26-143

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

**Small Businesses Benefit from Good Libraries.
And, Good Libraries Help Make a Strong Economy.**

Vote YES for a local Library District

As business people, we support good libraries and we support the measure to create a local Library District.

We all know libraries are great, but you might be surprised at how much small businesses rely on them:

- Many libraries are located near small businesses, and library users are also customers of ours
- Libraries provide important services for small business people that are tailored to their needs: sources for researching products, locations, hiring, and more
- Libraries are anchors of neighborhoods and cities throughout Multnomah County. They attract families who are the heart and soul of our customer and employee base

So when libraries are closed, or are forced to cut programs because of our unstable system of temporary levies, it hurts us too.

We use the libraries, we get direct economic benefit from our libraries, and we support restoring hours and providing stable funding into the future.

There's one more thing to know: librarians run a tight ship. And the Library District will be no different:

- Nearly all library funding goes to front-line service for library users
- All funds collected for the district can go only to the library, not to other uses
- The library will continue to be part of the annual county audit, and will regularly be audited by the independently-elected auditor
- Three independent bodies review and oversee the library district budget

The Library District will replace the current system of temporary library funding. It will support our local libraries into the future. As business people, we need a predictable and stable environment in which to conduct our operations. Our libraries deserve no less.

Please join us in Voting Yes for our Libraries!

Tony Fuentes,
Milagros Boutique

Mark Doxtader,
Tastebud Farms

Paula Markus,
Chop Butchery

Cody Clark,
Café Delirium

Stacey Wion, Spielwerk Toys

(This information furnished by Brian R Wilson)

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Vote Yes for the Libraries!

A Message from the Friends of the Library

We have a great opportunity to fix a big problem in our community—the funding of our amazing library system. The majority of the funding for our libraries currently comes from a levy that we must vote on every 3-5 years. The remaining financing comes from the County General Fund, which must be approved every year by the County Commissioners, and some from fees and grants to the library. The result is instability and uncertainty for the library budget.

Multnomah County Library is well-used and busier than ever. Our library is critically important to children learning to read, teens working on homework after school, seniors staying connected through book deliveries, and unemployed people looking for work who need help or free internet access.

There are many statistics to show our library's value and efficiency, the demographics and services, material circulation and programs provided. Our library consistently scores in the highest category in library ratings and studies.

More difficult to capture are the many stories of people using the library, every day:

- Like the homeless father that received help from library staff to research and apply for a job—and he was hired. Now, he is moving with his teenage son out of a shelter to an apartment.
- Or the many senior citizens who take library classes to learn about computers and navigating the internet in our increasingly digital world.
- Like the small children who attend storytime or their parents receiving recommendations for books that are tailored to their child's interests and reading level.

These stories and many more happen every day at our libraries. They show how the library is part of the core of our community.

Measure 26-143 will restore hours and services.

Measure 26-143 will provide funding stability to protect our library for the future.

Vote YES for Our Libraries!

The Friends of the Multnomah County Library

(This information furnished by Craig Cedros, The Friends of the Multnomah County Library)

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MULTNOMAH COUNTY

Measure 26-143

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

**These days, our libraries are more important than ever!
Parents across Multnomah County urge a YES vote for libraries**

Families have lots of concerns these days – keeping our jobs and health care coverage, raising children, and supporting our own parents as they age.

Fortunately, one big support for parents like us is our public library system.

Our libraries provide so much for local families:

- **Organized activities for kids**--storytimes, homework help, a safe place to go after school. Many of us use the libraries several times a week!
- **Use of computers for those who don't have them at home**, and classes for how to get started using them
- **Help from librarians with how to search for a new or better job**, how to research family history, how to learn a new language or travel to a new place
- **Books sent to senior citizens** and others with barriers to visiting the library-- over 200,000 a year!
- **Free help for everything**--how to teach our children to read, how to get a good mortgage, apply to college, or fix our car, and nearly anything else for which we need good, quick information!

Our libraries serve us well. Let's stand up for our libraries.

It's simple: A yes vote helps create a local Library District with stable and adequate future funding.

We urge you to vote YES.

Our libraries are currently underfunded. They're only open 44 hours a week – the shortest of any library system in the 4-county region. They are closed on Mondays. This means less programs, activities and services for families. Funds for new books have been reduced.

We need fully-funded libraries and we need to count on them into the future.

Please join us in voting YES for our libraries. Good libraries mean a great community and strong support for families.

**Devon Riley Eric Kaster Janis Adler
Amy Watson, DC Andrea Paluso Cathy Sherick
Beth and Danny Kapsch**

(This information furnished by Janis Adler)

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

**We believe that strong libraries build a strong community.
Vote YES on Measure 26-143**

For nearly 150 years, Multnomah County Library has been an essential part of our community's health and well being. More than 34,000 people turn to our libraries every day.

But in spite of its reach and impact, our library faces financial uncertainty every year. The current system of temporary funding has left neighborhood libraries with reduced hours and cuts to programs and services.

Measure 26-143 will replace the current, flawed system of temporary funding with dedicated, stable funding for our library. Establishing a library district will ensure that:

- **Children, educators and families get the help they need**
Last year, library programs were attended by nearly 250,000 children, parents and educators. Our library reaches out to every school in all 8 school districts in our county.
- **Seniors citizens stay connected and safe**
Educational programs help seniors learn about their health, manage their finances safely and avoid the risks of identity theft. Library outreach services deliver more than 200,000 books a year to those who can't get to the library.
- **Job seekers have access to tools and information**
The library is one of the few places where those who are without work can get help. Library staff and volunteers provide job search education, online application assistance, and help with resume writing and interviewing.
- **Local businesses succeed**
Libraries help businesses thrive. They're critical to building healthy, vibrant neighborhoods.

Each year, our library breaks records and wins awards for high usage, efficient operations and programs that change the lives of children, families and seniors. Over the last decade, checkouts at our library have nearly doubled.

The Library Foundation is an independent, community-based non-profit dedicated to enhancing our library's incredible work. Our volunteers and thousands of supporters work to extend the taxpayer's investment in our hardworking library.

Join us, the volunteers and supporters of The Library Foundation, by voting yes on Measure 26-143.

(This information furnished by Merris Sumrall, The Library Foundation)

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MULTNOMAH COUNTY

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

As librarians, we know: in tough times libraries are especially important.

As retired librarians and library workers, we've seen how libraries serve our community in good times and bad. But we have seen how people really depend on the libraries when they are struggling through tough economic times like these.

- Libraries provide job-seekers with ideas for leads, assistance with resume writing and interviewing
- Libraries provide a safe place for kids to go after school and library staff provide homework help
- Libraries deliver over 200,000 books to homebound senior citizens those experiencing barriers visiting the library
- Library computers are available for people who don't have one at home.

But because of the unstable temporary funding system libraries are also struggling – just when they are needed most.

Our libraries have cut hours of service so now they're open only 44 hours a week (10 years ago, the libraries were open up to 70 hours a week). That's the shortest weekly hours of any library in the four-county region.

Budgets for programs, activities, computer use, new books and materials are all reduced as well.

This is why we support a local library district – because it replaces temporary funding with stable, dedicated funding now and into the future. It will restore hours, programs, and services that people need – when they really need them.

Please vote yes for our libraries.

Penny Hummel	June Mikkelson	Brandon Barnett
Cathy Camper	Ross Betzer	Percy Wise
Emily-Jane Dawson	Kim Anderson	

(This information furnished by Elizabeth Kaufman)

The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by Multnomah County, nor does the county warrant the accuracy or truth of any statements made in the argument.

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

**Frequently Asked Questions
About a Multnomah County Library District**

Why do we need a Library District?

The current system of temporary funding means our libraries constantly face uncertainty and we cut services, programs, hours, activities and budgets for books. The Library District provides dedicated funding for libraries into the future. It will restore what has recently been cut and provide stable funding moving forward. Money collected for the Library District could not be used for other programs.

Does this create an additional layer of government?

No. The Library District will be governed by the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners. There is no new layer of government; in fact the library may be able to cut its costs by becoming a District.

Will a Library District be accountable?

There are multiple accountability mechanisms for the District; the budget will be reviewed by the Library Advisory Board and by the County Board of Commissioners, the library will still be part of the county's annual audit. Also, The Multnomah County Tax Supervising and Conservation Commission would continue to review the annual budget. The District will periodically be audited by the independently-elected County Auditor.

How much will this cost?

The Library District would have a permanent rate that cannot change. That rate is limited to \$1.24 per \$1,000 assessed property value – although the rate will likely start lower at \$1.18. Currently, we pay \$.89 per \$1,000 for the reduced level of services. For the typical home, the district will cost \$49 more per year.

What cuts will this measure restore?

Right now, our libraries are open 44 hours per week, down from 57 a week. That's the lowest of any library in the four-county region. They aren't open seven days a week and are closed most evenings. Other cuts include programs, activities and the budget for new books and materials— exactly when more people want them.

For more info, Visit librariesyes.com/faq

(This information furnished by Michael Hanna)

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MULTNOMAH COUNTY

Measure 26-143

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

Vote No on Measure 26-143

Historically, Multnomah County voters have been very generous toward the Library.

Over time they have approved property taxes to the extent that it has become one of the most expensive library systems in the country.

On a per resident basis, the **\$61-million-a-year Multnomah County Library costs more than double the national average.**

Measure 26-143 may look like a continuation of the levy process. It's not and that is why a prudent person would vote it down.

It would a big mistake to create a permanent taxing authority to a group of unelected government employees who will no longer have to answer to voters.

For more information & news on your taxes go to OregonWatchdog.com

(This information furnished by Don McIntire, Taxpayer Association of Oregon)

The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by Multnomah County, nor does the county warrant the accuracy or truth of any statements made in the argument.

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

Statement in Opposition to Multnomah County Ballot Measure 26-143

The Multnomah County Library system offers valuable services to citizens, but there is no need to create a new library tax district. The library already receives generous tax support through voter-approved levies. According to Willamette Week (8/1/12), the library receives county funding of \$81.35 per capita, while the national average is \$38.95.

Despite this generous support, library service levels are actually low compared with peer cities. Last year, the Multnomah County library had a budget of \$61.9 million to pay for 18 branches, while Denver operated 22 branches for only \$30.9 million and Seattle ran 27 branches for \$50.4 million.

Library managers have been unable to contain the high cost of labor. In 2011, MCL spent an average of \$77,281 per full-time equivalent staff position. This went up to \$80,340 in 2012 and is \$81,432 for the current budget. Yet, when management felt that cuts needed to be made this year, they closed the libraries one day per week.

The current library tax levy rate is \$0.89 per \$1,000 in assessed value; under Measure 26-143 the new, permanent rate will jump to \$1.24 per \$1,000, costing the average homeowner \$49 per year in new taxes.

Unfortunately, there is no guarantee that actual library services would be maintained or improved with the new money. The library now receives \$14.9 million in general fund dollars from Multnomah County, and the County could easily transfer all of that money to other programs.

Indeed, as the Portland City Economist told the City Council on July 18, 2012, "Effectively, the majority of the increased taxes from a new library district will go to supplant funding from Multnomah County's General Fund, **not increase the library's budget.**"

The county library is already better funded than most urban libraries; there is no need for a new taxing district. Voters should Vote NO on Measure 26-143.

(This information furnished by John A. Charles, Jr., Cascade Policy Institute)

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CITY OF FAIRVIEW

Measure 26-147

BALLOT TITLE

CHARTER AMENDMENT REQUIRING RECORD OF ALL VOTES IN COUNCIL MINUTES

QUESTION: Shall Fairview amend the Charter to require that the vote of each Council member be entered into the meeting minutes?

SUMMARY: The Oregon Constitution gives City voters the right to adopt and amend home rule charters. Fairview voters adopted the current charter in 1992.

The current charter requires the City council to adopt rules of procedure to govern its meetings and proceedings.

The current charter also requires the record of Council proceedings to reflect the aye and nay votes of Council members on proposed ordinances.

In addition to adopting ordinances, the Council takes action by adopting motions, resolutions and orders. This measure would amend the Charter to require the Council to include in its rules of procedure a requirement that the vote of each member on any issue or matter voted on by the Council be entered into the Council minutes.

The City's Charter Review Commission recommended this amendment, which was referred to the voters by the Council. If approved, the amendment would take effect January 1, 2013.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The Oregon Constitution gives City voters the right to adopt and amend home rule charters. Fairview voters adopted the current charter in 1992.

The Fairview City Council formed an impartial Charter Review Committee comprised of citizens of the City to evaluate the existing charter and to determine if the charter should be updated or changed. The Charter Review Committee determined that changes to the charter were warranted and prepared draft amendments to the existing charter for review by City Council. The City Council concurred with the recommendation of the Charter Review Committee and referred this measure to city voters for approval or rejection.

The current charter requires the City Council to adopt rules of procedure to govern its meetings and proceedings. The current charter also requires the record of Council proceedings to reflect the aye and nay votes of Council members on proposed ordinances.

In addition to adopting ordinances, the Council takes action by adopting motions, resolutions and orders. This measure would amend the charter to require the Council to include in its rules of procedure a requirement that the vote of each member on any issue or matter voted on by the Council be entered into the Council minutes.

If approved by the voters, the Charter amendment would take effect January 1, 2013.

Submitted by

Samantha D Nelson
City Administrator
City of Fairview

No arguments FOR or AGAINST this measure were filed.

CITY OF FAIRVIEW

Measure 26-148

BALLOT TITLE

CHARTER AMENDMENT REVISING PROCESS COUNCIL USES TO ADOPT ORDINANCES

QUESTION: Shall Fairview amend the Charter to revise the process the City Council uses to adopt ordinances?

SUMMARY: The Oregon Constitution gives City voters the right to adopt and amend home rule charters. Fairview voters adopted the current charter in 1992.

The current charter provides procedures for Council adoption of ordinances, which permit but do not require the reading of proposed ordinances on two different days.

The procedures also permit, with the unanimous consent of the Council, the reading of proposed ordinances twice in one meeting and thereafter enactment by a majority vote of the Council at the same meeting.

The amendment would require only one reading of proposed ordinances, but would also require that the reading and enactment of ordinances occur on two separate days. The amendment would permit an ordinance to be read and enacted on the same day only if the Council enacts the ordinance by a unanimous vote of all members voting at that meeting.

The City's Charter Review Commission recommended this amendment, which was referred to the voters by the council. If approved, the amendment would take effect January 1, 2013.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The Oregon Constitution gives City voters the right to adopt and amend home rule charters. Fairview voters adopted the current charter in 1992.

The Fairview City Council formed an impartial Charter Review Committee comprised of citizens of the City to evaluate the existing charter and to determine if the charter should be updated or changed. The Charter Review Committee determined that changes to the charter were warranted and prepared draft amendments to the existing charter for review by City Council. The City Council concurred with the recommendation of the Charter Review Committee and referred this measure to City voters for approval or rejection.

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The amendment would require only one reading of proposed ordinances, but would also require that the reading and enactment of ordinances occur on two separate days. The amendment would permit an ordinance to be read and enacted on the same day only if the Council enacts the ordinance by a unanimous vote of all members voting at that meeting.

If approved by the voters, the Charter amendment would take effect January 1, 2013.

Submitted by

Samantha D Nelson
City Administrator
City of Fairview

No arguments FOR or AGAINST this measure were filed.

CITY OF FAIRVIEW

Measure 26-149

BALLOT TITLE

CHARTER AMENDMENT REVISING PROCESS TO FILL VACANCIES IN ELECTED OFFICES

QUESTION: Shall Fairview amend the Charter to revise the process used to fill vacancies that occur in City elected offices?

SUMMARY: The Oregon Constitution gives City voters the right to adopt and amend home rule charters. Fairview voters adopted the current charter in 1992. Under the current charter, vacancies in elected offices are temporarily filled by council appointment. The Council's appointee serves until a person is elected for the remainder of the unexpired term at the "next election." The City has enacted an ordinance clarifying that the "next election" is the next general election. Under the current charter an election to fill an office with an unexpired term must occur even if only two months remain in the term. The amendment would clarify the Charter to reflect the current practice for filling vacancies by temporary Council appointment and election at the next general election, but would also establish that an election is not required if there are only two months left in the unexpired term. The City's Charter Review Commission recommended this amendment, which was referred to the voters by the Council. If approved, the amendment would take effect January 1, 2013.

The amendment would codify the City's interpretation of the charter by providing that the Council's temporary appointee will serve until a person is elected at the next general election for the remainder of the unexpired term. In addition, the amendment would establish that an election would not be required if the term of the vacant office is set to expire the January immediately following the November election, which would preclude the need to hold an election if only two months remain in the term of the vacant office.

If approved by the voters, the Charter amendment would take effect January 1, 2013.

Submitted by

Samantha D Nelson
City Administrator
City of Fairview

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The Oregon Constitution gives City voters the right to adopt and amend home rule charters. Fairview voters adopted the current charter in 1992.

The Fairview City Council formed an impartial Charter Review Committee comprised of citizens of the City to evaluate the existing charter and to determine if the charter should be updated or changed. The Charter Review Committee determined that changes to the charter were warranted and prepared draft amendments to the charter for review by City Council. The City Council concurred with the recommendation of the Charter Review Committee and referred this measure to City voters for approval or rejection.

Under the current charter, vacancies in elected offices are temporarily filled by Council appointment. The Council's appointee serves until a person is elected for the remainder of the unexpired term at the "next election." The City has enacted an ordinance interpreting the phrase "next election" to mean the next general election. Under state law, general elections occur in November of even-numbered years. Under the City's current interpretation of the charter, an election to fill an unexpired term must occur at the next general election regardless of the amount of time left in the remainder of the term.

Under the current charter, a City councilor is elected in November to a four-year term. The term of a person elected to the Council in November begins the following January. If, for example, a councilor elected to a four-year term resigns in February of the fourth year of his or her term, the Council would temporarily appoint an individual to serve on the Council from February until November. Under the City's current interpretation of the Charter, an election would be held in November to select a person to serve the remainder of the unexpired term. Under this practice, the person elected in November to fill the remaining portion of the unexpired term that ends in January, would be elected for only two months (November and December).

No arguments FOR or AGAINST this measure were filed.

CITY OF GRESHAM

Measure 26-141

BALLOT TITLE

GRESHAM CHARTER AMENDMENT: MAYOR ELECTED AT LARGE; COUNCILORS BY DISTRICT

QUESTION: Shall the Gresham Charter be amended to elect the mayor at large and councilors elected and residing in six districts?

SUMMARY: This measure was proposed by initiative petition. If approved, it would amend the Gresham Charter to provide that council shall consist of a mayor elected at large and one councilor elected and residing in each of six districts.

The voters of the City of Gresham currently elect the mayor and six councilors at large. All voters in the city can seek city elective office and all voters in the city may vote for each city elective office without regard to where in the city the voter resides.

This initiative measure would change the manner in which councilors are elected from at large to a district system. Six districts would be established within the city. The voters of each district would elect one councilor who resides within that district. Voters would not elect the councilors who reside in other districts. The mayor would continue to be elected at large.

This measure would take effect when approved by at least sixty percent (60%) of the votes cast for or against this measure.

If amended, Section 7 of the Gresham Charter would read:

CITY COUNCIL. The council shall consist of a mayor elected at large and ~~six one councilor councilors~~ elected and residing in each of six districts. ~~from the city-at-large~~. All elections for city offices must be nonpartisan.

(New text is underlined; Deleted text is strikethrough)

This measure would take effect when approved by at least sixty percent (60%) of the votes cast for or against this measure.

Submitted by
Susanjoy Baskoro
City Recorder
City of Gresham

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The Gresham Charter is the constitution of the City of Gresham. The current Charter was adopted in 1978 and last amended by Gresham voters in May 2012.

This measure was proposed by initiative petition. If approved, it would amend the Gresham Charter to provide that the City Council shall consist of a mayor elected at large and one councilor elected and residing in each of six districts.

The voters of the City of Gresham currently elect the mayor and six councilors at large. All qualified voters in the city can seek city elective office and all voters in the city may vote for each city elective office without regard to where in the city the voter resides.

This initiative measure would change the manner in which councilors are elected from at large to a district system. Six districts would be established within the city. The voters of each district would elect one councilor who resides within that district. Voters would not elect the councilors who reside in other districts. The mayor would continue to be elected at large.

CITY OF GRESHAM

Measure 26-141

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

**Join your fellow Gresham citizens
Vote YES on Measure 26-141
Mayor Elected at Large;
Councilors by District**

Measure 26-141 is a grassroots, citizen's initiative to change how the Gresham City Council members are elected. Currently, the Mayor and all city Councilors are elected in city-wide, "at large" elections. A majority of councilors can all come from the same neighborhood.

Measure 26-141 would require the establishment of six voting districts throughout the City of Gresham; each District with equal population. **The voters of each District would elect one Councilor who lives within their District.**

Some reasons to support electing Councilors by District:

- Citizen in every neighborhood of Gresham will have a voice.
- Citizens will know which Councilor to contact for help solving District and City problems.
- Councilors will be accountable to citizens in their District.
- Citizens who know their District well, will be encouraged to run for City Council.
- Increase ethnic, economic, demographic diversity and geographic representation on Council.

Vote YES for equal representation in Gresham City government!

District representation is the way we elect our Metro, County Commissioners, State, and Federal representatives. District representation gives each citizen an equal voice in the democratic process. In current "at-large" elections a majority of Councilors can and do come from the same neighborhood resulting in unequal representation.

Councilors by District:

- Ends Councilor concentration in one city area
- Provides direct representation and accountability
- Eliminates costly city-wide campaigns
- Encourages fewer unopposed contests

**Vote for Change!
Vote YES on Measure 26-141!
Vote YES for equal representation!**

For more information please visit our web site: www.Gresham6Districts.org

Petitioners for Measure 26-141:
Charles J. Becker, Former Mayor, Gresham
Kenneth E. Stine, Gresham
Richard A. Strathern, Gresham

(This information furnished by Ken Stine, Committee for Restoration of District Representation)

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

To Our Gresham Neighbors:

It is a privilege for us to serve you as Gresham City Councilors. Like you, we want to have a great place to live, work and enjoy recreational opportunities with our families, friends, and visitors. We volunteer to do our best to make wise policy decisions that affect our community, not only today, but for decades to come.

That is why we **strongly endorse re-establishing Districts.** At 107,500 residents, Gresham is a large community, growing by 2000 residents per year. The larger and more diverse we have grown, the more difficult it is for City Councilors to identify with the concerns of every area of the city. Requiring City Councilors to live in the neighborhoods they represent is really a simple concept, but it has far-reaching and profound effects.

District representation is not divisive. In fact, electing Councilors by District creates a city council that is transparent and accountable to its neighborhoods. Councilors master the skills of consensus-building and compromise. District representation requires our Mayor and City Councilors to have a balanced conversation regarding critical issues that affect, not only the entire city, but each of us wherever we live.

Would you like to know your City Councilor? Would you feel better represented if you knew who to approach with concerns about: city finances, parks and recreation, city roads and sidewalks, street lighting, natural resources, sustainability, code violations, on-going and future development and public safety? While all of these might affect the entire city, sooner than later they could affect only you and your neighborhood.

Re-establishing Districts provides an advocacy for each citizen that is currently missing. Electing Councilors by District balances representation throughout the City and opens the door of opportunity for the next generation of leaders.

Measure 26-141, Mayor at Large; Councilors by District is the right measure at the right time for the City of Gresham. Vote YES on Measure 26-141.

Respectfully,
John H. Kilian, Gresham Councilor
Paul Warr-King, Gresham Councilor

(This information furnished by John H. Kilian)

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CITY OF GRESHAM

Measure 26-141

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

VOTE NO 26-141

Dear Gresham resident,

Six years ago when I first sought the office of mayor, I promised you that I would always "call them as I see them," and that you would never have to guess where I stood on an issue. I have worked very hard to do just that and to keep an open door for you, the people I represent.

Under my administration we have increased citizen involvement and have worked hard to be responsive to ALL of Gresham. Nearly everyone who calls or emails my office gets a response. This is how it should be.

The proponents of this measure would have you believe that no one is being represented and that everyone is disenfranchised. You know better. We have worked too hard on too many issues to believe this. The best part about being YOUR mayor is that we often work together to solve issues that affect you and your family.

Right now you have six councilors that work for the common good of all of Gresham. You get to vote for ALL six of them. Under the districts measure, you would only be able to vote for one councilor even though ALL six of them can affect you. I think it is crazy to give up your right to vote.

Right now you elect, from the entire city, people you believe to be the best candidates to serve. Under the districts measure you would have to vote for ONE person from some imaginary or gerrymandered line.

I agree with the Citizen Charter Review Committee who studied this issue and did not recommend a change. They got it right.

We have worked too hard to go backwards. Do not let Chicago style politics infiltrate your city government. We are better than political horse trading and false lines on a map!

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

Shane Bemis

Mayor of Gresham

(This information furnished by Shane Bemis)

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ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

Council Argument in Opposition

Measure 26-141 asks Gresham voters to sacrifice your right to vote for all of the city councilors who set policy for the city. We believe this is a bad idea, and here's why:

- **Districts would reduce your voice in Gresham elections.** Under the current at-large system, you get to vote for three councilors every two years. Under districts, you'd get to vote for just one every four years. Your voice will be diminished.
- **Districts would limit the community's ability to be represented by the very best candidates from across the city.** Councilors are unpaid volunteers, making it difficult to attract candidates. Finding candidates to run in a limited area such as a district would create an even greater challenge with a smaller pool of candidates to choose from. The quality of the city's leadership will suffer.
- **The Outlook Editorial Board agrees: "The members of the Gresham City Council obviously approach their duties with deep conviction for the entire city. We have no sense that any neighborhood benefits at the expense of another... Gresham's history supports the decision that led to the election of councilors to at-large positions... put us down for a "no" vote." Outlook Editorial, The Outlook, 3/24/12**
- **Citizen engagement is strong under an at-large system:** We're still a small city, and there are many ways for citizens to serve the community. In 2011, 2,800 residents volunteered over 14,000 hours of their time in neighborhood associations and citizen committees, making Gresham a stronger, more engaged community.

It's time to focus on the issues Gresham really cares about: public safety, supporting local businesses, creating jobs, and enhancing Gresham's high quality of life. With limited resources, we have to come together as a community to solve our common challenges. This measure would pull us apart.

Vote NO on 26-141.

Gresham Council President Karylenn Echols
Councilor Josh Fuhrer
Councilor Lori Stegmann

(This information furnished by Joan Albertson, One Gresham)

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CITY OF GRESHAM

Measure 26-141

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

We believe you should have a say in electing all of your city councilors. Your voice is important to the direction of our community, and some are trying to stifle it. We think that's wrong.

- **Districts limit voters' choice:** The current at-large system allows you to vote for all city councilors. Districts would only allow you to vote for one councilor every four years.
- **A recent poll showed that 77% of Gresham residents are satisfied with their city government.** Despite limited resources, we have competent leadership on the city council that engages the community and stretches your tax dollars further than any of the 10 largest cities in Oregon. The city council works together to create jobs, provide top-notch police and fire services, and make Gresham the most livable community possible. Districts would jeopardize their ability to work as a unified council to solve our community's challenges.
- Districts would limit you to electing just one councilor instead of all six, even though all six have a significant impact on the direction of the community. We believe in accountability in government, which means that all council members should be accountable to all citizens of the city they represent.
- "They shouldn't try to fix what isn't broken. The current six members of the council and the mayor are elected on a citywide basis, and we've seen no evidence over the past three decades to indicate that there's anything wrong with the at-large system. We believe it's much better to draw from the larger pool of candidates that will be available citywide. We fear that the [districting] proposal could be a distraction from the important business the council is dealing with today." -The Outlook, 6-22-12

Don't throw away your right to vote for 80% of those who represent you.

Please join us, and **vote NO on 26-141**. Keep your right to vote for your entire city council.

Learn more at www.onegresham.org.

(This information furnished by Joan Albertson, One Gresham)

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ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

-*Supporters Argument in Opposition

Please join your friends and neighbors in voting **NO on 26-141**. We believe in One Gresham.

Shane T. Bemis, Mayor of Gresham
 Karylinn Echols, Gresham Council President
 Josh Fuhrer, Gresham City Councilor
 Lori Stegmann, Gresham City Councilor
 David Widmark, Gresham City Councilor
 Carol Nielsen-Hood, Former Gresham City Councilor
 Dave Shields, former Gresham City Councilor
 Thomas Griffith, Former City Councilor
 Greg Matthews, State Representative
 Brian Lessler, President/CEO, PDG Construction Services, Inc.
 Carla C. Piluso, Gresham Police Chief, retired
 Joan Albertson, Charter Review Committee
 Harrison Braaksma, Charter Review Committee
 Chris Lyons, Charter Review Committee
 Travis Stovall
 John Sage
 Bess R. Wills
 Jim Hood
 Michael Patrick
 Sue Piazza
 Sherrill Widmark
 Kirk French
 Stan Morris
 Sue O'Halloran
 Michael McClintic
 Mardella Stevens (Mardy)
 Joyce E. Miller
 Timothy M. Welch
 Matthew Norquist
 Martin L. Stone
 Tom Hughes, Metro Council President

"**They shouldn't try to fix what isn't broken.** With all the economic and budgetary issues Gresham has in front of it right now, this does not strike us as the best time to bring up the question of whether city councilors should be elected by district in this city. It's hard enough already to find people who are willing to spend many, many hours each week in an unpaid position that also has a tendency to invite criticism and personal attacks from those who disagree with council decisions." *Outlook Editorial, The Outlook, 6/22/12*

We believe in OneGresham ... United.
 Learn more at www.onegresham.org.

(This information furnished by Joan Albertson, One Gresham)

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CITY OF GRESHAM

Measure 26-141

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

Revising the structure of Gresham's city council around the parochial, district concept presented in Ballot Measure 26-141 is a bad idea for our community. Webster defines parochialism as "*the state of being parochial: especially: selfish pettiness or narrowness (as of interests, opinions or views)*". Under this six district structure, government decision making will grind to recurring stalemates as new districts' councilors, behold to their local constituency, will lose perspective on city-wide and regional goals and economic development.

Our current city council structure is a highly effective body of representation at large. It allows dedicated leaders from throughout the community to serve governance needs. The current council structure is very accessible and responsive to ALL individual residents, neighborhood associations and the business community. Under their leadership Gresham has achieved an unprecedented level of cooperation with our 3 neighboring cities resulting in the first regional, joint transportation study, funded by Metro. The outcome is an East County transportation plan, addressing the critical north south corridor improvements required to keep our region livable over future decades. District representation would be a giant step backwards, resulting in a council focused inwardly on small aspects of the community rather than forward thinking, big picture governance for the benefit of the entire community.

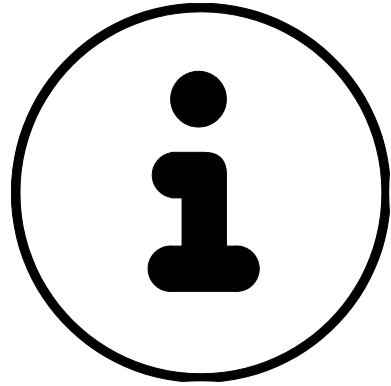
Creation of new district boundaries will obliterate current neighborhood associations' influence and ability to affect planning commission and city council decisions. Who or what interests will determine the boundaries of these 6 new districts? The formulation of these 6 districts have no assurance of increasing ethnic, economic, or demographic representation in city government. Presently all members of the community have an opportunity to vote for all council positions, not just a roster of candidates from an arbitrary district boundary.

Maintaining the current council structure is critical to the business environment and economic vitality of Gresham. District representation will negatively impact our ongoing ability to stimulate economic development and create new jobs in this local economy.

Brian Lessler

(This information furnished by Brian Lessler, PDG Construction Services, Inc)

The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by Multnomah County, nor does the county warrant the accuracy or truth of any statements made in the argument.



Find your voting information

In order to determine whether your ballot was received by your county election official please visit www.OregonVotes.gov and go to **My Vote** where you can track your ballot.

CITY OF LAKE OSWEGO

Measure 3-405

BALLOT TITLE

LAKE OSWEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY BOND

QUESTION: Shall the City of Lake Oswego issue general obligation bonds not to exceed \$14 million for a new public library? 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 the City to issue general obligation bonds not to exceed \$14 million to pay a portion of the cost of the design and construction of a new library of approximately 60,000 square feet in the vicinity of First and B Avenue, replacing the existing library at Fourth and D. The new library would include more space for library collections, study and computer areas, and areas for adult, teen, and children's programming. The library would also include community meeting and program space. The City plans to augment bond proceeds with other resources such as urban renewal funds and existing library capital funds to pay for the balance of the library costs and associated parking and site improvements. If the maximum bond amount is issued, the estimated property tax rate would be 17 cents per \$1,000 of Assessed Value (not Real Market Value). The bonds would mature in not more than 25 years.

If the measure is approved, bonds would be issued and repaid over 25 years or less. Property owners would pay an estimated 17 cents for every \$1,000 of Assessed Value (not Real Market Value). Bond proceeds would be used solely for capital improvements and not used to pay for library staff or the operation of the library.

Submitted by
Catherine Schneider
City Recorder
City of Lake Oswego

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Growth in Library Use

The existing 27,100 square foot Lake Oswego Public Library, located at Fourth and D in the First Addition Neighborhood, opened in 1983. Five years later, the City Council-appointed Library Growth Task Force concluded that the building had reached maximum capacity. According to the 2011 Oregon Public Library Statistical Report, since the current facility opened the number of library cardholders has increased from 17,000 to 29,778; reference questions have increased from 19,651 to 62,494; circulation has risen from approximately 444,000 to 1,350,000; and the library's collection has grown from 104,276 to 237,180 items. From 1987 to 2012, library materials circulation per capita has risen from 10.2 to 35.3. The Library has an average of approximately 1,000 visitors per day.

Description of the Proposed Library

The proposed 60,000 square foot library will be located at First Street and B Avenue in downtown Lake Oswego on a site owned by the Lake Oswego Redevelopment Agency. The new library would provide additional space for library collections and multi-media library materials; areas for adult, teen, and children's programming; study and computer areas; multi-purpose community meeting rooms; and work space for staff and volunteers. A citizen task force will participate in the design of the new library.

Project Financing

Voter approval of this measure would allow the City of Lake Oswego to issue up to \$14 million in general obligation bonds to fund a portion of the cost of a new public library. The preliminary estimated cost of the library and associated parking is \$35 million, excluding site acquisition costs. Bond proceeds would be added to other funding sources including up to \$18 million of urban renewal funds, approximately \$2 million of Clackamas County Library District and City library capital funds, and other sources such as donations and proceeds from the sale of the existing library property. The new library would be a component of a First Street North Anchor project that could include other uses, such as residential and retail space, and public parking to serve general downtown parking needs. Bond proceeds will be used only to fund the new library.

No arguments AGAINST this measure were filed.

CITY OF LAKE OSWEGO

Measure 3-405

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Our Lake Oswego library is the most heavily used public building in the city; about 30,000 citizens have library cards. It's an educational and cultural resource for all ages. The current library building is too small and cannot be expanded where it sits. Fortunately the City owns property on First and B that is ideal for a two-story, 60,000 square foot library.

A new library will have room for books and other media we now have to discard simply because there is no space for them, not because they aren't being used.

A new library will have space for programs on the arts, authors, and music. More than 22,000 people attended one of 600 programs offered last year. Many of those had to be held amidst the reading room while patrons looked for materials or tried to study.

A new library will have a children's room large enough so families aren't turned away from popular programs. In addition to more room for children's books, we could have a larger space for story time.

A new library will have a teen area full of materials that speak to their interests and the life skills young adults need to master. An attractive area, filled with books written for them, can keep teens reading and help them excel in school and life.

A new library will have rooms for small group meetings and rooms for tutoring or quiet study. Many students are required to do group school assignments and there's no better place than the library.

Our new library will be the community's living room in the town's civic heart -- efficient, comfortable, and convenient. With twice the number of parking spaces and transit near by, with meeting rooms and twice as much space for people and materials, the library can continue to be our favorite public amenity.

YES -- MEASURE #3-405

Endorsed by the Friends of the Lake Oswego Library Board and Lake Oswego Chamber of Commerce

(This information furnished by Darrel Condra, Yes LOPL)

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Forgot Your Secrecy Envelope?



Relax.

**If you forget to enclose the
secrecy envelope, your
ballot will still count.**

**You can open the return
envelope and use the
secrecy envelope or just
deliver it without the
secrecy envelope.**

**Election workers will
preserve the privacy of your
ballot.**

CITY OF LAKE OSWEGO

Measure 3-406

BALLOT TITLE

BOONES FERRY ROAD BOND ISSUE

QUESTION: Shall the City of Lake Oswego issue general obligation bonds not to exceed \$5 million for Boones Ferry Road Improvements? 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 the City of Lake Oswego to issue general obligation bonds not exceeding \$5 million to pay for a portion of the cost of design, right of way acquisition and construction for Boones Ferry Road Improvements from Madrona to Oakridge/Reese, consistent with the 2008 Lake Grove Village Center Plan, including:

- Four vehicular travel lanes
- Landscaped medians with turn lane improvements
- New sidewalks with street trees, lighting, street furniture, and landscaping
- Additional and improved pedestrian crosswalks
- Bike lanes
- Improved storm drainage systems
- Undergrounding of utilities

The improvements also include a signalized pedestrian crossing at Lanewood near Lake Grove Elementary School.

The total project cost is estimated at \$25.4 million. Funding includes bond proceeds, urban renewal funds and other funding sources. If the maximum bond amount is issued, it is anticipated that property taxes would increase by 6 cents per \$1,000 of Assessed Value (not Real Market Value). The bonds would be payable in not more than 25 years.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

This measure has been referred to the voters by the Lake Oswego City Council. Voter approval of this measure would authorize the City of Lake Oswego to issue up to \$5 million in general obligation bonds for improvements to Boones Ferry Road within the Lake Grove Village Center, one of Lake Oswego's two designated town centers.

Project Defined in 2008 Lake Grove Village Center Plan

The 2008 Lake Grove Village Center Plan was developed over a six-year period with public input from a Council-appointed citizen advisory committee, public meetings, and hearings. The Plan identifies a number of deficiencies with existing conditions and calls for Boones Ferry Road improvements relating to traffic movement and safety, vehicle access to businesses, stormwater management, sidewalks and pedestrian crosswalks, bicycle lanes, vehicular turn lanes, and adjustment of driveway spacing to reduce conflicts between turning vehicles and through traffic, pedestrians and bicycles.

Project Description

The Boones Ferry Road Improvements bond project includes design, right of way acquisition and construction for Boones Ferry Road Improvements from Madrona to Oakridge/Reese, consistent with the 2008 Lake Grove Village Center Plan.

Improvements include:

- Four vehicular travel lanes
- Landscaped medians with vehicular turn lane improvements
- New sidewalks with street trees, lighting, street furniture, and landscaping
- Two new signalized intersections and two new pedestrian crosswalks
- Bike lanes in each direction
- Improved storm drainage systems
- Undergrounding of utilities

The improvements also include a signalized pedestrian crossing at Lanewood near Lake Grove Elementary School.

Project Financing

Based on engineering studies, the total cost for the improvements is estimated at \$25.4 million. Project funding includes the \$5 million in bond proceeds, with the balance to be financed from other sources, including future urban renewal funds.

Property Tax Rate

If the maximum bond amount is issued, it is anticipated that property taxes would increase by 6 cents for every \$1,000 of Assessed Value. The bonds would be payable in not more than 25 years.

Submitted by

Catherine Schneider
City Recorder
City of Lake Oswego

No arguments AGAINST this measure were filed.

CITY OF LAKE OSWEGO

Measure 3-406

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Safety Brings Success

Lake Oswego has two commercial centers – its Downtown which has become an inviting mix of commerce, urban residences and public spaces, knit together with attractive streets and cross-walks. Then there is Lake Grove, where Boones Ferry Road cuts an **unsafe**, impassable, unattractive, and pedestrian unfriendly swath between privately funded progress on each side.

Local businesses are making bold, attractive investments in the future of Lake Grove and the City. With the passage of measure 3-406, a modest civic investment (\$18 per year on a \$300,000 home), Lake Grove will emerge as a vibrant and accessible town center making crossing **safe**, shopping a pleasure, and boosting property values in the commercial district and adjacent neighborhoods, just as the revitalization of Downtown created value, not only on "A" Avenue but also in the First Addition, Forest Hills, and Evergreen neighborhoods.

As publicly minded citizens, it is up to us to underwrite the public infrastructure that allows the neighborhoods where we do business, shop, and dine to flourish. We owe it to ourselves to create **safe** crossings for shoppers, diners, and the students walking and biking to our neighborhood schools.

Now is the time to bring **safety** and success to Lake Grove. Vote yes for measure 3-406.

John W. "Jack"
Lundeen,
President Lake
Grove Business
Association

Jack D.
Hoffman,
Mayor of Lake
Oswego

Donna Jordan,
City Councilor
Lake Oswego

Bill Tierney,
Lake Oswego
City Councilor

Sally Moncrieff,
Lake Oswego
City Councilor

Chuck O'Leary,
CEO
Lake Oswego
Chamber of
Commerce

Michael J. Buck,
Lake Grove
Property Owner

Scot Siegel,
President
Siegel Planning
Services LLC

Greg Hume,
President
Hume Myers
Tenant Counsel

S. H. Smither,
97034/97035
Property Owner

George
Psihogios,
Psihogios
Properties LLC

Joe Buck,
Lake Grove
Business Owner

Doug DiCola,
Lake Grove Allstate

Ken Sandblast

Debra Siegel,
Kumon
Math/Reading of
Lake Grove

Eric Meyer

James A. Cooke

Kent Collins

Michael S.
Keeler

Reginald F. "Vic"
Keeler

Nancy
LaBonte



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

(This information furnished by John W. "Jack" Lundeen, Lake Grove Business Association)

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CITY OF PORTLAND

Measure 26-145

BALLOT TITLE

AMENDS CHARTER: CHANGES PROVISIONS OF FIRE POLICE DISABILITY RETIREMENT SYSTEM.

QUESTION: Shall limited provisions of the retirement and disability system for police and fire be changed?

SUMMARY: This measure would amend the City Charter for the Fire Police Disability Retirement System (FPDR) by:

- Clarifying the calculation of retirement benefits to include only pay a member received in the year preceding retirement.
- Changing eligibility for disability benefits for new members after completion of six consecutive months of employment as a sworn employee.
- Changing the calculation of service credit to not include post-employment service by another employer.
- Giving the Administrator, with the approval of the Board of Trustees, authority to settle claims.
- Defining service requirements for occupational disability due to heart disease and nonservice-connected disability and death benefits.
- Changing retirement benefits for part-time employees.
- Providing disability benefits on a monthly or bi-weekly basis.
- Providing interim disability benefits during the period between the application and approval of benefits.
- Clarifying language regarding occupational disability benefits.
- Changing from 10 years to 5 years the vesting period for nonservice-connected death benefits.

This amendment is expected to decrease FPDR taxpayer liabilities by \$46 Million over a 25 year period.

This measure would give the FPDR Administrator the ability to settle claims with either the approval of the FPDR Board of Trustees or under guidelines established by the Board of Trustees.

This measure clarifies service requirements for nonservice connected disability and death benefits and occupational disability benefits due to heart disease.

This measure changes the retirement benefit calculation for part-time employees so that a member receives adequate credit and pay for part-time work when calculating their pension.

This measure allows members receiving disability payments to receive payments on either a bi-weekly or monthly basis depending on the duration of their disability.

This measure allows members to receive disability payments during the period their disability application is being processed and allows the FPDR to recoup the benefits paid should the claim be denied or withdrawn.

This measure clarifies language regarding occupational disability benefits.

This measure changes the vesting period for nonservice connected death benefits from 10 to 5 years.

Submitted by

Dan Saltzman
Commissioner
City of Portland

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

This measure would make changes to certain provisions of the Fire and Police Disability, Retirement and Death Benefit (FPDR) system in the Portland City Charter. The FPDR system is funded by a property tax levy. This amendment is expected to decrease taxpayer funded liabilities by \$46.6 million over a 25 year period.

This measure clarifies how retirement benefits are calculated to ensure a member receives a pension that is based on the Final Pay a member received or was entitled to receive during the year preceding their retirement. Currently, the Charter is written to allow a member to receive a larger retirement benefit depending on when the member retires by including more than a typical year's worth of salary and including lump sum payments attributable to service from years prior to the year preceding retirement. This measure corrects that by clearly defining the pay that is included in the member's Final Pay at retirement.

This measure changes the eligibility period for new members by requiring six consecutive months of service as a sworn police officer or firefighter with the City of Portland prior to entering the FPDR system. Members would be covered by the state Workers' Compensation system during this six month waiting period.

For members in the FPDR retirement system, this measure removes from retirement calculations credit for employment by another entity in the Oregon Public Employees Retirement System (PERS). This ensures that retirement benefits will be calculated only based on service a member provides in the City of Portland and will not increase a member's FPDR pension based on service with another PERS employer.

No arguments AGAINST this measure were filed.

CITY OF PORTLAND

Measure 26-145

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

MEASURE 26-145 SAVES TAXPAYER MONEY

"Save(s) taxpayers about \$47 million in pension costs for police and firefighters over the next 25 years."

The Oregonian - August 9, 2012

"None of the measure is designed to undercut faith in those public servants who court risk in performing their duties. But they correctly take aim at trimming where justified to reduce fiscal risk to the city."

The Oregonian - July 31, 2012

"Passage by voters in November is essential if Portland is to bring benefit levels into conformity with public benefits elsewhere ..."

The Oregonian - August 9, 2012

"FPDR needs correction this year by Portland voters. The city's revenue is finite."

The Oregonian - July 31, 2012

VOTE YES on 26-145

- Correct unintended spikes in pensions
- Saves taxpayers at least \$47 million over the next 25 years
- Protects firefighters and police officers
- Prevents abuse of the system

"Twenty-six cents of every property tax dollar in the City of Portland pays for police and firefighter pensions. Measure 26-145 saves taxpayers money while providing a fair retirement system to our public safety officers."

Portland City Commissioner Dan Saltzman

(This information furnished by Dan Saltzman)

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Election Office Hours

November 2012 General Election

Multnomah County Elections
1040 SE Morrison Street, Portland

Regular office hours 8 AM – 5 PM.
Monday - Friday

Special Hours

- Sat. Nov. 3, 2012 10 AM – 2 PM
- Mon. Nov. 5, 2012 8 AM – 6 PM
- Tue. Nov. 6, 2012 7 AM – 8 PM
(Election Day)

CITY OF PORTLAND

Measure 26-146

BALLOT TITLE

RESTORE SCHOOL ARTS, MUSIC EDUCATION; FUND ARTS THROUGH LIMITED TAX.

QUESTION: Shall Portland restore arts, music for schools and fund arts through income tax of 35 dollars per year?

SUMMARY: This measure creates a limited income tax of \$35 for each adult income-earning Portland resident. Individuals in households below federal poverty level pay no tax.

Tax can only be used for:

- Arts and Music Teachers: Funds to hire arts and music teachers for kindergarten through 5th grade students at local public schools attended by Portland students. Distribution of funds based on school enrollment.

- Arts Access: Remaining funds for grants to nonprofit arts organizations, other nonprofits and schools. Will fund grants to provide high-quality arts access for kindergarten through 12th grade students and to make arts, culture experiences available to underserved communities. Funds administered by Regional Arts and Culture Council (RACC).

Accountability measures include:

- Administrative costs are capped.
- Expenditures subject to oversight by citizen committee.
- Independent financial audits of RACC and School District expenditures.

Estimated funds raised will be \$12 million annually. The tax is effective beginning with 2012 tax year, with payment due when state taxes are due.

Remaining funds will be awarded as grants to non-profit organizations and schools to provide high-quality arts access for Kindergarten through 12th grade students and to make arts and culture experiences available to underserved communities. Administered by the Regional Arts & Culture Council, grants will be made to qualifying Portland-based non-profit arts organizations that demonstrate artistic excellence, provide service to the community, show administrative and fiscal competence and provide a wide range of high quality arts programs to the public. Grants will also be awarded to schools and non-profits that provide arts programs specifically for schoolchildren and underserved communities.

Measure 26-146 will generate the revenue to support the Arts Education and Access Fund through an income tax of \$35 per adult, income-earning resident of Portland. Residents living in households at or below the federal poverty limit will be exempt: they will not pay this tax.

ACCOUNTABILITY

An Independent Citizen Oversight committee that is representative of the City's diverse communities will be formed to annually review Fund expenditures and report the impact of the Arts Education and Access Fund to the public. Audits will be made available to the public annually.

After the expenditure of capped start-up costs, administrative costs of this Fund are limited to 5 percent or less of Gross Revenues over a five year period.

Submitted by

Sam Adams

Mayor

City of Portland

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

BACKGROUND

Research shows that art and music are an essential part of a basic curriculum for students, especially in the elementary school years. Studies link access to arts education to improved attendance, increased participation in math and science, higher test scores, increased graduation rates and college admittance. The impact is even greater among low-income students and students of color.

Access to arts education for public school students in the City of Portland has declined steeply. For example, over the last five years Parkrose and Centennial School Districts have cut their art and music teaching staff by half. Portland Public Schools has dropped all arts instruction in 22 schools in just two years.

- In 2011, 18% of Portland elementary schools provide art instruction compared to 83% nationally.
- 58% of Portland elementary schools provide music instruction compared to 94% nationally.
- 28% of all Portland schools provide no arts instruction of any kind including music, drama, dance or visual arts. This is compared to just 3% of schools nationally.
- There are 11,596 Portland children attending schools that do not have any art, dance, drama, or music instruction.

HOW MEASURE 26-146 WORKS

The Arts Education and Access Fund will first go to all schools that serve Portland students within the six Portland school districts (Centennial, David Douglas, Parkrose, Portland Public, Reynolds, and Riverdale) to pay for certified arts education teachers for Kindergarten through 5th grade (K-5). Districts will receive the funds required to hire and maintain one certified arts teacher per every 500 students so that every K-5 student within the City of Portland will have access to arts education.

CITY OF PORTLAND

Measure 26-146

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

**Vote YES on Measure 26-146!
Our Children Deserve a Better Future**

YES Because Passing This Measure Will Ensure That Every Elementary Student in Portland Receives An Arts Education

Arts education opportunities are a key part of a well-rounded education. And when it comes to arts and music in our schools Portland has fallen far behind the nation. Today in Portland there are 11,596 children attending schools that do not have any art, dance, drama, and music instruction.

We know that children who are involved in the arts are:

- 4 times more likely to be recognized for academic achievement
- 4 times more likely to participate in a math and science fair
- 3 times more likely to be elected to class office within their schools

YES to Improving Access to the Arts Regardless of Age, Income or Geography

The arts shape neighborhoods, build communities, and make our imaginations soar. Last year Portland residents and visitors had **over 2 million arts experiences** through non-profit arts organizations. **Nearly half** of these arts experiences were offered **free of charge**.

YES to Supporting Established Arts Organizations City-Wide to Bring Arts, Culture and Creativity to Life for Every Portland Resident

In 2011, Portland's nonprofit arts organizations supported **8,529 full-time equivalent jobs**, generating **\$195.4 million in household income** to local residents, and **\$21.4 million in local and state revenue**.

WITH YOUR YES VOTE:

The City of Portland will restore arts and music education to every elementary school in Portland's six school districts by providing stable, long-term funding for certified arts and music teachers and grants for arts access programs. This fund will also support established arts organizations citywide to bring arts, culture and creativity to life for every Portland resident.

The fund is provided for by a limited income tax of \$35 for income-earning adult residents of Portland. Any taxpayer at or under the federal poverty level will be exempted and pay nothing.

Vote YES on 26-146!

(This information furnished by Jessica Jarratt Miller, Schools & Arts Together)

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Local Teachers Support Measure 26-146.

The Portland Association of Teachers supports this measure.

As teachers, we know the difference arts education can make in a child's life. Arts unlock talent, increase focus, and nurture curiosity in our students. Regular opportunities to experience the arts promote students' success in all of our classrooms. Children in our city depend on our public schools for these opportunities.

Due to a lack of stable and adequate funding for schools, arts education is in decline in our city.

Access to arts and music education should not be a privilege for a few. It should be available to all students in our community. Art and music help children reach their full potential.

The arts allow students to develop skills and follow passions, connect them to the school community, city community, and in many cases keep students enthusiastic about school.

Measure 26-146 will restore arts and music education to our schools.

Over 35,000 students will benefit from this measure.

By creating a stable and sustainable fund, Measure 26-146 will ensure that there are Certified Arts Teachers in 63 elementary schools in Portland Public School District, 8 schools in Reynolds, 7 schools in Centennial, 10 schools in David Douglas, 4 schools in Parkrose, and 1 school in Riverdale.

Please join us in ensuring that all Portland students benefit from a well-rounded curriculum. Vote yes on Measure 26-146.

(This information furnished by Jessica Jarratt Miller, Schools & Arts Together)

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CITY OF PORTLAND

Measure 26-146

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Parents Support Arts Education and Access Funding for Our Children!

Join Us in Voting Yes on Measure 26-146!

Arts Education has declined steeply in Portland's elementary schools and we have fallen way behind the national average.

In a city that prides itself on creativity, our children are now facing a public education with fewer opportunities to experience art and music than we had as children.

This is unacceptable.

Research shows that we can raise test scores, increase graduation rates, and inspire our children to excel in school simply by ensuring they receive an arts education.

THE LACK OF ARTS EDUCATION IS A SERIOUS PROBLEM for PORTLAND'S CHILDREN & FUTURE:

Portland is home to six school districts. In the last five years, two of them (Parkrose and Centennial) have cut their arts and music teaching staff by half. In the past two years, Portland Public Schools has dropped all arts instruction in 22 schools.

Today only **18% of Portland elementary schools provide art instruction** compared to 83% nationally.

58% of Portland elementary schools provide music instruction compared to 94% nationally.

And **28% of all Portland schools provide no arts instruction of any kind** including music, drama, dance, or visual arts, compared to just 3% of schools nationally.

We are worried about what this means for our children's future. And what this means for the future of our City.

We are asking you to help us fix this problem by Voting Yes on 26-146.

For pennies a day, we can provide a lifetime of opportunities for our children and bring new creative experiences to our community.

Please join us in Vote YES on 26-146!

Michael Aziz
Kimberly Aziz
Michelle Brandstait
Emily Brod
Ann Marie Chinn
Lydia Collins
Grant Crowley
Mattye Dahl
Sara Eddie
Julia Epstein
Paul Fyfield
Anne Haas
Elizabeth Holah
Jude Kassar
James Kistner
Heather MacNeill
Odie Miller
Julia O'Neill
Estia P. Papaioannou
Meg K. Walsh
Heather Whiteford
John Workinger
Jo Ann Workinger

(This information furnished by Jessica Jarratt Miller, Schools & Arts Together)

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Dear Voters,

I am a product of the Portland public school's music program. Over 60 years ago, I began my violin studies at Ainsworth Grade School in southwest Portland, going on to Lincoln High School and then to Portland State University.

I had the opportunity to audition for and won a position at the Oregon symphony, where I survived for 42 years, just retiring this May. My late husband, Eugene Kaza [the inspiration for the film "Mr. Holland's Opus"], was also a musician in the Oregon Symphony, and later a music teacher at Grant High School and Wilson High School.

We've been advocates of education of young people all of our lives, because it produces civilized young people who grow into good citizens. Those people who are capable of becoming leaders and good community citizens.

I began the violin studies early, but also found that it helped me in other areas of my school studies. I became interested in many other aspects of the community. I now serve as President of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Youth Symphony, I am on the executive board of Local 99 American Federation of Musicians, and President of the Music Education Assistance Project. I have come full circle, coming in as a musician as a child, performing thousands of concerts and reaching out to the young people in the school systems.

If you saw "Mr. Holland's Opus," you were probably saddened when the schools music program was cancelled. You may have thought "Someone should do something about this!"

This is our chance.

I strongly believe that music education and arts belong to the young people of the future and request that you support this measure.

Thank you.

Vote Yes on Measure 26-146.

Mary Ann Coggins Kaza

(This information furnished by Jessica Jarratt Miller, Schools & Arts Together)

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CITY OF PORTLAND

Measure 26-146

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

The Regional Arts & Culture Council Asks You to Join Us in Supporting Measure 26-146

For twenty years, arts organizations and community leaders have worked to create a dedicated fund to support the arts and arts education in Portland, to ensure our children have a complete education and our community is a vibrant place to live and work.

Arts Enliven Our City, Boost Our Economy, Build Community

A strong city is one where every child has the opportunity to use a paint brush and write a poem. Where dynamic, diverse arts organizations contribute to our daily lives. We want every resident to have the chance to experience a play that opens a new mind; a dance that sets imaginations on fire; a concert that melts hearts; and a sculpture that shapes a future.

The Research Agrees

Research links access to arts and music education to improved test scores, increased graduation rates and college admittance. The numbers are even more dramatic for low-income students and students of color. And employers point to arts education for developing a workforce equipped with the creative thinking and problem solving skills necessary to compete in an innovation economy. Businesses also rely on a vibrant arts community to attract and retain creative workers.

An Incredible Value

For just pennies a day, we can provide arts instruction in every Portland elementary school and improve access to the arts to every resident, regardless of age, income or geography. This fund will also support established arts organizations city-wide that play a key role in the education of our children, the economic vitality of our region, and the livability of our city, by providing 2 million arts experiences each year, 800,000 at no charge and over 200,000 for school-age children.

Vote YES on 26-146!

Join your community to restore needed arts and music to our schools and increase access to arts, culture, and creativity citywide.

Eloise Damrosch, Executive Director
Regional Arts & Culture Council

(This information furnished by Eloise Damrosch, Regional Arts & Culture Council)

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Please Vote YES on Measure 26-146 and Bring our Arts and Music Teachers Back to Our Elementary Schools.

We are all elementary school students in Portland, but we don't all have the same access to arts and music in our schools. Some schools offer no art, music, dance or drama at all.

And this isn't fair.

When we experience success in the arts, we appreciate the results of effort and persistence, and are more motivated to apply ourselves to other learning tasks.

Arts education has been in steady decline in Portland over the last five years and we are the ones who suffer from that.

Those of us who have access to arts and music teachers in our schools and benefit from community-based arts programs in our classrooms and communities are more likely to:

- Have higher GPA's and SAT scores
- Stay in school and graduate
- Go to college
- Participate in community service
- Participate in math and science fairs
- Get elected to class office
- Have greater success in math and reading
- Have increased self-esteem
- Have more positive interactions with peers and adults

We believe that every child in Portland should have the same opportunities to learn, to thrive and to succeed.

Now is your chance to make a real change; to help us - **your children, your grandchildren, your neighbors, your friends, your students** – have a better future, in school, in our communities, and in the workforce.

We can't vote but you can.

PLEASE VOTE YES on Measure 26-146 to restore certified arts teachers to every Portland elementary school, to improve access to the arts for every resident, and to support arts organizations.

Sam Aziz
Schuyler Berry
Victory Brewster
Halle Chinn-Raicht
Simon Collins
Maci Dahl
Violet Holah
Olivia Holah
Adell Kistner
Neely Miller
Quinlyn Walsh
Alder Whiteford
Willem Workinger
Jolian Workinger

(This information furnished by Jessica Jarratt Miller, Schools & Arts Together)

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CITY OF PORTLAND

Measure 26-146

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Vote YES on 26-146 and Improve our Schools, Enhance Our Communities and Strengthen Our Economy

Good for the City

The arts improve our education system, revitalize local neighborhoods and businesses and fuel the innovation that drives our creative sector.

Further, arts and culture enhance the quality of life for all who live here – helping ensure that businesses can attract new talent, hotels and restaurants can stay full and residents will continue to love where they live.

Good for the Economy

Portland's arts and culture supports jobs, spurs tourism and generates event-related spending that pumps revenue into the local economy.

In fact, Portland's nonprofit arts and culture is a \$235.5 million industry, generating \$195.4 million in household income to local residents and supporting 8,529 full-time equivalent jobs.

A Workforce for the 21st Century

Studies show that children who have an arts education do better in school, go to college at a higher rate, and are more engaged civically. 72 percent of business leaders say creativity is of high importance when hiring.

Best Value for Your Tax Dollar

For just \$35 per year, we can restore arts and music education in Portland's six school districts, improve access to the arts and support non-profit arts organizations that bring arts, culture, and creativity to life for every Portland resident.

Accountability Built In

Through a strict audit process, a citizen oversight committee will ensure that dollars intended for this fund are not diverted to other projects.

Vote YES on 26-146!

Good for Schools. Good for Businesses. Good for Residents.

Nik Blosser, Celilo Group Media
 Mark Edlen, Gerding Edlen
 Eric Fridenwald-Fishman, Metropolitan Group
 Maria I. Garcia Seabold, Garcia Seabold Investments LLC, Owner
 Brian Gard, Gard Communications
 Jacob Johnson, PREM Group
 Mike Lindberg, President, CML Communications
 Ron Pernick, Clean Edge, Inc.
 Dan Wieden, Wieden + Kennedy

(This information furnished by Jessica Jarratt Miller, Schools & Arts Together)

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Grandparents Support Arts Education and Access Funding for all Portland Children!

We urge you to Vote YES on Measure 26-146!

As parents, and now grandparents, we have two generations of experience shepherding students through the public school system. We have seen first hand the benefits of arts education for our children and the terrible lack of arts education for our grandchildren.

And it is simply devastating to realize that our grandchildren will have fewer opportunities to learn, to thrive, to be inspired and to succeed in school than their parents had.

While our children had the opportunity to take classes in both art and music during their elementary school years and enjoyed regular outings to the symphony, theatre or museum with their classmates, our grandchildren face a very different reality.

Nearly half of Portland's elementary school students will only have the chance to learn an instrument if their parents can afford private lessons. And just 2 out of 10 students in our grandchildren's graduating class will have the opportunity to take even one art class during their six years of elementary school.

What's more, this does not hold true for children across the country who have, on average, much better access to both art and music in their elementary school classrooms.

We understand that students participate in the arts during their school years will outperform students who do not on virtually every measure. And we find it unacceptable for our grandchildren to be at this kind of disadvantage simply because they attend public school in Portland.

OUR GRANDCHILDREN AND YOUR GRANDCHILDREN DESERVE BETTER.

For just \$35.00 per year, we can restore art and music teachers to our elementary schools.

Please join us in **Voting YES! When You Support Arts Education for Children You Support a Brighter Future for us all.**

Mary Jo Dare
 Mike DesCamp
 Jacqueline DesCamp
 Gary D. Hanson
 Maryjane Kistner
 Geraldine Naylor
 John Stephenson
 Nancy K. Stephenson
 Connie Wu

(This information furnished by Jessica Jarratt Miller, Schools & Arts Together)

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CITY OF PORTLAND

Measure 26-146

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Local School Board Leaders Support Measure 26-146!

Vote YES to Restore Arts and Music Teachers to our Elementary Schools and Fund Community-Based Arts Programs for all of Portland's School Children.

The arts are fundamental in making our children better students and citizens.

As elected school board members, our obligation is to ensure the highest quality educational experience for all students. The arts have a central role to play in creating the well-rounded, high-achieving students who will be the citizens of the future.

All children, regardless of their family's income or neighborhood, should have access to arts and music instruction at the elementary level.

Every school district educating children in the City of Portland has fallen behind in the national average for access to certified arts instruction in our elementary schools. This is particularly troubling because research shows that access to arts education improves attendance, test scores, academic excellence in math, science and language arts as well as graduation rates. National research also shows that access to an arts education makes an even more significant difference for low-income students.

Today, Portland's public school students do not have access to the arts education – and the opportunities to learn and thrive in the school environment – that they deserve.

We can do better.

Measure 26-146 will restore arts and music education in Portland's six school districts by providing stable, long-term funding for certified arts teachers in every elementary school and grants to help schools and non-profits increase access to the arts.

This is our chance to give our kids the future they deserve.

Please VOTE YES on Measure 26-146!

Tim S. Cook, EdD
Chair, Centennial School Board

Martin González
Director, Portland Public Schools Board of Education

Kelly Morency
Director, Centennial School Board of Education

Matt Morton
Director, Portland Public Schools Board of Education

James Woods
Director, Parkrose Board of Education

(This information furnished by Jessica Jarratt Miller, Schools & Arts Together)

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Vote YES on Measure 26-146! Make Children's Theater Available to Every Child!

The arts and theater help children to learn, work together, and develop confidence and creativity. These skills are necessary for young people to thrive in today's rapidly changing world. Literature, art, music, history, and culture are not low-priority frills; they are essential to a diverse, colorful and well-rounded education.

Theater designed specifically for young audiences brings stories they have read or have not yet read to life. It creates worlds in which reality and imagination are woven together and translated into language and action.

Children who have the opportunity to participate on stage learn invaluable social skills such as learning to work with others, acute listening skills, problem solving and taking direction from others.

Vote YES on 26-146 and Bring Learning To Life!

Northwest Children's Theater and School and Oregon Children's Theatre both delivered high-quality theater arts and education experiences to over 225,000 children, teachers, and family members last year alone. While that's an impressive number, many more children in Portland lack access and opportunities to participate in great theater programs.

Vote YES on 26-146 and Give Every Child the Chance to Take the Stage!

Our theaters, and others like us, offer low ticket prices for school groups, scholarship programs, free performances for communities around Portland, lesson plans for teachers, and partnerships with community organizations to bring theater to life for children and families across our city.

Almost all adults remember band, art, singing and theater when they were in school. Sadly today, they are no longer part of every child's development. Theater is a powerful teaching tool that all children should have the opportunity to experience.

Judy Kafoury
Managing Director
Northwest Children's
Theater and School

Ross McKeen
Managing Director
Oregon Children's Theatre

(This information furnished by Jessica Jarratt Miller, Schools & Arts Together)

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CITY OF PORTLAND

Measure 26-146

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

The David Douglas Education Association strongly supports Measure 26-146.

Teachers know the positive impact that Arts and Music education makes on our students. The arts build skills that our students apply in all areas of their learning.

Over the past two years, due to the budget crisis and underfunding from the state, we have lost 102 out of 700 teaching positions in David Douglas. Despite these crippling cuts and a population where nearly 80% of our students qualify for free and reduced lunch, student achievement is up while graduation dropout rates are down. Keeping Arts and Music education is a critical foundation for continued student success and learning.

Measure 26-146 will fully fund a certified Arts educator in every K-5 school in the city of Portland.

Our students are counting on you to vote YES on Measure 25-146!

(This information furnished by Jessica Jarratt Miller, Schools & Arts Together)

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Vote YES for Measure 26-146!

It's time to restore art and music education to our schools and increase access to the arts for everyone by supporting Portland's non-profit arts organizations like the Portland Art Museum.

The arts are critical to the education of our youth, attract new businesses, inspire our creative economy, support tourism, and create a vibrant community. The Portland Art Museum provides a platform to experience the power of art.

By voting yes on Measure 26-146, we can restore arts and music education to Portland's six school districts by providing stable, long-term funding for certified arts teachers in every Portland elementary school. Measure 26-146 will also support arts organizations citywide, including the Portland Art Museum.

Currently, the Museum receives 1.8 percent of its funding through the Regional Arts and Culture Council – significantly below the national average. With the passage of this Measure that amount will grow to allow us to better serve the Portland community.

Your Museum is the largest arts education resource in our state. Last year, 50,000 children came to the Museum. We had visits from 280 schools and conducted 897 docent-led school tours. And best yet, your Museum is free for children 17 and under every day that the Museum is open.

The Portland Art Museum is committed to ensuring a strong and vibrant arts community for our children today and into the future.

Please join us in Voting Yes on Measure 26-146.

Brian Ferriso
Director and CEO

Jim Winkler
Chairman of the Board

Portland Art Museum
www.portlandartmuseum.org

(This information furnished by Jessica Jarratt Miller, Schools & Arts Together)

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CITY OF PORTLAND

Measure 26-146

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Every Child Deserves Access to an Arts Education Regardless of Income

Research shows that students who receive an arts education have a higher grade point average, higher standardized test scores, higher graduation rates and a better chance of attending college.

And for low-income students, the benefits are even more striking.

Low-income students who participate in arts classes are much more likely to attend and excel in college, obtain employment with a future, volunteer in their community and vote. Arts participation also leads to decreased delinquency and drug use, increased self-esteem, and more positive interactions with peers and adults.

Yet students in the highest poverty elementary schools are 50% less likely to have art or music classes.

Measure 26-146 will fund certified arts teachers for every public elementary school in Portland to ensure that children from low-income families have the same opportunities to succeed in school and in life as other children.

Every Resident of Portland should have the Opportunity to experience Arts and Culture in our City

Portland's non-profit arts organizations annually provide more than 2 million arts experiences and nearly half of those are offered free-of-charge. However, thousands of residents have limited access to the arts because of where they live or how much they make.

Measure 26-146 will increase access to arts and culture for every Portland resident by funding arts programs in underserved communities and supporting non-profit arts organizations that provide arts experiences to the general public at no charge.

Only Those Who Can Afford to Pay

Measure 26-146 is a \$35 income tax for adult, income-earning residents of Portland. However any resident who lives in a household at or below the federal poverty limit is exempt. Portland's lowest income residents will pay nothing.

Vote Yes on Measure 26-146.

The Arts Are Not a Luxury. Every Portland resident deserves equitable access to Portland's wealth of arts, culture and creativity.

(This information furnished by Jessica Jarratt Miller, Schools & Arts Together)

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

The Creative Advocacy Network and the CAN Action Fund urge you to Vote Yes on Measure 26-146.

Your YES Vote Will Restore Arts and Music to Our Schools and Bring the Arts to Life in Portland.

Arts, culture and creativity have the power to improve our education system, revitalize our neighborhoods, boost our economy and enhance the livability of our city.

However, Portland children no longer have access to a complete public education that includes art and music, while most Portland residents would like greater access to the arts.

Fueled by more than 10,000 supporters, 68 member organizations and the partnership of Portland's six school districts, the Creative Advocacy Network and the CAN Action Fund have developed a creative solution at a modest cost.

For \$35 per year, income-earning adult residents of Portland can restore certified arts instructors to every Portland elementary school, fund free arts programs for K-12 students and underserved communities and support the important work of Portland's non-profit arts organizations which provide 2 million arts experiences in Portland every year, more than 800,000 free of charge. Portland's lowest-income families will be exempt from this tax.

Please join the Creative Advocacy Network and the CAN Action Fund in Voting YES on Measure 26-146.

Together we can help our children and our city realize our full potential.

Creative Advocacy Network Board of Directors

Chris Coleman
Brian Ferriso
Liz Fuller
José González
Gary Homsley
Stephen Kafoury
Carole Morse
Carol R. Smith
Bob Speltz

CAN Action Fund Board of Directors

Caitlin Baggott
Chris Coleman
Liz Cannon
Eve Connell
Liz Fuller
Kevin A. Lefohn
Angela Uherbelau

(This information furnished by Chris Coleman, Creative Advocacy Network and CAN Action Fund)

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CITY OF PORTLAND

Measure 26-146

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

**Please Vote No on 26-146
(It is the absolute worst of the tax measures before you)**

26-146 makes Portland the only city in Oregon with its own income tax!

84 percent of adult Portland residents will be charged a fixed \$35 per year. Thousands of financially struggling Portland adults will be charged this \$35, including stay-at-home spouses and college students with less than \$35 in income.

26-146 is a Trojan horse, a new way to jack up City taxes!

The city auditor reports the City is spending beyond what may be sustainable, and this while the City fails to maintain existing assets such as roads. Today, the City goes outside its core function and asks for \$35 for the children; but tomorrow, maybe it's \$100 for other City purposes.

26-146 is largely unnecessary!

City arts (RACC) funding is already expanding nearly 6 percent per year (per IRS), and would balloon almost overnight. RACC would receive nearly half this measure's revenues.

26-146 helps subsidize arts and music for the 1%!

RACC helps subsidize such ticket events as Opera, attended by those more than capable of paying full cost. (The ballot title statement misleads as the underlying law only requires 5% for low income access.)

26-146 is not favorably viewed!

The Oregonian says this tax is bad. Incoming Commissioner Novick is quoted saying about it, "beyond regressive." (July 22, 2012, *Oregonian*.)

26-146 is permanent, not reviewable by voters!

Portlanders will not get to vote again, if actual results underperform.

26-146 may be also ineffective!

The underlying law still allows the Mayor and Schools(s) to cut arts and music.

26-146 creates an unethical money trail!

Charities funding the campaign in favor of this measure receive City of Portland funding. This should be illegal.

For the Taxpayer Association of Oregon,

Bob Clark,
Economist, Portlander

(This information furnished by Bob Clark, Taxpayer Association of Oregon)

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ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

VOTE NO ON MEASURE 26-146

THE BIGGEST INVASION OF PRIVACY IN THE HISTORY OF PORTLAND

Every single adult living in Portland would be required to file a tax return with the City of Portland—even if they do not file a federal or state tax return. Even if they do not have a job.

The City says: "All adult residents would be required to file the one-page form."

Portland Revenue Bureau and Office of
Management and Finance,
Arts Education and Access Income Tax, 6/12

PRYING INTO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY'S FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Portlanders exempt from the tax would have to give pages and pages of personal information to city bureaucrats to prove their exemption.

The City says: "[T]his tax needs to be based on the general rule that all residents of Portland will be presumed to be subject to the tax until records are available or can be provided that verify that they are not subject to the tax."

Portland Revenue Bureau and Office of
Management and Finance,
Arts Education and Access Income Tax, 6/12

A TAX THAT TARGETS VOTER REGISTRATION

If you register to vote in Portland, be prepared for a tax bill. The City says that voter registration records would be one of many "enforcement tools" to collect the tax.

Portland Revenue Bureau and Office of
Management and Finance,
Arts Education and Access Income Tax, 6/12

A TAX THAT IS "BEYOND REGRESSIVE"

Even with a poverty exemption, more than 60,000 Portlanders who earn less than \$35 a day would have to pay the tax.

Incoming City commissioner Steve Novick says the tax is "beyond regressive."

Steve Novick, *The Oregonian, 7/21/12*

AN UNCONSTITUTIONAL TAX

Article IX, Section 1a of the Oregon Constitution forbids this type of tax.

Voters must reject Measure 26-146.

**Eric Fruits
Portland economist and Portland Public Schools parent
NoHeadTax.com**

(This information furnished by Eric Fruits)

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CITY OF WOOD VILLAGE

Measure 26-142

BALLOT TITLE

AUTHORIZES DEVELOPMENT OF CASINO & ENTERTAINMENT CENTER IN WOOD VILLAGE

QUESTION: Shall a Casino & Entertainment Center Consistent with State Ballot Measures be developed at the former Multnomah Kennel Club?

SUMMARY: In November 2012, Oregonians vote on two measures that would permit the location of a privately-owned casino in Wood Village. If the state measures are approved, the operators would be required to invest at least \$250 million developing an entertainment and casino complex at the former Multnomah County Kennel Club site, and to pay 25% of adjusted gross revenues to the state for the purposes of fostering job growth, educational achievement, vibrant communities, protecting and improving natural environment, and supporting Oregon Indian tribes. Some of these funds would be paid to Wood Village, adjacent communities, and other programs, including law enforcement and problem gambling. The state measures and current state law also require the City's voters to separately approve the siting of a casino within the City. This ballot measure asks the City's voters to decide whether a casino complex consistent with the state ballot measures may be sited at the former Multnomah Kennel Club. The complex will also be required to obtain all necessary city permits, including land use approvals.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

At the November 2012 election, Oregonians vote on two statewide ballot measures, Ballot Measures 82 and 83, that would permit the location of a privately-owned casino in the City of Wood Village. If the state measures are approved, the operators would be required to invest at least \$250 million developing an entertainment and casino complex at the former Multnomah County Kennel Club site. The Ballot Measures would also require payment of 25% of adjusted gross revenues to the state for the purposes of fostering job growth, educational achievement, vibrant communities, protecting and improving natural environment, and supporting Oregon Indian tribes. Some of these funds would be paid to City of Wood Village, adjacent communities, and other programs, including those for law enforcement and problem gambling.

The Measures and current state law (ORS 227.172) also require the City's voters to independently approve the siting of a casino within the city limits. This statute requires the city council to refer the question of siting the casino prior to approval of land use permits for any use that would include a casino. The City Council of the city of Wood Village has therefore referred this measure to City voters.

Even if the voters approve both the State and City measures, the applicants will have to obtain approval of land use permits to site an entertainment center and casino on the Multnomah Kennel Club property. The applicants will have to demonstrate that the proposed facility will comply with all applicable requirements of the City's Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance, and other applicable City land use regulations. Such permits would be subject to the City's requirements for notice, hearing, and the opportunity for appeal. Approval of this measure or of Ballot Measure 82 and 83 would not prevent the City from denying a permit for an entertainment center and casino if the applicant fails to demonstrate that the facility will comply with all applicable City code requirements.

For the purposes of this measure, a "casino" is a facility in which casino games are played for the purposes of gambling.

This measure is limited to approval or denial of the casino and entertainment center as described in and regulated by Statewide Measures 82 and 83.

Submitted by
Jeffrey Condit
City Attorney
City of Wood Village

CITY OF WOOD VILLAGE

Measure 26-142

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

WANTED: OREGON'S BEST

It's not often that Wood Village has the chance to secure \$300 million in private investment into our city. But that's exactly what Measure 26-142 does. Large private investments create jobs, generates revenue for cities, and builds stronger communities. That is what The Grange and Measure 26-142 are all about.

CONSIDER THE ECONOMIC FACTS:

- \$300 million of new private investment in Wood Village
- \$4 million of gaming revenue goes directly to the City of Wood Village
- 3,000 jobs created for union construction of The Grange, with a two-year payroll of \$82 million
- 2,000 jobs created to run The Grange, with an annual payroll of \$70 million
- \$50 million in new revenues generated each year to support Oregon schools
- No special tax breaks or insider deals from any politician or government agency

JOIN OREGON'S BEST TODAY

As Oregonians who have been working to develop this project for several years, we want Oregon workers and businesses to benefit first.

That's why we have adopted an "Oregon's First" policy — seeking out Oregonians who can help build, operate, and supply The Grange. Learn more about the types of jobs that will be needed at The Grange, and see the lists of suppliers and vendors that will be needed at www.TheGrangeOregon.com.

At the end of the day, these measures are about finding an innovative way to create good jobs and generate funding at a time when Oregon needs it most.

Matt Rossman and Bruce Studer
Chief Co-Petitioners of Measure 26-142

**THE GRANGE: FUN FOR YOU. GOOD FOR OREGON.
YES ON Measure 26-142**

(This information furnished by Bruce Studer)

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Dear Voter,

The Grange is committed to being a good neighbor in Wood Village. This includes making sure that traffic flows well and that there is no increase in crime in the area. We are eager to work with the residents and surrounding businesses to ensure that these concerns are heard and addressed.

The Grange will ensure public safety with a 100 person security staff dedicated to the safety and security of the facilities and the area around development. In addition, revenue from The Grange will go directly to the Multnomah County Sheriff and the Oregon State Police.

On traffic, The Grange developers will be required to submit a traffic impact analysis to the City of Wood Village. This evaluation would also be reviewed by the State of Oregon, METRO and Multnomah County to ensure that it's realistic and accurate. The City of Wood Village will also require that all of The Grange facilities meet the projected traffic volumes. The Grange will be responsible for improving or altering the proposed development as necessary required by the city.

The Grange must meet these standards or we won't be able to move through Oregon's land use process.

We look forward to demonstrating our commitment to the community by creating a safe, fun experience for Oregonians and others to enjoy.

Bruce Studer
Chief Co-Petitioner

(This information furnished by Bruce Studer)

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CITY OF WOOD VILLAGE

Measure 26-142

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

WOOD VILLAGE MAYOR ASKS YOU TO VOTE YES ON 26-142

As mayor of Wood Village, I ask you to vote Yes on Measure 26-142 to help make the entertainment destination/casino happen.

The project would be at the site of the old Multnomah Kennel Club, an abandoned dog racing track with easy access to I-84. Years ago, this racetrack provided jobs for East Multnomah County and entertainment for locals and visitors. Now it sits empty and useless, doing nothing for our state or our community.

The community-oriented entertainment center and casino, will bring new life to our town. It would provide jobs with health insurance for our citizens. It would spread tourism to each of the cities around us, while also providing them with another source of revenue on a yearly basis. It could become a gathering place for community events and conventions from out of state. The rewards to our city alone would enable us to benefit our citizens in many ways.

The casino will be a good neighbor in Wood Village and surrounding cities. Funds from the casino will be dedicated to law enforcement, schools and other cities for their infrastructure and other needs.

This measure provides resources for Wood Village and our neighbors to cover any costs associated with the facility.

We will also have an understanding with the backers as to build out time lines, traffic studies, environmental studies, etc. before any steps can be taken to start construction. We will ensure that everything is in place to make this a benefit to our whole region and to our citizens.

Look at the facts before making your decision. There will be much false advertising on this issue. Don't be influenced by claims that just aren't true. Seek out specifics and comparables and do some research before you vote. Help us make this a win-win for East County.

Thank you,
Patricia Smith
Mayor of Wood Village

(This information furnished by Patricia A. Smith)

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Investing in Oregon Vote Yes on Measure 26-142

As one of the major investors for the The Grange casino and entertainment destination in Wood Village, and a proud Canadian, I'm delighted to have the opportunity to be a part of a project that **invests in the people of Wood Village and the citizens of Oregon.** We look forward to joining the many other out-of-state organizations who have chosen to invest in the state.

Those who put their money into a development project hope for a financial return. My company, Clairvest is no exception. We invest in many jurisdictions outside of Canada and our history and track record show our commitment to building great companies that **contribute to their communities through good jobs** and giving back. That is why we have our **Oregon First** program for jobs and supplies to build and operate the business.

It's important to us to be a positive part of the community. We've made sure that this project will have an area for a **farmer's market, a performing arts space and community meeting rooms** with access to the public. In addition, the casino will give 25% of gross gaming revenue for schools and vital services, including law enforcement and community infrastructure. We believe in being good neighbors.

This entertainment destination will reinvent East Multnomah County and the community of Wood Village. It's a bigger, bolder, and more fun project than the previous gaming proposal with a community plaza, locally sourced restaurants and several entertainment options. We have engaged local design and architectural firms to ensure we create a uniquely Oregon development.

Please vote yes on Measure 26-142 to make this plan a reality. For all of us.

Jeff Parr
Clairvest Group

(This information furnished by Jeff Parr)

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CITY OF WOOD VILLAGE

Measure 26-142

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

SAY YES TO MEASURE 26-142

For many years, the Multnomah Kennel Club in Wood Village was home to dog racing. Generations of Oregonians fondly remember the dog track – the racing, the betting, and the fun. But the track closed in 2004, leaving a hole that created economic hardships. The entertainment destination will change all that.

I believe that that The Grange is the greatest economic development opportunity that we could ever hope for.

- The Grange will bring \$300 million in private investment into our communities and state
- The Grange will create thousands of jobs and generate millions for schools and services
- The Grange will build an entertainment destination – a family and community project that includes a hotel, a casino, local restaurants and pubs, a bowling alley, a cinema, even a new public plaza for events

Measure 26-142 doesn't raise taxes or risk taxpayer money.

The Grange is Good for Wood Village and Oregon. That's why I support Measure 26-142 and I urge you to support it too.

When complete, The Grange will become a destination for Oregonians and visitors alike. It will be built to the highest design standards, consistent with Oregon values.

Even if you don't gamble or never plan to visit, **please support Measure 26-142.**

Sheila Ritz
Former Wood Village City Administrator 1987-2011.

(This information furnished by Sheila Ritz, Former Wood Village City Administrator 1987-2011)

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

As a resident of Wood Village, I'm extremely worried about the lack of tax base for our city and schools. I'm also very concerned about the economy both here in our town and across the state. **That's LIUNA LOCAL 296 and I am supporting Measure 26-142.**

The past few years have been tough on my family and on this community. Jobs are scarce in East Portland, and each year our public schools have to make difficult choices with fewer and fewer resources. Here in Wood Village we support The Grange. We know it will bring many desperately needed jobs along with an overall economic boost.

It will be a place that our whole community can feel proud of; I know my family will want to spend time there. The water park, bowling alley, concert hall, shopping and restaurants will be places that everyone can enjoy. I can't wait to feed my family fresh Oregon produce from the farmer's market and to attend festivals and outdoor concerts at the community plaza. But do you know what I'm most excited about? Good wages, healthcare, and other benefits for the people of East County. Not only that, but it puts money into every school district and every county in the state, including ours. Wood Village and Oregon schools have had a hard time for long enough. This is an opportunity to start turning education funding around.

My community and my kids deserve this, and so do yours.
Vote yes with me and with LIUNA LOCAL 296 on 26-142.

Gary Lee Moore, Jr
Wood Village
LIUNA LOCAL 296

(This information furnished by Gary Lee Moore Jr, LIUNA Local 296)

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CITY OF WOOD VILLAGE

Measure 26-142

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Residents of Wood Village urge you to VOTE YES on Measure 26-142

As residents of Wood Village, we support Measure 26-142, which approves building of The Grange, a casino and family entertainment destination in Wood Village. The Grange would be built on the site of the former Multnomah Kennel Club, which now sits derelict and unused.

The Grange will provide a needed boost to Wood Village's economy. Revenue from the project will go directly to the City of Wood Village, in addition to all local taxes. Over 3000 construction jobs will be needed to build the resort. Once opened, at least 2000 jobs will be created to run it, with an annual payroll of \$70 million.

This is a tremendous investment for our community and for our state.

We the undersigned strongly urge a **YES vote on Measure 26-142. YES for our community.**

Don Robertson
Shirley Robertson
Majesira Osmanobic
Jusuf Osmanobic
Roseanna Feeny

(This information furnished by Don Robertson)

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Benefiting East Multnomah County

I am the former Mayor of Gresham. Our city is adjacent to Wood Village, where the proposed entertainment center will be located. I ask you to **vote "yes" on Measure 26-142.**

East County has long been in an economic slump. This new employer - a tax-paying company - will start our economy moving forward again by injecting millions of new dollars into our cities. Jobs created by this project will bring new consumers to small businesses and stores in our communities, which will in turn need to hire new employees to keep up with demand. The resulting economic boost will help revitalize our region—and all these benefits will occur without the developers receiving a single tax break.

Since the economy took a nose dive, our cities, like cities all over the state, have been forced to slash our budgets. We have struggled to maintain adequate funding for vital services. Wood Village will receive \$4 million every year. Revenue will be dedicated to supporting the surrounding communities, including Gresham, Troutdale, and Fairview. That's \$3 million for each city.

Why now? This project in Wood Village will be a local business, with local investors using Oregon products and services. Once this project is underway, thousands of construction jobs will be available. Upon completion, thousands more jobs with health care and benefits will be here, in East County, for our residents.

Charles Becker
Former Gresham Mayor

(This information furnished by Charles J. Becker, Former Mayor, City of Gresham)

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CITY OF WOOD VILLAGE

Measure 26-142

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Good Things for East County Vote YES on Measure 26-142

It's time to get East Multnomah County's economy moving again. The Grange will put millions of new dollars into our cities. Thousands of new jobs will be created by this project: Good jobs that pay well and include health care and benefits.

It will also be a fun and exciting place that the region can be proud of.

We the undersigned urge the residents of Wood Village to vote YES on Measure 26-142

Joel Bruner
Tom Washburn
Kelli Washburn

(This information furnished by Joel Bruner)

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

I used to work at the Multnomah Kennel Club. It was the number one tourist destination in the State and the social hub of Wood Village for over 50 years.

On race days, people came from near and far to enjoy the races and the atmosphere. The track was groomed, the lawn was manicured, and the grounds were packed with excitement. The track was not just an entertainment and gaming facility: it was a source of employment, where many young people had their first jobs and others worked until retirement. The track was a great part of the community.

The dog races ended eight years ago and now my wife and I live as caretakers, looking over what once was. Ever since then the building has faded right along with the excitement. The park has become overgrown, the building is falling apart, and the facility has become a target for vandalism and crime.

Wood Village needs a project to revitalize the community and bring back the excitement, the entertainment, and the jobs to this historic location. The Grange will be a space for the community to gather and a destination for visitors once again.

The jobs created by the project, in the short term and long term, are needed in Wood Village and East County, and the revenue created by the casino is vital for all of Oregon during these tough economic times. The development will encompass the spirit of the Multnomah Kennel Club and carry on the tradition of family-friendly entertainment in the void left when the races ended.

Please vote yes on Measure 26-142 to help make this a special place that Wood Village can be proud of once more.

John Thomas
Caretaker, former Multnomah Kennel Club site
Wood Village

(This information furnished by John Thomas)

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CITY OF WOOD VILLAGE

Measure 26-142

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

"Yes" on Measure 26-142

Dear Voter,

I run a small business here in Wood Village. Since the closure of the Multnomah Kennel Club in 2004, it's been much harder for businesses in Wood Village to get by. As a business person, I'm very aware of the need for more economic activity in East Multnomah County. This development project is committed to local sourcing of materials, supplies and labor. It's a potential shot in the arm for my business.

"Yes" on Measure 26-142 is a vote to support the new entertainment destination in Wood Village. It will be home to an upscale, smoke-free casino; restaurants featuring local chefs and locally produced food and wine; a four-star hotel with a family-friendly water playground; and an outdoor public plaza open to the community for festivals and farmers markets.

Good for Oregon

The development's boost for the local economy is clear. But equally important are its benefits to our public schools. Each year, The Grange will generate \$100 million in revenue to fund schools and other vital state services. At a time when schools are laying off teachers and cutting days out of the school year, this represents a new, dedicated source of funding without adding any additional tax burden onto our already struggling businesses. The businesses we represent are just as concerned about a healthy school system for educating our workforce as they are about new economic development opportunities. With The Grange, we get both.

The Grange: Good for Oregon businesses. Good for schools.

Dino Bektas, owner
Picoberry, LLC

(This information furnished by Dino Bektas, Picoberry LLC)

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ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

Two years ago a big foreign-owned gambling conglomerate asked you give them a private gambling monopoly by approving a casino here in Wood Village.

Wood Village said NO. Emphatically.

Now the big gambling corporations are back, trying to convince you to change your minds.

Bad for Wood Village

Measure 26-142 is part of a package deal set up by a foreign corporation and 2 guys from Lake Oswego looking to get rich quick. They want to change the focus of gambling in Oregon from public good, to private profits—amending the constitution just to benefit themselves, all the while pretending they are doing it for the common good.

Measure 26-142 is asking voters to approve a Vegas-style mega-casino in Wood Village, within a mile of elementary schools, churches, parks and playgrounds, bringing gambling and all the things that come with it—increased drug use, prostitution, drinking, crime—closer to our children.

This new casino will be bigger than anything even in Las Vegas and it will operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

No traffic study has been done by the City of Wood Village or the casino developers to see if it's even possible to safely add that many additional visitors on a regular basis.

Local law enforcement officials are already overburdened and underfunded. If this measure passes, law enforcement will have to deal with more crime, more alcohol and drug abuse and more traffic problems as a result.

Bad for the local economy

When something sounds too good to be true, it usually is. And that is certainly the case with Measure 26-142.

The backers of this measure make a lot of big promises, but the truth is that if this measure passes it will rig the system to hurt small businesses in Wood Village and the surrounding areas. Any local business in the hospitality or entertainment industry is going to take a big hit.

Vote No on Measure 26-142

(This information furnished by Justin Martin, It's Still A Bad Idea Committee)

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CITY OF WOOD VILLAGE

Measure 26-142

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

I'm your neighbor and the retired Gresham Police Chief and I'd like to talk with you about Measure 26-142, the proposed casino project at the old dog track.

First, since the hey day of the dog track our community has changed. The is now in a heavily populated community, surrounded by neighborhoods, churches, schools, playgrounds and parks. There are 23 preschool, elementary and middle schools within a two-mile radius of the location.

We already have significant traffic congestion and safety issues in the area. The proposed casino would bring thousands of additional car trips onto our neighborhood streets every day. We lack the resources to handle what we have already, much less absorb the increase.

And, let's talk about crime. It goes up around large gambling facilities. And this one is going to be massive, larger than anything even on the Las Vegas strip.

One of the companies that will own and operate the casino recently completed a similar project in Illinois. In one year that casino generated over 1,400 police and 200 fire calls and it's only 1/3 the size of the casino they want to build here. As a Wood Village resident, think about that. All of Wood Village had only 300 reported crimes last year.

Public safety in East County, simply won't be able to keep up.

Do you believe the Multnomah County Sheriff's office will be able to keep up? I know they won't. MCSO is already overburdened and understaffed. Sheriff's deputies have been cut to the bone and some crimes that used to result in serious jail time aren't even being investigated.

If Measure 26-142 passes, your town, mine, and those around us will be overwhelmed with more crime, more alcohol and drug abuse and more traffic problems.

You can Protect Wood Village and your larger community. Vote No on Measure 26-142.

Carla Piluso, Gresham Police Chief, Retired

(This information furnished by Paige Richardson, Still A Bad Idea Comm.)

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ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

Measures 26-142 won't help our schools, and it sends the wrong message to our kids.

As a retired teacher, I'm committed to stable school funding for our public schools but Measure 26-142 is not the answer.

Yes, the foreign-owned gambling conglomerate pushing these measures makes big promises about how their casino will solve education funding. But that's all it is: a self-serving promise from a company that has a rotten track record elsewhere of promising big and not delivering.

We teach our kids that if something sounds too good to be true, it probably is. The slick corporate spin coming from this company – which got caught in a bribery and influence-peddling scandal in New York when its executives promised jobs and campaign contributions to legislators for approving a casino – is simply not credible.

Most of the public revenue generated by this mega-casino will actually be eaten up in increased law enforcement and social costs, and from lost revenue to small businesses and rural communities devastated by this change.

We can do better than funding our children's education through gaming losses. We can find better, more sustainable ways to pay for education and public services. Ways that don't say to our kids that we are addicted to short cuts and quick fixes to solve our problems.

You don't need to be an educator to know that the foreign company putting up millions to back this casino is not interested in education, or in our kids. They don't care about protecting our unique culture and quality of life.

All that really matters to them is separating us from our money at their casino.

Don't believe the hype. Vote No on Measure 26-142.

Virginia Leffall-Husak, Retired Teacher

(This information furnished by Paige Richardson, Still A Bad Idea Comm.)

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CITY OF WOOD VILLAGE

Measure 26-142

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

As parents we are acutely aware that the decisions we make as a society today can have serious negative impacts on the future of our children and grandchildren.

Like all parents, we want the best possible for our children and grandchildren: good communities, safe neighborhoods, a strong economy and a society based on strong community values.

Measures 26-142 will open the door to a massive expansion of gambling—allowing a mega-casino in near schools and playgrounds, increasing problem gambling and overwhelming local law enforcement--sending a terrible message to our children about our Oregon values.

This is a bad idea for our children and for our communities.

A major casino and the problems that come with it--increased drug use, drinking and crime -- have no place where our children play. Opening one major Vegas-style casino here in Wood Village, as Measure 26-142 proposes, is a bad enough idea.

But even more concerning, Measure 26-142 is just one step the foreign casino corporation is taking. They want to amend the Oregon constitution to allow them to build casinos all over Oregon.

That might be good for them, but it is not good for us.

Let's face it. Relying on privately run, Las Vegas-style casino gambling to solve our economic problems is wrong and sends the wrong message to our kids. If our best idea to create a brighter economic future is to build casinos and sell ourselves out to gambling, then we have given up—on ourselves, on our communities and on our children.

We can do better. Vote NO on measures 82 and 83.

Renaye Delano
Francisco Holdman

(This information furnished by Paige Richardson, Still A Bad Idea Comm.)

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ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

I'm the manager of Grampy's Deli. We are a deli and lottery retailer in Wood Village that many of you know.

I am not exaggerating when I say, if Measure 26-142 passes and the casino is built, my business will go under. We simply can't compete with a huge complex of that size either for gaming dollars or restaurant business.

There are many other local businesses just like ours that will suffer and go out of business if these big corporate gambling companies get their way.

Don't be fooled by their fancy advertising and big promises. They don't really care about our community. They care about making huge profits. And if local businesses and local residents suffer that's just to cost of doing business for them.

And the backers of the casinos aren't playing fair.

They've written a loophole into the measures that exempts them from paying taxes on their 3500 gaming machines. Local mom and pop restaurants like mine have to pay that tax—meaning this one casino would get a special exemption worth over \$500,000 per year that Oregon's struggling small businesses don't get.

That isn't the Oregon way, and it isn't fair to small businesses. And you can do something about it. You can Vote No on Measure 26-142.

The Vegas style, massive casino is a great deal for the developers but it's a bad deal for Wood Village. Many of us won't survive, and hundreds of jobs will be lost.

Please don't be fooled, Vote No on Measure 26-142, it's a bad deal for Wood Village.

Angela Allen

(This information furnished by Paige Richardson, Still A Bad Idea Comm.)

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CITY OF WOOD VILLAGE

Measure 26-142

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

As neighbors here in East County, we live here for a reason. Things are more affordable, quieter and safer. We love our family-friendly neighborhoods. We are connected to our neighbors, our schools and our small businesses.

We've seen the slick commercials and heard all the promises that this project will only bring good things to our community. When something sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

Think of the impact of a massive new casino plopped down on the site of the old Multnomah Kennel Club. Our community has changed in the last decade. There are 23 schools within 2 miles of that site.

Measure 26-142 will bring increased traffic, drug and alcohol abuse and crime that goes hand in hand with operating big casinos in metro areas right onto our neighborhood streets.

If it's such a great deal for our community why didn't the Lake Oswego businessmen who are leading the project fight to put it in their neighborhood?

Our small entertainment and food and beverage businesses will suffer or go out of business all together. We'll worry about walking our kids to and from school or letting them play in our neighborhoods and parks because casino traffic will be racing through our streets 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

And people need to know that the foreign-owned gambling companies bankrolling Measure 26-142 have a bad track record. Their projects increase crime in the areas where they open casinos.

The foreign-owned company has been linked to a bribery and influence peddling scandal in New York, has a documented history of labor disputes and sticking taxpayers with the tab to upgrade safety in their casinos.

Please don't risk our quality of life just so a foreign corporation and two corporate executives from Lake Oswego can make a fast buck.

Say NO to Measure 26-142.

Teresa Bright
Steven Prom, DC
Shiletha Kennedy
Kenneth Husak
Kathleen Schwabe
Michael K. Elston, CIR Panelist (No) 17-7

(This information furnished by Paige Richardson, Still A Bad Idea Comm.)

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ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

Measures 26-142 will hurt Oregon Tribes

If this measure passes, the massive private casino owned by an out-of-state gambling conglomerate, will seriously disrupt the economic engine that supports all of Oregon's Indian tribes.

We have worked hard to become self-sufficient, and by supporting our members we have also been able to lessen the burden on local and state government.

Now our people have jobs rather than relying on welfare.

The tribal casinos, the jobs they provide, and the revenue they generate, have brought our people back from the brink.

We are now able to provide basic health care for tribal members AND members of the local community as well.

Our agreement with the state created that opportunity, but we did not stop there.

Along with other tribes, we felt a responsibility to the people of Oregon. Together we volunteered to pay the equivalent of the corporate income tax – more than \$100 million so far -- into a fund that supports charities across Oregon. And we are also committed to buying local – 75% of our purchases come from Oregon vendors, large and small.

That's part of our mutual promise with the people of Oregon to work together for the benefit of all of us. That shared commitment has been working well for years.

Please do not let outsiders and wealthy corporate interests convince you to break that promise.

The future of Oregon's Indian Tribes depends on it.

Please vote no on Measures 26-142

Tribal Council Members, The Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon

Cheryle A. Kennedy

(This information furnished by Cheryle A. Kennedy, The Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon)

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CITY OF WOOD VILLAGE

Measure 26-142

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon recommends a NO vote on Measure 26-142.

Our state already allows more gambling than most other states — a wide variety of lottery games, video poker and line games in local taverns and restaurants, card rooms and tribal casinos. Simply put, we've got more than enough gambling opportunities in this state. Do we really need to start adding Las Vegas-size casinos to our communities?

Casinos hurt individuals, families and communities.

We have 70,000 adult problem gamblers in Oregon already? Research has consistently found that casino gambling, like state lotteries, largely depends on the high levels of gambling among problem gamblers to provide a significant share of their overall revenue. The damage caused to families and communities by an activity that is inherently addicting for some individuals outweighs whatever limited benefits promised by casino investors.

Casinos Never Deliver the Promised Economic Benefits

Economists who have studied the impact of casinos on economic development in surrounding communities find that the jobs provided by a casino are usually offset by a loss of jobs at nearby restaurants and other local businesses. Studies have also found that crime rates, rates of gambling addiction and personal bankruptcy filings increase within 50 miles of a new casino.

Voters already soundly defeated this Casino proposal in 2010.

This measure is a slightly repackaged version of a 2010 measure that voters overwhelmingly rejected. Since this measure would, if passed, amend the constitution and authorize the first non-tribal casino in Oregon, passage would establish a dangerous precedent and would open the door to subsequent proposals to authorize additional casinos in other Oregon communities.

For Oregon's Families and Communities,

Join with Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon and Vote NO on Measure 26-142.

(This information furnished by Kevin Finney, Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon)

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**November 2012
General
Election Results
available beginning at
8:00 PM, Nov. 6, 2012.**

**Results updated
throughout the
evening.**

www.mcelections.org

**Statewide Results will
be available at the
Secretary of State's
website.**

www.OregonVotes.gov

PORTLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

Measure 26-144

BALLOT TITLE

PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT BONDS TO IMPROVE SCHOOLS

QUESTION: Is the Portland Public School District authorized to issue up to \$482 million of general obligation bonds to improve schools? If the bonds are approved, they will be payable from taxes on property or property ownership that are not subject to the limits of sections 11 and 11b, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

SUMMARY: If approved this measure would finance capital costs, including projects that:

Replace leaking, worn or deteriorating school roofs,

Renovate or replace schools,

Strengthen schools against earthquakes,

Repay loans for capital costs, including 9 roof replacements, 47 boiler conversions, and the Rosa Parks School,

Increase access to schools for students, teachers and visitors with disabilities, and

Upgrade science classrooms at middle grade schools.

Citizen accountability and oversight and annual audits of bond projects and expenditures will be required.

The bonds may be issued in multiple series and each series may mature over no more than 21 years.

Most bonds will mature in eight years or less. Bond cost for eight years is estimated at about \$1.10 per \$1,000 of taxable assessed property value, then reducing to about thirty cents per \$1,000. For this measure, the cost for a house assessed at \$150,000 for property tax purposes would be about \$165 a year for eight years, then reducing to about \$45 per year.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Portland Public Schools is the largest school district in Oregon, with 78 schools and over 47 thousand students.

On average, Portland Public Schools' buildings are older than 65 years. Some were built over 100 years ago; more than half were built before 1940. Only two schools have been built in the last 30 years.

Years of budget reductions have deferred upgrades to school building operational and safety systems in order to direct funds to teachers and learning materials. Portland voters have not approved capital bond funds to upgrade school facilities since 1995. Portland Public School buildings are some of the most heavily used public buildings in Portland with thousands of school and non-school events each year.

During the past year, Portland Public Schools convened a Long Range Facility Plan Advisory Committee led by citizen volunteers. The Committee reviewed enrollment forecasts and assessments of facilities conditions including seismic safety and accessibility for schools. The facilities assessments were used to rate the school buildings most in need of major repair, complete upgrade or replacement.

The Long Range Facility Plan states that Portland Public Schools should create effective, accessible and inclusive learning environments that help all students achieve. The entire committee agreed that capital bonds would be required in order to renovate/replace facilities and meet enrollment requirements in the next 10 years.

Guided by the Advisory Committee's findings, the Board of Education proposes that bonds fund capital projects for school and classroom renovation, construction, and upgrades, including projects that:

- Replace leaking, worn or deteriorating school roofs,
- Renovate or replace schools,
- Strengthen schools against earthquakes,
- Repay loans for capital costs, including 9 roof replacements, 47 boiler conversions, and the Rosa Parks School,
- Increase access to schools for students, teachers and visitors with disabilities, and
- Upgrade science classrooms at middle grade schools.

This bond would renovate Franklin High School, Grant High School and Roosevelt High School, and would replace Faubion PreK-8 school. It would also begin planning for upgrade of all high schools in coming years.

Accountability for bond expenditures

- An independent group of citizens from the community will review quarterly reports and annual audits of how the bond dollars are being spent to provide accountability to the public until construction is complete.

The total principal amount of bonds authorized by the measure is limited to and cannot exceed \$482 million.

Bond cost is estimated at about \$1.10 per \$1,000 of taxable assessed property value for eight years, reducing to about thirty cents per \$1,000 for the remaining years. For a house with a taxable assessed value of \$150,000 the estimated property tax would be about \$165 a year for eight years, then reducing to about \$45 per year.

Submitted by

Gregory MacCrone

Deputy Clerk

Portland Public Schools

PORTLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

Measure 26-144

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

We love Portland. It's a wonderful city for people of all ages, and we can't imagine living anywhere else. In order to keep it that way, we need to reinvest in our schools. Voting "yes" on the school bond is the first step you can take to create great learning environments and vibrant community spaces.

This bond focuses on physical improvements that would:

- Fix leaking roofs to protect our existing facilities.
- Strengthen buildings so they are safer during an earthquake.
- Increase accessibility to school spaces that are now difficult or impossible to reach for many students, teachers and visitors.
- Provide modern, rather than makeshift, science classrooms for middle school students.
- Fully modernize Franklin High School, Grant High School and Roosevelt High School, and replace Faubion PreK-8 school using design strategies that promote effective teaching.
- Reduce water and energy consumption in rebuilt schools, which saves money and helps the environment.

Place and Space matter for teaching and learning. Studies show that student achievement has improved by 10 -15 percent in buildings with better air quality, better natural light and better acoustics. Our kids and teachers deserve that. Measure 26-144 will begin this important work of rebuilding our schools.

And, our schools host thousands of non-school events every year. The school bond will strengthen connections to neighborhoods by making school spaces even more accessible for community use.

Our Portland, Our Schools, the community organization backing the bond, will remain a long-term partner with PPS. We will ensure that citizens are able to participate in planning, and together we will ensure that bond money is spent wisely.

It will take us thirty years and a series of bonds to transform our schools into the world-class environments that our students and teachers need in order to compete in today's global economy. Let's get started!

Join Our Portland, Our Schools in voting yes on Measure 26-144!

Learn more at www.ourportlandourschools.com and www.facebook.com/ourportlandourschools

(This information furnished by Scott Bailey, Portlanders for Schools)

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

We opposed the Portland Public Schools facilities bond in 2011. We strongly support this bond proposal and urge you to vote "yes" on Measure 26-144.

We never questioned the need for investment in school facilities; our schools obviously need modernization. But we thought the previous bond was too expensive and unfocused.

This time, things are different. PPS listened to community input and delivered a bond that is sensible, cost-effective, and exciting. We are convinced that the November 2012 bond is going to be great for Portland.

This is a leaner, smarter bond that impacts more kids and advances a strategic plan to modernize all our schools within 30 years. Focusing on seismic upgrades and complete remodeling of high schools means that over time, every student in the district will enjoy a safe and stimulating learning environment.

But this is about more than buildings. Through this bond, we have an opportunity to transform the education that happens in these buildings to better prepare our students and our city to thrive in the 21st century.

The reconstructed high schools will be designed from the inside out by whole communities – parents, teachers, students, neighborhoods, and local businesses – in order to build better spaces and develop new learning opportunities for students. PPS and Concordia University have already established a partnership to make Faubion PreK-8 a national model of collaboration between K-12 and higher education, creating resources that will benefit students across the district.

Our children spend their days in unsafe, overcrowded, antiquated, and distracting classrooms. These conditions make it hard for them to learn and even harder to believe that we care about their education. Our schools can't wait another year. And our children shouldn't have to.

Schools should be Portland's highest priority. They impact our kids, our economy, and our quality of life. **It is time to invest in our future. Vote "yes" on Measure 26-144.**

Stuart Emmons
Rita Moore

(This information furnished by Rita Moore)

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PORTLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

Measure 26-144

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

An important message from Governor Barbara Roberts:

At the foundation of every great city is a quality education system. As the 34th Governor of Oregon, I have seen the great things we can accomplish through commitment, innovation, and common purpose. Investing in our public school system is absolutely critical. Join me in voting “yes” on the school bond!

After 14 years as a school board member and community college board member, I worked my way up to state government leadership. As the first and only woman to serve as Governor of our great state, I then fought in Salem to invest in our schools because they are the true engines of an improved economic future. As Governor, I made decisions based on the knowledge that a great state must have great schools, and I am supporting this measure now because I know the same is true for Portland – great schools build a great city.

Oregonians are known throughout the nation as innovators. We are always working to keep up that reputation and take on new challenges. Here in Portland, we must demonstrate our commitment to innovation and leadership by voting yes on Measure 26-144. Let's take this opportunity to invest in our school buildings now as we strive to create a better future for our young people!

Measure 26-144 is a thoughtful blueprint for rebuilding and upgrading our schools. This targeted bond package will rebuild the worst of our aging school buildings, and renovate those in dire need of seismic and accessibility improvements.

This school bond is not only good for education; it's good for our city, our state, and our future.

I urge you to vote “yes” on measure 26-144. Yes for our community's children. Yes for a better Portland.

**Governor Barbara Roberts
Honorary Co-chair, Portland School Bond campaign**

(This information furnished by Lindsey O'Brien, Portlanders for Schools)

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

An important message from Congressman Earl Blumenauer:

I am fighting hard to make the Federal Government a better partner in the vital effort to modernize our nation's schools; one that will jumpstart the economy, create jobs and improve American education.

Similarly, Governor Kitzhaber is working to save money, better our children's education, and improve the environment with his "Cool Schools" program. And both Portland Community College and Portland State University have helped boost the local economy and create long term savings with energy efficient construction and building repair.

As important as all of these steps are, there is no single vote that will have more of a positive impact on Portland's future than the approval of Measure 26-144 to revitalize our schools.

By voting "Yes," we will save millions of dollars towards educating our children, rather than literally sending money out the window or down the drain on inefficient heating, cooling and plumbing.

Our "Yes" vote on Measure 26-144, will also put millions of dollars to work by hiring our friends and neighbors in the building and construction trades back, putting money right back into our local businesses.

We can save money, energy, and water as our children receive a healthier, safer place to learn, all while creating local jobs. Please join me in approving Measure 26-144. Invest in a better future today.

**Congressman Earl Blumenauer
Honorary Co-chair, Portland School Bond Campaign**

(This information furnished by Earl Blumenauer)

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PORTLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

Measure 26-144

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Earthquake safety for Portland's schools is a priority in this bond measure. We are smart to take action to strengthen our schools now, so vote yes on this Measure #26-144!

Experts agree that an earthquake could shake the ground in Portland at any time. If we leave our aging schools as they are, they will be among the city's most dangerous places during a seismic event.

Fortunately, engineers, geologists, architects, and other experts have developed technology to strengthen buildings against the deadly shaking of an earthquake.

We cannot predict when an earthquake will strike, but we can protect ourselves against some of the most devastating damage.

The buildings most vulnerable to collapse in an earthquake are made of unreinforced masonry (URM), a structural type that has failed in earthquakes around the world. There are more than 1,000 URM buildings in Portland – apartments, offices, and schools.

The three high schools selected for full modernization – Roosevelt, Franklin, and Grant – account for more than half of all Portland district students who attend classes in URMs. Additional seismic retrofits and roof replacement at dozens of other district schools will increase the safety of many more students.

It is a smart step to replace our URM schools with buildings that are modern and safe. Rebuilt schools may even provide emergency shelter after a natural disaster, which would serve our city and set an example for the rest of the state.

We require children to attend school, and they have the right to learn in buildings that are safe from earthquakes.

This bond is cost-efficient, far-sighted, and sensible. It represents a strong first step toward a school district that is earthquake-safe and designed for twenty-first-century learning. Vote "yes" for safer, stronger schools!

**Structural Engineers Association of Oregon
Oregon Parents for Quake-Resistant Schools
Oregon/SW Washington Chapter of CEFPI (Council of Educational Facility Planners International)
The American Institute of Architects, Portland Chapter
American Society of Civil Engineers – Oregon Section Board**

(This information furnished by Edward C. Wolf, Oregon Parents for Quake-Resistant Schools)

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Join Disability Rights Oregon and the Northwest Down Syndrome Association in voting yes on Measure 26-144 because our great city needs to welcome all of its children, teachers, and citizens into our schools.

We have seen many incredible changes in our country over the past 65 years. In our education system, one critical shift in the past six decades has been toward the greater inclusion of students with disabilities.

But in Portland, the average age of our public school buildings is 65 years old. And we all know that a lot has changed since 1947.

Sixty-five years ago, only 20 percent of children living with disabilities were attending schools. Many of them were labeled "uneducable." Now, many of those children are in our schools, learning how to read and write in our public schools.

As it stands, most of Portland's public school buildings were built with segregation in mind, when institutionalizing children with disabilities was the norm. Portland is in many ways a progressive city, but we continue to segregate our children. The outdated designs and architectural barriers in our schools make sections of the buildings impossible for many people to reach.

This bond will move us forward. Many of the critical needs of our community will be met, and steps will be taken to create accessibility and a welcoming environment for children of all abilities.

With this investment, we can finally make sure that all parents can visit their children and teachers at school, whether they get to the classroom on foot or in a wheelchair. We can make our school buildings true community centers, where seniors, volunteers, and teachers of all abilities are welcome.

It is time to stop living in the past. Join us in supporting buildings that are open to all citizens in our great city.

We at Disability Rights Oregon and NWDSA.org urge you to invest in access for all of our community. Vote "yes" on Measure 26-144.

(This information furnished by Angela Jarvis-Holland, Northwest Down Syndrome Association)

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PORTLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

Measure 26-144

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

The Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber, Native American Youth and Family Center (NAYA), Neighborhood House, Latino Network, and Impact NW support reinvesting in Portland's schools with Bond Measure #26-144. We urge your support, too.

Our organizations work daily with individuals and families who have many talents and skills and also face a number of challenges. We are honored to work with people as they demonstrate courage, tenacity and an enduring drive to improve their lives and those of their children and youth.

Like our public school district, many human service agencies have also endured significant budget reductions in the past few years, so we understand how difficult it is to continue to provide quality and supportive services while having funding reduced. Thanks to the generosity of our partners and communities, we have continued to work with families as they achieve success.

We recognize that children are our future and that education is fundamental to their success. We will continue to partner with the district, and be critical when necessary, in order to ensure that our schools are serving our communities.

As the district continues to work toward succeeding with every student, it is important to update and upgrade the aging facilities. Individuals of all ages respond differently to space and place. The worn condition of school facilities sends a clear, and unfortunate message to our students about their value. Not only will updating the schools change the message of expectations to our students, but it will also allow parents and community partners to better support students and their families.

We understand the economic challenges facing many of our community members and we recommend voting "yes" on Measure 26-144.

**Gale Castillo, President, Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber
Matt Morton, Executive Director, Native American Youth and Family Center (NAYA)
Rick Nitti, Executive Director, Neighborhood House
Carmen Rubio, Executive Director, Latino Network
Susan I. Stoltenberg, Executive Director, Impact NW**

(This information furnished by Matt Morton, Native American Youth and Family Center)

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Portland Council PTA says Vote "Yes" for our Schools!

Parent Teachers' Associations (PTAs) represent all of the elements of great schools: parent volunteers, dedicated teachers and a joint commitment to an education that builds successful futures for our students, good citizens and a strong community.

But great schools depend on all of us. The Portland Council PTA urges you to join us in voting "YES" on Measure 26-144.

This bond will begin a crucial reinvestment in our city's future through schools that provide safe, stimulating learning environments and serve as the heart of their neighborhoods.

The bond will fully modernize Franklin, Grant and Roosevelt High Schools, and replace Faubion PreK-8 using design strategies that promote effective teaching. It will also increase accessibility within the school for all children, upgrade science classrooms for 6th-8th grade in K-8 schools, and strengthen buildings so they are safer in the event of an earthquake.

Great schools build a great city.

We all have a stake in the success of our schools, whether or not we have children, grandchildren or neighbors in them right now. They protect property values, inspire young leaders, and promote healthy neighborhoods. They mean a stronger future for all of us.

**The Portland Council PTA enthusiastically endorses the school bond!
Please join the Portland Council PTA
Vote YES on Measure 26-144!**

(This information furnished by Sharon Meigh-Chang, Portland Council PTA, Pres.)

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PORTLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

Measure 26-144

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

As leaders of small and large businesses across our city, we agree that quality schools are a vital part of a strong local economy. Join us in supporting a “yes” vote on Portland Public School’s Bond Measure 26-144 because quality schools help create a quality workforce.

All great cities focus on building partnerships and making investments that will foster a great school system. We need strong schools and an educated work force in order to remain competitive in attracting new businesses to Portland.

Many studies show that the conditions in school buildings impact student achievement and teacher performance. By voting yes on the bond, we will provide students with 21st century learning environments that will reliably graduate productive, successful workers. Businesses that are already located here will find an educated workforce, and companies considering relocating can cite our public education system as a reason to choose Portland.

As our city and our country recover from years of recession, now is the time to invest in the vibrant economy we all want for Portland’s future. Voting “yes” will directly create hundreds of jobs for local construction workers, manufacturers, and companies selling new technologies, equipment and fixtures.

The ripple effect of this investment will also provide a boost to many industries throughout the region. The projects will include repairs that will significantly reduce annual energy and water costs and create new vendor relationships with the city’s green businesses.

Providing school buildings that are worthy of our great city will help prepare our students to compete in the ever-changing local, national and global economy. Make an investment that will help ensure a strong economic future for our city. Vote “yes” on this bond!

**Nik Blosser – President, Celilo Group Media
Samuel Brooks – Chair of the Board, Oregon
Association of Minority Entrepreneurs; CEO, Brooks
Staffing
Gregg Kantor – President & CEO NW Natural
Debbie Kitchin – Co-owner, InterWorks, LLC
Jim Piro – CEO, PGE
Mike Roach – Co-owner, Paloma Clothing**

(This information furnished by Mike Roach, Paloma Clothing)

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

We are a group of Portland Public School students from across the city urging you to vote “yes” on Measure 26-144! We met in August to talk about our schools, and some words that came to mind were: bleak, unsafe, stressful, outdated and inadequate. Instead of stopping with our current complaints, we went on to imagine better buildings and better opportunities for the students who follow us:

“I see outdated structures and facilities, plus entrances and pathways that create barriers to students and staff because they are not ADA accessible. I imagine strong, efficient, and safe school buildings that are welcoming to everyone.”
–Abby Pasion, Roosevelt High School

“I see crowded classrooms exceeding 40 students, many unable to sit at desks or participate in science experiments because of a lack of space and equipment. I can imagine a school district with classrooms that have space and excellent equipment for both teachers and students.”
–Alexia Garcia, Lincoln High School

“I see a bathroom that feels like a New York subway station. I imagine a sanitary place, where no black liquid drips from the ceiling.”
–Corey Friedman, Lincoln High School

“I see auditoriums without proper lighting equipment, awful acoustics and not nearly enough seating to house the entire school. I also see computers that don’t work and students having to sit for half the class before they can get anything done. I can imagine our students having the same technology as those in other districts.”
–Sierra Hosea, Franklin High School

“I see students who are distracted by uncomfortable temperatures in their classrooms. I can imagine schools with heating and cooling systems that work properly, where students and teachers are provided with the same level of comfort that people working in an average office building have come to expect.”
–Emma Rosen, Cleveland High School

Help us transform the inadequate conditions we see everyday into the high-quality schools we can only imagine. **Vote “yes” on the school bond!**

(This information furnished by Richard Gilliam, Portlanders for Schools)

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PORTLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

Measure 26-144

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

We are parents of students in schools across Portland. Some of our kids are about to graduate high school; others are just starting elementary. Whether our own children will experience better facilities or not, we are united in support of this school bond.

This bond is an exciting start toward the modern, high-quality schools that our children and city deserve. Regardless of whether you have children in Portland's public schools, we hope you agree that our schools are community assets that are worth our investment.

We love our neighborhood schools, but too often our kids come home with stories of uncomfortable classrooms and conditions so poor as to be distracting. As they get older, they realize that their school buildings aren't just inadequate; they are deteriorating.

We can testify that their complaints are justified. As parents, we also notice the safety issues: leaking roofs, overloaded electrical outlets, asbestos, extreme temperatures, and likely collapse in the event of an earthquake. Our schools should be accessible to all Portlanders, but many are not.

Students who were born the last time PPS passed a construction bond (1995) will graduate from high school in June. The bond before that was passed in 1945, the year World War II ended. No wonder the buildings are showing their age. It is every citizen's responsibility to get our priorities in order. We need to preserve the investment made by earlier generations and complete overdue improvements now.

We expect our school buildings to be safe, secure, and to have the highest quality learning environments. Let's build the schools that will make all of us proud.

Please join us - vote "yes" on Measure 26-144.

Susan Barrett – parent at Laurelhurst K-8
 Lisa Frack – parent at Buckman Elementary
 Monique McClean – Parent at Grant High School
 Jennifer Owen – Parent at Lincoln High School
 Moses Ross – Parent at Maplewood Elementary
 Trace Salmon – parent at King School
 Lisa Zuniga – Parent at Franklin High School

(This information furnished by Mary Schutten, Portlanders for Schools)

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

As volunteer Portland Public School Board members – elected by you – our job is to ensure strong leadership; increase student achievement; steward school facilities; and develop annual budgets that prioritize and differentiate funds to support every child's success.

We know that great schools build a great city – it's what previous generations did for us. Now we must reinvest in our old and treasured school buildings to ensure they are safe and able to support today's teaching and learning.

Eighteen months ago, Portland voters overwhelmingly passed an operating levy to fund teaching positions, reaffirming our community's deep support for kids and schools. At the same time, a facilities bond was narrowly defeated. Since then, at hundreds of listening sessions with parents, students, education partners, business representatives and community members, we heard consensus that our buildings need to be renovated; improvements must be part of a focused, long-term plan; and the bond must be less costly.

With additional advice from a Long Range Facilities Committee and Bond Development Committee - we developed a less costly bond focused on safety (roof and seismic upgrades), accessibility, updated science labs, community partnerships, and full modernization of four schools. We prioritized high schools because modern learning environments have the most impact as students prepare for college and career. This bond represents the start of what we hope will be a 30-year reinvestment in safe, educationally-appropriate schools for our kids and community.

As your elected representatives, we will ensure that schools are built on time and on budget and support our educational vision of success for every child. A citizen accountability committee - reporting directly to us - will provide planning and project oversight and will report annually to the community.

Great schools depend on all of us. We ask for your support on Measure 26-144.

Portland School Board
 Ruth Adkins
 Greg Belisle
 Martin Gonzales
 Pamela Knowles
 Matt Morton
 Bobbie Regan
 Trudy Sargent
 Alexia Garcia (student rep elected by her peers)

(This information furnished by Bobbie Regan, Portland School Board)

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PORTLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

Measure 26-144

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

The League of Women Voters of Portland Urges a “YES” Vote on Measure 26-144

Strong schools are the heart of a livable city.

Portland residents value vibrant neighborhoods. At the core of every great city are schools that meet the needs of all of its residents – including students, teachers, staff, and community members of all ages and abilities. It’s up to all of us to make sure that Portland has the great schools our community deserves, and now it’s time to reinvest in our aging buildings. Join us in voting “yes” on Measure 26-144.

The investment in our school buildings is an investment that benefits our entire city. More than 4,500 non-school events took place in Portland schools last year. Our communities rely on these buildings, and we need to make sure they are safe and accessible.

Safe well-designed school facilities contribute to student success.

The League believes all schools should have adequate physical facilities that meet state and local safety and sanitation standards.

Measure 26-144 will put our tax dollars to use on the most significant projects throughout the district. Three high schools will be completely modernized and Faubion K-8 will be rebuilt. Leaking roofs will be repaired; seismic threats will be reduced; and obstacles that prevent students from moving easily throughout these old buildings will finally be removed.

Over 80 percent of Portland’s school-aged children attend public school. A “yes” vote will provide our students with schools that are safe and promote success.

Measure 26-144 is a prudent investment in Portland’s future.

A citizen oversight committee will monitor bond proceed expenditures and ensure that the money is spent as voters intended.

The future of our region depends on a quality educational system. A “yes” vote is the first step in a strategic, 30-year plan to transform the entire district into a world-class school system.

Join the League of Women Voters of Portland in voting “Yes” Vote on Measure 26-144.

(This information furnished by Mary McWilliams, League of Women Voters of Portland)

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ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

Important messages from Portland’s Mayoral candidates:

“The race for our schools is more important than the race for Mayor.

Since I graduated from Grant twenty years ago, the building has seen too few updates. The familiarity is comforting; the perilous auditorium seats are not...nor is the sense that so many of our school buildings could be safer and perform better. A study of retrofitted schools in Washington showed a 15 percent reduction in absenteeism. High performing school buildings produce higher performing students.

This is the right bond at the right time. The team focused on needs the community prioritized, like seismic safety and air quality. They worked with key folks opposed to the last measure and reduced the financial impact.

We need to pass this. We need a 30-year effort to retrofit all of our schools for greater performance and safety. We need this as not an end but a start. We need to vote yes.”

-Rep. Jefferson Smith, Mayoral Candidate

“Dear Fellow Portlander –

Everything we do in our city and our society depends on quality education for our children.

One of Portland’s great strengths is our excellent public schools that anchor our neighborhoods and communities. Having good schools depends on safe and up-to-date buildings. Right now, many Portland Public School buildings are at risk: they lack adequate safety protections for kids, and many lack the modern learning equipment kids need to succeed in the workplace or at college.

That’s why I’m voting YES for our PPS School Bond and I hope you’ll join me.

The school bond will increase seismic safety in schools, rebuild three of our high schools and update many science classrooms. There is built-in oversight for how funds are spent.

Let’s make this critical investment in our kids, our neighborhoods and our future. Let’s take pride in Portland. Let’s take pride in our great schools!”

Sincerely,
Charlie Hales, Mayoral Candidate

(This information furnished by Miguel Lopez, Portlanders for Schools)

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PORTLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

Measure 26-144

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

As local elected leaders, we are working hard to serve the community we love. Although our positions, backgrounds and opinions differ, we are all enthusiastic supporters of the school bond – Measure 26-144.

Portland is a great city, and we all agree that we must invest now in the modern school buildings that our thriving community needs and deserves. Great schools depend on support from all of us – elected officials and citizens alike. Join us in voting yes on this bond!

Measure 26-144 will make prudent improvements to our aging school buildings. It will fully modernize four schools and remedy the most urgent building deficiencies throughout the district. Let's make sure that the teachers and students who work in these buildings every day have safe and healthy environments.

Portland Public School buildings are also flourishing community centers. In fact, they are some of the most frequently used public buildings in the city. In addition to the daily traffic from young people, teachers, dedicated maintenance staff, principals and other district employees, more than 4,500 non-school events and meetings were held in public schools last year. It's the responsibility of every Portlander to make sure these shared spaces are safe and accessible.

By voting "yes" on Measure 26-144, we will invest in future generations while also impacting the city right now. The bond will pump millions of dollars into Portland's economy and create local jobs.

Please join us in voting "yes" on this bond – great schools build a great city!

Mayor Sam Adams
Multnomah County Chair Jeff Cogen
State Senate Majority Leader Diane Rosenbaum
Portland City Commissioner Nick Fish
Portland City Commissioner Amanda Fritz
Portland City Commissioner Dan Saltzman
State Representative Jules Bailey
State Representative Lew Fredrick
State Representative Mitch Greenlick
State Representative Alissa Keny-Guyer
State Representative Tina Kotek
State Representative nominee Jennifer Williamson
Multnomah County Commissioner Deborah Kafoury
Multnomah County Commissioner Loretta Smith
Former State Senator Avel Gordly

(This information furnished by Jon Isaacs, Portlanders for Schools)

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ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

Restore Education Before Buildings

Vote **NO** on Portland Public Schools' Capital Construction Bond M-26-144

We are concerned citizens/parents who believe it vital for Portland Public Schools to thoroughly explore the root causes of its poor academic results.

Taxpayers must hold Portland Public Schools (PPS) and its board **accountable** to focus on essential learning criteria, and deliver a quality education in the most **fiscally responsible manner**.

PPS neglected maintenance of public school properties for years. **We do not believe rebuilding schools is the critical next step to improve students' education outcomes.**

Instead, research consistently highlights **three critical steps necessary for successful academic results.**

- **More teachers** trained and supported to deliver superior student outcomes. Average graduation rate at PPS is only 62%.
- **More instructional classroom days.** In 2012-2013 PPS students have approximately 169.5 days. **According to the Oregonian 8/8/12, the national norm is 180 days.**
- **More parent involvement.** Parents need to demand more from their children, more from schools and from themselves.

PPS must initiate an independent fiscal efficiency audit to:

- Identify which low-enrollment schools to **consolidate/close** so remaining schools become stronger with more teachers and more electives,
- Identify district management/administrative positions to eliminate; place top priority on **additional teachers**,
- Identify what works at high-achieving schools such as **Benson** and apply to all schools.

PPS is planning SEVEN more capital bonds over the next 32 years consuming about \$3 billion dollars.

Students are not getting academic results they need.

\$482 million construction dollars will not significantly improve education outcomes.

(This information furnished by Betty Soljaga, Committee to Restore Education Before Buildings)

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PORTLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

Measure 26-144

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

Vote No on Measure 26-144

Parents are often faced with having to say "No".

This is one of those times.

Portland Public Schools (PPS) has a costly construction plan but no successful education strategy. PPS has taken a piecemeal approach on issue after issue.

What WORKS is not supported.

- Benson has one of the highest graduation rates yet PPS restricted enrollment at Benson since 2010.
- PPS has hard choices to make in consolidating and closing campuses; yet refuses to take action.
- PPS must connect vocational programming to core curriculum and it responds by hurting Benson's program that works.

We must reach a graduation rate of 100%; the current inflated rate of 62% is unacceptable. Teachers must be supported to correct this; new buildings are no guarantee. Six PPS schools rank in the BOTTOM 5% of Title 1 schools. (*Portland Tribune 8/2/12*) Rosa Parks, at 45,147 sf. is one of these schools. This school was built in 2006 at \$239 a square foot (sf) ---40% above the norm at the time.

- Corvallis HS at 230,000 (total sf), built in 2003 with a total budget of \$46 million for \$200 a sf.
- Philomath HS, new for 2012, with a \$29.5 Million budget for 140,000 tsf or \$210 per sf.
- PPS wants you to open your wallet and pay **\$95 MILLION for Grant**, (274,489 sf) **\$85 Million for Franklin** (218,574 sf) and **\$70 Million for Roosevelt** (228,535).
- **These costs of \$306-389 per square foot are too high. What buildings are we getting while children receive a tarnished education?**

Do we trust PPS to spend money appropriately? The only oversight is PPS's word some "independent group will be appointed..." to review reports and audits". Who will appoint this group? What criteria qualify them to act in our best interests?

Please join me in Voting No on Measure 26-144.

Teresa McGuire
Parent, two Wilson Grads
Past Volunteer of the Year, Jackson MS

(This information furnished by Teresa McGuire)

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ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

Wrong Priorities

Troubling Facts:

Inadequate 62% high school graduation rate. 50% of graduates lack necessary skills to pass freshman college math, 45% are not reading adequately enough to earn C's (2012 ACT test scores).

Troubling Questions:

Does allocating 250 million dollars for only 3 high schools significantly improve student performance?

On the contrary, research consistently shows learning drastically improves with **more teachers** who receive training and support to assist students, parents and administration in academic **accountability. Human relationships guarantee success**, not buildings.

Recently, Alice Ott Middle school, David Douglas District, increased state standards from 50% to 80% with 73% of their students on the free or reduced lunch program. How? **The staff/teachers say consistent, positive, energetic staff produced powerful gains.** (*Oregonian 9/1/12*)

Why are we "repaying" a \$10.8 million dollar debt for Rosa Parks school? How was this school built without sufficient funds? If new buildings are PPS's answer to improved learning, then why is our **newest school** rated with "profound problems". (*New Ratings, Oregonian 8/4/12*)

Many citizens' resources are limited, what is the most cost effective way to improve safety and disability access?

No one argues the need to upgrade our science rooms, but with annual million dollar budget shortfalls, **how will these classrooms be staffed with trained science teachers?**

PPS must **lead** in adopting **innovative cost effective business, education and negotiation models.** Instead of the past "victim mentality" of never enough money, PPS needs to **work with all parties** (teachers, administrations, unions, legislators) to **reign in PERS.** Until this "elephant in the room" is resolved, our kids will never achieve an exemplary education. The monies are there. They need to be reallocated to classroom learning, not retirements.

Save money for more teachers, **support an efficiency audit** to consolidate/close more low performing schools, reexamine administration bureaucracy.

Vote No Hold our education leaders **accountable** for superior academic results.

Kelsey Green Grout, 15 year PPS parent & volunteer

(This information furnished by Kelsey Green Grout)

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PORTLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

Measure 26-144

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION

NO on Measure 26-144

Apparently, members of the Portland School Board think most voters failed in math.

What else would explain their belief that their breathtakingly huge bond measure would add up for your approval?

How huge?

- If approved, taxpayers will have to pick up the additional cost of principle-and-interest on a whopping \$482 million!
- It will be the **largest local bond measure approved in Oregon history!**
- It is so big that the total request is nearly **greater than the total cost of all the other 15 local tax measures combined** on the entire Oregon ballot.
- Currently, the district is already **spending an incredible rate of \$13,000 per student**, per year, for classrooms that are open approximately two-thirds of a year.

Throughout the state and nation, it is generally agreed that public schools are in need of major overhaul and that more money is not the answer. In fact, this ridiculously extravagant bond measure indicates that the Portland School District desperately needs to be reformed.

Again, approval of this bond measure will only delay meaningful school reform and recklessly piles an even bigger burden on long-suffering taxpayers.

Vote No, absolutely, on Measure 26-144

For more information & news on your taxes go to OregonWatchdog.com

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

**Find an Official
Drop Site in
Oregon.**

www.OregonVotes.gov

(This information furnished by Don McIntire, Taxpayer Association of Oregon)

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