

MULTNOMAH COUNTY

TIM SCOTT
DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS



ELECTIONS DIVISION

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Dear Voter:

For your convenience, we have included this Voters' Pamphlet with helpful information on the November 5, 2013 Special Election. Please see the back page for the ballot title and explanatory statement for Ballot Measure #26-153, Gresham-Barlow Schools to Increase Safety; Update, Expand, Rebuild Schools. No arguments for or against this measure were filed with Multnomah County.

If you have any questions you can contact our office at: 503-988-3720.

Sincerely,

Tim Scott, Director of Elections
Multnomah County, Oregon

Official Drop Sites for the November 5, 2013 Special Election

24-hour Official Ballot Drop Boxes – secure outdoor sites may be accessed 24-hours a day, but will be locked at 8 pm on Election Day.

- **Multnomah County Elections Division** - 1040 SE Morrison St, Portland – two 24-hour boxes with different locations (one on SE 11th Ave between Morrison & Belmont and one on SE Belmont between 10th & 11th).
- **Gresham Library 24-hour box** - 385 NW Miller Ave, Gresham – 24-hour box located in library parking lot.

Library Official Drop Boxes - Voted ballots may be delivered to the following libraries during library hours until 8 pm on Election Day. Library ballot drop box is located inside each library. Library hours listed below.

- **Fairview-Columbia Library** -1520 NE Village St, Fairview
Mon & Tue noon – 8 pm; Wed, Thur, Fri & Sat 10 am – 6 pm; Sun noon – 5 pm
- **Gresham Library** – 385 NW Miller Ave, Gresham
Mon, Fri & Sat 10 am – 6 pm; Tue 10 am – 8 pm; Wed & Thur noon- 8 pm; Sun 10 am – 5 pm.
- **Troutdale Library** – 2451 SW Cherry Park Rd, Troutdale
Mon & Tue noon – 8 pm; Wed, Thur, Fri & Sat 10 am – 6 pm; Sun noon – 5 pm

Other Official Drop Site – Nearby official drop site in Clackamas County.

- **Damascus City Hall** (Clackamas County) – 19920 SE Hwy 212, Damascus
Mon – Fri 8 am – 5 pm; Election Day 7 am – 8 pm.

Tips for voting

- Read the ballot, envelope and voters' pamphlet carefully
- To ensure your vote counts, completely fill in the oval to the left of the response of your choice.
- Please use a black or blue ink pen.
- If you make a mistake or change your mind while marking your ballot, you may request a replacement ballot from the Elections Office or you may make your changes on the ballot, but it is critical that you make your choice obvious because election workers will inspect each ballot to make sure voter intent is understood and the ballot is counted correctly. Make your intent clear.
- Do not put multiple ballots in one envelope
- The secrecy envelope is not required. If you forget to enclose the secrecy envelope your ballot will still count.
- **Don't forget to sign your return envelope. Your ballot will not count if you do not sign the return envelope.**
- If you accidentally sign another member of your households return envelope just cross off your signature and sign the correct one. The other member can then sign their envelope and vote.
- If you have a disability or are otherwise unable to mark your ballot you may contact the Elections Division for assistance. Phone 503-988-3720 / Oregon Relay Service 1-800-735-2900.
- Lost or damaged ballot? Questions? Call 503-988-3720.

GRESHAM-BARLOW SCHOOL DISTRICT

Measure 26-153

BALLOT TITLE

Gresham-Barlow Schools to Increase Safety; Update, Expand, Rebuild Schools

Question: Shall district improve safety, technology and renovate and expand existing schools; issue \$210 million general obligation bonds with citizen oversight. If 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:

- Update student learning environments, including technology and textbooks;
- Increase safety and security at existing schools;
- Add capacity for growth at Elementary/Middle schools by expanding existing buildings; remove aged portable classrooms for safety and security;
- Renovate existing schools including; replacing aging roofs and windows, enhance earthquake protection; upgrading classroom lighting and HVAC systems, plumbing, flooring, exterior walls; renovation of grounds, fields and playgrounds;
- Construct site improvements, furnish and equip all projects, purchase land;
- Rebuild Gresham High School and renovate Sam Barlow High School – Phase I, build technology support facilities; and
- Pay bond issuance costs.

Establish independent citizen oversight committee to ensure funds are used as intended.

The projected incremental cost over the existing property tax rate is \$1.56 per \$1,000 assessed property value. A home with an assessed value of \$167,350 is estimated to pay an additional \$22 a month. Each bond series may mature over no more than 25 years.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Gresham-Barlow School District serves 12,000 students in 19 schools.

School buildings average 40 years in age. Some are close to 100 years old.

Gresham-Barlow voters have not approved capital bond funds to upgrade facilities since 2000.

A bond measure planning committee made up of local citizens has reported the following issues:

- Student learning environments are out of date, particularly in current technology so that modern educational programs and techniques cannot be used by every teacher and student;
- Portable classrooms at elementary schools – sited away from main buildings – are aged and unsafe;
- Capacity at several schools would require expansion to fit more students;
- Building systems, including electrical wiring, heating, plumbing, roofs, windows, and more are in substandard condition;

- Schools are not in compliance with earthquake protection, handicapped accessibility and fire safety standards; and
- Grounds, parking lots, fields, and exteriors all require repair or replacement to maintain assets.

The proposed Gresham-Barlow School bond measure would fund capital projects for school facilities and classrooms, including:

- Rebuilding one school at existing location;
- Renovating school buildings to update systems;
- Updating classroom teaching technology for every school;
- Build updated technology support facility;
- Refurbishing school grounds, parking lots, fields, and repair exteriors; and
- Paying bond issuance costs.

Specifically, the school bond would:

- Rebuild Gresham High School (which is close to 100 years old) at current location;
- Renovate Sam Barlow High School (Phase 1);
- Renovate building systems at 17 schools including repairing exterior walls, repairing or replacing roofs, floors, ceilings, interior walls; replacing windows, doors, and updating heating systems to achieve more energy savings, updating lighting and furniture;
- Upgrade student learning environments and materials including technological systems and textbooks;
- Renovate Deep Creek Elementary to serve as a K-8 school;
- Add capacity at 12 schools for additional students instead of building new schools. Eliminate aged portable classrooms around elementary schools located at a distance from main building and most of student population;
- Update building safety including increased earthquake and fire safety systems; and
- Refurbish grounds, fields to reduce injury; update parking lots, furnish and equip projects, site improvements and buy land.

The Board of Directors would establish independent citizen oversight committee to ensure bond funds are used as approved by voters.

Bonds can only be used for bond projects.

The projected incremental cost over existing property tax rate is \$1.56 per \$1,000 assessed property value. As community grows, payments are applied to new properties. The bonds may be issued in multiple series and each series may mature over no more than 25 years.

Bond's principal amount cannot exceed \$210 million and can only be used for costs associated with completing projects listed on this ballot.

The county reports that the median assessed home value in Multnomah County is \$167,350. Property taxes would increase by about \$22 a month for the homeowner in the district, with a median assessed value of \$167,350

Submitted by
Jim Schlachter, Gresham-Barlow School District

No arguments FOR or AGAINST this measure were filed.