

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2016-010**

Approving the Oregon Historical Society Levy Renewal - Explanatory Statement and Ballot Title

**The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:**

1. The Oregon Historical Society houses and preserves Oregon's collection of historical documents, photos, books, maps and artifacts. The Museum and Library provide public access to research, study and interact with these materials to learn Oregon history.
2. In 2010 Multnomah County residents passed a five-year levy of \$.05 per \$1,000 assessed valuation to support the Oregon Historical Society, including the Oregon History Library and Museum.
3. A renewal of the five-year levy of \$.05 per \$1,000 assessed valuation will keep the Oregon History Library and Museum open to the public. An independent citizen oversight committee created to review all expenditures and ensure dollars are spent as promised will continue to provide accountability of the funds raised by the levy.
4. The ballot title and explanatory statement for renewal of a five-year levy of \$0.05 per \$1,000 of assessed property value have been prepared and are attached to this Resolution as Exhibit A.

**The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Resolves:**

1. The attached ballot title and explanatory statement are approved and certified to the director of Multnomah County Division of Elections.
2. The board clerk shall submit this resolution, ballot title and explanatory statement to the Multnomah County Elections Director for further action required by law.

**ADOPTED this 25th day of February, 2016.**



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

*Deborah Kafoury*

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Deborah Kafoury, Chair

REVIEWED:  
JENNY M. MADKOUR, COUNTY ATTORNEY  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

*Jacqueline A. Weber*  
By: Jacqueline A. Weber, Deputy County Attorney

SUBMITTED BY: Deborah Kafoury, Multnomah County Chair.

## EXHIBIT A

### MEASURE \_\_\_\_\_

#### **CAPTION:**

Five year levy: Oregon Historical Society Library, Museum, educational programs.

#### **QUESTION:**

Shall County renew 5-year history museum, library, educational programs levy; maintain \$.05 per \$1,000 assessed value, oversight, beginning 2016?

This measure renews current local option taxes.

**SUMMARY:** In 2010 voters approved a five-year local option levy of \$.05 per \$1,000 assessed property value to support the Oregon Historical Society (OHS).

Renewal of local option levy will continue support to the OHS's museum, library, educational programs, and fund the following without increasing taxes:

- Educational programs
- Free admission to school groups and Multnomah County residents
- Preservation of important Oregon treasures and artifacts
- Support four County historical societies: Fairview-Rockwood-Wilkes Historical Society, Gresham Historical Society, Troutdale Historical Society, and Crown Point Country Historical Society
- OHS will continue to build on its efforts to provide exhibits and services that reflect the diverse histories of our region, and engage all parts of our county.

Levy continues rate of \$.05 per \$1,000 assessed property value, and replaces the 2010 levy. A home assessed at \$200,000 pays \$10 a year.

An independent citizen oversight committee will review expenditures to verify that funds are used as approved by voters. Annual audits will be conducted and made public.

The levy will produce an estimated \$2.54 million for fiscal year 2016-2017; \$2.67 million for fiscal year 2017-2018; \$2.81 million for fiscal year 2018-2019; \$2.95 million for fiscal year 2019-2020; and \$3.1 million for fiscal year 2020-2021.

The estimated cost for this measure is an ESTIMATE ONLY based on the best information available from the county assessor at the time of estimate.

## **EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

Established in 1898, the Oregon Historical Society collects, maintains, and preserves the vast majority of historical records and artifacts for Portland and the State of Oregon. About 60% of the library materials relate directly to Multnomah County history, and OHS acts as the Multnomah County Historical Society.

In addition to the Society's collection of over 85,000 artifacts, 5 million photographs, 25,000 maps, and more, the Oregon Historical Society maintains a museum and public research library in downtown Portland. Approximately 70,000 visitors use these facilities a year, including about 8,000 schoolchildren who visit the museum for guided tours, and access the library to research Oregon history.

This Multnomah County local option levy will keep the Oregon Historical Society's museum open seven days a week (47 hours a week) and the library open to the public 32 hours a week. It supports curation for the museum, and the continued collection and protection of Oregon's historical artifacts and documents. Levy funds will also protect the collection of Oregon history documents and artifacts, and public access to those, at four East Multnomah County Historical Societies—Fairview-Rockwood-Wilkes Historical Society, Gresham Historical Society, Troutdale Historical Society, and Crown Point Country Historical Society—which together will receive \$150,000 of the levy each of the five years.

The levy supports continuation of educational programs including free admission for all school groups who visit the museum and library, and for all county residents - providing access to those otherwise unable to visit due to cost. Funds shall be allocated in a manner that supports

an OHS board, partnerships, staff, exhibits and programs that proactively represent Multnomah County's diverse cultures.

The cost of the levy renewal is \$.05 (five cents) per \$1,000 assessed property value, beginning 2016 through 2021. For example, the owner of a home assessed by the county at \$200,000 will continue to pay \$10 a year for this levy.

Accountability is a component of the levy. The Multnomah County Chair will continue to appoint an independent citizens oversight committee – representative of Multnomah County's diverse communities – to review all levy expenditures and ensure dollars are spent as approved by voters, and shall advise and support OHS in ensuring that its board, partnerships, staff, exhibits and programs proactively represent Multnomah County's diverse cultures. In addition, Multnomah County will continue to select an auditor for which OHS will pay to conduct annual audits of levy funds that will be made available to the public.

This levy will fund approximately one-third of operations at the Oregon Historical Society. Other funds come from admissions, grants, and private donations.

Submitted by:

Jenny Madkour

County Attorney

Multnomah County

## Measure Explanatory Statement for County Voters' Pamphlet

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

### Filing Information

Election: ☐ Primary 20\_\_\_\_ ☐ General 20\_\_\_\_ ☐ Special\_\_\_\_ Measure # \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

Ballot Title Caption

Name of Person responsible for content of 'Explanatory Statement' (as it should appear in the Voters' Pamphlet):

Name of Jurisdiction/Organization Person is authorized to represent (as it should appear in the Voters' Pamphlet):

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone: Cell:\_\_\_\_\_ Work:\_\_\_\_\_ Home:\_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail:

### SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of person responsible for content of 'Explanatory Statement'

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### MEASURE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

See attached for 'Measure Explanatory Statement' (500 word/number MAX).

#### For Office Use only:

☐ County:\_\_\_\_\_

Signed? ☐ Yes ☐ No

'Measure Explanatory Statement' attached?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Intake Staff Initials:

Word Count (500 max):

Digital copy? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Review Staff Initials:

# Measure Explanatory Statement for County Voters' Pamphlet Instructions

## Filing Explanatory Statement – per OAR 165-022-0040

1. The governing body for any local government which has referred a measure to the voters shall submit an impartial, simple and understandable statement explaining the measure and its effect.
2. For an initiative or referendum by petition, an impartial, simple and understandable statement explaining the measure and its effect shall be submitted by the governing body of the local government only if the local government has an ordinance requiring the submission of such a statement.
3. 'Measure Explanatory Statement' shall be limited to 500 words/numbers maximum.
4. The County Clerk shall reject any 'Referred Measure' submitted without an 'Explanatory Statement'.

## General Instructions

1. An original, faxed, e-mail attachment or copy of a typewritten and signed 'Measure Explanatory Statement for County Voters' Pamphlet' must be filed with the County Elections office no later than 5 pm on the 'Notice of Measure' filing deadline. Postmarks do not count. **Any filings received or are unsigned after 5 pm on the deadline will be rejected.**
2. Submit the 'Measure Explanatory Statement' complete on a standard 8 ½" x 11" white paper containing the 'Measure Explanatory Statement' and attach to the signed form. 'Measure Explanatory Statement' is to be submitted typewritten.
3. **The word count must not exceed 500 words/numbers. If the explanation exceeds 500 words/numbers it will be edited by the County Elections office.**
4. The 'Measure Explanatory Statement' shall include the name and signature of the person responsible for the content of the statement and the name of the governing body that person is authorized to represent.
5. Pursuant to ORS 251.415 the County Clerk shall reject any statement which:
  - a. Contains any obscene, profane or defamatory language;
  - b. Incites or advocates hatred, abuse or violence toward any person or group; or
  - c. Contains any language which may not legally be circulated through the mail.
6. The County Clerk will not correct spelling, grammar or punctuation errors. 'Measure Explanatory Statement' will not be returned for proofreading after it has been filed.
7. **In addition to filing the 'Measure Explanatory Statement for County Voters' Pamphlet', it is recommended that the responsible party for the 'Measure Explanatory Statement' e-mail the electronic text (Word) to the County Elections office. The electronic text must mirror the submitted print version exactly.**

## Contact Information

- **Clackamas County Elections**, 1710 Red Soils Ct, Ste 100, Oregon City OR 97045-4300  
 phone 503-655-8510      fax 503-655-8461      e-mail [elections@co.clackamas.or.us](mailto:elections@co.clackamas.or.us)
- **Multnomah County Elections**, 1040 SE Morrison St, Portland OR 97214-2417  
 phone 503-988-3720      fax 503-988-3719      e-mail [elections@multco.us](mailto:elections@multco.us)
- **Washington County Elections**, 3700 SW Murray Blvd, Ste 101, Beaverton OR 97005-2365  
 phone 503-846-5800      fax 503-846-5810      e-mail [elections@co.washington.or.us](mailto:elections@co.washington.or.us)
- **Yamhill County Elections**, 414 NE Evans St, McMinnville, OR 97218-4607  
 phone 503-434-7518      fax 503-434-7520      e-mail [elections@co.yamhill.or.us](mailto:elections@co.yamhill.or.us)

# Notice of Measure Election County

**SEL 801**rev 01/16: ORS 250.035, 250.041,  
250.175, 254.103, 254.465**Notice****Date of Notice**

2/25/2016

**Name of County or Counties**

Multnomah

**Date of Election**

May 17, 2016

**Final Ballot Title** The following is the final ballot title of the measure to be submitted to the county's voters. The ballot title notice has been published and the ballot title challenge process has been completed.

**Caption** 10 words which reasonably identifies the subject of the measure.

See Attached

**Question** 20 words which plainly phrases the chief purpose of the measure.

See Attached

**Summary** 175 words which concisely and impartially summarizes the measure and its major effect.

See Attached

**Explanatory Statement** 500 words that impartially explains the measure and its effect.

If the county is producing a voters' pamphlet an explanatory statement must be drafted and attached to this form for:

→ any measure referred by the county governing body; **or**  
→ any initiative or referendum, if required by local ordinance.

**Explanatory Statement Attached?**☒ Yes☐ No

**Authorized County Official** Not required to be notarized.

**Name****Title****Mailing Address****Contact Phone**

*By signing this document:*

→ I hereby state that I am authorized by the county to submit this Notice of Measure Election; **and**  
→ I certify that notice of receipt of ballot title has been published and the ballot title challenge process for this measure completed.

**Signature****Date Signed**