

CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Staff Presentation Worksheet

Presentation Date: July 12, 2011 Time: 10:30 Length: 60 Minutes
Presentation Title: Update and Review – Local Option Levy for the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office
Department: County Administration
Presenters: Steve Wheeler, Nancy Newton

POLICY QUESTION

In 2006 Clackamas County voters approved a \$0.248 per \$1,000 assessed value levy to support certain public safety features. Does the Board of County Commissioners support a continuation of the levy, an expansion of the levy, or letting the levy lapse at its five year term?

ISSUE & BACKGROUND

Several weeks ago the Board of County Commissioners considered a timeline for the Local Option Levy. An updated draft is attached. At that time the Board requested additional information from the County Sheriff concerning:

- Assuming the levy continues – what should be the amount of the levy? Currently \$.01/\$1,000 produces approximately \$354,000 Countywide. At \$0.248 that is approximately \$8.78 million.
- Assuming the levy continues – updated Sheriff thoughts on future uses of levy proceeds.

Sheriff Roberts and the Undersheriff have been invited to attend and express their views on these topics, as well as any other related thoughts they may have.

Last week Tonia Hunt, Executive Director of the Children's Center and Melissa Erlbaum, Executive Director of Clackamas Women's Services approached the County about a potential Clackamas County Children's Safety levy. Their proposal on support funding for victims of domestic violence and child abuse is attached.

In summary, the attached proposal requests the Board consider three possible options to support child abuse assessments and domestic violence intervention.

- 1: Include a \$0.035/\$1,000 assessed value commitment of additional tax revenue as part of an increased amount for the public safety levy going forward. If the existing levy amount is kept at \$0.248/\$1,000 value the requested levy amount would be \$0.283/\$1,000 assessed value.

- 2: Absorb \$0.035/\$1,000 assessed value into the existing \$0.248/\$1,000 assessed value levy. This would effectively reduce the existing Sheriff support funds from \$8.78 million to \$7.58 million.
- 3: Initiate a stand-alone \$.035/\$1,000 assessed value levy proposal on the November 2011 ballot.

A \$.035/\$1,000 of assessed value levy produces approximately \$1.2 million in revenue.

The proposal gives a more detailed description of need, potential use and polling results for this levy. It is important to note that a levy proposal cannot be pre-earmarked for any specific social service providers. It must be general in description and application, allowing competition and evaluation among a variety of providers. Stating purpose and intent is appropriate in a levy proposal, directing to a pre-selected provider is not.

QUESTIONS PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION

1. Does the Board need additional input from the Sheriff and other potential beneficiaries of a proposed local option levy extension? If so, what information and from whom?
2. Consider the updated calendar on the local option levy timeline. Does it establish an appropriate framework for the Board's careful consideration on levy continuation, expansion or lapsing?
3. Does the Board have a position on the options proposed to develop financial support for victims of domestic violence and child abuse?

OPTIONS AVAILABLE

Consider questions proposed above. Are there other questions that should be posed? If yes, please help identify them.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Respond to the three questions that are proposed so Staff can determine additional assistance and information needs for the Board of Commissioner to make a future levy determination in amount and purpose.

SUBMITTED BY:

Division Director/Head Approval _____
Department Director/Head Approval _____
County Administrator Approval _____

For information on this issue or copies of attachments, please contact Steve Wheeler@ (503) 655-8581