

Notice of Measure Election

District

26-178

SEL 803

rev 01/16 ORS 250.035,
250.041, 255.145, 255.345

Notice

Date of Notice

07/26/2016

Name of District

Metro, a municipal government pursuant to ORS 268

Name of County or Counties

Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas Counties

Date of Election

11/08/2016

Ballot Title Prepare with assistance from the district attorney or an attorney employed by the district.

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.

RECEIVED
16 JUL 26 PM 3:47
TIM SCOTT
DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS

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 district governing body; or
- any initiative or referendum, if required by local ordinance.

Explanatory Statement Attached? Yes No

Authorized District Official Not required to be notarized.

Name

Martha J. Bennett

Title

Chief Operating Officer

Mailing Address

600 NE Grand Ave, Portland, OR 97232

Contact Phone

(503) 797-1541

By signing this document:

→ I hereby state that I am authorized by the district elections authority to submit this Notice of Measure Election and I certify the above ballot title is true and complete.

Signature Redacted

Signature

Date Signed

7/26/16

BALLOT TITLE

Caption

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

Question

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

This measure renews current local option taxes.

Summary

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

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

Result of a "yes" vote

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

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

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

Measure Explanatory Statement for County Voters' Pamphlet

Important! Please read all instructions before completing this form. This form is to be used when filing a 'Measure Explanatory Statement for County Voters' 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 2016 Special _____ Measure # 26 - 178

Ballot Title Caption

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

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

Martha J. Bennett, Chief Operating Officer

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

Metro, a municipal government pursuant to ORS 268

RECEIVED
16 JUL 26 PM 3:47
TIM SCOTT
DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS

CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone: Cell: _____ Work: 503-797-1541 Home: _____

E-Mail: martha.bennett@oregonmetro.gov

SIGNATURE

Signature Redacted

7/26/14

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: Multnomah

Word Count (500 max): _____

Signed? Yes No

Digital copy? Yes No

'Measure Explanatory Statement' attached?

Yes No

Review Staff Initials:

TS

Intake Staff Initials:

TS

Explanatory Statement

Measure 26-178 would help improve water quality, restore fish and wildlife habitat, and increase opportunities for people to connect with nature.

Result of a "yes" vote

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

What would renewing the levy do?

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

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

Improve water quality and restore wildlife habitat

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

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

Increase access to nature for people

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

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

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

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

Measuring performance

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

Learn more at oregonmetro.gov/nature