

# Measure 5-300

Assigned 3/20/24

May 21, 2024 Oregon Primary Election

FILED - COLUMBIA CO. CL.  
20 MAR 2024 13:04

SEL 801

rev 01/18: ORS 250.035, 250.041,  
250.175, 254.103, 254.465

## Notice of Measure County

<b>Notice</b>		
<b>Date of Notice</b> March 20, 2024	<b>Name of County or Counties</b> Columbia	<b>Date of Election</b> May 21, 2024
<b>Final Ballot Title</b> 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.		
<b>Caption</b> 10 words which reasonably identifies the subject of the measure.		
Jail Operating Tax Levy		
<b>Question</b> 20 words which plainly phrases the chief purpose of the measure.		
Shall Columbia County levy a tax of \$0.87/\$1000.00 of assessed value for four years beginning in FY2025 for Jail operations? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.		
<b>Summary</b> 175 words which concisely and impartially summarizes the measure and its major effect.		
In 2014, 2017, and 2020 voters approved a jail operating levy, expiring in 2024.  The three primary funding sources for the Jail are the County's General Fund, Federal bed rentals, and the Jail Operating Tax Levy. Since 2014 the County's general Fund support for the Jail has remained consistent. However, during the pandemic Federal bed rental revenue substantially decreased and the cost to run the jail substantially increased. Jail medical costs alone increased from \$634,278 in FY19-20 to \$1,500,000 in FY24-25. The Jail has been forced to use reserve funds to cover costs since 2020. The Jail cannot fully operate without a new rate of \$.87/\$1000.  Prior to the 2014 Levy, the County was forced to reduce Jail beds for local inmates to 25 and anticipated a full closure of the Jail without the Levy. The tax Levy at a rate of \$.87/\$1000 will pay for continued operation of the Jail through FY2027-2028, including funding for constitutionally required food, clothing, management, and healthcare for adults in custody.  The estimated money raised will be \$5,569,309 in FY 2024-2025, \$5,804,458 in FY 2025-2026, \$6,049,535 in FY2026-2027 and \$6,604,960 in FY 2027-2028, for a total estimated tax Levy of \$23,728,262.		
<b>Explanatory Statement</b> 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; <b>or</b> → any initiative or referendum, if required by local ordinance.		
		<b>Explanatory Statement Attached?</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Authorized County Official</b> Not required to be notarized.		
<b>Name</b> Casey Garrett	<b>Title</b> Chair	
<b>Mailing Address</b> 230 Strand, Room 20, St. Helens, Oregon 97051	<b>Contact Phone</b> 503-397-3839	
<b>By signing this document:</b> → I hereby state that I am authorized by the county to submit this Notice of Measure Election; <b>and</b> → I certify that notice of receipt of ballot title has been published and the ballot title challenge process for this measure completed.		

Signature

3.20.2024

Date Signed