

FILED - COLUMBIA CO. CLERK
18 APR 2021 15:15

ORS 251.345
OAR165-022-0040

COLUMBIA COUNTY
EXPLANATORY STATEMENT FOR COUNTY VOTERS' PAMPHLET

Ballot Title Caption: Five-year Local Option Tax for Cemetery Operations

Measure Number (if known):

Word Total (500 Max):

Statement

Implementing a five year local option levy for the purposes of cemetery maintenance and operations will provide funding to maintain our level of service to the District by allowing the hiring of a part-time office support staff member and replacing aging equipment. In addition to office support, the additional funding will allow the District to contract for additional landscape maintenance support during the peak mowing season, May 15-July 15. Community members who frequent any one of our twelve cemeteries on a regular basis have commented that the level of maintenance and care has declined.

Currently, the District is responsible to maintain twelve cemeteries (approximately 37 acres of land covering 25 miles between Rainier and Clatskanie, with cemeteries in Quincy/Mayger, Delena, Prescott, Goble, Apiary and West Deer Island), meet with families, plans burials, processes all of the paperwork for burials that is required by the State of Oregon Mortuary Board, as well as, processing all paperwork mandated by the District.

The District's permanent tax rate was established in 1962 at \$0.07090 per \$1,000 of assessed value and is severely inadequate to fund current staffing needs, as well as replace the aging equipment used every day to service the needs of the District.

This levy would be for five years beginning in 2021-2022 fiscal year. The levy rate of \$0.0500 on a home with an assessed value of \$150,000 would be an additional \$7.50 per year.

Having adequate staffing levels, much needed equipment replaced and operating supplies are so very important when taking care of your family's final resting place.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Cyndi M. Warren
Bookkeeper
Rainier Cemetery District

Person responsible for the content of the Explanatory Statement:

CYNDI M. WARREN

(Name: TYPED)

x *Cyndi M Warren*

(Name: SIGNED)

RCD BOOKKEEPER

Position

3/15/2021

Date signed

Instructions

- The explanatory statement shall be typed.
- Word total: not to exceed 500 words.
- Signature: signed by the person responsible for the content of statement and to include the name of the governing body that person represents.
- Deadline: The statement filing deadline is the same deadline date as that of filing the Notice of Measure election (5pm)
- Note: The county clerk shall reject any referred measure submitted without an explanatory statement

MAILED
MAR 17 2021