



PROPOSED MEASURE 20-340

Lane County voters will have the opportunity to vote on a five-year public safety levy that – *without increasing the current tax rate* – would continue funding for 255 local jail beds and youth treatment services if passed.



OVERVIEW

During the May 2023 election, Lane County voters will have the opportunity to vote on the five-year public safety levy for a third time. The levy was originally passed by voters in 2013 and renewed in 2017. Since this is a proposed levy renewal, it would not increase property taxes beyond the current rate.

MEASURE QUESTION

Renewal of Jail and Youth Services Five-Year Levy

Without increasing tax rate, shall County maintain jail, youth treatment beds levying \$0.55/\$1,000 assessed value for five years beginning FY2023/24?

This measure renews current local option taxes.

ESTIMATED COST

If passed, this measure would not change the current tax rate. The proposed tax rate is \$0.55 per \$1,000 of assessed property value. The median Lane County homeowner is estimated to pay an average of \$9.80 per month for five years.

If the proposed levy is not passed, the tax revenue will not be collected and services at the Jail and Youth Services will not receive financial support from levy funds. The current levy expires on June 30, 2023.

THE BASICS

If passed, the proposed measure renewal would maintain a minimum of 255 local jail beds for a five-year period, providing the Sheriff with improved ability to hold those arrested for violent felony offenses until their cases are resolved.

Since the original levy took effect in 2013, no violent felony or Measure 11 offenders have been released pre-trial due to lack of space.

LOCAL JAIL BEDS



There are currently 367 local jail beds available. The levy provides 52 percent of Jail operations funding.

MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT



The Jail uses best practices to manage the people in its custody, including services for people with mental health and substance use issues.

YOUTH SERVICES



Levy funding provides 8 of 16 youth detention beds and 8 of 15 youth treatment beds.



541-682-4150



publicsafetylevy.org



PublicSafetyLevy@LaneCountyOR.gov



SERVICES PROVIDED

Starting with the original levy in 2013, the public safety levy has provided funding to maintain a minimum of 255 local jail beds, as well as 8 youth detention beds and 8 youth treatment beds. The proposed levy renewal would also require these minimums be maintained.

The Board Order placing the question of levy renewal before voters also requires Lane County to continue providing General Funds to assist with Jail operations.

To date, the public safety levy has maintained or exceeded the minimum of 255 beds.

BY THE NUMBERS

Prior to the original levy taking effect in 2013, there were 125 local jail beds. Lack of available bed space regularly led to the capacity-based, pre-trial release of people in custody.

255

The minimum number of local jail beds required to be maintained with levy funds.

367

The current number of local jail beds available at the Lane County Jail.

0

The number of violent felony or Measure 11 offenders released pre-trial due to lack of capacity since the first levy took effect in 2013.

52

The percent of Jail operations revenue provided by the levy.



Oversight

Annual independent audits of the use of levy funds, and a public presentation of audit results, would continue if the levy is renewed.



Maintains Tax Rate

This proposed renewal of the levy, if passed by voters, would not increase the current tax rate.

LEARN MORE & TAKE A TOUR

Visit www.PublicSafetyLevy.org to:

- Sign up for a tour of the Lane County Jail: www.PublicSafetyLevy.org/tours
- Review a history of the public safety levy: www.PublicSafetyLevy.org/history
- Read Frequently Asked Questions: www.PublicSafetyLevy.org/faqs
- Read the full proposed measure text: www.PublicSafetyLevy.org/measure

This information was reviewed by the Oregon Elections Division for compliance with ORS 260.432.