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JUL 10 '25 PM 1:54

Notice of Measure Election County

SEL 801

rev 01/18 ORS 250.035, 250.041,
250.175, 254.103, 254.465**Notice**

Date of Notice July 10, 2025	Name of County or Counties Washington County	Date of Election November 4, 2025
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Final Ballot Title 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.

Caption 10 words which reasonably identifies the subject of the measure.

Replacement Levy to Support Countywide Library Services

Question 20 words which plainly phrases the chief purpose of the measure.

Shall Washington County support library services countywide by levying 37¢ per \$1,000 assessed value for five years, beginning in 2026? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

Summary 175 words which concisely and impartially summarizes the measure and its major effect.

Measure replaces levy expiring in June 2026. The levy supports Washington County Cooperative Library Services (WCCLS) and libraries in Aloha, Banks, Beaverton, Bethany, Cedar Mill, Cornelius, Forest Grove, Garden Home, Hillsboro, North Plains, Sherwood, Tigard, Tualatin and West Slope. The expiring levy provides 45% of total WCCLS funding.

Replacement levy would help maintain and provide:

- Reading and learning support for kids and teens, including homework help for students.
- Central services that efficiently link libraries together so users can browse collections and reserve materials for pickup at their nearest library.
- Open hours and access to books and materials for everyone in the community.
- Children's reading events including story times for babies, toddlers and preschoolers.

The replacement levy would set a fixed rate of 37¢ per \$1,000 of assessed value, an increase of 15¢. In 2026, typical homeowners with an assessed value (not market value) of \$348,600 would pay about \$129 annually, or \$4.55 more per month than the current levy expiring in June 2026. The library levy rate was last replaced by voters in 2015.

Estimated levy amount for each year:

\$34,705,141 in 2026-2027

\$36,180,110 in 2027-2028

\$37,717,765 in 2028-2029

\$39,320,770 in 2029-2030

\$40,991,902 in 2030-2031

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 county governing body; or
→ any initiative or referendum, if required by local ordinance.

Explanatory Statement Attached? ☒ Yes

☐ No

Authorized County Official Not required to be notarized.

Name Alex Barnett	Title County Counsel
Mailing Address 155 N First Avenue, Hillsboro, OR 97124-3072	Contact Phone (503) 846-8747

By signing this document:

- I hereby state that I am authorized by the county to submit this Notice of Measure Election; and
→ I certify that notice of receipt of ballot title has been published and the ballot title challenge process for this measure completed.

Signature

Date Signed

7/20/25

Washington County
Library Levy Replacement
Explanatory Statement

Washington County Cooperative Library Services (WCCLS) is the primary source of funding for public libraries in our county, supporting open hours at libraries in Aloha, Banks, Beaverton, Bethany, Cedar Mill, Cornelius, Forest Grove, Garden Home, Hillsboro, North Plains, Sherwood, Tigard, Tualatin, and West Slope. WCCLS provides systems and support that link 16 full-service libraries into one system, supporting access to books and community events for all county residents. Most libraries are open at least 6 days a week.

This measure would replace a five-year levy that will expire in June 2026. The expiring levy provides 45% of total WCCLS funding. The replacement levy would run from July 2026 through June 2031.

What would the library levy do?

Last year, there were over 2.4 million visits to Washington County libraries. Total checkouts exceeded 7.2 million, saving users \$140 million by borrowing items instead of purchasing them. Demand for e-book and audiobook checkouts has increased 34% in the past four years, and over 75,000 users borrowed an e-book or audiobook last year.

Libraries hosted over 200,000 participants at 6,000 in-person events for kids and teens including summer reading. Additionally, over 10,000 students participated in library programs designed to support reading, learning and student success. Libraries also offer assistance and resources to job seekers or those who want to develop new skills.

The replacement levy would help maintain and provide services for all county residents.

Reading and learning support for kids and teens, including homework help and online tutoring for students.

Central services that efficiently link libraries together so users can browse collections and reserve materials for pickup at any of the 16 libraries in the county.

Open hours and access to books and materials for everyone in the community.

Children's reading events including storytimes for babies, toddlers and preschoolers.

How would this levy impact a homeowner's taxes?

The replacement levy would set a fixed rate of 37¢ per \$1,000 of assessed value, an increase of 15¢. In 2026, typical homeowners with an assessed value (not market value) of \$348,600 would pay an estimated total of \$129 annually. The annual increase in cost for the typical homeowner would be just over \$54 per year, or \$4.55 per month more than the current levy.

Why would the tax rate go up?

Since voters approved the last levy in May 2020, demand for service has increased and costs have risen. Library services cannot be maintained at the current rate. Replacing the levy would help libraries provide service for all county residents.

What would happen if the replacement levy does not pass?

The expiring levy provides 45% of WCCLS funding for libraries. If the levy does not pass, reductions in library service would occur, including reductions in open hours, book purchases, reading events and reduced level of services that link libraries together. Examples of these services include providing the online library catalog, delivering books to libraries and maintaining access to technology. Reductions would likely begin in July 2026.

For more information, visit wccls.org/levy.

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