

# WHAT?

Vote by May 15, 2012, on the Forest Grove 5-year **Public Safety/Community Services Local Option Levy**.

## The current levy:

- ◆ is \$1.35 per \$1,000 of assessed value;
- ◆ brings in about \$1.6 million in revenue;
- ◆ helps to pay for City services of Fire, Police, the Library, Parks, and the Aquatic Center;
- ◆ is fixed and doesn't change with inflation.

## The City is:

- ⇒ proposing to maintain these services;
- ⇒ **proposing \$1.60 per \$1,000** of assessed value (a 25¢ increase from the current levy);
- ⇒ projecting the proposed levy would allow departments to keep pace with inflation on existing services.

# WHY?



The Fire Department responds to more than one call at a time - It happened 393 times last year.

The Police Department provides proactive patrols throughout the City every day of the year, and responded to over 22,000 calls in 2011.



The Library is open 6 days a week; the Aquatic Center is open 7 days a week.

\$ Costs to provide this full range of City services are expected to rise. The levy enables the City to continue providing these services to the community, and allows the City to keep up with inflation.

# HOW MUCH?

\$45.00 more per year, or \$3.75 per month, in additional property taxes for a typical homeowner with an assessed value (not market value) of \$180,000 - the total annual amount would be \$288 for this property tax.



## **Keep Forest Grove A Full Service City...**

### **The Public Safety/Community Services levy would enable the City to continue:**

- Offering a full range of City services
- Responding to emergency fire and medical calls when more than one occur at the same time, which happened 393 times last year (without the levy funding, responding to calls at the same time would be challenging)
- Maintaining a pro-active police force, patrolling 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year
- Supporting the operations of the Senior and Community Center
- Operating the Library 6 days a week, with access to the internet, cultural programs, reading programs, and 1.6 million items, including books, movies, and music. The Library had over 200,000 visits last year
- Maintaining 107 acres of park land, including 10 developed parks, which offer a range of facilities, from developed athletic fields to play structures & barbeques
- Keeping the Aquatic Center open 7 days a week. The Aquatic Center had 122,000 visits last year

**The proposed levy would help keep up with rising costs so the City could continue to offer these services to the citizens of Forest Grove**

## ***BUDGET REALITIES...***

- The citizens of Forest Grove have voted to approve the City's operating local option levy since 2002. The local option levy has allowed Forest Grove to continue being a full service city.
- Without the levy, approximately \$1.6 million of City services would need to be reduced or eliminated.

- The levy helps pay for Police, Fire, the Library, Parks and the Aquatic Center.

**Levy  
Funding  
help**



Questions? Call 503-992-3234 for more information or visit the City's website at: [www.forestgrove-or.gov](http://www.forestgrove-or.gov)

**CITY OF FOREST GROVE  
PUBLIC SAFETY/COMMUNITY SERVICES LEVY  
Ballot Measure #34-196**

**Vote by May 15, 2012**



**Facts:**

- \* The Fire Department responded to more than one call at a time 393 times last year.
- \* The Police Department patrols neighborhoods 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, and responded to over 22,000 calls last year.
- \* The Library is open 6 days a week and citizens can access special programs, the internet, as well as 1.6 million items to borrow; there were over 200,000 visits last year.
- \* The Parks Department maintains 107 acres of park land, 10 parks, and 9 miles of trails.
- \* The Aquatic Center is open 7 days a week and offers a variety of lessons, fitness classes, and open swim times, and accommodated 122,000 visits last year.

The **Public Safety/Community Services Levy** helps to pay for these services.

**What happens if the levy passes?**

- Police officers would be available to patrol, respond to emergencies and help keep neighborhoods crime free.
- Firefighters and paramedics would be able to respond to multiple calls at a time.
- The Library would be able to stay open 6 days a week.
- Parks would remain open and maintained.
- The Aquatic Center would continue offer various fitness and swimming programs 7 days a week.

**Please Vote by May 15, 2012**

**Need More Information?**

There are a number of ways to learn more about the Forest Grove Public Safety/Community Services Levy:

- Investigate the City website at: [www.forestgrove-or.gov](http://www.forestgrove-or.gov).
- Invite us out to make a presentation to your group.
- Give us a call at **(503) 992-3234**.



This information authorized by  
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