

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-26

**RESOLUTION OF THE FOREST GROVE CITY COUNCIL
SUPPORTING WASHINGTON COUNTY REPLACEMENT LOCAL OPTION
LEVY FOR COUNTYWIDE PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES
BALLOT MEASURE 34-296**

WHEREAS, Washington County is a vital and strategic partner for providing necessary law enforcement services; and

WHEREAS, Measure replaces levy expiring June 2021. Replacement maintains and adds to countywide public safety services:

Maintained:

- Investigation, forensics services and prosecution of homicide and other major crimes supporting public safety countywide;
- Trained mental health responders including deputies and mental health professionals helping people in crisis get medical assistance instead of going to jail;
- Juvenile programs reducing crime;
- Monitoring registered sex offenders and other supervision;
- Victims' assistance and emergency shelter, including for women and children who are victims of domestic violence

Added:

- Enhanced prosecution and supervision for domestic violence, child abuse and child pornography cases;
- More deputies to operate the jail at full capacity, minimizing early release of offenders;
- Enhanced diversion programs reducing juvenile crime;
- Services to quicken the transition from shelter to stable housing, including for domestic violence survivors.

WHEREAS, Five-year, fixed rate of 47¢ per \$1,000 of assessed value, an increase of 5¢. If approved, this would be the first increase in the rate since original 2000 levy. In 2021, typical homeowners with an assessed value (not market value) of \$300,000 would pay \$141.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FOREST GROVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. That the City Council of the City of Forest Grove does hereby endorse its support and urges the passage of the Washington County Replacement Local Option Levy for Countywide Public Safety Services Ballot Measure 34-296 on the ballot May 19, 2020.

Section 2. This resolution is effective immediately upon its enactment by the City Council.

PRESENTED AND PASSED this 16th day of March, 2020.



Attested: Anna D. Ruggles, City Recorder

APPROVED by the Mayor this 16th day of March, 2020.



Peter B. Truax, Mayor



Measure 34-296: Public Safety Levy

This information, except for the website link(s), was reviewed by the Oregon Secretary of State's Office for compliance with ORS 260.432. SH20-065



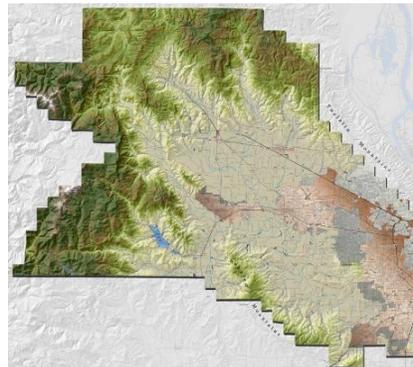
3/10/2020



Proposed Public Safety Levy

Who receives services from the current levy?

- City neighborhoods
- Urban unincorporated communities
- Rural areas



Proposed Public Safety Levy

If passed, what would the proposed levy do?

- Replace a five-year levy expiring in June 2021
- Continue countywide public safety services at the current level of service (\$187.7m, 168.5 positions)
- Add services to address increased domestic violence & emergency shelter caseloads (\$9.8m, 11 positions)





Current Service Level If the Proposed Levy Passes

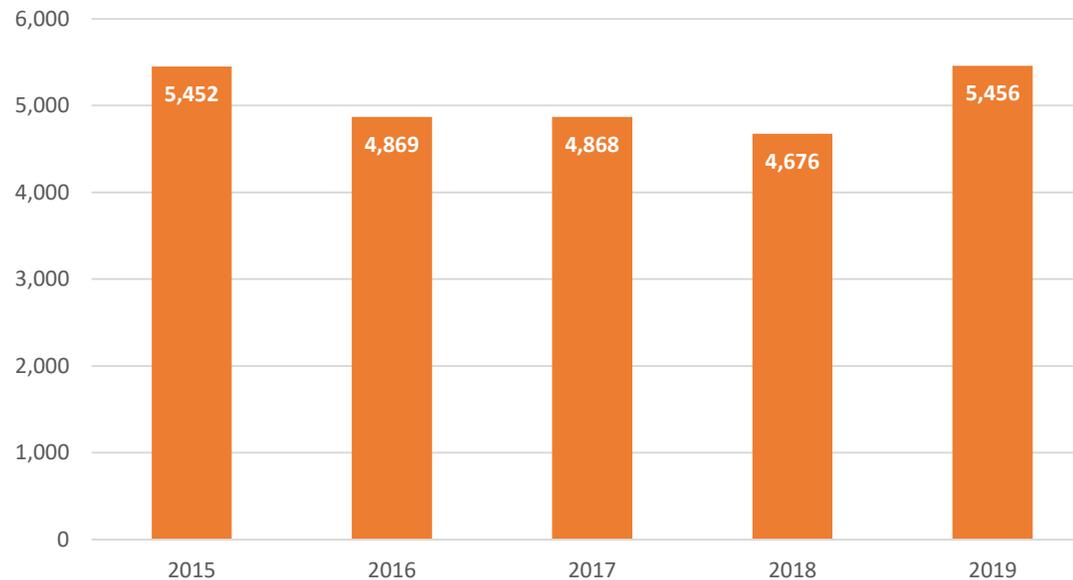
What current service level funding would be provided if the proposed levy passes?

- Prosecution services addressing crimes throughout the county (25.3 District Attorney's Office positions)
- Treatment and supervision of those who may be released to the community, including compliance monitoring for registered sex offenders and others with court-ordered supervision requirements. (31 Community Corrections positions)
- Supervision and treatment of juvenile offenders. (11 Juvenile Department positions)



What current service level funding would be provided if the proposed levy passes?

- Law enforcement personnel providing countywide services in investigations, forensics and special teams. (101.25 Sheriff's Office positions)
- Example: trained mental health responders including deputies and mental health professionals helping people in crisis get medical assistance instead of going to jail.



Mental Health Response Team Calls for Service

What current service level funding would be provided if the proposed levy passes?

- Victims' assistance and emergency shelter for women and children who are victims of domestic violence.
(Approximately \$7 million over five years)
- Levy funds would continue to support emergency shelter and other services provided by:
 - Domestic Violence Resource Center
 - Community Action
 - Family Promise of Washington County
 - Good Neighbor Center
 - Safe Place Youth Shelter
 - Family Justice Center

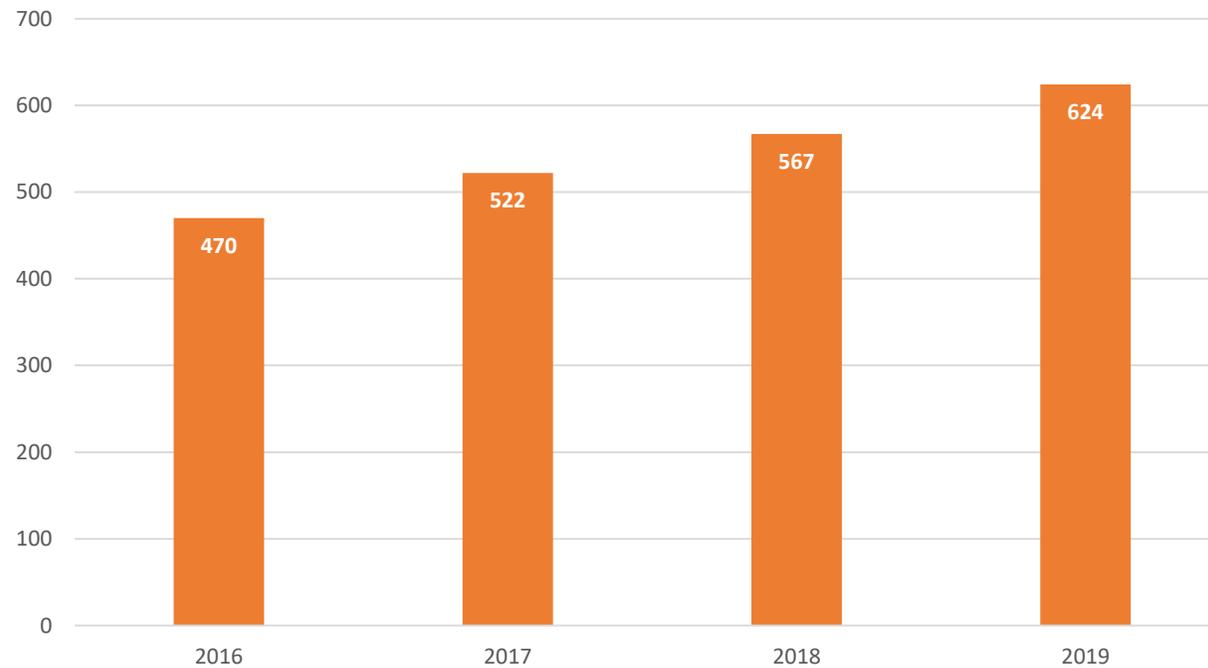




Additional Services If the Proposed Levy Passes

What services would be added if the proposed levy passes?

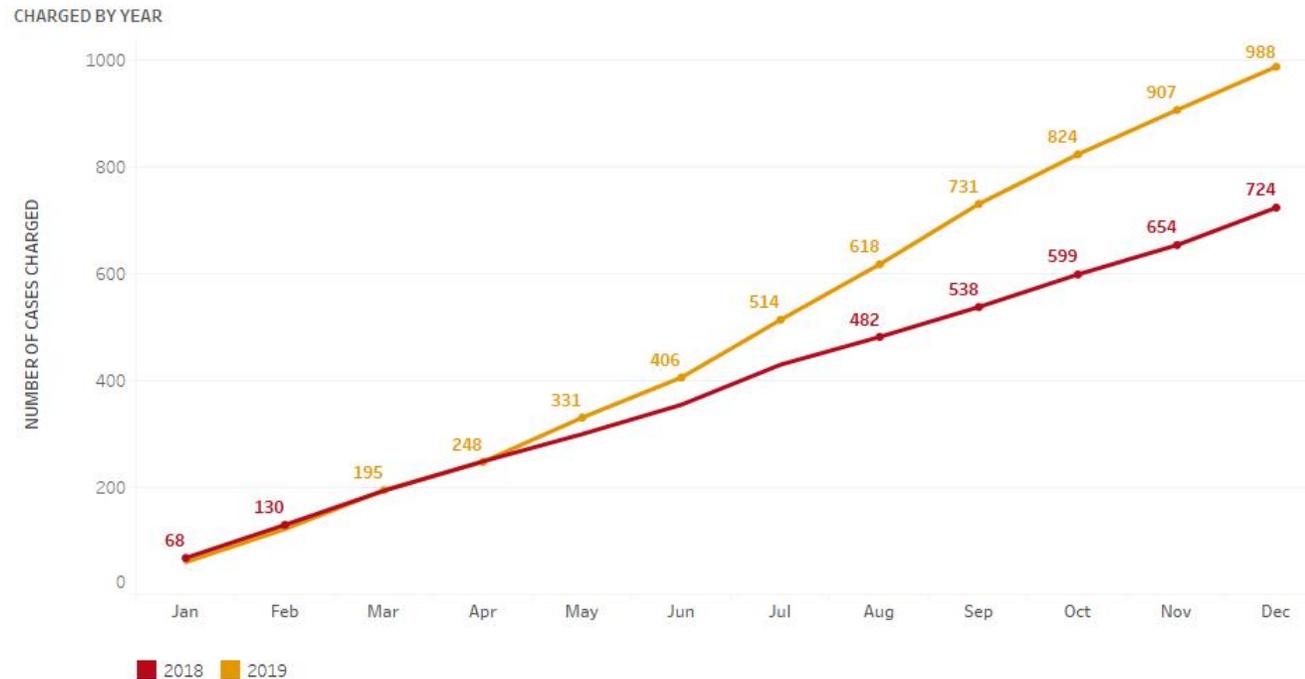
- Increased funding for prosecution of child abuse and child pornography cases. (1 District Attorney's Office position)



Child Abuse Cases Referred

What services would be added if the proposed levy passes?

- In 2019, 985 domestic violence cases were filed, a 36% increase in caseload when compared to the previous year.
- If passed, the levy would provide funding for four additional parole and probation officers responsible for addressing the increased domestic violence-related caseloads at a five-year cost of \$2.4 million. (4 Community Corrections Department positions)



What services would be added if the proposed levy passes?

- Of the 572 beds in the Washington County Jail, one 56-bed pod (10% of total jail-bed space) would be maintained through this portion of levy funding.
- If passed, the replacement levy would provide funding for four additional jail deputies at a five-year cost of \$2.8 million, allowing the jail to operate at full capacity and reduce early release of offenders. (4 Sheriff's Office positions)



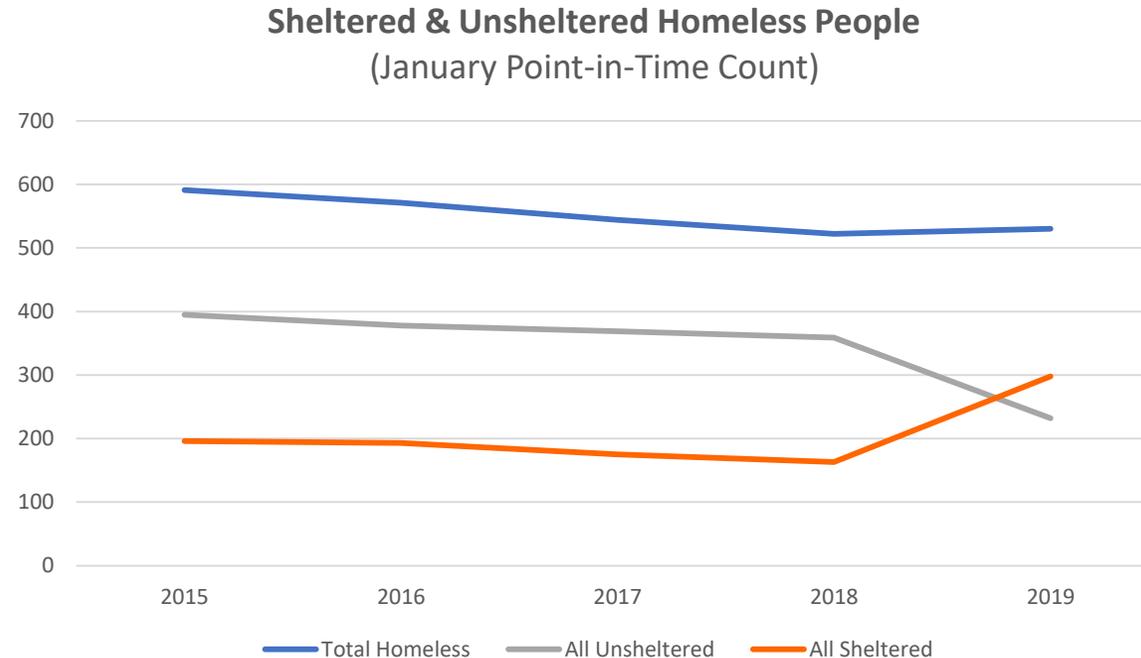
What services would be added if the proposed levy passes?

- If passed, the proposed levy would provide \$1.5 million of funding over five years for contracted services with community-based organizations to divert juvenile offenders out of the criminal justice system, as appropriate on a case-by-case basis. provide additional diversion services at a five-year cost of \$1.5 million.
- An estimated 1,000 youth projected to be eligible for this diversion program over five years would be assessed, placed on a case plan and would participate in programming, outside of the criminal justice setting, as provided by a nonprofit organization.
(Additional contracted services)



What services would be added if the proposed levy passes?

- Funding to reduce the transition time from emergency shelter to housing for individuals and families, including survivors of domestic violence. Temporary shelters have seen a 70% increase in use over the last three years. (2 positions within the nonprofit network of emergency shelter providers)





Taxpayer Impact

Proposed rate and tax impact, if the levy passes:

- The proposed levy would have a five-year, fixed rate of \$0.47 per \$1,000 of assessed value. This would be an increase of \$0.05 per \$1,000 of assessed value over the current levy.
- If approved, this would be the first increase in the rate since the original levy in the year 2000.
- In 2021, typical homeowners, based on an average assessed value of \$300,000, would pay \$141 per year, or about \$20 more than they paid in 2020.
- This assumes an average assessed value (not market value) of \$300,000.
- The tax due in future years would depend on changes in assessed value.

Proposed rate and tax impact, if the levy does not pass:

- If the levy does not pass, the additional local option property taxes would not be levied.
- In 2021, typical homeowners, based on an average assessed value of \$300,000, would see a \$126 per year reduction in their property taxes.
- If the levy does not pass, there would be a reduction in services in Washington County affecting prosecution, law enforcement, supervision, corrections and emergency shelters likely to begin in 2021.

Summary

If passed, what would the proposed levy do?

- Replace a five-year levy expiring in June 2021
- Continue countywide public safety services at the current level of service (\$187.7m, 168.5 positions)
- Add services to address increased domestic violence & emergency shelter caseloads (\$9.8m, 11 positions)





For more information, please visit:



www.co.washington.or.us/levies

Election • May 19th



Thank you



3/10/2020

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