

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-27

**RESOLUTION OF THE FOREST GROVE CITY COUNCIL
SUPPORTING WASHINGTON COUNTY RENEWAL OF LOCAL OPTION
LEVY TO SUPPORT COUNTYWIDE LIBRARY SERVICES
BALLOT MEASURE 34-297**

WHEREAS, Washington County Cooperative Library Services (WCCLS) was created in May of 1976, to serve all the residents of Washington County; and

WHEREAS, WCCLS is the primary source of funding for public library operations countywide. Additionally, its central support and services link city and community libraries together into one system, creating broad access to books and other library materials for all county residents; and

WHEREAS, Measure renews a levy that expires in June 2021. Renewal supports member libraries of Washington County Cooperative Library Services (WCCLS) in Aloha, Banks, Beaverton, Cedar Mill, Cornelius, Forest Grove, Garden Home, Hillsboro, North Plains, Sherwood, Tigard, Tualatin and West Slope. It funds central support and services that link libraries together. The expiring levy provides 40% of total WCCLS funding:

Renewal of the levy helps libraries by:

- Maintaining open hours at all libraries, avoiding cuts in service;
- Funding children's reading events, including summer reading and literacy programs for preschoolers;
- Purchasing books and materials that all library users have access to countywide;
- Providing reading and learning support, including online access and homework help designed to improve school success for all students in the county;
- Maintaining central support and services that link libraries together.

WHEREAS, the renewed five-year levy continues library services at a fixed rate of 22¢ per \$1,000 of assessed value, which is unchanged from the current rate. In 2021, typical homeowners with an assessed value (not market value) of \$300,000 would pay \$66.

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 Renewal of Local Option Levy to Support Countywide Library Services Ballot Measure 34-297 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.

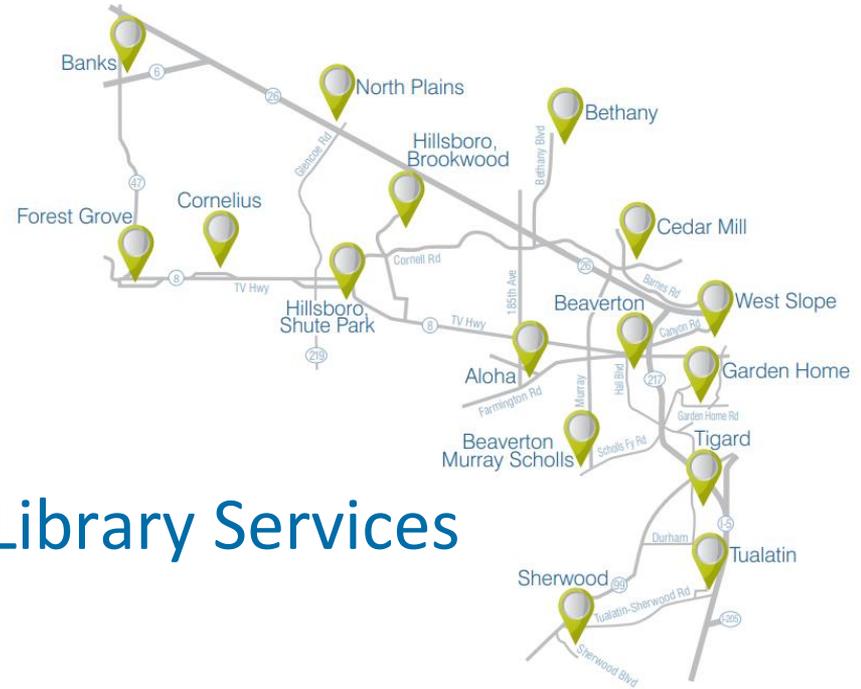


Peter B. Truax, Mayor

Measure 34-297

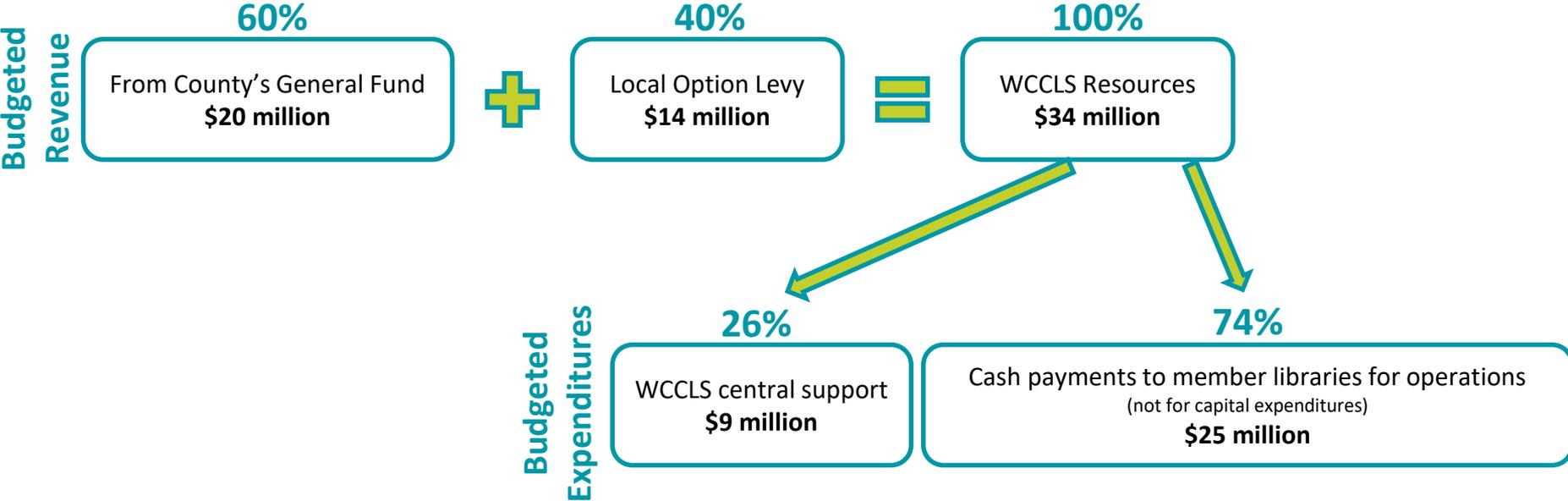
Proposed levy for Countywide Library Services

May 19, 2020 Ballot



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

Current revenue and expenditures (FY19-20)

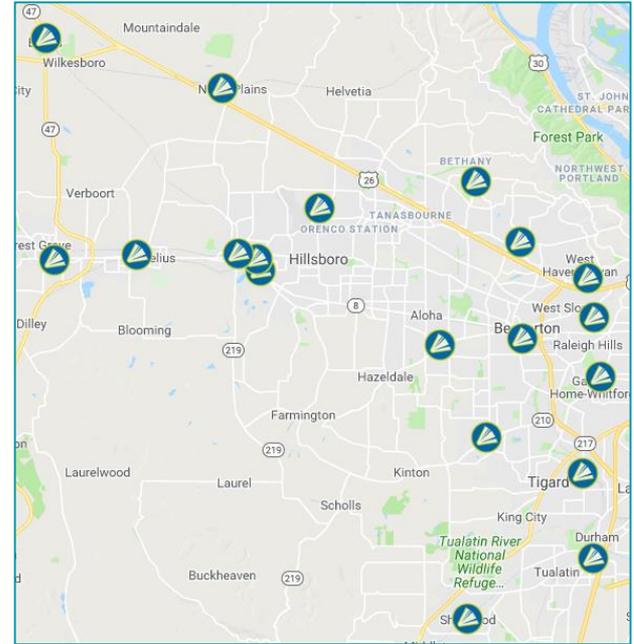


If passed, how would levy funds be used?

Funding for public library operations

Measure 34-297 would provide funding to maintain open hours for libraries that serve all county residents, including libraries in Aloha, Banks, Beaverton, Cedar Mill, Cornelius, Forest Grove, Garden Home, Hillsboro, North Plains, Sherwood, Tigard, Tualatin and West Slope.

Libraries saw 3.8 million visits in fiscal year 2018-19.



If passed, how would levy funds be used?

Reading programs for children

Measure 34-297 would support children's reading events that average about 285,000 participants each year.

This would include annual summer reading programs for youth and literacy programs for preschoolers.

In addition, libraries would provide reading and learning programs for students, including online homework and tutoring services for all children in Washington County.



If passed, how would levy funds be used?

Book purchases

The measure would provide funds for the purchase of books, e-books and other materials that are available to all library users.

It would fund the purchase of additional copies of in-demand books in order to reduce wait times.

Levy funding would also provide online access that allows users to reserve books that can be picked up at any library.

In fiscal year 2018-19, WCCLS library users checked out over 11.2 million library materials.



If passed, how would levy funds be used?

Resources for jobseekers

Measure 34-297 would allow libraries to continue to provide information and instruction to assist those looking for jobs or career development.

Jobseekers could continue to use library computers and internet access to apply for jobs, and access learning tools for career development.

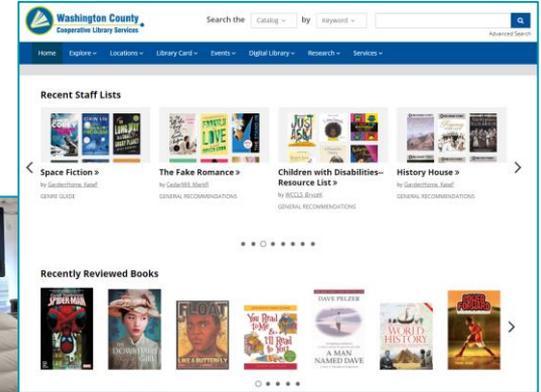
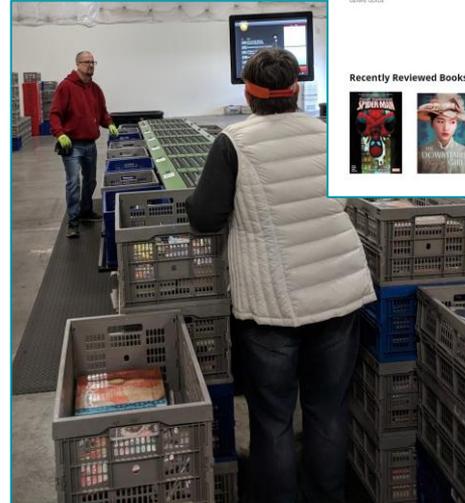


If passed, how would levy funds be used?

Central support and services that link libraries together

Measure 34-297 would maintain central support and services, which include the following:

- Central sorting and book delivery between 16 libraries seven days a week, allowing all county residents to access the shared collection of 1.6 million books and other materials;
- Shared library inventory management and online request system;
- wcls.org website and shared library events calendar;
- Book deliveries to county residents who are homebound or living in care facilities.



How would Measure 34-297 Affect a Homeowner's Taxes?

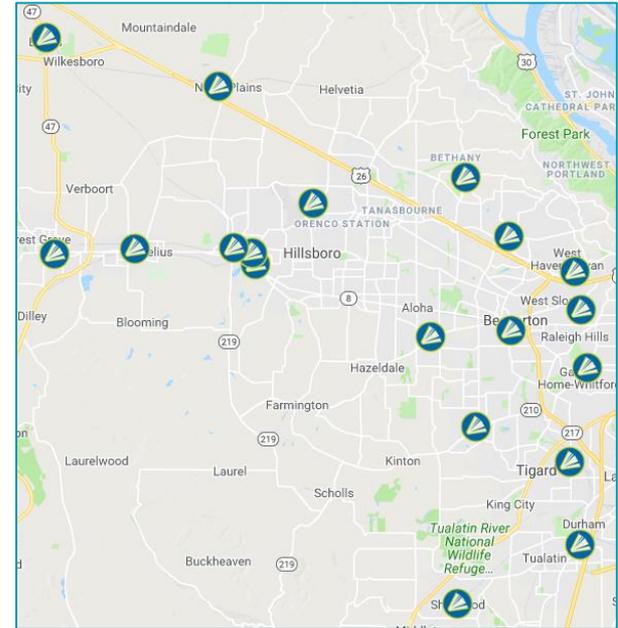
- If passed, Measure 34-297 would renew a five-year levy that is expiring in June 2021.
- The proposed levy would maintain a fixed rate of \$0.22 per \$1,000 of assessed value, running from July 2021 through June 2026.
- In 2021, typical homeowners with an assessed value of \$300,000 (not market value) would pay \$66 per year if passed.



What would happen if the levy does not pass?

If the measure does not pass, reductions in service levels would likely occur, including reductions in hours, book purchases and events, as well as reductions in countywide services such as the countywide online catalog and book delivery.

Homeowners would not be assessed the tax of \$0.22 per \$1,000 of assessed value.



For more information

visit the WCCLS website at wccls.org/levy

