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# CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

## Policy Session Worksheet

**Presentation Date:** 06/02/2026    **Approx. Start Time:** 11 a.m.    **Approx. Length:** 30 minutes

**Presentation Title:** Public Safety Local Option Levy Next Steps, Part 2

**Department:** County Administration

**Presenters:** Angela Brandenburg, Sheriff  
Tony Mayernik, Policy Advisor

### WHAT ACTION ARE YOU REQUESTING FROM THE BOARD?

Staff seek Board direction on referral of a ballot measure to renew the Public Safety Local Option Levy.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The likely failure of Measure 3-633 at the May 2026 Primary Election means that the current Public Safety Local Option Levy will end on December 31, 2026. The levy will be assessed for the upcoming property tax year and levy-funded positions and programs are included in the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027. To avoid a disruption in levy funding for Fiscal Year 2027-2028, a renewal must be approved by the voters before July 2027.

Oregon law provides four election dates each year in March, May, August, and November. As the governing body of Clackamas County, the Board of County Commissioners may refer a property tax measure to any upcoming election. However, an Oregon constitutional provision requires that property tax measures in March or August elections must be approved by a so-called "double majority", that is, a majority of the voters in an election where a majority of registered voters participated.

The Board has expressed interest in holding a town hall, engaging with community partners, and potentially polling voters. The Board's direction on which election cycle to consider will shape the outreach work that staff are able to perform in preparation for a referral.

The Board previously considered four options:

- \$0.368 per \$1,000 assessed value (the current rate; would result in fewer levy-funded positions)
- \$0.534 per \$1,000 assessed value (Measure 3-633; maintains the current level of service)
- \$0.608 per \$1,000 assessed value (adds specialized crime reduction)
- \$0.681 per \$1,000 assessed value (adds specialized crime reduction and fleet replacement)

If the Board chooses to proceed with a referral at an upcoming election, staff from the Sheriff's Office, Counsel and PGA will need to work together to begin the process of re-evaluating options for the Board to consider.

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (current year and ongoing):

Is this item in your current budget?     YES     NO

What is the cost? ~\$120,000

What is the funding source? Contingency Funding

### **STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:**

- How does this item align with your Department's Strategic Business Plan goals?

One of County Administration's Strategic Business Plan goals is to ensure the Board has sufficient information to make informed decisions.

- How does this item align with the County's Performance Clackamas goals?

Direction from the Board will further the Board's goal of building public trust in good government through open and transparent deliberations and decisions and provide insight on how staff should move forward with ensuring fulfillment of the Board's goal of providing safe, secure, and livable communities.

### **LEGAL/POLICY REQUIREMENTS:**

For the November 2026 election, ballot titles must be filed by August 13, and ballot materials must be filed by September 2.

For the May 2027 election, ballot titles must be filed by February 26, 2027, and ballot materials must be filed by March 18, 2027.

ORS Chapter 260 places restrictions on political advocacy by public employees, with exceptions for elected officials (and those appointed to an elective office). In general, public employees may inform voters of pertinent facts, so long as the information is impartial and is not used to lead voters to support or oppose a particular position in an election.

### **PUBLIC/GOVERNMENTAL PARTICIPATION:**

The level of public engagement would be based on the time available before ballot materials must be filed for any given election.

For a November 2026 referral, staff contemplate 1 community town halls in June or July, polling through a qualified contractor on the most recent levy renewal efforts and potential options for a new renewal measure, and social media and direct mailing campaigns in late October.

For a May 2027 referral, ballot materials are not due until mid-February. In this scenario, staff could complete 2 town halls, with polling of voter sentiments after the November 2026 election, and informational campaigns in early May.

### **OPTIONS:**

1. Direct staff to engage in planning efforts for a November 2026 referral.
2. Direct staff to engage in planning efforts for a May 2027 referral.
3. Direct staff to take no further action at this time.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

No staff recommendation. Staff stand ready to support Board direction.

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

N/A

**SUBMITTED BY:**

Division Director/Head Approval \_\_\_\_\_

Department Director/Head Approval \_\_\_\_\_

County Administrator Approval \_\_\_\_\_

For information on this issue or copies of attachments, please contact Tony Mayernik @ 503-742-5920