

NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF BALLOT TITLE

In accordance with ORS 250.275, notice is hereby given that the following ballot title for a measure referred by Cornelius City Council has been filed with the City Elections Officer of Cornelius on August 15, 2023.

CAPTION: REPLACEMENT LOCAL OPTION LEVY TO INCREASE FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES.

QUESTION: Shall Cornelius increase fire services with a five-year replacement levy of \$1.461 per \$1,000 of assessed value beginning 2024-2025? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

SUMMARY: Cornelius has had a local option levy to support fire services since 2015. The current levy expires in 2024. This measure, if approved, would replace the expiring levy at \$1.461 per \$1,000 and would allow the Fire Department to meet increased costs and call demand, reduce 911 response times, and better deliver advanced lifesaving medical treatment by funding:

- Three additional firefighters, increasing the number of daily professional firefighters available to serve the community;
- Four early-career student interns to address the decrease in volunteer firefighters; and
- Replacement of decades-old fire vehicles and equipment, and improvements to the Cornelius Public Safety building.

If not approved, additional funding would not be provided, resulting in no staffing increases, an inability to maintain current staffing levels, no reduction in response times, and no capital improvements.

The replacement levy of \$1.461 per \$1,000 of assessed value would cost roughly \$365 per year, or \$30.41 per month, for a home assessed at \$250,000 for five years beginning July 2024. In most cases, assessed value is lower than market value.

An estimate of the total amount of money to be raised for each year of the proposed replacement levy is:

FY 2024-2025: \$1,440,264
FY 2025-2026: \$1,483,472
FY 2026-2027: \$1,573,815
FY 2027-2028: \$1,621,029
FY 2028-2029: \$1,669,660

Total: \$7,788,240

An elector may file petition for review of this ballot title in the Washington County Circuit Court no later than 5 p.m. on August 25, 2023.

For further information, contact City Recorder/Elections Officer at 503-357-9112.

Debby Roth

Debby Roth
City Recorder

TRIBUNE: Publish August 18, 2023
OREGONIAN: Publish August 18, 2023