

Notice of Measure Election

County

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rev 01/18: ORS 250.035, 250.041,
250.175, 254.103, 254.465

Notice

Date of Notice
August 30, 2021

Name of County or Counties
JOSEPHINE COUNTY

Date of Election
November 2, 2021

JOSEPHINE
COUNTY CLERK

Final Ballot Title The following is the final ballot title of the measure to be submitted to the county's voters. The ballot title notice has been published and the ballot title challenge process has been completed.

Caption 10 words which reasonably identifies the subject of the measure.

Animal Shelter and Control Five Year Local Option Tax

Question 20 words which plainly phrases the chief purpose of the measure.

Shall Josephine County levy \$0.11 per \$1,000 assessed value for Animal Shelter and Animal Control for five years beginning 2022-2023? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

Summary 175 words which concisely and impartially summarizes the measure and its major effect.

This increases the current local option tax expiring June 2022 by \$0.03 and would continue through June 2027. Revenue from this measure would go into a dedicated fund. By law, Josephine County would use this revenue only to:

- Fund the Animal Shelter and Animal Control program;
- Cover related administrative expenses.

Animal Shelter provides adoption, food, care, medical treatment and temporary shelter for dogs, cats, and other animals impounded under law.

Animal Control investigates animal abuse, neglect, hoarding, and abandonment. Animal Control enforces state and local laws that regulate dogs running at large, that attack livestock, and that are dangerous or a public nuisance.

At \$0.11 per \$1,000, for every \$100,000 of assessed value, the tax would cost \$0.92 per month or \$11.00 per year. The approximate tax increase for a home valued at the County median residential assessed value of \$176,790 would be approximately \$19.45 per year.

The proposed rate will raise approximately \$995,280 in 2022-2023, \$1,027,852 in 2023-2024, \$1,061,728 in 2024-2025, \$1,096,659 in 2025-2026, and \$1,118,235 in 2026-2027, for a total of \$5,299,754.

The estimated tax cost for this measure is an ESTIMATE ONLY based on the best information available from the county assessor at the time of the estimate and may reflect the impact of early payment discounts, compression and the collection rate.

Explanatory Statement 500 words that impartially explains the measure and its effect.

If the county is producing a voters' pamphlet an explanatory statement must be drafted and attached to this form for:

→ any measure referred by the county governing body; **or**

→ any initiative or referendum, if required by local ordinance.

Explanatory Statement Attached?

Yes

No

Authorized County Official Not required to be notarized.

Name

M. Wally Hicks

Title

Josephine County Legal Counsel

Mailing Address

500 NW Sixth St., Dept. 13, Grants Pass, OR 97526

Contact Phone

(541)474-5226

By signing this document:

→ I hereby state that I am authorized by the county to submit this Notice of Measure Election; **and**

→ I certify that notice of receipt of ballot title has been published and the ballot title challenge process for this measure completed.



Signature

August 30, 2021

Date Signed

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT FOR VOTERS' PAMPHLET

Ballot Title Caption Animal Shelter and Control Five Year Local Option Tax

Measure No. _____ **Word Total (500 max)** 440

In May 2017 voters passed a five-year local option tax of \$0.08 per \$1,000 assessed value to provide for Animal Shelter and Animal Control services countywide. That measure expires in June 2022.

This proposed new local option tax of \$0.11 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value would provide funding for Animal Shelter and Animal Control programs through June 2027. The revenue from this measure would go into a dedicated fund. By law, the fund could be used only for Animal Shelter and Animal Control services, and related administrative expenses which include Finance, Human Resources, Legal Counsel, and Information Technology. No revenue from this measure would fund the office or salaries of the Board of County Commissioners.

The Animal Shelter is part of the Public Health Department. The Shelter provides food, care and temporary shelter for an average of 2,054 dogs, cats, and other animals each year. The Shelter also provides adoption services for homeless animals. In fiscal year 2019-2020 the shelter adopted out approximately 1,585 animals and reunited approximately 374 animals. Services provided by the Animal Shelter currently include:

- Adoption programs for stray, impounded, and surrendered animals;
- Lost/found database to reunite lost pets with their owners;
- A Live Release Rate of over 90% (meeting No-Kill standards);
- Veterinary care for all animals in custody, including spay/neuter, vaccination, parasite treatment, and microchipping of all animals adopted out;
- Emergency veterinary care for sick or injured strays;
- Targeted spay/neuter program to reduce free-roaming cat populations;
- An up-to-date shelter data management computer program;
- Health programs such as disease testing before adoption, rabies quarantine and control;
- Facility upgrades to provide sanitary housing;
- Adoption options for heartworm positive dogs, FIV positive cats, and unsocialized cats;
- Public access to the shelter six days per week;
- Outdoor play yards and a walking path for socializing and exercising dogs;
- 365 days/year staffing.

The Animal Control program is supervised by the Sheriff's Office. In fiscal years 2018-2020 Animal Control Officers investigated over 2,000 complaints including animal abuse, neglect, hoarding, abandonment, dog bites and dog versus livestock encounters. Animal Control Officers also enforce state and local laws regulating dogs running at large, and dogs that are or may be dangerous or a public nuisance. Services provided by the Animal Control Program include:

- Four fulltime Animal Control Officer (ACO) positions;
- Seven days/week response to animal bites, animal crimes and nuisance animals;
- Public education regarding responsible pet ownership;
- Animal bite management and communicable disease control;
- Provision of safety equipment for ACOs;

- Training for ACOs;
- Investigation and prosecution of animal-related cases.

The Animal Shelter Advisory Committee receives monthly reports regarding expenditure of levy funds and advises the Board of County Commissioners on animal-related issues.

Board of County Commissioners

Person responsible for the content of the Statement

Josephine County

Name of the Government Body person represents