

17.97

# Notice of Measure Election City

**SEL 802**

rev 01/18 ORS 250.035, 250.041,  
250.275, 250.285, 254.095, 254.465

**Notice**

**Date of Notice**

February 22, 2021

**Name of City or Cities**

City of Grants Pass

**Date of Election**

May 18, 2021

**Final Ballot Title** The following is the final ballot title of the measure to be submitted to the city'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.

Three-year City Police & Fire Local Option Tax.

**RECEIVED**  
**FEB 22 2021**  
**JOSEPHINE**  
**COUNTY CLERK**

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

Shall Grants Pass renew a levy of \$1.79 per \$1,000 dedicated to funding Police and Fire?

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

This levy renews the current City Police and Fire Local Option levy ending June 30, 2021. Funds raised by the levy would be used solely for Grants Pass Police and Fire operations.

What a YES vote will do:

Renew funding of the levy to continue police and fire response services – 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for three years starting July 1, 2021.

Public Safety services include:

Neighborhood patrols, Detectives, Criminal investigation, Traffic enforcement, Drug enforcement, Gang prevention, 911/Dispatch services, SWAT/Negotiation Teams

Fire Services include:

Fire protection, Fire response, Wildfire prevention efforts, Medical response, Technical rescue, Crisis support

What a NO vote will do:

Result in a 22% loss in current Public Safety funding. Not funding the levy may result in a reduction or elimination of the services listed above.

This 3-year local option levy of \$1.79 per \$1,000 assessed value would fund City Police and Fire operations. The levy would be approximately \$348 per year for the average Grants Pass home.

**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 city governing body; or

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

**Explanatory Statement Attached?**

Yes

No

**Authorized City Official** Not required to be notarized.

**Name**

Aaron Cubic

**Title**

City Manager

**Mailing Address**

101 NW A Street, Grants Pass, OR 97526

**Contact Phone**

541.450.6000.

*By signing this document:*

→ I hereby state that I am authorized by the city 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

021821

Date Signed

## Notice of receipt of Ballot Title

The City of Grants Pass Elections Officer received the ballot title for a measure to be placed on the ballot for election on May 18, 2021 in the city of Grants Pass for the purpose of submitting to the voters of the city a Local Option Tax for Public Safety:

### Proposed Local Option Tax:

**CAPTION:** Three-year City Police & Fire Local Option Tax.

**QUESTION:** Shall Grants Pass renew a levy of \$1.79 per \$1,000 dedicated to funding Police and Fire?

**SUMMARY:** This levy renews the current City Police and Fire Local Option levy ending June 30, 2021. Funds raised by the levy would be used solely for Grants Pass Police and Fire operations.

### What a YES vote will do:

Renew funding of the levy to continue police and fire response services – **24 hours a day, 7 days a week** for three years starting July 1, 2021.

### Public Safety services include:

- Neighborhood patrols
- Detectives
- Criminal investigation
- Traffic enforcement
- Drug enforcement
- Gang prevention
- 911/Dispatch services
- SWAT/Negotiation Teams

### Fire Services include:

- Fire protection
- Fire response
- Wildfire prevention efforts
- Medical response
- Technical rescue
- Crisis support

### What a NO vote will do:

Result in a 22% loss in current Public Safety funding. Not funding the levy may result in a reduction or elimination of the services listed above.

This 3-year local option levy of \$1.79 per \$1,000 assessed value would fund City Police and Fire operations. The levy would be approximately \$348 per year for the average Grants Pass home.

It has been determined that this measure meets the single subject requirement and the municipal legislation requirement of the Oregon Constitution Article IV, Section 1, (2)(d) and (5), and ORS 250.270. The ballot title may be reviewed in the City of Grants Pass Administration Office, 101 NW 'A' Street, Grants Pass Oregon 97526 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Pursuant to ORS 250.035, 250.275, and 250.296, any elector dissatisfied with this ballot title may petition the Josephine County Circuit Court seeking a different title and stating the reasons the title is insufficient, not concise, or unfair. That petition must be filed no later than the seventh business day after the title was filed with the City Elections Officer. The ballot title was filed with the City Elections Officer on February 9, 2021. Petitions for judicial review are due no later than February 19, 2021.

Karen Frerk  
City Recorder (Elections Officer)

## Notice of receipt of Explanatory Statement

The City of Grants Pass Elections Officer received the Explanatory Statement for a measure to be placed on the ballot for election on May 18, 2021, in the city of Grants Pass for the purpose of submitting to the voters of the city a Local Option Tax for Public Safety.

### City of Grants Pass Police & Fire Local Option Tax Rate Levy – Explanatory Statement:

**Continuation of current Police and Fire Service.** This local option tax is a renewal of the current City Police and Fire levy at exactly the same rate.

- Since 1986, City voters have funded Police and Fire by approving levies.
- 1996 - \$4.13 per thousand set as Permanent Property Tax Rate for City. This amount alone is insufficient to fund Police and Fire services.
- 1998 - Local option tax levy established to help fund Police and Fire operational services. This levy must be renewed by voters. All local option tax levy monies are dedicated to Police and Fire operations.
- 2010 - \$1.79 current local option tax rate approved by voters. It has been renewed for one five-year levy, and two three-year levies, for a total of 11 years.
- This current local option tax rate expires June 30, 2021.

If approved, the levy would remain unchanged from the levy that will expire June 30, 2021. The proposed levy would continue to fund City Police and Fire services for the next three years.

**Police and Fire Funding.** Over the past two decades, the permanent property tax rates have not been enough to support Police and Fire. Police and Fire local option taxes, such as this one, have been approved to provide Public Safety funding.

**Maintain Current Police and Fire Services.** This local option tax rate Levy would maintain current services including Police and Fire/Rescue emergency responses 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Other services include:

- 911 dispatch services
- Traffic enforcement
- Vehicle crash/emergency medical response
- Gang prevention
- Crime/fire prevention
- Detectives/Major crime investigations
- K-9 program
- Drug enforcement
- SWAT/Negotiation Team
- Community policing/school programs
- Crisis support services
- Fire protection/response
- Wildfire prevention

**Tax Impacts.** This proposal is for a three-year local option tax levy to fund City Police and Fire services from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2024. The tax rate for this levy would be \$1.79 per \$1,000 of assessed value, which is approximately \$6,182,000 in fiscal year 2022,

\$6,367,000 in fiscal year 2023 and \$6,558,000 in fiscal year 2024. The average Grants Pass home would pay \$348 per year in fiscal year 2022.

**Renewal of Current Local Option Taxes.** Renewing the local option tax would continue to provide tax funding for Public Safety. Currently 22% of Public Safety budget is funded by the local option tax rate. If the levy is not approved, this tax resource would not be available to Public Safety. A loss of 22% to the Public Safety budget may impact the ability to provide Police and Fire response time standards for emergency calls. If approved, the levy rate would remain unchanged from the levy that will expire June 30, 2021.

**A “yes” vote would be in favor of the local option tax levy. A “no” vote would be against the local option tax levy.**