

Notice of City Measure Election

26-98

SEL 802

Nov 1/08: CRS 250.035, 260.041, 260.275, 280, 289, 294, 085, 254.465

Name of City Gresham, Oregon

Notice is hereby given on *date of election* November 4, 2008 A measure election will be held in

name of county or counties Multnomah County, Oregon.

The following shall be the ballot title of the measure to be submitted to the city's voters on this date: November 4, 2008

CAPTION *10 words*

FIVE-YEAR LOCAL OPTION LEVY FOR INCREASED POLICE SERVICES

QUESTION *20 words*

Shall Gresham impose \$0.97 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value for five years beginning in 2009-2010 for increased police services? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

SUMMARY *175 words*

Revenue generated from this levy would fund increased police services in Gresham. Levy funds would allow the City to hire 36 additional sworn police positions and 12 non-sworn police personnel. Levy funds would be used to target gangs, drugs, property crimes (including burglary and theft), family crimes (including child and elder abuse, domestic violence, and sex offenses), and provide an overall increased police presence in the community through increased patrol and traffic enforcement.

The funds generated by the levy would provide dedicated funding to add 36 trained and fully-equipped officers to the current police force. Levy revenue would be placed in a special revenue fund for the specific purpose of providing increased police services.

Approval of this local option levy would allow the City to provide increased police services for Gresham residents. The proposed rate will generate approximately \$5,950,000 in 2009-2010; \$6,171,000 in 2010-2011; \$6,397,000 in 2011-2012; \$6,566,000 in 2012-2013; and \$6,725,000 in 2013-2014, for a total of \$31,809,000.

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08 JUL 31 AM 7:40
JIM SCOTT
DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS

↓ **signature**

The following authorized city official hereby certifies the above ballot title is true and complete, which includes completion of the ballot title challenge process.

7-30-08

signature of authorized city official *not required to be notarized*

date signed

Eric Chambers
printed name of authorized city official

Asst. to the Mayor
title

MEASURE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Required for all Measures Submitted with Multnomah County Elections

ELECTION DATE November 4, 2008	MEASURE NUMBER 26-98
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BALLOT TITLE CAPTION
FIVE-YEAR LOCAL OPTION LEVY FOR INCREASED POLICE SERVICES

NAME OF PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR CONTENT OF STATEMENT
Eric Chambers

NAME OF JURISDICTION PERSON REPRESENTS
City of Gresham

E-MAIL eric.chambers@ci.gresham.or.us	TELEPHONE NUMBER 503-618-2584	FAX NUMBER 503-665-7692
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Please use space below or attach text on a separate sheet of paper.

RECEIVED
 08 JUL 31 AM 7:40
 TIM SCOTT
 DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS

WORD/NUMBER COUNT TOTAL (500 word/number limit) 454



 SIGNATURE OF PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR CONTENT OF STATEMENT

7-30-08

 DATE

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Funding from this levy would be solely focused on increasing police services in Gresham. In 2007 Gresham experienced an overall per capita increase in reported crime. Compared to 2006 crime rates, motor vehicle theft rose by 20.3%, drug crime increased 16.5%, driving under the influence of intoxicants offenses increased by 9.8%, and traffic crimes increased 13.4%. In addition, the East Metro Gang Enforcement Team has identified 125 known gangs that exist within Gresham.

At any given time, Gresham has between 7 and 12 officers on the street, in order to provide 24 hour police coverage in Gresham's 23.43 square miles.

Police departments often measure their forces in the number officers they employ per thousand residents. Gresham's police staffing ratio is 1.27 officers for every 1,000 residents. Gresham has fewer officers per 1,000 residents than most jurisdictions in the metro area. The City of Portland has 1.78 officers per 1,000 residents, the City of Beaverton has 1.50 officers per 1,000 residents, the City of Troutdale has 1.49 officers per 1,000 residents, and the City of Hillsboro has 1.38 officers per 1,000 residents. Lake Oswego (1.18 officers per 1,000 residents) and West Linn (1.24 officers per 1,000 residents) have fewer officers per 1,000 residents than Gresham.

Revenue from the levy would be used to increase police services in specific areas. Levy funds would be used to combat gang and drug activity, property crimes (including burglary and theft), family crimes (including child and elder abuse, domestic violence, and sex offenses), and provide an overall increased police presence in the community through increased patrol and traffic enforcement.

Funding from the levy would be solely dedicated only to costs associated with police services (salary and benefits for police officers, as well as operating expenses and capital costs associated with providing police services). The levy would fund an additional 36 sworn police positions and 12 non-sworn police personnel to provide department-wide support and assist with gang, drug and crime prevention efforts.

Passage of this measure would increase property taxes an additional \$0.97 cents per \$1000 assessed property value. The median taxable assessed value of a home in Gresham is \$142,910, which represents a real market value of roughly \$275,000. The median Gresham homeowner would pay \$11.55 per month, or \$138.60 per year.

Citizens were involved in the decision to place this measure on the ballot. The City held a community Public Safety Summit in March of 2007 to analyze crime and law enforcement issues in Gresham. Out of that summit the City launched a 34 member Public Safety Task Force, which conducted meetings over the course of seven months, analyzed the City's law enforcement issues, and recommended that the City propose a property tax levy to hire additional police officers.