



Columbia County Voter's Pamphlet

General Election

November 5, 2024



ATTENTION

This is the beginning of your county voters' pamphlet. The county portion of this joint voters' pamphlet is inserted in the center of the state portion. Each page of the county voters' pamphlet is clearly marked with a shaded bar on the outside edge. All information contained in the county portion of this pamphlet has been assembled and printed by Columbia County Elections

Selected portions of this county voters' pamphlet are available in Simplified Chinese, Korean, Russian, Spanish, and Vietnamese. These translations can be found online at oregonvotes.gov/ColumbiaVP

本县选民手册的部分内容提供简体中文版本。可以访问oregonvotes.gov/ColumbiaVP获取译本。

주 유권자 팸플릿의 선택된 부분은 한국어 준비되어 있습니다. 번역은 온라인 oregonvotes.gov/ColumbiaVP에서 찾아볼 수 있습니다.

Отдельные части брошюр избирателей этого округа доступны на русском языке. С данными переводами можно ознакомиться в Интернете по адресу: oregonvotes.gov/ColumbiaVP

Algunas secciones de este folleto para votantes del condado están disponibles en español. Estas traducciones están disponibles en línea en oregonvotes.gov/ColumbiaVP

Các phần được chọn trong tập thông tin cử tri quận này có bản ngôn ngữ tiếng Việt. Bản dịch có thể xem trực tuyến tại oregonvotes.gov/ColumbiaVP

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OREGON VOTING RIGHTS

(Not all encompassing)

1. You have the right to vote if you are a US citizen, are a resident of Oregon, are 18 years old and are registered to vote.
2. You have the right to receive a new ballot if, prior to returning your ballot, you make a mistake.
3. You have the right to receive assistance in casting your ballot.
4. You have the right to vote even if you have a guardian and even if you need help reading or filling out your ballot.
5. You have the right to use a signature stamp or other mark but first you have to fill out a form. No one can sign for you.
6. You have the right to leave some choices blank on your ballot. The choices you do mark will still count.
7. You have the right to vote if you are in line to return your ballot at any official drop site by 8 PM on Election Day.
8. You have the right to cast a secret ballot.
9. You have the right to cast a “provisional ballot” if your name does not appear on the voter roll.
10. You have the right to know if your ballot, was counted.
11. You have the right to vote even if you are homeless.
12. You have the right to vote if you have been convicted of a felony once you have been released from custody, even if you are on probation or post-prison supervision.
13. You have the right to file a complaint with the Secretary of State if you think your voting rights have been denied.

(Oregon Constitution, Sections 2 and 3; ORS Chapters 137, 246, 247, and 254; Vote By Mail Manual; Help America Vote Act of 2002; OAR 165-001-0090 and 165-007-0030)

COLUMBIA COUNTY

County Clerk



ST. HELENS, OR 97051

230 Strand St.
Direct (503) 397-3796
columbiacountyor.gov

Dear Columbia County Voters,

The Columbia County Voters' Pamphlet is published to provide information about the local candidates and measures appearing on your ballot. It also allows the sharing of important information about the November 5, 2024, General Election.

- **Oregon General Election.** The General Election takes place in November of every even-numbered year. This election is usually the biggest regarding voter turnout and ballot content; it covers Federal, State, County, City, and some service district elections. Some of the content culminates from the nominating elections held during the May Primary.
- **Ballot mailing dates.** Ballot packets will be mailed out to the county at large on October 16th-17th. You should expect to receive your ballot during the week of October 21st-25th.
- **Ballot arrangement.** For each election, the candidates are listed in random alphabetical order. The names of the candidates in this pamphlet will appear in the same order as they are on the ballot. Only the candidates and measures relevant to your precinct and registered residential address will appear on your ballot.
- **A voter is no longer at your address.** "If you receive a ballot at your residence for someone who no longer lives there, please write "RETURN" on the envelope, and return it to your mailbox. If the ballot was sent to someone who has passed away, please write "DECEASED" on the envelope, and return it to your mailbox.
- **Early voting.** We encourage and greatly appreciate early voting. It provides more time to resolve issues such as unsigned ballot envelopes. A higher early voter turnout will yield a more comprehensive result by 8 pm on Election Night.
- **Extended hours to accommodate the public.** The elections office will be open to the public on Monday, October 28, 2024, and Monday, November 4, 2024, until 7 pm, for last-minute assistance.
- **Make sure your vote counts!** Be sure to sign the attestation on your ballot return envelope and return it promptly. Ballot envelopes must be signed and submitted on time to be counted. Official ballot drops site locations are listed in this voter's pamphlet.

Contact your Elections office. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Columbia County Elections at (503) 397-7214 or email us at elections@columbiacountyor.gov.

It is my honor and privilege to serve as your County Clerk.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Debbie Klug".

Debbie Klug
Columbia County Clerk

Service ~ Engagement ~ Connection ~ Innovation

City of St. Helens

Mayor



**Jennifer
Massey**

PLEASE NOTE

Not all the candidates or measures in this Voters' Pamphlet will be on your ballot.

The content of your ballot is determined by your registration's residential address (This can be found on your return identification envelope near the signature line). Your official ballot will contain only the candidates and issues which apply to your residence.

If your residential address is incorrect, please update your registration.

Not all candidates submit information for the Voters' Pamphlet.

As a result, there will be candidates on your ballot that are not in the Voters' Pamphlet.

Columbia County Elections prints information as submitted.

We do not correct spelling, punctuation, grammar, syntax, errors or inaccurate information.

OCCUPATION: Industry Executive-20 years, Business Owner-18 years, Steamfitter LU 290-25 years

OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND: Two decades as a Corporate Executive in construction, 18 years as a successful business owner with multiple locations, and 25 years as a Steamfitter. Degrees in Occupational Safety and Health/ Fire Science and Risk Management with risk credentials in construction, manufacturing, transportation, and energy. Extensive experience in managing risk for multi-million/billion-dollar projects

PRIOR GOVERNMENTAL EXPERIENCE: St. Helens Budget Committee; Scappoose Bay Advisory Council; National BT Opioid Taskforce; ANSI-10 Construction and Demolition; HAMMER/ DOE Hazardous Materials Federal Training Center

My Commitment to You:

St. Helens is at a critical crossroads, facing challenges that demand both immediate action and strategic long-term planning. My strong leadership skills, business acumen, and diverse experience are crucial to steer our city in the right direction. With deep roots planted in 1928, I am deeply invested in our community's success.

I am committed to tackling our city's issues head-on with decisive leadership, fostering an empowered council, and encouraging active civic engagement, which is crucial for our community to move forward with confidence.

My Mission:

- **Transparency and Accountability:** Ensure all city operations and decisions are fiscally responsible and fully transparent, with clear and consistent communication to the public.
- **Economic Growth:** Leveraging my extensive industry experience and strong network of contacts to attract and retain businesses that create quality family-wage jobs enhancing our community's quality of life. I commit to assessing and strategizing the reduction of current and future fees.
- **Public Safety:** Prioritizing public safety by ensuring that our police have the necessary resources to protect our citizens by reinstating and maintaining 24-hour police coverage, so everyone in our community feels safe and secure.
- **Sustainable Development:** I will advocate for responsible infrastructure development that meets the needs of our growing population while preserving the unique character of our city, including its vital tourism industry.

Endorsements:

- UA Local 290 Plumbers and Steamfitters
- St. Helens Police Association
- IBEW Local 48

Contact:

JenniferMasseyforMayor.com

(This information furnished by Jennifer Massey)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county. (ORS 251.335 (3b))

City of St. Helens

Mayor

Mayor



**Steve
Toschi**



**Rick
Scholl**

OCCUPATION: Attorney, business owner

OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND: Co-owner and Managing Partner of 28-person law firm, Trial Attorney, licensed in Oregon and California, 30+ years.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: Bachelor of Arts, Politics; Juris Doctor

PRIOR GOVERNMENTAL EXPERIENCE: St Helens Planning Commission 2021-2023, St. Helens Budget Committee 2024. Held Town Hall 2023 and gathered 106 signatures, helped prevent the City from adopting a law allowing homeless camping on our residential streets and parks.

I married St. Helens native Robyn Toschi 35 years ago – 3 children.

STEVE TOSCHI IS A FIGHTER FOR:

- **Smart Slow Growth**

We can't stop growth completely, but we can manage it to retain our community of character. That means not succumbing to high density and sprawl. We need to know what is coming from the state government and be ready. I've seen what can happen and am best qualified to protect the direction of our city toward a prosperous outcome.

- **Competent Leadership**

St. Helens is facing complex problems and has lofty goals. I will work tirelessly to ensure successful outcomes are achieved after careful planning. We need a Mayor that can work with businesses at their level. I have no conflicts of interest. No to increased taxes. We want a positive dynamic where success is achieved and celebrated.

- **Stopping Portland Creep**

Portland's problems are infectious. Increased crime, homelessness, a lack of commitment to public safety. I am best prepared to ensure our city adopts policies that work against "Portland Creep." In 2023 I led the effort to prevent camping on our streets and in our parks.

- **More Freedom**

People should not fear government reprisal for speaking their mind. Empowering our Commissions will provide transparency, better planning, and will produce a collaborative environment. For those who want to make us into a small version of Portland or California, I will be an immovable wall in their way. We come from many places, but this is our city - let's build it together.

VOTE STEVE TOSCHI FOR MAYOR
<https://stevetoschi.com/>

(This information furnished by Steve Toschi)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county. (ORS 251.335 (3b))

OCCUPATION: Landscaper Operator/Owner

OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND: Years of landscaping for multiple companies.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: St Helens High School (12)

PRIOR GOVERNMENTAL EXPERIENCE: Current Mayor of City of St Helens

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your Mayor for the past eight years. St. Helens is a truly special place to live-nestled between the coast and the mountains, with the mighty Columbia River shaping our identity. Together, we've worked hard to preserve what makes our community great with a look ahead towards our future.

I'm proud to share that, after more than two decades of planning, the waterfront development is well underway and on track to be completed by the end of this year. This project, which has stayed on schedule and on budget, will revitalize our downtown, improve our economy and provide a beautiful, shared space for everyone to enjoy. It's proof that when we plan responsibly and work together, we can achieve great things.

Like all cities, St. Helens has faced challenges. Inflation has impacted us all, and we've had to manage a temporary budget shortfall after the closure of Cascade Tissue. However, I'm pleased to announce that we are selling a portion of the mill to a company that will not only restore lost revenue but also create living-wage jobs, ensuring a stronger economy for our future.

Fiscal responsibility remains a priority, and we will continue to watch our spending while making strategic investments that support growth. The city-owned industrial properties, both at the heavy industrial mill and Riverfront, are assets that will drive economic development and provide opportunities for local businesses and families alike.

My promise to you is to continue serving all citizens with fairness and dedication. Public safety is essential to our quality of life, and it will always have my full support. Every budget during my time as Mayor has increased funding for this critical area, ensuring that our streets remain safe and our services reliable.

Together, we can continue make St. Helens a great place to live, work, and raise a family. I humbly ask for your vote.

(This information furnished by Rick Scholl)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county. (ORS 251.335 (3b))

City of St. Helens

City Councilor



**Molly
Matchak**

OCCUPATION: None

OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND: Business Owner/Operator Mollys Market, Real Estate Investor, Maintenance Director

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: AA Cupertino, CA

PRIOR GOVERNMENTAL EXPERIENCE: None

I opened Mollys Market and loved it. Both dreams and complaints walked through that door every day.

I watched the evolution of the downtown go from a silent street to a bustling world class destination during events. My vision for the city is based on my own and other businesses experience and the voice of my customers.

What do I know about running a city? First, I admit that I am not an expert in every department and every challenge and don't have a solution for every problem. I feel that could be my strength. I know what I don't know and plan to ask the people that do. The council needs to be educated and informed. I feel that our city staff, doing the work, may be a tremendous voice in this area. We need to use the resources we may have overlooked. I want to explore where the city can cut waste. Our finance director says we need to make tough decisions for our future fiscal health. Being proactive is a key to financial wellness. Our entire community's future and our community livability depend on good council decisions.

I would like to implement more activities for children and families. There may be missed opportunities we can explore. Being responsive to businesses that need a voice is in my wheelhouse. Business owners should expect me to listen to their problems and actively discuss solutions that are possible.

Everyone says St. Helens has great potential, let's make that a wonderful reality. Let's thrive together.

Please vote for me. I am with you.

P.S. I promise to pick up my signs!

(This information furnished by Molly Matchak)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county. (ORS 251.335 (3b))

City Councilor



**Ginny
Carlson**

OCCUPATION: Lifempowered 15+ years working with disabled adults to achieve their dreams and live the life they choose; Habitat for Humanity of Oregon Home Owner Advisory Council, Leadership Service and Advocacy for Affordable Home Ownership for all

OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND: Small Business Owner 15+ years, Provided Jobs for Alternative School. On the job training with work source. We strived to both support our family and local businesses partnering with keep it local, Chamber of Commerce.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: Reynolds High School, Luke Center for Leadership Pacific Program, Ford Family Institute for Leadership, Ford Leadership Community Ambassador

PRIOR GOVERNMENTAL EXPERIENCE: City Council, Tourism committee, Budget Committee, Planning Commission, Entrance Sign Committee.

Leadership/Service: Swings at Campbell Park, NAMI, Earth Day Clean up, Youth Council advisor, Mainstreet Board, CAT Board Member

Volunteer Service: Keep it local Columbia County, Century Ride, Halloween town volunteer. Splash Pad Feature Columbia View Park, envisioning a community that honors families and supports a healthy active lifestyle. HWY 30 Banners Volunteer Coordinator Facilitator, uniting a region and reaffirming a great destination for work and play. Emergency Preparedness Fair and Backpacks

As a single mother who raised two wonderful children. It's important to me to find time to dedicate to serve our community. I moved to St Helens in 1997. My grandparents were original Oregon Pioneers, settling in Tillamook County and I grew up on the Columbia River. A vital Small business community is an important part of what keeps a St Helens strong. My grandmother ran her own business in the 60's and 70's buying fish on the Columbia. I am proud to represent all hard working citizens.

The city is facing challenges and opportunities. Council has lost their way. It's their responsibility to be good stewards of our tax dollars. Unfortunately mistakes now burden citizens. Vote for a fair choice that will listen to all citizens not just a few.

(This information furnished by Ginny Carlson)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county. (ORS 251.335 (3b))

City of St. Helens

City Councilor



**Jessica
Chilton**

OCCUPATION: Director of Sales and Outreach for Avamere St. Helens – Senior Living Community, wife, and mom of 3 girls.

OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND: Drug and Alcohol Counselor working with at risk youth in Columbia County, and The Columbia County Drug Court Program.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: 2008 St. Helens Highschool graduate, Concordia University Portland – Major in Psychology Minor in Art.

PRIOR GOVERNMENTAL EXPERIENCE: St. Helens City Council President, Budget Committee, Women’s Caucus of Oregon, Community Advisory Council – CPCCO, Columbia County Local Public Safety Coordinating Council (LPSCC), Urban Renewal Agency Chair.

Past Achievements & Work: Currently I work as the Director of Sales and Outreach for Avamere St. Helens. This allows me to connect with the community through outreach and advocate for senior citizens in our county. Utilizing my leadership skills as the Director to oversee and manage the needs of the assisted living community. Also continuing education with Dementia and the impact of Dementia on families and loved ones. Other experience and work include: SHPD police commissioner increasing staffing and wages for our police, working on projects such as building a new police station, waterfront development, driving industry back to St. Helens through re-opening the mill, revamping our tourism program, active chamber member and advocate for businesses in St. Helens, and unanimously voted by my fellow councilors into the council president seat.

I have also been a Moose Lodge member since 2012, and two-time winner of the Moose Lodge Sports Woman of the year award. I am a former board member and coach for St. Helens Girls Softball program, current member of the St. Helens Adult Softball League, and active participant in the American Heritage Girls – Columbia County Chapter.

Priorities:

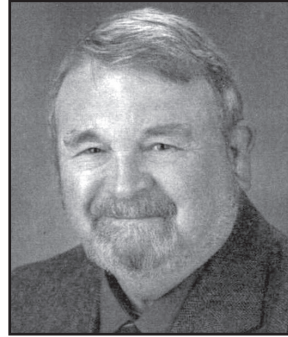
- Public safety
- Fiscal responsibility
- Growth of industry and jobs
- Supporting small businesses
- Parks & recreation
- public works
- delivering steadfast leadership with integrity above all else

I would be honored to receive your vote and continue working towards those priorities.

(This information furnished by Jessica Chilton)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county. (ORS 251.335 (3b))

City Councilor



**Russell
Hubbard**

OCCUPATION: General Contractor; Developer

OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND: General Contractor; Developer; Restaurant Owner

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: Portland Community College, Business classes; Southern Arizona School, Grade 12, High School Diploma; Shattuck Military Academy, General Studies; Beaverton High School, General Studies

PRIOR GOVERNMENTAL EXPERIENCE: St Helens City Council, September 2023 – Present; St Helens Planning Commission, Commissioner; Vice Chair, Chair, March 2014 - September 2023; Columbia River PUD Board; Director, March 2022 - Present

I am a proud 4th generation Oregonian and my wife and I are 13 year residents of St Helens. I have been in business as a General Contractor, developer and restaurant owner for more than 40 years, working beside my son for the last 27 years.

My priorities as a City Councilor are as follows:

-Completion of the sale of the paper mill property and start up of the new company, providing approximately 50 new jobs in St Helens.

-Continue to be a voice for fiscal responsibility on the City Council, representing the interests of the businesses and taxpayers of St Helens.

-Continue to work on bringing industry and employment to our city, and increasing our tax base without increasing taxes.

-Proactively addressing our budget and infrastructure challenges.

-Building our new Police Station.

Thanks for your support.

Russ Hubbard

(This information furnished by Russell Hubbard)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county. (ORS 251.335 (3b))

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

What If...?

What if I make a mistake on my ballot?

If you make a mistake that cannot be corrected, call the Columbia County Elections Office (503) 397-7214 and request a replacement ballot. One will be mailed to you provided the request is received within time for mailing. Otherwise, you may pick up a replacement ballot in person.

What if I don't vote on everything on the ballot?

Your ballot will still be counted. If you choose not to vote for a particular office or measure, this is tallied as an "undervote" and the rest of the ballot will be counted as you intended.

What if I don't sign my return envelope?

You will be sent a notice in the mail that you have not signed your ballot. Follow the instructions on the notice to remedy your unsigned ballot and it will be counted. You must remedy your ballot by the 21st day after the election for it to be counted.

What if I sign my spouse's return envelope?

This is a common occurrence, call Columbia County Elections Office (503) 397-7214 to receive specific instructions on how to remedy this (single line through bad spouse signature and good spouse sign in adjacent space) OR you can request a new ballot.

What if I don't put my ballot into the secrecy sleeve?

Your ballot will still be counted. The secrecy sleeve is purely optional, and the ballot return envelopes now have a security weave incorporated in them.

What if I don't receive my ballot?

If you are a registered voter and don't receive your ballot the week after ballots are mailed out, call the Columbia County Elections Office at (503) 397-7214.

VOTER REGISTRATION

Qualifications to register to vote

To register to vote in Oregon, you must be:

- A U.S. citizen
- A resident of Oregon
- At least 16 years old

If you are not yet 18 years of age, you will not receive a ballot until an election occurs on or after your 18th birthday.

How to register to vote

ONLINE. Register to vote online at www.oregonvotes.gov/myvote.

MANUALLY. Complete an Oregon Voter Registration Card. Registration cards are available at any county elections office or at designated state agencies, including the Department of Motor Vehicles and some public assistance agencies.

When to update your registration

Update your registration if your

- Residential address changes,
- Mailing address changes,
- Your name changes, or
- You wish to change political affiliation.

Registration Deadline

A new registrant must register to vote by the 21st calendar day before an election to be eligible to vote in that election.

Am I registered to vote?

If you are already registered or think you might be registered to vote, visit www.oregonvote.gov/myvote:

- check if you are registered to vote
- view your registration information
- update your voter registration
- find contact information for your county elections office

City of Scappoose

Mayor

VOTING IS EASY

Steps to Complete Your Ballot

1. Vote your ballot.

Look at your Official Ballot. Find the candidate or measure response (YES or NO) of your choice for each contest. To vote, completely darken the oval to the left of the response of your choice with black or blue ink.

To vote for a write-in candidate, one whose name does not appear on the Official Ballot, completely darken the oval to the left of the solid line provided for the office and write the full name of the candidate on that line.

2. Review your ballot.

Make sure you have correctly marked your choice for each contest. Your official ballot may contain contests printed on both front and back.

3. Get ready to return your ballot.

Place the ballot in the return identification envelope. You may choose to use the optional secrecy sleeve or not, election staff has processes that protect the secrecy of your ballot.

Read the Voter's Statement on the return envelope and sign it on the signature line. Your ballot will not be counted if the return envelope is not signed. Every signature is checked against the registration signature on file and the signatures must match for the ballot to be counted.

4. Return your ballot.

- **By mail:** Return postage is prepaid. Your ballot must be postmarked Election Day. Please be aware of the USPS pick up time of the location you are using on Election Day, as only picked up ballots would receive the timely postmark.
- **In person at an official drop site:** Deliver the signed and sealed return envelope to any official drop site no later than 8pm on Election Day.



**Joseph A
Backus**

OCCUPATION: Outside Sales-Pacific Machinery & Tool Steel for last 29 years; Current Mayor of Scappoose; Scappoose High School Basketball Coach

OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND: Lewis and Clark College-Portland Oregon Graduated with Bachelor of Arts, Major in Business Administration, Grad. 1992; Scappoose High School- Class of 1988

PRIOR GOVERNMENTAL EXPERIENCE: Scappoose School Board; Currently Mayor of Scappoose

I have had the honor and privilege to be your Mayor for the past two years. During that time, we have accomplished some great things.

We recently adopted the Parks Master Plan. That document will help guide the city going forward to prioritize needs and help us find funding to develop new parks and to maintain and upgrade existing parks.

We have been strengthening our police department by focusing on recruitment, training, retaining officers, and building strong relationships with other local safety agencies to help keep our city safe and secure.

We recently finished our search for our new City Manager finding the right person to lead our great city moving forward.

We are in the middle of several large public works infrastructure projects, many funded through the America Rescue Plan Act and our Urban Renewal District.

And we are on the verge of finishing our 50 Year Plan which is an important step that will help guide the city when it comes to land use planning for future growth for decades to come.

I appreciate the tremendous support that I have received so far and I am asking for your continued support with your VOTE.

(This information furnished by Joseph Backus)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county. (ORS 251.335 (3b))

City of Scappoose

Council Member

Council Member



**Marisa
Jacobs**

OCCUPATION: Human Resources, Sr. Manager; Scappoose City Councilor

OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND: Human Resources Professional; Community Organizer

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: University, California, Los Angeles, Bachelors Political Science

PRIOR GOVERNMENTAL EXPERIENCE: Scappoose City Council 2023-current; Scappoose Planning Commissioner 2020-2023; St. Johns Neighborhood Association Chair 2019-2020; U.S. Census Bureau 2019

I'm running for election for the Scappoose City Council because I believe our community deserves thoughtful, dedicated leadership that puts citizens first. My vision for Scappoose is one where we continue to thrive for generations with decisions rooted in the best interests of our residents.

As a citizen, I've been deeply involved in our community's growth and well-being. I organized the successful "Stop the Road" campaign through Grabhorn Park which saved the dog park, served on the Planning Commission, and currently, proudly serving as a City Councilor. During my term, I played a key role in critical decisions, such as hiring the City Manager, voting to retain our local police force, and voting to leverage non-taxpayer monies to fund large infrastructure projects.

My Priorities:

Fiscal Responsibility: reduce wasteful spending on unnecessary services and purchases, ensure that your tax dollars are used wisely.

Public Safety: explore sustainable, long-term funding to grow our police department to ensure Scappoose remains a safe place to live for all.

Parks and Recreation: enhance and develop our park spaces, providing more recreational activities that bring our community together.

As city councilor, I will continue to be the voice of the citizens. I will do everything possible to fight against rate increases for necessities for working families, and I will explore alternative funding resources to save you money. I am passionate about serving our community and will continue to advocate for policies that improve our quality of life.

Endorsed by:

Joe Backus, Scappoose Mayor
Andrew Lafrenz, Scappoose Councilor
Ty Bailey, Scappoose Councilor
Joel Haugen, former Scappoose Councilor

(This information furnished by Marisa Jacobs)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county. (ORS 251.335 (3b))



**Marty
Marquis**

OCCUPATION: GIS Technician, NV5 Geospatial

OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND: Owner/Musician, Blitzen Trapper; Analyst/Cartographer, Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon; Program Coordinator, GIS-Mapping Exchange, Center for Geography Education in Oregon; Graduate Teaching Assistant, Portland State University; ESOL Teacher, Berlitz; Network Administrator, CollegenET

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: Portland State University, MS, Geographic Information Science; Covenant College, BA summa cum laude, History & English; AC Davis High School, diploma; Boy Scouts of America, Eagle Scout

PRIOR GOVERNMENTAL EXPERIENCE: Planning Commissioner, City of Scappoose

I'm running for City Counselor because I love Scappoose and want to help our community thrive in the years ahead. I believe our government should be smart about managing its resources and creative in addressing challenges and planning for growth. It will be a priority for me to empower our citizens to be more knowledgeable about how the city works and more active in shaping policy. We're privileged to live in a very special place and working together I have no doubt we can make it even better.

My family settled in Oregon in 1869 and have lived in the Pacific Northwest ever since. I was raised by a long-time judge who instilled in me values of fairness, honesty, and the importance of public service. I've been married for 25 years and have two teenagers in school here. Our family has been blessed with many advantages but there were years we relied on free school meals and the Oregon Health Plan, so I know how it feels when times are tough. As a former small business owner, I have experience achieving ambitious goals on a tight budget.

The best leaders have hearts for service and seek to uplift others and amplify voices that might not otherwise be heard; they are eager to share credit for successes and not afraid to take responsibility when things go wrong. If elected, that's how I'll serve Scappoose.

Endorsed by Marisa Jacobs and Joel Haugen

(This information furnished by Marty Marquis)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county. (ORS 251.335 (3b))

City of Scappoose

Council Member



**Tyler
Miller**

OCCUPATION: Founder, President and CEO at Miller Mendel, Inc. (software company).

OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND: Founder, President and CEO at Miller Mendel, Inc. (2009 – Current).

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: Graduate, Scappoose High School (2002).

PRIOR GOVERNMENTAL EXPERIENCE: City Council President, City of Scappoose (non-paid), (January 2024 – Current); City Councilor, City of Scappoose (non-paid), (January 2021 – January 2024); Reserve Deputy Sheriff, Columbia County Sheriff's Office (non-paid), (November 2011 – July 2017).

I am honored to serve the Scappoose community! As your current Council President, I enjoy working with my fellow council members and our dedicated city staff. Together as a team, we have important infrastructure projects underway. These projects are largely funded by federal money we were able to secure to reduce burden on tax and rate payers.

My top priorities are to continue to help Scappoose move ahead, balancing priorities and budgets when it comes to critical public services, such as police, parks, water, sewer, roads, and sidewalks.

Collaboration is central to the success for our city, and I've developed excellent working relationships with our county commissioners as the city council's liaison to the county commissioners, as well as built relationships with other city leaders in the county. I've also brought awareness to important current and pending taxation matters that raise property taxes; our voters deserve to be informed when voting on tax option levies and bonds. This November I ask for your vote, so we can continue to work together to ensure a fiscally sound and bright future for Scappoose.

ENDORSEMENTS

- Mayor Joe Backus, City of Scappoose
- City Councilor Kim Holmes, City of Scappoose
- City Councilor Ty Bailey, City of Scappoose
- City Councilor Jeannet Santiago, City of Scappoose

(This information furnished by Tyler Miller)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county. (ORS 251.335 (3b))

Council Member



**Joel
Haugen**

OCCUPATION: Retired

OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND: City Councilor, Small Business Owner; Planning Commissioner; Federal Contractor; Public School Teacher; Planner; National Guard & US Army Vietnam Flight Operations.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: Portland State University- Teaching Certification; Western Illinois University- MA; Bemidji State University- BA; Pilot Training

PRIOR GOVERNMENTAL EXPERIENCE: Scappoose City Councilor; Scappoose Planning Commissioner

I'm running for city council as a proud and invested Scappoose resident since 1978. From coaching our youth and serving on various committees and boards, to chairing the Planning Commission and running a small business, I've always thought of Scappoose as a special place. My advocacy for floodplain protection over the past 30 years and my service on City Council reflect my commitment to preserving the unique character of Scappoose.

If re-elected, I'm committed to working with the six other council members, the city manager, and our incredible citizens to steer Scappoose toward a prosperous future. I believe that good governance is about more than just maintaining the status quo --it's about planning for a better tomorrow.

My focus will be on:

- 1. Preserving and enhancing our parks and floodplain habitats** - because our natural spaces are the heart of our community and essential to our economic health & well-being.
- 2. Eliminating wasteful spending on attorneys, consultants, and unnecessary services** - ensuring your tax dollars are used efficiently.
- 3. Anticipating and adapting to economic and environmental changes** - so Scappoose remains resilient and thrives in the face of future challenges.

Your vote is crucial, and I would be honored to have your support. I also strongly recommend voting for **Marisa Jacobs and Marty Marquis**, both of whom I know to be individuals of commendable character and dedicated community advocates.

Thank you for your trust and support. Together, we can continue to make Scappoose a place we're all proud to call home.

Endorsed by:

Mayor Joseph Backus; Roy & Joyce Jobin; Pete McHugh; Duane Meissner; Debra Miller; and Janet Wedgeworth

(This information furnished by Joel Haugen)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county. (ORS 251.335 (3b))

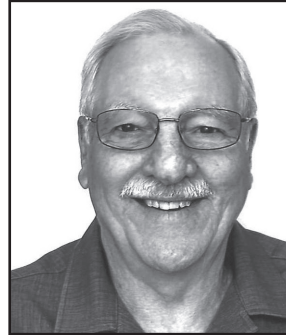
City of Vernonia

Mayor

Mayor



**Susan
Wagner**



**Edward (Rick)
Hobart**

OCCUPATION: Community Action Team, Resource Developer and Contract Coordinator; Small business owner - eBay sales since 1997

OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND: Special Education Aide; Home Depot Cashier and Garden Specialist; Legal Assistant; Law Office Manager; Medical and Legal Transcriptionist; Production Line Packing Clerk; Various Other Positions since starting work at 14

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: California State University, Northridge; Southern California Institute of Architecture; Santa Monica College; Palisades High School

PRIOR GOVERNMENTAL EXPERIENCE: City of Vernonia: City Councilor, Planning Commissioner, Budget Committee, Vernonia School Board Member; Monument Colorado: Monument Academy Public School Board Member

I moved to Vernonia from Colorado with my husband and daughter in summer 2006. We were drawn to Vernonia for its location, its people, and because we knew Vernonia would be a great place for our daughter to grow up. When the flood hit in December 2007, I knew I needed to step up and give back to the community that had become my chosen home. After volunteering for several months, I was hired by Community Action Team, and I continue working at CAT serving those most in need in Columbia, Tillamook and Clatsop counties.

I have been very involved and active in Vernonia. I have assisted many different groups and organizations directly and indirectly, through grant writing, involvement with committees, or actively participating in fundraising activities. My broad and varied experience and background has served the community well as a member of the City Council for many years.

With retirement shortly after the first of the year, I now have the time to more fully support my community in the role of Mayor. I firmly believe in investing in my community as best I am able, financially and as a representative. I love being part of the solution, working with my neighbors, listening to my fellow community members, and helping Vernonia continue moving forward in a sensible and level-headed manner. I've always believed you can't just say "someone should do something," but being that someone.

(This information furnished by Susan Wagner)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county. (ORS 251.335 (3b))

OCCUPATION: School Bus Driver- Curls Bus Service- Vernonia, Oregon

OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND: Log Truck Driver, Crown Zellerbach- 12 years; Laborer: Local 296, Portland, Oregon; Meter Reader, Tree Trimmer, Groundman- West Oregon Electric- 9 years

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: Chagrin Falls High School in Ohio, Diploma; George Williams College- Downers Grove, Ill.- 2 years; Oregon School of Real Estate, Oregon Realty License- 1998.

PRIOR GOVERNMENTAL EXPERIENCE: Mayor- City of Vernonia, elected: January 2019-December 31, 2020; Mayor- City of Vernonia, elected: January 2021-December 31, 2022; Mayor- City of Vernonia, elected: January 2023 - present.

It has been an honor to serve the Vernonia community for the last six years as mayor. My attendance and preparation to all city council meetings and workshops are worth noting here. Even more rewarding for me personally, are the relationships made both within the Vernonia community and within Columbia County. My involvement in the Vernonia community has placed me among a broad spectrum of people ranging from children with special needs, supporting our local Lions club, to serving as **the Senior Board president** of our Rose Avenue Senior Center.

At the beginning of my first term, I instituted a new concept called the, "**Citizen of the Month**" recognition award. I believe this has served as a valuable tool in uniting our community, encouraging volunteerism, and simply saying, "Thank you" to the citizens who live here.

If you want someone who will listen to your concerns, then vote for Mayor Rick.

If you want someone who is **disciplined**, dedicated, and **devoted** to the Vernonia community, then vote for Mayor Rick.

And most important, if you want a "**People's Mayor**", vote for Rick Hobart on November 5, 2024.

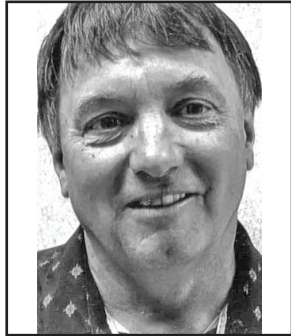
Endorsed by:
Casey Garrett
Margaret Magruder

(This information furnished by Rick Hobart)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county. (ORS 251.335 (3b))

City of Vernonia

City Council



**Dennis
Weller**

OCCUPATION: Truck driver, Co-owner of Weller Timber Corp.

OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND: Holce Logging Co.- 20 years.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: Vernonia High School- 12 years Diploma

PRIOR GOVERNMENTAL EXPERIENCE: None

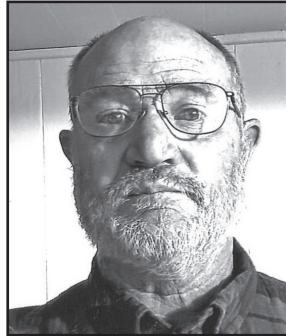
Having lived in Vernonia my whole life and have enjoyed living here. The community has been good to my whole family so I just want to give back by serving the community.

Endorsed by: Casey Garrett.

(This information furnished by Dennis Weller)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county. (ORS 251.335 (3b))

City Council



**Donald
Normand**

OCCUPATION: Small Business Owner

OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND: Auto Mechanic, Logger, Heavy Equipment Mechanic

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: Vernonia High School

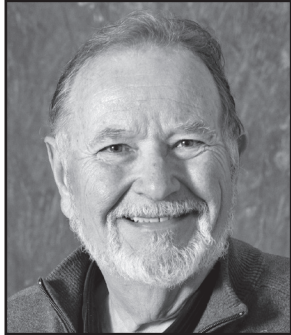
PRIOR GOVERNMENTAL EXPERIENCE: One term on City Council

(This information furnished by Donald Normand)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county. (ORS 251.335 (3b))

Clatskanie Peoples Utility District

Director, Subdivision 1



**Bob
Wiggins**

OCCUPATION: Retired

OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND: Millwright/Vibration Analyst, Georgia-Pacific Wauna Mill, 22 years; Construction Millwright, 13 years

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: Linn-Benton Community College, Oregon State Apprenticeship and Training, Journeyman Millwright; Portland Community College; Benson High School Graduate

PRIOR GOVERNMENTAL EXPERIENCE: Director Clatskanie PUD, Director Wauna Federal Credit Union

It has been my privilege to serve you on Clatskanie People's Utility District Board of Directors, representing Subdivision 1. My terms have included the office of President, Vice President and Treasurer, each duty has expanded my understanding of the multiple factors that influence public power. Working with the entire board, CPUD management and staff has resulted in the lowest residential rates in Oregon. This has been my goal, affordable reliable electric power each time you have elected me. I have labored with Northwest Public Power Association, the Public Power Council, Oregon Peoples Utility Districts Association and Special Districts of Oregon to effect favorable outcomes for CPUD. My involvement keeps me informed and prepared, identifying opportunities that reduce your power costs, deliver it reliably and improve infrastructure. These are the competitive advantages that retain and stimulate employment in our community.

I will continue to serve you with integrity and insure your participation is valued.

(This information furnished by Bob Wiggins)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county. (ORS 251.335 (3b))

Director, Subdivision 1



**Pamela (Pam)
Reed**

OCCUPATION: Project Manager

OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND: 18 Years Project Management/Customer Relations/Customer Service Team Manager/Medicare and Retirement Insurance Plan Work: 6 Years small business manufacturing Quality Assurance: 4 Years Utilities: 18 Years (active and reserve) military

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: Electronic Engineering, Master of Science Business/Project Management, US Navy Electronics

PRIOR GOVERNMENTAL EXPERIENCE: US Navy Electronic Technician/Instructor: Government Liaison for government contract work quality audits, Field Manager with 32 business and residential telecommunications technicians

I am enthusiastic at the opportunity to represent the community I have grown to love. As a prior board meeting participant, I was able to get a good sense of the concerns of our community's members while gaining knowledge and understanding specific to our PUD and board operations and issues. Field experience with my [telephone] utility technicians gave me a level of understanding I may not have otherwise possessed.

Bringing a balance of strategic planning and business knowledge, experience with budget and improvement targets, paired with the tough financial strategies needed as a single parent, I know the importance understanding all sides to make good decisions.

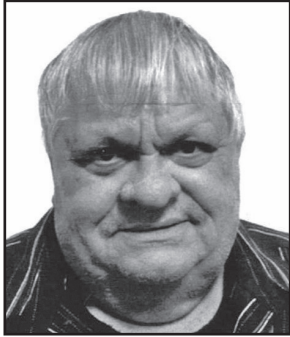
My goal is to bring that same balance as I seek your vote as a subdivision director with the Clatskanie PUD. While embracing future growth, and sustainability, I also know the importance of being responsible to keeping costs down. I bring my unwavering values of honesty, transparency, and integrity as I humbly request you select me to represent subdivision 1.

(This information furnished by Pamela Reed)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county. (ORS 251.335 (3b))

Clatskanie Peoples Utility District

Director, Subdivision 2



**Merle
Gillespie**

OCCUPATION: Retired

OCCUPATIONAL BACKGROUND: Telecommunication Technician 38 years

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND: Sammamish High School 12th Grade General Education Diploma

PRIOR GOVERNMENTAL EXPERIENCE: Clatskanie City Budget Committee, Clatskanie Parks and Rec Budget Committee, Oregon PUD Association Representative, President

Today, more than ever, seasoned and dedicated leadership is needed to navigate the challenges facing electrical utilities and Clatskanie PUD in particular. The continual, constant evolution of power supply markets, federal and state regulations, and power demands of the communities Clatskanie PUD serves require passionate dedication. This keeps our PUD strong, competitive, and providing the best power rates and service possible to our residential, business, and industrial customers.

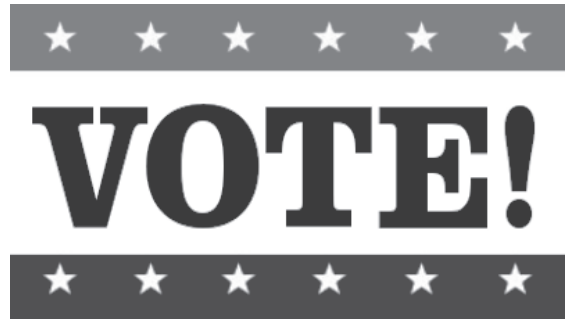
I am very involved with the Oregon PUD Association, made up of all the PUDs in Oregon, working with state and federal lawmakers to advance the goals and needs of public utility districts. Wildfire risk management and mitigation are key issues facing public utility districts and our communities. We have been able to shape policies like power shutoff requirements during wildfire seasons to limit power service interruptions to our district. We have also taken preemptive action to improve infrastructure including upgraded weather monitoring stations to increase our disaster preparedness.

Through my involvement with the Public Power Council, we are working with the Bonneville Power Administration regarding the future of power supplies including preparing new 20-year power contracts. There is increasing demands on future supply with the electrification of transportation and industrial and residential growth. There are calls to remove federal hydroelectric dams further straining the future of electric power supplies. It is exceedingly important to me to balance the needs of industry, key employers for our local communities, while maintaining affordable residential rates.

I believe I have the experience, knowledge, commitment, and passion to continue the strong 80 plus year legacy of Clatskanie PUD. I take great pride in the professionalism and service our PUD staff provides. I want to continue supporting them as well as maintaining our competitively low power rates.

(This information furnished by Merle Gillespie)

The above information has not been verified for accuracy by the county. (ORS 251.335 (3b))



Measure 5-302

BALLOT TITLE

4-YEAR JAIL OPERATING TAX LEVY

QUESTION: Shall Columbia County levy a tax of \$0.79/\$1000.00 of assessed value for four years beginning in FY2025 for Jail operations? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

SUMMARY: In 2014, 2017, and 2020, voters approved a jail operating levy, expiring in 2024.

The Jail's primary funding sources are the County's General Fund, Federal bed rentals, and the Jail Operating Tax Levy.

Since 2020, the County's General Fund support for the Jail has increased. However, operating expenses have increased by \$1,500,000 due to medical costs. To cover these rising costs, the Jail has been using reserve funds since 2020 which are no longer available. A 50% increase in General Fund support is not sustainable. Operation of the Jail at current levels is now dependent upon Federal bed rentals which are not guaranteed.

Without a new levy rate of \$0.79 per \$1,000 of assessed value, the Jail will not be able to operate at current capacity leading to staff reductions, fewer jail beds, and a shift to a "book and release" model. A complete Jail closure is possible.

The proposed tax levy will fund continued operations through FY2027-2028, including constitutionally mandated healthcare for adults-in-custody, food services, clothing, and Jail management.

The estimated money raised will be \$5,057,189 in FY2024-2025; \$5,270,715 in FY2025-2026; \$5,493,256 in FY2026-2027 and \$5,725,194 in FY2027-2028, for a total estimated tax levy of \$21,546,354.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

In 1998, county voters approved a bond levy to construct a new Jail. The bond to build the new Jail was repaid in 2018. Property taxes collected to pay the bond are no longer being collected. The Jail is now 23 years old.

Until 2014, Jail operations were primarily funded by the County General Fund and Jail bed rentals. However, by 2012, Jail operations became difficult to fund due to several years of decreases in the County's General Fund due to loss in federal timber funding. From 2012 to 2014, the County reduced the number of adults in custody (AICs) housed at the jail to lower operating expenses. The County force-released hundreds of AICs annually: 582 AICs were released in 2012, 791 in 2013, and 748 in 2014. Jail operations became unsustainable in 2014 and full closure of the Jail was planned. However, in 2014 voters approved a three-year Jail operating tax levy of \$0.5797 per \$1,000 of assessed property value, allowing the County to keep the Jail open. The tax levy was renewed by voters in 2017 and 2020. The tax levy will expire in 2024. Since passing this tax levy in 2014, the County has not force-release AICs. In 2023, the County booked 2,392 AICs into the Jail.

Since 2019, the Jail has experienced steady growth in operational costs, including significant increases in medical and mental health costs (\$634,278 in FY 19-20 to \$1,500,000 in FY 24-25) and food service costs (\$372,650 in FY 19-20 to \$524,001 in FY 24-25). In addition, Jail bed rental revenue decreased substantially from 2020-2022 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During this period the County used reserve funds to bridge budget deficits and reserves are now depleted.

Income streams for the Jail include revenue from the General Fund, bed rentals to outside agencies, and Jail

Operating taxes. The Board of County Commissioners has resolved to contribute 1 million dollars annually for Jail Operations. The County has also renegotiated bed rental per-diem rates from \$92 to \$127 per night to reduce the need for taxes. The County is proposing a Jail Operating tax levy at \$0.79 per \$1,000 of assessed property value for four years to bridge the remaining gap for full operation of the Jail through FY2028.

The tax levy will contribute to constitutionally required care for inmates, including food, clothing, health care, corrections deputies, and other corrections staff, in addition to facility maintenance and deferred capital projects, such as a roof replacement. The use of operating funds will continue to be monitored by a citizen committee established by the County (the "JOCAC"). In addition, the County will annually audit the use of tax levy funds for jail operations.

A property owner with an assessed value of \$100,000 would pay \$79.00 annually for four years.

Submitted by:
Casey Garrett
Columbia County Board of Commissioners, Chair

NO ARGUMENTS AGAINST THIS MEASURE WERE FILED.

Measure 5-302 Arguments

ARGUMENT FOR

PLEASE VOTE YES ON COLUMBIA COUNTY JAIL LEVY MEASURE 5-302. WE CAN'T AFFORD CATCH AND RELEASE. HOLD CRIMINALS ACCOUNTABLE.

Vibrant and thriving communities need fully functioning jails. While we oppose many tax measures and believe in being fiscally conservative, we support Measure 5-302 to provide funding for the Columbia County Jail. For civil society to work, we need to have law and order, and that includes sometimes incarcerating those who commit crimes against that society. After thoughtful consideration we strongly believe this measure needs to be approved for multiple reasons:

- Those who pose a danger to the community and have been convicted of serious crimes must be incarcerated. To do that, we need a fully staffed and functioning jail.
- In the competitive world of attracting business and industry, everything else being equal, the community without a jail to house and rehabilitate criminals may be the one that loses out.
- Often, being incarcerated provides individuals access to drug treatment, mental health or other services that they otherwise may not seek or find. This can foster a positive opportunity for rehabilitation and offer a chance to become productive members of society.

We've seen the results of catch and release programs in neighboring Multnomah County. It has not worked out very well for them with record crime and destruction. Let's not let that happen in Columbia County.

Vote for a thriving community, vote yes on 5-302 and keep our Columbia County Jail fully operating.

Columbia County Republicans, www.columbiagop.org

Submitted by:
Traci Brumbles, Chair of the Board
Columbia County Republican Party

ARGUMENT FOR

****Support the Jail Levy: Vote Yes on Measure 5-302****

Dear Community Members,

As your Sheriff, I want to express my strong support for the upcoming jail levy. A well-functioning jail is essential for our community's safety and justice. Our jail is more than just a facility; it's a cornerstone of our commitment to public safety. It's where offenders are held accountable and where our Deputies and Officers can securely manage those who pose a risk to our community.

This levy is not just a financial investment; it's a pledge to uphold the standards and services that make our justice system effective. I've witnessed firsthand the positive impact of a well-supported facility. With this levy, we can continue to run effective rehabilitation programs and ensure our staff have the necessary resources to perform their roles with excellence and compassion. Supporting this levy means we can retain our exceptional team of employees, whose dedication and hard work are vital to our success.

Investing in this levy is investing in a justice system that balances accountability with opportunities for positive change. It allows us to hold individuals accountable while providing them with a chance to rehabilitate and reintegrate into society.

Measure 5-302 has garnered bipartisan support, endorsed by both the Columbia County Republican and Democratic parties. **Your support is crucial.**

Please vote yes on Measure 5-302. By passing this levy, we strengthen our ability to serve and protect, ensuring a fair and effective justice system for everyone. Together, we can build a stronger, safer community.

Brian Pixley
Columbia County Sheriff

Submitted by:
Brian Pixley
Pixley for Sheriff
PAC#19374

ARGUMENT FOR

Keep the Columbia County Jail Open

Keep our community safe by holding criminals accountable
Vote YES on Measure 5-302

In 2014, Columbia County residents made a significant choice by passing a 3-year jail operations levy, which has been vital in keeping our local jail operational and ensuring that those who break the law are held accountable. You renewed this levy in 2017 and 2020, reflecting our community's ongoing commitment to justice and public safety.

Today, we are asking for your support once again to renew the levy at a slightly higher rate of \$0.79 per \$1,000 of assessed value. This adjustment is necessary to address the rising operational costs and continue providing essential services.

The Sheriff and Jail Commander work hard to generate revenue by housing US Marshal inmates and have negotiated better rates to maximize this income. Despite these efforts, the rising costs—such as a 129% increase in our medical contract and a 41% increase in food services—have put a strain on our budget.

Without a new levy rate of \$0.79 per \$1,000 of assessed value, the Jail will not be able to operate at current capacity. A complete Jail closure is possible. The Jail Operations Citizens Advisory Committee (JOCAC) monitors usage of jail levy funds and has verified that all funds raised by the levy have been allocated to jail operations. Having reviewed the budget, the JOCAC acknowledges that, with current funding, the Jail will not be able to operate at its current level.

We are now asking for an increase in the current levy to allow us to hold criminals accountable and are asking Columbia County residents to **VOTE YES on measure 5-302 to KEEP THE COLUMBIA COUNTY JAIL OPEN.**

Endorsed by:

- Columbia County Republicans
- Democratic Party of Columbia County
- District Attorney Josh Pond
- Former State Senator Betsy Johnson
- George Dunkel
- City of St. Helens
- City of Clatskanie
- And more!

Paid for by PAC#20646

Submitted by:
Brian Pixley
Don't Bail on the Jail

Columbia County

Sauvie Island Fire

Measure 5-302 Arguments

Measure 26-257

ARGUMENT FOR

At my retirement I had served 27 years as a Columbia County Circuit Court Judge including Presiding Judge. I have dealt with the nightmare of an inadequately funded county jail and a jail in the state of shut down due to failed tax levies. Community safety demands a fully functioning jail. The alternative is that mentally ill, drug addicted, and dangerous criminals are booked and released to wander through our cities and towns likely to reoffend. Under Sheriff Pixley and the Sheriff's Department, the county jail has provided a place for safe and humane incarceration. Fully screened volunteer members from the community are encouraged, and allowed, to provide in-custody services including religious programs and addiction support. We really don't want to return to a community with no jail. This is in essence a calling card to the troubled persons just 30 miles away that Columbia County is wide open to do what you want to whomever. For "Heaven's sakes" do not let this preventable tragedy occur. Vote yes for the jail levy.

Ted Grove

Submitted by:
Ted Grove
Senior Judge

The printing of these arguments does not constitute an endorsement by Columbia County, nor does the county warrant the accuracy or truth of any statement made in the argument.

BALLOT TITLE

CONTINUATION OF FIVE-YEAR LOCAL OPTION LEVY FOR GENERAL OPERATING PURPOSES

QUESTION: Shall the District continue a \$0.3500 per \$1,000.00 of assessed value for five years for operating purposes beginning 2025-2026? This measure renews current local option taxes.

SUMMARY: The taxes proposed will be used for general operating purposes for the Sauvie Island R.F.P.D. #30J. Anticipated uses of funds include state required medical testing for all firefighters, required Federal and OSHA testing of equipment and of firefighters use of equipment, physical testing of firefighters and their abilities, annual servicing and safety inspections of vehicles and equipment, including funds for replacement, and continuing volunteer training and certification.

The rate is estimated to raise the following amounts: \$74,750.00. in 2025/2026, \$76,395.00 in 2026/2027, \$78,075.00 in 2027/2028, \$79,793.00 in 2028/2029 and \$81,548.00 in 2029/2030.

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 estimate and may reflect the impact of early payment discounts, compression and the collection rate.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The continuing mission of the Sauvie Island Volunteer Rural Fire Protection District 30J is to provide medical assistance, and fire protection service to the residents of Sauvie Island and to provide mutual aid assistance, per our contracts, with Scappoose Fire Department and the Portland Fire Bureau. This mission requires passage of a five-year Local Option Levy for general operating purposes.

Many factors contribute to the departments continued increase in cost of operations. Basic resources such as electricity, fuel, and natural gas prices have increased dramatically. OSHA has instituted institutional testing and physical wellness monitoring for all fire fighters, and the cost of these mandatory services rise each year. Maintenance of our hard goods, equipment and basic fire protection gear continue to be high cost items (with one set of turnouts for one firefighter costing from \$4000-\$5000). Additionally, equipment needs to be replaced as it becomes dramatically outdated, falls below Federal Standard or becomes unsafe.

The above reflect only a small selection of the costs and reasons for the Local Option Levy. Detailed explanations of any of the above costs and a review of the District's Budgets is available to residents of the district by mail, email or at public meetings and Department board meetings.

Without the passing of this levy the district faces the elimination of part of its services, or the ceasing of operations altogether.

Submitted by:
Chris Lake, Fire Chief
Sauvie Island Fire District 30J

NO ARGUMENTS FOR OR AGAINST THIS MEASURE WERE FILED.

Columbia County 911 Communications

Measure 5-303

BALLOT TITLE

LOCAL OPTION LEVY FOR 9-1-1 EMERGENCY SERVICES

QUESTION: Shall Columbia 9-1-1 implement a five-year levy at \$0.29 per \$1,000 assessed value, beginning FY 2025-2026? This measure may cause property taxes to increase by more than 3%

SUMMARY: Columbia 9-1-1 Communications District is seeking a five-year levy to support 9-1-1 services throughout Columbia County, including all fire, emergency medical, and police services in each community. Funds will be used for:

- Operating the 24-hour 9-1-1 call center.
- Providing coordination and dispatch services for 13 law enforcement, fire and emergency medical agencies.
- Maintaining essential equipment for 9-1-1 services and emergency response throughout the county
- Coordinating with the Oregon Department of Forestry, Columbia County Emergency Management and other partner agencies on wildfire response and disaster readiness.

This measure would authorize the same rate of \$0.29 per \$1,000 of assessed value that was previously approved by Columbia County voters in 1998, 2004 ,2009, 2014 and 2019.

An estimate of the total amount of money to be raised for each year of the proposed levy renewal is: FY 2025-26: \$1,884,044 FY 2026-27: \$1,969,872 FY 2027-28: \$2,059,611 FY 2028-29: \$2,153,438 FY 2029-30: \$2,251,538

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

District overview

Columbia 9-1-1 is the sole provider of emergency dispatch and communications for Columbia County. It operates 24 hours a day, 365 days each year, providing every resident with access to emergency fire, police, and medical services in their time of need. In 2023, the district handled 100,066 total calls and requests for service with an average emergency call answer time of 5.38 seconds- ranking it among Oregon's top performing 9-1-1 agencies.

Levy overview

Columbia 9-1-1 has relied on a levy to fund emergency services since it was first approved by voters in 1998. This levy maintains the same tax rate as the past 25 years, providing five years of continued funding for 9-1-1 operations. If approved, it will ensure 24-hour 9-1-1 center operations and coordination with every police, fire, and emergency medical agency in Columbia County. It would also fund maintenance of essential communication equipment for emergency and disaster response, like wildfires and earthquakes. This levy is referred to the people by an independently elected board of directors accountable to citizens of Columbia County.

Why do we need a levy?

Every 9-1-1 district in Oregon relies on levies to fund essential services. In Columbia County, demands for services have increased, and the cost of maintaining aging equipment continues to grow. The district prides itself on efficiency, maintaining high standards without increasing tax rates. Without this levy, 9-1-1 district revenue would be cut by more than 42% compared to 2023-24, severely impacting operations and emergency services for residents and first responders.

What does the levy pay for?

The levy funds basic 9-1-1 services and emergency communications for all of Columbia County, including 9-1-1 center operations, coordination, and dispatch services for all first responders in the county. Dispatchers routinely provide lifesaving instructions to callers, including CPR, bleeding control, choking, and childbirth. The levy also funds basic maintenance of emergency communications equipment, along with planning and coordination with state and regional partners for disasters and large-scale emergencies.

How much would it cost?

If reauthorized, the levy will provide annual funding of approximately \$1.9 million to the district at a cost of \$0.29 per \$1,000 of assessed property value, or \$29 annually for a property with a tax assessed value of \$100,000. Please note that assessed values for homes are typically much lower than market values.

What happens if the levy does not pass?

If the levy does not pass, the district will exhaust its limited reserves within a year. 2025-26 district revenue would be cut by 42% compared to 2023-24. This will result in the elimination of dispatcher positions, significantly longer wait times for callers, and delays in providing emergency response in both urban and rural areas. In addition, emergency communications equipment for wildfire and disaster response would not be maintained, raising the likelihood of a significant system failure.

Submitted by:

The Columbia 9-1-1 Communications District Board of Directors

Robert Anderson (Scappoose)

Bruce Holsey (Clatskanie)

Henry Heimuller (St Helens)

Shelley Hennessy (Vernonia-Mist)

Jeff Flatt (Rainier)

NO ARGUMENTS AGAINST THIS MEASURE WERE FILED.

Columbia County 911 Communications

Measure 5-303 Arguments

ARGUMENT FOR

The Columbia 911 Dispatcher's Association says: Vote YES for 9-1-1 Emergency Services

The 911 Communications District is the first line of defense in all emergency situations in Columbia County. Members of our association are local 9-1-1 operators and dispatchers who gather critical information and prioritize calls for service while keeping callers calm and safe. Dispatchers manage calls for service while delegating these calls to officers and sending additional resources needed for the various situations they encounter.

We serve every part of Columbia County, and the 9-1-1 District relies on continued public funding to keep Columbia County safe and ensure proper response teams move into action when residents need assistance.

The publicly elected board of directors for Columbia 911 Communications District are dedicated public servants. The board has ensured every decision related to the planning and operation is transparent and in the best interest of county residents. This includes setting budgets that meet the need for staffing and equipment maintenance. Their leadership has ensured the district can meet the public's needs now and well into the future.

The Columbia 911 Dispatcher's Association, along with our local emergency response partners, support the passage of this levy.

Vote YES on Local Option Levy for 9-1-1 Emergency Columbia 911 Dispatcher's Association

Submitted by:
Robert S Anderson
Friends of Columbia 911

ARGUMENT FOR

Vote yes in support of the Local Option Levy for 9-1-1 Emergency Services

The Columbia 9-1-1 Communications District provides 9-1-1 call-taking, dispatching and non-emergency communications services for seven law enforcement agencies and five fire districts - including emergency medical dispatch for four fire district owned ambulance services and one private ambulance.

Every resident of Columbia County relies on effective 9-1-1 services. In emergency situations, it is important to have highly trained and effective dispatchers available **24 hours a day, seven days a week** to receive the call.

Columbia 911 staff operate and maintain the complex communication equipment necessary to ensure they can stay connected where emergency situations take place.

This levy rate has not increased since it was first passed in 1998, and these funds are crucial to ensure continued staffing of the Columbia County 911 emergency dispatch center that serves thousands of residents each year.

For the continued safety and prosperity of our communities, vote YES in support of the Local Option Levy for 9-1-1 Emergency Services.

Margaret Magruder, County Commissioner

These statements have been made on behalf of the Individuals as private citizens.

Submitted by:
Robert S Anderson
Friends of Columbia 911

ARGUMENT FOR

A message from your local fire chiefs

Vote YES for Safe and Effective 9-1-1 Emergency Services

Columbia County's 911 center and dispatch team are critical to ensuring Columbia County fire districts can rapidly respond to fire, rescue, and medical emergencies when seconds matter.

Columbia 9-1-1 Communications District (C911CD) is the sole public safety 9-1-1 answering point and dispatch center for all public safety agencies based in Columbia County. C911CD has been faithfully working hand in hand with county fire districts and answering YOUR calls **for more than 30 years**.

Whether you live, work, or recreate in Columbia County, the services provided by the Columbia 911 communications district are available to anyone facing an emergency.

In an era where wildfires have become increasing unpredictable and burning hotter for longer periods of time, a rapid response from firefighting teams has an immeasurable benefit to our community.

This measure would maintain the same tax rate that voters initially approved in 1998, and Columbia 9-1-1 consistently exceeds Oregon and national standards for effective response. In addition, over the last decade, C911CD has won awards for their budgeting process, accounting, and presentation.

We ask residents of Columbia County to ensure public access to emergency services and vote yes on the Local Option Levy for 9-1-1 Emergency Services.

Columbia County Fire Defense Board

Submitted by:
Robert S Anderson
Friends of Columbia 911

ARGUMENT FOR

A message from a local public safety advocate

Vote yes in support of the Local Option Levy for 9-1-1 Emergency Services

Law enforcement professionals who respond to emergency situations in communities across Columbia County know the value of the 24-hour emergency response services that have been provided by our local 911 call center for more than 30 years.

Columbia County law enforcement agencies rely on the 911 call center to quickly dispatch officers to aid individuals needing assistance when their lives are in danger, or when a crime is being committed.

The mission of the 911 Communications district has been widely supported by residents and community law

The printing of these arguments does not constitute an endorsement by Columbia County, nor does the county warrant the accuracy or truth of any statement made in the argument.

Columbia County 911 Communications

Measure 5-303 Arguments

enforcement agencies over the years with the operating levy being approved five times in the past.

The publicly elected board of directors at the 911 communications district has faithfully and transparently managed this critical funding to ensure the district has operated at its highest potential and efficiency. **This levy would ask for the same rate that was originally approved in 1998.**

I cannot overstate the importance of the call center when it comes to emergency preparedness for Columbia County.

Columbia County's public safety community encourages a vote in favor of the operating levy so that residents will continue to have reliable access to emergency communications 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Vote yes in support of the Local Option Levy for 9-1-1 Emergency Services

Honorable Steven B Reed, retired Circuit Court Judge

Submitted by:
Robert S Anderson
Friends of Columbia 911

ARGUMENT FOR

Vote YES for Emergency Response and Coordination

Oregon Department of Emergency Management coordinates and maintains a statewide emergency services system for emergency and disaster communications.

The state system relies on the local network of emergency response teams and their infrastructure, including critical services that local 911 communications centers provide.

Local 911 emergency services ensure community members can get help in an emergency and that emergency response teams are able to protect, mitigate, respond to, and help recover from emergencies or disasters regardless of cause.

This includes the ability to quickly notify residents about threats like encroaching wildfires.

Columbia County voters should reauthorize the Local Option Levy for 9-1-1 emergency services to keep us prepared for emergency situations.

Corey Padron, Emergency Manager, Columbia County
Emergency Management

Mike Russell, Director, Columbia County Public Works
Kelly Niles, Columbia County Resident

These statements have been made on behalf of the individuals as private citizens.

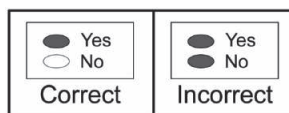
Submitted by:
Robert S Anderson
Friends of Columbia 911

The printing of these arguments does not constitute an endorsement by Columbia County, nor does the county warrant the accuracy or truth of any statement made in the argument.

CHECK YOUR BALLOT

Completely fill in the oval next to your choices.

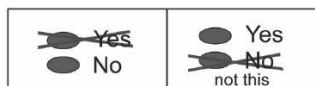
Check for overvotes. If you vote for more candidates than allowed for an office or if you vote both 'Yes' and 'No' on a measure, it is called an overvote. Your vote will not count for that candidate or measure.



If you make a mistake or change your mind while marking your ballot, you may request a replacement ballot from the Elections office or you may make your changes on the ballot.

If you make changes to your ballot choices, make your choice obvious. Election workers will inspect each ballot to make sure your intent is understood and the ballot is counted correctly.

Two examples of how to make your intent clear are below.



You do not have to vote in all contests.

Your other votes will still count. You cannot change your vote once you have mailed or dropped off your ballot.

Contact Columbia County Elections to ask for help if:

- you make a mistake
- your ballot is damaged
- your ballot is lost
- or for any other reason.

Columbia County Elections
(503) 397-7214
elections@co.columbia.or.us

Columbia County
Commissioner, Position 1
Margaret C Magruder*
Treasurer
Pamela Smith*

City of Clatskanie
Council Members B
Jeffrey Horness*
Mayor
No Candidate Filed

City of Columbia City
Council Members B
Lyle Bluhm*
Connie Quick*
Mayor
Alexander Reed*

City of Prescott
Council Member, Position 2
Vickey Romph*
Council Member, Position 4
Michael Von Pinnon*
Mayor
Laurie Blair*
Recorder
Jewel Lee*
Treasurer
Keli Von Pinnon*

City of Rainier
Council Member, Position 2
Denise Watson*
Council Member, Position 6
Mike Kreger*
Council Member, Position 7
Paul Langner*
Mayor
Jerry Cole*

City of Scappoose
Council Members B
Marisa Jacobs
Marty Marquis

Tyler Miller
Joel Haugen
Mayor
Joseph A Backus

City of St. Helens
City Council B
Molly Matchak
Ginny Carlson
Jessica Chilton
Russell Hubbard
Mayor
Jennifer Massey
Steve Toschi
Rick Scholl

City of Vernonia
Council Members B
Dennis Weller
Donald Normand
Charise Ash*
Mayor
Susan Wagner
Edward (Rick) Hobart

Columbia SWCD
Director, At-Large Position 1
Bill Eagle*
Director, Zone 1
Paul M Gibbons*
Director, Zone 2
No Candidate Filed
Director, Zone 3
No Candidate Filed
Director, Zone 4
David Freytag*
Director, Zone 5
Debra R Brimacombe*

West Multnomah SWCD
Director, At-Large, Position 1
Michael Oliver*
Director, Zone 1
Jan Robert Hamer*
Director, Zone 2
No Candidate Filed

Director, Zone 3
George A Sowder*

Clatskanie PUD
Director, Subdivision 1
Bob Wiggins
Pamela (Pam) Reed
Director, Subdivision 2
Merle Gillespie
Robert Emminger*
Director, Subdivision 5
Stephen D Petersen*

Columbia River PUD
Director, Subdivision 3
Garratt M Taylor*
Director, Subdivision 4
Joseph Liebelt*

McNulty Water PUD
Director, Subdivision 2
No Candidate Filed
Director, Subdivision 3
Hans Feige*
Director, Subdivision 4
Mike Witzel*
Director, Subdivision 5
No Candidate Filed

Measures

5-302

Shall Columbia County levy a tax of \$0.79/\$1000.00 of assessed value for four years beginning in FY2025 for Jail operations?

26-257

Shall the District continue a \$0.3500 per \$1,000.00 of assessed value for five years for operating purposes beginning 2025-2026?

5-303

Shall Columbia 9-1-1 implement a five-year levy at \$0.29 per \$1,000 assessed value, beginning FY 2025-2026?

(*) Candidate chose not to submit a voters' pamphlet statement.

This is a complete listing of County, City and local district candidates for the November 5, 2024 General Election.

BALLOT RETURN

You May Vote Your Ballot and Return It as Soon as You Receive It.

Ballots may be returned via mail or by drop off.
Return Methods:

Mail: Return postage is prepaid. Your ballot must be postmarked by Election Day. Please be aware of the USPS pick up time of the location you are using on actual Election Day (only picked up ballots will receive the timely postmark).

Drop off: - Deliver as soon as possible to an official drop box by 8:00 pm Election Day. Ballots may be delivered to any official ballot drop box in Oregon. Ballots received in this manner after 8pm will not count.

COLUMBIA COUNTY BALLOT DROP SITE LOCATIONS

24 Hour drop off available at all locations.

Columbia County Courthouse
230 Strand St, St Helens

Scappoose City Hall
33568 E. Columbia Ave

Clatskanie Library
11 Lillich St, Clatskanie

Rainier City Hall
106 B St West, Rainier

Vernonia Public Library
701 Weed Ave, Vernonia

Mist-Birkenfeld RFPD
12525 Oregon Highway 202, Mist



PLEASE RECYCLE THIS
INFORMATION BOOKLET

END OF COLUMBIA COUNTY VOTERS' PAMPHLET
REMEMBER TO CHECK BOTH SIDES OF YOUR BALLOT.