
Local Option Levy Resolution

POLICY ISSUE/SITUATION

The Beaverton School District Board will consider placing a 5-year Local Option Levy on the May 21, 2013 ballot. If approved, the Local Option Levy could provide the District with additional operating funds to prevent teacher position cuts. The Levy could raise approximately \$11 - \$17 million per year. Over a five-year period, it could generate about \$82 million for the Beaverton School District.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Due to reduced state funding over the past five years, the Beaverton School District has cut \$142 million, eliminated 16 school days and 640 teacher positions, and increased class sizes at every level. The District is projecting a funding shortfall of approximately \$11 – \$15 million for the 2013-14 school year.

What is a Local Option Levy?

In 1999, the Oregon Legislature signed into law the local option, a funding mechanism that allows voters to make some local funding decisions for their schools. The Local Option Levy accesses taxes between Oregon's two property tax limitation laws--Measure 5, which limits tax rates based on a property's Real Market Value, and Measure 50, which limits tax rates based on assessed value.

RECOMMENDATION:

(13-254) BE IT RESOLVED that the Beaverton School Board will place a 5-year Local Option Levy on the May 21, 2013 ballot. The Board further resolves to levy \$1.25 per \$1,000 of assessed value for five years beginning in 2013.

RESOLUTION NO. 13-254

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF BEAVERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT, IN WASHINGTON AND MULTNOMAH COUNTIES, OREGON CALLING A MEASURE ELECTION TO SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT THE QUESTION OF A FIVE-YEAR LOCAL OPTION LEVY.

WHEREAS, over the past five years and during the severe recession, the Beaverton School District has cut \$142 million in teaching positions, school days, educational programs and services for students; and

WHEREAS, the Beaverton School District has eliminated 640 teacher positions which has raised class sizes at every level, and

WHEREAS, the Beaverton School District has cut 16 school days; and

WHEREAS, the Beaverton School District has reduced or eliminated programs for students such as music, P.E. and library/media and electives; and

WHEREAS, depending on the Oregon Legislature's final State School Fund allocation, the Beaverton School District faces additional reductions in 2013-2014 of \$11 - \$15 million or the equivalent of the elimination of 140 more teaching positions and even higher class sizes for students at all levels; and

WHEREAS, the local option levy could generate an estimated \$11 - \$17 million per year (*the amount raised may be different than estimated and will depend on changes to assessed and real market value of each property within the school district*) to prevent further reductions to teaching positions and classrooms, and give the Beaverton community an opportunity to do its part to fill the gap, and put the Beaverton Schools in a more stable funding position; and

WHEREAS, the local option levy will provide needed funding to ensure students receive the education they need to be prepared for college and careers; and

WHEREAS, 100% of the funds from the local option would be used for teaching positions; and

WHEREAS, schools are a significant economic driver for the Beaverton community providing highly skilled jobs and prepared graduates; and

WHEREAS, annual reports to the public will ensure levy funds are spent as the voters intended; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors (the "Board") of Beaverton School District in Washington and Multnomah Counties, Oregon, a common school district of the State of Oregon (the "District") finds the District has determined that a need exists for the District to finance certain District operations and to pay all costs incidental thereto; and

WHEREAS, Oregon Revised Statutes Sections 280.040 to 280.150, as amended, subject to voter approval, authorizes the District to impose a five-year local option levy to provide funds to finance certain District operations; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED a measure election is hereby called for the purpose of submitting to the electors of the District the question of a five-year local option levy, beginning 2013 in the amount of \$1.25 per \$1,000 assessed value.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the measure election hereby called shall be held in the District on May 21, 2013, as authorized by the County Clerks of Washington and Multnomah Counties, Oregon, and the Oregon Secretary of State, the election shall be conducted by mail pursuant to ORS 254.465 and 254.470; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the School Board authorizes the Superintendent or his designee as an authorized representative (the "Authorized Representative") to file a notice of levy election not later than March 21, 2013 substantially in the form attached hereto and to act on behalf of the District and take such further action, including changes to the ballot title as are necessary to carry out the intent and purposes herein in compliance with the applicable provisions of law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED as described in the attached Notice, the total amount of money to be raised by this Measure is estimated to be \$82 million over a five-year period.

ADOPTED by the Board of Directors this 25th day of February 2013.

**BEAVERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT,
WASHINGTON AND MULTNOMAH COUNTIES, OREGON**

By: 
Board Chair

ATTEST:

By: 
Superintendent/District Clerk

NOTICE OF LEVY ELECTION

BEAVERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
Washington and Multnomah Counties, Oregon

Caption

**BEAVERTON SCHOOLS LOCAL OPTION LEVY PREVENTING
CLASSROOM TEACHING POSITION CUTS**

Question

Shall District lower class size, prevent teaching position cuts; levy \$1.25 per \$1,000 assessed value for five years beginning 2013?

This Measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

Summary

The Beaverton School District serves nearly 40,000 children in 51 schools over about 57 square miles.

Due to reduced state funding over the past five years, Beaverton schools have cut \$142 million, eliminated 16 school days and 640 teacher positions, and increased class sizes at every level.

Additionally, the District has reduced administration, maintenance, guidance counselors, school libraries, textbooks and learning materials. Music, physical education and art have been reduced at every level.

The Beaverton School District expects more state budget cuts this year of \$11- 15 million, or the equivalent of reducing over 140 more teaching positions. This could increase class size again by an average of 4 students per class.

The local option levy is projected to raise approximately \$82 million over five years:

2013-2014:	\$15,443,366
2014-2015:	\$15,956,534
2015-2016:	\$16,467,354
2016-2017:	\$17,014,279
2017-2018:	\$17,524,707

All levy funds would remain in the Beaverton School District, and 100% of the money would be used for teaching positions.

The levy rate is \$1.25 cents per \$1,000 assessed property value. A homeowner with a median assessed value of \$233,000 would pay an additional \$24 a month.

Signature of authorized District Election Authority

Date signed

Printed name of authorized District Election Authority

Title

This legal notice is to be published by the Elections Officer in the Valley Times in Beaverton, Oregon or in another newspaper of general circulation within the District, in the next available edition of such newspaper after this Notice of Measure Election is filed with the Elections Officer.