Levy for Countywide Library Services

MEASURE 34-235

For 39 years, Washington County Cooperative Library Service (WCCLS) has provided funding for public library operations, central support and outreach programs linking together city and community libraries.

This levy replaces a 5-year levy expiring June 2016, which provides 1/3 of WCCLS funding.

WHAT WOULD MEASURE 34-235 DO?

- Maintain support for libraries and branches that serve all county residents: Banks, Beaverton, Cedar Mill, Cornelius, Forest Grove, Garden Home, Hillsboro, North Plains, Sherwood, Tigard, Tualatin and West Slope.
- Increase open hours at some libraries.
- Add basic support for new Aloha library and expanded libraries in other communities (Bethany, Cornelius and Hillsboro).
- Support reading programs for children, enhance literacy programs for preschoolers.
- Enhance reading programs for school-aged children including summer reading.
- Increase programs for students including online homework and tutoring support.
- Expand purchase of books, e-books and other materials available to all residents.
- Maintain resources for job-seekers which support one out of five WCCLS computer users in their employment or job searches.
- Maintain central support and outreach services such as the library catalog, Internet and Wi-Fi, e-resources, courier deliveries between libraries, Outreach to Homebound, etc.

HOW WOULD MEASURE 34-235 AFFECT A HOMEOWNER’S TAXES?

22¢ per $1,000 of assessed value, an increase of 5¢ over current rate. If approved, this would be first levy rate increase since 2006. A typical homeowner would pay about $56 in 2016, or about $14 more than paid in 2015. This assumes an average assessed home value (not market value) of $255,408 in 2016.

WHAT HAPPENS IF THE LEVY DOES NOT PASS?

Because the expiring levy provides 1/3 of WCCLS funding, reductions in services would likely occur based on local library priorities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Visit WCCLS at www.wccls.org/levy or ask at your local library.