

**Washington County
Measure 34-235**

**Library Replacement Levy
Ballot Title**

Caption:

Replacement Local Option Levy to Support Countywide Library Services

Question:

Shall Washington County support library services countywide by levying 22¢ per \$1,000 assessed value for five years, beginning in 2016? This measure may cause property taxes to increase by more than 3%.

Summary:

This measure replaces a levy that expires in June 2016. It supports member libraries of Washington County Cooperative Library Services (WCCLS) in Banks, Beaverton, Cedar Mill, Cornelius, Forest Grove, Garden Home, Hillsboro, North Plains, Sherwood, Tigard, Tualatin and West Slope; adds Aloha Library. It funds central support and outreach services linking libraries together. Expiring levy provides 1/3 of total WCCLS funding.

Replacement levy supports libraries by:

- Maintaining open hours, avoiding cuts in service;
- Adding hours at some libraries;
- Supporting children's programs including summer reading and literacy programs for preschoolers;
- Improving online homework help and learning supports for students;
- Purchasing books, e-books and other materials;
- Providing basic operational support for new or expanding libraries;
- Maintaining central support and outreach services.

Levy supports libraries for five years at a fixed rate of 22¢ per \$1,000 of assessed value, an increase of 5¢. If approved, this would be the first rate increase since 2006.

In 2016, typical homeowners with an assessed value (not market value) of \$255,408 would pay about \$56, which is \$14 more than in 2015.

Estimated levy amount for each year:

\$12,739,000 in 2016-17

\$13,249,000 in 2017-18

\$13,812,000 in 2018-19

\$14,399,000 in 2019-20

\$15,011,000 in 2020-21