



**Washington County**  
Cooperative Library Services

# Levy Renewal for Countywide **LIBRARY SERVICES**



## **MEASURE 34-180**

For 34 years, Washington County Cooperative Library Services (WCCLS) has provided funding for public library operations, central support and outreach programs linking together city and community libraries.

### **WHAT WOULD RENEWAL OF THIS LEVY DO?**

#### **Continue support for countywide public library services:**

- Approximately 80% of levy funds would be distributed to support these WCCLS libraries: Banks, Beaverton, Cedar Mill, Cornelius, Forest Grove, Garden Home, Hillsboro, North Plains, Sherwood, Tigard, Tualatin, and West Slope.
- These libraries continue to respond to increased use from residents. Over the last two years checkouts increased 32% and library visitors 22%.

#### **Support reading programs for children:**

- Continue programs such as summer reading and literacy programs that help prepare preschoolers to enter school “ready to read.”
- Over 170,000 residents participated in children’s library programs last year; participation has increased 38% in two years. About 25,000 children participate in summer reading activities designed to sustain reading retention between school years.

#### **Purchase books:**

- Fund the purchase of books and other materials that are available to residents through all WCCLS member libraries.

#### **Provide information and resources for job-seekers:**

- Continue library services that provide information, resources and instruction to assist those in the local community who are looking for jobs.

#### **Support central and outreach services that link libraries together and serve all residents:**

- Maintain daily book deliveries among libraries to fill patron requests.
- Maintain the WCCLS website and shared library catalog that is used by approximately 255,000 active library cardholders.
- Maintain outreach services to special populations such as mail delivery of books to the homebound, and literacy training in English and Spanish to instruct child care providers and parents.
- In combination with existing technology reserves, continue supporting services and technologies designed to increase library efficiency.

### **HOW WOULD THIS RENEWAL AFFECT TAXES?**

- A five-year local option levy is proposed to replace a four-year levy which will expire June 2011. This measure would run from July 2011 through June 2016. The 17¢ rate per \$1,000 of assessed value would remain unchanged from the current rate.
- Owners of a home with an average assessed value of \$215,089 (not market value) would pay about \$37 in 2011-2012. Taxes in future years would depend upon changes in assessed value.

### **WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF THE LEVY RENEWAL IS NOT APPROVED?**

The expiring levy provides approximately 1/3 of WCCLS funding. Without levy funding, reductions in hours, book purchases and services would be determined by member libraries based on local service priorities.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

including sources for statistics cited visit [www.WCCLS.org/levy](http://www.WCCLS.org/levy) or call (503) 846-3222.

