



Lincoln County Voters' Pamphlet Special Election November 6, 2007



This Voters' Pamphlet is provided to give you, the voter, additional information on measures. You will not vote on every measure in this pamphlet. Your ballot will contain only those issues for which you are eligible to vote - based on where you live. If you have any questions, please call our office at (541) 265-4131. Also visit our website: www.co.lincoln.or.us/clerk/ **"Customer Service is our #1 Priority!"**

Dana W. Jenkins, Lincoln County Clerk

Voting Instructions

Check Your Ballot!

→ To vote you must fill in the oval (●) completely with a pencil or pen.

→ To write-in a name — Fill in the oval (●) to the left of the write-in line and write in the name on the write-in line.

→ If you vote for more candidates than allowed, or if you vote **both** Yes **and** No on a measure, it is called an over-vote.

Your vote **will not count** for that candidate or measure.

→ You do not have to vote on all contests. Those you do vote on will still be counted.

→ **Remember, if stated on your ballot, vote both sides of your ballot.**

→ **After voting—SEAL the ballot** in the ballot secrecy envelope.

→ **SEAL your BALLOT (enclosed in the secrecy envelope), inside the return envelope, SIGN THE RETURN ENVELOPE** in the space provided, and mail it in time to be received in the office of the County Clerk by November 6th, or drop it off at a designated drop site (see drop sites below).

→ Contact Lincoln County Elections office at 541-265-4131 to request a replacement ballot if:

→ you make a mistake

→ your ballot is damaged or spoiled

→ your ballot is lost or for any other reason.

Ballot Drop Site Locations

★ **Privacy Booth Available**

★ **LINCOLN COUNTY COURTHOUSE**

225 W Olive, Room 201; Newport
INSIDE BOX: 8:30am to 5pm M-F
(October 19 through November 5)
November 6th ONLY (Election Day) 7am-8pm
OUTSIDE BOX: Drive-up ballot box in rear parking lot—open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week until 8pm on Election Day (beginning October 19th)

★ **LINCOLN CITY CITY HALL**

801 SW Hwy 101; Lincoln City
OUTSIDE BOX: Drive-up ballot box in lower parking lot—open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week until 8pm on Election Day (beginning October 19th)

★ **DEPOE BAY CITY HALL**

570 SE Shell; Depoe Bay
8am-5pm M-F (October 19 through November 5)
November 6th ONLY (Election Day) 8am-8pm

★ **NEWPORT CITY HALL**

169 SW Coast Hwy; Newport
8am-5pm M-F (October 19 through November 5)
November 6th ONLY (Election Day) 8am-8pm

★ **TOLEDO CITY HALL**

206 N Main; Toledo
8am-5pm M-F (October 19 through November 5)
November 6th ONLY (Election Day) 8am-8pm

★ **SILETZ CITY HALL**

215 W Buford; Siletz
9am to 5pm M-F (October 19 through November 5)
November 6th ONLY (Election Day) 9am-8pm

★ **WALDPORT CITY HALL**

125 Alsea Hwy; Waldport
INSIDE BOX: 8am to 5pm M-F
(October 19 through November 5)
(closed 12:30pm to 1:30pm)
November 6th ONLY (Election Day) 8am-8pm
OUTSIDE BOX: Drive-up ballot box in City Hall parking lot – open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week until 8pm on Election Day (beginning October 19th)

★ **YACHATS CITY HALL**

441 Hwy 101 N; Yachats
8:30am to 4:30pm M-F (October 19 through November 5)
November 6th ONLY (Election Day) 8:30am-8pm

★ **EDDYVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH**

20742 Hwy 20; Eddyville
November 6th ONLY (Election Day) 10am-8pm

Your ballot must be received at a designated drop site (including the Courthouse) by 8:00pm on November 6th. You may mail it in or take it to a drop site any day before that also. (beginning October 19th.)

POSTAGE IS NOT REQUIRED AT THESE DROP SITES!

Measure 21-117 Yachats Rural Fire Protection District

Ballot Title

21-117

Five year local option tax #2 for Yachats Fire District

Question: Shall Yachats Rural Fire Protection District levy 59¢ per \$1000 assessed value for five years, beginning in 2008-2009, for operations?

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

Summary: This measure may be passed only at an election with at least a 50 percent voter turnout.

Approval of this measure would subject tax assessable property in the Yachats Rural Fire Protection District to additional property taxation for five years in the amount of 59 cents per \$1000 assessed property value (tax years 2008-2009 through 2012-2013).

It is estimated that this measure would raise approximately \$225,016 in tax revenues for 2008-2009, \$231,766 in tax revenues for 2009-2010, \$238,719 in tax revenues for 2010-2011, \$245,881 in tax revenues for 2011-2012, and \$253,257 in tax revenues for 2012-2013.

Revenues would be used by the Yachats Rural Fire Protection District to maintain Emergency Medical Services, fund district operations, and to fund its vehicle replacement program.

vehicle replacement to EMS. The YRFPD now must ask our voters for an additional tax (LOT#2) to replace the funds diverted to EMS and allow us to reestablish our vehicle replacement program. Along with our existing taxes, LOT#2 will bring us to a total \$1.49, or within 1 cent of the statewide average for all RFDs. On a \$200,000 home, the additional tax will be \$118 per year, or \$10 per month.

If this measure passes, the District will be able to continue Emergency Medical Services at its current level, and to ensure that the equipment is available to allow our firefighters to provide quality fire and rescue service to the community as they have since 1925. Please vote.

(This information submitted by Edward T. Hallahan, Secretary/Treasurer, Yachats Rural Fire Protection District.)

Explanatory Statement

The Yachats Rural Fire Protection District is the governmental agency that funds and supervises the Yachats Volunteer Fire Department. The Fire Department provides fire prevention and suppression, land and water rescue, motor vehicle crash response, and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to an area from just south of the Yachats city limits to the southern Waldport city limits. Over 97% of the District's funding is from property taxes paid by residents within the District. The District has a permanent tax rate of 28.96 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value and one Local Option Tax (LOT#1) rate of 61 cents per \$1,000 assessed value. LOT#1 was passed by the voters in 1998 and renewed at the same rate in 2002. Our total tax of roughly 90 cents per \$1,000 puts us in the lowest 25% of all Rural Fire Districts (RFDs) in Oregon, whose average is \$1.48. Of all Oregon RFDs that provide ALS ambulance service, like we do, the average tax rate is \$1.91.

We have seen a reduction in our roster of volunteer personnel along with a significant increase in call volume, and have needed to hire part-time staff to ensure our ability to provide 24-hour EMS. Also, the cost of our Paramedic-level service has significantly exceeded what we had anticipated five years ago. The cost of personnel for our EMS mission now consumes over 60% of our total budget. We have continued this essential service only by diverting funds from fire engine and other equipment replacement. We operate ten essential and specialized emergency vehicles and must be able to replace them as they wear out. One new fire engine costs as much as one year's total budget.

The YRFPD accomplished everything we said we would do with LOT#1, except we had to divert funds from continued

There were no arguments filed for or against this measure.

Ballot Title

21-118

Proposed new Charter for City of Newport

Question: Shall the City of Newport adopt the proposed new City Charter?

Summary: This measure, if adopted, would adopt a new Charter for Newport. The Charter is the basic document governing how a city government functions, equivalent to a constitution. The City's current charter was adopted by the voters in 1962. Some of the provisions and some of the language in the Charter are outdated. The proposed new Charter would keep many of the same basic provisions as the existing Charter, such as the number of council members and the term of the mayor and council. Adoption of the proposed charter would allow the City to borrow funds consistent with state law rather than being limited to a specified amount. Adoption of the proposed charter would allow the City Council to adopt ordinance after a single reading. The proposed new charter uses simplified language with the intention of making the Charter more understandable. The proposed new Charter would clarify the actions to be taken by the Council in its legislative, administrative and quasi-judicial capacities. A copy of the proposed Charter is available at www.thecityofnewport.net and at City Hall.

Explanatory Statement

If this measure is adopted, it would provide a new Charter for the City of Newport. A charter is the fundamental document governing how a city government operates. It is comparable to a constitution. Newport's voters approved the City's current Charter in 1962. Some of the provisions and language in the Charter are out-of-date. The proposed new Charter would retain a lot of the same basic provisions as the current Charter, such as the number of council members and the term of office of the mayor and councilors. The proposed Charter would allow the City to borrow money in a manner consistent with state law rather than specifying an amount that would require a change of the Charter from time to time. The proposed Charter would allow the City Council to adopt an ordinance after a single reading. The proposed Charter uses simplified language with the intention of making the Charter more understandable and easy to use. The proposed Charter would clarify the procedures the Council would follow in its legislative, administrative, and quasi-judicial capacities. A copy of the proposed Charter is available on the City's website at www.thecityofnewport.net, at the Newport Library, and at City Hall.

*(This information submitted by Margaret M. Hawker,
City Recorder, City of Newport.)*

**There were no arguments filed for
or against this measure.**

Ballot Title

21-119

Increases Lincoln County transient lodging tax from 6% to 9%

Question: Shall County lodging tax be increased three cents per dollar, with revenues dedicated for use by County, Aquarium, and fairgrounds?

Summary: Since 1991, Lincoln County has levied a 6% tax on transient lodging. It is paid by tourists, business travelers and other visitors. Currently, 1/6 of the tax revenues are dedicated to tourism promotion and economic development. This measure would increase the transient room tax by three cents per dollar, from 6% to 9%. By state law, lodging operators keep 5 percent of the tax as a collection charge. The remainder of the new tax revenues would be allocated as follows: 40 percent to a Fairgrounds Facilities Improvement Fund, 30 percent for ongoing operating support for the Oregon Coast Aquarium, and 30 percent to the County general fund. Lodging within incorporated cities would be exempt from the County lodging tax, and instead subject to city lodging tax. A "Yes" vote increases the County transient lodging tax to 9%. A "No" vote keeps it at 6%.

Explanatory Statement

Lincoln County first imposed a transient lodging tax of 5% in 1978. It is paid by tourists, business travelers and other visitors.

In 1991, Lincoln County voters approved an increase of the tax to 6%, with the additional 1% dedicated to tourism promotion and economic development. By state law and county ordinance, lodging operators keep five percent of the tax as a collection charge.

In fiscal year 2006/07 (July 2006 through June 2007), the 6% County transient lodging tax generated \$1,118,544 in revenue.

This measure would increase the County transient room tax an additional 3%, from 6% to 9%, effective January 1, 2008. The new tax revenue would be allocated as follows: 40 percent to a Fairgrounds Facilities Improvement Fund, 30 percent for ongoing operating support for the Oregon Coast Aquarium, and 30 percent to the County general fund.

It is estimated that this tax increase would generate approximately \$560,000 in additional revenue per year. As described in the distribution formula above, the division of that new revenue would result in approximately \$224,000 for the Fairgrounds Facilities Improvement Fund, \$168,000 for the Oregon Coast Aquarium, and \$168,000 for the County general fund.

Under this measure, lodging within incorporated cities would be exempt from the County lodging tax, and instead subject to city lodging tax.

A "Yes" vote increases the County transient lodging tax to 9%. A "No" vote keeps it at 6%.

(This information submitted by Rob Bovett, Assistant County Counsel, Lincoln County Board of Commissioners.)

**Argument statements
for this measure
begin on next page** →

Measure 21-119 Arguments

Argument in Favor

Please Vote YES! On Measure 21-119 for the Oregon Coast Aquarium

More than twenty years ago, Yaquina Bay Economic Foundation volunteers worked hard to make the Oregon Coast Aquarium a reality. In 1992, it opened to rave reviews.

Since then, the Aquarium has become a nationally-ranked “top ten” facility, and is a significant asset to Lincoln County, enhancing our quality of life. The Aquarium has 15,000+ sea creatures, providing more than 70 local jobs.

Twice a year, the Aquarium offers ‘discount days’ for County residents. The Aquarium provides more than a thousand local students hands-on marine education, and offers all of us a place to come to relax, a place to enjoy animals we might never see in the wild, fun for family and friends who visit.

Feeding the 15,000 animals at the Aquarium is terribly expensive—it costs \$7 million to run our Aquarium every year. **Voting YES!** for Measure 21-119 would help support the Oregon Coast Aquarium with much-needed lodging tax dollars paid by those visiting the county. **Voting YES!** can also help build a multi-use facility at the Lincoln County Fairgrounds for 4-H events, and local groups. The remainder of this “visitor tax” will be used for county services needed by visitors, such as law enforcement, and road maintenance.

The proposed increase in Lincoln County’s transient room tax applies only to hotel/motel/bed and breakfast rooms, and campsites in the “unincorporated” areas, or more simply put, areas outside of all the cities in Lincoln County.

Only those staying in lodging properties, vacation rental dwellings, or at campgrounds outside our cities will pay this tax if it is passed.

Please support your Oregon Coast Aquarium by voting YES! with us on Measure 21-119.

The Yaquina Bay Economic Foundation, including:

William Bain
John Baker
David Bigelow
Mark Bryan
Chris Chandler DiTorrice
Mark Collson
Doug Hunt
Phillip Hutchinson
Tim Johnson
Larkin Kaliher
Don Mann
David Miller
Pat O’Connor
Tom Rinearson
Bonnie Saxton
Dale Schmidt

*(This information furnished by Chris Chandler DiTorrice,
Yaquina Bay Economic Development Foundation
Political Action Committee.)*

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

Argument in Favor

As “ pre-aquarium” Lincoln County residents, we have had not only the chance to help the Oregon Coast Aquarium come into existence, but also to see countless ways the Oregon Coast Aquarium has benefited Lincoln County.

My wife Dolores and I are very happy to have observed the leverage of lodging taxes from the City of Newport City help an underfunded operation provide community outreach. Now we have the opportunity for the County in general, to help the Aquarium achieve its goals of providing a first-rate facility, which can serve not only the visitors, but also Lincoln County residents as well.

We ask all Lincoln County residents to join us in supporting our wonderful community facility, the Oregon Coast Aquarium.

C. Norman Winningstad
Founding Board Member,
Oregon Coast Aquarium

*(This information furnished by C. Norman Winningstad,
Dolores C. Winningstad.)*

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Measure 21-119 Arguments

Argument in Favor

Please support the Oregon Coast Aquarium by voting YES on Measure 21-119

Since its opening in 1992, the Oregon Coast Aquarium has drawn millions of visitors to Lincoln County. The Aquarium was recently recognized by three national publications as being one of the top 10 aquariums in the country.

But the Aquarium is also a part of the Lincoln County Community. Residents are eligible for discount “dollar admission days”. The Aquarium currently provides Lincoln County students with a variety of learning experiences for greatly reduced or no fees. It also serves as the location for local nonprofit fundraising events such as the annual “Oyster Cloyster” supporting the Oregon Coast Community College.

The Aquarium has some 70 employees; hundreds of dedicated volunteers; and over 15 thousand sea creatures including sea otters, seals, sea lions, and a variety of birds as well as thousands of fish and invertebrates. Feeding and caring for all of these animals takes a considerable amount of money, and this is only partially covered by the Aquarium’s relatively modest admission fees.

Measure 21-119 will provide the Aquarium with a needed source of reliable annual funds. The proposed increase in Lincoln County’s transient room tax would apply only to hotel, motel, bed and breakfast rooms, vacation rental dwellings, as well as campsites in the *unincorporated (outside of city limits)* areas of Lincoln County. **Only those people renting a room or campsite outside of our cities would pay this increase in tax, typically only a few dollars per day.**

Respectfully submitted by Dave and Julie Shafer, who reside in Siletz Keys. Dave and Julie are both volunteers at the Aquarium. Dave serves on the Aquarium’s Board of Directors and Julie is an Interpreter working with the birds and other animals.

(This information furnished by Julie A. Shafer, David L. Shafer.)

Argument in Favor

Please Vote YES! on Measure 21-119 for the Oregon Coast Aquarium

Dear Lincoln County Voters,

Like many Oregonians, the Paulus family is pleased at how the Oregon Coast Aquarium has positively impacted Lincoln County’s economy, science education efforts, and image.

The Aquarium has been ranked as one of the top ten aquariums in the United States for three years running and continues to make Lincoln County residents proud.

The Oregon Coast Aquarium’s mission to inspire others to cherish Oregon’s ocean has reached over nine million visitors and residents since opening day fifteen years ago and it has become a vital source of marine science education for the county and the state. It is exciting to be a part of an organization that has 400 volunteers committed to educating everyone about our ocean, and how humans can enjoy and protect it.

The Aquarium is currently partnering with Lincoln County School District, Oregon State University, and Oregon Coast Community College, to develop critical ocean science education programs which will serve as models for the rest of the nation. To date, hundreds of thousands of Oregon school children have visited the Aquarium or been visited by the Oregon Coast Aquarium Outreach team. As the former Superintendent of Public Instruction in Oregon, I witnessed the need for these vital science education efforts. I know you will join me in my desire to insure our children know, understand, and cherish our wonderful Oregon Coast for generations to come.

The proposed room tax increase applies only to the “unincorporated” areas—areas outside of all cities’ limits—in Lincoln County. **Only those staying in vacation rental dwellings, hotels, bed and breakfasts, and campgrounds outside our cities will pay this tax if it is passed.**

Sincerely,

*Norma Paulus
Former Oregon Secretary of State
Former Oregon Superintendent of Public Instruction
The Paulus Family has owned property in Lincoln County since 1938*

*(This information furnished by Norma Paulus,
Oregon Coast Aquarium.)*

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

There were no arguments filed against this measure.

Measure 21-120

Beverly Beach Water District

Ballot Title

21-120

Beverly Beach Water District General Obligation Bond Authorization

Question: Shall the Beverly Beach Water District be authorized to issue general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$650,000?

If the bonds are approved, they will be payable from taxes on property and property ownership that are not subject to the limits of sections 11 and 11b, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

Summary: This measure may be passed only at an election with at least a 50 percent voter turnout. Passage of this measure would provide funds for replacement of the water treatment plant on the existing site and in the existing building with a 100 to 120 gpm modern filtration system including an in ground 30,000 gallon clear well for disinfection. Pumps, motors, controls and all operational equipment would be replaced.

The new plant would eliminate summer water shortages and is projected to meet the needs of the present population and an estimated 20 year population growth with a reliable water supply and continue to remain in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act.

The bonds would mature in thirty (30) years or less from date of issuance and may be issued in one or more series.

Explanatory Statement

Providing a safe and adequate supply of water to water users in the district is a primary function of the Beverly Beach Water District. The existing treatment plant had an expected life of 20 years when put into service in 1976 and it now has seen over 30 years of continuous operation. Chlorine gas and liquid chlorine, both corrosive materials, have been used in disinfection and in a normally corrosive coastal atmosphere has taken its toll. The plant is operating at substantially reduced capacity to avoid turbidity violations. The underside of the steel package plant, approximately 200 square feet, rests just off the floor, making underside inspection impossible. Visible areas of the 30 year old treatment plant tank show significant rust damage and deterioration. In addition, the size of the flocculation and sedimentation processes do not allow the plant to treat water at the original design flow of 60 gpm while meeting current water quality standards.

A quote from the HBH Consulting Engineer's Draft Preliminary Engineering Report states: "In order to reliably provide high quality water for the community that consistently meets or exceeds the LTIESWTR standards, it is considered imperative for the existing water treatment plant to be replaced."

The estimated average cost of this bond is \$2.4416 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The owner of a home assessed at \$150,000 is estimated to pay \$366.24 per year.

*(This information submitted by Richard E. Crandall,
Treasurer, Beverly Beach Water District.)*

There were no arguments filed for or against this measure.

New Drive-Up Ballot Drop Boxes Now Available in Newport, Lincoln City and Waldport



New drive-up ballot drop boxes are now available at the Lincoln County Courthouse in Newport, the Lincoln City City Hall in Lincoln City, and the Waldport City Hall in Waldport.

These drive-up ballot drop boxes will be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from October 19 through 8:00pm on November 6.

Newport:

Lincoln County Courthouse – located in rear parking lot at the east end of the second row of parking.

Go west on West Olive Street to 4-way stop by the jail.

Turn left onto SW Nye Street.

Turn left into second entrance to courthouse rear parking lot.

Go all the way to the end of the row and you will see the ballot box on the left side. (It is marked, "Official Ballot Drop Site.")

Put your ballot in the box without having to get out of your car!

Lincoln City:

Lincoln City City Hall – located in the lower parking lot under the City Hall.

Turn west at the stop light by the City Hall. (across from Burger King).

Enter the one-way entrance to the parking lot under the building.

The ballot box is near the elevators next to the water payment box and the book and video drops. (It is marked, "Official Ballot Drop Site.")

Put your ballot in the box without having to get out of your car!

Waldport:

Waldport City Hall – located in the City Hall parking lot at the east exit.

Go to City Hall on Highway 34.

Turn south between the City Hall and the school.

Take an immediate right into the City Hall parking lot.

Continue around the island and you will see the ballot box on the left by the exit. (It is marked, "Official Ballot Drop Site.")

Put your ballot in the box without having to get out of your car!

Customer Service is our #1 Priority!"

Dana W. Jenkins
Lincoln County Clerk

Visit Our Website For More Information
www.co.lincoln.or.us/clerk/