

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF LANE COUNTY, OREGON

ORDER NO: 22-08-09-07

IN THE MATTER OF REFERRING TO THE
VOTERS OF LANE COUNTY A FIVE-YEAR
LOCAL OPTION LEVY THAT INVESTS IN
LANE COUNTY PARKS BY ENHANCING
WATER AND TRAIL ACCESS, IMPROVING
PUBLIC AMENITIES, LEVERAGING
PARTNERSHIPS TO ENHANCE
RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, AND
ENSURING THE PRESERVATION OF
THESE NATURAL RESOURCES FOR
FUTURE GENERATIONS.

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners recognizes public parks are a critical part of the quality of life in Lane County because they provide affordable and close-to-home access to recreational opportunities, provide mental and physical health benefits, and provide safe places for people to gather, play and enjoy the outdoors; and

WHEREAS, Lane County Parks receives no property tax funding, and a lack of funding for Lane County Parks over the last 40 years has resulted in the decline of these essential public facilities; and

WHEREAS, Lane County Parks provides more water access opportunities than any other agency or organization in the county and safe access to rivers and lakes is a vital part of local culture and tourism; and

WHEREAS, the restoration and preservation of natural areas helps improve water quality and protects critical ecological resources for future generations; and

WHEREAS, Lane County Parks needs a dedicated funding source to address the \$38 million in park system facilities improvement needs identified in the Facility Condition Assessment reports, to increase the ability to maintain county parks and natural areas, and to make investments in other park facilities to improve amenities such as restrooms, water systems, day use pavilions, trails, and access to rivers, lakes, beaches, and streams – among other investments identified in the 2018 Lane County Parks and Open Space Master Plan or approved by the Board of County Commissioners;

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners created a Parks Funding Task Force in 2019 to evaluate the most appropriate funding options for Lane County Parks and accepted that resident-led Task Force's 2021 report containing three funding alternatives, including the Task Force-preferred local option levy course; and

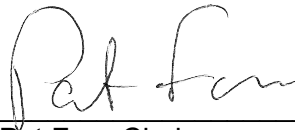
WHEREAS, Oregon tax policies limit temporary property tax increases from occurring without a vote of the local electorate; and

WHEREAS, per Lane Code 2.657, the "Board may place on the ballot any County measure or refer a measure of County legislation to be voted on according to procedures and deadlines specified by state law."

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of Lane County **ORDERS** as follows:

1. The Administrator shall forward the proposed ballot language for a five-year local option levy, in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit A but with such changes as the Administrator may approve, as well as an explanatory statement for the State voters' pamphlet, to the County Clerk for review and placement on the November 8, 2022 election ballot for the purpose of funding investments in Lane County parks, water access and restoration of natural areas.
2. All funds raised by the levy will be placed in a separate, restricted special revenue fund.
3. The Board shall receive annual independent financial audit reports of levy funds, which will include analysis of annual revenues collected and expenses incurred.
4. The County Clerk is hereby authorized to publish notice and take all other action to call the measure election.

ADOPTED this 9th day of August, 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pat Farr", is written above a horizontal line.

Pat Farr, Chair
Lane County Board of Commissioners