26-152

Notice of District Measure Election

SEL 803
rev 1/12; ORS 250.035, 250.041, 255.145, 255.345

District and Notice Information

Notice is hereby given on 01/28, 2013, **that a measure election will be held in** Metro, a municipal government pursuant to ORS 268
Name of District

located in Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas Counties **County, Oregon on** May 21, 2013.
Name of County or Counties — Date of Election

The following shall be the ballot title of the measure to be submitted to the district's voters:

Caption 10 words

Local option levy: improve natural areas, water quality for fish

Question 20 words

Shall Metro improve natural areas, water quality for fish: five-year operating levy, $.096 per $1,000 assessed value, beginning 2013?

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

Summary 175 words

Twice in two decades, Metro voters approved measures to acquire thousands of acres of natural areas throughout the tri-county region. Past measures could not include money for maintenance and restoration.

This levy creates a dedicated fund to improve water quality for salmon and native fish, remove invasive weeds that threaten the health of these natural areas, restore wetlands and provide opportunities for people from around the region to experience nature close to home.

Cost
The estimated cost for the typical household is $20 per year for five years.

Result of a "yes" vote
- Improve water quality in local rivers and streams for salmon and other native fish including the Clackamas, Sandy, Tualatin rivers; Fanno, Johnson creeks.
- Restore wildlife habitat and remove weeds that choke plants wildlife need for food and shelter.
- Restore wetlands and floodplains to control flooding, provide habitat for birds and amphibians.
- Construct or replace capital projects in parks, such as restrooms, picnic shelters, playgrounds.
- Provide nature education programs in natural areas to visitors and school-aged children.

The proposed rate (at $.096/$1,000) will raise approximately $10.2 million in 2013-14, $10.4 million in 2014-15, $10.6 million in 2015-16, $ 10.9 million in 2016-17 and $11.2 million in 2017-18. The estimated tax cost for this measure is an ESTIMATE ONLY based on the best information available from the county assessors at the time of estimate

The following authorized district official hereby certifies the above ballot title is true and complete.

Martha J. Bennett — 01/28/13

Signature of Authorized District Official not required to be notarized — **Date Signed** mm/dd/yy

Martha J. Bennett — Chief Operating Officer

Printed Name of Authorized District Official — **Title**

MCED 014 (updated 06/2006)

MEASURE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT
Required for all Measures Submitted with Multnomah County Elections

ELECTION DATE May 21, 2013	MEASURE NUMBER 26-152
BALLOT TITLE CAPTION Local option levy: improve natural areas, water quality for fish	
NAME OF PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR CONTENT OF STATEMENT Martha J. Bennett, Chief Operating Officer	
NAME OF JURISDICTION PERSON REPRESENTS Metro, a municipal government pursuant to ORS 268	

E-MAIL	TELEPHONE NUMBER	FAX NUMBER
martha.bennett@oregonmetro.gov	503-797-1541	503-797-1793

Please use space below or attach text on a separate sheet of paper.

Please see attached

2013 JAN 28 PM 2:02
DIRECT [illegible]

WORD/NUMBER COUNT TOTAL (500 word/number limit) 479

SIGNATURE OF PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR CONTENT OF STATEMENT

01/28/13
DATE

Explanatory Statement

As a result of two voter-approved bond measures in 1995 and 2006, Metro owns or manages 16,000 acres of land. While the funding voters approved provided money to acquire new natural areas, the law prohibits the use of bond money for maintaining and operating these lands.

The Metro Council is proposing a five-year natural areas local option levy of 9.6 cents per $1,000 of assessed home value. The funds will be spent to improve water quality, restore habitat, maintain Metro's parks and natural areas and expand opportunities for people to use them.

What it will do: The levy would raise approximately $10 million each year for five years. Funds would be used to:

- Improve water quality in local rivers and streams, including the Clackamas, Sandy and Tualatin rivers and Fanno and Johnson creeks, for salmon and other native fish
- Restore wildlife habitat and remove invasive weeds that crowd out native plants needed by wildlife for food and shelter
- Restore wetlands and floodplains to control flooding and provide habitat for birds and amphibians
- Improve visitor services in Metro's parks, including replacing aging restrooms, picnic shelters, and playgrounds
- Provide nature education programs to school-aged children and visitors
- Support community partnership projects that connect people with nature

What it will cost: The owner of a home assessed at $200,000 would pay approximately $19.20 per year, for five years.

Where the money will go: About half the new funding will be spent to improve habitat for fish, wildlife and water quality at some of the 16,000 acres of parks and natural areas Metro owns or manages. Projects will include large-to-small scale habitat restoration projects, as well as everyday maintenance such as controlling invasive weeds.

The other half of the levy funding would help provide opportunities for the region's residents to visit and learn about nature at Metro's parks and natural areas. Park maintenance would be supported at destinations serving more than 1.3 million visitors a year including Oxbow and Blue Lake regional parks; Chinook Landing Marine Park; parts of the Springwater Corridor trail; Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area; and Cooper Mountain, Graham Oaks and Mount Talbert nature parks. Improvements would be made to some natural areas to make these lands more accessible to visitors. Conservation education programs and volunteer activities would be expanded throughout the region. Approximately $750,000 would be awarded annually in Nature in Neighborhoods

community grants to citizen groups, nonprofits and other service groups or organizations with nonprofit or other tax-exempt status.

Measuring performance: To ensure accountability, an annual report to the Metro Council will detail program expenses, major accomplishments and progress toward specific outcomes. The work plan and annual report will be presented at a Metro Council meeting and made available on the Metro website. Program expenses will be subject to annual audits and presented in the budget adopted by the Metro Council.