



OREGON
MARION COUNTY
VOTER PAMPHLET

November 3, 2009
Special Election

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Bill Burgess
Marion County Clerk

CITY OF DETROIT

OFFICIAL MARION
COUNTY DROP SITES

Ballots for Marion County voters will only be issued from the County Elections Office, 4263 Commercial St. SE, Room 300, Salem. The following Marion County Ballot Drop Sites are open normal business hours beginning on October 19, 2009 and until 8:00 PM on Election Day, November 3, 2009.

Marion County Elections Office

4263 Commercial St. SE, Room 300, Salem

Stayton Public Library

515 N. First St., Stayton

Turner City Hall

7250 3rd St., Turner

4263 Commercial St. SE, #300, Salem

Phone: 503-588-5041 or 1-800-655-5388

TTY/TDD: 503-588-5610 FAX: 503-588-5383

E-Mail: elections@co.marion.or.us

Website: <http://www.co.marion.or.us/CO/elections/>

If you have a disability or are otherwise unable to mark your ballot, you may contact the Elections Office for assistance.

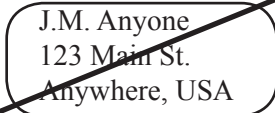
REGISTRATION INFORMATION

- **New registrations** needed to be completed and post-marked by October 13, 2009.

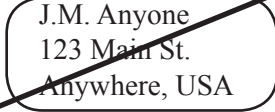
If you have questions about registration or voting, contact the Elections Office.

IMPORTANT BALLOT INFORMATION

If a ballot has been delivered to your address and it is addressed to someone who does not live at your address:

1. Mark through the address like this: 
2. Return to your mailbox, post office or letter carrier.

If a ballot has been delivered to someone at your address who is deceased:

1. Mark through the address like this: 
2. Write "Deceased" on the envelope.
3. Return to your mailbox, post office or letter carrier.

Notify Marion County Elections BEFORE voting the ballot delivered to you if:

- Your name is different than that on the label; or
- Your residence address has changed; or
- You have added, deleted or changed a mailing address.

REVIEW THE BALLOT PACKET

It should contain the following additional items:

- Printed ballot
- A pre-addressed Return & Secrecy envelope

If any items are missing, contact Marion County Elections.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTING YOUR BALLOT

To make sure your vote counts:

- **DO NOT** use a felt tip pen to mark your ballot. Use a pencil or black ballpoint ink pen.
- Mark the arrow with a single line. Do not make multiple/heavy marks. Vote the ballot on a hard surface.
- To vote on a measure, complete the arrow pointing to either the "YES" or "NO",

LIKE THIS: 

NOT THIS:  OR THIS 

CHECK YOUR BALLOT

- Make sure you have completely filled in the arrow(s) next to your choice(s).
- If you vote **both YES and NO** on a measure, it is called an Overvote. Your vote will not count for that measure.
- You do not have to vote on all contests. Those you do vote on will still count.

RETURNING YOUR VOTED BALLOT

- Place the ballot in the Secrecy envelope, seal it, then place the Secrecy envelope in the Return envelope. Do not remove the label.
- Sign the Voter Statement on the back of the Return envelope. **Your ballot will not be counted if you do not sign your envelope.**
- To return your ballot by mail, place **one first class stamp** on the Return envelope.
- To return your ballot other than through the mail, you may refer to the list of ballot drop sites. You may return your ballot to any Official Ballot Drop Site in the State.

FOR YOUR BALLOT TO BE COUNTED

- Mark your ballot according to voting instructions.
- Do **NOT** remove any label(s)
- Use your Secrecy envelope.
- Your Return ballot envelope **must be signed**.
- Your ballot must be received in the Elections Office or an Official Ballot Drop Site by 8:00 P.M. on Election Day. **POSTMARK DOES NOT COUNT.**

WHAT IF I . . . ?

What if I make a mistake on my ballot?

If you make a mistake that cannot be corrected, call the Marion County Elections Office and request a replacement ballot. One will be mailed to you provided the request is received within time for mailing. Otherwise, you may pick up a replacement ballot in person.

What if I change my mind after I turn in my ballot?

Your ballot has been cast as soon as you deposit it in the mail or at a drop site. After that, you cannot receive a new ballot.

What if I don't vote on everything on the ballot?

Your ballot will be counted.

What if I don't sign my Return envelope?

Your ballot will be returned to you for your signature, unless there isn't time to return it by mail. In that case, you will need to come into our office and sign it.

CITY OF DETROIT

Referred to the People by the City Council

24-289 FIVE-YEAR LOCAL OPTION TAX FOR GENERAL OPERATIONS

QUESTION: Shall City impose \$1.5085 per \$1000 of assessed value for general operations for five years beginning 2010-2011? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

SUMMARY: The City of Detroit seeks additional tax revenue to increase the dollar amount of the annual General Fund transfer to the Street Fund to better support street maintenance, snow removal, and pedestrian walkways on selected downtown streets. Additionally, the City is seeking funds for partial support of matching funds for grants, police coverage for specific summer weekends, planning and engineering, and other improvements that are not otherwise within the City's regular budget. The proposed rate of \$1.5085 would generate approximately \$50,000 in 2010-2011, \$51,500 in 2011-2012, \$53,045 in 2012-2013, \$53,636 in 2013-2014, and \$55,245 in 2014-2015 for a total of \$263,426. This tax would apply to all property owners within the City of Detroit.

Explanatory Statement

The requested five-year local option tax would add \$1.5085 per \$1,000 assessed value to the City's permanent tax rate (assessed value increases by 3% per year). This tax revenue would go into Detroit's General Fund. The revenues from the measure would be for general purposes and would be allocated based on specific items during the annual budget process.

The General Fund pays all city expenditures not covered by the City's Water or Street Funds, including such services as administration, payroll, building maintenance, planning, engineering, and fund transfers to the Street Fund. Water and Street Funds may only be used to pay for projects or services related to providing water and streets for Detroit. Anything else must be paid out of the General Fund.

The permanent tax rate for the City of Detroit is set at \$1.1521 per \$1,000 of assessed value (assessed value increases by 3% per year). This generates approximately \$37,500 each year. Under current law, the City cannot increase its permanent tax rate.

Annually, the General Fund receives approximately \$9,000 in administrative fees and state revenues of \$5,525. General Fund franchise fees provide an additional \$28,925 of which \$23,000 is transferred to the Street Fund. The Street Fund uses about \$12,000 of this to pay for electricity for streetlights. The remaining \$11,000 plus \$12,000 from the gas tax constitutes the major portion of the Street Fund budget for street maintenance, snow removal, payroll, and fuel.

The City of Detroit seeks additional tax revenue to increase the dollar amount of the annual General Fund transfer to the Street Fund to support street maintenance, snow removal, and pedestrian walkways on certain downtown streets. Additionally, the City is seeking funds for partial support of matching funds for grants, police coverage for specific summer weekends, planning and engineering, and other improvements that are not otherwise within the City's regular budget.

Many grants require 20-50% in matching City funds. The General and Street Funds do not have matching funds and as a result, the City cannot apply for such grants. Examples of such grants are; emergency services, parks, pedestrian and bike paths for downtown and to the marinas, and police coverage.

The Water and Water Reserve Funds are classified as Proprietary Funds. Proprietary funds are used to account for business-type activities that are intended to be self-supporting. A proprietary fund (e.g. Water) cannot be used to pay for other governmental fund expenses (e.g. General and Street).

How would the tax be calculated and what would it cost the homeowner?

The proposed tax represents a tax rate of \$1.5085 per \$1,000 of real property assessed value (not market value). For example, estimated first year cost for a home with an assessed value at \$50,000 would be approximately \$75.43, \$100,000 would be approximately \$150.85, \$200,000 would be approximately \$301.70. The math: assessed value (not market value) x .0015085 = annual local option tax. This tax would apply to all property owners within the City of Detroit.

Submitted by:
Margaret H. Scott
Mayor, City of Detroit

No arguments in favor of or opposed to this measure were filed.