

## MEASURE 24-354

### AURORA RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

#### Renew Current Tax Levy for Emergency Fire and Medical Services

**Question:** Shall ARFPD renew current emergency services levy at \$.49 per 1,000 assessed value for five years, beginning in FY 2015-2016? This measure renews current local option taxes.

**Summary:** Aurora Rural Fire Protection District ("ARFPD") provides emergency fire and medical response services to 64 square miles in Marion and Clackamas Counties including the cities of Aurora and Donald. In 2009 the voters approved a five-year local option levy with a tax rate of \$.49 per \$1,000 of assessed value. Levy funds were used to continue the career staffing at the current level of four fire fighting positions and six resident student fire and life safety positions. These fire fighting positions supplement the volunteer staffing on response units during the daytime hours when many of the volunteers are at work. This helps ensure sufficient personnel arrive within initial minutes of an emergency. Levy funds are also used for supplies, equipment, and repairs. If approved this measure will renew the current levy with the same rate of \$.49 for five years beginning in 2015. In addition to continuing funding for operations and personnel, the levy would pay for fire fighting and medical tools, safety equipment, and repairs.

The estimated revenues for each year of the levy are:

\$323,235 in 2015-2016  
\$332,932 in 2016-2017  
\$342,920 in 2017-2018  
\$353,207 in 2018-2019  
\$363,803 in 2019-2020

#### Explanatory Statement

The Aurora Rural Fire Protection District (ARFPD) provides fire suppression, emergency medical care, rescue, and fire prevention services to an area of 64 square miles. ARFPD serves the cities of Aurora and Donald as well as unincorporated areas of Clackamas and Marion counties.

#### What is the history behind this proposal?

Residents served by ARFPD approved a levy for emergency services in 2009 for five years. It will expire in 2014.

#### What does this measure propose?

It proposes to renew the current levy for five more years at the same tax rate of \$.49 per \$1,000 of assessed value. This would enable the district to provide the current level of fire suppression and emergency services.

#### When would the renewed levy first be collected?

It would appear for the first time on the November 2015 property tax statement. The tax rate of \$.49 per \$1,000 would be the same rate currently assessed. For example, a property owner with an assessed value of \$150,000 (estimated market value \$255,000) would pay \$73.50 in 2015.

#### What was done with the levy funds voters approved in 2009?

The focus of the previous levy was maintaining personnel and updated technology to maintain response to fires and medical emergencies. Specifically:

- 1) Fulltime staff was maintained at the current level of four. The resident student volunteer program was maintained at the current level of six. This staffs personnel positions available Monday through Friday during the daytime hours when many of the volunteers are at work.
- 2) Equipment was repaired as needed.
- 3) A new Fire Tanker was completed for the Donald station to replace one that was over 20 years old.
- 4) New Air packs were purchased for our firefighters to replace units that were outdated and constantly breaking down.
- 5) We used some of the funds to provide a 5% match for a Federal grant that purchased a new Air compressor and fill station for our air packs.

#### What would the renewed levy pay for?

- 1) Retains firefighting and resident volunteer positions at the current level of staffing. These positions help ensure sufficient personnel arrive within the initial minutes of an emergency.
- 2) Repairs to the existing apparatus and equipment.
- 3) Replaces firefighter safety equipment.
- 4) Provides tools for firefighting and emergency medical response.
- 5) Upgrades emergency communication equipment.
- 6) Continues to cover housing cost for the resident volunteer positions.

#### What happens if this option tax fails to pass?

Maintaining emergency response services would remain ARFPD's priority. However, severe reduction in staffing and operations would be required because this levy provides 36% of the total District revenues.

Submitted by:  
Marc Anderson, Board President  
Aurora Rural Fire Protection District

#### AUDIO FORMAT

This voter pamphlet is available in a downloadable audio format. Go to our website, [www.co.marion.or.us/co/elections](http://www.co.marion.or.us/co/elections), to download the files. You may also contact Independent Living Resources to obtain the Audio voter pamphlet on CD or tape. Call 1.503.232.7411 to request the voter pamphlet in this media version.

## Argument In Support Measure 24-354

### Measure No. 24-354

ARFPD BOARD Recommends a YES vote on MEASURE 24-354

As the voter-elected Board of Directors for the Aurora Rural Fire Protection District (ARFPD), we are responsible for referring Measure 24-354 to the voters. We recommend you vote YES on this measure to continue excellent fire and life safety service for the residents of the Aurora Rural Fire District.

We are unanimous in our support for Measure 24-354 for several reasons:

1. This measure renews the local operating option tax at the same rate.
2. As with the previous levies, it will help ensure a fast response and quick action by ARFPD volunteer and professional firefighters and paramedics at fires, accidents, and medical emergencies within our 64 square mile district.
3. As a five-year levy, it will be collected for the first time in November 2015, after the current levy has expired.
4. The tax rate is \$.49/\$1,000 of assessed value, the same as the expiring levy.

As the Board of Directors, we appreciate and thank you for your past support. We have worked hard to efficiently manage District resources to assure high quality service and with stable costs to the District 63 taxpayer. Your support of our firefighters is greatly appreciated!

Please join us in voting "YES" on Measure 24-354.

Marc Anderson, President  
Greg Leo, Vice President  
Deb Garner, Secretary  
Donna Hammang, Board Member  
Fred Netter, Board Member

Aurora Rural Fire Protection District Board of Directors

This information furnished by: Marc Anderson, President  
Aurora Rural Fire Protection District Board of Directors

*This information furnished at filing by:*  
Greg Leo, Vice-President  
Aurora Rural Fire Protection District Board of Directors

## Argument In Support Measure 24-354

District 63 Firefighters Association support measure 24-354

Measure 24-354 is simple and straightforward; no increases, no fine print, just the continued reliable response to your emergencies you've come to count on. If passed, your tax rate will remain the same.

On behalf of the District 63 Firefighters Association, we strongly support this measure. As a community, we thrive on our resources. Maintaining these resources are essential to providing our communities with the swift and efficient care you and your families deserve. A positive vote ensures we have the personnel available to tend to your needs as well as the essential life saving equipment to do our job.

Measure 24-354 allows our Firefighters and EMTs to care for and protect you at the highest level. It enables us to deploy personnel to your emergency when seconds count. With the same tax rate you've grown accustomed to, this measure will secure another five years of service to you and your loved ones. So please vote yes on measure 24-354, vote yes on your safety, vote yes on your future.

Thank you for your continued support,  
Chuck Cox  
President

Nicole Workman  
Vice President  
District 63 Firefighters Association

*This information furnished by: Nicole Workman  
District 63 Firefighters Association*

### No arguments in opposition of Measure 24-354 were filed.

*The printing of these arguments does not constitute an endorsement by Marion County, nor does the county warrant the accuracy or truth of any statements made in the arguments.*

#### CHECK YOUR BALLOT

- Make sure you have completely filled in the box 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 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 brown striped 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.**



## Can I Register to Vote?

You can register to vote if you can answer these three questions:

- Are you a resident of Oregon?
  - Are you a US citizen?
  - Are you at least 17 years of age?
- If you are 17 years of age, you will not receive a ballot until an election occurs on or after your 18th birthday.*

#### How to Register:

You can register to vote online at [www.oregonvotes.gov](http://www.oregonvotes.gov) or you can get a voter registration card at any of the following places:

- any County Elections Office
- the Secretary of State's Office
- some state agencies such as DMV
- a voter registration drive

You can complete and return the card in person or return the card by US mail.

To vote in the November 5th election, your completed registration card must be:

- postmarked by Tuesday, October 15, 2013 or
- delivered to a county elections office or voter registration agency by Tuesday, October 15, 2013 or
- online by 11:59PM, October 15, 2013

#### What Information is Required?

- Full legal name
- Home address
- Date of birth
- Signature
- Valid ID - Driver License or Permit # or SSN

#### Updating your Voter Registration:

You are responsible for keeping your registration up to date. Complete and return a new card or re-register online if you:

- change your home address
- change your mailing address
- change your name
- change your political party
- change your signature



## OREGON MARION COUNTY VOTER PAMPHLET

November 5, 2013  
Special Election

Bill Burgess  
Marion County Clerk

### North Marion School District Aurora Rural Fire Protection District

OFFICIAL MARION  
COUNTY DROP SITES

The listed Marion County Ballot Drop Sites will be open normal business hours beginning on October 18, 2013, and on Election Day, November 5th, they will remain open until 8:00 PM.

<b>Donald City Hall</b> 10710 Main St NE, Donald	Mon - Thur 8 AM - 4 PM Fri: 8 AM - 2PM
<b>Hubbard City Hall</b> 3720 2nd St, Hubbard	Mon - Thur 7 AM - 5:30 PM Closed Fri
<b>Marion County Elections*</b> <i>Inside Service Only</i> 4263 Commercial St. SE, # 300, Salem	Mon - Fri 8:30 AM - 5 PM

\*Election Day, November 5<sup>th</sup> 7 AM - 8 PM

Marion County Elections  
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](mailto:elections@co.marion.or.us)  
<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.

## MEASURE 24-355

### North Marion School District #15

#### Four-year Local Option Levy for Operations and Capital Projects

**Question:** Should District impose \$.74 per \$1,000 of assessed value for operating and capital project purposes for four years beginning 2014-15? This measure may cause property tax to increase more than three percent.

**Summary:** This local option would provide operating and capital project funds for the North Marion School District for four years starting July 1, 2014 and ending June 30, 2018. The levy rate of \$.74 per \$1,000 of assessed value remains the same for all four years.

These funds will restore programs lost due to cuts from the state and will enhance funding for educational programs, instructional materials, technology, safety, maintenance and other operational and capital needs that may arise.

The levy raises an estimated \$583,336 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2014, \$595,002 in FY 2015, \$606,902 in FY 2016, and \$619,040 in FY 2017 for an estimated four year total of \$2,404,280.

Upon passing this measure, the District would be eligible for a State Equalization Grant. This grant would bring an estimated \$309,168 more in FY 2014 with no additional taxes to district property owners. The Grant, if renewed each biennium by the State Legislature, could fund similar proceeds for each of the last three fiscal years the levy is in place.

#### Explanatory Statement

Oregon State law allows local school districts to ask voters to approve supplemental operation levies known as "Local Option" to help support a district's annual operating budget. These local options are limited in both the amount of tax that may be levied and the length of time the levy is in place.

North Marion School District is asking its voters to approve a \$.74 per \$1,000 of assessed value levy for four years beginning in July of 2014. For example, a property owner with an assessed home value of \$200,000 would pay approximately \$148 a year, or \$12.33 per month, on this levy.

The levy will generate an estimated \$583,336 in additional revenue for the District in 2014-15 Fiscal Year which represents just under 3.5% of the overall revenue expected for the 2013-14 school year. Should the levy pass, North Marion – because of its current poverty level index – is eligible for a State Equalization Grant.

The Equalization Grant would provide an additional approximately \$309,168 to the District with no additional taxes to district property owners. The District can only access the Equalization Grant Funds if the levy passes. The Grant is part of the State budget and is up for renewal each biennium and while the first year of grant funding is guaranteed, future grant payments depend on the State's renewal of the program.

The District will use the funds to help restore programs that have been cut over the past few years due to the economic downturn. In addition, the district will seek to invest in technology upgrades, instructional materials, instructional and support staff, safety measures, maintenance and other operating and capital needs that may arise.

While many districts in Oregon have availed themselves of this option, this is the first time North Marion School District has asked its voters to approve such a levy.

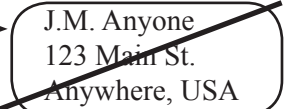
Submitted by:  
Boyd Keyser, Superintendent  
North Marion School Dist. #15

**No arguments in opposition of Measure 24-355 were filed.**

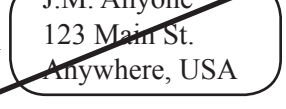
## VOTING YOUR BALLOT

### 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.

### Argument in Support Measure 24-355

**North Marion Schools need your help. It's time to invest in our kids.**

After 5 years of slashed budgets and increasing enrollment, the North Marion School District is asking our community for a financial transfusion. Due to decreased revenue, operating budgets for text books, electives, programs, personnel, building and ground maintenance, athletic budgets, staff training and supplies have been reduced to the lowest levels in 8 years.

**North Marion patrons pay one of the lowest education tax rates in the state.**

If the local option levy passes, we will still rank in the bottom 25% of education tax rates in Marion, Polk, Yamhill and Clackamas counties.

**North Marion School District has proven its ability to use funds wisely.**

Despite reduced budgets and personnel, NMSD served more students in 2012/13 than ever and kept a complete school year without cutting days.

**A local option levy would help revitalize our schools.**

This levy would help NMSD reinstate lost programs, enhance safety, perform needed maintenance and improvements to facilities and grounds, invest in technology, replace lost personnel, buy text books and educational material.

**NMSD is anticipating \$892,520 in additional revenue.**

Forecasted revenue would include \$583,336 from district taxpayers and a state equalization grant of \$309,184 in the first year.

**There has never been a local option / operating levy request by the district.**

Since the passage of the bond in 1998 (when the current sophomore class was born) there has not been a NMSD educational tax rate increase. In 2018 our current bond will expire, to be renewed without a tax increase.

**Exciting things are happening at NMSD.**

Despite cuts, our district is still developing enhanced curriculum and instruction by implementing new technology, teaching practices, and empowering our students to truly become stewards of their world.

**Say "Yes" to our schools and kids.**

#### North Marion School District Board of Directors

Julie Miller  
Patrick McArthur  
Kathy Lewis  
Heidi Torian  
James Moore  
Bill Graupp  
Brian Oliver

This information furnished by: Julie Miller  
North Marion School Board

### Argument in Support Measure 24-355

#### VOTE YES for North Marion Schools

North Marion Parents PTO is proud to support Local Option Levy Measure 24-355. As a community and school based organization, we have seen the effects of no increase in our property taxes and feel it is time to reinvest in our school district. All funds from this levy will remain within our district. Our school board and district leaders will have local control with no input from our state legislatures. We approve of how the district and board want to spend these funds: restoring programs previously cut, new instructional materials, and technology upgrades, to name a few. Our school needs to prepare our students to be 21st century workers. Let's give them the 21st century technology tools and knowledge.

NMP strongly believes in our community, our wish is for it to thrive and continue to grow. In order to draw new people and retain our existing families our schools must be at their best. How can we expect our schools to be their very best without this levy? We need to provide our students with better facilities, a safer campus, cutting edge technology, updated educational materials and better equipped teachers. Supporting Measure 24-355 on November 5 is a small price to pay to maintain our community's future.

NMP recognizes that the students benefitting from these funds are our future community. They are our future neighbors, co-workers and leaders. We believe our students need to be empowered with the right tools, skills, and knowledge to be stewards of our future. Vote yes for our students, our schools, our community and our tomorrow.

North Marion Parents (NMP)

This information furnished by Kamala Netter  
North Marion Parents

*The printing of these arguments does not constitute an endorsement by Marion County nor does the county warrant the accuracy or truth of any statements made in the arguments.*

### WHAT IF I . . . ?

**What if I make a mistake on my ballot?**

See Instructions on your 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.

### Argument in Support Measure 24-355

**VOTE YES for sustainable excellence for North Marion students**

We encourage all voters in the North Marion district to **VOTE YES** for this local option levy. A great school district in our community that delivers a modern education to our children helps us all, both today and in the future. Benefits include the development of important leaders for the next generation, children prepared to meet the challenge of the ever changing world, a more desirable community to live in, and increased property value as more people chose to live in the district.

The increased funding will provide increases in safety, class environment, curriculum development, quality of instructional material, and building improvements. Many of these items have suffered cuts due to the recession and need our support to put our schools on track for meeting our children's needs. The average cost to a home value of \$200k will be only \$12.40 / month, a small price to offer for a better community foundation.

As we enable our schools to deliver a modern education to meet the new standards, the district will also be preparing to increase building capacity in 2018 to meet the expanding student population. As our community expands and becomes more diverse, our schools must also adjust to meet the community's needs with increased capacity to deliver a wider curriculum range. The district has already begun to make important changes for increased technology in education, and this trend must continue.

**VOTE YES** for the North Marion local option levy and enable our community to remain strong and grow. Let us all work together to make North Marion School District the pride of our region. Let us all work together to give our children and future children the education they deserve to compete in a modern global economy. Let us all work together to make our children the ambassadors of our community for the future.

Betsy Imholt  
Tracy Oliver  
Jason Sahlin  
Bill Graupp

This information furnished by: William Graupp

### Argument In Support Measure 24-355

We urge voters in the North Marion School District to vote yes for measure 24-355, for three reasons.

1. We desperately need to reinvest in our schools to keep them healthy and vibrant.
2. The passage of the Levy will allow us to access over \$300,000 a year for the life of the levy from a State Equalization Grant.
3. Our District has the lowest permanent school tax of any district in Marion, Clackamas, Polk or Yamhill counties – we can afford to invest in our schools!

For the past five years, we have seen the devastating effects the economic downturn has had on our local schools – programs have been eliminated, positions cut, instructional material purchases put on hold, maintenance deferred and needed safety measures delayed. The local option is money we raise for our schools, not money that gets sent to Salem. We can continue to limp along with a damaged system or we can pass the levy and start restoring the health of our district.

The great thing about the local option levy is that it makes us eligible for a State Equalization Grant that will provide over \$300,000 a year without any additional taxes to local property owners. Because North Marion is a property poor district, it cannot raise as much money as say a Lake Oswego District. This inherent unfairness is addressed through the Equalization Grant that the State Legislature approves each biennium. This is a great deal for local taxpayers!

Finally, at \$3.3333 per \$1,000 of assessed value, our permanent school tax rate is by far the lowest in the four county region. The closest is Estacada at \$4.1476, while the average for the 31 districts is 4.6256. Adding the \$.74 local option brings the two tax total to \$4.0733. We can afford this Levy and we should be proud to invest in our schools and still enjoy amongst the lowest tax rates around.

Susie Corcoran  
Tara Weidman

This information furnished by: Susie Corcoran

### Instructions

#### To vote

Use a Black or Blue ink pen to completely fill in the box to the left of your choice.

After voting, refold your ballot the same way you received it.



#### To correct a mistake

Draw a line through the entire measure response or candidate's name. You then have the option of making another choice.

If your ballot is damaged, you may request a replacement by contacting the Elections Office at 503.588.5041 or 1.800.655.5388.

**WARNING** - Any person who, by use of force or other means, unduly influences an elector to vote in any particular manner or to refrain from voting is subject to a fine. (ORS 254.470)

# Do Not Forget to Sign Your Return Ballot Envelope