

Josephine (JO) County (CO) Justice System (JS) & Public Safety Services (PSS)

JO CO Justice System & Public Safety Services The 2012 expiration of federal funding for services resulted in two JO CO proposed levies as a solution. They both failed. “Is JO CO providing a minimally adequate level of public safety services?” *The Daily Courier* has had comprehensive coverage of the JS&PSS issue in 2013.

Front Page In TDC

- *Voters Squash Criminal Justice Levy*. Shawn Hall. 05/16/12. The Daily Courier (TDC), Front Page News (FPN). Sheriff Gilbertson faulted the federal government for “turning its back” on the county by discontinuing subsidies that bought in as much as \$12 million a year between the early 1990s and 2008.
- *County Has Limited Amount Of Revenue, Many Expenses*. Stacy D. Stumbo. 05/17/12. TDC, FPN. That money won’t come close to making up for the more than \$12 million the Juvenile Justice Department and Sheriff’s and District Attorney’s offices would need to avoid the layoff of an estimated 125 employees.
- *Commissioners Back New Justice Tax District*. Stacy D. Stumbo. 01/19/13. TDC, FPN. Since 2000, the federal Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act has provided the county with as much as \$15 million annually to support general fund operations, forest-related activities and other projects.
- *County Leaders Pursuing Criminal Justice Tax*. Stacy D. Stumbo. 01/25/13. TDC, FPN. In 2012, the end of longtime federal subsidies and failure of a proposed property tax increase left the criminal justice system (CJS) with a \$12 million budget shortfall.
- *Ballot Box Rematch For Public Safety Tax*. Stacy D. Stumbo. 02/08/13. TDC, FPN. \$12 million budget shortfall.
- *Wyden To Seek County Payments Extension*. Jeff Duewel. 02/21/13, 2013. TDC, FPN. 2008: \$12.6 million.
- *Commissioner Walker Pitches Tax District As Heck Heads To Hospital*. Stacy D. Stumbo. 03/22/13. TDC, FPN. CJS with a \$12 million shortfall.
- *Second Time Around for Law Enforcement Tax Measure*. Stacy D. Stumbo. 04/27/13. TDC, FPN. \$12 million shortfall.

1. Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society (HNA&HS). July 9, 2013. *Justice System Exploratory Committee*. Hugo, OR.
2. HNA&HS. July 24, 2013. *Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society’s Mission*. Hugo, OR.

Historical Costs Of Public Safety Services

- *Deeper Cuts in County Services Projected*. Stacy D. Stumbo. 05/08/13. TDC, FPN. \$12 million shortfall.
- *Voters Reject Public Safety Tax*. Stacy D. Stumbo. 05/22/13. TDC, FPN. \$12 million budget shortfall, layoffs of about 90 CJS workers.
- *Leaders Eye Options in Wake of Safety Tax Failure*. Shaun Hall. 05/23/13. TDC, FPN. Replace \$12 million in lost federal funding.
- *Glaring Fiscal Woes for Josephine County*. Stacy D. Stumbo. 05/26/13. TDC, FPN. Down fm \$12 million just two years ago.
- *Walker: Levy Still On Table*. Jonathan J. Cooper for Associated Press. 05/30/13. TDC, FPN. That compares to \$12 million two years ago before the expiration of a federal subsidy for timber counties that had allowed the county to keep its tax rate the lowest in the state.
- *State Representatives Working On Fiscal Crisis*. 06/02/13. Stacy Stumbo. TDC, FPN. About \$12 million two years ago.

A federal subsidy ended and a tax proposal failed in 2012, leaving the county with a \$12 million budget shortfall that resulted in the layoffs of more than 90 workers and closure of the Juvenile Justice Center.

- *Senate Panel Oks Renewal Of Timber Payments*. 06/19/13. AP and the Daily Courier. TDC, FPN. JO CO received upwards of \$12 million a year early last decade, but payments were pared down to last year’s \$4.6 million.
- *JoCo Budget Is \$68 Million For 2013-14*. 06/20/13. Stacy D. Stumbo. TDC, FPN. The approved Sheriff’s Office budget is \$5.5 million, down from about \$12 million just two years ago.
- *Government Employees On The Move, Leaving Josephine County*. 07/07/13. Stacy D. Stumbo. TDC, FPN. A federal subsidy ended and a tax proposal failed in 2012, leaving the county with a \$12 million budget shortfall that resulted in the layoffs of more than 90 workers and closure of the Juvenile Justice Center.
- *State Gives JoCo Emergency Option*. 07/09/13. Jeff Duewel. TDC, FPN. Dwindled from \$12 million a year.

3. HNA&HS. July 9, 2013. *All Voters & Votes Are Legitimate*. Hugo, OR.
4. HNA&HS. July 24, 2013. *Government Needs Support*. Hugo, OR.

Front Page News; Editor’s Opinions; Community News

Editor’s Opinions In TDC

- *Commissioners’ New Public Safety Proposal Could Be One We Can Live With*. 02/01/13. TDC, Dennis Roller. Editor’s Opinion (Ed Op). \$12 M shortfall led to massive layoffs.
- *None Of The New Possibilities For Aid Provide Everything This County Needs*. 03/03/13. TDC, Dennis Roller. Ed Op. The shortfall in the county’s CJS alone is estimated at \$12 million a year.
- *Crack down on the Criminals by Voting for County Law Enforcement Measure*. 05/04/13. TDC, Dennis Roller. Ed Op. For 70 years, the federal government paid for JO CO’s CJS.
- *Grants Pass City Council Steps Up For Public Safety*. 07/19/13. TDC, Dennis Roler, Ed Op. The majority of those outside the city and many in the city are apparently waiting for someone else to pay the bill for their safety after having the federal government do it for 70 years. Timber receipts from federal land within Josephine County and later a straight subsidy paid the bill for those 70 years, as much as \$12 million annually. Now, they’re gone.

Guest Opinions In TDC

- *Let’s Control Our Destiny And Vote Yes*. 05/03/13. TDC, Guest Pat Fahey. So here we are in 2013 with no federal aid available to fund county government. This is a loss of \$12 million a year from what the county once received.

Community/News

- *Folks Desire Justice, Not All Want Tax*. Stacy D. Stumbo. 01/21/13. TDC, Community News (CN). In 2012, federal subsidies which had been in place for about 20 years and provided the county with millions of dollars annually, expired.
- *Criminal Justice Officials Tell Budget Committee Services Are Threatened*. Stacy D. Stumbo. 05/15/13. CN. \$12 million dollar shortfall.
- *JoCo Budget Committee Oks 2013-14 Spending Plan*. Stacy D. Stumbo. 05/29/13. TDC, CN. Down from about \$12 million just two years ago.
- *County Budget Likely To Include More Cuts*. Stacy D. Stumbo. 06/14/13. CN. Down from \$12 million just two years ago.
- *JoCo Commissioners Spend \$28K On Jeep For Public Safety*. Stacy D. Stumbo. 08/15/13. TDC, CN, Page 6A. \$12 million budget shortfall.

Want more information or you letter to editor in these lists? Contact a member of the *Exploratory Committee*.

Exploratory Committee's Mission

Mission An independent Justice System and Public Safety Services Exploratory Committee (*Exploratory Committee*) to investigate the JO CO Justice System & Public Safety Services (JS&PSS) issue was formed under the leadership of the Hugo Neighborhood Association and Historical Society (HNA&HS).

Big picture ideas for the exploratory effort include the following.

1. Identifying the JS&PSS issue.
2. Identifying the JS&PSS sub-issues for research and analysis.
3. Identifying a range in level of services
4. Identifying a range of costs for services.
5. Identifying revenues for services.

The ultimate goal is an adequate justice system and public safety services. Is it possible to have a higher level of service for a lower cost? The purpose of the *Exploratory Committee* is to gather information adequate enough to understand the JS&PSS issues. This includes educational outreach efforts.

The *Exploratory Committee's* purpose is limited to investigating and researching the JS&PSS issues. It will not make evaluations of right or wrong, nor make recommendations on how to vote.

The contents of this brochure are expressions of the opinions and beliefs of those that contribute based on their thoughts and experiences. Hopefully, their efforts will assist the public toward informed decision-making.

- Donations Are Not Tax Deductible -
Edited by Mike Walker, Member, Exploratory Committee

HNA&HS Officers

Wayne McKy, Chair
Lis Butowitsch, Treasurer
Mike Walker, Education Chair



Exploratory Committee Members

Mike Walker, Chair
3388B Merlin Road # 195
Grants Pass, Oregon 97526
541-471-8271
Email: hugo@jeffnet.org

Wayne McKy, Member
Karen Rose, Web Master
Jon Whalen, Member

Justice System Exploratory Committee

<http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/justicesystemexploratorycommittee.htm>

HNA&HS

<http://www.hugoneighborhood.o>

JO CO HISTORICAL COSTS OF PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES

Brochure IIID.7.5
Justice System & Public Safety Services Series

The Grants Pass Daily Courier



2012 - 2013
Editor's Opinion
Front Page News
Community News

Very Draft August 21, 2013

Hugo Justice System Exploratory Committee