
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. Both levies failed. “*Is JO CO providing a minimally adequate level of public safety services?*”¹⁻⁵

What do you do when you have what you want and it is the law, but you can not afford it?

*State of the State Address: Jan. 14, 2013*⁶ Governor John A. Kitzhaber’s State of the State Address welcomed Oregon’s 77th Legislative Assembly with a reminder of its more than 150 years of rich history as a place of citizen legislators. He felt that this was the people’s institution, and it has represented well the hopes and dreams, the priorities, and yes, the prejudices, of Oregonians.

Reforms Gov Kitzhaber felt that reforms in education and health care – and key investments in innovation – embody the change necessary to accelerate Oregon’s economic recovery and restore our shared prosperity.

“Our great challenge is to ensure that the next phase of Oregon’s economic “recovery” reaches all Oregonians and ends the income stagnation that continues to erode the middle class, exacerbates inequality, and for the first time threatens a generation of Oregonians with the prospect of a declining standard of living.”

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.

3. HNA&HS. July 9, 2013. *All Voters & Votes Are Legitimate*. Hugo, OR.

4. HNA&HS. July 24, 2013. *Government Needs Support*. Hugo, OR.

5. Hugo Justice System Exploratory Committee, HNA&HS. Draft August 20, 2013 *Justice System & Public Safety Services Issue Scope of Work*. Hugo, OR.

State of Oregon Cost Reductions Approach

Cost Reductions Governor Kitzhaber’s address identified difficult choices for reducing the cost of health care and corrections, reducing the cost drivers that are diverting resources from the classroom, and undertaking serious review of Oregon’s tax expenditures. He believes that cost reductions are needed and possible in areas that need thoughtful deliberation by our citizen legislators.

1. **Cost of Health Care**
2. Relentless Growth in the Department of Corrections (Prison Population)
3. PERS Retirement System
4. Tax Expenditures

Cost Of Health Care Governor Kitzhaber is prepared to stand with the Legislative Assembly in making the difficult choices that will be necessary to: reduce the cost of health care and corrections, reduce the cost drivers that are diverting resources from the classroom, and undertake serious review of tax expenditures.

Health care is perhaps the fastest growing cost for individuals, families, businesses and state government. The new care model being developed by coordinated care organizations is projected to hold medical inflation in the Medicaid program to 3.4 percent starting in the second year of this biennium. That will save \$100 million in the general fund in 2013-15; nearly \$200 million in the 2015-17 biennium and \$400 million the following biennium. In other words, the delta created by holding medical inflation constant creates a huge and growing opportunity for reinvestment as Oregon goes forward.

Cost Of Health Care

Oregon’s long-term ability to reinvest in public education depends to a large extent on success in proving up this care model in the next biennium and then to extend it into the private market. If, for example, public school teachers and state employees could be moved into the same kind of high quality, low cost care model being developed by our CCOs, the estimated ten year state savings could be as much as \$5 billion. This would be a game changer for state finances and could lead to a huge competitive advantage for Oregon businesses both large and small.

Want more information? Contact a member of the *Exploratory Committee*.

6. Governor John A. Kitzhaber, M.D. January 14, 2013. *State of the State 2013*. Salem, OR.

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.

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Justice System Exploratory Committee

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

Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society

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

COST OF HEALTH CARE

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Very Very Draft September 18, 2013

Hugo Justice System Exploratory Committee