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. The JSEC asks the question: "Is JO CO providing an adequate level of public safety services?"

Background OR SB 77 (2009), Section 1(5) references understanding the fiscal alternatives available to the CO for a minimally adequate level of public safety services (MALPSS). HB 4176 (2012), Section 1(5) references understanding the CO's fiscal and service delivery alternatives, and service needs and shortcomings. Under HB 4176 the CO may seek a declaration of a fiscal emergency if it believes that the county is in a state of fiscal distress that compromises the county's ability to provide a MAL of state-required services. ORS 203.095 (2012) identifies fiscal and service delivery alternatives, and service needs and shortcomings. HB 3453 (2013) does not identify alternatives. It identifies fiscal conditions that compromise a MALPSS.

Introduction The following ideas about alternatives is not required by law for JO CO. However, the CO should consider the following recommendations on alternatives and impacts for the purpose of and informed public and informed decision making. The goal of open and transparent government contributes to developing public trust.

1. What is meant by "range of alternatives"? It includes all reasonable alternatives that could be a CO measure/levy, which must be rigorously explored and objectively evaluated, as well as those other alternatives, which are eliminated from detailed study with a brief discussion of the reasons for eliminating them.

Justice System Exploratory Committee (JSEC)

- 2. How many alternatives have to be discussed when there is an infinite number of possible alternatives? For some proposals there may exist a very large or even an infinite number of possible reasonable alternatives. What constitutes a reasonable range of alternatives depends on the nature of the proposal and the facts in each case.
- **3. Should the CO consider alternatives outside its capability?** If a proposed decision is prepared in connection with a potential local JO CO



measure/levy, must the CO rigorously analyze and discuss alternatives that are outside the capability of the CO or can it be limited to reasonable alternatives that can be carried out by the CO? Reasonable

alternatives include those that are practical or feasible from the technical and economic standpoint and using common sense, rather than simply desirable from the standpoint of the CO. Alternatives that are outside the CO's capability should still be considered because they may serve as the basis for modifying the law.

4. What does the "no action" alternative include? This situation is a failed measure/levy where present CO operations will continue. In this case "no action" is "no change" from current management direction or level of management intensity. The "no action" alternative may be thought of in terms of continuing with the present course until it is changed.

Range JS&PSS Planning Alternative - Proposals

- 5. Is the analysis of any future CO's "proposed measure/levy" to be treated differently from the analysis of other alternatives? The degree of analysis devoted to each alternative is to be substantially similar to that devoted to the CO's proposed measure/levy.
- 6. What is the difference between "alternatives" and "impacts"? The "alternatives" section rigorously explores and objectively evaluates all reasonable alternatives including the proposed measure/levy. The "impacts" section discusses the specific effects of each of the alternatives including the proposed measure/levy. The "impacts" section should be devoted largely to a scientific analysis of the direct and indirect effects of the proposed measure/levy and of each of the alternatives. It forms the analytic basis for the concise comparison of "alternatives" (Alts)
- **Alt 1** No Action Alternative
- Alt 2 2012 JO CO-wide Measure 17 43 for Criminal Justice System Operations Tax
- Alt 3 2013 JO CO-wide Measure 17 49 for Criminal Justice and Public Safety Tax
- **Alt 4** Minimally Adequate Alternative
- Alt 5 Modally Adequate Alternative
- Alt 6 Declare Bankruptcy
- Alt 7 House Bill (HB) 3453
- Alt 8 2014 JO CO-Wide Measure for JS&PSS Tax

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

^{1.} Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society (HNA&HS). July 9, 2013. *Justice System Exploratory Committee*. Hugo, OR.

^{2.} Hugo Neighborhood Association. July 9, 2013. *All Voters & Votes Are Legitimate*. Hugo, 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 cost 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 pubic toward informed decision-making.

- Donations Are Not Tax Deductible -

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Justice System Exploratory Committee

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

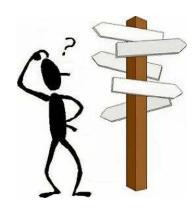
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RANGE JS&PSS PLANNING ALTERNATIVES PROPOSALS

Brochure III.F Justice System & Public Safety Services Series



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Hugo Justice System Exploratory Committee