
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.¹⁻²

*Changing Federal County Payments and Rural Oregon Counties: Analysis of Policy Impacts and Responses from Loss of Secure Rural School Funding in Selected Oregon Counties*³ Dawn Marie Gaid, October 2009. RSP 09-04 (134 pages).

Factors Affecting CO Policy Impacts And Responses

- Geographic, demographic, economic, property tax, political, land ownership, and federal forest payment structures.
- Changes in funding, staff and service levels from loss of federal forest payments.
- Business, institution, and resident impacts and responses to changes.

Baseline The study began with an analysis of existing county financial data for an established “baseline” year through FY 2008-2009 with assistance from the primary financial contact for each selected county. The baseline year was considered to be the one prior to the year major changes in staffing and service levels were made in response to the anticipated loss of SRS funds, which varied by county (page 29).

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.

Oregon State University's (OSU's) Rural Studies Program

BASELINE YEAR: FY 2004 - 2005

Changes in Funding From Loss of Federal Forest Payments (FFP): Policy Decisions by JO CO: 2005 - 2009 JO CO began making significant changes in anticipation of the loss of SRS payments beginning with the FY 2005-2006 budget. **FY 2004-2005, therefore, is considered the baseline year for the purposes of the study in this county.**

Reorganization of CO management structure through the reduction and elimination of positions and departments, reduction of benefits, privatization of programs, and the proposal of bond levy options and tax districts to voters were among the actions taken by the county. The CO began building reserves in the General Fund (GF) with the FY 06-07 budget to allow them to operate through the FY 08-09 (page 46).

Definition Of Financial Condition For purposes of another study in 2012, *Oregon's Counties: 2012 Financial Condition Review*, the state defined financial condition as a local government's ability to **maintain existing service levels**, withstand local and regional economic disruptions, and meet the demands of natural growth, decline, and change.⁶

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. Gaid, Dawn Marie, October 2009. *Changing Federal County Payments and Rural Oregon Counties: Analysis of Policy Impacts and Responses from Loss of Secure Rural School Funding in Selected Oregon Counties*. RSP 09-04. (134 pages). OSU's Rural Studies Program. Working Paper Series.

(<http://ruralstudies.oregonstate.edu/history-rural-studies-program>).

6. Oregon Secretary of State. May 2012. *Oregon's Counties: 2012 Financial Condition Review*. Brochure Br. III.H.4.1. Secretary of State Audit Report Kate Brown, Secretary of State Gary Blackmer, Director, Audits Division.

Factors Affecting CO Policy Impacts And Responses

OREGON LEGISLATION ON CONDITION TO BE MEASURED

2009 Enrolled Senate Bill 77, Section 1 If the county is in a state of fiscal distress that compromises the county's ability to **provide a “minimally adequate level of public safety services”** (MALPSS) the governing body or the Governor may seek a declaration of a public safety services emergency (PSSE)

2012 House Bill 4176, Section 1. If the county is providing, or within the next fiscal year will be **providing, “a less than minimally adequate level of state-required services,”** the Governor shall declare a fiscal emergency for the county.

2013 Enrolled House Bill 3453, Section 2 If the Governor determines that fiscal conditions exist, or are imminent in one or more counties that compromise the ability of the affected counties to **provide a “minimally adequate level of public safety services,”** he may proclaim a PSSE.

OAR 213-070-000 The standard for a MALPSS for all three bills is a comparison between **the historic baseline level of PSS to the current level of PSS**. A PSSE is a situation in which a CO is in a **state of fiscal distress** that compromises the CO's **ability to provide a MALPSS**.

Want more information? 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 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 public toward informed decision-making.

- Donations Are Not Tax Deductible -

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FACTORS AFFECTING COUNTY POLICY IMPACTS AND RESPONSES

Brochure III.H.5.4

Justice System & Public Safety Services Series

OSU'S Rural Studies Program & JS&PPS Documents



**FY 2004-2005 Is BASELINE YEAR for Standard of
Providing a "Minimally Adequate Level of Public
Safety Services"**

Very Draft July 21, 2013

Hugo Justice System Exploratory Committee