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

JO CO Justice System & Public Safety Services¹⁻⁴ The 2012 expiration of federal funding for services resulted in two JO CO proposed levies as a solution. They both failed.

*Changing Federal County Payments and Rural Oregon Counties*⁵, an OSU “working paper.”⁵⁻⁶

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.

Since the GF receives the greatest share of the SRS payments, it has also been subject to the greatest changes. **Between FY 04-05 and the FY 08-09 budget, the GF revenues declined by 68 percent and expenditures by 57 percent**, while Road Fund revenues declined by 47 percent and expenditures by 11 percent. The changes to the GF and Road funds are summarized in Table 8 of the OSU working paper.^{5 & 6}

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.

Policy Decisions By JO CO: 2005 - 2009

The decline in expenditures reflects a number of actions taken by JO CO in anticipation of the loss of SRS payments, particularly those impacting the GF. Through FY 2005-2006, Public Safety (Sheriff, District Attorney and Community Justice – Juvenile and Adult) and Health and Human Services (Public and Mental Health) were primarily in the GF.

In FY 06-07, a new Public Safety Fund was established that consolidated into one fund the departments of Sheriff, District Attorney and Community Justice. The largest source of revenue for this fund was the O&C portion of SRS, which is transferred from the GF. Other revenues are primarily charges for services and various federal and state grants. In FY 07-08, Community Justice was reorganized into two divisions – Adult Corrections and Juvenile Justice. Adult Corrections was formed from several related programs within Community Justice and is fully supported by grants from the State with no GF support. Juvenile Justice remains in the Public Safety Fund, along with the Sheriff and the District Attorney. In FY 08-09 the primary source of resources to operate the offices in the Public Safety Fund was approximately half of the \$12 million one-year (07-08) extension of O&C funds carried over from FY 07-08 and a transfer of \$3.9 million from the GF. Public Safety is projected to receive \$3 million from the GF for FY 09-10 through FY 12-13. The changes to GF/Public Safety Fund are summarized in Table 9 of the OSU working paper.^{5 & 6}

In FY 06-07, Mental Health Services were privatized and stopped receiving GF support. The largest source of revenue for this fund is grants from the state with no GF support, similar to Adult Corrections. Change in revenues and expenditures for FY 04-05 thru FY 08-09 for the departments referenced in the previous discussion, that received or previously received GF support, is grants from the state with no GF support, similar to Adult Corrections.

JO CO Changes In Funding From Loss Of Federal Forest Payments

Sheriff The criminal justice system in JO CO is comprised of departments of the Sheriff, District Attorney, Juvenile Justice, and Adult Correction, which cooperate with the 14th Judicial District Circuit Court. While each department is integral to the functioning of the public safety system as a whole, the Sheriff's office plays a central role. The Sheriff's office provides services for **operating the jail, court security, patrol, detectives, emergency management, search and rescue, civil, records & communications, and evidence and administration**. The operations of the Sheriff's office are vital to the proper functioning of the criminal justice system.

An excellent analysis of policy decisions by JO CO as a result of changes in Federal funding payments: 2005 - 2009 is provided at two sources.^{5 & 6} Change in revenues and expenditures for FY 04-05 through FY 08-09 for the departments that received or previously received GF support, are summarized in Table 10 of the OSU working paper.^{5 & 6} As an example, the following are budgeted expenditure declines for FY 08-09 since FY 04-05.

- Sheriff -13%
- District Attorney -12%
- Juvenile Justice -10%

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

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. Chapter 6, Section 6.a.1. *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*. Policy Decisions By Josephine County As A Result Of Changes In Federal Funding Payments: 2005 - 2009. Transcribed by the Hugo Exploratory Committee; Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society. 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 public toward informed decision-making.

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Justice System Exploratory Committee

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JO CO FUNDING CHANGES FROM LOSS OF FEDERAL FOREST PAYMENTS: POLICY DECISIONS: 2005 - 2009

OSU'S Rural Studies Program & JS&PPS Documents

Brochure III.H.5.5.1
Justice System & Public Safety Services Series



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Hugo Justice System Exploratory Committee