

**September 23, 2016 Email From Arthur O'Hare, Josephine County Budget Officer, To
Justice System & Public Safety Services (JS&PSS) Exploratory Committee, Hugo
Neighborhood Association & Historical Society (HNAHS)**

Email

9/23/16 4:04 PM

Fm: Arthur O'Hare [Josephine County Budget Officer]

To: Mike [Mike Walker, Chair JS&PSS Exploratory Committee, HNAHS]

CC: Whalen Jon CoAuthor Study Design;

RE: Share Information About JO CO Budget Process, Public Safety Issue, & Trust In
Government Issue

Mike – you are requesting a meeting with me and with the Budget Committee in order to discuss various aspects of the budget process. That is really a decision of the Board of Commissioners for both me individually and for calling together the Budget Committee. I will need to check with them regarding your request and will get back to you when I have more information.
Thanks.

Arthur O'Hare, Finance Director
Josephine County, Oregon
541-474-5222 Office

From: Mike [mailto:hugo@jeffnet.org]

Sent: Friday, September 23, 2016 4:38 AM

To: Arthur O'Hare <aohare@co.josephine.or.us>; Cheryl Walker <CWalker@co.josephine.or.us>; Simon Hare <SHare@co.josephine.or.us>; Keith Heck <KHeck@co.josephine.or.us>; Goodwin Margaret JO CO Budget Committee <notyourdaddy@live.com>

Cc: Wally Hicks <WHicks@co.josephine.or.us>; Tax Collector <TaxCollector@co.josephine.or.us>; SURVEYOR <surveyor@co.josephine.or.us>; Clerk <clerk@co.josephine.or.us>; Sheriff <jocosherriff@co.josephine.or.us>; Assessor Mailbox <assessor@co.josephine.or.us>; District Attorney <da@co.josephine.or.us>; Diane Hoover <DHoover@co.josephine.or.us>; Nate Gairan <NGairan@co.josephine.or.us>; Sarah Wright <SWright@co.josephine.or.us>; Larry Graves <LGraves@co.josephine.or.us>; Vic Harris <VHarris@co.josephine.or.us>; Ryan Johnson <rjohnson@co.josephine.or.us>; Lisa Pickart <LPickart@co.josephine.or.us>; Building Safety <buildingsafety@co.josephine.or.us>; Arthur O'Hare <aohare@co.josephine.or.us>; James Goodwin <JGoodwin@co.josephine.or.us>; Lewis Dennis PD JO CO Planning Dept <dlewis@co.josephine.or.us>; Robert Brandes <RBrandes@co.josephine.or.us>; Oregon Department of Revenue <finance.taxation@oregon.gov>; Widdison Kevin Ed TDC <kwiddison@thedailycourier.com>; Whalen Jon CoAuthor Study Design <bear46@charter.net>; Walker Mike, JCHS/HNAHS/RA/G1/OCTA <hugo@jeffnet.org>

Subject: Share Information About JO CO Budget Process, Public Safety Issue, & Trust In
Government Issue

Arthur O'Hare, Budget Officer, & Josephine County Budget Committee
500 NW 6th Street
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Email: aohare@co.josephine.or.us

Arthur:

We are still interested in meeting with you and the Josephine County Budget Committee (JOCOBC) with an agenda of understanding the county's public safety issue's relationship with the budgeting process, and any budget public participation programs to improve public trust in government (see attached).

As background, the Hugo Justice System & Public Safety Services (JS&PSS) Exploratory Committee has been actively studying the public safety issue since 2013. In 2015 we asked some specific PSS questions. "*What is Josephine County's Justice System & Public Safety Services Problem, . . . or Issue? First, What are the public safety services being referred to? Second, What is the issue? The third and final question, perhaps the most important question, is "Or, is there a problem, and if so, judged by what standards?"*" We have been actively studying the JO CO budget process for about six months. Our preliminary budget process issues are documented in Citizen Participation In The Josephine County Budget Process.

Citizen Participation In The Josephine County Budget Process

Budgets: JO CO, Oregon: <http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/budgets.htm>

Citizen Involvement In JO CO Budget Process: <http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/ci.htm>

- September 2016 Citizen Participation In The Josephine County Budget Process
- September 2016. Chapter V: Elements And Components Of Citizen Participation In Budgeting Process
- September 2016 Appendices For Citizen Participation In The Josephine County Budget Process

After studying the JO CO budget process, we found the county can be proud of its budget program to produce its annual budgets. Thank you JO CO: the budgets are legal, balanced, and the JO CO leaders of the budget process are a professional and honest team as evidenced by the county receiving the Government Finance Officers Association's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award several times.

What are some facts that our budget process analysis revealed? The Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) identify some mandated PSS programs. However, we have come to the conclusion that there are very few ORS mandatory levels of services (LOS), and therefore, very few identified in county budgets. From the JO CO FY 2007-08 - FY 2016-17 budget program summaries, it is difficult to impossible to verify which programs are mandatory, or elective. However, the majority of LOS in the PSS program budget summaries appear to be elective as determined by JO CO departments, even though the budget summaries suggest many are mandatory. A mandatory LOS might be a minimally acceptable level of public safety services (MALPSS), but we are not even sure of that. Therefore, we are also very interested in meeting with you and the

JOCOBC to learn what can be shared about the budget process for the purposes of understanding mandated PSS programs versus mandated PSS LOS. Four of our web pages are very specific to our proposed meeting topics.

Perhaps the most important idea to share with you is that the JOCOMT's August 19, 2014 recommended strategies for "Strengthening County Services" had correctly identified some significant budget process issues worth pursuing. First, and foremost, was the strategy of identifying solutions to financing county services through a collaborative process involving the public and private sectors. We feel the JOCOMT's recommendation has merit and should be comprehensively considered by the JOCOBC acting as a standing fiscal budget advisory committee through a strategic planning process applicable to future budgets.

Please provide this communication to the two email anonymous elector citizen JO CO Budget Committee members.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mike and Jon :)

Mike Walker, Chair
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