

Summary Highlights: Publicly Identified Problems/issues (Public Outreach 3.2)

Justice System & Public Safety Services Study Design: 2015 (Study Design)

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

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What is the Josephine County's (JO CO) Justice System & Public Safety Services (JS&PSS) Problem/Issue? (see *Public Outreach 1.1, What's The Problem?*)

- Is crime the problem?
- Are the potential causes of crime the problem?
- Is funding public safety services the problem?
- Is the problem the level (i.e., not enough or too much of something) of the safety services?
- Is the problem a feeling of fear of being a victim of crime versus the belief that you can take care of your family if the situation arose?
- Is part of the problem because JO CO citizens have never had to understand and debate needed levels and funding for public safety?
- Is the problem a feeling that we have considered all the potential solutions, and tried what we thought were reasonable, only to have them fail, arriving a point of not knowing exactly what to do next?
- Or, is there a problem, and if so, judged by what standards?

Elected Officials empathize the will of the people, and almost always do their job by proceeding with sincere, honest intentions to decide what is good for the people, without really understanding their strengths and weaknesses, goals and interests. It's easy to get caught focusing on things that are urgent, rather than important. Short-term goals become significant to show results, regardless of their long-term importance. A leader understands that all else being equal, transparency shows respect for the people and helps them do good work.

Are the American people fit to govern themselves, to rule themselves, to control themselves? I believe they are. I believe in the right of the people to rule. I believe the majority of the plain people of the United States will, day in and day out, make fewer mistakes in governing themselves than any smaller class or body of men, no matter what their training, will make in trying to govern them. I believe, again, that the American people are, as a whole, capable of self-control and of learning by their mistakes (Theodore Roosevelt. March 20, 1912. *The Right of the People to Rule*. Carnegie Hall. New York City).

Study Design Processes: Three Phases *Study Design* has three phases and several different products (Appendix A).

- *Study Design* (Idea).
- Funding (Independent of Government and Citizen Advocates)
- Impact *Study* (Independent Grant Study Team)

July 15, 2015 JS&PSS Problems/Issues The Committee believes the reasons why the four CO CO levies, and one Grants Pass sales tax, were proposed, and failed, have merit in their own right as a reflection of the values of JO CO citizens for the public safety problems/ issues and potential solutions (i.e., **you can't find solutions that last if you don't know the specific problems**). The following 11 problems/issues were based on an informal content analysis of 60 letters-to-the-editor (LTTE; i.e., April 10 - June 12, 2015) published in *The Grants Pass Daily Courier* (TGPDC). At the time these 60 LTTE were 12 % of the 517 LTTE in the Committee's archives (see Section III.C.3a)(2), Appendix A. Issues supporting *Study Design*).

- Public Safety Should Be Paid By Public
- Mistrust in Government Growing: Honesty, Transparency and Accountability
- Citizens Feel Their Voices Are Not Being Heard. What Part Of "No" Don't They Understand?
- Rural Patrol Presence Has Not Changed From 2000 - 2015; I Don't Feel More Unsafe Or More Safe.
- Not Fair That Only Property Owners Pay
- Opportunities Had Not Occurred To Inform Voters in a Comprehensive Non-Special Interest Fashion: Planning & Business Plan
- Cumulative Assessments Coordinated By JO CO Assessor Office Unaffordable to Many.
- Promote Economic Development & Education
- Permanent 58 Cents Per 1,000 JO CO Tax & Current Taxes, Fees, Etc. As Identified By JO CO Assessor's Office
- Income & Opportunities Inequity Affects Ability To Pay/Multiple Overlapping Socio-Economic Issues Affect Ability to Pay Taxes, Fees, Etc.
- City and County Residents Should Pay Their Usage Share

Detailed information on the 11 problems/issues is available in *Public Outreach 3. Publicly Identified Problems/Issues* and *Appendix A. Issues*, both of which support *Study Design*.

What does the public really think about public safety? During 2015 - 2016 an independent researcher will evaluate a comprehensive data set of public opinions on public safety. Nathan Davis, a 2nd year graduate student at Oregon State University (OSU), intends to address the safety question. On November 7, 2015 he formally settled on tiering his Master's of Public Policy (MPP) Essay research paper to the JO CO JS&PSS public safety problem/issue. Nathan is studying at the OSU School of Public Policy, which is part of the OSU Rural Studies Program.

The focus on citizens as the decision-makers will be the core of Nathan's MPP research paper, which is recording and analyzing the public's opinions on public safety, pro and con, across its range of values (i.e., for problems/issues & range of solutions), through a formal scientific "Content Analysis" research method (see November 22, 2015 Press Release, *What Do Josephine County Citizens Really Think About Public Safety?*). The data set for the content analysis to be analyzed for the MPP will be approximately 1,200 letters-to-the-editor (LTTE), 10 guest opinions, and 5 voters pamphlets written and published from January 1, 2012 - November 7, 2015. The MPP research project will meet its objectives if the public opinion writers can track their values into *Study Design* and *Study's* identified issues and range of alternative solutions.

Appendix A. WHY SUPPORT A PUBLIC SAFETY STUDY?

- **Unique Long-Range Impact Study** In a nut shell *Study Design* proposed a long-range planning impact *Study* which will be based on formal vetted inventories, and an impact methodology model which promotes informed decision-making through a unique decision process, where the citizens identify the problems and potential solutions, and are the decision-makers.
- **Vetted Study Baseline Facts/Inventories** Understanding is made more difficult with all those noisy facts when truth isn't always something as clear and unquestionable as desired. It is believed that a step in the right direction is for different publics, that don't trust each other, to share vetted, or checked, information.
- **Key Outcomes Of Study** How will *Study Design* change the way people live? *Study Design* is an idea that has not been considered as a serious solution. It is beyond the adversary model of pro and con arguments. At this stage nine key outcomes are hoped for from a successful *Study*. They are all about the idea of slow long-range incremental changes, and the confidence that there will be an increase in the number of citizens believing in their common future (see Public Outreach 1.3, *Summary Highlights: Arguments For Supporting Study*).

JUSTICE SYSTEM & PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES STUDY DESIGN: 2015

- *Study Design*
 - Public is Decision Maker
 - Public Identified Plan to *Study JS&PSS Problems/Issues & Range of Alternatives*
 - All citizens, Voters, Votes, And Values Are Legitimate, Pro & Con
 - Neutral Point of View
- *Study Design* To Grant *Study* Purposes
 - Citizen decision-makers identify the publicly identified issues, range of alternative solutions, and affected conditions, not the government.
 - Promote informed public decision-making by making detailed vetted information, available to different publics that don't trust each other, assisting citizens to speak a common language, to solve problems, not to spend valuable time and energy over conflicting facts.
- Products Of *Study Design*
 - Final JS&PSS *Study Design*
 - *Study* Grant Proposal
 - Request For Proposals (RFPs)
 - Award of *Study* Grant to Independent Third-Party Researcher
 - Analysis of the Public Situation (APS)
 - Final JS&PSS *Study*
- *Study Design* Process: Three Phases
 - *Study Design* (Hugo JS&PSS Exploratory Committee Idea)
 - Grant Process (Contract Grant Writer)
 - *Study* (Independent Grant Team)

PUBLICLY IDENTIFIED PROBLEMS/ISSUES, ALTERNATIVES, & CONDITIONS

- Citizen Identified Problems/Issues - 11 Issues (July 2015), One Is Mistrust In Government.
- Citizen Identified Range of Alternative Solutions (July 2015): 20 Service Levels & 10 Funding Types.
- Affected Condition Facts/Inventories.
- Needed Affected Condition Facts/Inventories: 1. Content Analysis of Public Opinions, and 2. Study of *minimally adequate level of public safety services* standards (2013 Oregon House Bill 3453).