

## **PUBLIC OUTREACH 7. TABLE TALK DISCUSSION SCRIPT TOPICS**

*Justice System & Public Safety Services Study Design: 2015*

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

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*Justice System & Public Safety Services Study Design: 2015*

**Hugo JS&PSS Exploratory Committee  
Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society**



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Subj: Share Information About Josephine County's (JO CO's) Justice System & Public Safety Services (JS&PSS) Problem/Issue. What Are These Services and What Is the Problem? Or, Is There a Problem, and If So, Judged by What Standards?

JO CO has been in the 2000 Secure Rural Schools (SRS) and Community Self-Determination Act phase of planning for 15 years from 2000 - 2015. This phase was a temporary program of declining federal payments, used for JS&PSS, and based on historical timber harvest revenues, rather than current revenues. Public safety services are generally considered the components of JO CO's historic public safety program: 1. adult jail beds, 2. juvenile justice center, 3. district attorney's office, 4. court services, 5. rural patrol deputies, 6. criminal investigations and related sheriff's office support services, and 7. animal protection.

From 2012 - 2015 there have been four JO CO public safety levies, in as many years, to restore the JS&PSS program to funding approximating historic levels. None of them passed. Is crime the problem (i.e., reason for levies?): felonies, misdemeanors, and/or violations? Felony crime includes personal crimes, such as murder, robbery and rape, and crimes against property, including burglary or larceny. Are the potential causes of crime the problem (e.g., medium income, homelessness, poverty, unemployment, economic problems, etc.)? This definition, of potential causes is part of a larger list of "*Variables Affecting Crime*" identified by the FBI.

Is funding safety services the problem (e.g., property owners revolt, failed levies, mistrust in government, taxes, cumulative costs, income inequality, etc.)? Is the problem the level (i.e., not enough or too much of something) of the safety services (e.g., no response to 911 calls, low rural patrol presence, jailed and released, inefficient use of resources, diverted monies, etc.)?

Or, is there a problem, and if so, judged by what standards? Understanding and designing solutions are complicated tasks as there are substantial differences between Oregon counties in terms of their geographic and demographic characteristics, historic crime rates, willingness to tolerate certain levels of crime, and past and present funding of various public safety services. A scientific study of the standards the Governor of Oregon would use to proclaim a public safety fiscal emergency when fiscal conditions compromise JO CO's ability to provide a *minimally adequate level of public safety services* would help answer the "*Is there a problem.*" question (MALPSS; 2013 Oregon House Bill 3453).

## TABLE TALK DISCUSSION SCRIPT TOPICS

### WHY SUPPORT A SAFETY STUDY?

- Public Decision Makers. The proposed *Study's* will be based on formal inventories and an impact methodology model, which promotes informed decision-making through a unique decision process, where the citizens are the decision-makers (Go over p. 1).
- Vetted Public Safety Facts
- Consensus Goal For Public Decisions

### I. JUSTICE SYSTEM & PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES STUDY DESIGN: 2015

- *Study Design*
  - Public is Decision Maker
  - Public Identified Plan to *Study* JS&PSS Problem/Issue
  - All citizens, Voters, and Votes 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
  - Analysis of the Public Situation (APS)
  - Final JS&PSS *Study*
- *Study Design* Process: Three Phases
  - *Study Design* (Hugo JS&PSS Exploratory Committee)
  - Grant Process (Contract Grant Writer)
  - *Study* (Grant Team)

### II. PUBLICLY IDENTIFIED ISSUES SHAPE STUDY DESIGN

- Citizen Identified Problems/Issues - 11 Issues, One Is Mistrust In Gov (go to p. 4)
- Citizen Identified Range of Alternative Solutions:  
20 Service Levels & 10 Funding Types (go to p. 4)
- Affected Condition Facts/Inventories
- Needed Affected Condition Facts/Inventories: 1. Content Analysis of Public Opinion Comments, and 2. Study of *minimally adequate level of public safety services* (go to p. 4; 2013 Oregon House Bill 3453).

### III. HISTORICAL TIME FRAME OF JS&PSS ISSUE: 1937 - 2015

#### **IV. SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS (SRS) ACT REAUTHORIZED: 2015 - 2017**

#### **V. STUDY DESIGN'S PLANNING HORIZON IS FLEXIBLE: 2015 - 2020**

- Current Planning: 2015 - 2020?
- Flexible Planning Period: 1. Short-Term 6 - 18 months & 2. Long-Term 2 - 5 years

#### **VI. PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS OF STUDY**

- Logical and Coherent Record
- Procedural Standards

#### **VII. VETTED PUBLIC SAFETY FACTS OF STUDY**

- Vetted Public Safety Facts/Inventories
- Facts Not Researched To Support A Specific Proposal
- Independent *Study* Team (From Gov & Funders)
- Final *Study* Product
- Grant Funders (Independent From Gov & Study Team)
- Citizen Monitoring: Public Review & Comments:
  - *Study Design*
  - Analysis Of Public Situation
- Decision-Makers

#### **VIII. UNRELIABLE FACTS/INVENTORIES**

- Identified & Tracked (citizens can see their comments being used)
- Analyzed For Verifiability & Reliability
- Non-Vetted Public Safety Facts

#### **IX. HOPED FOR INFORMATION BENEFITS**

- Making Informed Decisions & Critical Thinking
- Do Facts Matter?
- Are We Arguing From The Same Facts?
- Strategies To Combat Misinformation Are Worth Trying

#### **OBSERVATIONS**

- Levies. Four recent levy attempts to fund more JS&PSS using the property owners model of replacing lost Federal payments.
- Citizen Voting. A majority of citizens did not favor the levies while almost as large a number of citizens favored the levies.
- No Observable Planning: 1. to determine public values, 2. to determine *minimally adequate level of public safety services* (MALPSS; 2013 Oregon House Bill 3453); and 3. to address public mistrust of government.
- Strategies to listen to the public as decision-makers & partners are worth trying
- Unique *Study Design* that proposes a *Study* which will be based on formal vetted inventories and an impact methodology, which promotes informed decision-making through a unique decision process, where the citizens are the decision-makers (go to p. 1).

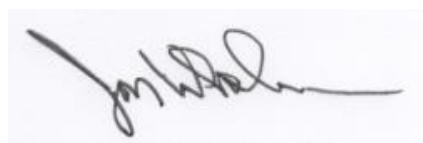
**PUBLIC OUTREACH 7. TABLE TALK DISCUSSION SCRIPT TOPICS**  
*Justice System & Public Safety Services Study Design: 2015*

- *Justice System & Public Safety Services Study Design: 2015* (draft, 140 pages)
  - **Public Outreach For Study Design**
  - Outreach 1. Arguments For Supporting Study Design
  - Outreach 2. Interested In Becoming Involved?
  - Outreach 3. Publicly Identified Problems/Issues
  - Outreach 4. Publicly Identified Range of Alternative Solutions
  - Outreach 5. Equal Public Safety Facts
  - Outreach 6. Study Design's Planning Horizon Is Flexible
  - **Outreach 7. Table Talk Discussion Script Topics**
  - Outreach 8. How To Communicate In Plain Language
  - Outreach 9. JS&PSS Issue Overview Educational Brochure
  - Outreach 10. Aspiration Letter From Authors Of Study Design
  - Outreach 11. Enquiry Stakeholder Letters/Emails
- *Justice System & Public Safety Services Issue Scope Of Work* (2013 Authority)

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**PUBLIC OUTREACH 7. TABLE TALK DISCUSSION SCRIPT TOPICS**  
*Justice System & Public Safety Services Study Design: 2015*

**WHY SUPPORT A SAFETY STUDY?**

**Question** Why support or sponsor another study that purports to represent the citizens of Josephine County, Oregon in their efforts to address the county's Justice System & Public Safety Services (JS&PSS) problem/issue?

**Answer: Unique Long-Range Impact Study** In a nut shell the proposed *Study's* will be based on formal inventories and an impact methodology model which promotes informed decision-making through a unique decision process, where the citizens are the decision-makers. As an introduction, Whalen and Walker, Co-Project Leaders of *Study Design*, provide some rationale for the uniqueness of the long-range planning that will result from *Study Design*, compared to the usual major information or impact study.

- *Study* focuses on the human face of citizens being the decision-makers.
- *Study* is unique in not representing a singular point of view objective, and in representing strictly citizen values.
- *Study* flows from "public" identified issues, affected conditions, alternatives, and impacts. It emphasizes the importance to citizens of knowing they are being heard, of being the decision-makers that decide their future.
- *Study* is not associated with any specific proposed funding mechanism (e.g., levy, sales tax, etc.).
- *Study* is limited to investigating, researching, and evaluating the JS&PSS Issue.
- *Study* will not make evaluations of proposals or alternatives as to right or wrong, nor make recommendations to the citizens on how to vote.
- *Study* is non-political; it will not be used in politics in the sense of lobbying for a particular outcome.
- *Study* is independent research and education of neighbors the best it can by sharing information publicly through web page publications, and volunteer outreach projects.
- *Study* formally acknowledges the public as the designer of *Study*, and as the decision-maker.
- *Study* has no Analysis of the Management Situation; there will be an Analysis of the Public Situation.
- *Study* results are not a formal government decision selecting an alternative or some combination of alternatives.
- *Study's* end result is information for informed public decision-making, not a decision by the government.

**Answer: Vetted Facts** Understanding is made more difficult with all those noisy facts when truth isn't always something as clear and unquestionable as desired. The Co-Project Leaders of *Study Design* believe a step in the right direction is for different publics, that don't trust each other, to share vetted, or checked, information. This is one of the purposes of *Study Design* – for citizens to speak a common language, to solve problems, not to spend valuable time and energy discussing potential conflicting facts.

Although not unique to *Study*, vetted facts will be part of it, as they are part of any reliable impact study. The best impact studies have a professional structure in place for checking or analyzing facts, legal issues, evidence, and arguments. The greater the degree of scrutiny given to these facts, the more reliable the study.

## STUDY DESIGN HIGHLIGHTS

### MOM, AND POP, AND APPLE PIE

The authors believe in the importance of a knowledgeable public for a successful democracy. Mom, and Pop, and apple pie, right?

#### I. JS&PSS STUDY DESIGN: 2015

Since April 2015, and the Secure Rural Schools (SRS) and Community Self-Determination Act, Congress had repeatedly sent messages that federal payments would be phased out, and this was intended to give O & C counties *time to plan for the change*. The Hugo Justice System & Public Safety Services (JS&PSS) Exploratory Committee's aspiration is that the final *Study* product of the *Study Design* project be considered part of this needed planning.

The JS&PSS Exploratory Committee has been trying to understand the Josephine County's (JO CO's) public safety issue since 2013, and it has been developing an educational safety impact study program ever since.

Its 2015 JS&PSS *Study Design* project to develop an impact *Study* flows from a core belief are that all citizens, voters, and votes are legitimate. The results will be a *Study* to be researched and written from a neutral point of view, meaning representing fairly, proportionately, and, as far as possible, without bias, all public views that have been published by reliable sources on the safety topic.

The *Study Design* sets the parameters for an impact *Study* which will document a comparison of the publicly identified range of alternative solutions for the JS&PSS Issue. The *Study* components include the following: 1. the publicly identified issues, range of alternative solutions, and affected conditions; and 2. analyzing the impacts of each alternative evaluated by condition indicators and standards through a combination of citizen input and professional expert investigations.

**Study Design** The proposed 2015 *Study Design* has three goals. The JS&PSS Exploratory Committee will accomplish Goal One in some form which is to complete the *Study Design*. Goal Two is to secure a grant for a professional independent impact *Study*. Goal Three is to develop and publish the impact *Study*.

#### **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 decision-making by making detailed vetted information concerning significant impacts available to the public.
- A full disclosure document that details the process through which the *Study Design* project was developed, includes a range of alternatives, analysis of the potential impacts resulting from the alternatives, and demonstration of compliance with the law.

#### **Products**

1. Final JS&PSS *Study Design*.
2. *Study* Grant Proposal.
3. Request For Proposals (RFPs) – often called grant announcements.
4. Award of Grant to Independent Third-Party *Study* Team.
5. Analysis of the Public Situation (APS).
6. Final JS&PSS *Study*.

**Process** The study process will be completed in three phases:

1. *Study Design*,
2. Grant Process, and
3. *Study*.

## II. PUBLICLY IDENTIFIED ISSUES

The *Study Design* approach relies on citizens to provide insight (i.e., public opinion) about how to identify and manage problems, and formulate their own goals and solutions for the future. Some of methods to be used in measuring citizens' opinions follow.

- Registered JO CO Voters Voting
- Letters-To-The-Editor in The Grants Pass Daily Courier (TGPDC)
- Guest Opinions in the TGPDC
- News Articles in the TGPDC
- Arguments in the JO CO Voters' Pamphlets.
- Informal Telephone Straw Poll Interviews
- Special Interest Groups' Written Positions
- Public Written Communications (i.e., informal public comments on the evolving *Study Design* and formal public comments on the Analysis of the Public Situation)

This approach emphasizes the importance to citizens of knowing they are being heard, of being the decision-makers that decide their future.

**Citizen Identified Problems/Issues** The citizens' identified problems and solutions are the specific potential research opportunities. For example, *Study Design's* rough sample content analysis (CA) of citizens' opinion, in the form of letters-to-the-editor, identified 11 issues. CA has been defined as a systematic, replicable technique for compressing many words of text into fewer content categories based on explicit rules of coding. A broad definition of CA is, any technique for making inferences by objectively and systematically identifying specified characteristics of messages.

- # 1. Public Safety Should Be Paid By Public.
- # 2. Mistrust in Government Growing: Honesty, Transparency and Accountability.
- # 3. Citizens Feel Their Voices Are Not Being Heard. What Part Of "No" Don't They Understand?
- # 4. Rural Sheriff Patrol Presence Has Not Changed From 2000 - 2015; I Don't Feel More Unsafe Or More Safe.

- # 5. Not Fair That Only Property Owners Pay.
- # 6. Opportunities Had Not Occurred To Inform Voters in a Comprehensive Non-Special Interest Fashion: Planning & Business Plan.
- # 7. Cumulative Assessments Coordinated By JO CO Assessor Office Unaffordable to Many.
- # 8. Promote Economic Development & Education.
- # 9. Permanent 58 Cents Per 1,000 JO CO Tax & Current Taxes, Fees, Etc. As Identified By JO CO Assessor's Office.
- # 10. Income & Opportunities Inequality Affects Ability To Pay Taxes, Fees, Etc.
- # 11. City and County Residents Should Pay Their Usage Share.

### **Citizen Identified Range of Public Safety Funding and Service Level Alternatives**

Rough dollar estimates are identified. Alternatives range from an enhanced alternative greater than the maximum annual average federal SRS payments to an alternative with zero SRS payments.

- Alt Costs of JS&PSS Increase Significantly Above Old Status Quo 2000 level Prior to SRS Alternative (more than \$15 million?)
- Alt Costs of JS&PSS May 15, 2012 Levy Measure 17 - 43 Alternative (costs of JS&PSS \$1.99 per \$1,000 assessed value: \$14 million alternative?)
- Alt Old Status Quo 2000 level Prior to SRS Alternative (costs of JS&PSS would increase back to the approximately \$12 million?)
- Alt May 21, 2013 Levy Measure 17 - 49 Alternative (costs of JS&PSS \$1.48 per \$1,000 Assessed Value: \$10 Million Alternative?)
- Alt 2015 House Joint Resolution 21 Alternative (2015 Session of Oregon Legislature, House Joint Resolution 21, minimum \$2.00 per \$1,000)
- Alt May 19, 2015 Levy Measure 17-66 Alternative (costs of JS&PSS \$1.40 per \$1,000 Assessed Value: Approximately \$9 million - \$10.5 Million Alternative?)
- Alt May 20, 2014 Levy Measure 17 - 59 Alternative (costs of of JS&PSS \$1.19 per

- \$1,000 Assessed Value: \$8.3 Million Alternative)
- Alt No Action Alternative - Live Within Your Budget Alternative (approximately \$7.6 million?)
- Alt Citizens Can Provide Their Own Protection At Current Funding Alternative (no SRS Federal payments: approximately 3 million dollars?)
- Alt Unknown Timber Program Future Alternative (approximately 5 - ? million dollars?)
- Alt Minimally Adequate Level of Public Safety Services Alternative (apply Oregon House Bill 3453 criteria)
- Alt JO CO Declare Bankruptcy Alternative (future law like OR HB 2924 (2013) - declare bankruptcy)
- Alt State Implements Oregon House Bill (HB) 3453 Alternative
- Alt Sales Tax Alternative
- Alt O&C Revenues: Wyden Bill Alternative
- Alt O&C Revenues: County Take Back O&C Lands Alternative (as lands used to be in private ownership paying taxes)
- Alt O&C Revenues: Tax Equivalent Alternative (Federal government pay JO CO the equivalent of what private rural commercial timber companies presently pay, on a per-acre basis)
- Alt Usage Share Alternative (city and county special taxing districts pay their usage share)
- Alt Address Cause Of Crime (e.g., homelessness, poverty, unemployment, economic problems, etc.)
- Alt Combinations of Alternatives (other combinations of alternatives)

### **Range of Alternative Types of Public Safety Program Funding**

- Alt Property Taxes Alternative
- Alt Sales Tax Alternative
- Alt Flat Taxes Alternative
- Alt Volunteer Payments Alternative
- Alt In-County-Only Lottery Alternative
- Alt Mix Of Types of Taxpayers Alternative
- Alt Permanent Tax District(s) Alternative
- Alt O&C Revenues: Wyden Bill Alternative
- Alt O&C Revenues: County Take Back O&C Lands Alternative (as lands used to be in private ownership paying taxes)

- Alt O&C Revenues: Tax Equivalent Alternative (Federal government pay JO CO the equivalent of what private rural commercial timber companies presently pay, on a per-acre basis)

**Affected Condition Facts/Inventories** One of the important next steps is to understand the studies and information available, or to be researched, for the area of interest and to identify the affected conditions. This is a description of the existing conditions to be affected by the range of publicly identified alternatives.

1. Affected Conditions.
2. Available Studies and Information.
3. Analysis of Public Situation (APS).
4. *Study* by Independent *Study* Contractor.

Current Needs: 1. Content Analysis of Public Opinion Comments (i.e., list at p. 3), and 2. Study of the standards the Governor of Oregon would use to proclaim a public safety fiscal emergency when fiscal conditions compromise JO CO's ability to provide a *minimally adequate level of public safety services* (MALPSS; 2013 Oregon House Bill 3453).

### **III. HISTORICAL TIME FRAME: 1937 O&C Act - 2015**

**1. First Phase of Planning: 1937 - 2000** This phase was about revenues to O&C counties based on timber harvests of O&C lands.

**2. Second Phase of Planning: 2000 - 2015** JO CO has been in the second phase of planning for 15 years, since the 2000 SRS Act. This phase was a temporary program of declining federal payments based on historical timber harvest revenues, rather than current, revenues.

**3. Third Phase of Planning: 2015 - 2020?** The county is now in the current third phase of planning from 2015 - 2020? There is question mark at the end of the proceeding sentence because the authors do not assume to know the future. We believe the only constant is the uniqueness of *Study Design*, and the special value



of the final *Study* over an even longer period of time.

#### **IV. SRS ACT REAUTHORIZED: 2015 - 2017**

In April 2015, the SRS Act was reauthorized, and the JO CO public safety services will continue to operate at a funded level that is a combination of federal payments and local timber harvest revenues. Then, two years down the road when federal payments are scheduled to end again, the voters will have to decide whether what they have meets their needs, or they may desire to consider other available alternatives.

#### **V. STUDY DESIGN'S PLANNING HORIZON IS FLEXIBLE: 2015 - 2020**

**Current Planning: 2015 - 2020?** *Study Design's* planning horizon goal is closely tied to the April 2015 SRC Act's two-year reauthorization after which federal payments are scheduled to end again in 2017. At that time the voters will have to decide whether what they have meets their needs, or they may desire to consider other available alternatives.

In the short-term the completion date goal of *Study Design's* is from 6 - 18 months.

The long term planning horizon for *Study* completion is 2 - 5 years. It is also based on the visible tie to the 2015 SRC Act's two-year reauthorization, and the potential for future reauthorizations in 2017.

**Flexible Planning Period** The time frame for implementing *Study Design* is flexible with its two parts and time horizons. The two parts are: 1. research studies of the JS&PSS issue addressing some currently needed components (e.g., content analysis of public opinion comments, MALPSS, etc.) of the final *Study* independent of the final impact *Study*, and 2. the final major socio-economic impact *Study*. The possible time horizons are short-term, long-term, and future unknown.

#### **VI. PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS**

- Logical and Coherent Record.
- Procedural Standards.

#### **VII. VETTED PUBLIC SAFETY FACTS**

Third party public safety facts are information about publically identified issues, alternative solutions, and affected conditions, from an independent source from the subject (i.e., in this case the JS&PSS Problem/Issue) being covered.

In many cases public safety facts are the components of the JO CO public safety program (i.e., 1. adult jail beds, 2. juvenile justice center, 3. district attorney's office, 4. court services, 5. rural patrol deputies, 6. criminal investigations & related sheriff's office support services, and 7. animal protection), or the affected conditions that will be impacted by the range of alternatives (e.g., crime, income inequality, violence, budget, jobs, mistrust in government, rural patrol presence, cumulative costs, jails, public safety services, taxes, etc.).

**Neutral Point of View** The *Study* is to be researched and written from a neutral point of view, meaning representing fairly, proportionately, and, as far as possible, without bias, all public views that have been published by reliable sources on a topic.

#### **Facts Not Researched To Support A Specific Proposal**

- *Study* flows from "public" identified issues, alternatives, affected conditions, and impacts. It emphasizes the importance to citizens of knowing they are being heard, of being the decision-makers that decide their future.
- *Study* is limited to investigating, researching, and evaluating the JS&PSS Issue. *Study* will not make evaluations of proposals or alternatives as to right or wrong, nor make recommendations to the citizens on how to vote.
- *Study* is independent research and education opportunities for neighbors.

- The end result of the *Study* is information for informed public decision-making, not a proposal by some private or public entity supporting a particular proposal, or a decision by the government.
- *Study* is not associated with any specific proposed levy, sales tax, etc.

**Study Team Independent** of grant funder and government.

**Vetted Facts/Inventories** Vetted facts/inventories are information about publically identified affected conditions that will be vetted, or checked out, for accuracy and reliability. “Vetted” facts are part of *Study Design*’s verifiability standard.

Verifiability means that people reading *Study Design* and *Study* can check where the information comes from and make their own determination if it is reliable. The Committee’s goal is not to try impose "the truth" on its readers, and does not ask that they trust something just because they read it in Committee documents. Its goal is to empower citizens through educational materials that can be checked in order for neighbors to find their own truth.

Verifiability is closely related to neutral point of view, another core content policy of *Study Design*. It is also significant because truth isn't always something as clear and unquestionable as desired.

**Final Study Product** The final *Study* product documents a comparison of the publically identified range of alternative solutions for the JS&PSS Issue. This *Study* project will be accomplished by documenting: 1. the publically identified issues, range of JS&PSS alternative solutions and affected conditions, and 2. analyzing the impacts of each alternative evaluated by condition indicators and standards through a combination of citizen input and professional expert analysis.

The contract author of the *Study* will be independent of funders, government, and citizens in the final analysis and conclusions of the study. Purpose of the *Study* is NOT to recommend an

alternative or a decision for citizens of JO CO and/or county government.

**Potential Grant Funders** Again, when the opportunity present itself, the goal is to distance public government involvement from the public as the decision-makers of the *Study*. If possible, the potential grant funders should not have a stake in the outcome of *Study*.

### **Citizen Monitoring: Opportunities For Public Review & Comments**

- *Study Design*.
- Analysis Of Public Situation (APS).

**Decision-Makers** – The Public.

## **VIII. UNRELIABLE FACTS/ INVENTORIES**

The importance of verifiability is significant because truth isn't always something as clear and unquestionable as desired. In many cases, such as in topics related to social sciences, there is no "truth" but simply opinions and assumptions. Which is the best political system? Was this or that government a good or bad one? There are very few "true" answers to such questions. There are facts, opinions, facts about opinions and opinions about opinions. In most controversies there are more than truths and lies under the sun.

**Identified & Tracked** Publically identified issues are identified during the issues stage, documented in *Study Design*, and tracked through the final *Study* product. The *Study* will have failed if public comments on the JS&PSS Issues can not be traced from identification through *Study*.

**Analyzed For Verifiability & Reliability** All publically identified facts/inventories that are proposed for use in *Study* will be considered by the independent grant *Study* contractor for verifiability and reliability.

**Non-Vetted Public Safety Facts** All publically identified material that meets the vetted facts/inventories standards and criteria will be included in the *Study*. Alternative facts and affected condition inventories not meeting the vetted standards will be substantially addressed in the APS and/or the *Study* for why they were considered, but eliminated from further consideration, and not included in the *Study*.

## IX. HOPED FOR BENEFITS

Do better facts create, cause, or contribute to better decisions by the public? Understanding JO CO's JS&PSS problem/issue, identifying alternatives and baseline inventories, and assessing solutions are complicated tasks as there are substantial differences between Oregon counties in terms of their geographic and demographic characteristics, priorities, historic crime rates, willingness to tolerate certain levels of crime, and past and present funding of various public safety services.

Understanding is made more difficult with all those noisy facts when truth isn't always something as clear and unquestionable as desired. The authors believe a step in the right direction is for different publics that don't trust each other to share vetted information. Part of the purpose of *Study Design* is for citizens to speak a common language, to solve problems, not to spend valuable time and energy about conflicting facts.

The authors believe facts should come first in JO CO's local debate about the JS&PSS Issue. This is because the fact-to-noise ratio in JO CO is high to so off the charts, depending on who you talk to – and facts matter. We believe the *Study Design* project and *Study* will provide vetted public safety facts to help us speak a common language when we discuss or read about the Issue.

A core goal of *Study Design* and *Study* is to recognize that all citizens, voters, and votes are legitimate, and slice through the hyperbole, spin, and slant that gunk up the public safety issues facing JO CO today – and present exhaustively researched and vetted facts in a compelling, easy-to-digest, independent, and neutral way. In an independent neutral planning analysis,

facts/inventories are gathered and vetted, or checked, to determine their accuracy and usefulness.

**Strategies To Combat Misinformation Are Worth Trying** The authors believe a step in the right direction is for different publics that don't necessarily trust each other to share vetted information. Part of the purpose of *Study Design* is for citizens to speak, as much as possible, a common language. Let us break bread over common ideas and values.

An important part of *Study Design* and *Study* is the policy to combat misinformation. The strategies to promote an informed public include the following: education, independent researchers, fact checkers, verifiability, expert advocacy, legal decisions, and vetted public safety facts. It appears none of them is fully effective and all may be weak in the face of a stable, gratifying intersection among false information, corresponding policy views, connection with like-minded others, and reinforcing politicians.

**Conclusion** Why is the title of Chapter IX, "*Hoped For Benefits*." Its simple, it is the belief that the benefits of sharing accurate consensus facts to better explain the JO CO JS&PSS Issue is worth the effort. For example, the authors believe strategies to combat misinformation are worth trying, within the framework that all citizens, voters, and votes are legitimate. Legitimacy has powerful hopes.

- A feeling of expectation and desire, and belief in citizens, for a certain thing to happen.
- *Study Design* may help to facilitate a consensus solution to the public safety issue.
- There are grounds for believing that something good may happen.
- Hope is belief that the glass is half-full rather than half-empty.

***"Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow. The important thing is not to stop questioning."*** Albert Einstein

The authors will continue to try and serve a fresh source of public safety facts, painstakingly researched and verified, to help citizens make better decisions and drive better conversations. The camaraderie of being part of a team, knowing defeat if it comes is O.K., as long as they show discipline and dedication with respect and sportsmanship in their drive for the facts. Independence, and perseverance, especially the value of endurance determination, are pleasure-pain genes that drives the authors forward.

## References

1. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Sept. 2006. *Crime In The U.S. 2005*. U.S. Department of Justice.

Historically, the causes and origins of crime have been the subjects of investigation by many disciplines. Some factors that are known to affect the volume and type of crime occurring from place to place are:

- Population density and degree of urbanization.
- Variations in composition of the population, particularly youth concentration.
- Stability of the population with respect to residents' mobility, commuting patterns, and transient factors.
- Modes of transportation and highway system.
- Economic conditions, including median income, poverty level, and job availability.
- Cultural factors and educational, recreational, and religious characteristics.
- Family conditions with respect to divorce and family cohesiveness.
- Climate.
- Effective strength of law enforcement agencies.
- Administrative and investigative emphases of law enforcement.
- Policies of other components of the criminal justice system (i.e., prosecutorial, judicial, correctional, and probational).
- Citizens' attitudes toward crime.
- Crime reporting practices of the citizenry.

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Applications\Hugo\_Neighborhood\_Association\Community\_Issues\JO CO Public Safety  
Services 2015\Outreach Documents\JSPSS\_7\_TableTalkDiscussionScriptTopics\_102515.wpd

## ***Justice System & Public Safety Services Study Design: 2015***

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

- ***Justice System & Public Safety Services Study Design: 2015*** (draft, 140 pages)
  - **Public Outreach** (Draft documents being developed: expect many changes)
    - Outreach 1. Arguments For Supporting Study Design (draft, 4 pages)
    - Outreach 2. Interested In Becoming Involved? (draft, 3 pages)
    - Outreach 3. Publicly Identified Problems/Issues (draft, 13 pages; expect many changes)
    - Outreach 4. Publicly Identified Range of Alternative Solutions (draft, 8 pages; expect many changes)
    - Outreach 5. Equal Public Safety Facts (Not started)
    - Outreach 6. Study Design's Planning Horizon Is Flexible (Not started)
    - Outreach 7. Table Talk Discussion Script (Not started)
    - Outreach 8. How To Communicate In Plain Language (Just started)
    - Outreach 9. JS&PSS Issue Overview Educational Brochure (Not started)
    - Outreach 10. Aspiration Letter From Authors Of Study Design (draft, 4 pages, expect many changes)
    - Outreach 11. Enquiry Stakeholder Letters/Emails (Ongoing)
  - **Appendices To Study Design**
  - **Appendix A. Issues** (draft, 154 pages)
    - Appendix A1. Being Heard (draft, 4 pages)
    - Appendix A2. All Values Are Legitimate (draft, 3 pages)
    - Appendix A3. Measures Representing Public Opinion (draft, 36 pages)
    - Appendix A3.1. Letters To The Editor As A Measure of Crime Salience
    - Appendix A3.2. Content Analysis For Public Opinion
  - **Other Information Appendices** (documents being developed and/or not started yet)
    - Appendix B. Affected (draft, 49 pages)
    - Appendix B1. Potential Affected Conditions (draft, 79 pages)
    - Appendix B2. Studies & Information (draft, 89 pages)
    - Appendix B3. Analysis of Public Situation (draft, 39 pages)
    - Appendix C. Alternatives (Not started)
    - Appendix D. Procedural Requirements, *NEPA Design Group's Comments on the Hellgate RAMP/DEIS* (draft, 53 pages)
    - Appendix DD1. Appendix A. Selected Parts Of BLM's National Environmental Policy Act Handbook: H-1790-1
    - Appendix DD2. Appendix B. Selected CEQ Regulations For Implementing The Procedural Provisions of The National Environmental Policy Act
    - Appendix DD3. Appendix C. Selected Portions Of CEQ's 40 Questions
    - Appendix DD4. Appendix D. Evaluation Of Significant Impacts Model And Recommended Impact Methodology
    - Appendix DD5. App. C. NEPA's Significantly, *Scoping Rogue River's Outstandingly Remarkable Values*
    - Appendix D1. Impact Methodology Model (draft, 30 pages)
    - Appendix D2. Conditions, Indicators & Standards (draft, 22 pages)
    - Appendix E. Impacts (Not started)
    - Appendix F. Public (Not started)
    - Appendix F1. Interest Groups (Not started)
    - Appendix F2. Potential Funders, Sponsors, & Sources (draft, 69 pages)
    - Appendix G. Public Study (Not started)
- ***Justice System & Public Safety Services Issue Scope Of Work*** (2013 Authority; draft, 41 pages)