

# Notice of Measure Election

**SEL 802**

rev 01/18 ORS 250.035, 250.041,  
250.275, 250.285, 254.095, 254.465

City

REC'D A CO ELECTIONS  
AUG 30 2024 9:09

**Notice**

**Date of Notice**

08-17-2024

**Name of City or Cities**

City of Ashland

**Date of Election**

November 5, 2024

**Final Ballot Title** The following is the final ballot title of the measure to be submitted to the city's voters. The ballot title notice has been published and the ballot title challenge process has been completed.

**Caption** 10 words which reasonably identifies the subject of the measure.

Approving Ashland Resolution 2024-05 authority to issue water revenue bonds.

**Question** 20 words which plainly phrases the chief purpose of the measure.

Should the City be authorized to issue up to \$75,000,000 in revenue bonds to finance construction of water system improvements?

**Summary** 175 words which concisely and impartially summarizes the measure and its major effect.

This measure seeks voter approval of City of Ashland's authority to issue water revenue bonds under Resolution 2024-05 in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$75,000,000 to finance capital improvements to the City's water system, including but not limited to water treatment plant improvements and east and west forks transmission line rehabilitation. The City anticipates the issuance of the water revenue bonds to the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under a federal loan program that is designed to help local governments invest in the replacement of aging water infrastructure.

If the measure is approved, the resolution grants the City authority to issue revenue bonds payable solely from water system revenues. The bonds will not be general obligations of the City, and neither the authorization nor issuance of the bonds will authorize the City to levy any taxes. Approval of the measure will authorize the City to access funding through the EPA for its construction of the water treatment plant, addressing crucial water infrastructure needs.

**Explanatory Statement** 500 words that impartially explains the measure and its effect.

If the county is producing a voters' pamphlet an explanatory statement must be drafted and attached to this form for:

→ any measure referred by the city governing body; **or**

→ any initiative or referendum, if required by local ordinance.

**Explanatory Statement Attached?**

Yes

No

**Authorized City Official** Not required to be notarized.

**Name**

Alissa Kolodzinski

**Title**

City Recorder

**Mailing Address**

20 East Main Street, Ashland, OR 97520

**Contact Phone**

541-552-2012

*By signing this document:*

→ I hereby state that I am authorized by the city to submit this Notice of Measure Election; **and**

→ I certify that notice of receipt of ballot title has been published and the ballot title challenge process for this measure completed.

Alissa  
Kolodzinski

Digitally signed by Alissa Kolodzinski  
DN: cn=Alissa Kolodzinski, o=City of Ashland,  
ou, email=alissa.kolodzinski@ashland.or.us,  
c=US  
Date: 2024.08.29 17:43:16 -07'00'

08/28/2024

Signature

Date Signed

15-234

## EXPLANATORY STATEMENT FOR COUNTY VOTERS' PAMPHLET

NAME OF PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR CONTENT: Doug McGeary

NAME OF ORGANIZATION PERSON REPRESENTS, IF ANY: City of Ashland

BALLOT TITLE CAPTION: Approving Ashland Resolution 2024-05 authority to issue water revenue bonds.

MEASURE NUMBER: TBD

15-234

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### (Explanatory Statement Shall Be Typed)

This measure asks voters whether the City of Ashland should be authorized to issue water revenue bonds to finance the construction of a new water treatment plant and the rehabilitation of associated infrastructure in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$75,000,000. Water revenue bonds are secured by and payable from revenues generated from the city's water system. This measure does not ask whether the city should build the water treatment plant; that decision has already been made following extensive public discussions and council decisions over the past decade.

The water treatment plant and related infrastructure projects have been identified as critical needs due to their age and condition. To fund these projects, the city proposes to issue water revenue bonds to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The EPA will purchase the water revenue bonds, thereby lending the money used to purchase the bonds to the city. Water revenue bond payments by the city will serve as loan repayments. The EPA is purchasing the bonds and lending the funds under a federal loan program designed to help local governments replace aging water infrastructure. This loan program allows for a flexible loan structure, including deferred payments, extended repayment periods, and construction reimbursement flexibility.

Should the measure not pass, the city will need to explore alternative financing options such as general obligation bonds. General obligation bonds require voter approval and would authorize the city to increase property taxes to repay the general obligation bonds. In contrast, water revenue bonds do not affect property taxes as they are repaid by revenues generated by the water system. Water rates will be increased as needed to ensure the water system and associated project debt are funded correctly.

A "Yes" vote authorizes the city to issue water revenue bonds to finance the construction of the water treatment plant and rehabilitation of the east and west forks transmission line. A "No" vote requires the city to consider other financing options to address the water system needs and delays construction.



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WORD COUNT TOTAL: 332

THE TOTAL WORD COUNT CANNOT EXCEED 500 WORDS.

Alissa  
Kolodzinski

Digitally signed by Alissa Kolodzinski  
DN: cn=Alissa Kolodzinski, o=City of Ashland,  
ou, email=alissa.kolodzinski@ashland.or.us,  
c=US  
Date: 2024.08.29 17:42:55 -07'00'

8/29/24

SIGNATURE OF PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONTENT OF THE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

DATE