



# CLACKAMAS COUNTY

## ELECTIONS DIVISION

# VOTERS' PAMPHLET

# GENERAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 2, 2010

Your voted ballot must be received  
in our office, or in an official ballot  
drop box, by 8:00 p.m. on  
Election Day, November 2, 2010.

### ATTENTION

This is the beginning of your county voters' pamphlet. The county portion of this joint voters' pamphlet is inserted into the center of the state pamphlet. Each page of the county section is clearly marked by a tinted outside edge.

All information contained in this county portion of the pamphlet has been assembled and printed by your County Elections Official.

You will not vote on everything in this pamphlet, only those candidates and measures that appear on the Official Ballot contained in your Vote-By-Mail packet.

Candidate Statements, Measure Text, Explanatory Statements and Arguments are printed exactly as filed -- no spelling or grammatical corrections are made. Not all candidates file statements; a complete list of open positions and candidates is included in this pamphlet.

Visit us on the internet:  
[www.clackamas.us/elections](http://www.clackamas.us/elections)

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**SHERRY HALL,  
County Clerk**



Please recycle this pamphlet with your newspapers.

# Measure 3-364

## Ballot Title

### AUTHORIZING WATER SYSTEM INVESTMENT AND CONSERVATION-BASED RATE SYSTEM

**QUESTION:** Shall the City base water pricing on water consumption to fund water system maintenance, safety upgrades, and to promote conservation?

**SUMMARY:** West Linn requests voter approval of a water rate structure that would provide investment in critical water system maintenance and promote water conservation. The Water Master Plan includes \$21 million in required infrastructure projects that include waterline replacements, emergency supply connection improvements, and renovations to 97 year old Bolton Reservoir. Investment in these projects would maintain and increase the safety of West Linn's water distribution system. Maintaining the City's drinking water system in accordance with the Water Master Plan may prevent costly system failures in the future. The proposed water rate structure would base pricing on water consumption by lowering the base rate, charging for each additional unit of water used. This change in rate structure would be phased in over three years. Implementation of a conservation based rate system may increase water rates by more than five percent for higher volume water users in one or more of the three years of phase-in. West Linn ratepayers can visit <http://westlinnoregon.gov/water-rates> to see how conservation pricing affects their utility bill.

## Explanatory Statement

This measure would provide for a new water pricing system that would allow the City of West Linn to invest in water infrastructure projects and to base the monthly water bill on water consumption. This pricing structure is referred to as "conservation pricing." Customers using less water would be charged less; while customers using more water would be charged more, based on the number of units of water consumed.

Currently, the City charges a base rate to all users that includes seven units of water. A switch to conservation pricing would lower the base rate, and would charge customers for each unit of water used. It is estimated the implementation of conservation pricing may increase water rates by more than five percent for higher volume water users in one or more years of the three year phase in of conservation pricing. The West Linn Charter requires voter approval for water rate increases greater than five percent. Approval of this measure would not change this Charter provision and any future rate changes greater than five percent annually would also be subject to voter approval.

The adopted Water Master Plan includes \$21 million in required infrastructure projects that directly affect availability of clean drinking water and the emergency water supply. West Linn owns and operates its drinking water distribution system that distributes water to all homes and businesses in West Linn through a system of six reservoirs, five pump stations and 118 miles of transmission lines. The Master Plan projects include line replacements, emergency supply connection improvements, and renovations to the 97-year-old Bolton Reservoir. \$21 million in projects on the Master Plan list are within the existing city boundaries and these projects would not serve areas outside of West Linn.

According to the Water Master Plan, much of the current water system is decades old and if left unmaintained, could threaten the safety of drinking water and livability. A recent community survey

showed that West Linn residents value safe, clean drinking water and sustainable practices including water conservation. This proposed change in the water pricing structure could provide funding for these water infrastructure projects identified in the Master Plan that could ensure a safe, properly-maintained water system and may prevent costly system failures that could result from a lack of routine maintenance and necessary capital upkeep. Providing safe, clean water is a fundamental public health and safety service offered by the City.

The exact impact of conservation pricing on any individual customer is dependent upon water use. The City developed an online calculator at <http://westlinnoregon.gov/water-rates> to determine how conservation pricing would affect a monthly utility bill.

If approved, this measure would:

- Change water billing to a conservation rate
- Commence a three year phase in of conservation pricing on January 1, 2011 to fund Water Master Plan projects
- Begin work on the \$21 million in water system infrastructure projects

Voters can learn more about this ballot measure online at <http://westlinnoregon.gov/water-rates>.

*(This information furnished by Chris Jordan, City of West Linn.)*

# Measure 3-364

## Argument in Opposition

### PLEASE VOTE NO ON MEASURE 3-364

Don't be fooled. This measure is not just about maintenance or conservation. It's about bringing our water to the Stafford Area for development of thousands of new homes that will flood our market and further deflate our home values. According to a city poll, 74% of West Linn's citizens don't want Stafford to be developed.

The 2008 Water Master Plan, upon which these increased costs are based, was unnecessary because the 2004 Master Plan Update was more than adequately designed to serve for complete build out of West Linn. With only 18% of land within the city limits remaining undeveloped, the 2008 Plan capacity is oversized and too expensive.

**We have already had our rates raised 7 times since 2005. That is a cumulative total of 41% in increases we have been forced to pay.** Yet only two short lengths of deteriorating pipe were replaced in those same six years. Why have the pipes not been properly maintained with this increase in revenues? The Bolton emergency would not have happened if our increased water rates had been used proactively to replace pipes as they aged.

City Engineers weren't made available for any of the five meetings leading up to the decision on rate hikes. Why did the City Manager not have them attend any of these meetings even after a City Councilor repeatedly requested that they answer questions in public? **We deserve to know what we are being asked to pay for and that transparency has been sorely lacking.**

The City Charter of West Linn caps increases on water rates to 5% a year. This Charter protection works in the best interests of the people who pay the rates. Proactively monitoring the pipes and repairing or replacing them when there is a need is what is required.

**Don't get fooled. This huge increase in water rates is not needed.**

### PLEASE VOTE NO ON MEASURE 3-364.

Edward Schwarz, Engineer

*(This information furnished by Edward Schwarz.)*

**NO ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF THIS MEASURE WERE FILED.**

*The printing of this argument does not constitute an endorsement by the County of Clackamas, nor does the county warrant the accuracy or truth of any statement made in the argument.*

# Measure 3-368

## Ballot Title

**SHALL PART OF WILLAMETTE PARK BE USED FOR STREET WIDENING?**

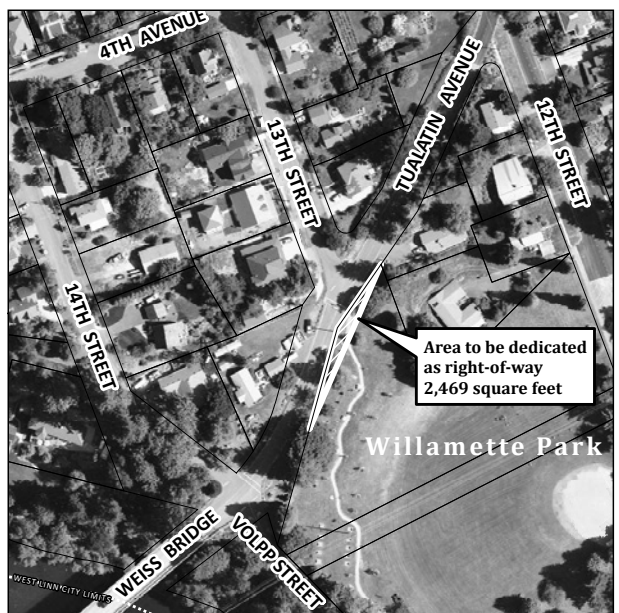
**QUESTION:** Shall the City allow 2,469 square feet of Willamette Park for widening the road and constructing a pedestrian median?

**SUMMARY:** This measure, if approved, would allow the use of a portion of Willamette Park along the east side of Tualatin Avenue immediately to the south of 13th Street to widen the right of way and construct a median for pedestrian use to and from the park and connectivity with existing sidewalks. The portion of the park to be used is shown on Exhibit A and consists of 2,469 square feet in the shape of a triangle. The maximum intrusion into the Park would be approximately 17 feet.

## Explanatory Statement

This measure, if approved, would allow the use of a portion of Willamette Park along the east side of Tualatin Avenue immediately to the south of 13<sup>th</sup> Street to widen the right of way and construct a median for pedestrian use to and from and park and connectivity with existing sidewalks. The portion of the park to be used is shown on Exhibit A and consists of 2,469 square feet in the shape of a triangle. The maximum intrusion into the park would be approximately 17 feet. The City of West Linn is required by its Charter to ask for voter approval for modifications to park property.

*(This information furnished by Chris Jordan, City of West Linn.)*



**NO ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OR IN OPPOSITION TO THIS MEASURE WERE FILED.**

CITY OF WEST LINN Measure 3-364: Authorizing water system investment and conservation based rate system

Vote For 1

|       |           |        |       |
|-------|-----------|--------|-------|
| Yes   | . . . . . | 4,113  | 34.84 |
| No.   | . . . . . | 7,691  | 65.16 |
| Total | . . . . . | 11,804 |       |