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SEL 802

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

Notice of Measure Election

City

Notice

Date of Notice

August 16, 2024

Name of City or Cities

Sherwood

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.

Amends Charter to allow Council to use travel rewards benefits

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

Shall Council be permitted to use rewards programs while conducting the City's business?

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

City councilors presently receive no compensation for performance of their duties. The Sherwood City Charter would be amended to allow councilors to retain and apply benefits accrued through rewards programs if they use personal accounts to conduct City business. Allowing councilors to use rewards programs can at times provide discounts on travel and accommodations which can reduce the expense to the City. The charter currently states, "the mayor and councilors shall not be compensated but may be reimbursed for actual and reasonable expenses." The Sherwood employee handbook allows employees to retain any benefit from their travel rewards programs for their personal use. The Charter would be amended to state, "The mayor and councilors may be compensated for expenses incurred while conducting the City's business using the same standard that applies to city employees. This will be the council's official compensation package and only compensation."

This measure leaves certain terms undefined, which City Council may define in an implementing ordinance.

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

Sylvia Murphy

Title

City Recorder/Elections Official

Mailing Address

22560 SW Pine Street, Sherwood, Or 97140

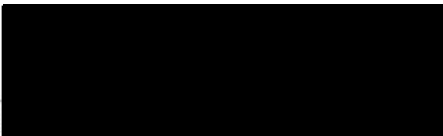
Contact Phone

503-625-4246

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.



August 16, 2024
Date Signed

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The proposed charter amendment would permit the mayor and city councilors to use travel rewards programs as their official compensation package.

Sherwood's Charter states, "The mayor and councilors shall not be compensated but may be reimbursed for actual and reasonable expenses." Reimbursement of expenses that are currently authorized is limited only to those expenses personally paid while conducting the public body's business.

In a 2022 stipulated final order by the Oregon Government Ethics Commission, the Commission considered one official's use of airline and hotel membership rewards points a possible misuse of his official position. However, Oregon ethics laws state that public officials may accept any financial benefit that is identified by the public body they serve as part of the official compensation package of the public official. The phrase official compensation package includes the direct payment of a public official's expenses by the public body, in accordance with the public body's policies. The City of Sherwood recognizes that use of rewards memberships often saves the City money, and accordingly, it allows its employees to keep those rewards under their official compensation package.

This amendment to the City's Charter would make direct payment of the mayor and councilors' expenses incurred while conducting the City's business their official compensation package, including allowing them to use travel rewards programs.