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CITY of BEAVERTON

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BEAVERTON CITY COUNCIL FORWARDS PUBLIC SAFETY CENTER BOND MEASURE TO VOTERS

BEAVERTON, Ore. – The Beaverton City Council unanimously approved a resolution to refer a bond measure to voters at the November election to secure funding for a new, earthquake-resistant public safety center.

“I’m thrilled that the Beaverton City Council has demonstrated its continued support for this project and has advanced this issue to voters,” said Mayor Denny Doyle. “I’ve said it before and I’ll say it again, we need a safe and reliable public safety center.”

The public safety center is estimated to cost \$35 million and will be built on city-owned property at the corner of SW Hall Blvd and SW Allen Blvd. The 90,000 square foot building will house the city’s police department and emergency operations center.

In the event of an earthquake that could result from shifting in the Cascadia subduction zone, the existing police building is expected to fail. The new center will be built to critical facility standards to ensure the city’s emergency response functions are intact in case of natural and other disasters.

Additionally, the existing police building is located in office space that was not designed for police and emergency services. Prisoners are moved in common areas in close proximity to crime victims and members of the public.

If approved by voters, the tax rate for the bonds to construct the building is estimated not to exceed 20 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value, or approximately \$50 per year for property with an assessed value of \$250,000. The rate will replace what taxpayers are currently paying for the voter-approved bonds that were used to construct the Beaverton City Library that are scheduled to retire soon.

The city is initiating a community outreach campaign to inform resident about the public safety center. Information will be available on the city’s website, at community events and in information materials that will be distributed throughout the summer and fall.

“We will be working hard over the coming months to connect with Beaverton residents,” said Captain Jim Monger, the public safety center project manager. “We’ve worked closely with our community advisory committee and we know we’ve developed a solid plan to ensure this center meets the city’s needs for years to come.”

In addition to the public safety center, the City Council also voted to send a second ballot measure to voters in November. The Council is asking voters to approve a three percent sales tax on recreational marijuana sold within city limits. The funds raised through the tax would go into the city’s general fund.

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