

Special Road District #8

Pros and Cons of Ballot Measure #9-172

PROS	CONS
This levy over the five years will allow us to bring all the roads up to Deschutes County specifications for local access roads.	Levy is effectively a substantial increase in our Special Road District #8 ("District") assessments for 5 years.
This is a temporary levy of only 5 years.	This is something that should have been done years ago when materials and services were less.
Senior and veteran District members can apply to postpone their taxes/assessment until their house is sold. We still receive the revenue.	Some District members cannot afford an increase in yearly assessments.
Passing the levy now makes sense because spreading the levy over a greater time subjects us to inflation causing increased costs of materials and services.	A smaller levy would spread the cost over more years.
District roads have not received gravel for over 20 years. The roads will be easier to maintain , requiring less grading during the year and preventing many of the potholes that appear in the winter.	The gravel will only last for so long. Why do it anyway?
Levy will allow funds for proper compaction when the final layer of gravel is added to bring it to 5" compacted, which will help push the gravel down into the sub-surface so less gravel will migrate to the ditches. Gravel is brought up out of ditches to road surface with Fall/Spring grading.	The gravel breaks down and migrates off the road surface and down into the ditches.
Gravel is the best treatment for dirt road surfaces. We have very fine volcanic dust that with snow and rain turns into slick mud. Gravel mitigates this problem. The gravel spread recently is a temporary measure to get us through the fall and winter months until we can begin using the money in Spring of 2025 from the levy to bring the roads to full County specifications for local access roads (5" compacted).	You just spread gravel on the roads--isn't this just overkill?
The levy, if passed, will allow the District roads to be properly graveled and compacted and ready to accept dust abatement over the main East/West roads. Until gravel is added, dust abatement may help with dust for a few months in summer but causes worsened road conditions the rest of the year.	The roads are still dusty. Why not spend the money on dust abatement?
Our permanent tax rate, set by Oregon Law, is 1.6239 per \$1,000 of Net Taxable assessed value of the property. This brought in assessments of \$87,474 in the 2023-2024 fiscal year. We paid out \$117,340 last year in payments for grading, snow removal, improvements, administration fees (insurance, SDAO membership, etc.) and <u>only \$30,000</u> for spot gravel in the areas needing it most. See website Budget transparency page and attachments for the July 16 meeting on the meetings page . <i>This was without any gravel placement.</i>	Why do you need more money? Don't we pay enough in taxes already?