



RESOLUTION 2025-073

DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND CALLING FOR A SPECIAL ELECTION TO AMEND THE SHERWOOD CITY CHARTER TO PROTECT HOME RULE AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, the City of Sherwood is a home rule city under the Oregon Constitution, with the authority to govern its local affairs as granted by its City Charter; and

WHEREAS, recent and anticipated state legislation threatens to abrogate and erode the City's home rule authority, particularly in the areas of public participation in land use decisions and annexation authority, which are fundamental to Sherwood's political form and community governance; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has proposed amendments to the Sherwood City Charter to ensure robust citizen involvement in land use decisions and to preserve the City's exclusive authority over annexation decisions, as detailed in the proposed Charter amendments; and

WHEREAS, ORS 221.230 allows the City Council to call an emergency election on a date other than regular election dates when an emergency exists that will require an election sooner than the next available election date to avoid extraordinary hardship to the community; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that an emergency exists due to the immediate threat posed by state legislation that limits the City's ability to ensure transparency, public participation, and local control over land use procedures and annexation decisions, which are critical to the community's well-being and self-governance; and

WHEREAS, delaying the submission of these Charter amendments to the voters until the next regular election would result in extraordinary hardship to the community by allowing further erosion of Sherwood's home rule authority, potentially undermining the City's ability to protect citizen involvement, local decision making, and its jurisdictional boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the City Council determines that holding a special election as soon as practicable is necessary to safeguard the City's home rule authority and to ensure that the proposed Charter amendments are considered by the voters promptly; and

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF SHERWOOD RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

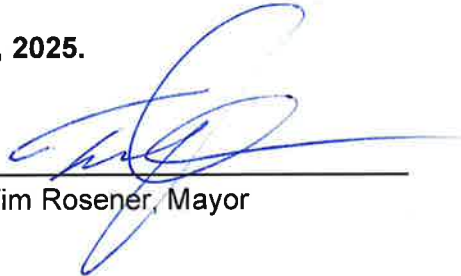
Section 1. That an emergency exists under ORS 221.230 due to the immediate threat to the City's home rule authority posed by state legislation, requiring a special election to avoid extraordinary hardship to the community.

Section 2. That a special emergency election shall be called on January 13, 2026, or as soon as practicable, to submit the proposed Charter amendments concerning citizen involvement in land use decisions and City authority over annexation decisions to the voters of Sherwood.

Section 3. That the City Attorney and City Recorder are directed to take all necessary actions to prepare for and conduct the special election in accordance with state law and City procedures.

Section 4. This Resolution shall be effective upon its approval and adoption.

Duly passed by the City Council this 28th day of October, 2025.



Tim Rosener, Mayor

Attest:



Sylvia Murphy, MMC, City Recorder