



RESOLUTION 2025-074

APPROVING BALLOT TITLE AND EXPLANATORY STATEMENT AND SUBMITTING TO THE VOTERS A PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT ESTABLISHING CITY AUTHORITY OVER ANNEXATION DECISIONS

WHEREAS, the Sherwood City Council desires to refer to the citizens of Sherwood a measure establishing and protecting home rule authority with respect to annexation decisions; and

WHEREAS, the Sherwood City Council met in a public work session on October 7, 2025, and October 21, 2025, to discuss this recommended amendment to the City Charter; and

WHEREAS, the Council finds that recent legislation abrogating and eroding home rule presents an extraordinary hardship to the community; and

WHEREAS, the Council finds that a special emergency election is necessary to mitigate this extraordinary hardship; and

WHEREAS, the Council has determined to submit to the voters of Sherwood a ballot measure proposing to amend the City Charter with regard to establishing and protecting home rule authority with respect to annexation decisions; and

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

Section 1. An emergency election is called for the City of Sherwood, Washington County, Oregon for the purpose of submitting to City voters an amendment to the City's home rule charter establishing and protecting home rule authority in annexation decisions.

Section 2. Tuesday, January 13, 2026, is designated as the date for holding the election for voting on the measure.

Section 3. The election will be conducted by the Washington County Elections Department.

Section 4. The precincts for this election will include all of the territory within the corporate limits of the City of Sherwood.

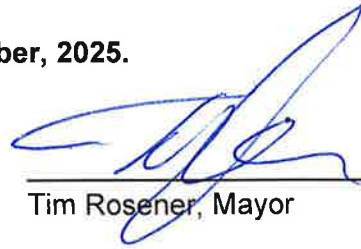
Section 5. The Ballot Title and Explanatory Statement attached as Exhibits 1 and 2, respectively, are hereby approved and certified.

Section 6. The City Recorder will publish the Ballot Title as required by state law. The City of Sherwood authorizes the City Recorder or her designee to act on behalf of the City and to take such

further action as is necessary to carry out the intent and purposes set forth herein, in compliance with the applicable provisions of law.

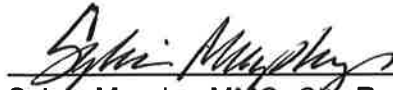
Section 7. This Resolution shall be effective upon its approval and adoption.

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



Tim Rosener, Mayor

Attest:



Sylvia Murphy, MMC, City Recorder

Exhibit 1 to Resolution 2025-074

BALLOT TITLE FOR REFERRAL TO AMEND THE SHERWOOD CITY CHARTER WITH REGARD
TO ESTABLISHING AND PROTECTING HOME RULE AUTHORITY IN ANNEXATION
DECISIONS

Caption: Amends Charter: Establishes City Authority Over Annexation Decisions

Question: Shall the Sherwood Charter be amended granting Sherwood exclusive authority over annexation decisions, independent of state laws modifying such authority?

Summary: A Yes vote will amend the City Charter to make two changes to Section 3.- Boundaries relating to annexation. First, this amendment would add clarifying language that voter approved annexation is required in all cases, except with respect to health hazard abatement. Second, this amendment declares that the procedures governing review of annexation requests i.e. hearings, notices, annexation agreements are foundational components of open and democratic governance within the City. This amendment grants the City exclusive authority to review, approve, or deny annexation requests subject to procedures and standards adopted by the Sherwood City Council through ordinance. These procedures cannot be preempted by state laws that alter or constrain the City's annexation authority. The amendment ensures local control over annexation decisions and confirms home rule authority. No direct fiscal impact has been identified.

Exhibit 2 to Resolution 2025-074

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

This measure amends the Sherwood City Charter to confirm the City's control over decisions about expanding its boundaries through annexations. It declares that deciding which areas become part of Sherwood is a core part of the City's governance (political form). The City Council will set rules for approving or denying annexation requests, and these rules cannot be overruled by state laws that try to limit or change the City's authority. This measure ensures Sherwood keeps local control over its growth and boundaries. It also reinforces Sherwood's home rule authority under the Oregon Constitution. No direct financial impact is expected.

The Charter would be amended to state:

Section 3. - Boundaries.

"The city includes all territory within its boundaries as they now exist or are legally modified. Unless required by a public health emergency as defined by ORS 222.850 and ORS 222.855, annexations may only take effect with the approval of city voters. The city recorder will maintain as a public record an accurate and current description of the boundaries.

Determining the city's jurisdictional boundaries is declared to be a matter inherent to its political form. The City shall have the exclusive authority to review, approve, or deny annexation requests subject to the procedures and standards adopted by ordinance of the City Council. These procedures shall not be preempted by state laws that modify or eliminate this authority"