



RESOLUTION 2025-075

APPROVING BALLOT TITLE AND EXPLANATORY STATEMENT AND SUBMITTING TO THE VOTERS A PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT REGARDING CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT IN LAND USE DECISIONS

WHEREAS, the Sherwood City Council desires to refer to the citizens of Sherwood a measure protecting home rule authority and citizen involvement in land use 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 Citizen involvement in land use 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 regarding citizen involvement in land use 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 2025-075

BALLOT TITLE FOR REFERRAL TO AMEND THE SHERWOOD CITY CHARTER WITH REGARD
TO CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT IN LAND USE DECISIONS

Caption: Amends Charter: Enshrines Citizen Involvement in Land Use Decisions

Question: Shall the Sherwood Charter be amended acknowledging existing neighborhood meeting, public hearing, and notice requirements for certain land use applications?

Summary: A Yes vote will amend the City Charter committing Sherwood to citizen involvement in land use decisions, consistent with Statewide Land Use Goal 1. It directs the City Council to establish ordinances ensuring transparency and meaningful public participation throughout the land use process, including notice, hearings, and appeals. These procedures, rooted in the city's home rule authority, cannot be preempted by state laws that limit public engagement. Key requirements include: No Type III or higher land use application may be decided without at least one duly noticed neighborhood meeting and one public hearing before the City Council or delegated body. Appeals require a public hearing based on procedures set by ordinance. For Type II or higher applications, mailed notice must be sent in advance to all property owners within 1,000 feet of the subject property, using classifications and timelines set by ordinance. Additional methods, such as published or electronic notices, may also be mandated. This amendment has no direct fiscal impact identified and will not alter the City's current land use processing procedures.

Exhibit 2 to Resolution 2025-075

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

This measure amends the Sherwood City Charter to strengthen public participation in land use decisions. It ensures Sherwood citizens have a voice by requiring at least one neighborhood meeting and one public hearing before the City Council or its designated body decides on major land use applications (Type III or higher, as defined by city ordinance). For significant land use applications (Type II or higher), the City must mail notices to property owners within 1,000 feet of the project site, following timelines set by city ordinance. Other notice methods, like online or newspaper postings, can also be used. This measure aligns with Oregon's goal of involving citizens in land use planning and protects Sherwood's right to maintain these processes despite state laws that might limit public input. It does not change current city procedures or have a direct financial impact.

The Charter would be amended to state:

Section 49. - Citizen Involvement in Land Use Decisions

"As a city that is of the people, by the people, and for the people, Sherwood is committed to hearing from the people. Sherwood is entrusted to ensure citizen involvement in land use decisions, as mandated by Statewide Land Use Goal 1. The City Council shall establish, by ordinance, procedures to ensure transparency and meaningful public participation in all phases of the land use process, including notice, hearings, and appeals. These procedures are inherent to Sherwood's political form and are rooted in Sherwood's home rule authority. These procedures shall not be preempted by state laws that limit public engagement and include:

No Type III or higher land use application, as specified by adopted city ordinance, shall be decided without at least one duly noticed neighborhood meeting and one public hearing before the City Council or its delegated decision making body. A public hearing shall also be held before deciding any appeal, using procedures set by ordinance; and

Mailed notice in advance of neighborhood meetings and public hearings must be sent to all property owners within 1,000 feet of the subject property for all Type II or higher applications, using the classifications and timelines prescribed by ordinance. Additional notice methods, such as published or electronic notices may also be required."