Written material submitted for May 6th Public Comment follows this cover page

If you wish to submit written comment, please send an email to publiccomment@lanecountyor.gov by no later than noon, the day before the scheduled meeting.

In the email subject line please include: PUBLIC COMMENT FOR MEETING DATE MM/DD/YYYY. These emails will be compiled and will be included on the Board Agenda with a "view material" link. Please note, all emails submitted will be public record.

Lane County does not endorse, condone, approve, or disapprove of any views expressed through Public Comment. Lane County wishes those who view Public Comment to be aware that some expressed views may include words, images, or opinions that may be deemed offensive in nature to some members of the public.

From: Ellie Grimme
To: Lane County Public Comment
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT FOR MEETING DATE 04/28/2025
Date: Monday, May 5, 2025 12:06:15 PM

[EXTERNAL]

Hello, I would like to thank the commissioners and county staff for issuing the statement to uphold our state's sanctuary status and protect vulnerable groups in our community.

I would like to thank you specifically for adding the line regarding ongoing policy updates because I believe that our government offices should reflect our values and that we should, as the saying goes, "practice what we preach".

I would also like to thank the community for showing up so persistently in favor of this effort. It takes a lot of grit and compassion to show up and speak truth to power while fighting your own erasure.

To try to illustrate what this statement means for me, I'll just share that I have a friend in Portland (a city known nationally for being queer friendly) who said to me, "I know if I can make it to Eugene, then I can make it to my parent's house." They said it because they know that I am their safe harbor. That I have their back. And now, formally at least, our county does too. I did not ask what scenario would arise where this otherwise capable person would need an escort to travel the length of our state. The horrors these folks imagine and the fears we all feel are real and well-founded.

A few weeks back during a public comment period someone read the confessional poem "At First They Came" by Martin Niemöller published in 1946. Shortly after, a friend shared a photo of a new piece of street art from the artist Subdude they spotted on a trip to London of the American flag, with an updated version of the poem, [attached below] it read:

"First they came for the immigrants
And I did not speak out
Because I was not an immigrant

Then they came for the trans people
And I did not speak out
Because I was not trans

Then they came for the protesters
And I did not speak out
Because I was not a protester

Then they came for the socialists
And I did not speak out
Because I was not a socialist

Then they came for me
And there was no one left
To speak out for me."

I share this because during the statement draft review last Tuesday, there were some complaints about needing to specify immigrants and trans folks as protected groups. I believe this poem illustrates why that matters. Unlike many of the faith leaders that have come to this podium, Martin Niemöller did not speak out for trans folks either. As long as hate and erasure persists, as long as white supremacy and its values persist we must name its target and shield it because where it strikes first is only the tip of the spear. In short, our freedoms are inherently linked to one another's.

Mr Chairman, Mr Vice-Chairman, you mentioned last week that the work and the discourse around releasing this

statement and the releasing of statements of this sort, creates a lot of tension but you failed to see that this "tension" driven in some cases by fear, or by hate, are felt by this community and by marginalized communities day in and day out. I think what you're feeling sirs, is not tension, it's the veil of your privilege being pulled back so that for a moment you have to feel the discomfort that your constituents encounter on a daily basis. How can you share in that feeling and not vote to protect them? How can you claim to love everyone and vote against their comfort and safety?

In case you thought that the tone of these public comments would calm and return to complaints about potholes, I am here to assure you that it will not. We will continue to show up in defense of diversity, equity, and inclusion until its support includes everyone.

Thank you,
Ellie Grimme

From: Nan Laurence
To: Lane County Public Comment
Subject: Support transgender people and immigrants in the search for a new sheriff
Date: Monday, May 5, 2025 9:03:26 AM

[EXTERNAL]

Commissioners, I am a Lane County resident, and a former Lane County and City of Eugene employee. I urge you to include questions in the interview for a candidate for sheriff that bring to light a commitment to uphold the rights of transgender people and immigrants. We are all striving for the best Lane County possible, the best place to live, raise our families, retire, do business, enjoy all that the county has to offer. Lane County needs the support, professional and legal clarity of a sheriff who supports transgender people and immigrants.

Thank you for all that you do.

Nan Laurence

From: Nan Laurence
To: Lane County Public Comment
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT FOR MEETING DATE 05/06/2025
Date: Monday, May 5, 2025 9:07:10 AM

[EXTERNAL]

Commissioners, I am a Lane County resident, and a former Lane County and City of Eugene employee. I urge you to include questions in the interview for a candidate for sheriff that bring to light a commitment to uphold the rights of transgender people and immigrants. We are all striving for the best Lane County possible, the best place to live, raise our families, retire, do business, enjoy all that the county has to offer. Lane County needs the support, professional and legal clarity of a sheriff who supports transgender people and immigrants.

Thank you for all that you do.

Nan Laurence

(Resending to correct the subject line!)

From: Laura Shoe
To: Lane County Public Comment
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT FOR MEETING DATE 05/06/2025
Date: Monday, May 5, 2025 9:52:27 AM
Attachments: response to LAR work session.pdf

[EXTERNAL]

Dear Commissioners,

Thank you for holding the work session on LARs last week and for your engagement on this issue.

Please see my attached response to the session.

Thank you

Laura Shoe
River Road homeowner

To: Lane County Board of Commissioners
From: Laura Shoe
Date: May 5, 2025

Regarding: Misinformation in Local Access Roads Work Session

Dear Commissioners,

Thank you for holding a work session on Local Access Roads (LARs) and for your engagement with this issue.

I was deeply concerned to hear Lane County Public Works (LCPW) assert that most LARs were built to substandard specifications by developers looking to cut costs—and to hear this claim go unchallenged. While that may be true in some parts of the County, it is not true for most LARs in River Road and Santa Clara - most of these are no different from County-maintained roads in these neighborhoods. I addressed this in my prior written rebuttal to LCPW's report.

Last year, I raised this very question with Dan Hurley, noting that our LARs look just like nearby County roads. He gave a different explanation than the substandard one offered to me by Sasha Vartanian: that County standards and processes for accepting roads into the system were not in place at that time, and some roads were arbitrarily excluded. This explanation aligns with what we see on the ground.

At your session, Orin Schumacher acknowledged that LARs are visually indistinguishable from County roads—apart from an "8,000" on the sign. Commissioner Farr echoed this, noting that without a differently colored sign, "you can't really tell whether the road is an LAR or not."

When you accept that most of these roads are just like the roads in these neighborhoods that *are* in the County road system and there is no justification for them being LARs, and you realize that LAR homeowners are paying the exact same transportation taxes as homeowners on those roads that are being maintained by the County, you realize that **this is fundamentally a fairness issue - and in the absence of fairness, this is injustice.**

It was frustrating to hear LCPW argue that the County can't afford to maintain 12 additional miles —despite overseeing over 1,400 miles of road and earning the state's top road condition score. Rather than distribute resources fairly, they've convinced themselves it serves the public interest to let LAR roads crumble, leave homeowners potentially liable, and let property values erode—until the City hopefully some day "cleans up" the County's neglect.

Mr. Schumacher even presented a chart warning that deferred maintenance leads to rapid deterioration and exorbitant reconstruction costs. Yet that's exactly the fate LCPW suggests for our roads. Given annexation by the City could take many years or decades, it's hard to imagine why the City would later agree to inherit roads that cost $1 million per mile to rebuild. *Note that there was no evidence presented that adding 12 miles of roads would significantly impact the overall County system.*

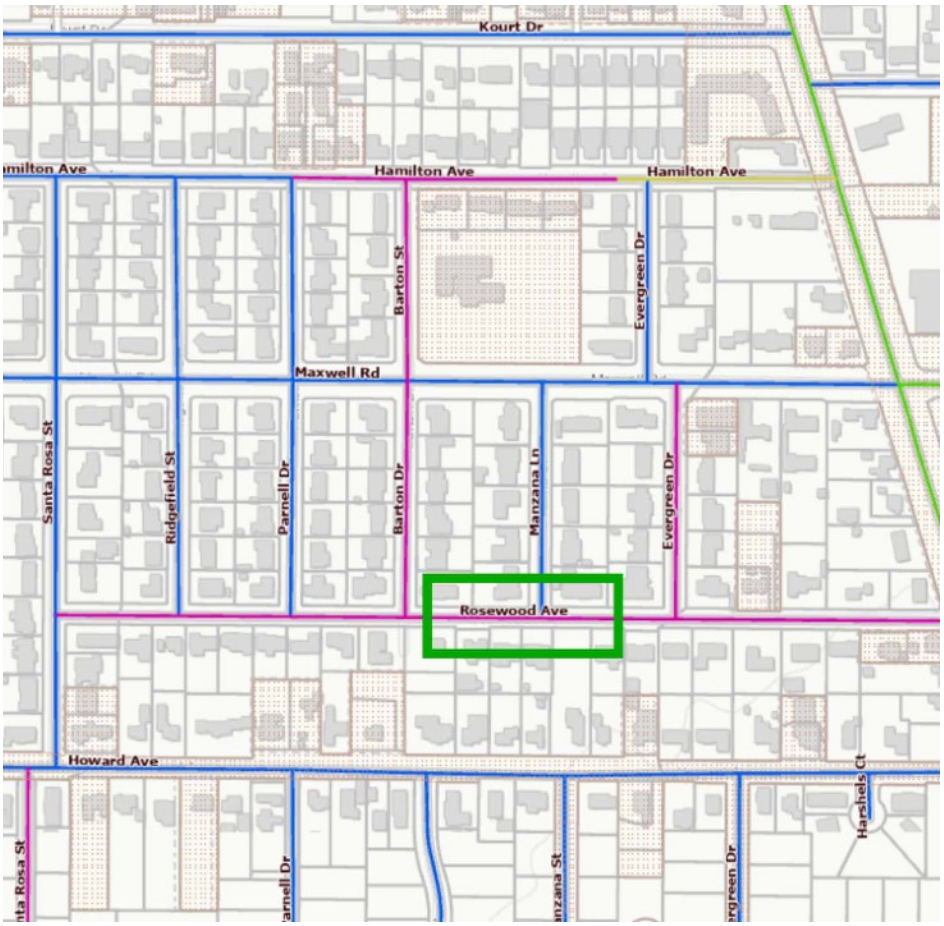
Equally troubling was the suggestion from County Counsel that homeowners form local improvement districts or HOAs to tax themselves for road maintenance—something unlikely to receive a supermajority vote. *More importantly, why should homeowners who already pay transportation taxes do this, when roads next to theirs that look the same are being maintained by the County?*

Finally, it was discouraging to hear the suggestion that homeowners may have benefitted from LAR exclusion. In reality, the County has benefitted greatly —collecting decades of tax revenue without providing services. If some roads truly were substandard, the County allowed them to be built that way - to the perpetual burden of homeowners and perpetual benefit of the County.

Commissioner Buch, your concern about fairness between UGB and non-UGB areas is valid. If the circumstances are the same for any of your LARs, then the issue should be addressed in your district as well. But let's start where the impact is greatest—then expand.

I fully support pushing the City of Eugene to annex streets. But this will take many years under the best of circumstances, and our roads can't wait. Non-improved and neglected roads, and roads with low percentages of annexed private parcels (as most LARs and most County roads have), will be far down the priority list.

Had I been allowed to speak during your session, I would have addressed the Rosewood Avenue slide, which LCPW staff couldn't speak to directly. Map reproduced below with no obstructing objects:



Because Rosewood is so typical of our LAR situation in general, I would have pointed out that:

- Three blocks north of the LAR Rosewood Ave is Kourt Drive, another through street off of River Road that looks exactly like LAR Rosewood Ave, except that Kourt Drive is two feet *narrower*. *Kourt Drive is County-maintained*, despite having no side streets.

- Rosewood ends to the west at Santa Rosa St. Those two blocks of Santa Rosa are unimproved and look just like Rosewood except that Santa Rosa is *narrower* - and *Santa Rosa is County-maintained*.

- The glimpse of Santa Rosa in pink we see in the bottom left corner of the screenshot is LAR - *it is 27' wide and has curbs, gutters and drainage.*

- This screenshot not only shows you streets, it also shows you whether private properties are annexed. The red dots blanketing a property indicate that it has been annexed. Rates of annexation of private parcels on LARs and on County-maintained roads are very low. These roads are not going to meet some threshold for City annexation anytime soon - and the roads are degrading as you read this.

While **through-streets** are important, so are **dead ends and cul-de-sacs**. The County currently maintains at least 105 dead ends and cul-de-sacs in River Road and Santa Clara. (I'd be happy to send you a map clearly showing this.) Our dead-end LARs deserve equal treatment.

The County should never have left our LARs roads out of the road system. We urge you to correct this mistake and accept them now. Then since LCPW now has a good relationship with the City, have them work with the City to get the roads annexed. LAR homeowners deserve fairness.

Sincerely,

Laura Shoe
River Road homeowner

PS: I am on the board of RRCO, but I write today as an individual homeowner.

PPS: Commissioner Buch, your question about preventing new LARs is important. The Board could presumably require that all new roads meet County standards and be accepted into the County system—ensuring no new LARs are created.

From: Barry Nobel
To: Lane County Public Comment
Subject: New Sheriff
Date: Monday, May 5, 2025 10:00:03 AM

[EXTERNAL]

Dear Gentlepeople:

Please consider the following two requests:

1. Please conduct an open recruitment for new sheriff candidates with a public interview

2. Please ask specific questions for the sheriff in a public interview:

    a. "Will you uphold Oregon state law and the Oregon sanctuary promise act?"

    b. "Will you create and update policies to defend the rights of transgender and immigrant people?"

Thank you very much for your diligent and compassionate service to our community!

Barry Nobel

From: TRIEGER Laurie
To: Amalia Gladhart; Lane County Public Comment
Subject: Re: Public Comment for Meeting Date 05/06/2025
Date: Monday, May 5, 2025 10:29:38 AM

Thanks for your message, I appreciate you reaching out.

Please note, I am copying the "public comment" email here so your email can be considered by the full board. For your future reference you can send items directly to PublicComment@lanecountyor.gov

Messages received by Noon Monday are uploaded to the meeting packet online and also compiled and sent directly to all five commissioners, for the Tuesday meeting.

Of course, you are always welcome to email me individually if there is a question or concern you wish to share, and I will do my best to help.

Best,

Laurie Trieger
Lane County Commissioner, District 3
Pronouns: she/her
Desk Phone: 541-682-3721
Cell Phone: 541-556-0607
ENGAGE! Sign up for meeting notifications, review agendas, watch current and past commissioner meetings on line, or register to give public comment HERE:
https://lanecounty.org/cms/one.aspx?pageId=4082662

From: Amalia Gladhart <amalia.gladhart@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 9:28 AM
To: TRIEGER Laurie <Laurie.TRIEGER@lanecountyor.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Public Comment for Meeting Date 05/06/2025

[EXTERNAL]
Dear Commissioner Trieger,
I am forwarding below my comments regarding the process for appointing a new sheriff.
Thank you for your efforts to defend the rights of transgender people and immigrants in Lane County.

Sincerely,
Amalia Gladhart

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Amalia Gladhart <amalia.gladhart@gmail.com>
Date: May 5, 2025 at 6:22:17 PM GMT+2
To: publiccomment@lanecountyor.gov
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting Date 05/06/2025

Dear members of the Lane County Commission,

I am writing to ask that you ensure an open recruitment for new sheriff candidates, with a public interview. In that public interview, each candidate should be asked, specifically, “Will you uphold Oregon state law and the Oregon sanctuary promise act? Will you create and update policies to defend the rights of transgender and immigrant people?”

The sheriff is an important and powerful position, and it is vital that recruitment be open and that any appointee commit to protect and defend the rights of transgender and immigrant people in Lane County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Amalia Gladhart
4560 Larkwood St., Eugene 97405

Sent from my iPad

From: reentwined
To: Lane County Public Comment
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT FOR MEETING DATE 5/6/2025
Date: Monday, May 5, 2025 10:30:20 AM

[EXTERNAL]

Good morning,
I am writing to express my requests for the upcoming selection of a new sheriff for Lane County. I urge you to hold and open recruitment for new sheriff candidates with a public interview. During that public interview I request that you ask specific questions including: "Will you uphold Oregon state law and the Oregon sanctuary promise act? Will you create and update policies to defend the rights of transgender and immigrant people?"

The sheriff is a powerful position and I want to make sure they will uphold the county board commitments that protect the rights of transgender and immigrant communities.

Thank you.
Sent with Proton Mail secure email.

From:	heather gardner-madras
To:	Lane County Public Comment
Subject:	We must have an open recruitment for the new sheriff candidates with a public interview
Date:	Monday, May 5, 2025 11:05:31 AM

[EXTERNAL]

Hello,
I am aware that Sheriff Harold has resigned to pursue a new job and that his role for the county will need to be filled. In these perilous times I feel it is critical to put someone in that powerful position that is dedicated to democracy. We know that the Consitutional Sheriff's movement is active in Oregon and seeks to take over local law enforcement at all levels so we should take steps to ensure they are not successful in our county.

Therefore I am urging you to pursue an open recruitment process that includes a public interview. The candidates must be asked about their understanding and committment to Oregon's laws and sanctuary status. They should be screened for extremist ties and disqualified if they are affiliated with undemocratic gangs like the Constitutional Sheriffs, Proud Boys, Patriot Front and the like. The public will only trust law enforcement if we can be sure they are not a more local version of what we are seeing nationally. We must hear a committment from our new sheriff to protect all residents, including trans and immigrant neighbors.

Thank you for your time and consideration

--
heather gardner-madras

Springfield resident, 97478

From: heather gardner-madras
To: Lane County Public Comment
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT FOR MEETING DATE 05/06/2025
Date: Monday, May 5, 2025 11:10:03 AM

[EXTERNAL]

(this is a repeat as I didn't have the required subject line in my last email)

Hello,
I am aware that Sheriff Harold has resigned to pursue a new job and that his role for the county will need to be filled. In these perilous times I feel it is critical to put someone in that powerful position that is dedicated to democracy. We know that the Consitutional Sheriff's movement is active in Oregon and seeks to take over local law enforcement at all levels so we should take steps to ensure they are not successful in our county.

Therefore I am urging you to pursue an open recruitment process that includes a public interview. The candidates must be asked about their understanding and committment to Oregon's laws and sanctuary status. They should be screened for extremist ties and disqualified if they are affiliated with undemocratic gangs like the Constitutional Sheriffs, Proud Boys, Patriot Front and the like. The public will only trust law enforcement if we can be sure they are not a more local version of what we are seeing nationally. We must hear a committment from our new sheriff to protect all residents, including trans and immigrant neighbors.

Thank you for your time and consideration

--
heather gardner-madras

Springfield resident, 97478

From: Pamela Bahnsen
To: Lane County Public Comment
Subject: Lane County Sheriff Vacancy - Open recruitment
Date: Monday, May 5, 2025 11:27:54 AM

[EXTERNAL]

May 5, 2025
11:30am

Lane County
Board of Commissioners:

My name is Pamela Bahnsen and I am a 20-year Lane County resident.

It is my understanding that Sheriff Cliff Harold resigned early last week & as a result this has created a vacancy that you as Commissioners must fill.

An open recruitment to fill the LCC Sheriff vacancy followed by public interviews is absolutely vital and needed! Given the importance of this position it is in the best interest of Lane County residents that you conduct an open recruitment ***followed by public interviews of the finalists.***

Specific questions for the sheriff in the public interview could be:

1. Will you uphold Oregon state law and the Oregon sanctuary promise act?

2. Will you create and update policies to defend the rights of transgender and immigrant people?

Thank you in advance for reading my email & seriously considering my input.

Sincerely,

Pamela Anne Bahnsen
32223 DeBerry Rd.
Creswell, Oregon 97426

From: Annika Newbury
To: Lane County Public Comment
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting Date 05/06/2025
Date: Monday, May 5, 2025 11:47:24 AM

[EXTERNAL]

To whom it may concern,

My name is Annika Newbury. I am a resident of Lane County, and I am proud to call our beautiful area my home. We have such a diverse community that makes our area so special.

After Cliff Harold's resignation, I ask you to please consider my request. Whoever takes the position of sheriff after him will have big shoes to fill, and can cause either a lot of harm or a lot of good.

I ask that you hold public interviews to fill up the position, as well as an open recruitment process. I also ask that, during the interview process, you ask our candidates if they are willing to uphold Oregon state law and the Sanctuary Promise Act, as well as protect our transgender and immigrant neighbors. Our sheriff should be willing to protect the rights of our most vulnerable communities, and should be willing to create and uphold policy that continues to make Lane County a safe and beautiful place to live in.

Thank you very much,
Annika Newbury.

From: becca h
To: Lane County Public Comment
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT FOR MEETING DATE 05/06/2025
Date: Monday, May 5, 2025 11:51:39 AM

[EXTERNAL]

Members of the Board,

I am writing today to ask the Board to commit to a process for recruiting Lane County's next Sheriff that underscores our community's commitment to the most vulnerable in our county.

To fill this new vacancy, the Board must: conduct an open recruitment followed by public interviews of finalists; and ask candidates in these public interviews if they will 1) uphold Oregon law with the Oregon Sanctuary Promise Act, and 2) uphold county board commitments to update/create policies protecting the rights of transgender and immigrant communities.

At a time where these specific communities are being made less safe at the national level, we need our community leaders' commitment to keeping them, and therefore our entire Lane County community, safe.

Becca Hill
Eugene, Lane County OR

From: Catherine fabian
To: Lane County Public Comment
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting Date 05/06/2025
Date: Monday, May 5, 2025 12:01:40 PM

[EXTERNAL]

Dear Lane County Commissioners,

My name is Catherine J. Fabian, and I am a resident of Eugene in the 97405 zip code, living off City View Street. I am writing as a concerned member of this community regarding the current vacancy for the position of Lane County Sheriff.

I respectfully urge the Board to ensure that the selection process for this critical role is transparent, inclusive, and accountable to the public. Specifically, I support an **open recruitment process** followed by **public interviews of the finalists**.

It is also imperative that all candidates are asked directly whether they will:

1. **Uphold Oregon state law**, including the **Oregon Sanctuary Promise Act**, which ensures our immigrant community members are treated with dignity and protected from undue targeting; and

2. **Support and uphold the Lane County Board's commitments** to update and implement policies that protect the rights and safety of **transgender** and **immigrant** community members.

The next Sheriff must reflect our community's values of equity, safety, and justice for all. I thank you for your consideration and your service to the people of Lane County.

Sincerely,
Catherine J. Fabian
Eugene, OR 97405

From: Keith Oldham
To: Lane County Public Comment
Subject: Sanctuary status
Date: Monday, May 5, 2025 12:06:09 PM

[EXTERNAL]

Dear Lane County Board of Commissioners,

1. Please have an open recruitment for the sheriff candidates with a public interview.

2. Please ask the candidates in the public interview: "Will you uphold Oregon state law and the Oregon Sanctuary Promise Act? Will you create and update policies to defend the rights of transgender and immigrant people?"

Sincerely,
Keith Oldham

From: Karen Leigh
To: Lane County Public Comment
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT FOR SHERIFF POSITION - MEETING DATE 05/06/2025
Date: Monday, May 5, 2025 12:06:10 PM

[EXTERNAL]

Dear Lane County Board of Commissioners,

Please have an open recruitment for the sheriff candidates with a public interview.

Please ask the candidates in the public interview: "Will you uphold Oregon state law and the Oregon Sanctuary Promise Act? Will you create and update policies to defend the rights of transgender and immigrant people?"

Sincerely,
Karen Leigh

From: Robin Winter
To: Lane County Public Comment
Subject: Public Comment For Meeting Date 05/06/2025
Date: Monday, May 5, 2025 12:06:11 PM

[EXTERNAL]

Dear members of the Lane County Commission,

I am writing to ask that you ensure an open recruitment for new sheriff candidates, with a public interview. During that public interview, every candidate should be asked, specifically, “Will you uphold Oregon state law and the Oregon sanctuary promise act? Will you create and update policies to defend the rights of transgender and immigrant people?”

The sheriff is an important and powerful position, and it is vital that recruitment be open and that any appointee commit to protect and defend the rights of transgender and immigrant people in Lane County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Robin Winter
4560 Larkwood St., Eugene 97405

From: Amalia Gladhart
To: Lane County Public Comment
Subject: Public Comment for Meeting Date 05/06/2025
Date: Monday, May 5, 2025 12:06:12 PM

[EXTERNAL]

Dear members of the Lane County Commission,

I am writing to ask that you ensure an open recruitment for new sheriff candidates, with a public interview. In that public interview, each candidate should be asked, specifically, “Will you uphold Oregon state law and the Oregon sanctuary promise act? Will you create and update policies to defend the rights of transgender and immigrant people?”

The sheriff is an important and powerful position, and it is vital that recruitment be open and that any appointee commit to protect and defend the rights of transgender and immigrant people in Lane County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Amalia Gladhart
4560 Larkwood St., Eugene 97405

Sent from my iPad