

From: "BENJAMIN Danette M \* DOR" <Danette.M.Benjamin@oregon.gov>  
To: "Mike" <hugo@jeffnet.org>  
Subject: RE: Request For Assistance In Clarifying Oregon Local Budget Law  
Date: Monday, November 28, 2016 11:06 AM

Mike,

My apologies for not following up our last phone conversation with an email – that was an oversight on my part.

Please help me to clarify your current question. In your June email and our subsequent phone call, I understood the questions to be more related to the county's fiscal policy in determining levels of service, which DOR is prohibited from interfering with (ORS 294.490). But, it seems that is no longer your issue, but rather when citizens become involved and the level of citizen involvement in the budget process.

Do you wish to make a change in the process within Josephine County, or the underlying local budget law statutes? Please note that local budget law (ORS 294.305-565) sets forth minimum standards; a municipal corporation may enact their own policies to implement local budget law and provide additional citizen involvement, so long as it doesn't conflict with the statutes. That being said, DOR cannot address issues that go beyond the statutorily required processes.

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