



CITY OF MEDFORD  
Interoffice Memo

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TO: CAPRA File for 10.6 – Research Investigation

FROM: Brian Sjothun, Parks & Recreation Director

SUBJECT: **Experimental Project 2013 – Utility Fee & Car Rental Rate Study**

DATE: December 17, 2013

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The 2012 City of Medford Strategic Plan identified an action that would create alternative funding sources or an increase to the Park Utility Fund to complete the final three playing fields at U.S. Cellular Community Park.

In order to determine where the City of Medford rated in comparisons to other communities for utility fees charged each month; staff conducted an extensive survey of 17 cities within Oregon. This rate comparison would be used to assist the Medford City Council in making a decision regarding a potential increase to the Park Utility Fund in order to provide debt service for the final \$6 million needed to complete U.S. Cellular Community Park.

The 2013 Utility Rate Comparison Report was presented to Council on September 19, 2013 for consideration as a potential funding source for the debt service needed.

Staff also prepared the 2013 Car Rental Tax Rate Comparison Report for council consideration as well. The City of Medford was collecting a 5% fee for all rentals made at the Jackson/Medford Rogue Valley International Airport.

As a result of both of these studies, the Council approved the following actions:

October 3, 2013 – Council Bill 2013-137 was passed approving an increase from 5% to 12.5% to the Car Rental Tax charged at the airport. Funds will be used to pay for debt service associated with Phase 4 of U.S. Cellular Community Park.

October 3, 2013 – Council Bill 2013-144 was passed approving an increase to the Public Safety Fee by \$2 per month in order to build a new police station, two new fire stations and renovations to another station.

BRIAN SJOTHUN  
Parks & Recreation Director

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Brian Sjothun, Director

**Car Rental Tax Rates**

Location	City Rate	County Rate	Total Rate
Eugene Airport	11.1%	10%	21.1%
Portland Airport		17%	17%
Jackson County Airport	5%	10%	15%
Redmond Airport	11.1%		11.1%

**U-Haul/Budget Truck or Other Vehicle Tax Rates**

Location	City Rate	County Rate	Total Rate
Multnomah County		17%	17%

**Proposed City of Medford Tax Rates**

Type	City Rate	County Rate	Total Rate
Jackson County Airport	6%	10%	16%
Non-Airport Locations	6%		6%

Utility Rate Study  
As of September 5, 2013

City	Sewer	Street	Storm	Water	P. Safety	Parks	Total
Albany	\$ 57.20			\$ 47.99			\$ 105.19
Salem	\$ 21.45		\$ 21.48	\$ 53.14			\$ 96.07
Corvallis	\$ 33.42		\$ 5.86	\$ 55.95			\$ 95.23
Ashland	\$ 41.25	\$ 8.17	\$ 4.29	\$ 40.91			\$ 94.62
Bend	\$ 44.37		\$ 4.00	\$ 43.75			\$ 92.12
Springfield	\$ 37.47	\$ 4.13	\$ 11.32	\$ 25.69			\$ 78.61
Gresham	\$ 26.30		\$ 9.84	\$ 33.25	\$ 7.13	\$ 0.37	\$ 76.89
West Linn	\$ 30.89	\$ 10.31	\$ 5.31	\$ 18.76		\$ 11.24	\$ 76.51
Oregon City	\$ 30.95	\$ 9.00	\$ 7.40	\$ 28.32			\$ 75.67
Eugene	\$ 33.11		\$ 11.39	\$ 28.53			\$ 73.03
Hillsboro	\$ 37.56	\$ 3.10	\$ 6.25	\$ 25.57			\$ 72.48
Milwaukie	\$ 37.56	\$ 3.14	\$ 10.64	\$ 16.74			\$ 68.08
Grants Pass	\$ 27.98	\$ 3.37	\$ 2.29	\$ 22.35			\$ 55.99
Eagle Point	\$ 15.90	\$ 6.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 27.75			\$ 54.65
Roseburg	\$ 25.00		\$ 3.66	\$ 25.80			\$ 54.46
Medford	\$ 15.85	\$ 8.45	\$ 7.71	\$ 12.15	\$ 2.60	\$ 2.95	\$ 49.71
Central Point	\$ 15.90	\$ 4.98	\$ 6.50	\$ 19.83			\$ 47.21