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## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **INCORPORATION GROUP COMMISSIONS POLL**

Friends of Local Control (FoLC) announced today that they have raised sufficient funds to commission a community poll about governance in the Oak Lodge Area. The poll, to be conducted by the Tigard firm Intercept Research, will begin in early May. FoLC anticipates analysis of polling data will be completed by the end of May.

“This is a major milestone in our effort to lead the Oak Grove and Jennings Lodge communities in a discussion on incorporation,” said FoLC President William Wild. “The data from this poll will help reveal what level of support there is to form a city in the study area.” FoLC has been studying the feasibility of forming a city between Milwaukie, Gladstone, the Willamette River, and Oatfield Ridge for over two years.

The area is currently awash in public process. The Portland-Milwaukie light rail line will terminate at Park Avenue in unincorporated Oak Grove. Clackamas County and ODOT are conducting a Transit Oriented Development study for the Park Avenue Station area. The McLoughlin Area Plan (MAP) Committee is identifying projects and programs to revitalize the McLoughlin corridor area. And the Clackamas County Development Agency is working on the formation of an Urban Renewal District in unincorporated North Clackamas County.

“There is pressure to increase density around Park Avenue Station. Infill projects threaten tree canopy and large lots in Oak Lodge. As revitalization efforts move forward and the county prepares to impose an Urban Renewal District, residents should consider if they want county government to continue controlling these processes, or if they want decisions that affect their neighborhoods to be made at the local level,” said Wild. “That is why Friends of Local Control thinks it is important to study the feasibility of being a city.”

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