

Sage Courier Survival Options Preference Poll

Comments summary

Responses submitted March 10-24 2025

8 Responses total from:

- **County Library Districts (4):** Baker County Library District, Hood River County Library District, Umatilla County Special Library District, The Dalles/Wasco District.
- **City/District Libraries (1):** Cook Memorial Library
- **County Public Libraries (2):** Gilliam County Public Library, Harney County Library.
- **High School Library (1):** Hermiston High School.

Describe any new strategies to consider (optional).

- **Fundraising:** Fundraising is considered a primary approach if IMLS funding is lost and is supported as an option for sustainability.
- **Administrative Changes:** Layoff of one of the two Sage Admins should be considered.
- **Courier Service Reduction:** Slowing down courier service is suggested to align with efforts to reinstate full IMLS funding.

Comments (optional)

- **Fundraising:** Is a good short-term option if IMLS funding is lost, and some libraries foundations may donate to a fundraising campaign. However, it is not a viable long-term solution and increased fees should be considered for self-sustainability.
- **Fee Increase Concerns:** Asking for a 29% fee increase now may be poorly received by fiscal agents, as budgets for the 25/26 fiscal year have already been submitted. Many small libraries cannot afford a \$1500 fee increase and may be lost as courier service users.

Sage Courier Survival Options Preference Poll

8 responses

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Your name

8 responses

Dea Nowell

Carrie Bushman

Cheryl Hancock

Mary Reser

Rachael Fox

Perry Stokes

Delia Fields

Maggie



Your library

8 responses

Umatilla County Special Library District

Cook Memorial Library

Harney County Library

Gilliam County Public Library

Hood River County Library District

Baker County Library District

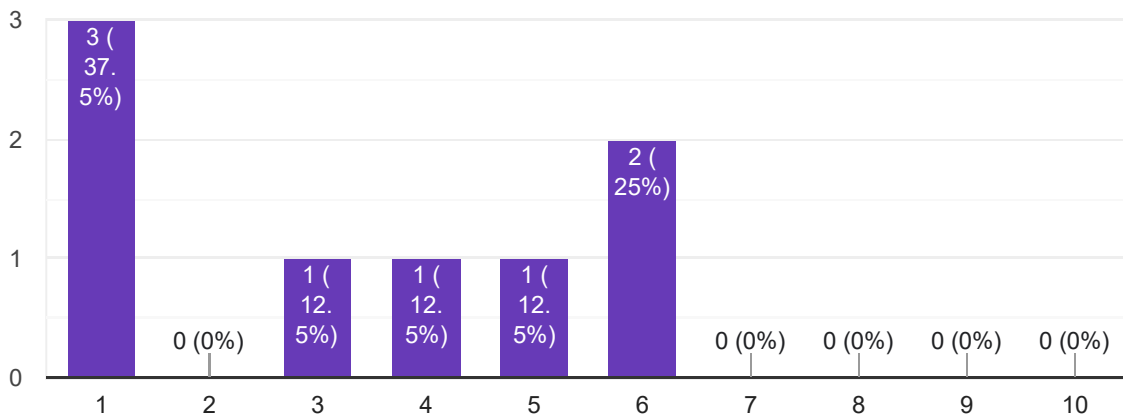
Hermiston High School

The Dalles/Wasco District

Option 1: Hub service only (Assess \$2,000 fee from each of 9 main courier drop sites)

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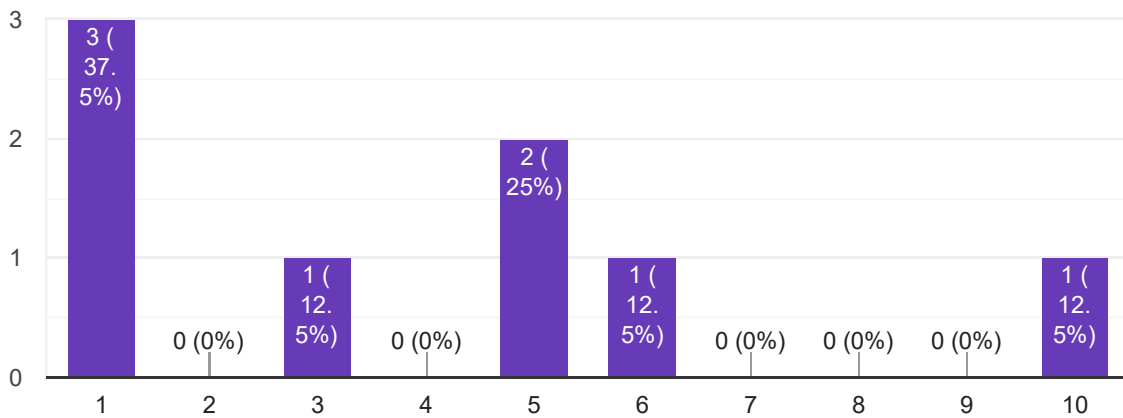
8 responses



Option 2: Two day per week courier (Reduce the 5-day-a-week hubs to 2 days a week and decreasing patron hold allotments)

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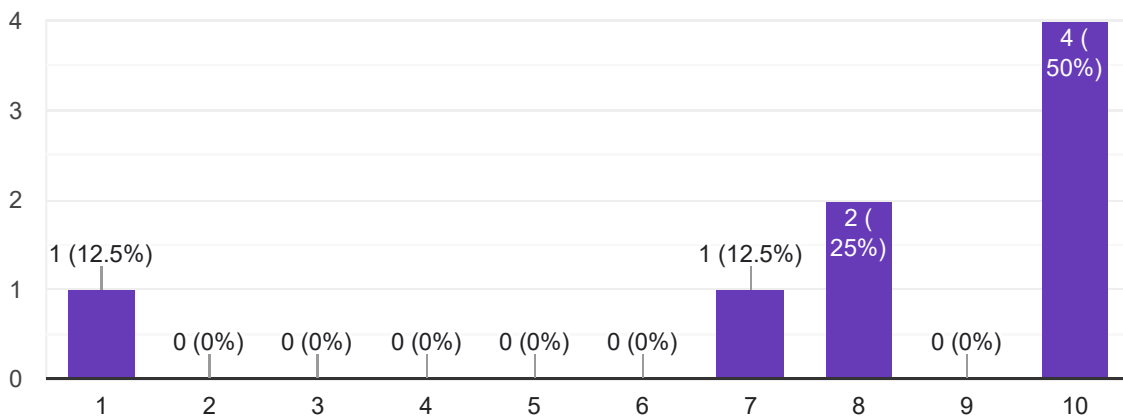
8 responses



Option 3: Half-year extension (Apply the \$40,000 currently budgeted for courier towards a half-year contract) + seek to replace lost IMLS grant with fundraising effort.

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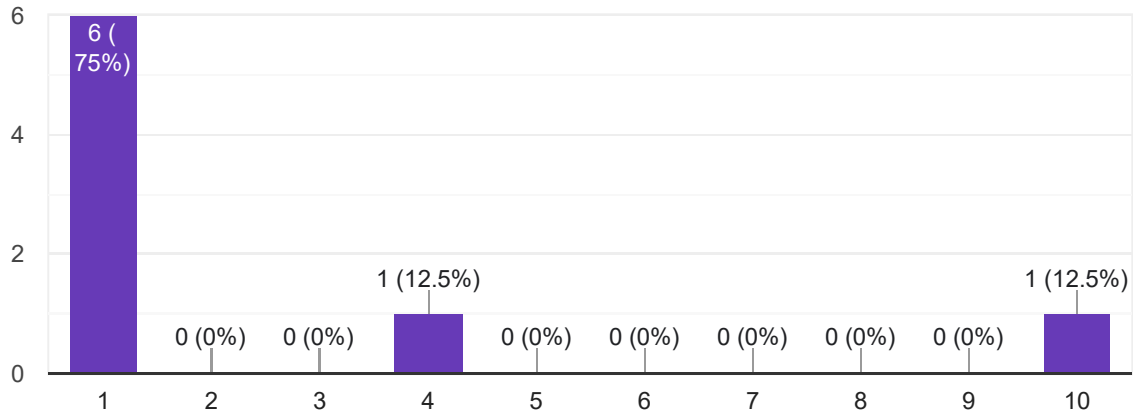
8 responses



Option 4: 29% increase on top of the planned 2025-26 fees

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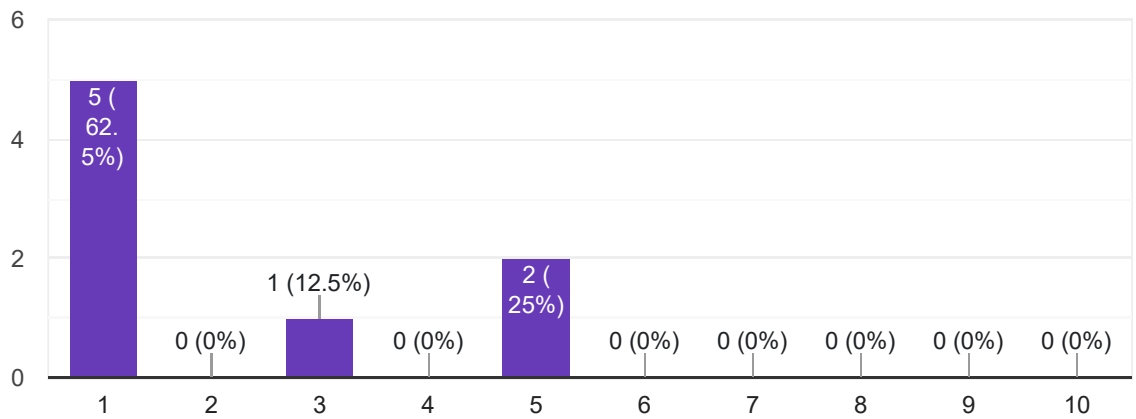
8 responses



Option 5: Uniform fee increase of \$1,510 per member

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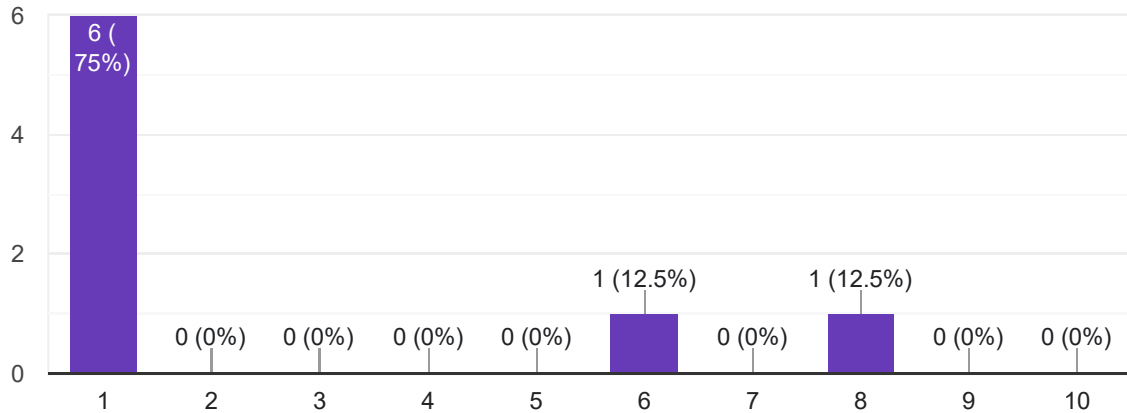
8 responses



Option 6: Surcharge on items based on borrower rates

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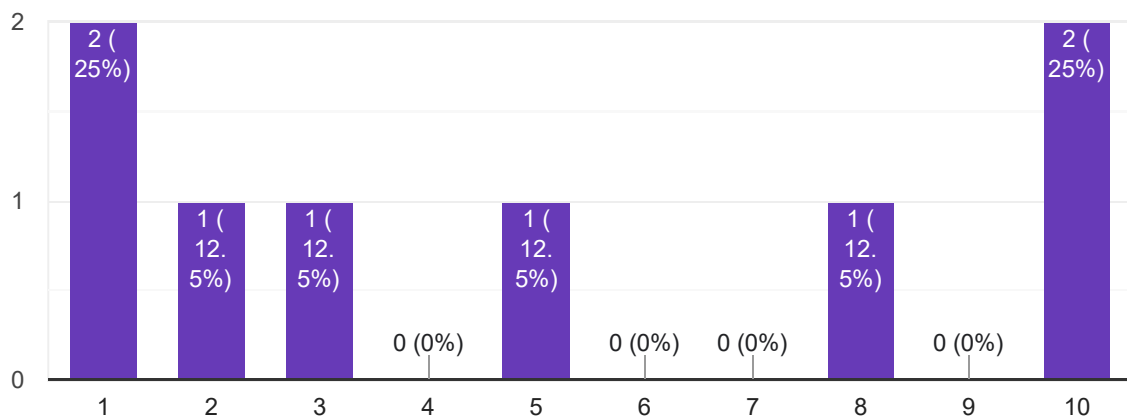
8 responses



Option 7: General 11% rate of increase added to rates planned for the year beyond completion of the 4-year fee restructuring plan

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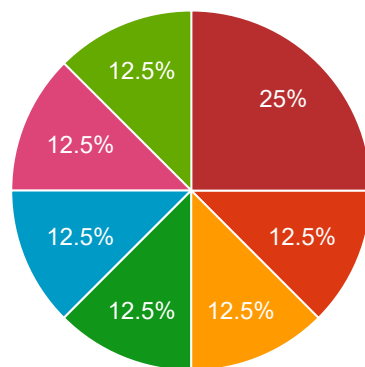
8 responses



Which one option should Sage prioritize? (Required)

[Copy](#)

8 responses



- Option 1: Hub service only - \$2,000 fee from each of 9 main c...
- Option 2: Two day per week c...
- Option 3: Half-year extension...
- Option 4: 29% increase on to...
- Option 5: Uniform fee increas...
- Option 6: Surcharge on items...
- Option 7: General 11% rate of...
- None of the above (will add n...
- Option 3: Half-year extension...



Describe any new strategies to consider (optional).

3 responses

Fundraising - 1st approach, if lose IMLS funding

I do support fundraising (option 3) but also feel that people in our part of the state need to know the result of what is happening in our government and feel some of the pain associated with it. If Sage keeps things going by whatever means, then we could be seen as able to support ourselves without IMLS, thus proving the accusation against continuing to fund that organization. In the long run, we will probably need to raise our own funds somehow but with our efforts to bring back funding to IMLS in full gear, I would vote for a slowdown of courier service. And future sustainability is definitely a key question that would be asked by any funder.

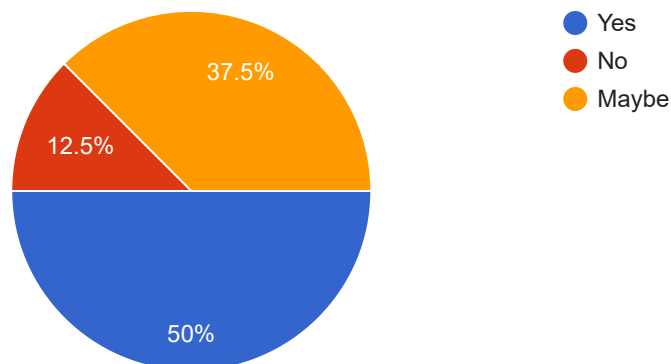
Consider layoff of one of two Sage Admins

Are you willing to participate in the fundraising strategic planning?

 Copy

(Required)

8 responses



Comments (optional)

4 responses

Fundraising - 1st approach, if lose IMLS funding

I apologize for missing the meeting in which this was discussed.

Fundraising is a good option to get us through the rough spot, but it is not a very good long-term option. Even if we do not lose the grant, we should seriously consider increasing our fees to be self-sustainable. Grants are not guaranteed every year, and we should put ourselves in the position of self-support instead of relying on unpredictable funding sources.

Most of us have already turned in our budgets for the 25/26 fiscal year for approval. Asking for a 29% increase now may not be well received by county or city fiscal agents.

Most of our small libraries cannot afford a \$1500 fee increase. I am afraid we would lose too many of the these libraries that depend on our courier services to serve their patrons' needs.

We believe The Dalles-Wasco County Library Foundation would donate some funds as part of a fundraising campaign.

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9. Option 7: General 11% rate of increase added to rates planned for the year beyond * completion of the 4-year fee restructuring plan

Mark only one oval.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Least Most Preferable

10. Which one option should Sage prioritize? (Required) * ⌵ Dropdown

Mark only one oval.

- Option 1: Hub service only - \$2,000 fee from each of 9 main courier drop sites
- Option 2: Two day per week courier - Reduce hubs to 2 days a week and decrease patron hold allotments
- Option 3: Half-year extension / Fundraising - Apply current budget for a half-year contract and independent couriers + seek to replace lost IMLS grant with fundraising effort.
- Option 4: 29% increase on top of the planned 2025-26 fees
- Option 5: Uniform fee increase of \$1,510 per member
- Option 6: Surcharge on items based on borrower rates
- Option 7: General 11% rate of increase added to rates planned for the year beyond fee restructuring plan
- None of the above (will add new approach in comment form)

11. Describe any new strategies to consider (optional).

12. Are you willing to participate in the fundraising strategic planning? (Required) *

Mark only one oval.

Yes

No

Maybe

13. Comments (optional)

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