

Priority:	Accountability	Lead Agency:	Citizen Involvement
Program Offer Type:	Existing Operating	Program Contact:	Kathleen Todd
Related Programs:			
Frameworks:			

Executive Summary

The CIC is the lead agency for developing and facilitating the citizen involvement process in the county. As required by the county charter, the CIC hires and manages the staff of the Office of Citizen Involvement (OCI). Together, they work with County elected officials, departments, and the greater community to enhance opportunities for citizen involvement in Multnomah County government.

Program Description

The CIC through the Office of Citizen Involvement creates opportunities for citizens to learn about and help shape county policies and programs. It provides continuous independent assessment of citizen participation opportunities and identifies and removes barriers to participation. The CIC works in partnership with other governmental and non-governmental organizations to inform citizens of opportunities and involve them in county governance through focused community outreach. The CIC's annual Gladys McCoy Award recognizes the connection between those citizens and the broader community. It holds an annual awards ceremony for county volunteers in conjunction with the Gladys McCoy award. The CIC is responsible for official recognition of Community Planning Organizations for unincorporated areas of the County, giving the opportunity for these communities to formally participate in land use and transportation decisions. The CIC also provides independent management of citizen involvement in the county budget process. It coordinates the Citizen Budget Advisory Committees (CBAC) Program; implements the citizen-driven annual Dedicated Fund Review and facilitates community forums, open houses and events in cooperation with the community, elected officials and other county departments. It publishes the Conduit to provide interested citizens who subscribe with information on county activities. It maintains a website as an access point for County citizen involvement, county information, publications and volunteer opportunities/services.

Program Justification

The Citizen Involvement Committee contributes to making county government accountable by involving and informing citizens and by providing an advocate for citizens that is independent of elected officials. This increases the trust, confidence, and satisfaction of citizens with the service quality, effectiveness and price of government. It also supports Vibrant Communities by creating opportunities to engage citizens and to build local community identity.

Performance Measures

Performance is measured by the public awareness, availability, use and satisfaction with the opportunities for citizens to participate in county government. The CIC does an ongoing survey of citizens to track the county's performance in these areas.

Summary of last year's program results and this year's expected results

In 2005, the CIC began asking county agencies to do a regular assessment of their citizen involvement efforts and report to the committee. This assures that county departments regularly evaluate their citizen involvement programs and that citizens have the opportunity to provide advice for improvements. Also in 2005, the CIC began a volunteer Citizen Advocate program to support the community of citizens who volunteer their time and energy to advise and help implement county programs.

The county's 2006 budget process included citizen participation through a series of forums, public speaking engagements and publications by the CIC; by the Citizen Budget Advisory Process; and by the Dedicated Fund Review of DBCS. The CIC also conducted an assessment of opportunities for citizens to get involved in the county and released interim findings and recommendations to be finalized in 2006. Improvements to the CIC web site provided enhanced access to information and made opportunities to get involved more easily accessible to the public. County volunteers were recognized for their contributions to county's programs.

Program Mandate: 2 Mandated Program with Funding/Service Level Choice

Chapter Ref Chapter 3.75 Multnomah County Home Rule Charter; Resolution 8-86, Resolution 95-245, Multnomah County Code 2.30.640; 3.30-3.306 1. The county charter states that the commission "shall appropriate sufficient funds for the operation of the office and the committee". A minimum level of two staff people was set by the enabling ordinance establishing the office.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
	2005	2005	2006	2006
Program Expenses				
Personnel	\$117,027	\$0	\$128,071	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$16,414	\$0	\$16,414	\$0
Internal Services	\$22,148	\$0	\$35,156	\$0
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$155,589	\$0	\$179,641	\$0
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$155,589	\$0	\$179,641	\$0
Program Total:	\$155,589		\$179,641	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	2.00	0.00
Program Revenues				
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

Significant Program Changes

The CIC will implement recommendations from its current assessment of citizen involvement in the county. The Citizen Budget Advisory Committee process will be reviewed and modified if necessary to better integrate with the new budget process.