

Priority: Vibrant Communities

Lead Agency: County Management

Program Offer Type: Existing Operating

Program Contact: Molly Chidsey

Related Programs:

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

The Sustainability Team supports clean, healthy neighborhoods in Multnomah County by leading efforts to change government business practices and representing the county in regional efforts to improve sustainability of the local environment, economy, and community.

Program Description

The Sustainability Team provides leadership, analysis, project management and reporting for the County's sustainability efforts. Methods for achieving program goals include reviewing current practices against best practices, searching for inefficiencies and opportunities for improvement, and assistance with implementation of changes to make County practices more sustainable through employee education and direct assistance. Services fall into two general categories: implementing previously adopted goals and measuring progress toward achieving them, and identifying new areas for improvement by collaborating with departments, regional partners, and citizens to develop goals. Key efforts in FY07 will include: development of guidelines for fleet vehicle purchases which include sustainability criteria such as fuel efficiency, promoting purchases that protect the environment and support the local economy, reducing usage of toxic chemicals linked to pollution and illness, measuring progress toward energy and resource efficiency in building operations, developing a countywide Sustainability "Report Card" as an indicator of progress, implementing a waste prevention and recycling plan for county facilities; and conducting strategic planning to align the County's core mission and community-identified needs with sustainable practices. The Board-appointed Sustainable Development Commission, a citizen advisory group, helps provide direction for this program.

Program Justification

The Sustainability Team champions clean, healthy neighborhoods by reducing the environmental effects of our own government operations and improving their influence on sustainability and the bottom-line. For example, increased recycling reduces the 620 tons of trash County government operations throws away annually; promotion of transportation options reduces the 12 million miles County employees travel annually in cars; promotion of energy efficiency makes a dent in the 30,000 pounds of air pollution emitted from county vehicles and buildings; and leveraging County purchases of \$100 million worth of goods and services every year provides an excellent opportunity to adopt model purchasing practices and support emerging and local markets for sustainable products. The Sustainability Team supports a Vibrant Community by promoting sustainable practices at work and in the region that support a healthy environment, engage citizens, and increase resource efficiency.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY04-05)	Current Year Purchased (FY05-06)	Current Year Estimate (FY05-06)	Next Year Offer (FY06-07)
Output	Reports on progress and new policies developed to support sustainability	9	7	7	6
Outcome	Greenhouse gas emission reduction from county government operations	3%	3%	3%	5%
Outcome	Recycling rate for county facilities	30%	40%	28%	50%

Performance Measure - Description

Number of reports on progress and new policies prepared provides a numerical value of work products of the Sustainability Team. Climate Change: The Board adopted goal is to reduce County emissions of greenhouse gasses by 10 % by 2010. As of June 2005, emissions from County operations have been reduced 3%. Recycling: 2004 established a baseline average recycling rate for County facilities of 30%. The target is a minimum average recycling rate of 50%, as adopted by the Board. Data included here does not include additional materials currently recycled; FY07 reporting methods will be more comprehensive due to improved data collection already underway.

Legal/Contractual Obligation

Several legal mandates are included in this program. OAR 340-242-0100 requires employers to provide incentives for employee use of alternative commute options, which have the potential to reduce commute trips to the work site by 10% within three years. ORS 279.570 requires that all public agencies shall assure purchase of materials, goods and supplies that may be recycled or reused when discarded. City of Portland Code 17.102.180 requires that commercial facilities [in Portland] must separate recyclable materials and recycle a minimum of 50% of their waste. And lastly, Oregon Executive Order EO-99-13 encourages governments in Oregon to eliminate toxic pollutants.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2006	2006	2007	2007
Personnel	\$0	\$175,044	\$190,892	\$0
Contracts	\$0	\$9,740	\$10,000	\$10,495
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$7,335	\$7,288	\$2,390
Internal Services	\$0	\$16,345	\$17,114	\$325
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$0	\$208,464	\$225,294	\$13,210
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$6,716	\$460
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$2,450	\$0
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$9,166	\$460
Total GF/non-GF:	\$0	\$208,464	\$234,460	\$13,670
Program Total:	\$208,464		\$248,130	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	2.00	0.00
Program Revenues				
Fees, Permits & Charges	\$0	\$154,052	\$0	\$0
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$13,210
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$552	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$154,052	\$552	\$13,210

Explanation of Revenues

A grant from Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) will be received in the amount of \$13,210 to support Waste Prevention and Recycling Planning and Implementation at Multnomah County Facilities. The project will take place during FY07.

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: #71002, Sustainability Team
FY07 DEQ grant included in base offer.