

Priority: Vibrant Communities
Program Offer Type: Innovative/New Program
Related Programs: 91019, 91020A
Program Characteristics: One-Time-Only Request

Lead Agency: Community Services
Program Contact: Karen Schilling

Executive Summary

Land Use Planning uses integrated GIS and database software to aid in the implementation of federal, state, and local policies and laws that preserve the rural farm and timber economy, protect the environment, and maintain the quality of life in our unincorporated communities. The existing software is dated and needs to be replaced.

Program Description

The software supports our long range, current, and code compliance functions. Long Range Planning uses it for macro area analysis and mapping to help citizens develop land use policies that meet the needs of our rural communities. It is also used to track our legislative work, updating County codes to incorporate changes to federal and state land use laws. Current Planning implements adopted policies and laws. GIS and database software are critical tools used by staff to explain land use rules to the public, allowing constituents to see how their property is impacted. It is also used to assist staff in tracking land use and building applications under review to ensure procedural mandates are met, and provides quick access to historic permitting information essential to problem solving complex land use issues with applicants. Code Compliance uses the software to verify accuracy of citizen initiated code complaints and relies on the system to track a landowner's progress towards voluntary compliance where a complaint is substantiated.

Program Justification

Land use planning facilitates the process and oversee compliance efforts to assure rural County residents that public policy regarding "what we want our communities to look like over time" including how we balance growth and preservation of the environment is addressed. Careful planning helps citizens maintain a sense of place by giving them influence over, and establishing predictability to, the land use pattern of the community. It also contributes to a healthy environment by preserving valuable farm land for agricultural purposes, and ensuring development does not compromise natural resources such as streams and wildlife corridors. Quality planning requires convenient access to land use data at a large scale to assess the effectiveness of land use rules and at a parcel level so that staff can readily provide constituents with information they need to develop their property. Existing GIS and database software customized to meet this need is no longer supported by vendors and has become burdensome and costly for the County to maintain. System failures are also becoming more frequent, causing disruptions to service. The dollar estimate included in this offer represents one time costs of purchasing new software, making necessary customizations, training, and installation. It reflects extensive work already undertaken with IT staff and private vendors to define business needs and will ensure customer service improvements realized with investments in the existing software are carried over into the new system. Once implemented, County IT staff will maintain the software and data. There will be no ongoing vendor license or maintenance costs.

Performance Measures

| Measure Type | Primary Measure | Previous Year Actual (FY05-06) | Current Year Purchased (FY06-07) | Current Year Estimate (FY06-07) | Next Year Offer (FY07-08) |
|--------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Output | Number of major functions | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Outcome | Full implementation | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 100.0% |

Performance Measure - Description

This program offer is for the design and implementation of this software system. Its benefits will be apparent once the new system is online in FY 09. The number of major functions measures the major areas in which this software will provide adequate capabilities. They include: (1) Greater integration of historic land use data, (2) improved case tracking capabilities, (3) more robust permit cost accounting and (4) new functionality for web based permitting. Applications for some types of permits will increase over time because information will be more (5) accessible and processes more manageable to the public. Errors will be reduced. Case tracking capabilities of the software will make it easier to manage cases helping staff achieve our objective of issuing decisions within 120 days.

Legal/Contractual Obligation

Multnomah County must adopt a Comprehensive Land Use Plan that meets State Planning Goals, including enacting implementing regulations as provided under ORS 92, 195, 196, 197, 215, and 390. The County regulates land uses in the National Scenic Area in accordance with federal law. These land use laws mandate the County review all development within its jurisdiction, distinguish between types of development and the level of review required, prescribe extensive procedures the County must follow to ensure due process, and set out a timeframe within which land use reviews must be completed (i.e. 150 day clock). GIS and database software are primary tools used to ensure these laws are consistently applied and that procedural mandates are satisfied.

Revenue/Expense Detail

| | Proposed General Fund | Proposed Other Funds | Proposed General Fund | Proposed Other Funds |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| | 2007 | 2007 | 2008 | 2008 |
| Program Expenses | | | | |
| Contracts | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$200,000 |
| Subtotal: Direct Exps: | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$200,000 |
| Administration | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Program Support | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Subtotal: Other Exps: | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Total GF/non-GF: | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$200,000 |
| Program Total: | \$0 | | \$200,000 | |
| Program FTE | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Program Revenues | | | | |
| Program Revenue for Admin | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Total Revenue: | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |

Explanation of Revenues

General fund revenues will be used to purchase the software.

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: