

Priority: Vibrant Communities

Lead Agency: Library

Program Offer Type: Innovative/New Program

Program Contact: June Mikkelsen

Related Programs:

Program Characteristics: One-Time-Only Request

Executive Summary

The passage of the November 2006 library levy provides funding for operational costs for a new library in North Portland, beginning January 2009. This offer would fund the siting, the construction of tenant improvements in a leased space, and the opening day collection for this new library over the next 18 months.

Program Description

In 2001, the Housing Authority of Portland was awarded \$35 million to replace the aging 82-acre Columbia Villa public housing development in North Portland. The City of Portland, as well as direct investment from a variety of private, public and philanthropic sources, also contributed to the effort. The vision was to reconstruct aging housing sites into a new, mixed-income community, one that becomes an integrated part of the entire North Portland community. The vision is well under way; the first New Columbia residents returned to their new homes in May 2005. The final phases of construction are under way. Together with the new Rosa Parks School, Boys & Girls Club, Community Center, and gymnasiums, a neighborhood library would be a welcoming, non-threatening way to bring all community residents together--those in the older neighborhoods as well as those at New Columbia--for positive interactions with one another and opportunities for lifelong learning. Funding for this offer includes money for siting this leased space, constructing tenant improvements, purchasing computers and peripherals, and building the opening day collection.

Program Justification

Livability, a concept that permeates nearly every aspect of the priorities that citizens have expressed, is tied to many factors, including a sense of community and place. A major part of the vision for the Portsmouth neighborhood area is to break down the physical and perceived barriers between those who lived in the old Columbia Villa and the mixed-income residents in the area. A library, open to all, where residents choose to come together in positive interaction with one another, can help to do this in ways that other institutions cannot. Literacy programs in a non-threatening library setting will help non-English speakers, as well as those who cannot read and write. Programs in English and Spanish for people of all ages promote literacy and lifelong learning and a sense of community for all. After school programs keep children and teens busy and promote reading. Key to this library's mission will be promoting meaningful interaction between residents of the new community and those outside the New Columbia development. A new library in this neighborhood focuses on strategies 2, 3 & 4, providing opportunities for neighbors to connect and interact, promoting literacy and a lifetime of learning, & providing a variety of cultural and recreational opportunities to help achieve a vibrant sense of community.

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 community meetings for citizens to give input into schematic plans	0	0	0	2
Outcome	Site selected & project ready to move to schematic design phase by 1/08 (est.)	0	0	0	1

Performance Measure - Description

Note: Because an extensive public siting process was completed in the spring of 2003, after which the Board voted to site the new facility in the vicinity of New Columbia, we are anticipating an abbreviated siting process.

Legal/Contractual Obligation

Measure No. 26-81 "Renew Five-Year Local Option Levy to Continue Library Services", November 2006 General Election – The levy language reads: "Continue programs for school age children, story hours for babies and toddlers, summer reading, literacy services for children in child care, programs for teens; Help teachers and students use library resources; provide homework helpers to assist children with school work; Maintain free access to information; Update books and materials; Continue books delivery to homebound seniors and nursing home residents; Open planned libraries in underserved neighborhoods of East County and North Portland: Keep libraries open; maintain current hours and services at Central and neighborhood libraries."

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
	2007	2007	2008	2008
Program Expenses				
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$33,911
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$500,000
Internal Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$958,211
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$90,000
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,582,122
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	\$1,582,122
Program Total:	\$0		\$1,582,122	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25
Program Revenues				
Taxes	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,582,122
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,582,122

Explanation of Revenues

This offer would be funded by the Library Fund's beginning working balance.

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was:

Last year this program was titled, "New Columbia Neighborhood Library."