

Lead Agency: Non-Departmental - All

Program Contact: Mark Campbell

Program Offer Type: Innovative/New Program

Related Programs:

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

The Oregon Historical Society (OHS) is a private not-for-profit entity founded in 1898. Since 1899, it has received appropriations from (1) state government (except 2002-6) in recognition of its operation of the state history museum and a large Oregon history research library; and (2) Multnomah County (\$335k per year, 1999-2003) as a participant in the county library levy. Passage of special purpose levy 26-118 in November 2010 provides for levy support at the rate of \$0.05 per thousand of assessed value. Four east county historical societies (Fairview-Rockwood-Wilkes, Gresham, Troutdale, and Crown Point Country) will together receive \$150,000 per year from the levy proceeds. The levy allocates the balance, estimated at \$1,795,151 in FY 2012, to the Oregon Historical Society for purposes described below.

Program Description

OHS operates the state history museum, the Davies Family Research Library (Oregon and Oregon Territory), and educational programs for adults and school groups. After nearly a decade of cuts in appropriations, programs, and service hours, the levy funding will provide basic operational support, as well as funding to underwrite improved hours of service in the library, free admission to residents of Multnomah County and all school groups, improved collections development and care, and new and exciting public programming.

OHS is committed to serving the diverse communities of the region and the state, and reflects that commitment in its programs and collections.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY09-10)	Current Year Purchased (FY10-11)	Current Year Estimate (FY10-11)	Next Year Offer (FY11-12)
Output	Multnomah County citizens admitted free of charge	100	0	100	10,000
Outcome	Improved library hours per week	12	0	12	32
Output	Increased number of public programs	12	0	15	28
Quality	Care of Collections through additional curator	0	0	0	1

Performance Measure - Description

In addition to providing basic operational support, the levy will increase OHS's public services. By adding library staff, OHS will be able to extend library hours to 32 per week (Tuesday-Saturday). Free admission means we will serve a much larger audience in both the museum and library. In the past, library levy support and consequent free library admission brought heavy use by citizens. OHS will add a dedicated position for development and management of public programs. The result will be an increased number of programs for the public. Levy funding will also support the addition of one or more curators for museum collections. Curators are responsible to collections care, developing the collections to address future needs, and creating changing exhibits from the Society's own holdings.

Legal/Contractual Obligation

Measure 26-118 provides the Oregon Historical Society with a five-year property tax levy at the rate of \$0.05 per thousand dollars of assessed value. Four east county historical societies (Fairview-Rockwood-Wilkes, Gresham, Troutdale, and Crown Point Country) will together receive \$150,000 per year from the levy proceeds.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2011	2011	2012	2012
Contracts	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,945,151
Total GF/non-GF:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,945,151
Program Total:	\$0		\$1,945,151	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Program Revenues				
Taxes	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,945,151
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,945,151

Explanation of Revenues

This is a dedicated local option property tax levy collected by Multnomah County on behalf of the Oregon Historical Society (OHS). OHS receives no other County funding.

Significant Program Changes

✔ Significantly Changed

Last year this program was:

This is a new program for FY 2012, and represents the first year of the levy.