

Lead Agency: Community Services

Program Contact: Tim Scott

Program Offer Type: Existing Operating

Related Programs:

Program Characteristics: In Target

Executive Summary

The Elections Division conducts all local, city, county, state and federal elections for the citizens of Multnomah County, and all political districts within Multnomah County. Under Oregon law, regular election dates are in March, May, September and November. Under state and local law, special elections and recall elections can also be called at any time of the year.

Program Description

The Elections Division conducts many types of elections in Multnomah County, from Water District Commissioner to President of the United States. Local elections include elected boards of directors for schools and special districts as well as local measures. City elections include elected city offices and city measures. County elections are for elected county offices and county measures. State elections include Governor, all statewide offices and state senate and house seats in Multnomah County. Federal elections include Presidential, US Senate and Congressional races.

Conducting elections involves: registering voters; maintaining the statewide voter registration and election management database (OCVR); maintaining address and district data; checking signatures on city, local and state candidate/initiative petitions; accepting candidate/measure filings; producing voters' pamphlets; issuing and mailing ballots; managing drop site locations; accepting and processing returned ballots; providing assistance to voters with disabilities; counting ballots; and releasing results. For major elections, Elections employs as many as 250 temporary election workers.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY10-11)	Current Year Purchased (FY11-12)	Current Year Estimate (FY11-12)	Next Year Offer (FY12-13)
Output	Number of votes counted	431,272	440,000	296,647	454,750
Outcome	Percent of customers satisfied with counter service	98.0%	95.0%	99.0%	95.0%
Efficiency	Personnel costs per 1000 ballots cast	776	900	850	1,200

Performance Measure - Description

Customer satisfaction was measured through a survey completed by Elections customers immediately following service. The results shown above reflect the percentage of customers who indicated that customer service either met or exceed their expectations.

Personnel Cost per 1,000 ballots cast (in dollars) in FY 10-11 is for the Gubernatorial General Election; Current Year Purchased and Current Year Estimate is for the Presidential Primary Election; and the Next Year Offer is for the Presidential General Election in November 2012.

Legal/Contractual Obligation

Multnomah County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 5, Elections, describes the process for county initiative/referendum petitions in Multnomah County as well as how to fill vacancies in county elective offices. Oregon Administrative Rules, Chapter 165, addresses state-wide uniformity in the conduct of elections by each county. Rules deal with issues such as County Voters' Pamphlets and Voting by Mail. Oregon Revised Statutes, Chapters 246 through 260, provide the legal authority for all aspects of conducting elections in Oregon. There are also Federal mandates. The Voting Rights Act, The National Voter Registration Act, The Help America Vote Act and The Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act establish nation wide election administration standards.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2012	2012	2013	2013
Personnel	\$1,389,874	\$0	\$1,332,878	\$0
Contracts	\$373,000	\$0	\$366,725	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$1,100,461	\$0	\$1,152,367	\$0
Internal Services	\$613,885	\$0	\$766,419	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$3,477,220	\$0	\$3,618,389	\$0
Program Total:	\$3,477,220		\$3,618,389	
Program FTE	11.00	0.00	10.00	0.00
Program Revenues				
Fees, Permits & Charges	\$784,578	\$0	\$1,084,931	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$784,578	\$0	\$1,084,931	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

Revenue is generated by the collection of fees for candidate filings, voters' pamphlet filings and data sales to candidates, campaigns and political parties. Revenue is also generated by reimbursements from districts for their apportioned share of the cost of the election. Election expenses are reimbursed by special districts. Special elections called by the State are reimbursed by the State. By state law, cities and the state cannot be charged for the cost of the election in the Primary or General election. The county must pay for those districts apportioned cost in these elections.

Significant Program Changes

✔ Significantly Changed

Last year this program was: #91008, Elections

Last year Elections had 11 FTE. Due to increasing efficiency in the program provided by new technology introduced over the last two years and to meet constraint Elections will reduce 1 FTE this year in the OA2 classification. This will give election 10 FTE in FY13.

Due to span of control goals for the County, Elections has reclassified one management position to a represented position. Previously Elections had two managers, each with a 1:5 span of control ratio. By making this change Elections will have one manager with a 1:9 span of control ratio.

In order to meet the needs of the Presidential General Election in November 2012, Elections will request \$335,323 in one time only money for added personnel, printing and postage expenses.