

Lead Agency: Community Services

Program Contact: Tim Scott

Program Offer Type: Existing Operating

Related Programs:

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

The Elections Division conducts all local, city, county, state and federal elections for the citizens of 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 (Oregon Central Voter Registration database); maintaining address and district data; checking signatures on city and local candidate/initiative/referendum 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 260 temporary election workers.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY11-12)	Current Year Purchased (FY12-13)	Current Year Estimate (FY12-13)	Next Year Offer (FY13-14)
Output	Number of votes counted	205,649	454,750	547,992	280,000
Outcome	Percent of customers who are satisfied with counter service.	99.0%	95.0%	98.0%	95.0%
Efficiency	Personnel cost per 1000 ballots cast.	966	1,200	939	1,058

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 11-12 is for the Presidential Primary Election; Current Year Purchased and Current Year Estimate is for the Presidential General Election; and the Next Year Offer is for the Gubernatorial Primary Election in May 2014.

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 and the Help America Vote Act establish election administration standards.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2013	2013	2014	2014
Personnel	\$1,332,878	\$0	\$1,381,572	\$0
Contracts	\$366,725	\$0	\$313,300	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$1,152,367	\$0	\$1,151,670	\$0
Internal Services	\$766,419	\$0	\$759,767	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$3,618,389	\$0	\$3,606,309	\$0
Program Total:	\$3,618,389		\$3,606,309	
Program FTE	10.00	0.00	10.00	0.00
Program Revenues				
Fees, Permits & Charges	\$1,084,931	\$0	\$952,615	\$0
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$1,084,931	\$0	\$955,615	\$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 or Cities are reimbursed by the State or the City calling the election. 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 district's apportioned cost in these elections.

During FY14 two smaller special elections are included in the budget at \$255,600 each. A larger special election in November is in the budget at \$420,415. Budget amounts for all these special elections are calculated at 100% reimbursement. Reimbursements for the primary election in May 2014 are budgeted at 2%, or \$15,000.

In addition to election reimbursement, the budget has \$6,000 for boundary changes and \$3,000 for petition processing.

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: #91008A, Elections

There are no significant changes to this program offer.