

Lead Agency: Nondepartmental - All

Program Contact: Julie Neburka

Program Offer Type: Existing Operating

Related Programs:

Program Characteristics: In Target

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 \$1,594,253 in FY 2013, to the Oregon Historical Society for purposes described below.

Program Description

OHS operates the Oregon history museum, the Davies Family Research Library (Oregon and Oregon Territory), and educational programs for adults, families and school groups (also serves as the Multnomah County history repository). After nearly a decade of cuts in appropriations, programs, and service hours, the levy funding is providing basic operational support, as well as funding to underwrite the 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 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 (FY11-12)	Current Year Purchased (FY12-13)	Current Year Estimate (FY12-13)	Next Year Offer (FY13-14)
Output	Multnomah County citizens admitted free of charge	14,471	10,000	19,206	21,100
Outcome	Improved library hours per week	32	32	32	32
Output	Increased number of public programs	58	35	141	155
Quality	Care of Collections through additional curator/registrar	0	1	1	1

Performance Measure - Description

The levy has provided basic operational support and has certainly increased OHS's public services. The library has been open 32 hours a week since the levy funding went into effect in July 2011, and has served an additional 36% of patrons. Due to the levy funding, the increased public programs are reaching more Oregonians than ever and OHS has had the ability to enhance collections care and display more of Oregon's treasures. In June of 2012, OHS was able to open their new permanent exhibit "Oregon Voices" which has doubled their capacity for school groups. Overall, the last calendar year has seen an increase in Multnomah County residence visits by 33% and a total attendance increase of 26%.

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.

FY 2014 is the third year of the five-year local option levy

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2013	2013	2014	2014
Contracts	\$0	\$1,837,418	\$0	\$1,744,253
Total GF/non-GF:	\$0	\$1,837,418	\$0	\$1,744,253
Program Total:	\$1,837,418		\$1,744,253	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Program Revenues				
Taxes	\$0	\$1,837,418	\$0	\$1,727,530
Other / Miscellaneous	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$16,723
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$1,837,418	\$0	\$1,744,253

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

Last year this program was: #10031, OHS Local Option Levy