

**Department:** Nondepartmental

**Program Contact:** Jessica Vega Pederson

**Program Offer Type:** Operating

**Program Offer Stage:** Adopted

**Related Programs:**
**Program Characteristics:**
**Program Description**

The Chair is the Chief Executive Officer of Multnomah County, leading the County's efforts to create a community where anyone who needs help can find it, everyone shares in opportunity and the most vulnerable among us are seen and supported. With both legislative and executive responsibilities, the Chair leads the strategic policy direction, priorities and budget aimed at serving the community equitably and effectively. The Chair works with the Board of Commissioners to implement policy, priorities and budget under the Home Rule Charter. All departments and Nondepartmental policy offices, report to the Chair. The Chair is a key stakeholder at national, state and regional tables, as a convener for community partnerships and as a spokesperson for the core mission, values, and initiatives critical to the County.

The Chair oversees a \$4.0 billion budget and over 6,000 employees. Responsibilities include: developing an executive budget, appointing department directors, overseeing contracts, presiding over Board meetings, executing policies and ordinances adopted by the Board, serving as the Chief Personnel Officer and maintaining strong ties and connections with Multnomah County residents and other regional leaders.

The County plays a critical role providing a wide range of safety net services, which strive to reduce the systemic inequities that disproportionately harm Black, Indigenous and other communities of color. Many of the Chair's priorities, including preventing and ending homelessness, deepening family safety and stability, providing accessible, whole-person healthcare to underserved populations, and reducing the use of incarceration while increasing the use of diversion programs, are aligned with the County's work to build a more equitable community.

During FY 2026, Chair Vega Pederson will maintain or increase focus on the following priorities:

- Addressing and preventing homelessness in our community.
- Addressing substance use and increasing access to recovery and mental health services.
- Collaboration with local and statewide housing partners to align and coordinate resources and workflows.
- Continued development and expansion of shelter and affordable housing capacity in the County, maximizing revenues from the Metro Supportive Housing Services (SHS) Measure.
- Sustained investment in child, youth and family supports, particularly through the Preschool for All (PFA) program.
- Championing County Strategic Planning and continued implementation of Workforce Equity Strategic Plan (WESP) strategies that move the County towards greater safety, trust & belonging in the workplace for all employees.
- Maintain focus on supporting the progress of the Multnomah County Library Capital Bond.

**Performance Measures**

| Measure Type | Performance Measure  | FY24 Actual | FY25 Budgeted | FY25 Estimate | FY26 Target |
|--------------|--|-------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| Output       | Ensure broad community input through surveys, meetings, and events.                    | 30          | 30            | 30            | 30          |
| Output       | Meet with State/Fed officials and other stakeholders on issues critical to the region. | 16          | 16            | 16            | 16          |
| Output       | Proactively communicate with residents through a regular community newsletter.         | 12          | 12            | 12            | 12          |

**Performance Measures Descriptions**

Chair Vega Pederson regularly seeks community input and feedback to make budget and policy decisions that best serve the public's interests and community values. The Chair also represents Multnomah County at national policy-making tables convened by Association of Oregon Counties, National Association of Counties and at the Large Urban County Caucus. In addition, she works with regional partners to address shared community challenges, learn and develop cross-jurisdictional solutions.

## Legal / Contractual Obligation

The Multnomah County Chair and Commissioner offices are mandated by the Multnomah County Home Rule Charter, Chapter III, 3.10.(3)

## Revenue/Expense Detail

|                        | Adopted<br>General Fund | Adopted<br>Other Funds | Adopted<br>General Fund | Adopted<br>Other Funds |
|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Program Expenses       | 2025                    | 2025                   | 2026                    | 2026                   |
| Personnel              | \$2,704,304             | \$99,524               | \$2,574,630             | \$192,065              |
| Contractual Services   | \$33,840                | \$0                    | \$383,760               | \$0                    |
| Materials & Supplies   | \$109,927               | \$0                    | \$105,109               | \$0                    |
| Internal Services      | \$266,734               | \$0                    | \$264,806               | \$8,028                |
| <b>Total GF/non-GF</b> | <b>\$3,114,805</b>      | <b>\$99,524</b>        | <b>\$3,328,305</b>      | <b>\$200,093</b>       |
| <b>Program Total:</b>  | <b>\$3,214,329</b>      |                        | <b>\$3,528,398</b>      |                        |
| <b>Program FTE</b>     | 12.50                   | 0.50                   | 11.00                   | 1.00                   |

| Program Revenues     |            |            |            |            |
|----------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| <b>Total Revenue</b> | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$0</b> |

## Explanation of Revenues

This program generates \$8,028 in indirect revenues.  
Other Funds is Preschool for All (PFA) funding. Tax revenues for PFA are budgeted in program offer 25200A.

## Significant Program Changes

**Last Year this program was:** FY 2025: 10000A Chair's Office

In FY 2026, a vacant 1.00 FTE Senior Policy Advisor is eliminated and 1.00 FTE Communications Coordinator is added for a net zero impact to FTE in this program. The increase in contractual services is to provide expanded security services for the Multnomah County Chair.

Board Amendment # 11 reduced this program by \$148,614 and 1.00 FTE Executive Assistant (Staff Assistant).