



Program #10006 - Tax Supervising and Conservation Commission 4/21/2014

Department: Nondepartmental **Program Contact:** Craig Gibons
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating Program **Program Offer Stage:** As Proposed
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

The Tax Supervising and Conservation Commission's 2014-15 program budget is a status-quo budget with the exception of a new line item for \$15,000 for software.

Program Summary

The Commission carries out statutory mandates to oversee budget, debt, and property tax issues of local governments in Multnomah County.

The Commission is responsible for oversight of its 26 member taxing districts in Multnomah County. The member districts account for 90% of the budgeted expenses of local governments in Multnomah County.

The Commission is also statutorily responsible for producing a report, annually, that compiles and analyzes the budgets, property taxes, and debt of all 41 local governments in Multnomah County. The Commission has produced this report every year since 1922.

In addition to its legal mandates (below), the Commission offers training and consulting services to member jurisdictions. Commission staff is active state-wide on budget and property tax issues in both a practitioner role and a legislative advisory role.

The Commission is governed by five volunteer commissioners, appointed by the Governor.

The Commission ensures that violations of local budget law are minimized, especially if the error results in a property tax levy that exceeds authority. Commission staff works closely with the county assessor's office as a double check that property tax levies are requested and calculated accurately.

The Commission considers the citizens to be its primary customers and seeks to make the financial affairs of local governments more transparent and accountable to those citizens.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY13 Actual	FY14 Purchased	FY14 Estimate	FY15 Offer
Output	Provide training and advisory services to member jurisdictions	11	15	15	20
Outcome	Reduce number of objections and recommendations in certification letters	15	10	18	10
Output	Public Hearings Conducted	16	15	15	16

Performance Measures Descriptions

Legal / Contractual Obligation

ORS 294.625 (1) The Commission has jurisdiction over all municipal corporations principally located in Multnomah County with populations exceeding 200,000 and are subject to local budget law. (12 Districts)

ORS 294.625 (2) The Commission has jurisdiction over all municipal corporations principally located in Multnomah County with populations not exceeding 200,000 that are subject to local budget law and have not formally opted out of TSCC's jurisdiction. (29 Districts of which 15 have opted out)

Jurisdiction includes: holding hearings for large districts; reviewing and certifying all budgets for member districts; and compiling and publishing an annual report including all budget, property tax and indebtedness information by district.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2014	2014	2015	2015
Personnel	\$290,025	\$0	\$276,458	\$0
Contractual Services	\$2,000	\$0	\$500	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$8,050	\$0	\$33,947	\$0
Internal Services	\$4,613	\$0	\$4,424	\$0
Total GF/non-GF	\$304,688	\$0	\$315,329	\$0
Program Total:	\$304,688		\$315,329	
Program FTE	2.40	0.00	1.90	0.00

Program Revenues				
Total Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

The Commission has no direct revenue sources. Funding to support the Commission is derived from two sources: Member districts (\$213,000 for FY13-14) and the state's County Assessment Function Funding Assistance (CAFFA) Grant (\$69,700 for FY13-14). The County also provides office space for the Commission (valued at \$25,500 for FY13-14).

Member districts contribute on a pro-rata share per a statutory formula (ORS 294.632). Contributions range from \$250 to \$109,000. Prior to 2009-10 the County was solely responsible for funding the Commission. Statutory changes in 2009-10 distributed costs to all member jurisdictions and has saved the County an average of \$102,000 annually. The contribution from each district is deducted from the district's property tax receipts before they are turned over to the districts. The Assessors Office increases the County's tax receipts by those amounts.

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: 10006 Tax Supervising & Conservation Commission

Budget expenditures have been re-prioritized to provide \$15,000 this year for the purchase of software to automate the Commission's data compilation and analysis functions. The Commission currently uses excel spreadsheets to track, consolidate, and analyze 41 budgets totaling to \$11 billion and all the associated property tax and debt for the jurisdiction. A data base system will be more efficient and expedient and it will broaden the Commission's analysis and reporting capabilities.