

Department: County Management

Program Contact: Tim Mercer

Program Offer Type: Existing Operating Program

Program Offer Stage: As Adopted

Related Programs:
Program Characteristics: One-Time-Only Request

Executive Summary

The County Clerk scaled offer represents a carryover of unspent restricted revenues for the County Clerk that reside within the General Fund. A portion of fees on recorded documents is dedicated for the County Clerks pursuant to Oregon Revised Statute 205.320(2), to acquire storage and retrieval systems and maintain and restore records as authorized by the County Clerk. Carryover funds will be used for services to continue conversion of historical recorded documents and other County Clerk records to digital format for a Digital Research Room, and to maintain County Clerk records and systems.

Program Summary

The County Clerk Functions Program consists of recording land-related and other legal documents, issuance of Marriage Licenses and Domestic Partnership Registrations, acceptance of Passport Applications, creation and maintenance of permanent records, issuance of certified copies, and administration of the Board of Property Tax Appeals (BoPTA). BoPTA is responsible for hearing petitions from taxpayers who disagree with their property values or waive personal property late filing fees based on evidence provided by the taxpayer.

The County Clerk Carryover Program for FY 2022 will continue the digitization of a large portion of the County Clerk historical records that are currently in microfiche and microfilm format, as well as some hard copy records, in addition to providing for the maintenance of existing county clerk records and systems. In the past, these records have been available to the public in DART's public research room via microfilm and microfiche. Records from 1965 forward are available electronically at public access terminals on-site, via the County Clerk Recording system. The digitization of historical records in FY 2022 continues an ongoing records digitization project. By converting records to digital/electronic format, the County is positioned to no longer rely upon antiquated microfilm and microfiche equipment, and to provide for optimal space utilization. The Program aligns with DART's strategic business plan to provide public access to County Clerk records through the consolidated Customer Service Office, providing public records in an accessible electronic format via a new Digital Research Room implemented during FY 2014. This comprehensive approach provides improved and efficient service delivery for access to public records. The scaled Program Offer utilizes unspent restricted revenues dedicated for the County Clerk that reside within the County General Fund, to continue digitization of County Clerk records, services related to the new Digital Research Room and maintenance of County Clerk records and systems.

Due to COVID-19, the majority of the team telework and will continue so going forward at a level that ensures all services are provided in a timely and equitable manner. The Digital Research Room is currently closed, but is equipped to open to the public on an appointment only basis with limited capacity once the pandemic situation improves. Work continues with our software vendor to make this functionality available online with the hope of having this functional within FY22.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY20 Actual	FY21 Budgeted	FY21 Estimate	FY22 Offer
Output	Number of digital records converted and uploaded to the Digital Research Room (in millions)	.3	1.5	.5	1.5
Outcome					

Performance Measures Descriptions

The number of digital records converted and uploaded to the Digital Research Room was a new measure in FY15. Digital images include record index and recorded document images. Since FY2013 we converted and uploaded 3.2 million index and document images for years 1965 through 1993. The Performance Measure is measured in millions of document pages.

Legal / Contractual Obligation

The County Clerk functions are governed by Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) Chapter 205. ORS 205.320(2) requires that a portion of the document recording fees be dedicated to a County Clerk Fund established by the County governing body, for the purpose of acquiring records storage and retrieval systems and maintaining and restoring records as authorized by the County Clerk.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds
Program Expenses	2021	2021	2022	2022
Contractual Services	\$48,410	\$0	\$141,100	\$0
Total GF/non-GF	\$48,410	\$0	\$141,100	\$0
Program Total:	\$48,410		\$141,100	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
Beginning Working Capital	\$48,410	\$0	\$141,100	\$0
Total Revenue	\$48,410	\$0	\$141,100	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

The carryover revenue in this Program, in the amount of \$141,100, represents unspent "restricted revenues", and is a portion of recording fees dedicated to the County Clerk that reside in the General Fund. Under GASB #54, these funds are restricted for purposes described in Oregon Revised Statute 205.320(2).

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2021: 72025B DART County Clerk Carryover