



MULTNOMAH COUNTY OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

2025

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2025 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

The 2025 Legislative Session presents an unique opportunity to support essential programs and services in Multnomah county, the most populous and diverse community in the state with nearly 800,000 residents. In partnership with state partners, the County will work to develop innovative solutions to budget, service delivery, and racial equity challenges.

The following report details the County’s 2025 State Legislative Agenda, budget and policy priorities for this session. We aim to do the following in this session:

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2025 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Invest in Oregon's Behavioral Health System

Advocate for increased state investment in the Behavioral Health System's services and workforce to ensure all residents can access critical, culturally responsive, and evidence-based services.

- Advocate for capital funding to increase targeted capacity across our region's behavioral health system.
- Address the behavioral health workforce shortages with a package of policies aimed at training, recruiting, and retaining a skilled workforce to meet the increasingly high-acuity needs of the community.

Promote Community Safety & Justice

Advocate for full funding to implement important justice reforms in an equitable and efficient manner to ensure access to justice, treatment, and reform.

- Seek full funding for Community Corrections and Specialty Courts.
- Secure funding for the implementation of HB 4002 and deflection programs.
- Support efforts to continue to address the shortage of public defenders.
- Support efforts to increase efficiency and effectiveness in the state medical examiners program.
- Invest in outreach, violence prevention, and intervention services for youth in East Multnomah County.

Expand Housing and Shelter Capacity

Support legislation that prioritizes the needs of people experiencing homelessness, including preventing homelessness, coordinating behavioral health services, adding shelter and recovery beds to provide safety off the streets.

- Continue state funding to maintain and expand local shelter capacity to meet the significant need.
- Increase funding for programs that prevent homelessness, such as weatherization, landlord incentive pools, long-term rent assistance, and eviction prevention programs.
- Expand housing retention programs and support for permanent supportive housing programs.

Invest in Transportation, Infrastructure, and Resilience

Advocate for passage of a comprehensive transportation funding package during the 2025 Session. Ensure stable funding for services that ensure the safety of our transportation and infrastructure systems, focusing resources to ensure the resilience, safety, and well-being of communities in the wake of climate change.

- Invest in a statewide transportation package that stabilizes local transportation funding and promotes safety, resilience, and equity for communities.
- Leverage local and federal funds for the Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge



project through state investment.

- Promote state and local efforts to make our communities more resilient to climate change and seismic events.
- Continue support for modernization of the Emergency Medical Services system, including improving workforce recruitment.

Protect Services for Our Most Vulnerable

Support the well-being of the children, families, and seniors in our community by bolstering an array of safety net services that prioritize the Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities.

- Advocate for continued work to leverage state, local, and Tribal resources to solve missing, murdered, and trafficking cases involving Indigenous people.
- Fund statewide support services for immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers in Oregon.
- Invest in Local Public Health Authorities statewide to ensure essential public health protections are in place for all Oregonians and equitable health outcomes are achieved.
- Fund programs for HIV early intervention, prevention, outreach, and family support services.
- Support for school-aged children and families, including culturally responsive, inclusive, preschool and afterschool experiences.
- Support adequate funding for older adults, people with disabilities, and individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- Support increased investments in services for individuals who have experienced or are at risk of domestic violence, sex trafficking, or for individuals who have been victims of crime.
- Support pregnant and postpartum people and their infants to foster strong early relational health and thriving families.
- Support a statewide ban on flavored tobacco products to protect the health of all Oregonians.

Improve Governance and Revenue Processes to Increase Efficiency

Support targeted improvements to the deed recording and surplus property processes to ensure equitable outcomes for community members.

- Increase state funding assistance for county assessment and taxation functions to ensure stable revenue for local cities and districts
- Align and clarify the roles of state and county campaign finance programs
- Enact protections for property owners to fight the emerging ‘deed fraud’ issue
- Support a straightforward and statewide approach to returning financial equity to former property owners
- Continue to ensure local control of land use, zoning, and other local government enforcement priorities.