

**Notice of County Measure Election**

26-114

**SEL 801**

rev. 01/10; ORS 250.035, 250.041  
250.175, 254.103, 254.465

**County and Notice Information**

Notice is hereby given on July 14, 2010, that a measure election will be held in  
Multnomah County, Oregon on Nov. 2, 2010.  
Name of County or Counties Date of Election

The following shall be the ballot title of the measure to be submitted to the county's voters.

**Caption** 10 words

See attached Measure F.

**Question** 20 words

**Summary** 175 words

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SECRETARY OF ELECTIONS

The following authorized county official hereby certifies the above ballot title is true and complete.

Signature of Authorized County Official not required to be notarized

Date Signed mm/dd/yy

Jeff Cogen

Chair

Printed Name of Authorized County Official

Title

7/16/2010

# MEASURE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

## Required for all Measures Submitted with Multnomah County Elections

ELECTION DATE Nov. 2, 2010	MEASURE NUMBER 26-114	
BALLOT TITLE CAPTION Multnomah County Library District		
NAME OF PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR CONTENT OF STATEMENT Agnes Sowle, County Attorney		
NAME OF JURISDICTION PERSON REPRESENTS Multnomah County		
E-MAIL agnes.sowle@co.multnomah.or.us	TELEPHONE NUMBER 503-988-3138	FAX NUMBER 503-988-3377

*Please use space below or attach text on a separate sheet of paper.*

See attached Measure F.

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WORD/NUMBER COUNT TOTAL (500 word/number limit) \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR CONTENT OF STATEMENT

DATE

7.14.10

26-114

## BALLOT MEASURE F

- CAPTION:** Multnomah County Library District
- QUESTION:** Should the County Charter allow the Board of County Commissioners to form a county library district by voter approval?
- STATEMENT:** This measure amends the Charter to allow the County to form a library district with requirements specific to the County. The library district would have the powers granted to districts and public libraries by state law and by the Charter, including imposing ad valorem property taxes to support its services. The Board of County Commissioners would be the governing body of the library district. The amendment would provide the method of forming the library district, its organization and management, and the process for giving voters notice and hearing. A separate election would be required to form the district. This district would be different from those formed by the two methods available under state law. It takes effect on November 3, 2010.

### EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The Library is a County Department funded by the general fund and a five year serial levy that expires in 2012. A serial levy is not a stable source of library funding. It requires voter approval every five years for the majority of the funding. In fiscal year 2009-2010, the levy provided 62% of the library's budgeted funding. A library district with a permanent tax rate would be a more stable funding source, but it would cause some revenue loss to other jurisdictions within the County. Under state law, the two methods to form a county library district require consent of other jurisdictions in the district before the Board may place the measure before voters. This measure would add a section to the Charter allowing the Board to set a county-specific method of library district formation.

Multnomah County library provides:

24/7 online access to information, learning resources, and the library catalog

- Each day more than 14,000 people visit the 19 libraries and there are more than 15,000 website visits.
- An average of 29.9 books are checked out every year for every man, woman, and child in the county.
- Library staff answers 1.9 million questions a year.

Programs for school age children, story hours for babies and toddlers, summer reading, literacy services for children in child care, homework help, programs for teens

- 62,000 kids participated in the Library's Summer Reading program in 2009, which includes over half of the county's elementary school children
- More than 300,000 people attend library programs and events for children and teens each year.

Book delivery to homebound seniors and nursing home residents

Library services for jobseekers, small business owners, and English language learners

Among US libraries serving fewer than 1 million residents, Multnomah County Library ranks No. 1 in annual circulation of books and materials, according to the 2009 Public Library Data Service Statistical Report.

The Charter Review Committee found that the Library provides important services to county residents and should have a stable funding source, and that the question of forming a Multnomah County Library District with a permanent tax rate should be decided by all voters within the County, without prior restriction or consent.

This measure would provide the County with another method of forming a Multnomah County Library District as determined by the Board of County Commissioners.

The measure will take effect November 3, 2010.

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