



Office of Citizen Involvement
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Contact us for more news and information about how to have a voice in county government. Check us out at www.citizenweb.org and on Facebook and Twitter!



"I know of no safe depository of the ultimate powers of society but the people themselves."

—Thomas Jefferson, 1821

Citizen Involvement in the Multnomah County Home Rule Charter

3.75. Citizen Involvement.

- (1) The office of citizen involvement is hereby established. The office of citizen involvement shall develop and maintain citizen involvement programs and procedures designed for the purpose of facilitating direct communication between the citizens and the board of county commissioners.
- (2) A citizens' committee and the structure of the citizen involvement process shall be established by ordinance.
- (3) The board of county commissioners shall appropriate sufficient funds for the operation of the office and the committee.
- (4) The citizens' committee shall have the authority to hire and fire its staff.

[Amendment proposed by Ord. 427 §2 (1984) (ballot measure 25), adopted by people Nov. 6, 1984]



Multnomah County Office of Citizen Involvement (OCI)

Annual Report
(FY 2013-14)

"I would encourage anyone with an interest in strengthening mental health services, public safety, bridges and transportation, sustainability initiatives and many other critical efforts, to contact the Office of Citizen Involvement to discover more about the many opportunities that are available for citizens to have a voice in county government."

—Sue O'Halloran, CIC Chair



- ✓ Provided support to 78 citizens who volunteer for the Citizen Involvement Committee (CIC) and Citizen Budget Advisory Committees (CBACs).
- ✓ CBACs presented their recommendations to the Board of Commissioners for the FY 2014-15 budget.
- ✓ Created online budget survey to educate the public and gather input concerning what the county's budget priorities should be. More than 1,275 surveys were submitted. The input was analyzed in written report and also presented during a board meeting.
- ✓ Conducted live education & recruitment campaign at nine events to educate the public about the county recruit new volunteers. Had meaningful conversations with more than 160 people and 55 people requested more information about volunteering.
- ✓ Attended four Local Government Access Workshops hosted by the Chair's Office to discuss engagement and volunteer opportunities.
- ✓ Organized and hosted three Diversity Outreach Workshops about conducting outreach to diverse populations and forming partnerships, including one at the Northwest Public Employees Diversity Conference.
- ✓ Conducted training workshop about recruiting new volunteers for staff who support committees. Additionally, offered one-on-one consultations concerning advisory committees (e.g., new Animal Services Advisory Committee, Investment Advisory Board).
- ✓ Consistently posted new material to OCI's websites, and Facebook and Twitter accounts. Maintained online database listing county volunteer opportunities and the profiles of volunteers.
- ✓ Coordinated 2014 Volunteer Awards Ceremony where 74 volunteers were honored, including Dr. Connie Masuoka, who received the Gladys McCoy Award for her lifetime of work donating free dental care and advocating for Japanese-Americans.
- ✓ Honored Trans Active Gender Center founder Jenn Burleton with the 7th annual Sy Award at the CIC Annual Dinner for her work on equity issues that has given voice to and improved the lives of transgender people.
- ✓ Contributed OCI staff time supporting efforts of employee resource groups and committees (e.g., Vital Aging Network, Public Safety Committee, Webbuilders).
- ✓ Developed succession plan to hire the next Director.



- Continue support for the CIC and CBACs.
- Hire new Director.
- Strengthen partnerships with community organizations by meeting with their leaders in person.
- Host budget or topical forums, and/or budget surveys to generate input for county decision-making.
- Co-host kick-off for the Building an Age Friendly Campaign.
- Continue conducting the live education & recruitment campaign to increase knowledge about the county and recruit new volunteers. Add new element of gathering concerns about the county to pass on to the appropriate decision-makers.
- Explore new strategies for maximizing the accessibility of OCI's programs and activities to county residents.
- Continue program to support county committee staff, including at least one new training, maintenance of the intranet site, and one-on-one consultations upon request.
- Complete two Department Reviews of the Office of Sustaibility and the Local Public Safety Coordinating Council in order to enhance their citizen engagement efforts.
- Host 2-3 Diversity Outreach Workshops, including a session at the annual Northwest Public Employees Diversity Conference.
- Host the Multnomah County Volunteer Awards Ceremony, and present the 2014 Gladys McCoy Award winner.
- Present the 8th annual Sy Award at the 2015 CIC Annual Celebration Dinner.