

Program #10023 - OHS Local Option Levy

Program Contact: Mark Campbell 2/17/201

Nondepartmental **Department:**

Program Offer Type: Existing Operating Program Program Offer Stage: As Requested

Related Programs:

Program Characteristics: In Target

Executive Summary

The Oregon Historical Society (OHS) is a private not-for-profit entity founded in 1898. Since 1899, it has received appropriations from 1) state government (except 2002-6) in recognition of its operation of the state history museum and a large Oregon history research library; 2) Multnomah County (\$335k per year, 1999-2003) as a participant in the county library levy; and 3) Multnomah County special purpose levy 26-118 in November 2010 that provides for levy support at the rate of \$0.05 per thousand of assessed value and renewal of the second five-year period at the same rate.

Program Summary

OHS operates the Oregon History Museum, the Davies Family Research Library, and educational programs for adults, families and school groups (and also serves as the Multnomah County history repository). After nearly a decade of cuts in appropriations, programs, and service hours, the levy funding (which started in 2011) has provided basic operational support, as well as funding to underwrite the improved hours of service in the library, free admission to residents of Multnomah County and all Oregon school groups, improved collections development and care, and new and exciting programming. OHS is committed to serving the diverse communities of the region and the state, and reflects that commitment in every aspect of its operations.

Four east county historical societies of Fairview-Rockwood-Wilkes (renamed East County Historical Organization – ECHO), Gresham, Troutdale and Crown Point Country will together receive \$160,000 per year from the levy proceeds. The levy allocates the balance, estimated at \$2.657,160 in FY 2016/2017, to the Oregon Historical Society for its programs and operations.

The levy has provided basic operational support and has certainly increased OHS's public services. The library has been open 32 hours a week since the July 2011 levy funding went into effect and will continue to be open 32 hour a week during the duration of the second levy and will continue to serve additional patrons. Due to the levy funding, the increased public programs have reached more Oregonians than ever and will continue to focus on programs to reach all corners of Oregon with the passage of the second levy. The levy provided funds to preserve, maintain and display its vast number of collections and the passage of the second levy will continue OHS' ability to enhance collections care and display more of Oregon's treasures.

Performance Measures								
Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY16 Actual	FY17 Purchased	FY17 Estimate	FY18 Offer			
Output	Multnomah County citizens admitted free of charge.	24,894	22,800	25,000	25,000			
Outcome	Improved library hours per week	32	32	32	32			
Output	Increased number of public programs	208	227	215	230			
Quality	Care of Collections through additional curator/registrar	3	1	1	1			

Performance Measures Descriptions

In 2016, the traveling exhibit Chinese American: Exclusion/Inclusion and Beyond the Gate: A Tale of Portlands Historic Chinatowns exhibits opened to rave reviews, which has helped increase Multnomah County residence visits by 135% since 2011. The exhibit has also developed a partnership between the Chinese American community and OHS with the Chinese New Year Dragon Dance events and programs starting from China Town to OHS.

Legal / Contractual Obligation

Measure 26-118 provides the Oregon Historical Society with a five-year property tax levy at the rate of \$0.05 per thousand dollars of assessed value. Four east county historical societies (Fairview-Rockwood-Wilkes, Gresham, Troutdale, and Crown Point Country) will together receive \$160,000 per year from the levy proceeds.

Board Resolution 2016-010 renewed the local OHS option levy another five years beginning in fiscal year 2017.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2017	2017	2018	2018
Contractual Services	\$0	\$2,596,778	\$0	\$3,065,286
Internal Services	\$0	\$7,500	\$0	\$7,500
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$2,604,278	\$0	\$3,072,786
Program Total:	\$2,604,278		\$3,072,786	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Program Revenues								
Taxes	\$0	\$2,584,788	\$0	\$3,053,536				
Interest	\$0	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000				
Beginning Working Capital	\$0	\$16,490	\$0	\$16,250				
Total Revenue	\$0	\$2,604,278	\$0	\$3,072,786				

Explanation of Revenues

This is a dedicated local option property tax levy collected by Multnomah County on behalf of the Oregon Historical Society (OHS). OHS receives no other County funding.

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2017: 10023 OHS Local Option Levy

Board Resolution 2016-010 renewed the local OHS option levy another five years beginning in FY 2017. This levy will end in FY 2021.