



**Program #78902 - ARP - Digital Access Program** FY 2024 Department Requested

**Department:** County Assets **Program Contact:** Tracey Massey  
**Program Offer Type:** New **Program Offer Stage:** Department Requested  
**Related Programs:**  
**Program Characteristics:** Out of Target

**Executive Summary**

The Digital Access Program addresses community disparities in digital access and affordability. The program tracks barriers to digital equity throughout Multnomah County, identifies and implements strategies to address these barriers, and aligns planning with community organizations, other municipalities, and the State of Oregon.

**Program Description**

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the essential function of the internet in daily life. Yet an estimated 28,000 Multnomah County households do not have broadband internet access, for several reasons. Low-income Black, Indigenous, and other residents of color are less likely to be connected as the cost of home internet presents a major barrier. High-speed broadband infrastructure is unavailable to at least 1,200 households. Access to technology and digital skills are required. A lack of digital access further compounds the disproportionate harms of the pandemic, economic inequality, and systemic racism in our community.

In response, this program developed a roadmap in FY 2023, communicating strategic actions to support community connectivity in Multnomah County. This effort has been closely coordinated across Multnomah County departments, with the City of Portland, the State of Oregon, and with other public, private, and nonprofit groups Countywide. The Digital Access program will work to advance the roadmap’s recommendations. The program will continue to coordinate with federal, state, and local stakeholders, provide Countywide technical assistance on broadband and digital inclusion issues, pursue grant opportunities, convene with community stakeholders to refine next steps, and develop an implementation plan.

**Performance Measures**

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY22 Actual	FY23 Budgeted	FY23 Estimate	FY24 Offer
Output	Develop implementation plan for Multnomah County’s digital access initiative. 1	N/A	N/A	N/A	100%
Outcome	Percentage of component projects underway by end of year	N/A	N/A	N/A	100%

**Performance Measures Descriptions**

PM#1 - Complete implementation plan based on approved roadmap  
 PM#2 - All roadmap components initiated  
 Outcomes speak to the alignment of infrastructural, policy, and community-based approaches to digital inclusion. This program will decrease disparities in broadband connectivity in Multnomah County.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Department Requested General Fund	Department Requested Other Funds
<b>Program Expenses</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2024</b>
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$180,433
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$29,567
<b>Total GF/non-GF</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$210,000</b>
<b>Program Total:</b>	<b>\$0</b>		<b>\$210,000</b>	
<b>Program FTE</b>	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00

<b>Program Revenues</b>				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$210,000
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$210,000</b>

Explanation of Revenues

This program is funded with American Rescue Plan Act funding.

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2023: 78902 ARP - Digital Access Coordinator