Program #80002 - Neighborhood Libraries — 2/24/2014

Department: Library   **Program Contact:** Rita Jimenez

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

Related Programs: 80001

Program Characteristics: In Target

Executive Summary

This program offer is for the 13 neighborhood libraries: Albina, Capitol Hill, Fairview-Columbia, Gregory Heights, Holgate, Kenton, North Portland, Northwest, Rockwood, Sellwood-Moreland, St. Johns, Troutdale and Woodstock libraries. Last year residents visited neighborhood libraries over two million times and benefited from diverse learning, cultural, and recreational opportunities.

Program Summary

Neighborhood libraries serve as community facilities where residents can attend classes, programs, and community forums that provide opportunities for neighbors to interact. County residents have access seven days a week, including some evenings, to a collection of 595,263 books. This includes more than 100,000 e-books, streaming movies, music, and downloadable audiobooks. In the past year, e-book check out increased by 40%.

Children and young people participate in storytimes, Summer Reading and after-school activities (peak hours for juvenile crime). Residents develop critical life skills through job training resources, book groups, civic engagement, and other library programs. Libraries help bridge the digital divide by providing free Internet access and basic computer classes to those without computers or an Internet connection. Language learning and educational programs and access to citizenship classes improve employment opportunities and quality of life for residents with low English proficiency and limited resources.

Neighborhood libraries offer a variety of programs that provide opportunities for neighbors to interact. Dedicated volunteers from youth to seniors contributed 30,300 hours of service this past year, and more than 900 groups used free library space for community meetings. In addition, libraries serve as a bridge for the diverse cultures within Multnomah County. Residents who are non-English speakers enjoyed 1,396 bilingual programs and events this past year. Neighborhood libraries provide opportunities and resources for lifelong learning by providing free access to computers and high-speed wireless Internet. Neighborhood libraries' 348 public computers and devices with Internet access, along with patron's personal devices, were used for a total of 590,000 Internet and wi-fi sessions. More than 660 free computer classes and labs helped attendees develop life and job skills. Research indicates that youth participation in summer reading programs results in improved reading skills and enhances all other learning. More than 109,000 children participated in the 2013 Summer Reading program across the library system, and 106,250 people attended youth programs at neighborhood libraries last year.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY13 Actual	FY14 Purchased	FY14 Estimate	FY15 Offer
Output	Books and items checked out or renewed	8,430,072	8,500,000	8,300,000	8,300,000
Outcome	Patrons who rated Neighborhood Libraries' public programs good or excellent	92%	97%	95%	95%
Efficiency	Cost per item checked out or renewed	$2.42	$2.42	$2.58	$3.25

Performance Measures Descriptions

Efficiency: Cost per item checked out or renewed (total annual expenditures/total circulation). Among the nation's busiest libraries, Multnomah County Library has one of the lowest costs per item checked out. Upward trend is caused by circulation decreasing in FY 13, likely due to reduced hours and Monday closures.

Legal / Contractual Obligation

The budget reflects the passage of Measure 26-143: "Form Library District with permanent rate to fund library services," November 2012 General Election. The district summary states in pertinent part: "If approved, the Multnomah County Library District would be formed with a permanent rate dedicated to library services, operations, books, materials, programs, activities and oversight of the district. Formation of a District would ... prevent reductions in services, programs and activities, and hours."

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	**2014**	**2014**	**2015**	**2015**
Personnel	$0	$10,962,749	$0	$11,010,660
Contractual Services	$0	$14,200	$0	$13,500
Materials & Supplies	$0	$175,742	$0	$158,970
Internal Services	$0	$2,177,750	$0	$2,364,300
Total GF/non-GF	**$0**	**$13,330,441**	**$0**	**$13,547,430**
Program Total:	**$13,330,441**		**$13,547,430**	
Program FTE	0.00	140.00	0.00	139.25

Program Revenues				
Total Revenue	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**

Explanation of Revenues

The revenue allocated to this program offer reflects an intergovernmental service reimbursement from the Library District (99.6%) and resources from the County's Library Fund (0.4%). It represents a pro-rated share of property taxes (96%) and other revenues such as overdue fines, delinquent library levy taxes, interest earnings, grants, and user charges for services provided to library patrons (4%).

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: 80002 Neighborhood Libraries

Net reduction of 0.75 FTE.