

Department: Library **Program Contact:** Jon Worona
Program Offer Type: Administration **Program Offer Stage:** Proposed
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

IT Services provides leadership and resources for the library’s technology vision, ensuring robust and sustainable technology, and supporting innovative, inclusive service to diverse communities and staff. This program maintains computers, mobile devices, equipment, networking, applications integration, development, and security. It also supports learning, creation, and productivity for the public and staff.

Program Description

ISSUE: The library is committed to digital equity and inclusion, to increase access to equipment, internet, and tech help.

PROGRAM GOAL: Library IT Services defines and develops technology solutions that align with patron and staff needs and support library priorities.

PROGRAM ACTIVITY: The library’s IT Services partners with County IT to maintain more than 1,000 public computers and mobile devices, the library website, intranet, software, servers, internet access, and Wi-Fi in library facilities. Library users can search the catalog of materials, manage their accounts, download e-books, stream audio and video content, use electronic resources, and access the internet for educational, business, and personal use. Children and adults use library computers and tablets to do research, complete homework, apply for jobs, find reading, communicate, and participate in social media. Public computers also provide office software to accomplish personal, business, and school work. The library offers computers and software in training rooms, for use in libraries, or to take home. Many public computer users have no access to a computer or high-speed internet at home, so the library is their only window to technology, communication, and information. IT Services also regularly maintains more than 800 computers, equipment, and software for library staff, supporting office computing and systems such as the library catalog, patron database, circulation system, materials acquisition system, electronic resources, and other internal operations. Due to bond-related closures and openings in the coming year, IT Services will support the disconnection, move, storage, refresh, acquisition, configuration, and installation of many of the public computers, staff computers, and related equipment within this program.

RACIAL EQUITY ADVANCEMENT: This program supports and is influenced by the Digital Equity and Inclusion Coordinator, and participates in the regional Coalition of Digital Equity (CODE). Library IT Services runs the Tech Lending program that provides digital literacy training and Chromebook loans. Tech Lending prioritizes BIPOC patrons. Most patrons are referred to the program through community partners or by staff specifically working with BIPOC communities.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Performance Measure	FY23 Actual	FY24 Budgeted	FY24 Estimate	FY25 Target
Output	Number of public computers	588	911	911	1,025
Outcome	Library user satisfaction with the availability of public computers and Wi-Fi	98%	75%	98%	95%
Output	Number of public computer sessions	N/A	N/A	260,000	278,000
Output	Number of public devices using Wi-Fi	N/A	N/A	620,781	1,250,000

Performance Measures Descriptions

Number of public devices using Wi-Fi” counts unique devices once per day, per location. Device counts are not subject to misrepresentation by factors that can inflate the count, allowing for a more accurate measure of library Wi-Fi usage. Public computer sessions are now tracked separately. Metrics that rely on the patron survey are from the most recent survey, in October 2022. The library is currently redesigning the patron survey, and will complete the next iteration in the fall of 2024.

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

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2024	2024	2025	2025
Personnel	\$0	\$1,215,899	\$0	\$1,278,871
Contractual Services	\$0	\$638,090	\$0	\$298,150
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$1,728,396	\$0	\$1,655,743
Internal Services	\$0	\$8,365,554	\$0	\$8,817,259
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$11,947,939	\$0	\$12,050,023
Program Total:	\$11,947,939		\$12,050,023	
Program FTE	0.00	6.00	0.00	6.00

Program Revenues				
Total Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

This program generates \$52,562 in indirect revenues.

The revenue allocated to this program offer reflects an intergovernmental service reimbursement from the Library District (99.97%) and resources from the County’s Library Fund (0.03%). It represents a prorated share of property taxes (98%), other revenues such as interest earnings, grants, and user charges for services provided to library patrons (2%).

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2024: 80018 IT Services

The library sunsetted Wi-Fi hotspot lending for FY 2025 because the program was initiated during COVID to provide internet access while locations were closed, but due to new and ongoing technology support costs—associated with larger spaces with more robust technology access, including library Wi-Fi—this service is no longer viable.

IT Services is funding a new audiovisual support function, contracted through County IT. This asset will provide support and guidance to library patrons and staff using audiovisual technology funded by the Library Capital Bond Program.