



Program #90009B - Charter Reform Rank Choice Voting: Voter Education and Outreach Staffing FY 2024 Adopted

Department: Community Services **Program Contact:** Tim Scott
Program Offer Type: New **Program Offer Stage:** Adopted
Related Programs: 90009A, 90010
Program Characteristics: One-Time-Only Request

Executive Summary

This program offer provides funds for ranked choice voting (RCV) system software maintenance fees and two full-time limited duration positions in the Elections Division. The positions will support voter education, outreach, and customer service, including for implementation of RCV for City of Portland contests by the 2024 General Election and for Multnomah County contests by the 2026 General Election, as well as implementation of the new Oregon Votes registration database. The one time only personnel funds will pay for the continuation of a limited duration voter education and outreach Program Technician (bilingual) position and limited duration Clerical Unit Supervisor position that were established on a pilot basis with one-time-only (OTO) funds in FY 2023.

Program Description

The FY 2023 Adopted Budget provided one time only funds for two limited duration, full-time pilot positions in Elections: a Program Technician (bilingual) in Voter Education & Outreach (VEO) and a Clerical Unit Supervisor to support front-line customer service staff. This program offer provides continued one time only funds for these positions, supporting implementation of RCV. This program offer also provides one time only funds for an increase in the annual maintenance fee associated with necessary upgraded software for ballot design and vote tabulation to support County implementation of RCV.

The Program Technician assists in culturally-specific voter education activities and community outreach, and provides language services. The position supports data collection, communications, strengthening VEO program language assistance services, and continues to build a framework to support voting for citizens who speak a language other than English in the home. The Program Technician directly supports the RCV implementation consistent with the division’s vision of conducting accessible elections, providing outreach and education for all potential voters and candidates, and centering the needs of communities of color, people with disabilities, and speakers of languages other than English.

The Clerical Unit Supervisor provides leadership to Elections staff who are the first point-of-contact to voters that need help with voter registration and voting. This includes supporting staff in testing of the new statewide Oregon Votes registration database. Testing of the new system begins in spring 2023 and is scheduled to go live in summer 2023. The system will also enhance VEO activities by streamlining electronic registration and allowing for improved data collection on the effectiveness of voter outreach activities to underrepresented communities. As the County implements RCV, the position will lead customer service staff fielding an anticipated increase in voter assistance requests. The position will provide leadership capacity to support frontline workers by reinforcing training on language interpretation services, racial equity, Think Yes customer service standards, and trauma informed service delivery.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY22 Actual	FY23 Budgeted	FY23 Estimate	FY24 Offer
Output	Number of regular and on-call customer service workers trained on RCV rules	New	New	New	43
Outcome	Outreach interactions with voters about RCV	New	New	New	1,000

Performance Measures Descriptions

The performance measures for FY24 include
1) the estimated number of customer-facing staff trained on RCV rules by the Clerical Unit Supervision, and
2) the number of voter outreach interactions with voters at in person events by the VEO program tech position.

Legal / Contractual Obligation

The two positions funded by this program offer will help Multnomah County meet the needs of voters learning about Ranked Choice Voting that will be implemented as required by: Oregon Revised Statutes 246.200, which provides county clerks are responsible for conducting elections; Portland City Charter, Article 1, Section 3-102, which requires use of RCV to commence with the 2024 general election; and Multnomah County Home Rule Charter, Chapter XI, 11.15(4), which requires use of RCV no later than the 2026 general election.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds
Program Expenses	2023	2023	2024	2024
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$262,742	\$0
Contractual Services	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$5,258	\$0
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$0	\$318,000	\$0
Program Total:	\$0		\$318,000	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	2.00	0.00

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

Explanation of Revenues

This program is supported by one time only County General Funds.

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was:

In FY 2023 these two FTE were funded by one-time-only County General Fund under 90010D and 90010E.