

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

Executive Summary

In anticipation of historic interest in and turnout for the 2024 presidential election cycle and the implementation of Ranked Choice Voting (RCV), this program offer will provide one-time-only funding for additional temporary and limited duration staffing, security, and traffic control that will provide County voters with an accurate, transparent, efficient and accessible Presidential Election in November, 2024.

Program Description

The presidential general election is the largest election in the 4-year cycle. Voter registration, customer service demand and voter participation increase with high-turnout elections. The implementation of ranked choice voting for City of Portland contests will add additional complexity to the presidential election as it is being conducted for the first time in the same election. Preparations require Elections to increase staffing to support extra workload, provide additional resources for the security of staff and infrastructure, and provide increased levels of traffic control at drive-up drop sites.

The Elections Division operates year round with 14 permanent staff relying on a large pool of temporary on-call election workers to conduct elections. In these large election cycles, Elections will utilize up to 200 on-call workers for everything from voter outreach to processing returned ballots. This funding will also support additional staffing for our satellite voting center in Gresham, providing meaningful access to communities of color, people with disabilities, and speakers of languages other than English in East Multnomah County. Elections will also supplement its full-time staff with two limited duration office assistant senior positions to improve customer service responsiveness during this period of increased community need.

During the 2020 presidential election cycle, the Elections Division experienced an unprecedented need for security resources due to a national narrative about threats to elections. Four years later this narrative continues and election workers continue to feel uneasy about the potential for violence against election administrators. 90010B will provide funding for security officers and Sheriff Deputies' overtime at three buildings and many drop sites around the county.

With the high turnout of the presidential election, county ballot drop sites are heavily used. In order to ensure the smooth flow of traffic at drive-up ballot drop sites on the final two days of the election, Elections contracts with both County Transportation staff and private traffic control contractors. This ensures the safety of voters and ballot collection staff.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Performance Measure	FY23 Actual	FY24 Budgeted	FY24 Estimate	FY25 Target
Output	Number of ballots dropped at drive-up ballot drop sites	N/A	N/A	54,002	140,000
Outcome	Percentage of Voters served in languages other than English at the Voting Center Express	N/A	N/A	5.0%	5.5%

Performance Measures Descriptions

The output measure refers to the number of ballots dropped at drive up drop sites during the presidential general election and measures the need to provide traffic control as a safety measure (FY23 Actual and FY24 Estimate are for the highest turnout election in that fiscal year.) The outcome measure, percentage of voters served in languages other than English at the Voting Center Express, captures a key equity goal that will be expanded through this program offer.

Legal / Contractual Obligation

Multnomah County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 5, describes the process for county initiative/referendum petitions and how to fill vacancies in county elective offices. Multnomah County Administrative Rules, Multnomah County Language and Effective Communication Policy, Oregon Administrative Rules, Chapter 165, addresses state-wide uniformity in the conduct of elections. Oregon Revised Statutes, Chapters 246 through 260, provide legal authority for conducting elections in Oregon. Federal mandates (Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, The Voting Rights Act, The National Voter Registration Act, The Help America Vote Act and the Military and Overseas Empowerment Act) establish election administration standards.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds
Program Expenses	2024	2024	2025	2025
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$45,000	\$0
Contractual Services	\$0	\$0	\$135,000	\$0
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$0	\$180,000	\$0
Program Total:	\$0		\$180,000	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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

Explanation of Revenues

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: