

Program #90010C - Elections Voters Pamphlet

FY 2024 Department Requested

Department: Community Services Program Contact: Tim Scott

Program Offer Type: New Program Offer Stage: Department Requested

Related Programs: 90010A, 90010C, 90010D

Program Characteristics: Out of Target

Executive Summary

This program offer provides additional ongoing funds to restore the November 2023 voters' pamphlet which was proposed to be cut to help the department cover its share of the general fund constraint.

Program Description

The Elections Division has focused its constrained program offer 90010A on statutorily mandated functions like voter registration, printing, mailing, and processing ballots and was unable to fund the November 2023 voters' pamphlet. The County voters' pamphlet is not mandated by State law or County code but is a key component to voter engagement, education, and access. Program offer 90010C is an offer to restore Elections' portion of the FY 2024 general fund budget constraint and thereby restoring this communication tool that voters have come to expect.

The County voters' pamphlet is the Elections Division's most broadly distributed education and outreach tool, promoting equitable elections access for voters, candidates, and campaigns. It is mailed to every household and contains basic information about voter registration and voting in the County's seven most commonly spoken languages. It is also an inexpensive advertising option for candidates who may not otherwise be able to afford the kind of reach that the voters' pamphlet delivers. In the County voters' pamphlet candidates from all jurisdictions can file a statement for a cost ranging from \$25 to \$300 depending on the position, and arguments for or against any measure can be printed. The State does not produce a voters' pamphlet in odd-numbered years, so without the County voters' pamphlet there would be no option for candidates to file statements or for measure arguments to be published.

Performance Measures								
Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY22 Actual	FY23 Budgeted	FY23 Estimate	FY24 Offer			
Output	November 2023 County Voters' Pamphlet Restored	New	New	New	1			
Outcome	Percentage of households reached by voters' pamphlet	New	New	New	100%			

Performance Measures Descriptions

The output measure refers to the number of voters' pamphlets that would be funded by this program offer and the outcome measure refers to the percentage of households in districts involved in the November 2023 election that would be reached with the voters' pamphlet.

Legal / Contractual Obligation

While the creation of a county voters pamphlet is not mandated by state statute or county code, many of the components of the Multnomah County voters' pamphlet meet requirements of the Multnomah County Language, Communication and Cultural Access Policy and best practices for language access in elections.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Department Requested General Fund	Department Requested Other Funds
Program Expenses	2023	2023	2024	2024
Contractual Services	\$0	\$0	\$59,000	\$0
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$0	\$59,000	\$0
Program Total:	\$0		\$59,000	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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

Explanation of Revenues

This program is supported by ongoing County general funds.

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2023: 90010C Elections Capacity - Ballot Production