Program #91010A - Elections | 4/25/2019

Department:	Community Services	**Program Contact:**	Tim Scott
Program Offer Type:	Existing Operating Program	**Program Offer Stage:**	As Proposed
Related Programs:	91010B		
Program Characteristics:			

Executive Summary

The Elections Division conducts all local, city, county, state and federal elections for the citizens of and all political districts within Multnomah County. Under Oregon law, regular election dates are in March, May, September and November. Under state and local law, special elections and recall elections can also be called at any time of the year.

Program Summary

The Elections Division conducts transparent, accurate, accessible and accountable elections in Multnomah County and maintains the public's confidence and trust in the elections process. The Division conducts all local, city, county, state and federal elections for the citizens of all political districts within Multnomah County. Elections include votes on ballot measures and all elected offices from the local level to the federal level.

Conducting elections involves many processes including registering voters; maintaining the statewide voter registration and election management database; maintaining address and district data; checking signatures on city and local candidate and initiative petitions; accepting candidate and measure filings; producing voters' pamphlets; issuing and mailing ballots; managing the main office, a satellite voting center and 27 other drop site locations; accepting and processing returned ballots; providing assistance to voters with disabilities and voters who speak languages other than English; counting ballots; and releasing results. During major elections, the Elections Division brings on as many as 260 temporary workers to assist its 12 full time staff.

The Elections Division also conducts the Voter Education and Outreach program as part of its core services. The program works to identify and remove barriers to voter participation in underserved communities through building relationships, community engagement and targeted education and outreach opportunities. The Voter Education and Outreach program is informed by direct outreach to underserved communities, organizational and community partnerships and results from a voter survey, focus groups and mapping voter behavior with demographic data.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY18 Actual	FY19 Purchased	FY19 Estimate	FY20 Offer
Output	Percentage of voters using ballot tracking	7%	8%	10%	11%
Outcome	Percent of customers who are satisfied with counter service	100%	97%	98%	97%
Efficiency	Personnel cost per 1,000 ballots cast	$1,023	$960	$840	$1,000

Performance Measures Descriptions

Percent of voters using ballot tracking is percent of voters using BallotTrax to track and receive messages about ballot status. Percent of customers satisfied with counter service is percent of customers indicating that service met or exceeded expectations. FY Actual for the personnel cost per 1,000 ballots cast measure is for the gubernatorial primary, FY19 Purchased and FY19 Estimate are for the gubernatorial general election and FY20 Offer is for the presidential primary.

Legal / Contractual Obligation

Multnomah County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 5, Elections, 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 by county. Rules deal with issues such as county voters' pamphlets and voting by mail. Oregon Revised Statutes, Chapters 246 through 260, provide the legal authority for all aspects of 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

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	**2019**	**2019**	**2020**	**2020**
Personnel	$1,843,942	$0	$1,868,950	$0
Contractual Services	$454,715	$0	$1,126,387	$0
Materials & Supplies	$1,441,202	$0	$707,172	$0
Internal Services	$1,037,549	$0	$1,080,089	$0
Total GF/non-GF	**$4,777,408**	**$0**	**$4,782,598**	**$0**
Program Total:	**$4,777,408**		**$4,782,598**	
Program FTE	12.00	0.00	12.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	$75,000	$0	$75,000	$0
Other / Miscellaneous	$20,000	$0	$0	$0
Service Charges	$1,239,178	$0	$1,199,121	$0
Total Revenue	**$1,334,178**	**$0**	**$1,274,121**	**$0**

Explanation of Revenues

Some revenue is generated through reimbursements from districts for their apportioned share of the cost of an election. Election expenses are always reimbursed by special districts. Special elections called by the state or cities are reimbursed by the state or the city calling the election. By state law, cities and the state cannot be charged for the cost of the election in the primary or general election. The county must pay for those district's apportioned cost in these elections. In addition to election reimbursement, the budget has revenue of $6,650 for reimbursement of costs related to petitions processing.
Two smaller special elections are included in the FY 2020 budget at $344,444 each. The November Special Election is also in the budget at $477,706. Budget amounts for these special elections are calculated at 100% reimbursement.
Reimbursement for the Presidential primary election in May 2020 is budgeted at 3%, or $25,877.
Revenue also includes $75,000 in projected revenue from the state for costs associated with Oregon Motor Voter. This funds one FTE whose primary job function is to process new voter registrations, many of which originate from the DMV.

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2019: 91010A-19 Elections

No significant changes in this program offer.