

Land Acknowledgment

Multnomah County acknowledges the land that we occupy as residents is unceded Indigenous land. The Portland Metro area rests on traditional village sites of the Multnomah, Wasco, Cowlitz, Kathlamet, Clackamas, Bands of Chinook, Tualatin, Kalapuya, Molalla, and many other tribes who made their homes along the Columbia River creating both permanent communities and seasonal encampments. Due to the strategic and systemic efforts to annihilate Indigenous peoples from these lands and history, there are many other tribes and Nations who traditionally lived, hunted and fished in what is now Multnomah County and Oregon that are not collectively remembered.

Multnomah County also acknowledges the history of the Portland Metro area as a destination site for the Indian Relocation Act of 1956, which coerced many Native people to leave their homes on tribal land and assimilate into the dominant culture. Because of this history, Multnomah County is home to the ninth largest urban Indian population in the United States. We honor the enduring relationship that exists between Indigenous peoples and this occupied land.

Settlers from across the globe come to Multnomah County seeking a better way of life. And Multnomah County owes this opportunity to our Black and African siblings whose stolen lives and labor were used to build the city, county and country that the people of Multnomah County call home.

This acknowledgment serves to bring awareness to the past and current contributions of Indigenous and Black peoples, and to highlight the ongoing resilience and solidarity between and among Indigenous and Black peoples. Multnomah County will continue to work in solidarity to uplift the collective power, leadership, creativity and wisdom of Indigenous and Black communities in Multnomah County and beyond. This budget serves, in part, as a roadmap to supporting the strength and resilience within Indigenous and Black communities by proposing extensive investments in the County's partnerships with culturally specific and responsive community-based organizations.

Please take a moment to offer respect and appreciation to the Indigenous peoples whose traditional homelands and hunting grounds are where residents of Multnomah County live, learn, work, play and pray. In remembering these communities, we honor their legacy, their lives and their descendants.