

Multnomah County
FY 2027 Budget Work Session Follow Up



**Health Department -
Public Health**

May 7, 2026

Commissioner Singleton & Brim Edwards (Districts 2 & 3)

Please explain the difference in services for the STI Clinic between FY 2026 and FY 2027. Please explain the year-over-year increases and decreases in program offers 40010A & 40010B.

Part 1 Response:

The STI Clinic and the Harm Reduction program are undergoing a clinic integration project in FY 2027 to stabilize both programs and ensure continuity of care across locations. There will be staff from both locations that are cross trained in offering the services listed below. They will work rotating weekly shifts at each location to keep the doors open 5 days per week between the two programs.

FY 2026 STI Clinic Services:	FY 2027 STI Clinic Services:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● HIV/STI Testing & Treatment (chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis, HIV)● Immunizations● PrEP, nPEP, and Doxy PEP Navigation● STI Express services (just checking asymptomatic screening)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Wound Care● HIV/STI Testing & Treatment (chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis, HIV)● Immunizations● PrEP, nPEP, and Doxy PEP Navigation● STI Express services (just checking asymptomatic screening)

FY 2026 STI Clinic Services:	FY 2027 STI Clinic Services:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expedited partner therapy (EPT) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expedited partner therapy (EPT)

Part 2 Response:

The difference between Program Offers 40010A and 40010B year to year is the movement of the Disease Intervention Specialist (DIS) Program budget from one to the other (40010A to 40010B). In FY 2026, the total for the DIS program staff was \$1,158,783. That was documented in Program Offer 40010A. In FY 2027, the total for the DIS program is \$1,179,366.21 and that is now documented in Program Offer 40010B. The small increase to the DIS program reflects operational and staffing costs increasing, the number of staff has remained the same.

Commissioner Brim Edwards (District 3)

How are we addressing food deserts in East County? What could the County take action on, and who are we partnering with?

Response:

How are we addressing food deserts?

- **Policy & Systems Foundation:** We are driving long-term Policy, Systems, and Environmental (PSE) change through CDC ACTION and REACH grants. This includes Public Health Division staff co-chairing the Multco Child & Family Food Security Coalition and participating in the Rockwood Food Systems Collaborative (RFSC).
- **Direct Access & PRx (Food as Medicine):** We operate the People’s Farmers Market and implement Produce Prescription (PRx) and Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) programs

through culturally specific CBOs. These programs prioritize access to culturally appropriate, nutritious food that helps manage chronic conditions like diabetes and hypertension.

- Monitoring and staying aware of rapid changes in the food system.

What could the County take action on? These are all ideas we are exploring and looking further into. They are not concepts that are in action.

Policy, Procurement, & Land Use:

- Address land access barriers for urban farming by securing land, developing a policy remedy for the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB), and exploring changes to restrictions on selling community garden produce.
- Implement moratoriums on new fast-food outlets and amend zoning codes for mobile markets/farmers' markets.

Infrastructure & Prevention:

- Launch Healthy Food Access Fund ([Healthy Food Financing Initiative \(HFFI\)-style](#)) to attract new grocers and pursue a Supermarket Closure Notice & Mitigation Ordinance.
- Secure a [Community Benefits Agreement \(CBA\)](#) to reserve retail space for a grocer at the Gateway and/or Grocery Outlet property.
- Fund [Healthy Corner Retail Initiatives](#) (equipment, training) and support community food banks (e.g., Rosewood Initiative Food Bank, Equitable Giving Circle) with funding for food and staff.

Logistics & Access:

- Expand PRx programs (CSA, vouchers, grocery cards) and facilitate the ability for small, local vendors to accept federal assistance (Increase WIC/SNAP Retailer Access).
- Improve transportation access through "Grocery Bus" Routes and Healthy Food Delivery Partnerships with rideshare/nonprofits for seniors/families with chronic conditions.

Entrepreneur Support:

- Leverage the OSU Food Innovation Center to provide technical assistance to local farmers and food entrepreneurs, linking them to the County's food supply chain (i.e., SUN Program).

Who are we partnering with?

- Culturally specific CBOs (Play Grow Learn, Ethiopian and Eritrean Cultural and Resource Center (EECRC), Mudbone Grown Farm and Feed Em Freedom Foundation, NAYA, the Somali American Council of Oregon (SACOO) through ACHIEVE and the African CBO Coalition, East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District, DCHS, Oregon Black Food Equity Collective (OBFEC), Feed Black Oregon, Rockwood Food Systems Collaborative (RFSC), OSU College of Business, and the OSU Food Innovation Center

Commissioner Moyer (District 1)

What was the total loss of state and federal funds over the last two years?

Response:

The Public Health Division lost more than \$8.9 million in Federal and State funds from the Adopted FY 2025 budget to the Proposed FY 2027 budget. This excludes ARPA funding.

Commissioner Moyer (District 1)

Are we preempted from charging liquor license fees in addition to the State fees?

Response: County Attorney

The [Board approved](#) imposition of the maximum amount allowed for application and renewal of liquor licenses under Oregon law in 2021. The County is prohibited from imposing any additional fines.

Commissioner Brim Edwards (District 3)

How do we address the syringes that are not returned to the County?

Response:

The Harm Reduction Clinic can safely dispose of used needles. Any person or organization can bring used syringes to us for disposal. As part of our exchange program, we also provide small, safe needle disposal boxes so people can dispose of needles safely in real time. We have also worked with Metro to set up larger safe disposal sites across the county and region. There are 13 different Metro [syringe disposal boxes across Portland](#). Locations include Multnomah County facilities, community-based locations, and four Portland Fire & Rescue stations.

Commissioner Moyer (District 1)

Do we have the regulatory authority to require organizations that distribute syringes to also accept them for disposal?

Response:

We do not currently have any ordinance in Multnomah County requiring organizations that distribute syringes to also accept them for disposal. Regarding regulatory authority in general, as the Local Public Health Authority, we do not have outright authority to require the above. It may be helpful for county counsel to also advise on this question.

As an employer, the county can require that our county run clinics that distribute syringes also accept used syringes for safe disposal. There is a cost for properly disposing of used syringes.

Commissioner Brim Edwards (District 3)

Is there a relationship between the Portland People's Outreach Project (PPOP) and the CareOregon clearinghouse, and Multnomah County?

The County stood up the clearinghouse when? And does it also operate it or did the County just set it up initially? How many syringes does it distribute annually, how many exchanged, and are those also tracked?

Response:

We do not have a contract with Portland People's Outreach Project. However, funding from CareOregon established a clearinghouse for naloxone and other harm reduction supplies, including syringes as part of safe injection kits. This clearinghouse was open to organizations that provide services to those at an increased risk for overdose and communicable diseases including PPOP.

The Health Department stood up the clearinghouse in 2022. The original CareOregon funding was to support the tri-county area. Starting in 2024, the clearinghouse focused on Multnomah County only. We track pharmaceuticals (naloxone), safe use kits, syringes and wound care kits. The clearinghouse was not set up as an exchange. Since it started in 2022, the clearinghouse has distributed 528,705 needles, spending \$40,657 out of \$5,950,000 (.006% of the total budget). We did not track the annual distribution of needles. We only have a total count. The clearinghouse no longer distributes syringes.