



# MULTNOMAH COUNTY AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST NOTICE OF INTENT

(Revised: 9/23/13)

## Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date: 1/30/14  
Agenda Item #: C.2  
Est. Start Time: 9:30 am  
Date Submitted: 1/15/14

**Agenda Title:** NOTICE OF INTENT for Multnomah County Health Department to submit a grant for up to \$140,000 from the EPA for Environmental Education.

<b>Requested Meeting Date:</b>	<u>January 30, 2014</u>	<b>Time Needed:</b>	<u>NA – Consent Item</u>
<b>Department:</b>	<u>Health</u>	<b>Division:</b>	<u>Environmental Health Services</u>
<b>Contact(s):</b>	<u>Kari Lyons-Eubanks and Laurel Bentley</u>		
<b>Phone:</b>	<u>503-988-3400;</u>	<u>25860;</u>	<b>I/O Address:</b> <u>231/3/350; 160/9</u>
<b>Presenter Name(s) &amp; Title(s):</b>	<u>NA – Consent Item</u>		

## General Information

### 1. What action are you requesting from the Board?

Approval for the Director of the Health Department to submit an application for up to \$140,000 to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Office of Environmental Education for a grant to support Environmental Education activities focused on “Addressing Climate Change and Improving Air Quality.”

### 2. Please provide sufficient background information for the Board and the public to understand this issue. Please note which Program Offer this action affects and how it impacts the results.

Changes in the area’s climate are likely to have substantial consequences for the health of Multnomah County residents and the way that the County and City governments serve the public. Individual and community health will be impacted by the immediate consequences of events like hotter summers as well as the indirect effects spurred by changing populations of plants, animals, and microorganisms. Hotter summers, warmer, wetter winters, forest fires and temperature inversions and shifts in ground-level ozone can contribute to an increase in many health issues, such as:

- Heat related morbidity and mortality, particularly among vulnerable populations such as the elderly and low-income.
- Breathing air containing ozone is associated with diminished lung function, increased

asthma, and increases in premature mortality.

Local air quality affects how residents live and breathe. Many air toxics, such as diesel particulate matter and ozone, have been well documented as affecting health. The region already suffers from diminished air quality, with burdens falling disproportionately on certain communities including the Native American community. Multnomah County's AI/AN population is as large as 40,783; diverse (descendants from over 400 tribes); and young (43% under age 25). It is the county's fastest growing community and has the 2nd highest pregnancy rate among 15-24 year olds. Native Americans are intimately linked to the environment through community, tradition, and lifestyle and stand to bear an inordinate amount of the burden of climate change.

Native communities have also experienced a long history of betrayal and coercion by the government, resulting in a significant lack of trust in public programs, services, and policy; and health promotion planning by non-Native people often overlooks Native perspectives, traditions, and input. Multnomah County Health Department (MCHD) Environmental Health Services has been working with the Wisdom of the Elders and the Native American Youth Association on the MCHD Climate Equity Workgroup in an effort to address these injustices and address climate change needs. This group is charged with providing recommendations to the City of Portland and Multnomah County on how both the Climate Action Plan and Climate Preparation Strategy can meaningfully engage the Native community in development and implementation of action items that help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and help communities to be resilient. In a listening session with the Youth and Elders Council in October 2013, several themes emerged when MCHD asked the community "What are the primary community issues related to climate change?" and "What concerns, questions, or ideas do you think need to be addressed in order to improve implementation of our plan to reduce greenhouse gases?"

This project works to address these concerns by engaging, empowering and informing the urban Native community. The project intends to engage community-based organizations (Wisdom of Elders, Native American Youth and Family Center, Groundwork Portland, Coalition of Communities of Color, Native Timber Council, Colombia River Intertribal Fish Commission, Friends of Trees) that have a longstanding history working with Native communities in the Portland metropolitan area. MCHD will subcontract with these Native American community-based organizations to participate in a Native American Youth and Elder Environmental Stewardship Leadership Council that will guide the development of a climate health curriculum, video series and teacher's guide including professional development training specific to the Pacific Northwest region. This will be based on culturally specific educational materials piloted by Wisdom of the Elders in Alaska. The organizations will pilot the curriculum, which will be a combination of western science and indigenous ecological knowledge, in several classroom, community and outdoor settings.

MCHD will employ a Community Health Worker with past experience working in the local Native American community who will engage community leaders in a train the trainer model about the basics of climate change, the impacts of climate change on health, specifically the health and traditions of Native Americans in the Portland urban environment, and provide solutions for reducing our carbon footprint. The team's Community Health Worker will train community leaders to teach the climate health curriculum to multigenerational

community members, in an out of school setting, including youth and elders participating in an outdoor summer field science camp that includes service learning during daily field trips environmental education summer camp. Professional development training on traditional ecological knowledge from the perspective of local tribal scientists will also be provided to state, county and city policy analysts and equity professionals.

**3. Explain the fiscal impact (current year and ongoing).**

This is a one-time funding opportunity.

**4. Explain any legal and/or policy issues involved.**

None

**5. Explain any citizen and/or other government participation that has or will take place.**

Community and tribal organizations will participate as an advisory council for the development and dissemination of environmental education plans.

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**Grant Application/Notice of Intent**

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If the request is a Grant Application or Notice of Intent, please answer all of the following in detail:

• **Who is the granting agency?**

The Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Environmental Education (EPA).

• **Specify grant (matching, reporting and other) requirements and goals.**

Projects must be completed by June 30, 2016. Specific financial, technical, and other reporting requirements to measure the grant recipient's progress will be identified in the EPA grant award agreement. Grant recipients must submit periodic formal progress reports as instructed in award agreement.

• **Explain grant funding detail – is this a one time only or long term commitment?**

This is a one time funding opportunity.

• **What are the estimated filing timelines?**

Grant applications are due February 4, 2014.

• **If a grant, what period does the grant cover?**

The grant covers a project period from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2016.

• **When the grant expires, what are funding plans?**

When grant funds expire the project will be complete.

• **Is 100% of the central and departmental indirect recovered? If not, please explain why.**

All central and indirect costs are recovered in this project.

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**Required Signatures**

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**Elected Official  
or Department/  
Agency Director:**

**1/15/2015**

KaRin Johnson for Joanne Fuller /s/

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Budget Analyst:** Althea Gregory /s/

**Date:** 1/15/2015