

# Multnomah County Oregon

## 2010 State & Federal Legislative Agenda



**January 14, 2010**

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**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
501 SE HAWTHORNE, SUITE 600  
PORTLAND, OREGON 97214  
(503) 988-5895**

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**TED WHEELER ● CHAIR  
DEBORAH KAFOURY ● DISTRICT 1  
JEFF COGEN ● DISTRICT 2  
JUDY SHIPRACK ● DISTRICT 3  
DIANE MCKEEL ● DISTRICT 4**

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## **Board of County Commissioners Statement**

The Multnomah County Board of County Commissioners is pleased to present its 2010 state and federal legislative agenda. The agenda is the result of discussions with community members, consultations with our partners within and outside the county, technical advice from county professionals, and collaboration among commissioners.

The agenda provides guidance to state and federal entities on the needs and interests of Multnomah County. It also provides standing authority for the county's lobbyists to represent the agenda before state and federal officials in legislative settings. The agenda is both a reflection of the values of the Board of County Commissioners and a response to the economic and social conditions in Multnomah County.

While the national economy has shown some signs of recovery, unemployment continues to be high for Multnomah County and Oregon. The county's unemployment rate is 10.9% and the national rate is 9.8%. This means that the need for county public services will remain high, especially in human services and public safety.

At the state level, Oregon will go to the polls later this month to vote on two tax measures that impact the state's 2009-2011 budget. The Oregon Legislature passed the measures as part of a budget balancing plan that included \$2 billion in cuts to state agencies, use of reserve funds, and federal stimulus dollars. The outcome of the votes will affect Multnomah County's FY 2010 budget.

Regardless of the outcome of the votes, Multnomah County stands ready to partner with the State of Oregon and the federal government to promote the well being of our communities and residents.

Sincerely,

Ted Wheeler, Chair

Deborah Kafoury, District 1

Jeff Cogen, District 2

Judy Shiprack, District 3

Diane McKeel, District 4

**Multnomah County Oregon**  
**Economic Snapshot**  
**Fall 2009**

	<u>Multnomah County</u>	<u>Oregon</u>
Population, 2008 estimate	<b>714,567</b>	<b>3,790,060</b>
Median household income, 2007	<b>\$48,876</b>	<b>\$48,735</b>
Persons below poverty, 2007	<b>15.0%</b>	<b>13.0%</b>
No. of Businesses (non-farm), 2006	<b>24,692</b>	<b>110,684</b>
Size of workforce (non-farm), 2006	<b>403,119</b>	<b>1,461,664</b>
Unemployment Rate (Not seasonally adjusted Sept. 2009)	<b>10.9%</b>	<b>11.5%</b>

Source: US Census



**2010 STATE PRIORITIES**  
**February Supplemental Legislative Session**



**COUNTY SPONSORED BILLS**

**Local Control.** Support legislation to lift preemptions and other restrictions on local government, including the preemption on local tobacco taxes. In the 2009 Oregon legislative session, the House of Representatives passed HB 2616 to remove the state preemption on local government tobacco taxes. The legislature adjourned before the Senate could fully consider the bill.

**Property Tax Abatement Housing Incentive.** Seek legislation to grandfather the property tax abatements of mixed-use developments participating in property tax abatement housing incentive programs prior to August 2009. According to a recent opinion by the Attorney General, the abatement has been incorrectly applied to the commercial portions of the developments. In order to not financially jeopardize the housing portion of the developments, the grandfathering is necessary as a first step to making changes to property tax abatement housing incentive programs.

**Forced Released Inmate Population Authority.** Seek legislation that provides supervisory authority over inmates released as the result of jail capacity limits. Multnomah County does not have the legal authority to supervise and impose conditions of release for these inmates; thereby imposing an unnecessary risk to public safety.

**Human Trafficking Hotline Info Posting.** Seek legislation that encourages retail establishments that sell alcohol to voluntarily post information on the national hotline for human trafficking. Public awareness of sex trafficking of minors is relatively low despite recent a nationwide law enforcement operation. The posting of hotline information can aid in reducing human trafficking. Other states have taken such steps in the effort to stop this exploitation of minors.

**Mobile Home Property Tax Option.** Seek legislation that permits the cancellation of property taxes for mobile or floating homes whose assessed values are less than \$15,000. Affordable housing is critical need in Multnomah County. Cancellation of the taxes would provide a financial benefit to mobile home residents and the county in terms of cost savings.

**PRIORITIES**

**State 2009-11 Budget.** Support efforts to maintain or increase state funded public safety and human services that affect Multnomah County's ability to protect vulnerable populations and to maintain public safety. The March 2010 state revenue forecast and the outcome of Measures 66 and 67 will determine the legislative action the Oregon Legislature undertakes. Multnomah County will respond accordingly to support or oppose legislative actions that promote the county's interests.

**Wapato Jail.** Seek a partnership with the Department of Corrections to utilize the Wapato Jail facility. The 525-bed facility offers many options that can meet county and state public safety needs.

**Elections.** Support legislation that removes the requirement to create a new voter precinct as the result of non-contiguous land being annexed by cities. The requirement places an administrative burden that is costly to Multnomah County.

**Mental Health.** Monitor the progress and outcomes of SB 5529's budget notes on mental health integration and psychiatric acute care funds. Support efforts that expand resources for both subacute and acute psychiatric care. Monitor reform efforts in the state's mental health system. Support efforts to ensure that uninsured populations are cared for and cost-effectively managed by the county. Oppose legislation that undermines Multnomah County's mental health system.

**Health Privacy.** Support legislation that permits the exchange of patient mental health information between health providers and mental health organizations as it pertains to state efforts in integrating physical and mental health care. Multnomah County mental health system is a significant provider of mental health services. How patient information is used and shared is important to the well being of the individual and an important responsibility for physical and mental health care providers.

**Commercial Surety Bonds Industry.** Oppose legislation that reinstitutes the bail bonds industry in Oregon. A bail bonds system would undermine Multnomah County's Pretrial Release Services system and introduce the potential for abuse without any guarantee for improving failure to appear rates.



## 2009-2011 STATE AGENDA POLICY AGENDA

(Carried over from 2009- descriptions modified slightly)



### **LOCAL CONTROL**

**ISSUE:** *State preemptions and other restrictions on local government discourage creative solutions to local problems and undermine local authority. Multnomah County needs to have all the tools in its toolbox to meet the needs of its residents.*

**POSITION:** Support lifting state preemptions and oppose any new state preemption that reduces local authority or local revenue sources.

### **STATE MANDATES**

**ISSUE:** *Multnomah County is bearing the brunt of underfunded services required by the State in corrections, health and human services, and other areas including court facilities. As a result, Multnomah County has supplemented what it receives from the state with County General Funds in order to meet its statutory obligations. Given the economic situation and growing community needs, the County General Fund is not able to sustain these services.*

**POSITION:** Support adequate funding to cover actual costs of providing state required services and oppose efforts that underfund these services.

### **MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM**

**ISSUE:** *First responders that treat persons suffering a mental health crisis do not have a viable and cost effective alternative to hospital emergency rooms or the County jail to take these persons for proper treatment. This means improper care and added expense to emergency responders, local area hospitals, and the jail system. The lack of a sub-acute assessment and treatment facility in Multnomah County is a huge gap in the mental health system.*

**POSITION:** Support efforts that expand resources for both subacute and acute psychiatric care. Monitor reform efforts in the state's mental health system to ensure that uninsured populations are cared for and cost-effectively managed for the county.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

**ISSUE:** *Multnomah County is a very important part of the state's public safety system due to it being the most populated county in the state with the most active law enforcement, judicial, and parole and probation systems in the state. Multnomah County has proven that local knowledge combined with evidence based practices is a national model of success.*

**POSITION:** Support legislation and state partnerships that provide the best results in public safety and maximize resources in Multnomah County. This includes facilitating state partnerships in juvenile parole and probation services and with the county's Wapato Jail facility.

### **OREGON HEALTH PLAN**

**ISSUE:** *During the 2002 recession, the state drastically reduced the Oregon Health Plan Standard population to cut costs. Many thousands of Oregonians lost coverage. The consequences have dramatically driven up costs for the county's health clinics and for hospital emergency rooms. Reductions in enrollment have resulted in a loss of matching state and federal dollars to Multnomah County to pay for residential treatment services.*

**POSITION:** Support efforts to increase the Oregon Health Plan Standard population. Greater coverage reduces the out-of-pocket expenses for Multnomah County's health clinics.

### **PROPERTY TAX LIMITATION**

**ISSUE:** *Measure 50 created a permanent structural deficit for local government in Oregon. Multnomah County cannot finance public services with revenues generated by a property tax rate that grows slower than real market inflation. Measure 50 property tax system has created inequity for homeowners with equal valued homes but taxed unequally.*

**POSITION:** Support changes to the Oregon Constitution that make Oregon's property tax system more equitable for property owners and more in sync with real market conditions.

### **SUSTAINABILITY**

**ISSUE:** *Multnomah County strives to be more environmentally friendly and energy conscious in its operations. As a government that serves the state's most populated county, there is enormous opportunity to make a difference in promoting the local economy, reducing pollution, and conserving natural resources.*

**POSITION:** Support legislation that makes it easier for Multnomah County and its households to adopt environmental friendly practices in day to day operations.

### **TRANSPORTATION**

**ISSUE:** *Multnomah County is responsible for the maintenance of six Willamette River bridges and nearly 300 miles of roads. The Oregon Jobs and Transportation Act provided the County with needed funding. The State will need to continue working on sustainable revenues for the future that will provide maintenance to the existing system as well as continued growth.*

**POSITION:** Support a fair and reliable system of revenue sources for maintaining the existing transportation system as well as stewarding sustainable growth. Protect the County's revenue sources by advocating for a hold harmless provision for Bridge funding.



**2009-2011 STATE AGENDA  
BUDGET AGENDA**  
(Carried over from 2009 – No changes)



Multnomah County will work to ensure that the programs below are adequately funded based on the following principles:

- 1) **Ensure that services for vulnerable populations are protected.**
- 2) **Ensure that state cuts do not create an additional unfunded mandate for Multnomah County.**

<b>COUNTY PROGRAMS AFFECTED BY THE STATE BUDGET</b>	
<b><u>DEPT. OF COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES</u></b>	DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES Administration and Support
	DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES Services for Children
	AGING AND DISABILITIES SERVICES Access & Early Intervention Services
	AGING AND DISABILITIES SERVICES Adult Care Home Program
	AGING AND DISABILITIES SERVICES Long Term Care
	AGING AND DISABILITIES SERVICES Adult Protective Services
	AGING AND DISABILITIES SERVICES Administration
	<b>Note: for all AGING AND DISABILITIES SERVICES programs receiving Medicaid funding</b>
	MENTAL HEALTH Quality Management and Protective Services
	Mental Health Crisis Services
	MENTAL HEALTH Commitment Services - Waitlist Reduction for State Hospital Admissions
	MENTAL HEALTH Commitment Services - Involuntary Investigation Services
	MENTAL HEALTH Commitment Services - Emergency Holds for Uninsured Individuals
	MENTAL HEALTH Residential Services - Transitional Housing for Adults
	MENTAL HEALTH Residential Services - Residential Services for Adults
	Early Psychosis Intervention Services
	Adult Addictions Treatment Continuum - A/D Residential Treatment
	Adult Addictions Treatment Continuum - Adult Outpatient A/D Treatment
	Youth Gang Prevention
	Housing Stabilization for Vulnerable Populations
	Runaway Youth Services
	Social & Support Services for Educational Success
	Anti-Poverty Services
Child Development Services	
<b><u>DEPT. OF COMMUNITY JUSTICE</u></b>	Gang Transition Svcs - GRIT
	Gang Transition Svcs - EMGET
	Individualized Svcs - FLEX
	OCCF JCP Prevention
	Juvenile Crime Prevention - Basic
	OYA JCP Diversion
	State Mental Health
	CASA
	Parole Hearing
	DOC 1145
	DOC Measure 57 (new)
	DOC Subsidy

	DOC AIP
	DOC Sex Offender DepoProvera
	DOC Prisoner Re-Entry
	OYA Timber Backfill
	OYA SRTP
<b><u>COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT</u></b>	La Clinica
	Public Health and Regional Health Systems Emergency
	Communicable Disease Prevention & Control
	STD/HIV/Hep C Community Prevention Program
	Services for Persons Living with HIV
	Early Childhood Svcs for First Time Parents
	Early Childhood Svcs for High Risk Prenatal
	Early Childhood Svcs for High Risk Infants and Children
	Immunization
	Lead Poisoning Prevention
	Medicaid/Medicare Eligibility
	Dental Services
	Women, Infants and Children (WIC)
	North Portland Health Clinic
	Northeast Health Clinic
	Westside Health Clinic
	Westside Health Clinic Van and Homeless Outreach
	Mid County Health Clinic
	East County Health Clinic
	School Based Health Centers
	Pharmacy
	Health Planning and Evaluation
	Chronic Disease Prevention
<b><u>LIBRARY</u></b>	Early Childhood Resources
<b><u>SHERIFF'S OFFICE</u></b>	MCIJ
	River Patrol
	Fac. Security Unit
<b><u>DEPT. OF COMMUNITY SERVICES</u></b>	Transportation - Road & Bridge Services and Capital



**111<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS FEDERAL AGENDA  
FY2011 APPROPRIATIONS**



**PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE**

**SELLWOOD BRIDGE**

*The Sellwood Bridge is the busiest two-lane bridge in Oregon with over 30,000 daily vehicle crossing. The 90-year old bridge rates very low in federal safety standards as a result of its age and the geological movement of the West Hills buckling the structure. Weight restrictions have been in place since 2004, affecting freight trucks and buses as well as the local economy. Multnomah County has completed the Sellwood Bridge Project DEIS and selected a Locally Preferred Alternative in February 2009. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2012. The cost is estimated at \$330 million in 2014 dollars. The County's funding plan for the construction of the Sellwood Bridge includes the following contributions:*

- \$127M Multnomah County\* (\$19 per year vehicle registration fee passed in October 2009)*
- \$ 11M Previously secured funds remaining from EIS phase\**
- \$100M City of Portland (new revenues from the Jobs and Transportation Act)*
- \$ 22M Clackamas County (new vehicle registration fee)*
- \$ 30M State of Oregon\* (Jobs and Transportation Act)*
- \$ 40M Request to Federal Authorization of Transportation Act*

*Of this funding, \$168 million is secured (\*). An additional \$122 million secured by early 2010 is anticipated. The remaining \$40 million request is dependent on the authorization of the surface transportation bill.*

**POSITION:** Multnomah County seeks \$5 million in FY2011 to conduct the Final Design and right-of-way acquisition for the Sellwood Bridge project. The county is seeking \$40 million in the Surface Transportation Reauthorization Act to complete the project.

**BEAVER CREEK CULVERTS**

*The lower Beaver Creek in Multnomah County is critical habitat to federally endangered species including Lower Columbia River Chinook Salmon and Steelhead Trout, and candidate species including Lower Columbia River Coho Salmon. The existing waterway and wetland are neither conducive to fish passage nor other wildlife. Replacing the Beaver Creek Culverts will improve the habit and enhance fish passage.*

**POSITION:** Multnomah County seeks \$6 million for the replacement of the 3 downstream-most culverts, (Troutdale Rd., Stark St., and Cochran Rd.) with larger culverts or bridges, opening 4.6 miles of Beaver Creek to fish passage. Included is restoration of natural substrate under bridges and culverts; stabilization of stream bed to ensure no head-cutting occurs; removal of non-native exotic (plant) species and replant with native species along bank; and, enhance a forested wetland adjacent to the Stark St. crossing by removal of non-native species with native species. This would improve habitat for many wildlife species including neotropical migratory birds that use riparian habitat for nesting and cover, small mammals that use riparian areas as migration corridors, and native amphibians and reptiles that would utilize wetland habitats.

### **SANDY RIVER TRAIL CONNECTIONS**

*The National Scenic Area Act authorized \$10 million for construction of recreation facilities in the Columbia River Gorge, a national recreational area along the Oregon/Washington border. Only half of the funds have been appropriated and none have been expended in Multnomah County. Consistent with the intent of the Act, the Columbia Gorge Management Plan prioritizes trail construction at the Sandy River Delta, Gorge Gateway area and Lewis and Clark State Park.*

**POSITION:** Multnomah County seeks \$5 million to implement the Sandy River Connections Trail. The Concept Plan was completed in January 2008 and all of the parties have agreed to support its implementation, recognizing increasing public demand for recreational opportunities in this "Gateway to the Gorge."

## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

### **RE-ENTRY SERVICES**

*Multnomah County is responsible for thousands of individuals who re-enter society after completing their prison or jail sentences. Research has shown that successful re-entry is increased when support services are provided such as employment assistance, transitional housing, mental health and addiction treatment. This reduces the likelihood of the individuals re-offending. Seven out of ten individuals who re-enter from prison from county's adult probation and parole division do not recidivate for as long as three years.*

**POSITION:** Multnomah County is seeking \$1.5 million in federal Byrne Grant dollars to support re-entry services. These funds will increase the number of eligible individuals by a third for transitional services, to double the number of transitional housing beds available for returning offenders, increase outpatient treatment slots, and retain mentors and an employment specialist.

### **FINANCIAL AND ELDER ABUSE PROSECUTION PROJECT**

*While seniors comprise just 13 percent of the general population; they possess 50 percent of the total wealth, making them disproportionately targeted for financial fraud and abuse. As seniors live longer, they become increasingly vulnerable to financial manipulation, abuse and neglect. Financial abuse is the fastest growing form of abuse. It is estimated that for every one case of elder abuse, neglect, exploitation, or self-neglect reported to authorities, approximately five go unreported. Between 2007 and 2009, Multnomah County had 1361 cases of financial elder abuse.*

**POSITION:** Multnomah County seeks \$595,000 for investigating financial fraud, prosecuting perpetrators, gathering forensic data, providing support services to victims, educating the public and senior care providers, providing forensic nursing, coordinating services among agencies; and providing enhanced referral services.

## **HEALTH/HUMAN SERVICES**

### **EAST COUNTY SCHOOL BASED HEALTH CLINIC**

*By working in partnership with schools, families, healthcare providers, and community agencies, the Multnomah County School Based Health Clinic (SBHC) Program is able to provide health care for the county's school-age youth in the most readily accessible locations. This results in the early identification and intervention of health issues and the reduction of barriers to care. SBHCs play a major role in the local health care delivery system's ability to curb high-risk behaviors and thus foster academic success for the county's youth. Expansion of these services will support better access to SBHC services to the youth of East County as poverty has shifted in this area.*

**POSITION:** Multnomah County seeks \$350,000 to for capital costs for a health clinic that would serve local income school children with the Centennial and Gresham/Barlow school districts.

#### **GATEKEEPER PROJECT**

*The Gatekeeper model is a national best practice program that identifies at-risk older adults and people with disabilities living in our community and links them to critical social and health services. The program trains volunteers to identify signs and symptoms such as confusion, depression, poor health, functional disability, financial exploitation or unsafe living conditions that may indicate vulnerable adults needing assistance. Volunteers could be meter readers, bank tellers, letter carriers and others that come into contact with older adults or people with disabilities in their daily work activities.*

**POSITION:** Multnomah County seeks \$100,000 to recruit and train 840 volunteer Gatekeepers and 24 Gatekeeper volunteer trainers.

### **SUPPORTED APPROPRIATION REQUESTS FROM COUNTY PARTNERS**

#### **LUKE-DORF MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORTIVE HOUSING**

*The single greatest impediment to diverting many mentally ill persons away from the criminal justice system is the absence of housing resources supported housing in particular. Supported housing, and the use of specialized courts like Community and Mental Health Court, focuses on the underlying issues that result in criminal justice involvement. For a variety of reasons, mentally ill persons with criminal backgrounds are excluded or unwelcome in many types of public housing. While those barriers are surmountable over the long term, they present a formidable challenge when attempting to expedite a speedy diversion for a homeless person from the criminal justice system. A supported housing resource dedicated to specialized courts such as Community Court and Mental Health Court would allow Multnomah County to place appropriate persons in a managed environment that provides mental health services while permanent living and treatment alternatives are arranged. Without an interim intervention like this, homeless mentally ill persons will have little opportunity for a successful court diversion.*

**POSITION:** Multnomah County supports Luke-Dorf's request for \$2 million in capital funds to construct housing in the county.

#### **HUMAN TRAFFICKING VICTIMS SHELTER**

*The biggest obstacle to getting victims of trafficking and forced prostitution off of the streets is a lack of a safe facility where victims can sleep, get physical and mental treatment, and simply be comfortable. The only options currently available are placing the child in foster care or putting them in jail. By providing the victims with a secure and comfortable environment the victims will be given access to the resources and supports they need to provide for themselves away from the predators that control them with fear and intimidation. Not only will this help those wishing to exit the sex trade, but it will also help law enforcement and the District Attorney's Office achieve more convictions. While victims may initially be willing to testify against their abusers, when they have no safe place to stay they nearly always return to the same pimps and thugs who abuse them. This shelter will provide them with the safe bed and moral support that will encourage them to stay under supervision and make the difficult decision to testify against their pimp. Without such a facility, we have very little chance of ending the practice of human trafficking and forced prostitution in our region.*

**POSITION:** Multnomah County will support efforts undertaken by a service provider (to be determined) to seek federal capital funds if needed for building a shelter to serve victims of human trafficking.



**111<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS FEDERAL AGENDA**  
**POLICY AGENDA**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Session - 2010**



**HEALTH/HUMAN SERVICES**

**AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE FOR AMERICA ACT/ PATIENT PROTECTION & AFFORDABLE CARE ACT (HR. 3962/HR. 3590)**

*Experts from across the political spectrum agree that America's health system is broken and unsustainable in its present configuration. Families in Multnomah County are experiencing this crisis right now, confronting the high cost of health care that threatens their financial stability, leaves them exposed to higher premiums and deductibles, and puts them at risk for a possible loss of health insurance. It costs Multnomah County \$61.5 million in county general funds to meet the health needs of its residents including \$19 million for public health, \$14 million for indigent care, \$13 million for corrections health, \$1.5 million for local Medicaid match, and \$14 million for mental health and addictions obligations.*

**POSITION:** Multnomah County supports the inclusion of the following provisions in the federal effort to reform health care.

- 1) Inclusion of new federal designation: "Federally Qualified Behavioral Healthcare Centers"
- 2) Simplification of Medicaid coverage for nurse home visitations
- 3) Public Health Investment Fund/Prevention & Public Health Fund
- 4) Reimbursement of jail for health care costs for pre-adjudicated population eligible for Medicaid
- 5) Extension of the FMAP increase from the ARRA
- 6) Clarification that Medicaid does not prohibit state coverage of therapeutic foster care

**FULL SERVICE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ACT (HR. 3545 – Co-sponsor: Blumenauer)**

*Multnomah County's SUN schools are an active and robust community school system of 58 schools and 6 regional service centers that links academic support, early childhood programs, parent involvement and education, anti-poverty assistance, health care, mental health and addictions treatment in a culturally suitable environment for the county's diverse school population.*

**POSITION:** Multnomah County would seek federal grants authorized in HR 3534 to strengthen its community school system.

**RESTORING THE PARTNERSHIP FOR COUNTY HEALTH CARE COSTS ACT OF 2009 (HR. 2009)**

*An estimated 21 percent of persons booked in Multnomah County's jails in pre-trial status have private or public health insurance coverage, i.e. Oregon Health Plan, Medicaid, Medicare, or SSI. Health care costs in county jails could be reimbursed, providing much needed relief for the county's fiscal health.*

**POSITION:** Multnomah County supports the passage of this legislation with an amendment that requires private health insurance to reimburse for health care provided by county jail staff.

## PUBLIC SAFETY

### **JUVENILE JUSTICE DELINQUENCY PREVENTION ACT OF 2009 (S. 678)**

Multnomah County juvenile justice program is a national model of successful implementation of the goals of the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974. Most importantly, the county has reduced re-offense rates and delinquency of juveniles in its custody using evidence-based practices that prioritize safety. The county's success is in jeopardy because the Act has not been reauthorized. The federal leadership responsible for this success has declined considerably.

**POSITION:** Multnomah County supports the reauthorization of the Act, specifically raising the authorization levels for Title V grants. Since 2002, Multnomah County has lost over \$900,000 in federal juvenile justice funding that came to the county. The impact of these federal cuts has meant *fewer juvenile prevention and intervention services to young people and their families*. In 2002, Multnomah County served 1,200 young people a year in its juvenile justice system. Today it is down to 600 young people despite the need.

### **YOUTH PROMISE ACT OF 2009 (S. 435/HR. 1064)**

*Multnomah County sets the national standard on incorporating evidence-based practices to reduce juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activity. The National Association of Counties, the National Conference of State Legislatures, and US Dept. of Justice have heralded the county's success. Close to 73% of youth served by the county's gang intervention services complete their programs. Of those served, 76% do not recidivate while in the program and 74% do not recidivate one year after completing the program. The Youth Promise Act will support evidenced based prevention and intervention strategies proposed by local councils with federal grants. Grants provided under the act could help retain juvenile justice probation officers.*

**POSITION:** Multnomah County supports the passage of the Youth Promise Act. The Act provides for a thorough evaluation of gang and youth violence prevention programs, including analyses of cost savings to society yielded by investing in prevention and intervention rather than in more costly prosecution and incarceration approaches.

### **RECIDIVISM REDUCTION ACT of 2009 (HR. 2829)**

*Key federal benefits are regularly suspended or terminated upon incarceration and take considerable time to be reinstated after an individual is released. Without the health coverage and other benefits, many newly released individuals cannot fully focus on securing gainful employment and developing a supportive home life. Without these benefits, counties and states end up paying the "full freight" of any health care, disability and other support for people under the supervision of the county's parole and probation, and juvenile justice department as they wind through the system.*

**POSITION:** Multnomah County supports the Recidivism Reduction Act of 2009. HR. 2829 will ensure prompt access to supplemental security income, Social Security disability, and Medicaid benefits for persons released from certain public institutions (such as a jail, or a juvenile detention center).

### **NATIONAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION ACT OF 2009 (S. 714)**

*With the highest incarceration rate in the world, overcrowded prisons, growing gang violence, lack of focus in reintegrating ex-convicts who have paid their debts to society, the criminal justice system in the United States is in great need of repair. Prison spending continues to outpace education and human services in many states. Communities throughout the country would benefit tremendously from a comprehensive review of policies and practices that produces meaning reform.*

**POSITION:** Multnomah County supports the passage of the National Criminal Justice Commission Act. The Act will create commission charged with a top-to-bottom review of the criminal justice system and propose recommendations designed to reduce the overall incarceration rate; to improve drug policy; to improve mental illness treatments, to improve prison management, and to establish a system for reintegrating ex-offenders.

**SECOND CHANCE ACT OF 2007 (HR. 1593/S. 1060)**

When the Congress passed and the President signed the Second Chance Act of 2007, the law provided an important source of federal funds for critical re-entry services such as family-based substance abuse treatment, education programs in jail facilities, job training, mentoring and for program evaluation. Unfortunately, the global recession of 2008 have had a severe impact on local governments' ability meeting the federal match requirement. Many parole and probation services have been reduced, including employment, education, housing, and treatment services.

**POSITION:** Multnomah County supports removing the local match requirement as a result of the recession's recession impact on the county's budget.

**TRAFFICKING DETERRANCE & VICTIMS SUPPORT ACT OF 2010**

*Human trafficking of minors for prostitution is growing problem in Multnomah County and in the nation. In order to effectively stop human trafficking in the United States, a comprehensive approach that includes law enforcement and prosecution, victims' assistance, counseling, public outreach, shelters for victims, and investigations is needed.*

**POSITION:** Multnomah County supports the effort to introduce legislation that authorizes a pilot project of six block grants to provide a comprehensive approach to addressing human trafficking. The grants would be administered by the Office Justice Programs in the Byrner-JAG grants.

**LAND USE/TRANSPORTATION**

**SURFACE TRANSPORTATION REAUTHORIZATION ACT**

*The reauthorization of the federal surface transportation act is the critical final piece of the Sellwood Bridge Project's funding plan. Multnomah County has successfully pulled together diverse sources of funds to complete the reconstruction of the bridge. The plan includes \$30 million from ODOT, \$100 million from the City of Portland, and \$127 million in new county vehicle registration fees from Multnomah County. Clackamas County is considering a vehicle registration fee that would contribute \$22 million to the replacement of the Sellwood Bridge.*

**POSITION:** Multnomah County requests an authorization of \$40 million to complete the reconstruction of the Sellwood Bridge.

**HEALTHY PLACES ACT OF 2006 (S. 2506/HR. 5088)**

*The Portland metropolitan region is undertaking a massive project in rebuilding the Interstate 5 bridge between Oregon and Washington, as known as the Columbia River Crossing. The volume of pollution from vehicles crossing the I-5 bridge 24/7 greatly affects the health of the many neighborhoods on both sides of the river. Multnomah County's Health Department took the initiative to submit its assessment of the health impacts during the development of the DEIS. The assessment was an invaluable tool for decision-makers, transportation planners, and the public in understanding the health effects of each bridge options.*

**POSITION:** Multnomah County supports a federal grant program that encourages local public health agencies to conduct health impact assessments for transportation projects.



# Services Provided By Multnomah County



## The People



Commissioner  
Deborah Kafoury  
District 1



Commissioner  
Jeff Cogen  
District 2



Chair  
Ted Wheeler



Commissioner  
Judy Shiprack  
District 3



Commissioner  
Diane McKeel  
District 4

### Department of Community Justice

- Adult Probation and Parole
- Felony Field Supervision
- Community Service
- Day Reporting Center: Jail
- Sanctions Alternative
- Domestic Violence Supervision
- GED and Employment Preparation for Adult Offenders
- Adult Pre-Trial Services
- Residential and Outpatient Alcohol and Drug Program
- Juvenile Probation
- Juvenile Detention
- Community-Based Detention Alternatives
- Education Provided in Detention
- Gang Transitional Services

### Department of Community Services

- Animal Shelter
- Elections
- Land Use
- Road's and Bridges

### Department of County Human Services

- Adult Foster Care Homes
- Alcohol and Drug Treatment
- Assisting Seniors and People with Disabilities
- Case Management for People with Developmental Disabilities
- Domestic Violence Prevention
- Energy Assistance
- Gambling Addiction Treatment
- Homeless Youth
- Mental Health Services
- Oregon Project Independence
- Public Guardianship
- SUN Community Schools
- Weatherization

### Department of County Management

- Excise Tax Collection
- Assessment and Taxation
- Budget
- Employee Benefits
- Human Resources
- Labor Relations
- PERS
- Finance/Risk Management
- Facilities and Property Mgmt.
- Diversity and Equity
- Deferred Comp.
- Sustainability
- Emergency Management
- Fleet
- Distribution
- Warehouse
- Records Management

### Department of Health

- Early Childhood Services
- Immunizations
- Lead Poisoning Prevention
- Medicaid Eligibility
- Outreach for Women Infant and Children (WIC)
- Providing Medical and Dental Services in Health Centers
- Restaurant Inspections
- School Based Health Centers
- Surveillance of Communicable Diseases
- Vector Control

### Department of Libraries

- Early literacy services
- Scholage services
- Lifelong learning programs
- Reference and information services
- Public access computing
- Community gathering places
- Community gathering
- Lending books and other media
- Outreach programs for at-risk populations

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