

Action taken: Postponed indefinitely  
J. Brown

1-5-12



MULTNOMAH COUNTY  
AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST  
NOTICE OF INTENT

(revised 08/02/10)

Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date: 1/5/12  
Agenda Item #: C.4  
Est. Start Time: 9:30 am  
Date Submitted: 12/21/11

**Agenda Title:** NOTICE OF INTENT to submit a grant application to the Oregon Public Health Division seeking \$15,000 in funding to conduct a Health Impact Assessment analyzing proposed changes to TriMet's policy concerning public transportation transfer periods.

*Note: If Ordinance, Resolution, Order or Proclamation, provide exact title. For all other submissions, provide a clearly written title sufficient to describe the action requested.*

**Requested Meeting Date:** January 5, 2012  
**Amount of Time:** N/A  
**Department:** Health  
**Division:** Health Assessment and Evaluation  
**Contact(s):** Moriah McSharry McGrath, Research Analyst, and Tom Waltz, Health Services Development Administrator  
**Phone:** 988-3663  
**Ext.:** 24012/22670  
**I/O Address:** 160/9  
**Presenter Name(s) & Title(s):** N/A (consent item)

General Information

1. What action are you requesting from the Board?

Authorize the Director of the Health Department to submit a grant application for \$15,000 to the Oregon Public Health Division to conduct a Health Impact Assessment analyzing proposed changes to TriMet's policy concerning public transportation transfer periods.

Note: The application has been submitted because notification from Oregon Health Authority was not received until December 15, 2011; the application can be withdrawn if this NOI is not approved by the Board.

**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.**

The Oregon Health Authority's Health Impact Assessment (HIA) Program works to build the capacity of Oregonians to use HIAs as a tool for improving the health of communities. A Health Impact Assessment is a five-step process that examines the health risks and benefits of public decisions and delivers information to decision makers with the aim of improving public health through the process.

The OPHD is looking to fund and support two local health departments to develop and implement a plan for conducting an HIA at the local level. The OPHD/OHA is most interested in supporting proposed HIA projects that address a policy issue that is under active consideration by decision makers, so that the results of the completed HIA can be used in the decision making process. For this round of funding preference will be given to proposals to conduct HIA on projects or policies related to transportation.

TriMet is the regional public transit authority responsible for bus, light rail, and commuter rail service in the Portland metro area. Through this request for proposals, the Multnomah County Health Department will propose to conduct an HIA to inform TriMet of the public health impacts associated with public transportation transfer periods. Currently, when a passenger purchases TriMet services, s/he receives a transfer receipt allowing the boarding of any bus or train to complete a trip within one hour on weekdays and two hours on weekends from the time of purchase. OPAL (Organizing People/Activating Leaders) is a local environmental justice non-profit organization that has initiated the "Bus Riders Unite: Campaign for a Fair Transfer." The purpose of this initiative is to 1) extend TriMet's transfer periods to three hours and 2) extend transfers for tickets purchased after 7:00 PM through the end of evening service. The HIA proposed by the Multnomah County Health Department will objectively and scientifically assess the health impacts of an extended transfer period in order to assure that any public health concerns are addressed in the decision-making process.

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

Funding will enable the Health Department to incur costs related to the proposed activity during the current Fiscal Year. If funds are awarded, the Health Department will submit a budget modification to the Board.

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

None. Health assessment is a core function of the Health Department.

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

Health Impact Assessments are independent, scientific analysis of conditions that may affect public health. To ensure that the scope of the HIA addresses the impacts of concern, the Health Department is working with TriMet, OPAL (Organizing People/Activating Leaders) and Upstream Public Health.

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## ATTACHMENT A

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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 granting agency is the Oregon Health Authority/Oregon Public Health Division.

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

No match is required.

All activities described in the proposal must be completed by July 13, 2012, and reported to the funding agency. This includes:

1. Documentation of activities and outcomes upon the completion of each HIA step.
2. A written report that summarizes the results in a format that is relevant to the project and useful to stakeholders (i.e. formal report, fact sheets, letter in response to an Environmental Impact Statement, etc.).
3. A written final report (compiled using information from the documentation at each step) that includes a summary of project description, activities, outcomes, lessons learned, best practices, and identified challenges and success stories within the context of your agency's application of HIA steps.

The Health Department will also be expected to:

1. Participate in monthly conference calls with the OPHD to discuss ongoing progress.
2. Participate in online trainings that meet needs to conduct the assessment.
3. Share findings with other public health professionals in a local, regional or national presentation by December 2012.

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

This is a one-time commitment. Funds awarded must be spent by July 13, 2012.

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

The application is due on December 23, 2011. Note: The application has been submitted because notification from Oregon Health Authority was not received until December 15, 2011; the application can be withdrawn if this NOI is not approved by the Board.

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

It is anticipated that funds will be spent during a four- month period beginning January 2012.

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

The project will be over when the grant expires.

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

Yes, the grant will cover 100% of indirect costs.

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**ATTACHMENT B**

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**Required Signatures**

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

*Lillian Shirley*

**Date:**

12/21/2011

**Lillian Shirley**

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**Budget Analyst:**

**Shannon Busby**

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**Date:**

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