



**MULTNOMAH COUNTY  
AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST  
NOTICE OF INTENT**

(Revised: 9/23/13)

APPROVED: MULTNOMAH COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
AGENDA # R.9 DATE 8/21/14  
SYNDA GROW, BOARD CLERK

**Board Clerk Use Only**

Meeting Date: 8/21/14  
Agenda Item #: R.9  
Est. Start Time: 10:35  
Date Submitted: 8/6/14

**Agenda Title:** NOTICE OF INTENT to apply for a Community Access Capital Grant from the Mt. Hood Cable Regulatory Commission for Rockwood Innovation Station

*Note: This APR is for NOI's only. APRs are available for other types of submittals. Title should not be more than 2 lines but be sufficient to describe the action requested.*

**Requested Meeting Date:** August 21, 2014 **Time Needed:** 5 minutes  
**Department:** Library **Division:** Neighborhood Libraries  
**Contact(s):** Becky Cobb, Deputy Director  
**Phone:** 988-5499 **Ext.** 85499 **I/O Address:** 317/ADM  
**Presenter Name(s) & Title(s):** Vailey Oehlke, Director of Libraries with Kylie Park, Rockwood Library Administrator

**General Information**

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

Convene as the Multnomah County Library District Board and authorize an application for a Community Access Capital grant through the Mt. Hood Cable Regulatory Commission for a proposed 3-year grant. The goal of this grant is to support the development of the Rockwood Innovation Station, a cooperative learning environment—often called a Maker Space-- where underserved youth can cultivate STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, math) skills with the help of adult mentors using a wide variety of tools and techniques.

**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.**

Research sponsored by the MacArthur Foundation informs us that in today's digital age, youth learn successfully when they are allowed to discover and explore their passions, collaborate with peers and mentors and actively engage as makers and doers rather than passive consumers of education and information. The Rockwood Innovation Station pilot project will create a space where underserved youth can access creative technology;

explore science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM) learning opportunities; and engage with peers and mentors.

Twenty-seven percent of Rockwood's population is under 18 years of age. The nearest elementary school to Rockwood library (Alder) has the highest number (96%) of students on the Free/Reduced Lunch program in the state. The Rockwood community has limited access to computers, technology and the Internet at home. Many use the Rockwood library for access. In FY13, the number of sessions on 14 public computer stations totaled 33,210. The number of Chromebook laptop check-outs for last year totaled 4,327, the highest of all neighborhood library locations.

Young people in the Rockwood community currently face language, opportunity, and digital divides that limit opportunities for school and career success. To respond to these needs, the Rockwood Innovation Station project will:

- recruit mentors to serve as guides and role models in STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) fields;
- provide space, equipment, materials and organizational support for clinics and classes taught by mentors; and
- provide open hours during which students who have mastered specific skill sets can work on self-guided projects, collaborate with peers, and access instruction and coaching.

This program will begin within the library's current space while a permanent addition to the building is constructed. The space will be equipped with a variety of digital and traditional tools for learning exploration, such as Computer Aided Design workstations, 3-D printer, laser cutter, conductive clay, sewing machines with conductive thread, video and music production tools and robotics kits.

Rockwood Innovation Station will:

1. serve at least 800 learners in its first year of operation and 1,500 learners in each of its subsequent two years.
2. allow 400 students in the first year, and 800 students in each of the subsequent two years, to earn certification badges in STEAM skills.
3. certify 100 learners who master specific skill sets to serve as guides, peer-to-peer instructors and coaches.

Additionally, this project will serve as a pilot for Library Innovation Stations in other underserved communities.

This grant would be part of Program Offer 80002, Neighborhood Libraries.

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

The total budget for this project is estimated at up to \$1.3 million. The grant will provide \$300,400 for capital expenditures with the requirement that matching resources provide at least 50% of the total project budget. The Library Foundation has committed up to \$400,000 of the matching funds, with the library district supplying the remainder (about one-third of which is in-kind).

**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.**

This grant provides the opportunity to partner with local agencies and various organizations that can offer their professional expertise to students during activities at the Rockwood Innovation Station. Professionals from these local organizations will work directly with library patrons to increase awareness of possible career paths and provide opportunities for skill-building and networking. Library employees are already working closely with the East County STEAM Partnership, Portland Metro STEM Partnership and many affiliated organizations to begin cultivating relationships that will bring community mentors to the project. The library will also develop an advisory committee for the project that reflects the Rockwood community and the various partner organizations.

When possible, the library will contract with partner organizations to provide technology training and support to staff. When necessary, the library will send staff to complete trainings or coursework at local community colleges or commercial training providers. In some cases, technical expertise will be provided by mentors and/or volunteers.

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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?**

Mt. Hood Cable Regulatory Commission

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

Grant funds can be used for capital costs only. Applicant matching resources must provide a minimum of 50% of the total project cost. Periodic invoices for actual capital costs incurred by the library related to the project budget are required. Twice yearly progress reports are required, with a full report at the end of the project.

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

This is a one-time grant over a 3-year period.

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

The final grant application will be reviewed in September 2014.

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

October 2014 through September 2017

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

If the project is successful, the library intends to absorb on-going costs in its operating budget. The estimated additional annual costs are \$150-\$200,000.

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

Only indirect costs related to the capital portion of the project may be funded by the MHCRC grant.

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**Required Signatures**

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**Elected Official  
Or Department/  
Agency Director**

Vailey Oehlke /s/

**Date**

August 6, 2014

**Budget Analyst:**

Althea Gregory /s/

**Date:**

August 6, 2014

*Note: Please submit electronically. We are no longer using actual signatures. Insert names of your approvers followed by /s/. Please insert date approved*