

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

Submitting to the Voters in a	)	
Countywide Election a Three Year	)	RESOLUTION
Rate Based Serial Levy to Fund Library	)	96-35
Services	)	

WHEREAS, the current three-year library levy expires June 30, 1996; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Multnomah County (the "Board" herein) considers adequate funding to maintain quality library services in Multnomah County to be necessary and in the public interest; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that existing and anticipated County revenues for the three fiscal years commencing July 1, 1996, will be insufficient to provide adequate library services; and

WHEREAS, the Board determines that in order to provide adequate funding for library services, it is necessary to continue the County's tax levies for three fiscal years commencing July 1, 1996, 1997, and 1998, in excess of the amounts within the tax base.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED that

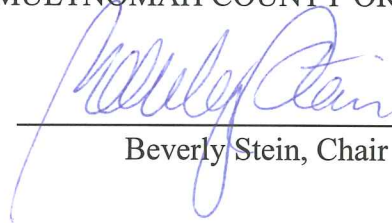
1. An election is hereby called to be held on May 21, 1996, at which the measure described in Exhibit "A" (Ballot Title) shall be submitted to the electors of Multnomah County.
2. Exhibit "A" (Ballot Title) is hereby adopted and made a part of this Resolution. The Ballot Title shall be printed substantially in the form set forth herein.
3. The Levy will be outside the 6% limitation of Article XI, Section 11, Oregon Constitution.
4. The foregoing election and election date are certified to the Director of the Multnomah County Division of Elections.

5. The measure is certified to comply with ORS 310.180 to 310.188; the Tax Supervising and Conservation Commission having held a tax coordination hearing on January 10, 1996.
6. The Clerk of the Board shall forthwith deliver certified copies of this resolution to the director of the Division of Elections and the Tax Supervising and Conservation Commission for their action as provided by law.

ADOPTED this 7th day of March, 1996.



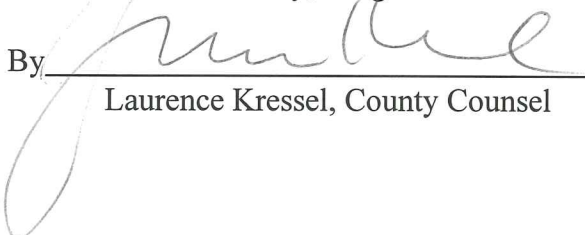
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY OREGON

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Beverly Stein, Chair

REVIEWED:

Laurence Kressel, County Counsel  
for Multnomah County, Oregon

By

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Laurence Kressel, County Counsel

## **Library Levy**

### **Caption**

Renew three year serial levy to keep public libraries open.

### **Question**

Shall Multnomah County operate libraries, levy 40.34 cents per \$1,000 assessed value outside tax base for three years beginning 1996-97?

### **Summary**

Levy renewal keeps the Central Library and all branch libraries open, and provides these expanded services:

- More books and other library materials;
- Replacement of outdated and damaged library materials;
- Youth programs, including story hours for toddlers, homework help for students, and special reading programs, with attention to kids in day care;
- Special library programs for adults, senior citizens on technology and other subjects;
- Greatly expanded hours at Central and branch libraries ;
- Open busiest branch libraries on Mondays for the first time in 20 years;

Renewal of three-year serial levy represents no increase in current support tax rate. If the levy is not approved, library services will be reduced significantly, library hours will be shortened, and some libraries may be closed.

Levy cost estimate is about 40 cents per \$1,000 assessed value per year. Typical home pays about \$5 per month.

This serial levy revenue, dedicated to library operations, is estimated to provide \$15.25 million in 1996-7, \$16.35 million in 1997-98, \$17.46 million in 1998-99.

The estimate tax cost for this measure is an ESTIMATE ONLY based on the best information available from the county assessor at the time of the estimate.

The levy is subject to the \$10 local government limit in Section 11b, Article XI, Oregon Constitution.

### **Explanation**

#### **No Increase in the Current Tax Rate**

Measure 26-41 will renew the library operations levy and allow the libraries to provide new services with no increase in the current tax rate. The levy will help operate the downtown Central Library, Gresham Library, Midland Library, and other branch libraries throughout Multnomah County.

### **Increased Hours for County Libraries**

It will increase the number of days and hours these libraries are open and will provide the funds to buy library books and other materials.

### **Who the Library Serves**

The Multnomah County Library serves the people of the county by providing books and other materials to meet their informational, educational, cultural and recreational needs.

The Multnomah County Library system is among the busiest in the nation and provides services every year to over 500,000 library card holders. That is over 70% of the people who live in Multnomah County. Nearly 8 million books and other library materials are borrowed from the library each year. Library staff annually responds to more than 800,000 requests for information. More than 1,000 people a day access the library by dialing in to the library's automated system.

### **What the Library Provides: Books and More**

Renewal of the library levy will keep our libraries open, and continue to provide and add these services:

- Operating and staffing downtown Central Library, Gresham Library, Midland Library and 12 other branch libraries located throughout Multnomah County.
- Extended hours at the Central and branch libraries.
- Buying more books and other library materials and continue improvements in library technology.
- Operating and staffing two new branches, a medium-sized library in Northwest Portland and a small branch in cooperation with Parkrose School District.
- Library service to children, adults and senior citizens with special needs.
- 24-hour-a-day access to DYNA, the library's computerized card catalog and community resource and events calendar data base, and increase access to other stored computerized information and data.
- Special child and youth programs including story hours for toddlers, homework help for students, and reading programs with special attention to kids in day care.
- Adult and senior citizen programs on technology and other subjects.
- Information and reference materials for students, jobseekers, and the general public.

The renewed three year serial levy cost is about 40 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value. The typical home in Multnomah County pays about \$5.00 per month over three years, for library operations and the services listed above.