



MULTNOMAH COUNTY AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST

(revised 08/02/10)

Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date: 8/19/2010
Agenda Item #: R-2
Est. Start Time: 9:45 am

Agenda Title: Submitting To The Voters A Five-Year Rate Based Local Option Levy To Support The Oregon Historical Society

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: August 19, 2010 **Amount of Time Needed:** 30 minutes
Department: Non-Departmental—Chair's Office **Division:** Chair Jeff Cogen
Contact(s): Emerald Bogue
Phone: 503-988-5772 **Ext.** 85772 **I/O Address:** 503/6
Presenter Name(s) & Title(s): **Jerry Hudson:** Board Chair, Oregon Historical Society; **Dave Porter:** Volunteer, Gresham Historical Society; **Sharon Thorne:** Docent/School trip Leader, Oregon Historical Society; **Raymond Burrell:** Archivist, Vancouver Ave. Baptist Church; **Jackie Peterson-Loomis, PhD:** Board Member, Oregon Historical Society, (Washington State University-Vancouver) Portland ; **Tom Vaughn (video):** Oregon State Historian Laureate, former Director of Oregon Historical Society

General Information

1. What action are you requesting from the Board?

Approval and certification of ballot title, explanatory statement: Oregon Historical Society local option levy

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 State has cut funding to the Oregon Historical Society (OHS). As a result, OHS has greatly reduced the hours its museum and library is open to the public. Without additional funds, OHS facilities will close to the public beginning spring, 2011. Approximately 60% of the library materials relate directly to Multnomah County history, and the society acts as the Multnomah County Historical Society. A five year levy of \$.05 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation with citizen oversight will keep the OHS Library and Museum open to the public.

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

There is no fiscal impact in the current fiscal year. The ongoing impact on compression is expected to be negligible.

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

State law requires that an election within a county for the purpose of approving a tax levy shall be called by the Board of County Commissioners.

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

Should the Board of Commissioners approve and certify the ballot title and explanatory statement for the Oregon Historical Society local option levy, there will be a hearing held by the Tax Supervising and Conservation Commission (TSCC).

Required Signature

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



Date: 8/12/2010

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