



MULTNOMAH COUNTY AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST

(Revised: Oct. 2017)

Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date: 05-10-18
Agenda Item #: R.1
Est. Start Time: 9:40 a.m.
Date Submitted: 04-05-18

Agenda Title: Proclaiming May as Older Americans Month in Multnomah County, Oregon

Requested Date: May 10, 2018

Time Needed: 20 minutes

Department/Division: DCHS/ADVSD

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Presenters: Rebecca Miller, Planning and Development Specialist ADVSD; Betty Cox, Aging Services Advisory Council; and other guests.

General Information:

1. What are you requesting from the Board?

Proclaim May 2018 as Older Americans Month in Multnomah County. Provide the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners with information about older adults in Multnomah County and discuss the ways in which older adults are vital members and leaders in our community.

2. Please provide sufficient background information for the Board and the public to understand this issue. Please note which Program Offer(s) this action affects and how it impacts the results.

In 1965 the United States Congress passed the Older Americans Act, marking the first national efforts to establish a broad array of services for older adults. As part of that initiative, ADVSD provides a comprehensive, coordinated service delivery system for older adults, people with disabilities, and veterans with a special emphasis on people living at 185% of the poverty level and below. ADVSD delivers a variety of programs through five regional district centers, nine culturally specific providers, and other community-based organizations.

We seek to highlight the many ways that older adults are engaging at every age and how they

continue to shape the work of Aging, Disability, and Veterans Services Division and the aging network it facilitates in the community. They serve as advisors, advocates, teachers, mentors and key partners.

Additionally we know that there are older adults in our community who face food insecurity and poor nutrition, social isolation, financial fraud, chronic illness and a lack of affordable and accessible transportation and housing. The long-term physical, social, and psychological impact of racism compounds in older adults resulting in health, economic, and other disparities. The aging services network works collaboratively to address these complex issues, with the keen and diligent efforts of older adults themselves guiding the efforts.

The Board will hear from community members who are working with and for the betterment of Multnomah County - engaging and helping others to do the same.

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

None

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

This proclamation highlights the continuing efforts by Multnomah County and its many partners to celebrate the perennial contributions of older adults in our community and promote an age-friendly community. The intent is to raise awareness about issues they face, and highlight the ways they are advocating for themselves, their peers, and their community.

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

We worked with Board staff, Vital Aging Network Employee Resource Group (VAN), and the Age-Friendly Advisory Council to develop the proclamation and intend to have at least one older adult share their advocacy and involvement in shaping the aging network. We are collaborating with the City of Portland to make their own OAM proclamation on May 9. There are activities planned, in partnership with VAN, from April 30 – June 1, for older employees and retired Multnomah County employees.

Required Signature:

**Elected Official/
Department Director:**

Peggy Brey /s/

Date:

4/5/2018