

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-099

Adopting the Multnomah County 2019 State Legislative Agenda.

**The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:**

- a. The actions of the Oregon Legislature have a significant impact on the residents of Multnomah County and on Multnomah County government.
- b. In order to communicate effectively with legislators and improve the County's legislative outcomes, it is necessary for the Board of County Commissioners to identify legislative priorities.
- c. The Multnomah County 2020 State Legislative Agenda has been developed with input from County Commissioners, County Department leadership and community advocates.
- d. The Multnomah County 2020 State Legislative Agenda will serve to guide the actions of County leaders and advocates during the 2020 session of the Oregon Legislature.

**The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Resolves:**

1. To undertake all activities and wisely use the necessary resources to promote the success of the attached Multnomah County 2020 State Legislative Agenda.
2. To reserve the right to modify any policy position in the 2020 State Legislative Agenda.

**ADOPTED this 5th day of December, 2019.**



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

*Deborah Kafoury*

---

Deborah Kafoury, Chair

REVIEWED:

JENNY M. MADKOUR, COUNTY ATTORNEY  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

*Jenny M. Madkour*

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Jenny M. Madkour, County Attorney

SUBMITTED BY: Jeston Black, Director of Government Relations



## MULTNOMAH COUNTY 2020 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

### *PRIORITIES*

#### **Restore Community Corrections Funding**

The Department of Corrections Time Study, which would've right-sized the community corrections budget to keep pace with the cost of providing services, was not fully funded. Without this critical funding, Multco will be forced to layoff parole and probation officers and reduce jail beds. These cuts will send more people to the state prison, shifting and increasing the cost. **The cost of the Time Study is \$50 million for the 2019-21 biennium.**

#### **Maintain Community Mental Health Services**

Fill the large funding gap created by the Oregon State Hospital Civil Commitment Caseload reduction. Support work done by Community Mental Health budget note workgroup to realign the Community Mental Health Caseload Forecast. **Release \$9 Million from Special Appropriation made by 2019 Legislature.**

#### **Build Infrastructure to Serve Our Most Vulnerable**

Draw state matching funds for the future Downtown Behavioral Health Resource Center -- which will give individuals experiencing houseless with serious mental health issues a warm, dry place to work with peers, do laundry, shower, sleep, and reconnect. **\$12.5 million in Capital.**

#### **Fully Fund Intellectual and Developmental Disability Case Management Services**

Various state and federal rules and regulations have drastically increased the staff hours required to serve this clientele. An October 2019 Multco Audit found the lack of state funding in this area is putting clients' safety and well being at risk. **\$5 million for 19-21; Roll up in 21-23.**

#### **Restore Domestic Violence (DV) Co-located Advocate Services**

In the summer of 2018, the state revamped the formula for distributing the funding for this small program, cutting Multnomah County's co-located advocates from 5.75 FTE to 3.2. Knowing Multco has the highest DV fatality rate in the state, and that the #2 family stressor in child abuse cases is DV, this is a critical program. **\$850,000 for 19-21; Roll up to \$1.7 in 21-23.**

*IMPORTANT ISSUES*

- Protect county provided safety net programs.
- Ensure County Animal Services are financially stable and effective in reuniting pets with owners.
- Identify secure and stable funding for Permanent Supportive Housing.
- Reduce houselessness through a long-term housing voucher program.
- Increase flexibility and functionality at the East County Courthouse.
- Expand regulation of tobacco sales to curb youth use, including increased taxes and flavor bans.
- Improve efforts to fight climate change, reduce carbon emissions, and create clean energy jobs.
- Reduce Oregonians' exposure to toxins and particulate matter in the air and water.
- Protect health care access for children and all Oregonians.
- Fight poverty with jobs, training, assistance programs and needed services.
- Increase fairness and modernizing property tax system.
- Support education services in juvenile detention centers.