



MULTNOMAH COUNTY AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST

(Revised: 09/23/13)

Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date: 4/1/14
Agenda Item #: B.3
Est. Start Time: 11:05 am
Date Submitted: 3/26/14

Agenda Title: Informational Board Briefing on The Institutional Food Purchasing Project

Note: Title should not be more than 2 lines but be sufficient to describe the action requested.

Requested Meeting Date:	April 1, 2014	Time Needed:	20 minutes
Department:	Non-departmental	Division:	D-3
Contact(s):	Michelle Plambeck		
Phone:	503-988-5217	Ext.:	
I/O Address:	503/6/D3		

Presenter Name(s) & Title(s): Emma Sirois, Healthcare Without Harm Program Director, Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility; Gretchen Miller, Healthy Food in Health Care Project Coordinator, Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility; Katie Lynd, Sustainable Purchasing Coordinator, Department of County Management; Kim Powe, Director, Office Of Sustainability; John Wasiutynski, Resource Conservation Coordinator, Office of Sustainability; Michelle Markesteyn Ratcliffe, Farm to School Program Manager, Oregon Department of Agriculture

General Information

1. What action are you requesting from the Board?

No action. Informational.

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.

In 2012, Multnomah County and Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility received funding support from the Oregon Department of Agriculture to coordinate the Institutional Food Purchasing Project (IFPP): a project whose purpose is to connect large institutional food buyers through a regional network to create increased, consistent demand for Oregon Specialty Crops and send strong market signals to producers and suppliers to increase supply.

The IFPP identified Specialty Crops are potatoes, green beans, cranberries, blueberries, strawberries, lettuce, onions, broccoli, carrots, hazelnuts and zucchini. Through tracking the baseline of current Oregon Specialty Crop purchasing by institutional partners, the project hopes to see an increase in the purchased amount of Specialty Crops by institutional food buyers participating in the project.

Over the past two years the Institutional Food Buying Alliance (IFBA) has met regularly to encourage and foster the connections between local buyers and producers and to track the progress of the project.

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

The IFBP is funded through the ODA's Specialty Crop Block Grant Program at total funding level of \$89,841.00. The United States Department of Agriculture grants the funds for the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program under the Farm Bill to the state. District 3 and the Office of Sustainability provide staff time to support the requirements of the grant.

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

Action 15.4 of the Multnomah Food Action Plan calls for the development of a Regional Alliance of Institutional Purchasers. Building upon the momentum of HB 2763 in 2009, which authorizes state and local governments to prefer local food in their procurements for the first time, and the desire to buy more local food, this project comes at the right time to build an alliance of institutional purchasers.

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

Multnomah County co-convenes the IFBA with Oregon Department of Agriculture.

Multnomah County provides support for the coordination of project activities, including educational sessions, project resources and materials development, project evaluation and also coordinates and facilitates the IFBA and Project Advisory Team.

Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility serve as lead partner, providing grant coordination; support the development of purchasing baselines, goals and purchasing contract language; co-coordinate educational sessions; develop project resources and materials; provide technical assistant to project participants; and coordination of project evaluation.

The Oregon Department of Agriculture supports the project by linking relevant resources within the department to support trainings, evaluation, best practices and strategies learning from supporting the Oregon Farm to School Program.

The IFBA consists of institutional purchasers and producers and the Project Advisory team.

Participants of the Project Advisory Team are Ecotrust, Oregon Environmental Council, Oregon Tilth, Oregon Department of Agriculture, Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility, Multnomah County Office of Sustainability and Multnomah County District 3

Required Signature

Elected Official

or Department/

Agency Director:

Commissioner Shiprack /s/

3/26/14

Date:

Note: Please submit electronically. Insert names of your approvers followed by /s/ - we no longer use actual signatures. Please insert date approved."