



# MULTNOMAH COUNTY AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST

(Revised: 6/9/2014)

## Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date: 5/18/17  
Agenda Item #: R.1  
Est. Start Time: 9:30 am  
Date Submitted: 4/12/17

**Agenda Title:** **Proclamation Proclaiming May 2017 as Older Americans Month in Multnomah County, Oregon**

*Note: Title should not be more than 2 lines but sufficient to describe the action requested. Title on APR must match title on Ordinance, Resolution, Order or Proclamation.*

## Requested

**Meeting Date:** May 18, 2017 **Time Needed:** 15 minutes

**Department:** DCHS **Division:** ADVSD

**Contact(s):** Erin Grahek; Rebecca Miller

**Phone:** (503) 988-9292 **Ext.**  **I/O Address:** Lincoln 167/1/50

## Presenter

### Name(s) &

**Title(s):** Erin Grahek Community Services Manager, ADVSD and guests

## General Information

### 1. What action are you requesting from the Board?

Proclaiming May 2017 as Older Americans Month in Multnomah County, Oregon. Provide the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners with information about the issues facing older adults in Multnomah County and the ways in which older adults are tackling those issues with collaborative and innovative efforts.

### 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 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 low-income, limited English-speaking, ethnic minorities, and frail persons.

Many older adults in our community experience poverty and are particularly impacted by rising housing costs. One in five people experiencing homelessness in Multnomah County are over the age of 55 and nearly six in ten are people with disabilities. Other issues facing older adults are food insecurity and poor nutrition, social isolation and abuse or self-neglect, chronic illness and increased falls risk, and for too many older adults of color, the long-term physical, social, and psychological impact of racism. The aging services network works collaboratively to address these complex issues, with the keen and diligent efforts of

older adults themselves guiding the efforts.

We seek to highlight the foundational way that older adults themselves have and will continue to guide the work of Aging, Disability, and Veterans Services Division and the aging network it facilitates in the community, as well as highlight some of the innovative and inspiring ways the older adults are creating new paths forward.

The Board will hear from community members who are aging out loud - thriving 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 Elders 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, two community based organizations, 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 Cities of Portland and Gresham to make their own OAM proclamation in May.

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**Required Signature**

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**Elected  
Official or  
Department**

**Director:** Peggy Brey /s/ **Date:** April 12, 2017

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