



# MULTNOMAH COUNTY AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST

(revised 08/02/10)

### Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date: 6/21/11  
 Agenda Item #: B-2  
 Est. Start Time: 10:30 am  
 Date Submitted: 6/8/11

**Agenda Title:** **Informational Board Briefing on a Potential Multnomah County Library District**

*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:** June 21, 2011      **Amount of Time Needed:** 60 minutes  
**Department:** Library      **Division:** Dept. Administration  
**Contact(s):** Becky Cobb  
**Phone:** 503-988-5499      **Ext.** 85499      **I/O Address:** 317/Admin  
**Presenter Name(s) & Title(s):** Vailey Oehlke, Library Director; Becky Cobb, Deputy Director; plus invited guests

## General Information

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

Informational Board briefing.

**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.**

Multnomah County Library is entering its fifth and final year of the current library levy, which provides roughly two-thirds of the library's total funding. As this levy expires in June 2012, a funding measure will need to be referred soon to the November ballot. Due to the passage of measure 26-114 in November 2010, the Board now has the authority within the County Charter to directly refer a library district formation measure to the voters as a matter of county concern.

This briefing will provide a recap of the district process to date as well as a review of polling results and other indicators of community support.

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

Passage of a library district measure would impact property tax collections for some other

jurisdictions - most notably, the City of Portland and the Portland Children's Levy. A library district rate would encompass both the current levy and the County's General Fund transfer to the Library Fund. Though the County would also lose some property tax dollars due to increased compression on the County's permanent rate, the County would have an overall net gain in available General Fund dollars.

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

The formation of an independent library district raises policy and legal questions that will need to be resolved prior to a ballot referral.

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

Voters passed Measure 26-114 in November 2010, thus opening the door for consideration of a library district measure. The library's three citizen stakeholder groups (the Library Advisory Board, The Library Foundation Board, and the Friends of the Library Board) have all expressed strong support for a district measure. It is expected that citizens will have the opportunity to vote on either a library district or a levy renewal measure as part of the November 2011 ballot.

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**Required Signature**

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Elected Official or  
Department/  
Agency Director:



Date: 6/8/11