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## Protecting critical services and investing in future success

1 message

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**Jeff Cogen** <mult.chair@multco.us>

Mon, May 7, 2012 at 10:58 AM

Reply-To: mult.chair@multco.us

To: lynda.grow@multco.us

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**JEFF COGEN**

Chair  
Multnomah County

May 2012

Dear Friends,

Last week during our board of commissioners meeting, I presented my proposed budget for operating Multnomah County in the upcoming fiscal year. In this budget, I remain as dedicated as ever to preserving the critical services this organization provides to the residents of Multnomah County.

When beginning work on this budget, I sent my policy team out into the community to listen to and report back on the needs and concerns of our residents. In this challenging economic climate, folks across the board expressed a need for access to health care, the safety of their children and families, paths to meaningful employment and the means to secure a roof over their heads.

With this in mind, the budget I'm presenting ([click here to view it in its entirety](#)) focuses on the essentials and addresses the needs of this community.

Before the Board of County Commissioners officially adopts the budget on May 31, I encourage you to weigh in on the process by attending any of the three upcoming [public budget hearings on May 9, 16 and 23](#).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Cogen".



## Your FY13 Budget toolkit

[Read my executive budget message](#)

•  
[View the full proposed executive budget](#)

•  
[Visit our Budget Office's page](#)

•  
Weigh in on the county's budget process:

### [May 9 - Public Hearing A](#)

6 - 8 p.m.

East County Bldg.  
Sharron Kelley Room,  
600 N.E. 8th St.  
Gresham, Oregon

### [May 16 - Public Hearing B](#)

6 - 8 p.m.

Multnomah Bldg.  
Board Room 100  
501 SE Hawthorne Blvd.  
Portland, Oregon

### [May 23 - Public Hearing C](#)

6 - 8 p.m.

IRCO  
10301 N.E. Glisan St.  
Portland, Oregon

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On April 10, after 14 months of construction, Multnomah County opened the doors to its new East County Courthouse in Gresham. The long awaited new facility, located on Southeast 185th Avenue and Stark will allow residents of the east county area to access judicial services without having to travel to downtown Portland.

Legal matters handled at the new courthouse include: misdemeanor and small claim cases, landlord/tenant actions and document filings for civil and domestic unions.

### **For more on the East County Courthouse grand opening ceremony:**

[Watch video from the event](#) • [Read 'Closer to home: County opens new East County Courthouse to serve residents'](#) • [View this time-lapse video of the construction process](#)

## Important links for the May 15 Election Primary

Need to know where your nearest ballot drop site is? Want to monitor results from the election as they come in? Explore the links below for answers to all your election-related questions:



- [Online Voters' Guide](#)
- [Official Drop Sites in Multnomah County](#)
- [Multnomah County Elections](#)
- [Guide to Voting in Oregon](#)
- [Oregon Secretary of State's website](#)

## Portland State education urban renewal area takes step forward

The Board of Commissioners approved a resolution on April 26 that allows the county to enter into an agreement with the City of Portland, the Portland Development Commission and Portland State University that will bring at least \$26.5 million to the county from the proposed PSU education urban renewal area.

The agreement outlines that the county will receive \$19 million from PDC to develop a new facility to house the Department of County Human Services within the designated urban renewal area in 2023. [[Read more](#)]

## County jails go green, save money through new Sustainable Jail Project

Recently, [the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office](#) and the [Office of Sustainability](#) teamed up to further our organization's commitment to



Multnomah  
County @ Work

Human  
Services

Public  
Safety

Health  
Department

Library

Land Use &  
Transportation

Diversity &  
Equity

Animal  
Services

Sustainability

Marriage  
Licenses

Elections

Taxation &  
Assessment



fiscal and environmental responsibility through the official launch of a new program called [the Sustainable Jail Project](#).

The Sustainable Jail Project, which began as a small-scale, informal effort in 2010, calls for the county to "Exemplary service for a safe, livable community." The project is a call for and act upon opportunities to run county jails in a more eco-conscience and cost-effective way.

[[Read more](#)]

## Local high school students present scale models of Sellwood Bridge to board



ACE Academy students and the board pose with Sellwood Bridge models.

At the April 26 meeting, high school seniors Valerie Cecchini, Ryan Kennell, Joshua Coon and Logan Evans presented scale models of the old and new Sellwood Bridge to the Board of Commissioners.

The skillfully constructed, 6-foot-long project created by the students on a budget of \$300, is part of an ongoing effort called



the [Sellwood Bridge School-Based Outreach program](#), to engage the future leaders of our community in [the historic replacement of the Sellwood Bridge](#).

Cecchini, Kennell, Coon and Evans attend [ACE Academy](#), Sellwood Bridge School-Based Outreach program partner and charter school that gives young people interested in the design-build industry hands-on experience.

[Click here to learn more about the ACE students' Sellwood Bridge presentation.](#)

Multnomah County is Oregon's most populous county with about 735,000 residents. Multnomah County is governed by a Board of four elected Commissioners and one Chair. Multnomah County employees provide citizens a wide range of health and human services, public safety services and other government services.

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