



## MULTNOMAH COUNTY AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST

(Revised: 8/18/11)

### Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date: 6/28/12  
Agenda Item #: R.17  
Est. Start Time: 11:00 am T.C.  
Date Submitted: 6/20/12

**Agenda Title:** Order Declaring Intent to Initiate Process to Explore Formation of a Multnomah County Library District and Setting a Public Hearing Date of July 31, 2012

*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 28, 2012 **Time Needed:** 60 minutes  
**Department:** Non Departmental **Division:** Chair's Office  
**Contact(s):** Marissa Madrigal  
**Phone:** 503 988 4105 **Ext.** 84105, 26234 **I/O Address:** 503/6  
**Presenter Name(s) & Title(s):** Vailey Oehlke, Library Director, and Jenny Morf, County Attorney

### General Information

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

Approval of an order declaring intent to initiate process to explore formation of a Multnomah County Library District and setting a public hearing date of July 31, 2012.

#### 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.

Chapter IX, Library District, of the Multnomah County Home Rule Charter authorizes the Board of County Commissioners to initiate the formation of a library district. Adoption of an order initiating the formation of library district is the first step in a multi-step process necessary to obtain the voter approval necessary to establish a library district as a municipal corporation and secure permanent and stable library funding. This order also sets a public hearing on this proposal for July 31, 2012, at 10:00 AM in the Board Room located at 501 SE Hawthorne Blvd, Portland Oregon 97214, and directs the Library Department to give notice required under Chapter IX of the Charter.

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

If a library district is approved by the voters and becomes operational, the Library will have permanent and stable funding and will be financially self-sufficient. The County's General Fund would not make annual contributions to the Library. Had the Library District existed in FY 2012, this would have saved the General Fund roughly \$14.4 million. These savings would have been offset by increased compression loss of at least \$5.9 million.

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

Complies with the requirements of Chapter IX, Library District, of the Multnomah County Home Rule Charter.

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

In November 2010, the voters amended the Multnomah County Charter to authorize the Board of County Commissioners to initiate the formation of a library district. Leaders of the Library Advisory Board, the Friends of the Library, and The Library Foundation have expressed strong support for creation of a library district. If the Board of County Commissioners refers a library district to the ballot, the voters will have the opportunity to vote on the creation of a library district with permanent and stable funding. This order sets a public hearing on this matter for July 31, 2012.

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**Required Signature**

**Elected Official  
or Department/  
Agency Director:**

Chair Jeff Cogen

6/20/12  
**Date:**