



Multnomah County Agenda Placement Request Budget Modification

(Revised 9/23/13)

Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date: _____

Agenda Item #: _____

Est. Start Time: _____

Date Submitted: _____

Agenda Title: BUDGET MODIFICATION # NOND-02-16: Supplemental Budget #2: Housing and Homeless Services

Requested Meeting Date: 3/17/16 **Time Needed:** 5 Minutes

Department: 1000 - Nondepartmental - All Other **Division:** A Home for Everyone

Contact(s): Liz Smith Currie

Phone: 503-988-4435 **Ext.** 84435 **I/O Address** 503/6

Presenter Name(s) & Title(s): Marc Jolin, A Home For Everyone Initiative Director and Jed Tomkins, Assistant County Attorney

General Information

1. What action are you requesting from the Board?

The Chair requests approval of a Budget Modification SUPP02-NOND-02-16 to appropriate \$6,121,642 of revenue received from the Mortgage Electronic Registration System (MERS) lawsuit which was settled in January 2016.

The one-time-only revenue will be used for the following:

- A Home for Everyone Housing Placement and Retention (25133D) - \$1,000,000 in one-time-only funds to the Department of County Human Services (DCHS) for the placement and retention of priority populations that have been placed this year through the homeless families, domestic violence, homeless youth, homeless veterans and related service systems.
- A Home for Everyone Capital Funding (72040) - \$4,700,000 of one-time-only funds to the Department of County Management for leasing and purchasing properties for shelter and housing, due diligence, renovation, and capital improvements.
- General Fund Contingency - \$421,642 will be appropriated to the General Fund Contingency.

A supplemental budget is the vehicle allowed by ORS Chapter 294 (commonly known as "Oregon Budget Law") for the Board to address changes in financial conditions not anticipated at the time the budget was adopted. This supplemental budget addresses the unplanned one-time-only

General Fund revenues and associated expenditures.

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 is experiencing an unprecedented number of people accessing our shelters and living on the streets. Homeless camping is becoming more visible throughout the entire county as more people can not find affordable housing.

- Rents have jumped 16 percent countywide in the last year. Less than 3% of rental units are vacant.
- Last month Metro released research showing that the Portland metro region has a shortage of 80,000 units affordable to people making 60% of the median family income or less.
- The cost to the county of helping place families in housing is rising dramatically. Two years ago the cost to place a family and provide up to 6 months of rent assistance averaged \$5,000 per household. These costs now average between \$6,000 and \$8,500 per household and are trending upward each month.
- Two-bedroom apartments now cost between \$884-\$1,220 per month. For perspective, a full-time worker making minimum wage earns \$1,603 per month before taxes; a parent with two children using Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) receives \$506 per month; and a disabled individual on Supplemental Security Income (SSI) receives \$733 per month.
- Tonight, in Multnomah County, there will be more than 1,800 people sleeping on our sidewalks, including 500 women, 900 people with disabilities, and 700 people over 55. In 2014, 3,000 school-aged children experienced homelessness in Multnomah County.
- We have seen unprecedented numbers in shelters, on some nights 4 times the number of people who sought family shelter in 2011.
- 211 info has also experienced unprecedented numbers of people calling to request assistance through the mobile housing team -- over 2,500 households waiting for assistance including homeless, doubled up or at risk of homelessness.
- 1/3 of callers and shelter visitors are newly homeless due to high rent increases or no cause evictions
- Large numbers of people we are assisting work but can't afford high deposits to get into units
- In the face of this growing need, the homeless family system has run out of short term rent assistance to help families move out of shelter and into permanent housing.

This budget request will fund \$1,000,000 in housing placement and retention assistance to DCHS in order to:

- House homeless families
- Retain housing for homeless families who were previously housed by the Homeless Families System of Care: provide another four months of rent assistance and security for households placed but who are still not stable due to high rents and poor job market
- Retain housing for homeless youth placed this year
- Retain housing for homeless veterans placed this year
- Retain housing for survivors of domestic violence housed this year.

In addition, the request appropriates \$4,700,000 in funds to the Department of County Management to purchase or lease new homeless shelter or residential space as approved by subsequent action of the Board. The balance of the funding \$421,642 will be appropriated in the General Fund Contingency.

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

This is a one-time only General Fund request totaling \$6,121,642. Funds from the Mortgage Electronic Registration System (MERS) litigation settlement are sufficient to cover the entire amount of this request. Both the revenue and expenditures are one-time-only expenses.

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

If approved, in addition to further implementing A Home for Everyone housing placement and retention services, the County will explore options for the lease or purchase of property for homeless shelter or residential uses. If, after completion of due diligence one or more properties is identified as appropriate for shelter or residential purposes, the acquisition, or as appropriate, lease of such property will be brought to the Board for its approval.

Approval of this supplemental budget does not constitute Board approval for the purchase of any specific property; subsequent Board action will be required.

These actions allow the County to comply with our intergovernmental agreements and avoid violating Oregon Budget Law.

5. Explain any citizen or other government participation.

The Mayor of Portland is also pursuing additional rent assistance and shelter sites.

A Home For Everyone, which includes Multnomah County and the cities of Gresham and Portland, set the goal of finding 650 additional Safety Off the Street options for homeless people in order to ensure that no woman or disabled individual is forced to sleep outside.

Budget Modification

6. What revenue is being changed and why? If the revenue is from a federal source, please list the Catalog of Federal Assistance Number (CFDA).

General Fund Fines and Forfeitures revenue is increasing by \$6,121,642 to appropriate the MERS lawsuit settlement.

7. What budgets are increased/decreased?

Department of County Human Services pass thru increases by \$1,000,000.
Department of County Management capital buildings increase by \$4,700,000.
The General Fund Contingency increases by \$421,642.

8. What do the changes accomplish?

The funding will help families get into and stay in housing, and will expand shelter space available to house homeless people in Multnomah County

9. Do any personnel actions result from this budget modification?

No

10. If a grant, is 100% of the central and department indirect recovered? If not, please explain why.

N/A

11. Is the revenue one-time-only in nature? Will the function be ongoing? What plans are in place to identify a sufficient ongoing funding stream?

Yes

12. If a grant, what period does the grant cover? When the grant expires, what are funding plans? Are there any particular stipulations required by the grant (e.g. cash match, in kind match, reporting requirements, etc)?

None. Ongoing needs will be deliberated during the FY 2017 budget process.

Required Signature

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| Elected Official or Dept. Director: | _____ | Date: | _____ |
| Budget Analyst: | _____ | Date: | _____ |
| Department HR: | _____ | Date: | _____ |
| Countywide HR: | _____ | Date: | _____ |