



MULTNOMAH COUNTY AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST

Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date: 10/2/12
 Agenda Item #: B.1
 Est. Start Time: 10:00 a.m.
 Date Submitted: 9/18/12

Agenda Title: The Asian and Pacific Islander Community in Multnomah County: An Unsettling Profile.

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: Tuesday, Oct. 2, 2012 **Amount of Time Needed:** 1 hour
Department: Office of Diversity & Equity **Division:** _____
Contact(s): Nga My Vuong, IRCO & Shawn Postera
Phone: 971-271-6501 **Ext.** _____ 503-988-4347
Presenter Name(s) & Title(s): Daryl Dixon, Chief Diversity & Equity Officer; June Arima Schumann, APANO Board Co-Chair; Dr. Ann Curry-Stevens, PSU professor and lead researcher; Dr. Pei-ru Wang, IRCO/Asian Family Center Manager; and, Lee Po Cha, IRCO

General Information

1. What action are you requesting from the Board?

We are asking that the Board acknowledge the research report “The Asian and Pacific Islander Community in Multnomah County: An Unsettling Profile” and that they consider our recommendations to improve the outcomes for API communities.

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.

This report is one of six community-specific reports presented by the Coalition of Communities of Colors that builds on the 2010 publication “Communities of Color in Multnomah County: An Unsettling Profile.” That report provided a comprehensive and comparative study of the inequities facing communities of color, immigrants and refugees. The API report examines the available data for communities of Asian and Pacific Islander descent in the areas of education, health insurance, income levels and non-profit funding. Data for our communities is very limited. The data that is available shows that our communities face huge disparities.

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

At this time, there is no fiscal impact.

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

Several policy issues are involved in the huge disparities that the Asian Pacific Islander community faces. Our recommendations include recognizing that culturally-specific services are the best way to reach and support communities of color; promoting social inclusion through expansion of English as a Second Language training and development of API leaders; ensuring education equity for English Language Learners; and reforming research and database protocols to ensure routine and accurate disaggregation of the API community by origin, refugee status and length of time in the country.

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

The Coalition of Communities of Color has been working with Portland State University, Multnomah County, the City of Portland, the Northwest Health Foundation, and the United Way of the Columbia-Willamette to compile data for this report and the other community-specific reports. Since the publication of the original report, the Meyer Memorial Trust has begun to support the Coalition to develop community leadership within each of the communities.

Required Signature

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

Daryl Dixon /s/

Date: 9/18/12
