



MULTNOMAH COUNTY AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST

(Revised: 8/18/11)

Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date: 1/5/12
 Agenda Item #: R.7
 Est. Start Time: 10:25 am
 Date Submitted: 12/29/11

Agenda Title: Resolution Submitting to the Voters a Three-Year Rate Based Local Option Levy to Continue Library Services

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: January 5, 2012 **Time Needed:** 45 minutes
Department: Non-Departmental—Chair’s Office **Division:** Chair Jeff Cogen
Contact(s): Marissa Madrigal, Emerald Bogue
Phone: _____ **Ext.** 85772 **I/O Address:** _____
Presenter Name(s) & Title(s): Vailey Oehlke, Multnomah County Library Director

General Information

1. What action are you requesting from the Board?

Approve resolution submitting to the voters for the May 2012 ballot a three-year rate based local option levy to continue library services, at a rate of 89 cents per thousand dollars assessed value. The resolution will also approve a ballot title (Caption, Question and Summary) and the explanatory statement.

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.

Funding for quality library services in Multnomah County is necessary and in the public interest. The library levy approved by voters in 2006 provides two thirds of the library’s funding and will expire in 2012. The ideal funding solution for the library is the formation of an independent library district. However, the best funding option in the current economic environment is a renewal and replacement of the 2006 levy. The new levy is for three fiscal years commencing July 1, 2012. It is anticipated to raise approximately \$32.6 million in 2012-13; \$ 34.5 million in 2013-14; and \$36.5 million in 2014-15. These revenues are in addition to the tax revenues from the County’s permanent property tax rate under Measure 50.

If Multnomah County voters approve the three-year local option levy, which will provide the Library with financial stability, the Board will refer a district measure to the November 2012 ballot.

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

Renewal of the levy at the rate of 89 cents per thousand dollars assessed value will continue most library services, but not all. The attached resolution calls for the Board to continue its general fund allocation and commit an additional \$10 million in one-time-only funding in order to mitigate the reduction in revenue. If the levy does not pass, most library branches will close and other programs and services will be cut.

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

NA

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

With each levy renewal election, Multnomah County voters have the opportunity to express their level of support for the Library.

Required Signature

**Elected
Official or
Dept Director:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JH S', written over a horizontal line.

Date: 12/29/11