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County Distributes \$12 Million to Schools, Services; Early Payments Deductible

Multnomah County distributed another \$12 million in revenue from the temporary three-year County income tax to public school districts and public safety, healthcare and senior service programs supported by the voter-approved measure. The County is also reminding residents that they can reduce their 2004 federal and state taxes by paying all or part of their estimated tax by December 31.

Over the weekend, residents were mailed an early payment coupon along with information about how the tax revenues are being spent. "We will continue to fund schools and county services at the levels we said we would," said Dave Boyer, Multnomah County's Chief Financial Officer. "We are continuing our collections efforts with those who still owe the tax from 2003, and also reminding folks that they can reduce their federal and state tax liability for 2004 if they pay by the end of the year" Boyer said. Today's distribution is from revenues collected for tax year 2004 from early payments and employee tax withholdings.

The three-year income tax was created by the passage of Ballot Measure 26-48 in May 2003, followed by an affirmation from voters in November. The 1.25 percent tax on the Oregon taxable income of Multnomah County residents is due on April 15, and is scheduled to expire after tax year 2005. Those who choose to make an early payment or have the tax withheld by their employer will still need to file a county tax return. An online tax estimating calculator is at <u>www.multcotax.org</u>.

Payments to the eight Multnomah County school districts, as well as Victory Middle School and Sauvie Island School, are based on the State's per-pupil funding formula. The following is a list of recipients of the County income tax and the amount of each distribution.

Centennial School District, \$577,920; **Corbett School District**, \$59,040; **David Douglas School District**, \$905,280; **Gresham Barlow School District**, \$986,160; **Parkrose School District**, \$354,360; **Portland Public School District**, \$4.5 million; **Reynolds School District**, \$1 million; **Riverdale School District**, \$45,240; **Victory Middle School**, \$8,400; **Sauvie Island School**, \$7,320.

In addition, Multnomah County transferred \$2.9 million to its public safety, senior services and other health and human services agencies that administer programs supported by the tax.

For more information, visit <u>www.multcotax.org</u> or call Amy Swanson at 503-988-5384.