Multnomah County				
Program #90010A - Elec	tions			3/2/2021
Department:	Community Services	Program Contact:	Tim Scott	
Program Offer Type:	Existing Operating Program	Program Offer Stage:	As Requested	
Related Programs:	90010B			
Program Characteristics	: In Target			

Executive Summary

The Elections Division conducts all local, city, county, state and federal elections for the citizens of and all political districts within Multnomah County. Under Oregon law, regular election dates are in March, May, September and November. Under state and local law, special elections and recall elections can also be called at any time of the year. This program offer supports the entire elections program, covering 11 full-time and 400 on-call election workers' pay, materials and supplies to cover four possible elections, contracts with vendors to support ballot production, mailing and technology, and all of the county facilities and support services that make elections possible.

Program Summary

The Elections Division puts voters first as it conducts transparent, accurate, accessible and accountable elections in Multhomah County and maintains the public's confidence and trust in the elections process. The Division conducts all local, city, county, state and federal elections for the citizens of all political districts within Multhomah County. Elections include votes on ballot measures and all elected offices from the local level to the federal level.

Conducting elections involves many processes including registering voters; maintaining the statewide voter registration and election management database; maintaining address and district data; checking signatures on city and local candidate and initiative petitions; accepting candidate and measure filings; producing voters' pamphlets; issuing and mailing ballots; managing the main office, a satellite voting center and 30 other drop site locations; accepting and processing returned ballots; providing assistance to voters with disabilities and voters who speak languages other than English; counting ballots; and releasing results. During major elections, the Elections Division brings on as many as 210 on-call election workers to assist its 11 full time staff.

The Elections Division also conducts the Voter Education and Outreach program as part of its core services. The program works to identify and remove barriers to voter participation in underserved communities through building relationships, community engagement and targeted education and outreach opportunities. The Voter Education and Outreach program is informed by direct outreach to underserved communities, organizational and community partnerships and results from a voter survey, focus groups and mapping voter behavior with demographic data.

Elections is also responsible for the campaign finance disclosure program put in place by the Board in December 2019. Elections is responsible for educating candidates about disclosure requirements on campaign advertising and is responsible for investigating complaints.

Performance Measures					
Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY20 Actual	FY21 Budgeted	FY21 Estimate	FY22 Offer
Output	Percentage of voters using ballot tracking	11%	12%	28%	29%
Outcome	Percent of customers who are satisfied with counter service	100%	97%	98%	97%
Efficiency	Personnel cost per 1,000 ballots cast	\$705	\$950	\$1384	\$1100

Percent of voters using ballot tracking is percent of voters using BallotTrax to track and receive messages about ballot status, not funded in this offer. Percent of customers satisfied with counter service is percent of customers indicating that service met or exceeded expectations. FY 2020 Actual for the personnel cost per 1,000 ballots cast measure is for the 2020 primary, FY 2021 Purchased and FY 2021 Estimate are for the presidential general election and FY 2022 Offer is for the 2022 primary.

Legal / Contractual Obligation

Multnomah County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 5, describes the process for county initiative/referendum petitions and how to fill vacancies in county elective offices. Multnomah County Administrative Rules, Multnomah County Language and Effective Communication Policy, Oregon Administrative Rules, Chapter 165, addresses state-wide uniformity in the conduct of elections. Oregon Revised Statutes, Chapters 246 through 260, provide legal authority for conducting elections in Oregon. Federal mandates (Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, The Voting Rights Act, The National Voter Registration Act, The Help America Vote Act and the Military and Overseas Empowerment Act) establish election administration standards.

Revenue/Expense Detail					
	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Requested General Fund	Requested Other Funds	
Program Expenses	2021	2021	2022	2022	
Personnel	\$1,852,890	\$0	\$1,890,437	\$0	
Contractual Services	\$1,544,306	\$0	\$1,422,388	\$0	
Materials & Supplies	\$436,287	\$0	\$461,037	\$0	
Internal Services	\$1,121,302	\$0	\$1,215,367	\$0	
Total GF/non-GF	\$4,954,785	\$0	\$4,989,229	\$0	
Program Total:	\$4,95	\$4,954,785		\$4,989,229	
Program FTE	11.00	0.00	11.00	0.00	

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$80,000	\$0	\$85,000	\$0
Other / Miscellaneous	\$21,659	\$0	\$0	\$0
Service Charges	\$1,362,459	\$0	\$1,336,397	\$0
Total Revenue	\$1,464,118	\$0	\$1,421,397	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

Intergovernmental Revenue includes \$85,000 in projected revenue from the State for costs associated with Oregon Motor Voter. This funds 1.00 FTE whose primary job function is to process new voter registrations, many of which originate from the DMV.

The Service Charges Revenue includes two smaller special elections at \$350,000 each, November 2021 Special Election at \$581,156, May 2022 primary election \$44,541, Petition election at \$10,700.

Additional funding is provided by the County General Fund.

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2021: 90010A Elections

In order to meet the 2% general fund constraint this program offer was reduced by \$104,325. The Elections Division prioritized statutorily mandated functions like voter registration and printing, mailing and processing ballots. To cover the reduction, Elections was unable to fund the November 2021 and May 2022 voters' pamphlets. The County voters' pamphlets are not statutorily mandated but they are key components to voter engagement, education and access. Related program offer 90010B has been submitted to request restoration of this popular program.