



MULTNOMAH COUNTY AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST NOTICE OF INTENT

(revised 03/25/11)

Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date: 8/4/11
Agenda Item #: R.5
Est. Start Time: 10:05 am
Date Submitted: 7/18/11

Agenda Title: **NOTICE OF INTENT to Apply for a Library Services & Technology Act Grant from the Oregon State Library for "Homework Help @ Multnomah County Library"**

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: August 4, 2011 **Amount of Time Needed:** 5 minutes
Department: Library **Division:** Youth Services
Contact(s): Becky Cobb
Phone: 503/988-5499 **Ext.** 85499 **I/O Address:** 317/Admin
Presenter Name(s) & Title(s): Katie O'Dell, School Age Services Manager

General Information

1. What action are you requesting from the Board?

Request approval to apply for a Library Services & Technology Act (LSTA) grant through the Oregon State Library for the first year of a proposed two year grant that will result in an integrated homework help tool that will effectively respond to young people's needs and experience using new digital technologies.

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 Library serves an estimated 116,471 students ages five to 18 (*American Community Survey 2009*) who attend eight public school systems, numerous private schools or are homeschooled. The delivery of library services to students is guided by a key priority, "success in school: support for K-12 student learning," which reflects the library's commitment that students have the services, materials and resources they need to succeed in school and to improve their literacy. To this end, the library offers Homework Center, a one-stop selection of electronic databases, homework Web sites, and access to free online

help from real tutors. While this expansive set of online resources may sound appealing to adults, it has become less relevant to young people who normally frequent Facebook, Wikipedia, Google, YouTube, email, and chat, according to IMLS-funded findings from focus groups conducted by New York City's three public library systems in 2007. "Young adults expect to have content delivered to them where they are and to be able to repackage it and push it out into their own social sphere." Given the continually evolving environment in which the library operates, LSTA assistance is needed to reassess and re-imagine how the use of social media impacts the delivery of school supports, and to investigate the answers to a number of emerging information literacy issues.

The goal of the "Homework Help" grant is to identify and evaluate the homework reference needs of students, educators, parents, and librarians for the purpose of designing an integrated homework help tool.

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

The total budget for the first year is \$182,538.

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

None.

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

Focus groups will be held with students, teachers, school administrators, and parents in order to assess young people's information-gathering tendencies, research needs, and youth/adult expectations. Culturally appropriate translation and interpretation services will be provided to encourage project participation by community members with limited English proficiency.

ATTACHMENT A

Grant Application/Notice of Intent

If the request is a Grant Application or Notice of Intent, please answer all of the following in detail:

• **Who is the granting agency?**

The Oregon State Library is the granting agency.

• **Specify grant (matching, reporting and other) requirements and goals.**

Local matching support for grant projects funded from LSTA sources is not required by federal or state regulations. However, cash and/or in-kind support is expected as evidence of local commitment to the project objectives. Quarterly progress reports are required, with a full report at the end of the project.

• **Explain grant funding detail – is this a one time only or long term commitment?**

This is year one of a two year project. The total first year budget is \$182,538, with \$61,083 in local in-kind and cash (personnel and miscellaneous expenses), and \$121,455 requested in LSTA funds.

• **What are the estimated filing timelines?**

The full grant proposal is due August 12, 2011.

• **If a grant, what period does the grant cover?**

The grant will begin on February 1, 2012 and end on January 31, 2013.

• **When the grant expires, what are funding plans?**

The plan is to request a 2nd year LSTA grant of \$135,874 that will fund the remaining work of the project.

- **Is 100% of the central and departmental indirect recovered? If not, please explain why.**
Indirect charges will be covered by the LSTA funds.

ATTACHMENT B

Required Signatures

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "V. Bellu", written over a horizontal line.

Date: July 18, 2011