



MULTNOMAH COUNTY AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST

(Revised: 8/18/11)

Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date: 3/1/12
 Agenda Item #: R.10
 Est. Start Time: 11:10 am
 Date Submitted: 2/22/12

Agenda Title: Establishing "Libraries for Livelihoods," a Set of Resources and Program Offerings for Job Seekers in Multnomah County that Will Include Electronic Resources, Classes, Dedicated Computers and Ongoing Assistance at Designated Multnomah County Library Locations

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: 3/1/2012 **Time Needed:** 15 minutes
Department: Non-Departmental **Division:** District 2
Contact(s): Althea Gregory
Phone: 503-988-6763 **Ext.** 86763 **I/O Address:** 503/6
Presenter Name(s) & Title(s): Vailey Oehlke, Library Director

General Information

1. What action are you requesting from the Board?

Approve resolution regarding "Libraries for Livelihoods," a set of resources and program offerings for job seekers in Multnomah County.

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.

Job seekers face a difficult set of circumstances in the face of a protracted economic recession that is just now beginning to show small signs of recovery. Multnomah County's latest economic forecast assumes a protracted and uneven recovery characterized by anemic to modest growth, continued high unemployment, and slowly stabilizing property values.

Multnomah County provides critical services to vulnerable populations, a large percentage of which are unemployed or underemployed. Multnomah County Library supports Multnomah County's mission through outreach and services to the most vulnerable among us.

This resolution will establish a set of resources and program offerings, entitled "Libraries for Livelihoods," designed specifically to benefit those seeking employment. The planned locations will be the North Portland Library, Central Library and Midland Library. Each of these libraries is located in an area of demonstrated need, based on localized

unemployment and poverty data. Each of the planned locations will have dedicated computers set aside for job seekers, an open-hours jobs labs, and classes that will show job seekers how to use social media resources to aid in job searching and how to gain skills necessary to be a successful job candidate.

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

This effort will be accomplished within the library's existing resources in the current fiscal year, and will conclude in June 2012.

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

The effort will address policy issues related to unemployment, poverty, and economic development.

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

Multnomah County Library currently offers a host of resources to job seekers, including access to computers, printers, technical assistance, and classes. Multnomah County Library's services are highly utilized by the public, with the second highest circulation of any public library system in the United States and visits by 35,000 people each day. Multnomah County Library will actively promote the "Libraries for Livelihoods" resources and offerings to encourage people unfamiliar with the library to visit and receive assistance.

Required Signature

**Elected
Official or
Department
Director:**



Date: 2/22/12