



MULTNOMAH COUNTY
AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST
(revised 12/31/09)

Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date: 9-20-12
Agenda Item #: R.1
Est. Start Time: 9:30 am
Date Submitted: 9-12-12

Agenda Title: Resolution reaffirming the County's commitment to sustainable purchasing by adopting the Healthy Purchasing Initiative in collaboration with the City of Portland

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: September 20th, 2012 **Amount of Time Needed:** 25
Department: Non-Departmental **Division:** Sustainability
Contact(s): Warren Fish
Phone: 503.988.5882 **Ext.** X85882 **I/O Address:** 503/6

Presenter(s): Commissioner Dan Saltzman, Clark Brockman of SERA Architects, Andrea Durbin of Oregon Environmental Council, and Johanna Brickman of Oregon BEST (Built Environment and Sustainable Technologies Center) and Warren Fish.

General Information

1. What action are you requesting from the Board?

Approval of the Healthy Purchasing Initiative resolution.

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.

Building on the County's 2006 Toxics Reduction Strategy and 2010 Sustainable Procurement and Social Equity Policies, the Healthy Purchasing Initiative asks suppliers and vendors to provide information about the hazardous chemical content of their products. The experience of the green building and construction industry on eliminating toxics in the built environment suggests that when large purchasers like the City of Portland and Multnomah County request ingredient transparency, manufacturers begin to look for ways to reduce the hazardous materials present in their products.

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

None.

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

Implementation will occur through a pilot program which will include identification of priority

products, development of a chemical disclosure form (or adoption of an existing chemical disclosure protocol), and collaboration with vendors and manufacturers to identify products that avoid toxic chemicals of concern.

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

The City of Portland is adopting the same policy on September 19th. The policy and implementation plan is the result of strong collaboration between City and County Purchasing Staff, architecture and engineering firms, and public health advocates. By adopting this policy jointly, the City and County will be able to share expertise to guide and inform future purchasing decisions and leverage the combined purchasing power of the two jurisdictions to improve chemical hazard disclosure in the marketplace.

Required Signature

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

Chair Jeff Cogen /s/

Date: 9-12-12