

Notice of County Measure Election

SEL 801

rev 1/12; ORS 250.035, 250.041,
250.175, 254.103, 254.465

County and Notice Information

Notice is hereby given on AUGUST 14, 2012, that a measure election will be held in

MULTNOMAH
Name of County or Counties

County, Oregon on NOVEMBER 6, 2012
Date of Election

The following shall be the ballot title of the measure to be submitted to the county's voters.

Caption 10 words

SEE ATTACHED EX.A

Question 20 words

SEE ATTACHED EX.A.

Summary 175 words

SEE ATTACHED EX.A.

The following authorized county official hereby certifies the above ballot title is true and the ballot title challenge process has been completed.

Signature of Authorized County Official not required to be notarized

Date Signed mm/dd/yy

JERRY M. MORF

08/14/2012
COUNTY ATTORNEY

Printed Name of Authorized County Official

Title

EXHIBIT A

BALLOT MEASURE ____

CAPTION:

Form Library District with permanent rate to fund library services

QUESTION:

Shall dedicated library district fund Multnomah county library hours, services; rate limited to \$1.24 per \$1000 assessed value beginning 2013?

BALLOT SUMMARY:

If approved, the Multnomah County Library District would be formed with a permanent rate dedicated to library services, operations, books, materials, programs, activities and oversight of the district. Its boundaries would include all territory within Multnomah County. Formation of a District would do the following:

- Provide permanent and dedicated library funding up to \$1.24 per \$1000 of assessed value;
- Restore and retain library services such as summer reading, books, student and jobseeker support, and outreach to senior citizens;
- Prevent reductions in services, programs and activities, and hours.

Library services are a matter of county concern and the District will have the powers granted to library districts and public libraries under state and local law.

The formation of a District will ensure a dedicated long-term funding source for library services, allowing libraries to retain educational resources and programming. The Board of County Commissioners, sitting as the Library District Board, will serve as the governing board of the District to provide oversight and accountability. A Library Advisory Board will provide community input.

EXHIBIT B

VOTER'S PAMPHLET EXPLANATORY STATEMENT:

Library services are currently provided by Multnomah County and funded through general fund dollars and a serial levy. These funding sources are not stable. The County's general fund has experienced budget shortfalls and a library serial levy requires voter approval every three to five years. This year, Multnomah County Libraries had to reduce services by 14% including cutting hours to 44 per week – the lowest of any library system in the region. Library programs for kids, families, senior citizens and jobseekers, book budgets and staffing have also been cut.

Formation of a Library District will secure a permanent source of funding for Library services in the County. All dollars collected for the library district would go only to library services. Library funds could not be used for other programs.

If approved, the Multnomah County Library District will be formed with a permanent rate up to \$1.24 per \$1000 of assessed value. The typical homeowner will pay \$49 a year above the cost of the current levy of \$.89 per \$1000 assessed value. The boundaries of the District will include all territory within Multnomah County.

The newly formed Multnomah County Library District will provide:

- **Libraries:** Hours at all 19 library branches including Central Library
- **Books,** research documents and other materials
- **Trained Staff:** Library staff answers 870,000 reference questions a year.
- **Career & Employment Services:** Library services for jobseekers, small business owners, and English language learners
- **Internet:** Free computer and internet services for those without access at home
- **Programs and activities:** for school age children, story hours for babies and toddlers, summer reading, literacy services for children in child care, homework help, programs for teens and programs helping parents teach their kids to read
- **Summer Reading:** Over 100,000 kids participated in this year's Library's Summer Reading program, including the majority of the county's elementary school children
- **Events for kids and teens:** Nearly 255,000 people attend each year.
- **Book delivery** to homebound seniors and assisted living residents
- **Remote Online Access:** 24/7 online access to information, learning resources, and the library catalog

Among US libraries serving fewer than 1 million residents, Multnomah County Library ranks No. 1 in annual circulation of books and materials, according to the 2012 Public Library Data Service Statistical Report.

Providing library services is a matter of county concern and the voters authorized this method of formation in November 2010. The Library District will have the powers granted to districts and public libraries by state law and by the Charter. There are currently 25 library districts around the state of Oregon.

The Board of County Commissioners, sitting as the Library District Board, will serve as the governing board of the new Library District to provide oversight and accountability to the public. A Library Advisory Board will be formed to provide community input on matters of library services.