



# MULTNOMAH COUNTY AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST

(Revised: Oct. 2017)

## Board Clerk Use Only

**Meeting Date:** 1/30/20  
**Agenda Item #:** R.4  
**Est. Start Time:** 10:05 a.m.  
**Date Submitted:** 1/24/20

**Agenda Title:** Briefing regarding Multnomah County Library District models for long term space planning

**Requested Date:** 1/30/2020

**Time Needed:** 60 minutes

**Department/Division:** District 4

**Contacts:** Rebecca Stavenjord

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**Presenters:** Vailey Oehlke, Alene Davis, Kirby McCurtis, Annie Lewis, Jackie Starr, Lizzie Martinez

## General Information:

### 1. What are you requesting from the Multnomah County Library District (MCLD) Board?

Receive briefing on the library's models for costs, funding, timelines and staging of projects to expand and modernize library spaces across Multnomah County.

### 2. Please provide sufficient background information for the MCLD Board and the public to understand this issue. Please note which Program Offer(s) this action affects and how it impacts the results.

Multnomah County libraries are the 4th busiest in the nation, but rank 102nd in square footage. Most Multnomah County libraries are cramped and crowded, with inadequate seating and no dedicated space for quiet reading or study. Many libraries regularly turn away patrons from children's reading programs and some libraries deny up to 70% of requests for public meeting room use due to lack of room availability. Only one library has a dedicated creative learning space offering 21st century tools. The lack of space is especially acute in East County, where 40% of the population has just 24% of library space.

The Multnomah County Library District Board approved the [Framework for Future Library](#)

Spaces on June 29, 2017, and directed the library to develop models for costs, funding, timelines and staging of projects, including a “flagship library” equivalent to Central Library in East Multnomah County.

The library has completed its due diligence to develop a proposal in alignment with the Framework’s recommendations. That process included studying real estate and construction market conditions; cost projections and extensive vetting; and robust community feedback detailed below.

The library’s proposal increases public library spaces across Multnomah County by an estimated 70% through rebuilding, renovating or expanding six libraries; addresses the East County space deficit with a new flagship library of approximately 100,000 square feet; and increases efficiency in material handling, delivery and storage with automation.

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

No FY2020 or ongoing fiscal impact expected from this action.

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

No legal issue necessarily arises from this briefing.

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

The Framework was created based on the input of diverse communities, through 13 culturally-specific focus groups, 51 community conversations across the county with nearly 2,000 community members at libraries, community centers, service agencies and partner organizations and a public survey with more than 1,700 responses.

In addition, the library convened a Blue Ribbon Committee, made up of 25 civic and business leaders from across the county, to independently review its analysis and proposals. The committee met three times between April and September 2019. A primary focus of this group’s work was to scrutinize cost estimates. At each step along the way, members were asked to provide verbal and written feedback.

**Required Signature:**

<b>Elected Official/ Department Director:</b>	<i>/s/ Vailey Oehlke</i>	<b>Date:</b>	<i>Jan. 23, 2020</i>
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