

Department:	Nondepartmental	Program Contact:	Mike Jaspin
Program Offer Type:	Existing Operating Program	Program Offer Stage:	As Adopted
Related Programs:			
Program Characteristics:			

Executive Summary

This program offer distributes revenues received from property taxes associated with railroad cars to local school districts. This is a statutory responsibility of Oregon counties (ORS 308.505 to ORS 308.665) and these revenues are dedicated to a County School Fund. It also includes revenues dedicated to the County School Fund received from the sale of timber cut on federal forest land and the Secure Rural Schools program. Federal legislation governing these payments has sunset several times, but has been reauthorized for FY 2016.

Program Summary

Since 1908, all counties in Oregon had received payments from the US government from revenue generated by the sale of timber cut on federal forest lands. State law specified how the revenue was to be allocated.

The federal law authorizing federal timber payments to counties, PL 106-393, sunset as of September 30, 2006. It was reauthorized by Congress for one year in 2007, and was renewed in 2008 for a four-year period, during which time the amount received declined each year. FY 2012 was to have been the last year in this 4-year extension. Congress reauthorized this legislation for one year in FY 2013, and again in FY 2014.

In April of 2015, Congress once again reauthorized the Secure Rural Schools program, but for two years. Payments are retroactive for the County's FY 2015 budget and will provide funds FY 2016.

The County School Fund also receives a portion of the ad valorem tax that is assessed on the value of rail cars as outlined by state statute.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY14 Actual	FY15 Purchased	FY15 Estimate	FY16 Offer
Output		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Outcome		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Performance Measures Descriptions

The County School Fund provides a very small amount of the total revenue available to schools in Multnomah County. Arguably, this amount is not large enough to contribute meaningfully toward student academic achievement.

Legal / Contractual Obligation

ORS 328.005-035 outlines the requirement to establish a County School Fund. The apportionment of revenue from the sale of timber on federal forest lands is described in ORS 294.060, which states: "...moneys received by each county...shall be divided 75 percent to the Road Fund and 25 percent to the school fund of the County."

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2015	2015	2016	2016
Contractual Services	\$0	\$20,275	\$0	\$77,230
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$20,275	\$0	\$77,230
Program Total:	\$20,275		\$77,230	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000
Taxes	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$57,000
Interest	\$0	\$25	\$0	\$30
Beginning Working Capital	\$0	\$250	\$0	\$200
Total Revenue	\$0	\$20,275	\$0	\$77,230

Explanation of Revenues

The County School Fund is credited with 25% of the revenue received from the statewide assessment of railroad cars apportioned to each County. Revenues have averaged \$15,000-\$20,000 over the past several years.

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2015: 10024 County School Fund

Includes re-authorization of the Secure Rural Schools program for FY 2016, which was not included in the Adopted FY 2015 budget.