

IMPACT STATEMENT

Legislation title: Refer renewal of Portland Children's Levy to City voters as a local option levy for five years commencing in FY 2019-20 (Resolution)

Contact name: Brendan Finn

Contact phone: (503) 823-4151

Presenter name: Brendan Finn

Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:

The Portland Children's Levy is seeking renewal by a local ballot vote in FY 2019-20. Following the creation of the Portland Children's Levy in 2002 via a five-year tax levy, the program has been renewed twice in 2008 and 2013. The Portland Children's Levy raises money through the implementation of a local option tax. As such, the program is committed to funding only the most cost-effective and successful programs to ensure productive use of all allocated funds.

The Portland Children's Levy currently supports 74 projects that all benefit local children. There are six main categories of programs funded by the Portland Children's Levy: early childhood programs, after school and mentoring programs, child abuse prevention and intervention, foster care and hunger relief programs. This allows for more than 14,000 children to participate in special programs and over 15,000 to gain access to hunger relief services.

This renewal would help ensure that children in Portland have the resources available to succeed in this formative stage of life.

Financial and budgetary impacts:

Should the Portland Children's Levy be renewed for five years in FY 2019-20, there will continue to be a local tax at \$0.4026 per thousand dollars of assessed value. This tax will raise approximately \$118.4 million throughout the five-year period.

No more than 5% of the Children's Investment Fund will be used on administrative costs. This will be ensured by an annual audit and review of results by the Allocation Committee.

In order to be the recipient of a grant from the Portland Children's Levy, organizations must demonstrate their ability to efficiently use funds, keep a certain level of participation from the community, and achieve positive outcomes. 90% of funds available to the Portland Children's Levy will be used towards funding these organizations through a competitive application process. The remaining 10% can be used to fund programs through a non-competitive process via the discretion of the Allocation Committee.

Community impacts and community involvement:

Over two-thirds of Portland Children’s Levy funded projects and programs take place in marginalized or minority communities. Children in these areas are at a significant disadvantage when it comes to access to proper education, nutrition and mental healthcare services. By attending events and classes put on by organizations such as Hacienda CDC, Lifeworks NW or Janus Youth Programs, students are able to gain valuable learning opportunities and life resources.

Portland Children’s Levy funded programs can be found all throughout the Portland metro area, as well as in Washington, Clackamas and Multnomah Counties.

Programs funded by the Portland Children’s Levy work to break down barriers caused by marginalization of minority or other underprivileged populations. This ensures that all children have the opportunity to succeed and become tomorrow’s leaders. Oregon also has one of the lowest high school graduation rates in the United States. Early childhood, mentoring and after school programs all increase educational exposure and the chance that a child will make it through primary and secondary educations.

Budgetary Impact Worksheet

Does this action change appropriations?

- YES:** Please complete the information below.
- NO:** Skip this section

Fund	Fund Center	Commitment Item	Functional Area	Funded Program	Grant	Sponsored Program	Amount