

Oregon PSR Message to Multnomah County Regarding COVID-19 (3/18/20)

Dear Chair Kafoury, Commissioner Vega Pederson, Commissioner Meieran,  
Commissioner Jayapal, and Commissioner Stegman

Thank you so much for all of your quick work to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic in Multnomah County, including announcing a moratorium on evictions for those impacted by layoffs and virus-related hardships.

We now urge you to take swift action to move forward with the measure to increase the business income tax (BIT) to ensure that essential county services receive the funding that they need, not additional cuts. **Please hold a second reading and approve this measure tomorrow.** It is now more important than ever to ensure that public health services and shelter beds, for example, receive the resources that they need so that we can intervene before individuals would need emergency medical services, which will have their hands full with COVID-19 cases for the foreseeable future.

Your leadership in this time is critical, and we appreciate that this is an incredibly high-pressure time to be in elected office. Thank you for your steady hands and for providing information and support to County residents at this time.

Sincerely,

Damon Motz-Storey, Healthy Climate Program Director

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