

COVER SHEET – AGENDA ITEM #C2

For Commission Meeting: September 21, 2015

“2016 Community Technology Grant Cycle”

Recommendation

The MHCRC Grant Committee recommends that the Commission allocate \$800,000 for Community Technology grants in the FY2015-16 competitive process and establish a Pre-Application deadline of December 8, 2015.

Background

Annually the Commission allocates funds and establishes an application deadline for the Community Technology Grant cycle.

At the September 3 Grant Committee meeting, the Committee agreed the Pre-Application process continues to work well for applicants, Commissioners and staff. The Committee recommends that the Commission launch a competitive grant cycle similar to last year’s Pre-Application process with a pre-application deadline date of December 8, 2015. The competitive grant cycle is open to non-profit organizations, government agencies and community colleges and public universities in Multnomah County. Kx12 educational institutions are not eligible to apply since these organizations are the focus of the TechSmart Initiative. In addition, the Committee recommends dedicating \$800,000 for the competitive round, which represents about one-third of funds available for community technology grants in FY15-16.

2016 competitive process summary:

- Organizations apply through an online Pre-Application process by December 8.
- At its January 2016 meeting, the MHCRC decides which Pre-Applications it would like staff to pursue within the \$800,000 available for funding.
- Staff works with each chosen organization to finalize a full application and grant contract.
- The MHCRC approves final contracts at a MHCRC meeting in March, May or June.

Submitted by: Rebecca Gibbons
September 14, 2015