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For Immediate Release

Oregon Historical Society Announces Plans to Revitalize Services in Multnomah County

November 3, 2010 - Multnomah County voters gave Oregon History a “thumbs up!” yesterday with 54% voting to pass the modest levy allowing the Historical Society to keep both their museum and library open while revitalizing some services for residents of Multnomah County and beyond.

“Planning will start immediately and steps will be taken soon to put a timeline on the changes necessary to allow Multnomah County residents and Oregon Schools Groups into our history museum and library free of charge,” says Executive Director, George Vogt, "Our board is now considering the feasibility of implementing some of the fee changes sooner than July 1, when public funding begins. We can’t thank the citizens of Multnomah County enough for realizing the importance of this levy and ensuring that Oregon’s history stays accessible to its people.”

Funding from the levy is expected to be available to the Oregon Historical Society no sooner than July of 2011. The decision of

exactly when school groups and Multnomah County residents are free of charge will be announced before year end.

Renewed services to county residents, and other visitors, will also include the reinstitution of research library hours. Library hours, as well as other resources, were cut to a bare minimum in the spring of 2008 after drastic State cutbacks in the Society's funding. With levy funds, the library will eventually be reopened at 32 hours a week. Multnomah County residents will also see the roll-out of a new discounted membership package in 2011.

The Society is moving forward with its annual plans such as the launching of the 2011 Mark O. Hatfield Lecture Series and the opening of new exhibits such as Marking Time: Voyage to Vietnam and Walls of Heritage Walls of Pride this fall. For more and on-going information please go to www.ohs.org

About The Oregon Historical Society

The Oregon Historical Society and its affiliates throughout Multnomah County are the central repositories for the metro region's and the state's collection of historical documents, photos, books, and artifacts. Together, they represent Oregon's ability to continue to collect and preserve our history for the future, and for the public to view and use them.

For a complete list of current and upcoming exhibits and their dates, visitor information and more, visit www.ohs.org

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