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**HILLSBORO CIVIC CENTER TO BECOME
FUTURE HOME OF WASHINGTON COUNTY MUSEUM**

City of Hillsboro Sees Museum As Important Partner in Ongoing Downtown Revitalization

PORTLAND, OR—Washington County Museum (WCM) and the City of Hillsboro (the City) announced today that 13,000 square feet of space at the Hillsboro Civic Center’s Plaza Building will become the future home of the WCM. Expanding the museum to Hillsboro’s cultural district will complement the City’s downtown revitalization effort and will help the museum deepen its ability to be a cultural, educational and community leader in the county. To make it possible for the museum to join the Hillsboro’s cultural district, the City has offered WCM a 15-year rent-free lease. In return, the WCM will pay for remodeling, maintenance and utilities for the space.

“We are excited about our partnership with the Washington County Museum. The space at our Civic Center gives the museum more visibility and easier access for their visitors while at the same time brings more people to downtown Hillsboro. Together, we will be growing another great venue for downtown Hillsboro,” said Hillsboro Mayor Jerry Willey.

The new centrally-located exhibit space will triple the size of the museum, enabling it to expand permanent exhibits, create new exhibits, bring traveling shows and offer more community programs. With restaurants, shops, offices, and cultural attractions within walking distance, museum officials look forward to being part of an active urban setting.

“Washington County is a remarkable place and we are honored to offer opportunities to learn about our shared history and explore the diverse cultural perspectives and gifts of our communities,” said Museum Executive Director Sam Shogren. “Joining the Hillsboro cultural district will greatly increase our ability to deliver on our mission of education, exploration and learning.”

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About Washington County Museum

The Washington County Museum is dedicated to learning and cultural appreciation by igniting the imagination and celebrating diverse cultures. As a cultural leader of Washington County, the museum's exhibits and programs create an understanding of a mutual past and a shared future. The Museum offers unparalleled opportunities to experience and understand the complexity and richness of our communities. More information about the museum can be found at www.WashingtonCountyMuseum.org.

About the City of Hillsboro

Now the state's fifth largest city with a population of more than 92,000, Hillsboro is helping to grow Oregon's future – from microprocessors to tulips, arts and culture, vital industries, education, centers of commerce and green spaces. Hillsboro is a well-planned, affordable, hometown with a strong, economic base and one of the state's most diverse populations. It is the high tech center of the state and home to a broad range of businesses, large and small, including Oregon's largest employer, Intel. It also has the fifth largest school district in the state, hosts the second largest 4th of July parade, and is home to other key annual events including a Latino Cultural Festival in April, Celebrate Hillsboro in July, and the Oregon International Air Show in July/August.

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