



LHS-30

Library shares space with residential units

To respond to the lack of affordable housing in Multnomah County, Oregon (660,000), the county commissioners decided that, before new county buildings are constructed, a feasibility study must be done to determine whether the buildings can include mixed-income housing. As a result of this policy, when the new Hollywood Library was constructed, the building included 47 mixed-income apartments above the library. The library shares ownership of the building with the developer of the apartments, and both owners pay monthly condominium fees to cover the costs of maintaining shared space such as sidewalks and the parking lot. Public bonds were used to finance the construction of the library's portion of the building, but not the apartment portion. The library benefits from the arrangement because of the enhanced safety from having occupants in the building at all times, even when the library is closed.

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