

**Housing and Community Services Department  
Volunteer Training Grant**

(Reported out of Subcommittee on 3-19-2013)

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The Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee recommends approval of a request by the Housing and Community Services Department to apply for a federal grant in the amount of \$50,000 for training and technical assistance to AmeriCorps and Senior Corps project hosts in ten western regions and states.

Oregon Volunteers! – The Commission on for Voluntary Action and Service is a program within the Housing and Community Services Department. Its mission is to support AmeriCorps, volunteers and civic engagement to strengthen Oregon communities. The Commission was asked to apply for the grant, which would be used to host a training conference with topics including designing volunteer programs to meet federal performance measurement goals, sustainability and fund development, non-profit board of director development and best practices. No matching funds or additional staffing are required, and Housing and Community Services has sufficient expenditure limitation to accommodate a grant award of this size.

The Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee recommends approval of the request.

Federal Grant Application Request  
**Housing and Community Services Department**  
Volunteer Training

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**Analyst:** Michelle Deister

**Request:** Approve the submission of a federal grant application to the Corporation for National and Community Service in the amount of \$50,000 for training and technical assistance to AmeriCorps and Senior Corps project hosts in the western United States.

**Recommendation:** Approve the request.

**Analysis:** The mission of Oregon Volunteers! - The Oregon Commission for Voluntary Action and Service is to support AmeriCorps, volunteerism and civic engagement to strengthen Oregon communities. The Commission matches AmeriCorps, Vista, and Senior Corps volunteers with opportunities in Oregon, provides a volunteer opportunity clearinghouse, and provides trainings on managing volunteers and information on best practices for organizations that utilize volunteers.

The grant will provide funding for a training conference for AmeriCorps and Senior Corps program staff in the ten western states and territories. Oregon Volunteers is the grant applicant, but the conference would be organized and executed with the assistance of the Washington Commission. In its application, Oregon Volunteers will propose conference tracks that include the following: ensuring federally funded volunteer programs are designed to fulfill federal performance measurement goals; sustainability and fund development; and non-profit board of director development and best practices.

No matching funds are required, and no additional staffing is anticipated to administer the grant. An award announcement is expected no earlier than May 29, 2013. If successful in its application, Oregon Volunteers! would hold the conference prior to December 31, 2013. The Housing and Community Services Department is expected to have sufficient Federal Funds expenditure limitation to accommodate a grant award of this size.

The Legislative Fiscal Office recommends approval of the request.