

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Transportation and Economic Development

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: Revenue impact issued

Action Date: 04/20/15

Action: Do Pass. Refer To Rules.

Meeting Dates: 04/17, 04/20

Vote:

Yeas: 6 - Bentz, Davis, Hack, Lively, McKeown, McLain

Exc: 1 - Gorsek

Prepared By: Patrick Brennan, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes Oregon Main Street Revitalization Grant Program within Oregon Business Development Department for purpose of awarding grants to participants in Oregon Main Street Network and members of National Main Street Center for purposes of preservation-based community revitalization and economic development. Establishes Oregon Main Street Revitalization Grant Program Fund and continuously appropriates moneys in Fund to Department for purposes of the program. Authorizes issuance of sufficient amount in lottery bonds for 2015-17 biennium for \$5 million to be deposited into Fund. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2015.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Examples of main street improvement projects throughout Oregon
- Need to find ways to bridge resource gap to address the issue
- Link between viable downtown areas and economic vitality
- Community pride
- Role of Parks and Recreation Department
- Need for additional work on measure

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The National Main Street Center is a national organization committed to historic preservation-based community revitalization. The organization operates through education, outreach, hands-on training, online resources, facilitation of connections and conferences to enable local leaders across the country to build communities. Over the past 34 years, the National Main Street Center has helped more than 2,000 communities organize frameworks to preserve and revitalize their traditional downtowns and commercial districts.