

Analysis

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

Coastal Resilience Grants Program

Analyst: Nick Herrera

Request: Approve the submission of a federal grant application by the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, in the amount of \$600,000, for the Coastal Resilience Grants Program.

Recommendation: Approve the request.

Analysis: The grant will be used to support the Oregon Tide Gate and Infrastructure Discussion Project which seeks to develop a suite of tools to assist landowners, communities, and others to improve and replace tide gates where necessary in order to support resilient coastal communities, and reduce risks associated with extreme weather events and climate-related hazards. OWEB will work in partnership with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to execute the project which is scheduled for completion in the fall of 2020. The grant carries a matching requirement of 2:1 federal to non-federal contributions. Non-federal cash contributions of \$300,000 will be met by OWEB from Measure 76 lottery funds, for a total project budget of \$900,000. The grant is part of a competitive application process, and is due no later than March 15, 2017. The work associated with the grant will not require any new positions and funding will be awarded no sooner than October 1, 2017. Upon notification of a grant award, OWEB will work with LFO on federal funds expenditure limitation as appropriate.

The project includes a series of deliverables: 1) Local Outreach (\$150,000), to be completed by OWEB and will include a series of 12 facilitated meetings by a third party contractor, 2) Tide Gate Inventory (\$75,000), to be completed by ODFW and will include an inventory of coast and Columbia-wide tide gates, voluntary surveys, and the development of a Tide Gate Inventory Platform, 3) Interactive Decision Support Tool (\$300,000), to be completed by OWEB and constructed by a third party contractor, 4) Engineering Toolbox (\$300,000), to be completed by ODFW, in consultation with the Oregon State University's College of Engineering, and will provide alternative engineering designs for tide gates and expand the Muted Tidal Regulator (MTR) technology, and 5) Regulatory Toolbox (\$75,000), to be completed by both OWEB and ODFW, and will consist of facilitated discussions and work sessions to explore opportunities to streamline permitting processes and regulatory consistencies, and provide an analysis and reporting of options for regulatory assurances.

The Legislative Fiscal Office recommends approval of the request.