

Analysis

Oregon Business Development Department

Change in Use of Regional Solutions Program Funds

Analyst: Steve Bender

Request: Authorize the use of \$60,000 of existing lottery bond proceeds for the Rainier Rail project.

Recommendation: Approve the request.

Analysis: In 2015, the state issued \$9 million of lottery revenue bonds to provide financial support to eight specified Regional Solutions projects. The Legislature authorized the use of \$2 million of the proceeds from this sale to support improvements to the rail corridor in City of Rainier. A portion of the bond proceeds designated for other projects has remained unused, however, because those projects did not move forward. The Oregon Business Development Department is requesting approval to use \$60,000 of the unused proceeds to supplement support for the Rainier Rail project, thereby increasing total lottery bond support for this project to \$2,060,000.

The project will provide safety and other upgrades to the rail line, street, and sidewalks in the City of Rainier, to separate automobile, pedestrian, and train traffic. The project also supports underground utility and storm water system upgrades.

The additional funds would be used for contract services to assist the City in management of its portion of the project, to allow the project to successfully move forward.

The Legislative Fiscal Office recommends approval of the request.