

Oregon Counties Urge Your 'YES' Vote on HB 4069

Dear Oregon Legislator,

AOC and our member counties write in support of House Bill (HB) 4069. This simple bill ensures that the 2.5 percent of dedicated video lottery proceeds reach our counties. These funds are important investments in local economic development.

Under ORS 461.547, counties are supposed to receive 2.5 percent of net video lottery proceeds. In practice, however, this percentage has been replaced with a fixed appropriation and the statute suspended. While we understand the ease this allows, there is not currently a "true-up" or "true-down" mechanism when actual video lottery receipts are above or below previous forecasts. HB 4069 fixes this by ensuring the ease of the fixed allocation as well as providing a mechanism to fund at actual 2.5 percent levels...satisfying the original intent of the 2.5 percent law.

The infusion of funding by video lottery receipts ultimately creates jobs and local vitality; and our partners, public and private, gain the benefits. Take a look at the attached diverse list of projects and programs funded in 2017.



2017 Video Lottery Expenditures – Excerpts by County

Benton: Support Corvallis-Benton County Economic Development office for marketing and services; Support for RAIN (Regional Accelerator Innovation Network for southern Willamette Valley and Mid-Coast entrepreneurs linking them to resources and higher education

Clackamas: Staff support for Willamette Falls Legacy Project; Developed a supply chain analysis to identify gaps and opportunities for Clackamas County as a part of PNMP's catalytic project for commercialization of cross laminated timber in the NW

Clatsop: Support for staffing of OCZMA, Seaside Chamber, Cannon Beach Chamber and Columbia Pacific Economic Development District; Planning for marketing of North Coast Business Park property

Columbia: Community donations, consultant support and training, including Transit District, Roads, Parks, Museum, and Columbia County Economic Development Team

Coos: Federal lobbying assistance regarding timber; Courthouse improvements; County Planning/zoning; Nonprofit organizations, county Fair, South Coast Development Council

Crook: Support for staffing and work of chambers of commerce, Economic Development of Central Oregon (EDCO); Supported youth-related activities of non-profits; County Fairgrounds for assistance in promoting economic development activities

Curry: County staffing and engagement of professionals of the South Coast Development Corporation to promote business expansion and recruitment; Did surplus property survey to determine if/how surplus property should be maintained or sold to generate revenue and job opportunities

Deschutes: Supports Economic Development of Central Oregon for expansion and recruitment of businesses, Supports the county economic development loan program which provides incentives to businesses to expand, provides grants and cooperative agreements with community partners that work to improve the county economic base

Douglas: Support the Partnership for Economic Development, CCD Business Development Corp., UCC Med Education Program, Bolin Island Development, UCC Small Business School, County Fair

Union: Support water, sewer and road infrastructure for Union County property in Baum Industrial Park, pay debt service on Buffalo Creek Golf Course.

Gilliam: Grant to the Port of Arlington for support of grants and construction on Port of Arlington's property, support Pioneer Community Development Corp for grants in county

Grant: Partial staffing for economic development coordinator to partner with cities and non-profits for tourism activities, help to fund staff at airport and fairgrounds for special events

Harney: County staff to promote business expansion and retention activities, assisting businesses with new opportunities, staff a local economic development committee, support funding for county website

Hood River: Support funding of commissioners and staff regarding workforce housing, alternative energy projects, economic development actions with cities, port, community college, school district, chamber of commerce, and Mid Columbia Economic Development District

Jackson: Supports expenses of commissioners and staff to strengthen economic development efforts with private and public partners, support efforts of inmates to overcome addictions, mental health issues, to further their education

Jefferson: Support regional business development organization (EDCO) and Central Oregon Intergovernmental Coordinating Council (COIC), and county fairground maintenance

Josephine: Support Southern Oregon Regional Economic Development (SOREDI), activities of fairgrounds, park, airport and planning department, SBDC, and Illinois Valley Comm. Development Org.

Klamath: Support activities of Klamath County Economic Development Association (KCEDA), started a local business development grant program, paid costs of enterprise zone program efforts

Lake: Supports contract service providers to improve local natural resource utilization and business outreach and development, support costs of participating in regional economic development meetings

Lane: Provided staffing and funding for work on workforce training activities and rural prosperity in small towns, financial assistance to businesses, support Eugene-Springfield Economic Development organization and the county economic development program

Umatilla: Funded a consultant to work with and provide small grants to existing and potential businesses, promoted tourism activities, supported youth program to encourage economic development related activities

Lincoln: Partial funding for staffing activities of the Economic and Community Development Fund, provided nine grants to selected community development projects including RAIN in Lincoln County and the Economic Development Alliance, and funded activities of the local SBDC

Linn: Supports business development activities of Albany-Millersburg Economic Development Association, the county expo center, and the county's Youth Wage Grants program to participating local businesses hiring youth

Marion: Staffing for the county economic development efforts, source of revenue bond payments for water and sewer at the Oregon Garden, promoted economic development and tourism projects in the Santiam Canyon , supports business development activities of the Salem Economic Development Corporation (SEDCOR),made grants to community development projects in the county

Morrow: Supports Morrow County tourism, OSU extension Agent, Morrow County Rodeo, Heppner Museum, Morrow County Fair and Willow Creek Valley Economic Development organization

Multnomah: Support capital construction projects at East County Courthouse, new Sellwood Bridge, new Health Department building, purchase land for sheriff headquarters, debt service on new events

building; Support Portland Downtown Retail Strategy, conduct preliminary analysis for Levee Ready Columbia project, support event venue operations and efforts, provide access to apprenticeships and vocational training opportunities

Polk: Support Salem Economic Development Corp (SEDCOR) economic development activities of county, support Travel Salem, dues for community organizations, and special projects including RARE< FACES, Dallas Youth Garden, Aurora/Extension Research facility, helped fund one expansion of a business to Dallas

Sherman: Supports Mid-Columbia Economic Development for economic development services of the county and four small cities, assisted South Sherman Fire Department for a new fire hall, continued development of the Giles French Park

Tillamook: Supported organizations promoting economic development including Tillamook County Futures Council, Tillamook County Economic Development Council, Tillamook County Pioneer Museum, partially funded staffing of county planning department, supported loan repayment for Tillamook County Grandstands and bleachers

Wallowa: Support various music and cultural festivals, tourism projects, membership dues for local economic development organizations, support for engineering plan to rebuild upper Wallowa River, rebuilt county website

Wasco: Support staffing of Wasco Planning Department for county activities and on behalf of Port of the Dalles, The Dalles Chamber, etc., for land use and county zoning issues, review and permitting of renewable energy projects, development applications

Washington: Support costs of membership for local chambers and economic development entities, costs of community events and sponsorships, economic development staffing and studies, long range planning and code enforcement activities

Wheeler: Support staffing for economic development program coordinator, help to fund projects for Spray Rodeo, Painted Hills Festival, Fossil Cruzers Car Show, support maintenance of two county parks, supports Wheeler County Development Corporation to manage loan funds for business development entities