Oregon Crisis Funding

Request: Emergency funding for various agencies in response to critical needs for flood damage, coronavirus response, emergency preparedness, and greenhouse gas emission issues.

Description: Due to the unusual circumstances regarding the conclusion of the 2020 legislative session, the convening of the Emergency Board on March 9, 2020 is not following the normal protocols and procedures regarding item/issue submission and analysis; future meetings of the Emergency Board during legislative days will follow such protocols and procedures.

In addition, due to the unusual nature of the requests included in this item, all funding and any positions identified below, except those positions authorized for the Department of Environmental Quality, are assumed to be one-time and limited duration. For any recurring needs, agencies are instructed to include a request for continuation of funding and any positions in each agency’s 2021-23 budget request.

EASTERN OREGON FLOOD DAMAGE MITIGATION

Housing and Community Services Department
- Allocate $2,000,000 from the Emergency Fund to the Housing and Community Services Department for development of new affordable housing units for Umatilla County flood victims, including residents of the Umatilla Indian reservation.
- Allocate $1,500,000 from the Emergency Fund to the Housing and Community Services Department for rapid rehousing, including rental assistance, to victims of the February 2020 flooding in Umatilla County, including residents of the Umatilla Indian reservation.
- Allocate $4,000,000 from the Emergency Fund to the Housing and Community Services Department for housing and infrastructure replacement associated with damage and losses sustained in the February 2020 flooding in Umatilla County, including those on the Umatilla Indian reservation, with the understanding that the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) will unschedule the amount of the allocation until a plan is presented and approved by the Legislative Fiscal Office and the DAS Chief Financial Office.

Oregon Business Development Department
- Allocate $1,800,000 from the Emergency Fund to the Oregon Business Development Department for deposit into the Special Public Works Fund for reimbursement of loans made from the Special Public Works Fund to the City of Pendleton for levee repairs.
- Allocate $1,500,000 from the Emergency Fund to the Oregon Business Development Department for the Strategic Reserve Fund for support of business clean-up and restoration expenses necessitated by flooding in Eastern Oregon that are not reimbursed by insurance.
Department of Administrative Services

- Allocate $500,000 from the Emergency Fund to the Department of Administrative Services for a grant to the Blue Mountain Foundation to fund additional housing rehabilitation needs.
- Allocate $350,000 from the Emergency Fund to the Department of Administrative Services for special payments to the City of Milton-Freewater to defray significant flood debris clean-up costs incurred by local public work entities.

CORONAVIRUS 2019 (COVID-19) RESPONSE

Oregon Health Authority
Allocate $5,000,000 from the Emergency Fund to the Oregon Health Authority and increase Federal Funds expenditure limitation by $20,000,000 to support the Authority’s response to cases of COVID-19, with the understanding that the Department of Administrative Services will unschedule $4,000,000 of the Emergency Fund allocation and $10,000,000 of the Federal Funds expenditure limitation increase pending the identification of the specific response activity costs, the agency’s notification to the Legislature of its request for federal financial assistance consistent with the statewide federal grant approval process, and identification of the level of and eligible uses for any federal funding awarded to the agency. The Federal Funds expenditure limitation is an estimate of Oregon’s share of Congressional action to provide $8.3 billion of federal funding nationwide for coronavirus preparedness and response.

ALL-HAZARD EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

Military Department
Allocate $2,700,000 from the Emergency Fund to the Military Department for the following enhancements of emergency preparedness activities currently provided by the Office of Emergency Management and the creation of two new emergency preparedness functions that do not currently exist:
- $888,036 and one management position to create a grant program to fund up to ten logistics staging bases and to develop one logistics staging base site as a proof of concept with safety and security measures, storage capacity, redundant energy supply and communications capacity, traffic management and control supplies, a cache of life-saving/sustaining supplies, and other supplies, equipment, or resources required for a functional logistics staging base. No resources are provided for the grant program.
- $732,150 and one management position to develop a state-supported incident management team program to train, equip, and exercise 20 all-hazards incident management teams over a ten-year period and to train, equip, and exercise one all-hazards incident management team as proof of concept. No staffing requirements for incident management teams are identified.
- $1,079,814 for six positions and funding for supplies, training, preparedness educational materials, vehicles, and equipment to enhance local emergency preparedness plans and activities.
GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS POLICY RULEMAKING

Department of Environmental Quality
Allocate $5,000,000 from the Emergency Fund to the Department of Environmental Quality to be used for rulemaking and other actions with the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions across all emissions sources, including point sources, natural gas emissions and transportation fuels. To potentially implement these activities, the Emergency Board authorizes the establishment of ten permanent positions for the Department.

Recommendation: The Co-Chairs of the Emergency Board recommend approval of the budget items totaling $24,350,000 from the Emergency Fund and $20,000,000 Federal Funds expenditure limitation increase included in this request, along with the specific instructions for unscheduling and other reporting to the Legislative Fiscal Office and the DAS Chief Financial Office as described above.