

D R A F T

SUMMARY

Requires Oregon Department of Administrative Services to provide grants for certain coordinated homeless response systems between counties and cities. Requires response systems to report annually to interim committee of Legislative Assembly.

Sunsets January 2, 2025.

Appropriates moneys for specified response system grants.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1

2 Relating to coordinated homeless response systems; and declaring an emer-
3 gency.

4 Whereas the lack of available housing, high rents and high home prices
5 are driving rapid increases in housing instability and homelessness in
6 Oregon; and

7 Whereas Oregon has experienced a significant increase in the number of
8 people experiencing homelessness and unsheltered homelessness; and

9 Whereas funding, resources and services to address homelessness in
10 Oregon are not scaled to meet this need; and

11 Whereas the lack of housing affordability and availability in Oregon
12 cannot be addressed without cross-jurisdictional collaboration; and

13 Whereas communities require coordinated leadership and governance to
14 identify local needs and centralize communication, policy and services to end
15 homelessness; now, therefore,

16 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

17 **SECTION 1. (1) The Oregon Department of Administrative Services**
18 **shall provide grants to local governments that will, within 90 days of**

1 receipt of grant funding, enter into an intergovernmental agreement
2 between the member governments to create a coordinated homeless
3 response system that consists of, at a minimum:

4 (a) The establishment of a coordinated homeless response office;

5 (b) An advisory board with representation from the governing body
6 of each member government;

7 (c) Specific roles of the member governments to support the advi-
8 sory board and office;

9 (d) Plans for coordination with any local continuum of care re-
10 ceiving funding under 24 C.F.R. part 578; and

11 (e) The establishment of a centralized point of contact for the of-
12 fice.

13 (2) Grants provided under this section shall be used by the coordi-
14 nated homeless response system to:

15 (a) Hire necessary staff for the office;

16 (b) Support coordinated communications and public engagement;

17 (c) Support community outreach and policy development, including
18 stipends for people with current or recent lived experience of
19 homelessness;

20 (d) Acquire technical assistance and capacity building, including
21 contracting with consultants; and

22 (e) Pay for other expenses reasonably necessary to meet the re-
23 quirements under this section.

24 (3) A coordinated homeless response system receiving a grant under
25 this section shall, within one year of receiving grant funds, adopt a
26 five-year strategic plan that will identify and set goals for addressing:

27 (a) Funding to support the ongoing operations of the coordinated
28 homeless response system;

29 (b) Increasing or streamlining resources and services to people at
30 risk of or experiencing homelessness within the participating cities
31 and counties;

1 (c) Incorporating national best practices for ending homelessness;

2 (d) Eliminating racial disparities within homeless services within
3 the service area; and

4 (e) Pathways to permanent and supportive housing that is afforda-
5 ble to local populations experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

6 (4) No later than November 15, 2023, and September 15, 2024, a co-
7 ordinated homeless response system shall provide a report to one or
8 more appropriate interim committee of the Legislative Assembly in
9 the manner provided in ORS 192.245 on:

10 (a) The goals adopted in the five-year strategic plan and the
11 progress made in implementing the plan;

12 (b) Other changes in homelessness services, ordinances of member
13 governments relating to homelessness and partnerships or programs
14 established; and

15 (c) Identified challenges and opportunities relating to:

16 (A) Regional coordination of homelessness services and planning;

17 (B) Needs for technical assistance regarding program development
18 or other programs from the Housing and Community Services De-
19 partment; and

20 (C) Addressing racial disparities through partnerships with cul-
21 turally specific and responsive organizations serving populations
22 overrepresented in experiencing homelessness, including Black,
23 Indigenous, People of Color, tribes and tribal members and outreach
24 and engagement with these populations.

25 (5) In performing tasks under this section, a coordinated homeless
26 response system shall coordinate with and develop partnerships with
27 local and regional stakeholders, including, but not limited to:

28 (a) Advocates for people experiencing homelessness and for people
29 with lived experience of homelessness;

30 (b) Community action agencies;

31 (c) Housing authorities;

1 (d) Behavioral health providers;

2 (e) Law enforcement;

3 (f) Educational agency liaisons for homeless children as described
4 in 42 U.S.C. 11432;

5 (g) Department of Human Services offices;

6 (h) Courts;

7 (i) Emergency shelters;

8 (j) Homeless service providers;

9 (k) Organizations serving and advocating for veterans, homeless
10 youth, youth exiting the foster care system, domestic violence and
11 sexual assault survivors, members of lesbian, gay, bisexual,
12 transgender, queer or questioning (LGBTQ) communities, people ex-
13 periencing behavioral health and substance use disorders, faith com-
14 munities and business communities; and

15 (L) The Housing and Community Services Department.

16 (6) A coordinated homeless response system may use grant funds
17 in excess of those funds needed by the system to accomplish the re-
18 quirements of the system under subsections (1) to (5) of this section
19 to support the delivery of homeless services and shelter consistent
20 with the five-year strategic plan, including through contracts with
21 service providers.

22 SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2022 Act is repealed on January 2, 2025.

23 SECTION 3. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropri-
24 ation, there is appropriated to the Oregon Department of Administra-
25 tive Services, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2021, out of the
26 General Fund, to provide grants under section 1 of this 2022 Act for a
27 coordinated homeless response system:

28 (1) \$1,000,000 to Benton County for a response system consisting of
29 Benton County, the City of Corvallis and any other jurisdictions that
30 are parties to the intergovernmental agreement forming the response
31 system.

1 **(2) \$1,000,000 to Deschutes County for a response system consisting**
2 **of Deschutes County, the City of Bend, and any other jurisdictions**
3 **that are parties to the intergovernmental agreement forming the re-**
4 **sponse system.**

5 **(3) \$1,000,000 to Hood River County for a response system consisting**
6 **of Hood River County, Sherman County, Wasco County, the City of the**
7 **Dalles, the City of Hood River, the Mid-Columbia Community Action**
8 **Council and any other jurisdictions that are parties to the intergov-**
9 **ernmental agreement forming the response system.**

10 **(4) \$1,000,000 to Lincoln County for a response system consisting of**
11 **Lincoln County, the City of Lincoln City, the City of Newport, the City**
12 **of Toledo and any other jurisdictions that are parties to the intergov-**
13 **ernmental agreement forming the response system.**

14 **(5) \$1,000,000 to Polk County for a response system consisting of**
15 **Polk County, the City of Dallas, the City of Falls City, the City of In-**
16 **dependence, the City of Monmouth, the City of Willamina, the Con-**
17 **federated Tribes of the Grand Ronde, Mid-Willamette Valley**
18 **Community Action Agency and any other jurisdictions that are parties**
19 **to the intergovernmental agreement forming the response system.**

20 **SECTION 4. This 2022 Act being necessary for the immediate pres-**
21 **ervation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is de-**
22 **clared to exist, and this 2022 Act takes effect on its passage.**

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