

ANALYSIS

Consent Agenda – Various Agencies Requests for Approval to Apply for Federal Grants

The following state agencies seek retroactive approval to submit grant applications to various federal agencies. Retroactive approval is necessary for grant applications with deadlines that fell before the submittal dates for the December 2022 meeting of the Emergency Board and for which prior legislative approval has not been obtained.

The first section of the consent agenda includes requests to apply for two federal grants. The seven grants included in the second section of the consent agenda represent grants associated with the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) enacted in late 2021. In June and September 2022, the Emergency Board approved authority for agencies to apply for a total of 20 IIJA grants and similar requests are anticipated in the future as federal agencies announce the availability of IIJA funded grant programs.

Federal Grants

Item 16: Oregon Health Authority - SAMHSA Transformation Transfer Initiative

Analyst: Steve Robbins

Request: Approve, retroactively, the submission of a federal grant application to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA) in the amount of \$250,000 for the Transformation Transfer Initiative (TTI).

Analysis: HB 2417 (2021) required OHA to establish a statewide coordinated crisis services system consistent with the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act of 2020. The bill appropriated \$5 million General Fund for the crisis hotline center and \$10 million for counties to establish and maintain mobile crisis intervention teams. A new Medicaid state plan amendment allows the state to access a higher federal match rate of 85% for community-based mobile crisis services contingent on providers fulfilling new service standards, including the completion of training for all staff delivering services in the community.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration Transformation Transfer Initiative funding would supplement state funding to ensure all Community-based Mobile Crisis Intervention Services (CBMCIS) teams have access to standardized training to deliver culturally, linguistically, and developmentally appropriate services in the community. OHA will use the grant funds to contract with the Association of Community Mental Health Programs to implement and administer a standardized training curriculum, which all CBMCIS programs will be required to complete before delivering services.

OHA became aware of the grant October 7, 2022 and the application was due October 31, 2022. OHA provided timely notice to the Legislature on October 17, 2022. If awarded, the grant will begin January 1,

2023 and end on August 1, 2023. The grant provides funding up to \$250,000 for that period. The grant has no state match or maintenance of effort requirements, and no positions will be requested.

Item 36: Department of Forestry – Disaster Relief

Analyst: Matt Stayner

Request: Approve, retroactively, the submission of a federal grant application to the U.S. Forest Service in the amount of \$6 million to assist at-risk local communities to cover expenses related to natural disasters, including wildfires, from 2019 through 2021.

Analysis: The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) provided notification to the Co-Chairs of the Emergency Board on September 26, 2022 of its intent to apply for the funding and subsequently submitted its application to the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) on November 30, 2022. The federal funding is through the Extending Government Funding and Delivering Emergency Assistance Act which made \$535 million available for recovery work needed as a result of natural disasters occurring in calendar years 2019 through 2021, with no less than \$175 million of that amount for high priority post-wildfire restoration. The requested funding is intended to be used primarily for reforestation capacity through seed supply and nursery stock support. Additional projects include direct fire recovery and protection of cultural resource and heritage sites. No state matching funds are required for the grant. The grant performance period spans five years. ODF anticipates the need for up to four limited-duration positions in the 2023-25 biennium for work related to the grant.

IIJA Federal Grants

Item 30: Department of State Lands - Wasson Creek Watershed

Analyst: Matt Stayner

Request: Approve, retroactively, the submission of a federal grant application to the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Estuarine Research Reserve System in the amount of \$3,535,900 through the Habitat Protection and Restoration Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Competition to support the Wasson Creek watershed ridgetop-to-estuary restoration project.

Analysis: The Department of State Lands provided the Emergency Board Co-Chairs notice of its intent to apply for the federal grant on October 4, 2022. The final funding proposal was due October 28th. The federal funding opportunity made a total of \$12 million available under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act for three categories of projects: habitat restoration; habitat restoration planning and engineering; and land conservation. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration solicited eligible Research Reserves in June 2022 for letters of interest. The South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve submitted an initial letter of interest in July 2022 and was invited to submit a full proposal for the Wasson Creek Watershed restoration project by October 28, 2022. The grant award date is anticipated to be April 1, 2023. The grant performance period allows for up to 48 months for habitat restoration projects, including at least one year of post-restoration monitoring. The majority of

the work will be performed by contractors; however, the total funding also supports equipment and supplies purchases, travel expenses and staff support. A limited-duration technician position is anticipated to be requested if the grant funding is awarded. Required matching funding will be provided by existing budgeted expenditures of the reserve and its partners.

Item 31: Department of State Lands - Brownfields

Analyst: Matt Stayner

Request: Approve, retroactively, the submission of a federal grant application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in the amount of \$1 million for brownfields cleanup to perform remediation of contaminated sediment at the Moore and Wright Islands Natural Area on the Columbia Slough.

Analysis: The Department of State Lands provided notice to the Emergency Board Co-Chairs of its intent to apply for the federal funding on October 27, 2022. The grant application deadline was November 22, 2022. The federal funding opportunity made a total of \$60 million available under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. The grant opportunity was made available to the Department of State Lands as owners of the subject property; however, the department intends to contract with the Department of Environmental Quality to perform the proposed remediation activities. Up to 5% of the total grant award will be available to the Department of State Lands for administrative costs of the grant. The grant performance period is four years. No state matching funds are required, and no additional staffing is anticipated.

Item 37: Department of Forestry - Community Wildfire Defense

Analyst: Matt Stayner

Request: Approve, retroactively, the submission of a federal grant application to the U.S. Forest Service in the amount of 17,362,678 for the creation, updating, or project implementation of Community Wildfire Protection Plans.

Analysis: Federal funding of approximately \$160 million per year for the next five years was made available through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act for Community Wildfire Defense Grants. The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) provided a notice of intent to apply for the federal funding to the Emergency Board Co-Chairs on September 28, 2022 and the final application was due October 7, 2022. Following the submittal of the agency's retroactive request to apply for funding, the total amount requested in the grant application was increased by \$50,000 for a total of \$17,442,768. The additional \$50,000 will be used to provide technical assistance to other eligible entities applying for program funding. Of the remaining amount, \$145,211 is for development or revision of Community Wildfire Protection Plans, and \$17,247,466 is for implementation projects. ODF will request a waiver of required matching funds. If the waiver is not requested or approved, non-federal matching funds of \$5,355,163 will be met using existing budgeted expenditures. ODF also intends to partner or coordinate on grant funded projects applied for by other eligible entities. If awarded the requested amount, ODF estimates the need for one position (0.25 FTE) in the current biennium and up to 28 limited duration positions in the 2023-25 biennium. The department will request any position or expenditure authority following the notice of grant award.

Item 40: Department of Energy - State Energy Program Allocation for Oregon

Analyst: April McDonald

Request: Approve, retroactively, the submission of a federal grant application to the U.S. Department of Energy in the amount of \$5,464,180 for State Energy Program funds made available through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Analysis: The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) appropriates more than \$62 billion to U.S. Department of Energy to invest in American manufacturing and workers; expand access to energy efficiency and clean energy; deliver reliable, clean, and affordable power to more Americans; and deploy clean energy technologies. As part of this appropriation, Oregon has been allocated \$5,664,180 through the State Energy Program (SEP). The Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) has already received a partial award of \$200,000 under this non-competitive formula grant, and requests retroactive approval to apply for the remaining balance of \$5,464,180. This allocation is a one-time opportunity that shall remain available until expended.

In July 2022, ODOE began preparing for this opportunity by engaging with stakeholders and the public through two interactive webinars. The aim was to gather feedback to assist the agency in determining how these funds should be used and prioritized. Additionally, as with other IIJA grants, the SEP funding will have Justice40 requirements. ODOE intends to use this funding to better connect services and financial resources to groups who have not historically engaged with the agency. The funds will also be used to support ODOE's energy security planning, increase capacity for technical assistance, and facilitate research, analysis, and program development for energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainable transportation, and resilient energy systems.

ODOE notified the Co-Chairs of the Emergency Board of its intent to apply for this funding opportunity on November 16, 2022 and the grant application deadline is December 5, 2022. There is no match requirement, and the Department may return to the Legislature to request additional positions to support service delivery when the grant is awarded.

Item 43: Department of Transportation – Columbia River Highway State Trail

Analyst: Michelle Deister

Request: Approve, retroactively, the submission of a federal grant application to the Federal Highway Administration in the amount of \$46,630,800 to complete the final portion of the Historic Columbia River Highway State Trail, between the Mitchell Point Tunnel and the Ruthton Trailhead.

Analysis: On October 7, the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) notified the Co-Chairs of the Emergency Board of its intent to apply for the grant through the Nationally Significant Federal and Tribal Lands Program. An award would enable ODOT to finish construction of an off-interstate connection between communities in the Columbia River Gorge, with the added benefit of providing an emergency route alternative to Interstate 84. This grant opportunity is being funded with federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding. If awarded, matching funds in the amount of \$5,181,200 will

come from non-competitive funds allocated to Oregon from the IIJA and approved by the Oregon Transportation Commission to be used as flexible matching funds. Award announcements are expected in the spring of 2023, and ODOT may seek additional expenditure limitation from the Legislature if the grant application is successful.

Item 44: Department of Transportation – SMART Bridge Inspection

Analyst: Michelle Deister

Request: Approve, retroactively, the submission of a federal grant application to the U.S. Department of Transportation in the amount of \$487,000 to develop bridge inspection protocols and interfaces using unmanned aerial systems.

Analysis: On October 21, 2022, the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) notified the Co-Chairs of the Emergency Board of its intent to apply for the Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Program grant, funded through the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. If awarded, ODOT will develop processes and user interfaces to incorporate the use of drones into bridge inspections. The goals of the project are to increase personnel safety, provide rapid and comprehensive structure analysis, and reduce costs. No matching funds are required.

Item 45: Department of Transportation – Cascade Siskiyou Wildlife Crossing

Analyst: Michelle Deister

Request: Approve, retroactively, the submission of a federal grant application to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation in the amount of \$515,478 for an America the Beautiful Challenge Grant over a period to design two wildlife corridors across Interstate 5 near the Cascade Siskiyou Monument.

Analysis: The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) applied for the grant on July 20, 2022. Notification to the Co-Chairs of the Emergency Board was not provided at the time due to confusion regarding whether the grant required notice and approval because of the granting organization's status as a private not-for-profit organization. The America the Beautiful Challenge Grants are funded with Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funds, and as such, ODOT is requesting retroactive approval to apply.

ODOT has engaged stakeholder input and studied data to determine placement of the crossings, and if the grant is awarded, matching funds in the amount of \$900,000 will come from a \$7 million General Fund appropriation allocated to ODOT for wildlife corridors during the 2022 legislative session. A further \$108,500 in match has been contributed by private donors. Awards are expected to be announced in late 2022.

Recommendation: The Legislative Fiscal Office recommends that the Emergency Board approve the requests to apply for federal grants, en bloc, with the understanding that if the funds are awarded the agencies will return to the Legislative Assembly for approval of any necessary Federal Funds or Federal Funds as Other Funds expenditure limitation and position authority.



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Kate Brown, Governor

Oregon
Health
Authority

500 Summer St. NE E-20

Salem, OR 97301

Voice: 503-947-2340

Fax: 503-947-2341

www.oregon.gov/oha

October 24, 2022

Senator Peter Courtney, Co-Chair
Representative Dan Rayfield, Co-Chair
State Emergency Board
900 Court Street NE
H-178 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs:

Nature of the Emergency/Request

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Health Systems Division is requesting retroactive approval to apply for a non-competitive federal funding opportunity from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA), the *Transformation Transfer Initiative (TTI)* grant. OHA learned of the funding opportunity on October 7, 2022 and the application is due on October 31, 2022.

This grant would fund enhancing the standard and quality of community based mobile crisis intervention services in alignment with 988 implementation and the state's new State Plan amendment for Medicaid that allows the state to access a higher Federal Funds match rate of 85 percent for community based mobile crisis services. The higher rate is contingent on providers fulfilling new standards of the service, which includes completing timely training for all staff delivering services in the community.

If approved, OHA anticipates receiving \$250,000, which would be available from January 1, 2023 to August 1, 2023. This grant requires no matching funds nor are there requirements for maintenance of effort.

Agency Action

The Legislature passed House Bill 2417 (2021 Regular Session), requiring OHA to establish a statewide coordinated crisis services system consistent with the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act of 2020. The bill appropriated \$5.0 million General Fund for the crisis hotline center and \$10.0 million General Fund to distribute to counties to establish and maintain mobile crisis intervention teams. The funding from this grant will supplement state funding to ensure all Community Based Mobile Crisis Intervention Services (CBMCIS) teams have access to robust standardized training to

successfully deliver culturally, linguistically, and developmentally appropriate services in the community. OHA will use the grant funds to contract with the Association of Community Mental Health Programs to implement and administer a standardized training curriculum, which all CBMCIS programs will be required to complete before delivering services in the community. While OHA currently has some block grant funding to administer and implement trainings for these providers, this new funding would allow OHA to develop standardized culturally, linguistically, and developmentally appropriate trainings and centralize their administration. These efforts would make it easier for providers to access trainings and free up existing funds to train more providers.

Action Requested

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) requests retroactive approval to apply for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA) *Transformation Transfer Initiative* grant.

Legislation Affected

None.

Sincerely,



Patrick M. Allen
Director

EC: Steve Robbins, Legislative Fiscal Office
Patrick Heath, Department of Administrative Services
George Naughton, Department of Administrative Services
Amanda Beitel, Legislative Fiscal Office



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Forestry

State Forester's Office

2600 State St.

Salem, OR, 97310

503-945-7200

www.oregon.gov/ODF

October 31, 2022

Senator Peter Courtney, Co-Chair
Representative Dan Rayfield, Co-Chair
Joint Emergency Board
900 Court Street NE
H-178 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Retroactive Approval to Apply for Federal Funds Under the Extending Government Funding and Delivering Emergency Assistance Act (Disaster Relief) – Replacement Letter

Dear Co-Chairs:

Nature of the Request

The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) respectfully requests retroactive approval to apply for federal funding under the Extending Government Funding and Delivering Emergency Assistance Act (Disaster Relief). This funding through the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service (USDA FS) will be used to assist at-risk communities with necessary expenses related to the consequences of natural disasters from 2019-2021.

Agency Action

ODF will submit the Disaster Relief grant application package on November 30, 2022. The USDA FS Region 6 State and Private Forestry Director has notified ODF that these funds are available to ODF pending receipt of the grant application. Full execution of the grant award agreements is projected to occur in calendar year 2023 and the anticipated amount of funding is \$6 million.

Through the Disaster Relief legislation, the USDA FS and the National Association of State Foresters have worked with ODF to identify opportunities in Oregon and prioritize projects and landscapes with the greatest need. Allocations to the region are available for the life of the funding; however, unobligated funds are subject to rescission by Congress. The USDA FS has identified ODF as a lead applicant necessary to support projects and partner organizations. ODF will apply for the full amount available in a one-time request. Once fully executed, the funds will be available for the 5-year lifespan of the grant. There is no match requirement for these funds. Funding through Disaster Relief is subject to rigorous programmatic and fiscal reporting requirements.

The Disaster Relief funding will be used to:

1. Support Klamath Lake Fire Hazard Prevention with fire recovery projects through a subaward to district partners, and create reforestation pipeline investments in the ODF's Central Oregon District to support seed collection efforts - \$5.1 million
2. Support ongoing project coordination with the USFS on Willamette Partnership projects - \$150,000
3. Develop new and rehabilitate old orchards and advance a conservation strategy for Willamette Valley Ponderosa pine at the J.E. Schroeder nursery - \$250,000
4. Provide for Obenchain Fire recovery in Jackson County - \$250,000
5. Provide for an Oregon Department of Transportation cultural resource program that will ensure cultural resource and heritage sites are protected during project development - \$250,000

The application deadline for the first year of funding is November, 30, 2022 and one application will be submitted for the projects outlined above. Once approved and if the department determines it requires Federal Funds limitation, the department will return during the upcoming Legislative session to request an increase to its Federal Funds limitation up to the amount awarded for the 2021-23 biennium,

Summary of Grant Application Information

Source of Grant: Extending Government Funding and Delivering Emergency Assistance Act (Disaster Relief) through the USDA Forest Service

Amount Being Requested: \$6,000,000

Purpose of the grant: Assist at-risk local communities to cover the necessary expenses related to the consequences of natural disasters from 2019-2021.

Grant application deadline: November 30, 2022

Description of any state match required for the grant: A waiver has been granted through the USFS. No match required.

Estimate of any additional FTE that the grant will require: The department would seek position authority to hire four limited duration positions for the 2023-25 biennium to accomplish the scope of work. These positions would be federally funded.

Description of how the grant supports the agency mission and goals: ODF's mission is to serve the people of Oregon by protecting, managing, and promoting the stewardship of Oregon's forests to enhance environmental, economic, and community sustainability. This work will reduce wildfire risk, thus protecting those forests and the environmental, economic, and community values they provide.

Action Requested

The department requests retroactive approval to apply for federal funding through the Extending Government Funding and Delivering Emergency Assistance Act (Disaster Relief) from the USDA Forest Service to assist at-risk communities with necessary expenses related to the consequences of natural disasters from 2019-2021.

Senator Peter Courtney and Representative Dan Rayfield, Co-Chairs

RE: Retroactive Approval to Apply for Federal Funds: Extending Government Funding and Delivering Emergency Assistance Act – Replacement Letter

October 31, 2022

Page 3

Legislation Affected

SB 5518, Chapter 605, Section 4(5), Oregon Laws 2021

Sincerely,



Cal Mukumoto

Oregon State Forester

(503) 945-7211

c: Jason Miner, Governor's Office
Oregon Board of Forestry
Matt Stayner, Legislative Fiscal Office
Sione Filimoehala, Chief Financial Office



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of State Lands

South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve
P.O. Box 5417 | 61907 Seven Devils Road
Charleston, Oregon 97420
(541) 888-5558
FAX (541) 888-5559
www.oregon.gov/dsl/ss

October 24, 2022

State Land Board

Senator Peter Courtney, Co-Chair
Representative Dan Rayfield, Co-Chair
Joint Emergency Board
900 Court Street NE
H-178 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Kate Brown
Governor

Shemia Fagan
Secretary of State

Tobias Read
State Treasurer

Dear Co-Chairs:

Nature of the Request:

Department of State Lands (Department) and the South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve (Reserve) is requesting retroactive approval to apply to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) Federal Grant program for Fiscal Years 2022-2027.

The amount of the grant request is expected to be **\$3,535,900 Federal Funds**. This amount will support the grant application for the Wasson Creek Watershed Ridgetop-to-Estuary Restoration Project.

Agency Action:

The Notice of Federal Opportunity was issued in June 2022. The Reserve has a restoration and fiscal proposal planned for this funding opportunity. A letter of interest was required by this grant to screen applications which was submitted on July 29, 2022. The Reserve was invited to submit a full proposal by the deadline on October 28, 2022. The Reserve submitted a 10-day notification letter on October 4, 2022. The amount being requested is \$3,535,900. If awarded, the funds will be available April 1, 2023.

There is no required match for this grant; however, match and leveraged funds are strongly encouraged and are included in evaluation criteria. Reserve staff along with project partners will provide approximately \$702,688 of in-kind and match/leveraged support through direct administrative costs, staff salaries already included in the 2021-23 Legislatively Adopted Budget, and partnerships with local natural resource ties.

The federal funding source is coming from the IIJA funding specifically for National Estuarine Research Reserves throughout the nation.

The Wasson Creek Watershed Restoration Plan is a ridgetop-to-estuary plan to restore ecological value at the watershed level. This restoration plan seeks to target both terrestrial and aquatic habitats: using Stage 0 principles to restore a wetland-stream complex in the lowlands, and silvicultural prescriptions to improve forest health in the uplands. The Reserve and The Coos Watershed Association (CoosWA) worked closely with the local Tribal Historic Preservation Officers to complete an archeological survey and report for the 525-acre area within the Wasson Creek watershed. The Reserve and CoosWA partnered to develop the project designs, while the Coquille Indian Tribe and Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians provided cultural resource planning assistance.

The original plan was completed in 2018. However, due to the time gap since plan completion, the plan was revised and updated to include advancements in restoration designs and updated permit applications, along with additional details on the original concepts. A large advisory team has and will continue to provide expert knowledge on plan development, implementation, adaptive management, and monitoring.

The Wasson Creek Project Area was identified as a high priority restoration area in the Reserve's 2009 Upper Watershed Restoration Action Plan and the 2017-2022 Management Plan. The project is also part of the Department's strategic plan and is a focus project for the Department and Reserve.

The Department will seek increased federal funds expenditure limitation during the 2023 Legislative Assembly and subsequent years, if the grant is awarded to the Reserve.

Action Requested

The Department and Reserve is requesting retroactive approval to apply for the grant and accept the funding if approved to conduct this important work.

Legislation Affected

The Department will return to the Emergency Board if the award is granted to request Federal Fund Limitation for the 2023-25 Biennial Budget.

Thank you for your interest and assistance. If you have any questions, please contact Jean Straight at 503-986-5227.

Sincerely,



Vicki L. Walker
Director

Cc: Matt Stayner, Legislative Fiscal Office
Michelle Lisper, DAS Chief Financial Office
Bill Ryan, Deputy Director - Operations



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of State Lands

775 Summer Street NE, Suite 100

Salem, OR 97301-1279

(503) 986-5200

FAX (503) 378-4844

www.oregon.gov/dsl

October 24, 2022

State Land Board

Senator Peter Courtney, Co-Chair
Representative Dan Rayfield, Co-Chair
Joint Emergency Board
900 Court Street NE
H-178 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Kate Brown
Governor

Shemia Fagan
Secretary of State

Dear Co-Chairs:

Tobias Read
State Treasurer

Nature of the Request

Department of State Lands (Department) is requesting retroactive approval to apply for an EPA Brownfield Grant. The Department is working in partnership with Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to apply for a \$1 million Brownfield grant to conduct remediation of contaminated sediment at the Moore and Wright Islands Natural Area Sediment Cleanup Site on Columbia Slough, north of Portland. The grant proposal is due to EPA by November 14, 2022.

Agency Action

The Brownfields Grant Opportunity was published in late September 2022. The Department is working with DEQ to prepare the grant proposal for submittal. The Department will submit a 10-day notice letter by October 31, 2022. There is no match requirement for this funding and grants will be awarded in the Spring of 2023. Funding will be available Fall 2023 with work being initiated by 2024.

The proposed cleanup project is in the Columbia Slough (Slough) target area which includes 19 miles of navigable waterway flowing parallel to the Columbia River, located in Portland. The Slough is an industrial area bordering lower income neighborhoods in North Portland. This sediment cleanup project is a significant step in Slough remediation and could significantly improve ecological and health conditions in and around North Portland.

Anticipated site reuse includes wildlife habitat and safe, accessible open space for outdoor, over-water recreation and education by currently underserved North Portland residents. Cleanup will remove contamination causing harm to wildlife and will revive populations of Slough benthic organisms that form the base of the food chain. By reducing their exposure risk to toxin bioaccumulation, benthic habitat will

be improved, and the habitat for other species reliant upon benthic species, such as salmonids, birds, and mammals will likewise be improved, thus increasing biodiversity. Reuse will also provide safer fish for humans to eat, reducing the risk of contaminant exposure.

DEQ will conduct the work, with contractors, and the Department will administer and manage the grant. There are no matching funds required and no additional staffing or personnel is necessary.

Action Requested

The Department is requesting retroactive approval to apply for the grant and accept the funding, if approved, to conduct this important work.

Legislation Affected

The Department will return to the Legislature if the award is granted to request Federal Funds Limitation for the 2023-25 Biennial Budget.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact Jean Straight at 503-986-5227.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vicki L. Walker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Vicki" being more prominent than the last name "Walker".

Vicki L. Walker
Director

Cc: Matt Stayner, Legislative Fiscal Office
Michelle Lisper, Chief Financial Office
Bill Ryan, Deputy Director-Operations



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Forestry

State Forester's Office

2600 State St.

Salem, OR, 97310

503-945-7200

www.oregon.gov/ODF

October 31, 2022

Senator Peter Courtney, Co-Chair
Representative Dan Rayfield, Co-Chair
Joint Emergency Board
900 Court Street NE
H-178 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Requesting Retroactive Approval to Apply for Federal Funds – Community Wildfire Defense Grant – Replacement Letter

Dear Co-Chairs:

Nature of the Request

The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) respectfully requests retroactive approval to apply for federal funding under the United States Forest Service's (USFS) Community Wildfire Defense Grant (CWDG) Program within the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Agency Action

Funding from the Community Wildfire Defense Grant Program would complement current department fuels treatment work and would augment other wildland fuels mitigation grant programs, such as the federally-funded Western States Fire Managers and Community Assistance grant programs and the state-funded landscape resilience and the small forestland grant program.

The Community Wildfire Defense Grant Program focuses on wildfire preparedness, wildland fuel management and wildfire science. It calls for wildland fuel treatments to reduce the risk of wildfire and damage to millions of acres near the wildland-urban interface and watersheds that serve as sources of drinking water. This directly aligns with the department's mission to serve the people of Oregon by protecting, managing, and promoting stewardship of Oregon's forests to enhance environmental, economic, and community sustainability.

The program will provide \$1 billion in federal funding nationally over five federal fiscal years. There are multiple funding components to this program:

1. Technical Assistance Grant - \$50,000 (.25 FTE) with 10% in matching non-federal fund (Protection General Fund and Other Funds) to provide technical assistance to applicants on behalf of the USFS for the CWDG grants.

2. Planning Grants - Maximum grant award of \$250,000 and 10% in matching non-federal funds (Protection General Fund and Other Funds) for development or revision of Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP).
3. Implementation Grants - Maximum grant awards of \$10 million and 25% in matching non-federal funds (Protection General Fund and Other Funds) of activities identified within the CWPPs.

The application deadline for the first year of funding was Oct. 7, 2022. ODF's districts submitted four applications, one for CWPP development and update and three for education, mitigation and fuels reduction projects.

Summary of Grant Application Information

Source of grant: USFS Community Wildfire Defense Grant Program under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

Amount requested: \$17,392,678

Purpose of the grant: Assist at-risk local communities and Indian tribes with planning for and mitigating the risk created by wildfire.

Grant application deadline: Oct. 7, 2022

Description of any state match required for the grant: ODF's CWDG requests totaled \$17,392,678. The required non-federal funds match is \$3,964,783, if match waivers are not granted.

Description of impact the match will have on budgeted services and performance measures: The work performed for this grant is consistent with the agency's existing services and performance measures.

Estimate of any additional FTE that the grant will require: The estimated need is 28 limited-duration positions for the 2023-25 biennium. These positions would be federally funded.

Description of how the grant supports the agency mission and goals: ODF's mission is to serve the people of Oregon by protecting, managing, and promoting the stewardship of Oregon's forests to enhance environmental, economic, and community sustainability. This work will reduce wildfire risk, thus protecting those forests and the environmental, economic, and community values they provide.

Action Requested

ODF requests retroactive approval to apply for the USFS Community Wildfire Defense Grant Program within the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Legislation Affected

SB 5518, Chapter 605, Section 4(2), Oregon Laws 2021

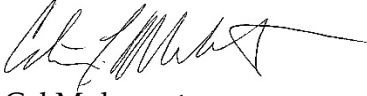
Senator Peter Courtney and Representative Dan Rayfield, Co-Chairs

RE: Requesting Retroactive Approval to Apply for Federal Funds: Community Wildfire Defense Grant – Replacement Letter

October 31, 2022

Page 3

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cal Mukumoto', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Cal Mukumoto

Oregon State Forester

(503) 945-7211

c: Jason Miner, Governor's Office
Oregon Board of Forestry
Matt Stayner, Legislative Fiscal Office
Sione Filimoehala, Chief Financial Office



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor



550 Capitol St. NE

Salem, OR 97301

Phone: 503-378-4040

Toll Free: 1-800-221-8035

FAX: 503-373-7806

www.oregon.gov/energy

October 24, 2022

The Honorable Senator Peter Courtney, Co-Chair
The Honorable Representative Dan Rayfield, Co-Chair
Joint Emergency Board
900 Court Street NE
H-178 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs:

Nature of the Request

The Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) seeks retroactive authority to apply for a federal grant. This federal funding opportunity is offered by the United States Department of Energy under State Energy Program (SEP) funds made available through the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). The funds will be used to support the department's energy security planning work, increase our ability to provide technical assistance to consumers and communities, and facilitate research, analysis, and programs on energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainable transportation, and resilient energy systems. As with other IIJA grants, the SEP funding will have Justice40 requirements. We are particularly mindful of the need to better connect services and financial resources to groups that have not historically engaged with the agency and will strive to do so with this grant funding.

Agency Action

The Oregon Department of Energy has prepared for this funding opportunity, following passage of the IIJA, by engaging stakeholders and the public through two interactive webinars in July 2022, to assist the agency in determining how these funds should be used and prioritized. The agency received numerous comments encouraging investments in a wide array of activities as well as a focus on accessible and timely information. These grant funds are expected to increase ODOE's ability to assist cities, counties, consumer-owned utilities, tribes, community-based organizations, and individuals understand the resources currently available to assist with their energy-related projects and new resources anticipated under the IIJA and Inflation Reduction Act. The grant application deadline is December 5, 2022 and the Oregon Department of Energy will submit a 10-day notification letter in the required timelines.

The federal grant opportunity is offered to State Energy Offices, as part of each state's formula allocation increase under the State Energy Program made available by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. Previously, ODOE received a partial award of \$200,000 under this grant. The current request is to apply for the remaining balance of the State Energy Program funds, which provides an additional one-time allocation of \$5,464,180 to remain available until expended.

This funding announcement was released on August 26, 2022, and is due on December 5, 2022, leaving insufficient time for approval through an Emergency Board or Committee, provided the committee timelines.

- The source of the grant is the United States Department of Energy, State Energy Program, operated from the Golden Field Office.
- The amount of the grant being requested is \$5,464,180, which is the remaining balance of the state's total allocation of \$5,664,180.
- The purpose of the grant is to provide additional support for Oregon's energy planning, policy, and program development work along with education and outreach and technical assistance for Oregonians.
- No match is required under this grant award.
- ODOE may request additional positions in the future when the grant is awarded.
- This grant is anticipated to have a positive impact on budgeted services, particularly in future biennia.

This grant directly supports the mission of ODOE which is, in part, to help Oregonians make informed decisions and to maintain a resilient and affordable energy system. This funding will enhance the department's ability to assist the public in understanding and accessing resources related to energy.

Action Requested

The Oregon Department of Energy requests retroactive approval to apply for federal funding in the amount of \$5,464,180.

Legislation Affected

Oregon Laws 2021, chapter 423, section 4, for payment of federal fund expenses by the State Department of Energy.



Janine Benner
Director

cc: Sione Filimoehala, CFO
April McDonald, LFO
Doug Wilson, LFO

Link to the solicitation: <https://www.energy.gov/eere/wipo/articles/state-energy-security-plan-administrative-and-legal-requirements-document>



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Transportation

Office of the Director

355 Capitol St NE

Salem, OR 97301

October 24, 2022

Senator Peter Courtney, President of the Senate
Representative Dan Rayfield, Speaker of the House
900 Court Street NE
H-178 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301-4048

Dear President Courtney and Speaker Rayfield:

NATURE OF THE REQUEST

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), Delivery and Operations Division requests retroactive permission to apply for a Nationally Significant Federal and Tribal Lands Program (NSFTLP) grant from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for \$46,630,800. This project, if awarded, will continue development of an off-Interstate connection between Gorge communities and an emergency route alternative if I-84 is closed. The FHWA has allocated \$125 million for this year's grant cycle; eligible projects include requests for construction, reconstruction, and rehabilitation of nationally-significant projects within, adjacent to, or accessing Federal and tribal lands.

BACKGROUND

The NSFTLP provides an opportunity to address significant challenges across the nation for transportation facilities that serve Federal and tribal lands. Federal funds can be used for up to 90% of project costs; the minimum 10% match requirement can be met using other federal funds. This year's Notice of Funding Opportunity was published on August 17, 2022, and the application is due on October 24, 2022. The award date has not been announced, but is anticipated spring 2023. ODOT has identified an excellent candidate for this grant: completion of the final gap in the trail between the Mitchell Point Tunnel and the Ruthton Trailhead.

The [Historic Columbia River Highway](#) spans 73 miles between Troutdale and The Dalles, with some segments shared with vehicles, and some serving exclusively as a bicycle and pedestrian trail. The National Scenic Area federal legislation passed by the U.S. Congress and signed into law by President Reagan requires the Oregon Department of Transportation to restore and reconnect the Historic Columbia River Highway as a state trail. The State Trail is also included in the National Scenic Area Management Plan. If awarded, this grant will help bridge the final gap in the Trail between the Mitchell Point Tunnel (under construction today) and the Ruthton Trailhead in Hood River, with a 12-foot wide, ADA-compliant, asphalt multi-use path. Construction of this segment will include walls, a viaduct, railings, and a new I-84 undercrossing from the south side of the freeway to the north into Hood River, exclusively for bike/ped use (see attached map).

This project provides an off-Interstate connection between Gorge communities, and provides an emergency route alternative if I-84 is closed. Additionally, this state trail will continue to attract tourism, creating economic opportunities for its communities and the state.

In an area with limited transportation options, those who are unwilling or unable to travel on I-84 will now have an off-Interstate option to travel through the Gorge on Oregon's side of the Columbia River. Cyclists and other recreational users will benefit from a separated facility to experience the views and beauty of the Gorge, while the traveling public will benefit from the safety of the rock fall mitigation completed by this project and the physical separation from cyclists on the I-84 shoulder. ODOT works in close partnership with Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) for maintenance and operation of the State Trail and associated trailheads; pursuant to formal agreement, ODOT is responsible for structures and large emergency maintenance events ORPD is unable to address.

Grant Request:	\$ 46,630,800
Matching Funds:	<u>\$ 5,181,200</u>
Total Project Cost:	\$ 51,812,000

Matching funds will come from IIIA flexible funds, approved by the Oregon Transportation Commission to use as match for IIIA grants.

AGENCY ACTION

ODOT is preparing an application for \$51.8 million in Nationally Significant Federal and Tribal Lands Program funds and matching funds.

ACTION REQUESTED

ODOT requests retroactive approval to submit a grant application to the Federal Highway Administration for \$51.8 million in Nationally Significant Federal and Tribal Lands Program funds and matching funds. If this grant is awarded to ODOT, a limitation increase may be needed.

LEGISLATION AFFECTED

The limitation increase will affect Chapter 442, Section 2(7), Oregon Law 2021.

Sincerely



Kristopher W. Strickler
Director



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Transportation

Office of the Director

355 Capitol St NE

Salem, OR 97301

October 24, 2022

Senator Peter Courtney, President of the Senate
Representative Dan Rayfield, Speaker of the House
900 Court Street NE
H-178 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301-4048

Dear President Courtney and Speaker Rayfield:

NATURE OF THE REQUEST

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Engineering Automation Section requests retroactive approval to apply for a federal grant in the amount of \$487,000 under the United States Department of Transportation's (USDOT) Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) program. The SMART grant program is for projects focused on advanced smart city or community technologies and systems to improve transportation efficiency and safety. The SMART grant program is new under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and is funded with \$100 million for Fiscal Year 2022.

AGENCY ACTION

The SMART grant program provides federal financial assistance to projects using advanced data, technology, and applications that will provide significant benefits to a local area, state, region, or the United States. These projects focus on using technology interventions to solve real-world challenges facing communities. The Notice of Funding Opportunity was issued by USDOT on September 19, 2022, and applications are due November 18, 2022. Awards are expected to be announced in spring 2023.

ODOT has identified the bridge inspection modernization project as an excellent candidate for this program. If awarded, SMART funds will allow ODOT's Engineering Automation Section and Bridge Section to modernize and improve the current bridge inspection workflow by developing a practical implementation roadmap, user-interface tools, and working demonstrations for integrating the use of Unmanned Aerial Systems (drones). The goals of the project are to increase personnel safety on site, provide rapid yet comprehensive structure analysis to ensure the safety of the traveling public, and reduce costs by streamlining the inspection process and standardizing asset monitoring and management.

No matching funds are required for the SMART grant program.

Grant Request: \$ 487,000

October 24, 2022

Page 2

SMART funds are obligated when the awardee and USDOT enter into a written grant agreement and the funds are available until expended. No additional staffing is needed; ODOT may need to return for additional Other Fund expenditure limitation if the grant is awarded. If ODOT is not awarded this federal grant, federal funding will be pursued through other grant applications; however, absent additional federal funding this project is unlikely to move forward.

ACTION REQUESTED

ODOT requests retroactive approval to apply for \$487,000 in grant funding under the USDOT FY 2022 SMART discretionary grant program.

LEGISLATION AFFECTED

None.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Kristopher W. Strickler". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kristopher W. Strickler
Director



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Transportation

Office of the Director

355 Capitol St NE

Salem, OR 97301

October 24, 2022

Senator Peter Courtney, President of the Senate
Representative Dan Rayfield, Speaker of the House
900 Court Street NE
H-178 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301-4048

Dear Co-Chairs:

NATURE OF THE REQUEST

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Delivery & Operations Division requests retroactive approval to apply for an America the Beautiful Challenge (ATBC) grant for \$515,478 from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), a nonprofit organization that preserves and restores America's native wildlife species and habitats. The ATBC grant program is funded with \$85 million for awards in 2022, to connect and restore the lands, waters, and wildlife.

AGENCY ACTION

In the first year of this program, ATBC seeks to fund projects across the following themes:

- Conserving and restoring rivers, coasts, wetlands and watersheds
- Conserving and restoring forests, grasslands, and other important ecosystems that serve as carbon sinks
- Connecting and reconnecting wildlife corridors, large landscapes, watersheds and seascapes
- Improving ecosystem and community resilience to flood, drought, and other climate-related threats
- Expanding access to the outdoors, particularly in underserved communities

The Notice of Funding Opportunity was issued by NFWF on May 19, 2022, applications were due July 21, and awards are expected to be announced in late 2022. ODOT is submitting this request late due to confusion around the status of the grant organization – the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation is a private 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that awards funding from federal and private sources – and whether the America the Beautiful Challenge grant program required legislative approval.

ODOT has identified the design of two wildlife corridors across I-5 near the Cascade Siskiyou Monument as an excellent candidate for this program. A wildlife corridor in this area is supported by the [Southern Oregon Wildlife Crossing Coalition](#) (SOWCC), which has funded a feasibility study currently underway to determine the best places to construct the bridges for wildlife. The SOWCC is a broad-based partnership of state and federal agencies, land trusts, hunting conservation organizations, environmental organizations, Southern Oregon University, and other local stakeholders. The Coalition advocates for improved wildlife movement and increased safety for motorists in the Siskiyou Summit region of I-5 between Ashland and the California border.

October 24, 2022

Page 2

The ATBC grant limits funding to 90 percent of the project cost. State contributions consist of \$900,000 from the \$7 million allocated to wildlife corridors by the 2022 Oregon Legislature with the passage of House Bill 5202. An additional \$108,500 in matching funds have been contributed by a dozen private donors, ranging from the Rogue Valley Chapter of the Audubon Society to the Oregon Hunters Association and the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund.

Grant Request:	\$ 515,478
Matching Funds:	\$ 900,000 Wildlife Crossing Funds from HB 5202 (2022)
Matching Funds:	<u>\$ 108,500</u> Private Donors
Total Project Cost:	\$ 1,523,978

If awarded, the ATBC funding would allow ODOT to conduct design work for the creation of two wildlife crossings on I-5, at Mileposts 1.1 and 8.7, between Ashland and the California border. No additional staffing is needed. If ODOT is not awarded this federal grant, the project team intends to reapply in 2023 and pursue federal grants through IJA.


ACTION REQUESTED

ODOT requests retroactive approval to submit a grant application to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for \$515,478 in America the Beautiful Challenge grant funds.

LEGISLATION AFFECTED

None.

Sincerely,



Kristopher W. Strickler
Director