



# OREGON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS

## *Overview of Oregon's statewide network of Economic Development Districts*

Oregon House Committee on Economic Recovery and Prosperity  
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# Overview of OEDD

## OEDD Mission Statement:

The mission of the Oregon Economic Development Districts is to **“provide a cohesive network for effective, efficient delivery of economic development services benefiting healthy and sustainable communities and businesses.”**

OEDD supports the statewide network of Economic Development Districts in their efforts to serve this function.



# Oregon's ED Districts

- Established by the federal Economic Development Administration (Dept. of Commerce)
- Border-to-border coverage of Oregon – and a national network
- Some organized under COGs, others are 501(c)(3)s and other ORS 190 entities
- 11 regional EDDs and the Associated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI)

Cascade West EDD

CCD Business Development Corporation

Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council

Columbia-Pacific EDD

Greater Eastern OR EDD

Mid-Columbia EDD

Mid-Willamette Valley EDD

Northeast Oregon EDD

Portland-Vancouver EDD (GPI)

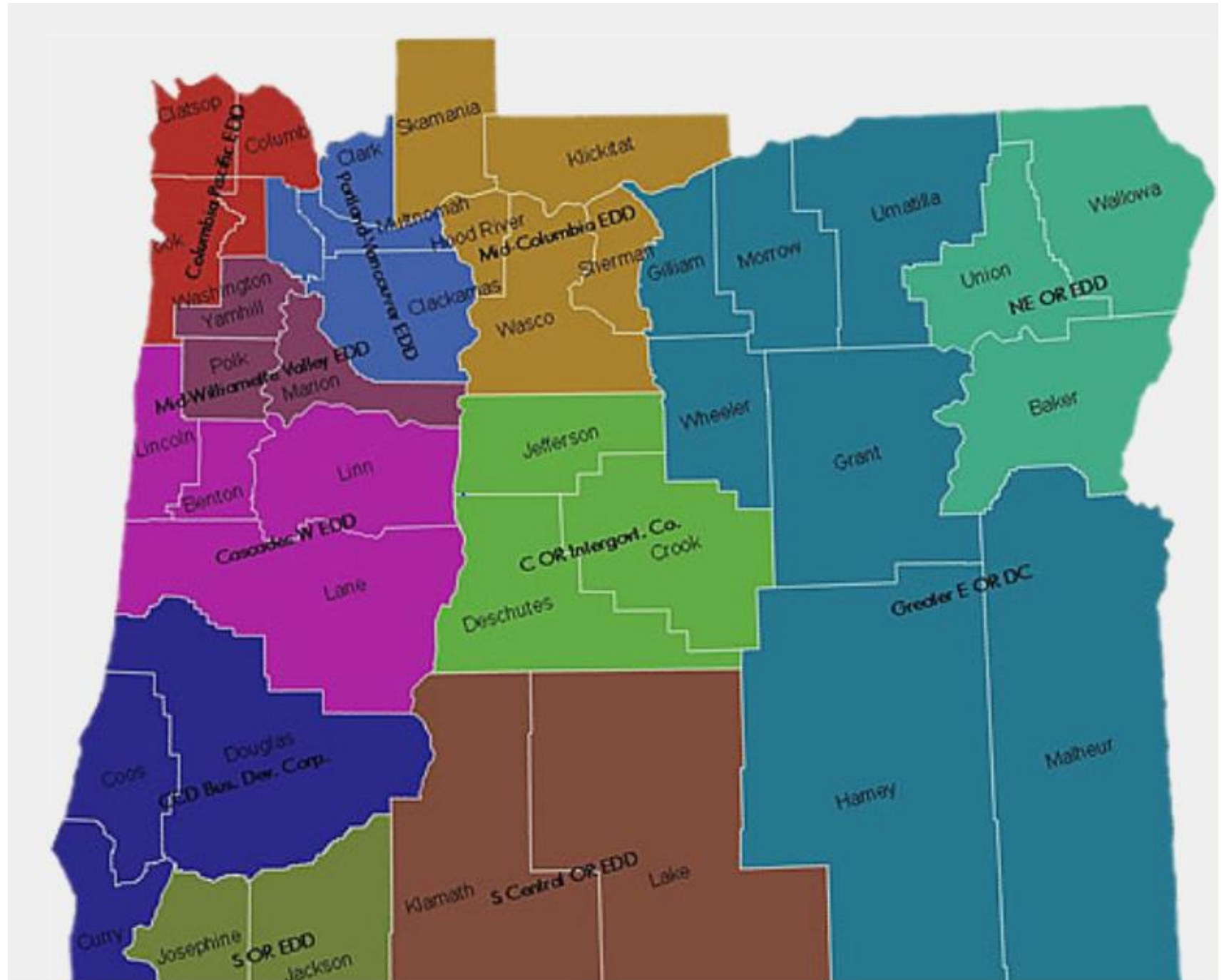
Southern Oregon EDD (SOREDI)

South Central Oregon EDD

Associated Tribes of NW Indians



*Note: same geographic configuration as the Regional Solutions Teams*





# Districts: Primary Functions

The District network is diverse in geography, staff size, and specific functions, but we all perform the following:

## Regional Prioritization and Planning

- **Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies (CEDS)**
  - Prepared with our regional partners – collaborative plans
  - Identify the key economic development needs and strategies for the region and our constituent communities (e.g. business development, infrastructure, workforce, etc.)
  - Help our partners coalesce around strategies and promote readiness for investment
  - CEDS are used by state and federal agencies, foundations, etc. to ID the priority needs of a region.



# BUILDING OUR FUTURE: Regional Prosperity in Central Oregon

## Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

### HOUSING AFFORDABILITY AND AVAILABILITY



Build a regional housing coalition  
to improve housing for all

### EMERGING WORKFORCE



Increase the opportunities for 16-24  
year olds to gain work experience  
and career exposure

### REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION: ACCESS TO WORK AND SCHOOL



Expand tools for affordable,  
safe, convenient movement  
of people to work and school

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: RELATED PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE



Assist local governments in  
financing basic infrastructure  
for economic development

### MOVE-IN READY COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS; INCUBATOR AND SHARED WORK SPACES



Develop additional flex commercial and  
industrial buildings and facilities

### FREIGHT MOBILITY



Encourage development of a State  
Transportation funding package  
and performance measures

### BROADBAND CAPACITY



ID broadband capacity gaps and  
develop public-private partnerships  
to fill them

### RURAL COMMUNITY AMENITIES



Fund and expand rural community  
readiness, redevelopment, and  
beautification initiatives

### NATURAL RESOURCES: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSETS & RESOURCE UTILIZATION



Strategic planning and collaboration  
to enhance and protect natural assets  
and allow for sustainable development

### REGIONAL COORDINATION AND COOPERATION



FOR MORE  
INFORMATION  
VISIT  
[COIC.ORG](http://COIC.ORG)



### **Some Key Strategies for the SCOEDD Region Include:**

- ❖ **Plan for, maintain and re-invest in infrastructure, including attainable housing, to provide for current population demands and support future economic development opportunities.**
- ❖ **Develop/improve infrastructure for visitors to experience outdoor recreation and nature-based tourism.**
- ❖ **Support existing business and expand business formation in the region by focusing on entrepreneurial-led development strategies.**
- ❖ **Improve curb appeal of main streets and city centers so as to revitalize downtowns.**



# Districts: Primary Functions

## Regional Prioritization and Planning, cont.

- 2021: All Districts will be preparing **COVID-19 Economic Recovery Plans**
  - We are close to finalizing a coordinated approach to these Plans, in order to support a statewide look at needs and opportunities
  - Goal is to support state and federal agencies, legislators, foundations, etc. in identifying key needs and strategies for policy making, program development, investment decisions, etc.
- Always: **We represent our respective regions' needs** to state and federal agencies, policymakers, Oregon federal delegation, etc.





# Districts: Primary Functions

## Regional Capacity/Service Delivery

- Districts are often tapped to provide needed services at a regional scale
  - Recent example: 2020 COVID-19 Small Business and Non-Profit Grant Programs. Worked with our regional partners to design and deliver several rounds of grant programs
    - Built networks and managed outreach
    - Provided tons of assistance to businesses to help them submit
    - Evaluated applications
    - Fiscal administration; cut checks
    - **Took the heat!**



# Districts: Primary Functions

## Regional Capacity/Service Delivery

- **Examples:**
  - COIC conducted 7 rounds of grants in 2020 pooling local, foundation, and state/federal funding to the tune of nearly \$6 million for Central Oregon.
  - South Central Oregon Economic Development District (SCOEDD) with the help of Business Oregon and the Klamath Small Business Development Center has awarded over \$3.38 million (\$3,380,218.58) in CARES Act grant funding to over four-hundred (412) small businesses in Klamath and Lake Counties.



# Districts: Other Functions

Many of the Districts also provide the following functions....

## **Capital Access**

- Most Districts manage Revolving Loan Fund programs developed with federal and other resources – EDA RLF, USDA IRP, foundation and local funds
  - Note: often have barriers to lending due to collateralization requirements from our funders. Welcome state partnership to create a guarantee or alternative collateral pool for lenders taking higher risks.

## **Regional Convening**

- Many Districts serve a regional governance function by convening key partners on critical needs, such as child care and workforce development, workforce housing, and other issues that are critical to readiness for economic development.



# Districts: Other Functions

## **Direct Business Services, such as**

- Entrepreneurship training and 1 on 1 advising
- “Case management”/trriage approach connecting businesses to other services

## **Services to Local communities, such as**

- Resource development/grant writing and grant administration
- Planning assistance
- “Economy of scale” staffing services



# OEDD Services

## OEDD serves the Districts by...

### **Serving as a Venue for Information Sharing and Coordination**

- Our monthly and quarterly meetings are space for information dissemination, creative problem-solving, coordination, mutual needs identification, and coordination.
  - Attended by Districts, state and federal agencies, foundations, university partners, etc.



# OEDD Services

## OEDD serves the Districts by...

### **Statewide Project Development**, such as

- Coordinated approach to COVID-19 Economic Recovery Plans
- Oregon Economic Ecosystem Project (U. of Oregon IPRE lead)
- Eclipse/Economic Resilience Assessments and Plans

### **Advocacy and Engagement**

- We track relevant state and federal legislation, and provide critical information on needs, the potential impacts of different decisions, service delivery mechanisms, etc.
- Two current items on our list: HB 2345 (Rural Capacity Fund/grantwriting); SBDC funding.

[www.oedd.org](http://www.oedd.org)



## Final Word

To summarize, Oregon's EDDs and OEEDD **provide support** to our businesses, communities, and regions; collaboratively identify **regional priorities**; **disseminate information and services** for state and federal agencies and partners... and generally **serve as a nexus between the top-down and the bottom-up.**



## More Information

*For more information, to get in touch, etc...*

[www.oedd.org](http://www.oedd.org)

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