

ANALYSIS

Department of Emergency Management Emergency Operations Centers

Analyst: John Terpening

Request: Approve the submission of a federal grant application to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, in the amount of \$1,040,000, for funding to support local emergency operations centers.

Analysis: The Department of Emergency Management (ODEM) is requesting authorization to apply for an Emergency Operations Center Grant, through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), that provides funding for emergency preparedness capabilities by supporting flexible, sustainable, secure, and strategically located interoperable Emergency Operations Centers.

This grant opportunity is a Congressionally Directed Spending program, and specific projects have already been identified and approved by Congress for designated funding. The total grant funding provided to Oregon is \$1,040,000, with 95% passed through to local jurisdictions. There is a 25% match requirement that can be met with cash or in-kind and is the responsibility of those local jurisdictions as the subrecipients of the federal grant. ODEM must apply for the funds and will retain 5%, or \$37,703, for administration as the State Administrating Agency.

The projects earmarked for funding toward Emergency Operations Centers include the City of Dallas (\$83,000), and Grant (\$299,000), Harney (\$221,000), and Morrow (\$177,000) counties. The grant application is due April 14. If awarded, ODEM may need to return to the legislature for additional federal funds expenditure limitation.

Legislative Fiscal Office Recommendation: The Legislative Fiscal Office recommends approval of the request.

Oregon Department of Emergency Management Gibson

Request: Authorization to apply for a \$1.0 million grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to improve emergency management and preparedness capabilities.

Recommendation: Approve the request.

Discussion: The Oregon Department of Emergency Management (ODEM) requests authorization to apply for a \$1,040,000 Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Grant Program grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

According to FEMA, the EOC Grant Program will enhance emergency preparedness and management capabilities by ensuring “flexible, sustainable, secure, strategically located, and fully interoperable EOCs.” Local jurisdictions with deficiencies in their EOC are eligible for funding under the Congressionally Directed Spending process. Under this process, the local jurisdictions work directly with their elected Member of Congress to gain funding approval.

As the State Administering Agency, ODEM must submit the grant application by April 14, 2023, and administer the approved project grant funds to sub-recipients. The EOC Grant Program allows for five percent of the total grant funding to be retained by the State Administering Agency to cover the costs associated with these administration activities. The remaining 95 percent of the grant funding passes through the agency to the approved local jurisdictions as sub-recipients.

If approved, four local jurisdictions will receive sub-recipient grants for EOC improvement projects, including Grant County, Harney County, Morrow County, and the City of Dallas. The grant requires 25 percent matching funds, which the approved sub-recipients will provide as cash or in-kind. If awarded the grant, ODEM will need to return to the legislature at a future date for the Federal Funds expenditure limitation necessary to issue the sub-recipient grants.



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Oregon Department of Emergency Management

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April 5, 2023

Senator Elizabeth Steiner, Co-Chair
Representative Tawna Sanchez, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means
900 Court Street NE
H-178 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301-4048

Dear Co-Chairpersons:

Nature of Request

The Oregon Department of Emergency Management (ODEM) requests permission to apply for an Emergency Operation Center Grant Program (EOCGP) grant in the amount of \$1,040,000 from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) of the Department of Homeland Security.

Background

The mission of ODEM is to lead collaborative state-wide efforts to organize and facilitate assistance for local jurisdictions in an emergency and to protect, mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies or disasters regardless of cause. The EOCGP aligns with that mission by providing grant funding opportunities dedicated to the management and preparedness of local Emergency Operations Center infrastructure in the state. This grant would be used to improve emergency management and preparedness capabilities by supporting flexible, sustainable, secure, strategically located, and fully interoperable Emergency Operations Centers (EOC).

Some key points of this program are as follows:

- Award will come through ODEM as the State Administrating Agency (SAA)
- 95% of available funding is intended to pass through to the local jurisdictions
- 5% of available funding for administration retained by ODEM (\$37,703)
- 25% match requirement that is the responsibility of the subrecipients

This grant program is a Congressionally Directed Spending program, and as such, local jurisdictions interested in eligible EOC improvements work with their elected congressional officials to request funds for specific projects. Projects that have been included for funding include EOC's in Grant, Harney, and Morrow counties and the city of Dallas. ODEM will administer the funds as the SAA in support of the approved projects.

The grant application deadline is April 14. This grant is 75% funded by FEMA with a 25% match requirement which can be met with cash or in-kind by the subrecipients. If awarded, ODEM will need to return to the legislature for additional federal funds expenditure limitation.

Action Requested

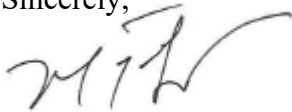
The Oregon Department of Emergency Management requests permission to apply for a grant in the amount of \$1,040,000 from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Legislation Affected

None

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Garrett', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Matthew L. Garrett
Interim Director