

ANALYSIS

Item 6: Department of Emergency Management Emergency Management Performance

Analyst: Steve Robbins

Request: Approve, retroactively, the submission of a federal grant application to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), in the amount of \$4,779,512 for the Emergency Management Performance Grant.

Analysis: The Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) is designed to address the increasing range and complexity of disasters across diverse communities by building and sustaining emergency management capabilities. The Oregon Department of Emergency Management (ODEM) has successfully applied for this grant in prior years, utilizing initial funds for state, local, tribal, and territorial emergency management agencies to support the National Preparedness Goal of a secure and resilient nation by funding efforts to build, sustain, and deliver the capabilities necessary to prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies and disasters. Per Oregon administrative rule, these funds are primarily utilized to support local emergency manager salaries and for time spent on planning, training, and exercises.

ODEM serves as the State Administrative Agency to apply for and receive this grant and will utilize 5% of the available funding, or \$238,976, for grant administration. 80% of the grant award will be passed through to subrecipients and the remaining 15%, or \$716,929, will be allocated for state-level projects managed in accordance with Oregon Administrative Rule 104-010-0005. There is a 50% match requirement and the 2025-27 Legislatively Adopted Budget includes General Fund expenditures that can be used as in-kind to meet that requirement. Additionally, the Department's current service level budget included Federal Funds expenditure limitation in anticipation of this grant being awarded, similar to prior biennia. If awarded, an additional review of all federal terms and conditions will be necessary to ensure the agency's ability to comply.

The grant was announced July 28, 2025, and the application deadline was August 11, 2025. The agency submitted the required 10-day letter requesting retroactive approval on August 1, 2025. The grant's period of performance is from October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2027.

Recommendation: The Legislative Fiscal Office recommends that the Joint Interim Committee on Ways and Means approve the request.

Request: Retroactive authorization to apply for a \$4,779,512 Emergency Management Performance Grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Recommendation: Approve the request.

Discussion: The Oregon Department of Emergency Management (OEM) requests retroactive authorization to apply for a grant of \$4.8 million from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The grant would be used to assist with state, local, tribal, and territorial emergency management agencies to support the National Preparedness Goal of a secure and resilient nation. Specifically, the grant would provide funding for OEM to continue addressing the increasing range and complexity of disasters that occur in the state.

Of the \$4.8 million requested, OEM would retain five percent (\$0.2 million) for management and administration of the grant. Subrecipients would receive 80 percent as pass-through funds (\$3.8 million), and OEM would hold the remaining 15 percent (\$0.7 million) for statewide projects in accordance with Oregon Administrative Rule 104-010-0005. This amount includes, but is not limited to, funding for OEM to support county emergency managers, provide incident responder training, and engage in statewide continuity of operations.

OEM was notified of the grant on July 28, 2025, provided a 10-day letter to the legislature on July 31, 2025, and the application deadline was August 11, 2025. The anticipated performance period for this grant is October 2025 through September 2027. The grant award requires a 50 percent state match (\$2.4 million), which OEM expects to support through General Fund dollars appropriated in the agency's 2025-27 Legislatively Adopted Budget. Since this is a grant renewal, OEM has sufficient Federal Funds limitation to expend grant funding.

Lastly, any grant award is subject to FEMA's 2025 standard terms and conditions, including the requirement that OEM and any subrecipients participate in statewide immigration enforcement. OEM is working to meet the grant terms and conditions while upholding obligations under Oregon law and policy direction from the Governor and Legislature.



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

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August 25, 2025

The Honorable Senator Lieber, Co-Chair
The Honorable Representative Tawna Sanchez, Co-Chair
Interim Joint Committee on Ways and Means
900 Court Street NE, H-178
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Senator Lieber and Representative Sanchez:

Nature of the Request

The Oregon Department of Emergency Management (OEM) requests retroactive authorization to apply for a grant in the amount of \$4,779,512 from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) of the Department of Homeland Security. This grant would be used to assist with state, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) emergency management agencies to support the National Preparedness Goal of a secure and resilient nation by funding efforts to build, sustain, and deliver the capabilities necessary to prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies and disasters.

Agency Action

The mission of OEM 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. This funding is dedicated to addressing the increasing range and complexity of disasters, and supporting the diversity of communities we serve, by building and sustaining emergency management capabilities, including continuity of operations, and closing gaps in capabilities. Some key points of this program are as follows:

- Award will come through OEM as the State Administering Agency (SAA)
- There is a 50% match requirement
- Period of Performance is 10/01/2024 – 09/30/2027
- OEM will retain 5% Management and Administration (M&A) (\$238,975.60) to fund costs directly related to grant administration
 - \$119,487.80 federal funds
 - \$119,487.80 state match funds
- Subrecipients will receive 80% of pass-through funds and OEM will retain 20% for statewide projects in accordance with the Oregon Administrative Rule 104-010-0005

The funding is required to go through OEM as the SAA. The Emergency Management Performance Grant Program (EMPG) contributes to the implementation of the National Preparedness System by supporting the building, sustainment, and delivery of core capabilities.

The purpose of the program is to support the emergency management needs of state, local, tribal, and territorial governments, primarily through investments in planning, training, and exercise activities and to help cover the salaries of emergency management personnel. OEM also uses the grant to support county emergency managers, funding for statewide continuity of operations (COOP) planning, and incident responder training.

OEM was notified of the grant on July 28, 2025. The grant application deadline was August 11, 2025. This grant is 50% funded by FEMA and has a 50% match requirement. Grant matching funds come from state General Fund dollars supported by OEM's 2025-27 Legislatively Adopted Budget. As this is a grant renewal, OEM has sufficient federal expenditure limitation.

Action Requested

OEM respectfully requests retroactive authorization to apply for the EMPG grant.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Best regards,



Erin McMahon
Director

**Revised per DAS' feedback 08.27.2025