EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 09 – 06

USING OREGON'S GREEN ADVANTAGE TO MAXIMIZE THE FEDERAL ECONOMIC RECOVERY PACKAGE

In the coming days, President Obama will sign the American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan (ARRP). In the short term, this federal economic stimulus package will help Oregonians by creating family-wage jobs and supporting critical public services like education and health care. This immediate injection into Oregon’s economy is vital and necessary.

Equally important, the ARRP represents an opportunity for Oregon to demonstrate how smart resource investments can create new long-term capacity in our communities and spark sustainable economic activity throughout the state. Leveraging these federal stimulus dollars to create even more jobs, train workers, reduce taxpayer costs, and invest in a cleaner environment is the real key to long term recovery through reinvestment. The ARRP empowers Oregon to reinvest in its economy by being smart, sustainable and transformational – the Oregon Way.

Oregon’s success in sustainability serves as the basis for this initiative. The State of Oregon has already demonstrated its commitment to investing in renewable energy, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and creating a sustainable future. The strength of this commitment has, in turn, fostered and empowered world-class private sector expertise in alternative energy and green development. This combination of public and private leadership makes Oregon the ideal place to initiate a new model for delivering such a transformational change.

As the federal stimulus funding decisions move to the state level, Oregon has already started defining strategic, sustainable and transformational investments in communities throughout the state. Partnering with local governments, non-profit organizations, and Oregon businesses, the State seeks to identify a set of economic stimulus projects that create more jobs, increase economic value and enhance our investment in green technology. These Oregon Way examples could even serve as national demonstration projects for other states to model.

To successfully compete for the competitive grants outlined in the ARRP, Oregon has a singular opportunity to apply its homegrown expertise and strong commitment to sustainability by forming unique partnerships and taking innovation to a new level. Collaborative economic solutions through a public/private partnership are the way Oregon will be able to generate the short-term benefits and long-term advantages that will see us through the current economic crisis.
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NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DIRECTED AND ORDERED:

1. The Oregon Way Advisory Group is hereby established to advise and assist those seeking competitive federal stimulus grants by developing grant proposals including innovative elements promoting sustainability, renewable energy, carbon reduction, energy efficiency and green development — proposals for projects done the Oregon Way.

2. The Oregon Way Advisory Group shall be appointed by the Governor and shall include representatives from the public and private sectors who can provide expertise and innovation in developing Oregon Way project proposals.

3. The Oregon Way Advisory Group shall assist the Governor in identifying, developing, prioritizing, and evaluating Oregon Way projects using criteria designed to create both short-term and long-term benefit to Oregon, including, but not limited to:

   a. Immediate job creation for Oregonians
   b. Use of Oregon companies and sourcing of local materials to keep stimulus funds in Oregon
   c. Green jobs training that accompanies projects
   d. Promotion of Oregon’s sustainability, renewable energy, carbon reduction, energy efficiency and green development goals
   e. Innovative approaches in technology, partnership, process and life cycle optimization
   f. Potential to attract additional federal money through block grants and other sources.

4. Any state agency applying for a competitive federal grant under ARRP shall notify the Governor, who may advance the proposal to the Oregon Way Advisory Group for advice and assistance on maximizing the factors listed in paragraph 3.

5. In addition, all state agencies receiving federal stimulus funds through the ARRP are encouraged to identify opportunities to use federal stimulus funds the Oregon Way, by incorporating the factors listed in paragraph 3 into projects whenever possible. Agency directors shall report their identification of such opportunities to the Governor within 60 days of the President’s signing of the ARRP.
Done at Salem, Oregon, this 11th day of February, 2009.

Theodore R. Kulongoski
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Kate Brown
SECRETARY OF STATE