



## **North Central Regional Solutions Advisory Committee**

*Representing Hood River, Wasco, and Sherman Counties*

**Monday, July 9, 2018**

Meeting Location: Columbia Gorge Community College

400 East Scenic Drive

Board Room (Building 1)

Dial-In option: 888-251-2909

Access code: 3494891

10:00 AM –12:30 PM

### **AGENDA**

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| 10:00 – 10:10 am | Introductions and Public Comment   |
| 10:10 – 11:30 am | Regional Infrastructure Fund Application Review and Prioritization:<br>Staff summary<br>Applicant presentations<br>Committee discussion  |
| 11:30 – 12:15 pm | Update on regional workforce efforts:<br>Heather Ficht, East Cascade Workforce Invest Board<br>Kathy Ursprung, Port of The Dalles<br>Dan Spatz, Columbia Gorge Community College |
| 12:15 – 12:30 pm | Committee member roundtable  |

*The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. To request an interpreter for the hearing impaired or for other accommodations for persons with disabilities, please make requests at least 48 hours before the meeting to Lisa Howard at 503-378-6502; at [Lisa.Howard@Oregon.gov](mailto:Lisa.Howard@Oregon.gov); or by TTY: Oregon Relay Services at 1-800-735-2900*



## **North Central Regional Solutions Advisory Committee**

*Representing Hood River, Wasco, and Sherman Counties*

TO: North Central Regional Solutions Advisory Committee  
FROM: North Central Regional Solutions Team  
DATE: June 25, 2018  
RE: 2017-19 Regional Solutions Priority Projects

### Outcome needed

The Regional Solutions Advisory Committee will select and prioritize no more than three projects (not to exceed \$1M) that will be recommended to the Grant and Loan Review Committee (now referred to as Committee). The Committee will select the final statewide project list; this list will be presented to the legislative Emergency Board September 24-26, 2018. Each region will receive a minimum of \$200,000 for eligible projects.

### Background

In 2017 the Oregon Legislature awarded \$4M in lottery bond revenue to fund Regional Solutions priority projects statewide. These bonds will be sold spring of 2019. Projects were solicited March 15, 2018 – April 30, 2018. Three projects were submitted; the North Central Regional Solutions Team met to review and evaluate project submittals. You will have the opportunity to hear from each applicant at the advisory committee meeting.

### Project review

The North Central RST met to discuss the projects submitted. The RST reviewed the projects independent of the dollar amount requested based on the following criteria:

- 1) Addresses a regional priority identified by the Committee<sup>i</sup>
- 2) Supports the Business Oregon Strategic Plan<sup>ii</sup>
- 3) Helps meet the sustainable community objectives<sup>iii</sup>
- 4) Demonstrated community support
- 5) Project has sustainable business plan (i.e., won't result in a stranded investment)
- 6) Project is ready – has other funding contributions, can get permits, etc.
- 7) Supports the retention/creation of jobs

### RS Team recommendation

All three projects submitted scored highly, and with only three applications submitted, totaling less than a million, the team recommends that the advisory committee forward all three applications along for full funding to give the projects the best opportunity to compete at the statewide level. The team advises offering the following ranking based on team scoring and opportunity for the region.

- 1) Sherman County Broadband Project
- 2) Dee Irrigation District Modernization
- 3) Cascade Locks Utility Project

To ensure regional equity, the RS team recommends staff advise the Grant and Loan Review Committee that, in the case they opt to provide the region with the minimum allocation, the committee would like that amount split between the Sherman Broadband Project and the Cascade Locks Irrigation Project. (The Cascade Locks project asks for a minimum of \$300,000, exceeding the \$200,000 provided to the region, but has the potential to leverage \$3 million in EDA funding.)

Project Name (Applicant) and Description	Funding Request	North Central RS Priorities	Total Project Cost	Other Leveraged Funds	Community Support	Job Retention/Creation	Timing	Questions and Comments to Consider
<p><b>Dee Irrigation District Modernization:</b> This project will replace an aging distribution system, supporting a key industry and helping to conserve water resources. The application is specifically asking for funds to purchase and install flow meters on all 85 connections in the district.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Min:</b> \$63,378</li> <li>• <b>Max:</b> \$63,378</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infrastructure focus on: water</li> <li>• Providing support for target sectors: value-added agriculture</li> </ul>	\$2,746,483	\$2,683,105 (\$772,000 from applicant)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dee Irrigation District patrons</li> <li>• Hood River Board of Commissioners</li> <li>• Farmers Irrigation District</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retained:80</li> <li>• Created: No information</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Start:</b> 08.2018</li> <li>• <b>Finish:</b> 01.2020</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Significant leverage</li> <li>• New partner in RS efforts</li> <li>• How many new homes will this unlock?</li> <li>• Other possible future funding: SPWF; OWRD (application pending); OWEB</li> </ul>
<p><b>Sherman Cities Broadband Initiative:</b> This project will build a fiber to the premises broadband network that will serve each of Sherman County's four incorporated cities and Biggs Junction. The application is the result of a collaborative efforts by Sherman cities and the county to advance broadband access in Sherman County.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Min:</b> \$85,000</li> <li>• <b>Max:</b> \$200,000</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attainable Housing (unlocking supply)</li> <li>• Infrastructure focus on: broadband</li> <li>• Providing support for target sectors: renewable energy, value added agriculture</li> <li>• Workforce training</li> <li>• Regulatory integration: facilitate industrial site readiness</li> </ul>	\$304,000	\$104,000 (confirmed from applicants)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City of Rufus</li> <li>• Cities of Grass Valley and Wasco</li> <li>• Sherman Businesses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retained:823</li> <li>• Created: 35</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Start:</b> 06.2018</li> <li>• <b>Finish:</b> 06.2019</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuation of regional project</li> <li>• Regional Solutions engaged in process</li> <li>• Regional Solutions engaged in process</li> <li>• <b>Other possible future funding:</b> Not funded through Business Oregon Broadband pilot; SPWF; Others: federal?</li> </ul>
<p><b>Cascade Locks Utility Improvement:</b> This project will improve utilities to industrial land in Cascade Locks. This represents the largest remaining supply of industrial land in the North Central Region. It will reinforce the transmission line and conductors, helping to prevent power loss due to downed lines.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Min:</b> \$300,000</li> <li>• <b>Max:</b> \$300,000</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infrastructure</li> <li>• Providing Support for target sectors</li> </ul>	\$3,300,000	\$3,000,000 (\$300,000 confirmed from applicant and partner)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City of Rufus</li> <li>• Cities of Grass Valley and Wasco</li> <li>• Sherman Businesses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retained: 60</li> <li>• Created: 40</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Start:</b> 09.2018</li> <li>• <b>Finish:</b> 11.2019</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential to leverage \$2.7 mil in specific EDA funding</li> <li>• Important to industrial land</li> <li>• Regional Solutions heavily engaged in industrial park development</li> <li>• <b>Other possible future funding:</b> SPWF</li> </ul>

# REGIONAL SOLUTIONS PROGRAM

## Regional Infrastructure Fund | 2017-19

### *Request for Applications*

Minimum of 5% of funds allotted per region

