



**REGIONAL SOLUTIONS OFFICE**  
**GOVERNOR KATE BROWN**

AGENDA

South Central Oregon Regional Economic Recovery Team  
April 14, 2020  
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

1.541.465.2805, code: 730943#

- I. Governor's Office update – Annette Liebe, Regional Solutions
- II. Main Street SOS – Katy Brooks, Bend Chamber
- III. South Central Oregon Bankers – Paycheck Protection Program Implementation
  - a. Bill Castle, People's Bank
  - b. Brienne Humphrey, First Interstate Bank
  - c. Dave DeRose, US Bank
- IV. What's needed, where are the gaps now that we know what's in the CARES Act- discussion
- V. Roundtable
  - a. Travel and Tourism Update – Jim Chadderdon, Discover Klamath
- VI. Next steps/wrap up



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### MEETING SUMMARY

South Central Oregon Regional Economic Recovery Team  
April 14, 2020  
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RS Coordinator Annette Liebe provided an update from Governor Kate Brown's news conference earlier in the day. The governor said in the press conference the reopening will happen gradually and strategically. The priorities are to: 1) slow the growth OF covid-19 cases, 2) ensure adequate PPE, 3) ramp up testing capacity, 4) implement a robust contact tracing program, and 5) have effective isolation strategies for those who test positive. The governor will work with public health officials and industry groups on the reopening, with input from regional response teams. One possibility is to have regional openings as metrics are met, though this has not been decided yet.

#### **Main Street SOS Program**

Katy Brooks, CEO of the Bend Chamber of Commerce, talked about Main Street SOS. A group of software developers came up with the Main Street SOS concept, which is to directly connect consumers with those providing a product or service. The upside is an inflow of cash directly into the local economy, similar to how a gift card works. Consumers provide money up front for goods or services that will be received later. Katy said there has been a lot interest in the program and an initial version will be ready to launch in the next few weeks with a limited number of businesses to test the platform. The program has partnered with the city of Bend, which provided the city database of business licenses to ensure a robust list of participants. The city started slowly with only a few sectors that have been impacted the most by COVID-19, including sit down restaurants, coffee shops, wellness businesses, dentists, hair stylists, child care facilities and other professional services. Katy will keep the team updated as the tool is more widely tested. The project manager is Teri Hockett and she can be reached at [teri@sosbend.com](mailto:teri@sosbend.com).

#### **South Central Oregon Bankers – Paycheck Protection Program Implementation**

More than 9000 businesses in Oregon have received Paycheck Protection Program funding, amounting to approximately \$2.4 million.

Bill Castle with People's Bank said the bank has turned to college interns to process some applications to expedite funding. The bank has processed more than 500 applications totaling \$73 million, including 30 in Klamath and Lake counties. The system has been overwhelmed with applications at times, and more applications continue to come in, most through the bank's web portal. Borrowers do not need to be an existing member or client of People's Bank to obtain funding through them.

Brienne Humphrey with First Interstate Bank said the bank has processed 200 applications in the Medford/Klamath Falls region, with 15 businesses having been approved and funded. She said the bank has been waiting for SBA supplemental guidance on how to fund self-employed businesses, which was just released today.

Dave DeRose with US Bank said the bank has redeployed 1000 employees to processing PPP applications. The bank has receiving 315,000 applications, with some of those funded and some still in process. The applications continue to increase daily. The applications represent \$7.8 Billion in funds, with the average loan being about \$106,000. The average number of employees per applicant is about 18. He expects state-by-state data in the near future and can share those numbers when they come in.

Annette asked federal delegation staff about additional relief proposals. Amy Amrhein said additional funds are being discussed for PPP and other loans/grants. There is also great need in the medical field for funding. Amy said the senate will reconvene May 4, so any action before that would have to be done through unanimous consent, which could be challenging. The team also talked about non-profit organizations such as local chambers and a need to support them. The Oregon Department Employment is still standing up the program for self-employed and sole proprietors. Amy Amrhein said one gap is local communities that will lose revenues, and there is some discussion of direct support to cities/counties. Chairman Gentry with Klamath Tribes said a main concern relates to an SBA rule that doesn't allow tribal gaming businesses to apply for PPP. Tribes are working to get this rule reinterpreted, and have had meetings to get more clarity.

Annette asked if it's time to start gathering a list of shovel-ready projects in case infrastructure funding is made available. Amy Amrhein said Oregon senators are very interested in infrastructure funding and that even with the current unknowns it's probably appropriate to start generating that list. SCOEDD and other partners could help generate such a list for South Central Oregon.

### **Roundtable**

Jim Chatterton updated the team on traveler sentiment. He said travel and tourism has been hit very hard, including restaurants, hotels, outdoor guides, etc. The region receives a third of its visitors from California and about ten percent are international travelers. New data showed that 30 percent of potential travelers are increasingly optimistic about travel this summer, up significantly from just a few weeks ago. About 40 percent of people said they would change their travel plans and prioritize lesser-populated areas, avoiding airports and cruises. Smaller towns and rural areas could see an uptick in tourism as a result.

Larry Holzgang said the state is working on a recovery plan and is seeking input from stakeholders on what should be included. He welcomes input and people can contact him directly. The team agreed that it will be critical to identify regional variability in the statewide plan.