REGIONAL SOLUTIONS: AN OVERVIEW

STATE OF OREGON
REGIONAL SOLUTIONS PROGRAM
WWW.REGIONALSOLUTIONS.OREGON.GOV
Governor Kate Brown

Key Priorities:

• Expand opportunities for all Oregonians to thrive

• Support sustained economic growth statewide
Regional Solutions Program: *Purpose*

Align state resources (capacity, info and funding) to support economic and community development that:

- Promotes, expands or prevents the decline of industries and businesses;
- Creates jobs or prevents the loss of jobs; and
- Improves the economy

Coordinate State Action
Solve Problems
Regions are strategically aligned with the 11 federally designated economic development districts in Oregon.
Regional Solutions Program:  
*Regions – Committees – Teams – Centers*

Five key members appointed by the governor:

1. Convener
2. Private Sector Representative
3. Philanthropic Representative
4. A member recommended by AOC
5. A member recommended by LOC

Additional members added by these appointees.
Regional Solutions Program:
Regions – Committees - Teams – Centers

The role of the committees is to...

1. Establish Regional priorities for community and economic development in the region;

2. Assist Regional Solutions coordinators and teams with connecting to local resources; and

3. Consider, review, and recommend regional implementation project proposals.
South Central Oregon Priorities

HIGH FOCUS PRIORITIES

Infrastructure
- Water systems (Chiloquin, Malin, Merrill)
- Wastewater/Sewer (Bonanza, Crescent)
- Natural gas (Lakeview)
- Broadband

Availability and marketability of employment land

Business retention, expansion and attraction
- Support entrepreneurship and small businesses
- Renewable energy and energy efficiency
- Food processing/value added agriculture
- Remove air quality impediments to economic development

Regulatory integration/streamlining

“High Focus Priorities” – the committee, coordinator and team will actively engage in seeking solutions and projects that contribute to successful outcomes for the priority.
South Central Oregon priorities

SUPPORT PRIORITIES

- Water storage for agriculture
- Transportation (rail, highways, airports, and local roads)
- Workforce training
- Workforce housing
- Downtown revitalization
- Improve forest health and access federal timber resources

“Support Priorities” - the committee, coordinator and team will monitor, engage, and support as needed and requested. The coordinator/team will continue working with communities opportunistically to address these priorities and to serve as a catalyst for their successful accomplishment.
11 Regional Solutions Teams (RSTs)

Each RST: Includes five core state agencies and a coordinator

The role of the team is to make things happen!
Regional Solutions Program:
Regions – Committees - Teams – **Centers**

- 6 Regional Solutions Centers (RSCs)
- Home base for Regional Solutions Teams
- Co-location enhances ability to work together on projects
- One-stop shop for the public
Regional Solutions Program: How can we help?

- Elevate a project and involve the proper state agency staff
- Point of access for communities and project proponents in region
- Seek creative ways to make projects more efficient
Need more info?
www.regionalsolutions.oregon.gov
**Key agency budget components that support economic and community development**

A. **Business Oregon**
   1. Regional Infrastructure Fund ($11 M, HB 5025 & SB 5530)
      - Support Regional Solutions projects recommended by Regional Solutions Advisory Committees
   2. Special Public Works Fund ($50 M)
      - $10 M dedicated to levees
   3. Seismic Rehabilitation ($200 M)
      - $160 M – Schools
      - $40 M – Emergency Services Buildings
   4. Support for Innovation & Entrepreneurship
      - Rural Economic Development Initiative ($1 M)
      - Regional Accelerator & Innovation Network – RAIN ($500 K)
   5. Oregon Inc. ($17.5 M)
   6. Portland Harbor Cleanup ($10 M)
   7. Small-Scale Energy Loan Program ($2.7 M)

B. **Department of Transportation**
   1. Connect Oregon ($71 M), Lottery Backed Bonds
   2. Immediate Opportunity Fund ($7 M)

C. **Water Resources Department**
   2. Increasing Capacity for Groundwater Studies ($1.8 M)
   3. Helping Communities Plan for Water Needs ($204 K)

D. **Other Agency Funds**
   1. Oregon Department of Forestry - Restoring Federal Forest Lands, Creating Jobs ($4.4 M)
   2. Department of Environmental Quality - Clean Water State Revolving Fund ($10 M)
REGIONAL SOLUTIONS PROGRAM
Regional Infrastructure Fund | 2017-19

Regional Implementation Projects Review Process
Minimum of 5% of funds assigned per each of 11 regions; remaining 45% competitively awarded based on designated criteria

Application identifies the following:
- Regional Solutions priority supported by project outcomes
- Project scope & context
- Project manager, work items, & roles/responsibilities
- Funding partners, roles, & contributions
- Project timeline & completion date
- Community support for project
- Needed state, local, and federal approvals/permits

Evaluation Criteria
- Moves the dial on one or more regional priorities
- Completeness & project readiness
- Supports retention or creation of jobs
- Project leverages/aligns resources from other sources
- Resource commitment letters from all parties
- Project has a sustainable business plan
- Project helps meet the sustainable community objectives

- Where possible, identified issues vetted & resolved by Regional Solutions Team and/or Regional Solutions Committee

- Opportunity for public comment at least 14 days in advance of consideration at RSAC meeting
- Review applications for projects that move the needle on the highest regional priorities
- Recommend projects for funding

- Project recommendations reviewed & awards determined by a Grant and Loan Review Committee designated by Business Oregon

- Funding financing schedule established
- Funding contract for loan, grant, or combination executed with project sponsor
- Funding requests received & processed by IFA staff
- Project progress monitored by IFA & Regional Solutions Coordinator
TO: South Central Regional Solutions Advisory Committee

FROM: South Central Regional Solutions Team

DATE: Feb 13, 2017

RE: Rural Infrastructure Project Solicitation

Background:

In 2015 the South Central Regional Solutions Advisory Committee prioritized funding for rural infrastructure. As a result the legislature approved $205,000 to support design and/or construction of community infrastructure that supports job retention or expansion in Klamath and Lake Counties. The committee previously reviewed the process and criteria for selecting these projects. Please see attachment A for the program write up.

The first step in the process was for local governments to submit a two page pre-application before December 30, 2016. After reviewing the pre-applications, the Regional Solutions Advisory Committee may invite one or more applicants to submit a full application.

Pre-application Projects:

Five projects submitted pre-applications; they are summarized below. Based on a review of the projects and the criteria in Appendix A, the projects are presented as preliminarily prioritized by the Regional Solutions Team.

1. Lake County Railroad
   Description: safety improvements to bridges to serve existing employers (e.g. Cornerstone and Collins).
   Requested amount $205,000
   Match: $43,200.

2. Chiloquin Waste Water: Refurbish Eastside lift station, including electrical upgrades and telemetry. Lack of adequate waste water treatment infrastructure is a barrier to economic and community development. The community has a Mutual Agreement and Order to upgrade their treatment system. Currently discharge to the river during wet times exceeds water quality standards. Facilities plan recently completed using a Business Oregon grant.
3. Bonanza Waste Water - Expedite up front steps of upgrades including permitting, land negotiations, land acquisition and preliminary engineering/geotechnical investigation. Bulk of costs (approx. $88,000) are for the purchase of land. Facilities plan recently completed with a Business Oregon grant.
Requested amount: $32,000 - $120,000
Match: 10% of awarded amount

4. Malin Water System – replace well and tank controls to allow city to manage water system. New alarm, troubleshooting, surge suppression and battery backup features. Communication between the tank, wells and water system manager utilizing cellular modems.
Requested amount - $65,000 – 140,000
Match: $20,000

5. Klamath Community College Energy Efficiency upgrades – Interior LED conversion
Requested amount: $61,655
Match $47,712 (Energy Trust)

Next Step: Committee will review and discuss projects and decide which should submit full application.
October 31, 2016

South Central Regional Solutions Small Communities Planning and Technical Assistance

The South Central Regional Solutions Advisory Committee is seeking to provide funding assistance to rural communities in Klamath and Lake Counties. A total of $205,000 is available to support design and/or construction of community infrastructure that supports job retention or expansion.

Program Goals:

- Support community infrastructure projects with strong economic development connections.
- Align with, or leverage, other investments in community infrastructure.

Implementation Strategy

This document covers the following topics:

1. Eligible “Community Infrastructure Construction Projects”
2. Project Selection
3. Timeline

1. Eligible Projects

Because the source of funding is bonded debt, eligible expenditures are only capital construction.\(^1\) Examples include: construction or renovation of water systems, wastewater...
treatment systems, transmission lines, buildings, docks, trails, roads, bridges, etc.

In addition, the construction project must create “community infrastructure” per the legislative intent. Any capital construction project by a local government creating or renovating a publically-owned asset is assumed to be community infrastructure.

Other infrastructure projects carried out by “other organizations” must be sponsored by a local government entity and be of significance to the community either by supporting a key regional economic driver or by creating an asset that is open to and can be enjoyed by the public.

Local government means a city, county, authority or entity organized under state statute or city or county charter, and includes any council of governments.

Use of funds: Funding provided to recipients through this program may only be expended on construction of the community infrastructure asset itself and related costs. (See footnote 1.)

A total of up to $205,000 will be made available to such projects. The Advisory Committee is likely to award at least one project per county (Klamath and Lake).

2) Project Selection

a. Pre-application process: Interested applicants should send a 1-2 page (maximum!) description of a proposed project by December 30, 2016. Description should include clear identification of need and solution; amount of grant request; total cost of capital construction project and sources of funds.

b. Invitation to complete application. The Advisory Committee will review pre-applications and invite applications. The Advisory Committee will determine at this time whether to award all $205,000 through this process.

c. Evaluation criteria

i. Impact of capital project on one or more adopted South Central Regional Solutions Priorities (25 pts)

ii. Does the project result in the retention/creation of jobs in the region; does the project remove impediments to job retention/creation? (25 pts)

iii. Alignment with and leverage of other funding sources (15 pts)