

MEETING SUMMARY- SOUTH COAST UMPQUA REGIONAL SOLUTIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Date: October 13, 2016

Meeting location: International Port of Coos Bay, Coos Bay, Oregon

Committee members present:

Keith Tymchuk, convener*

David Kronsteiner*

Mayor Crystal Shoji*

James Seeley*

John Sweet*

Commissioner Susan Brown

*Denotes Executive Committee members

Regional Solutions Team/Agency Representatives:

Chris Hunter, Department of Transportation

Becky Bryant, Business Oregon - IFA

Kate Jackson, Department of Environmental Quality

Dave Perry, Department of Land Conservation and Development

Alex Campbell, Coordinator, Governor's Office

Sean Stevens, Business Oregon

Guests (spellings may be incorrect):

Jake McLelland, SWOWIB

Meliah Masiba, Office of Rep. Caddy McKeown (by phone)

Peggy Lynch, League of Women Voters (by phone)

Margaret Barber, CCD Business Development

Connie Stopher, South Coast Development Council

Jim Zimmer, Fred Wahl Marine

Charter Review / Member Terms (Keith Tymchuk)

Discussion will take place at next meeting, after the election.

Coos Bay Wagon Road Lands Proposal (Commissioner Sweet)

Under federal law, the US Department of Interior is directed to make payments "in lieu of taxes" that "shall be computed by applying the same rates of taxation as are applied to privately owned property of similar character" to Coos and Douglas Counties. Those payments are greatly reduced by Oregon state law that provides for a special assessment base on only the value of the land (not timber). Commissioner Sweet has discussed with staff for Senator Arnie Roblan the possibility of legislation that would make clear that—for holdings over 5,000 acres—the law be clarified that only timberlands that are actually being held with the intent to harvest

should receive this special assessment. The proposed change could increase revenues to the counties significantly.

Commissioner Sweet has received support from the timber companies he has spoken with, but not much feedback from elected officials or federal officials.

Keith Tymchuk suggested Commissioner Sweet keep the group posted.

Youth Work Experience

The Advisory Committee received 8 pre-applications (see attached). Staff scored those applications according to the criteria in the program description (also attached).

Keith Tymchuk informed the Advisory Committee, based on discussions with the Governor's office and Rep. McKeown, it is clear that some legislative action would be necessary to change course and consider a completely different direction.

Alex Campbell provided a high level summary of the applications and staff scores.

Each Committee member provided some thoughts on the pre-applications received.

Jim Seeley noted that the Coos County trail construction project, which ties in well with the Curry County proposal, would provide an important benefit to trail development, regional tourism, and eliminate a major gap in the Oregon Coast Trail. He expressed that, while he supports SWOCC very much, the project is so large, the Regional Solutions contribution is not critical.

Mayor Shoji noted that mountain biking, which would be supported by the Coos County proposal, is an emphasis of Travel Oregon's visitor attraction strategy.

Commissioner Sweet stated he liked the trail projects because he can see the work ethic and soft skills learned in that environment would be useful.

Commissioner Brown stated some discomfort with providing funds to a private organization (Wildlife Safari). Alex Campbell responded that it is a 501c3 non-profit, and the intent of the program was to serve local governments and "other organizations." Under Oregon law, the County or another local government entity would have to be the formal applicant (this is also true of the DFPA project).

Commissioner Sweet expressed concern that we need assurance that the proposed youth work experience programs are not something the organizations already doing.

Keith Tymchuk said that he likes the idea of these dollars being the "last in" and therefore sees the SWOCC proposal as promising. He suggested, if the Coos and Curry projects are very closely connected, that the AC might want to look at them as one, and encourage a focus on key missing connections.

Keith expressed some skepticism about the value of the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) and City of Myrtle Creek projects. Jim Seeley responded that the customer service skills that could be developed are in great demand on the south coast. He would want to see a business plan for the on-going operations.

Dave Kronsteiner spoke in favor of the quality of work experience he expected from the DFPA and trail building projects.

Alex Campbell shared Commissioner Chris Boice's opinions (Commissioner Boice is an AC member but was unable to attend). Commissioner Boice favored the DFPA, City of Brookings, and Wildlife Safari proposals as providing more substantive skill development (as opposed to trail building projects). He felt that regional balance in project funding is important.

Keith Tymchuk said he liked the DFPA proposal, but doesn't like the idea of putting \$500,000 into any one project.

Keith polled each of the committee members on projects that they felt could be eliminated at this point. There was a consensus that City of Myrtle Creek and Wildlife Safari should be cut and that applicants should be warned to not expect awards above \$250,000.

ACTION: Alex Campbell will invite final applications from DFPA, SWOCC, WIB, City of Brookings, Coos County and Curry County.

Gorse Action Group (Jim Seeley)

Jim provided an overview of the dangers of invasive Gorse, and the research completed to date under the auspices of the Gorse Action Group (GAG), including a recent hillside removal demonstration project. Jim Seeley requested the support of the AC in a forthcoming formal request to the Governor to initiate an Oregon Solutions project to address Gorse. John Sweet moved to support that request, Mayor Shoji seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

ACTION: Jim Seeley will prepare letter requesting the establishment of a Gorse Oregon Solutions project. Alex will assist in documenting the Advisory Committee's support.

REEF (Connie Stopher)

The Rural Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Framework (REEF) is an effort led by South Coast Development Council, with support from a range of partners, including Business Oregon through their Rural Entrepreneur Development Initiative. REEF would renovate a building in downtown Coos Bay. The building would house business incubation space of several different types and allow co-location of a range of business support services. The total project price tag is likely \$6 - \$7 million. US EDA and Coos Bay urban renewal are both potential sponsors. The overall concept includes establishing a Curry County satellite.

Coos Head Master Plan (Dave Perry)

The Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians are developing a long-term plan for re-development of the former naval base at Coos Head that the tribes purchased in 2005. Dave is serving on the Technical Advisory Committee for the project that was funded through a “TGM” grant from ODOT/DLCD. The initial work on development of a master plan is underway. Likely uses include tribal uses, an interpretive/educational component, and lodging/conference facilities. The plan will likely accommodate an improvement to the Oregon Coast Trail. The site has infrastructure but is not currently with an urban growth boundary.

Fred Wahl Marine Update (Jim Zimmer)

FWM is doing work on the new Bolon Island site and up to about 100 employees. The new travel lift has been assembled and is being tested. FWM is pursuing government contracting for the first time and recently received an letter of intent to award a \$4.4 million contract with the State of Alaska. FWM is working on being certified to work on US Coast Guard vessels up to 150’ in size; currently there are only 2 facilities on the West Coast with that certification. FWM is in negotiations with ODOT as they seek to complete the grant agreement for the \$3.4 million Connect Oregon grant they received in support of the final phases of the project.

Brief Updates

- Sale of the Gardiner International Paper site appears to be very close to being completed. Oregon Department of Justice is reviewing language related to easement changes that are the final sticking point on the transaction.
- Southcoast Lumber CHP project: Work by the academics have concluded that a bio-mass generator for Southcoast Lumber’s exclusive use has too long of a pay-back period to be a viable stand-alone project. City of Brookings is inviting Coos Curry Electric Coop to participate in a larger conversation about disaster preparedness.

Public Comment

Peggy Lynch of the League of Women Voters expressed thanks for being able to listen in to the conversation. She also is looking forward to seeing the new final rule on Regional Infrastructure Fund allocation process.

ERIC GEHRKE
President

DARIN McMICHAEL
Vice-President

JILL MILLER
Secretary-Treasurer

MELVIN THORNTON
District Manager

Douglas Forest Protective Association

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HEADQUARTERS

1758 NE Airport Road
Roseburg, Oregon 97470
(541) 672-6507
Fax: (541) 440-3424
www.dfpa.net

September 21, 2016

Attention: Alex Campbell, Regional Solutions Team

RE: Strategic Relocation of the Douglas Forest Protective Association's District Headquarters

Dear Mr. Campbell,

The Douglas Forest Protective Association (DFPA) is pleased to partner with Douglas County in the submission of this pre-application for the Community Infrastructure Construction Program (CICP) for your review. We look forward to working with the Regional Solutions Team to fund essential community infrastructure and training & employment opportunities for the youth of Douglas County through the CICP. The objective of this proposal is to aid in the development of the strategic relocation of the DFPA's district headquarters, by utilizing CICP funding on development costs, while allowing DFPA to maintain budget dollars for the highest level of wildland fire protection for the landowners of Douglas County.

In the last three years, it is estimated that losses from wildfire to timber and natural resources in Douglas County have exceeded \$270 million and firefighting costs have surpassed \$90 million. The devastating fires have taken a significant toll on private landowners, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), DFPA, and the State General Fund. Douglas County's economy is highly dependent upon timber resources and it serves the community well to support the highest level of fire protection and training to this vocation. DFPA is the primary wildland fire protection agency in Douglas County and has protection responsibilities on 1.6 million acres of private, County, State, BLM, and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) lands.

In 2014, DFPA completed a thorough protection study which included a comprehensive facilities analysis. The findings of the analysis clearly identified the need for DFPA to create a long range plan for the relocation of the Roseburg Headquarters facilities while minimizing large impacts to the operating budget. The highest priority identified of the long range plan is to "acquisition of desirable land". DFPA is currently in the final negotiations of land acquisition for ±12 acres of industrial land in central Douglas County that will meet current and future needs.

This proposal would utilize \$500,000 of CICIP funds for planning, designing, land use and environmental impact studies, the acquisition of permits or licenses, utility infrastructure development, and capital construction. Capital construction would include security fencing, rocked parking areas for staging equipment, and an equipment shed for fire apparatus. Future capital construction funded by DFPA would include: warehouse, fire cache, mechanical shop, additional equipment sheds, a training and assembly room, camera / radio maintenance shop, and a work center for supervisors. The overall strategy to fund the additional improvements will come from leveraging the "Capital Investment" of the current facilities towards future "Capital Outlay" needs for the future construction and relocation. Expenditure of CICIP funds towards the project would enable DFPA to proceed with the liquidation of land assets and move forward with a scheduled building plan that will meet the community's future needs while preserving budget dollars for firefighting.

The youth training and employment portion of this proposal will utilize and leverage local resources offered by Umpqua Training and Employment, Inc. (UT&E). To meet Work Experience Requirements, DFPA has chosen TYPE 3 option and is committed to creating or expanding a youth work experience program. DFPA will partner with UT&E in the screening and development of a program that sets clear expectations and goals for young adults 18-25 years of age. Participants will be required to meet with UT&E and complete "Requirements 1 thru 5" as outlined in the Youth Workforce Development Implementation Plan. In addition, participants must be able to meet and maintain minimum qualifications per DFPA policy. Selected applicants of the Youth Workforce Program will be exposed to multi facets of wildland fire management including: fire operations, logistics & support, fire detection, fundamental mechanics, resource dispatching, equipment use, and fire prevention. Chosen applicants will be placed according to knowledge, skills, interests, and ability into the appropriate program. Program placement is not only confined to fire operations (boots on the ground) but may include positions in dispatch, camera detection, prevention, warehouse, fire cache, and/or automotive maintenance. The DFPA has a long history of working with UT&E and administering youth employment programs. Many of the young men and women from earlier programs have found career pathways to year-round employment in wildfire management, as well as other natural resource fields.

The DFPA is committed to identifying 10 seasonal positions within our current organization that would be targeted as part of the Youth Workforce Development Project. The DFPA would fund these 10 positions for three years and for 3 months each fire season. Estimated cost of such a program is \$93,000 annually with a return of over 5,250 work hours each year. The ratio of applicant funds is approximately 56% match to requested CICIP grant dollars.

We would like to thank you and the Regional Solutions Team for your time and effort in reviewing our pre-application. We look forward to hearing from the committee and submitting a complete application. We believe that this proposal meets the intent of the program and serves the best interest of Douglas County, the Douglas Forest Protective Association, and the communities we serve. If you require further details on the proposal, please feel free to contact me at 541-580-2788.

Sincerely,



Patrick A. Skrip
Staff Forester

Douglas Forest Protective Association
Pat.Skrip@oregon.gov



September 26, 2016

South Coast Regional Solutions Team
100 E. Main St., Suite A
Medford, OR 97501

Re: Pre-application for Youth Workforce Development and Community Infrastructure project

Dear members of the South Coast Regional Solutions Team:

The Project

Southwestern Oregon Community College will construct a \$16 million Health & Science Technology Building on the college's Coos Bay campus to replace outdated 35- and 50-year-old labs and classrooms in other campus facilities, as well as provide additional and much-needed classrooms, lecture halls and community space. The State of Oregon has committed \$8 million to the project if the college can raise a local \$8 million match. The project is scheduled to be completed and the building in use in late 2019.

Total cost of project: \$16 million

Project Grant request: \$250,000

The Southwestern H&S Technology building will provide approximately 38,000 sq. ft. of newly constructed space to include state-of-the-art biology, chemistry, physics, anatomy and physiology, and geology labs, along with the nursing program and other allied health programs. The college also will connect the facility to, and repurpose 11,000 sq. ft. of underutilized space in nearby Umpqua Hall for the EMT/paramedic and other allied health programs.

Curry and Coos Counties are designated as significantly medically underserved, and many primary care jobs are becoming middle-skilled occupations. Add to that the fact that one-third of the workforce is nearing retirement, and this has become an emerging labor market for the region. This building will help the college serve more students and meet workforce demand.

Additional classrooms and labs will allow enrollment expansion in the high-demand certified nursing assistant program. There is no GED or diploma requirement for this 1- to 2-term vocational training. This allows students to identify skills-based courses that prepare them for immediate, entry-level employment. The college and the region's high schools also have joined the South Coast Health Care Pathway Program to connect students sooner with preliminary training and career exploration. High school students will be able to earn a college certificate prior to graduating, which will lead them into a number of allied health programs at SWOCC. It even provides points for their nursing application. Upon graduation from high school, these students can enroll in fast-track training to progress into specialized, high-demand health care professions. This will place additional stress, however, on already crowded facilities.

The college is committed to reach young people at all skill and educational levels, and invests in resources for tutoring, counseling and advising; and there is an early alert system if students are struggling to ensure they succeed. Internships and clinical/work experience are built into curriculum, and for rigorous programs such as nursing, students meet consistently with advisors and staff who can help them develop an action plan if they need extra assistance.

With the new building, the college will increase its nursing program from 56 students to 80 students over time. This 43 percent increase will allow Southwestern to graduate up to 40 registered nurses per year, largely meeting annual employment projections through 2022. The new facility’s integration of specialized technology for collaboration and distance learning also will serve as a catalyst to improve training beyond the Coos Campus, with outreach to community partners and the Curry Campus at Brookings.

This project is about more than a new building. It’s about people and opportunity. It’s about making sure Southwestern – the leading job-training facility in the region – remains viable and competitive, and meets the needs of aspiring workers and regional employers. It also will ensure local young people can access affordable, high-quality professional internships and training without having to move away from communities on the south Oregon coast.

Projected enrollment with new building by 2022; dependent on workforce demands

Projected enrollment with new building by 2022	Current	Future
Science transfer students	N/A	160 additional
Nursing	56	80
Medical assistant	10	20
Certified nursing assist	10	30-60
Certified nursing assist 2	8	64
Phlebotomy	10	20
Paramedic	7	20
EMT (emergency medical technician)	30 (1-year class)	up to 30 additional
EMR (emergency medical responder)	15 (1-term class)	up to 30 additional
Other potential new allied health programs TBD	0	40

Health & Science Technology Building funding (as of Sept. 2016)

Funding sources (as of Sept. 2016)	Amount
State Bond Funds (Secured; provided when \$8 million regional match is secured. \$5 million of \$8 million match secured as of July 1, 2017.)	\$8,000,000
Anonymous Foundation grant (Advanced by staff; pending approval)	1,500,000
Bay Area Hospital (Secured)	1,000,000
Local physicians’ group (Secured)	1,000,000
Other Contributions (Secured)	500,000
Other Contributions (Pledged)	400,000
Regional sources (Secured from General Fund if and as necessary)	350,000
EDA Proposal (Pending. Decision due in late 2016.)	3,000,000
Youth Workforce Development grant (Pending)	250,000
Total Project Funding	\$16,000,000



CITY OF MYRTLE CREEK

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September 27, 2016

Alex Campbell
Regional Solutions Coordinator
Southern Oregon Region

Re: Grant Opportunity- Youth Experience / Community Infrastructure Grant

Alex,

The City of Myrtle Creek is interested in the Youth Work Experience Grant opportunity that you recently shared with me.

The City is restoring a section of our walking path in Millsite Park that has eroded over the last couple of years. This project will reconstruct the park side bank of Myrtle Creek, install root-wad revetments, replace a nature trail/walking path, install 350' of chain link fencing, install two educational kiosks and park overlooks, install 930' feet of new trail and construct a graveled road in Millsite Park. The project will cost \$199,978. The project is funded with a combination of City funds and State Park Grants.

Along with that we will be improving the riparian area of Myrtle Creek as it runs through the Myrtle Creek Park system. Currently we only have funding to improve the immediate area of the planned project (about 300 feet). However, the City plays steward to about a half mile of creek that runs through three of the parks. The area is overgrown with blackberries that have crowded out the native species that are critical to a healthy riparian zone.

We would like to improve our entire stretch of creek riparian area by physically removing the blackberry plants, removing trash, and re-planting native species. Our preliminary budget for the project is \$39,600. We would employ 10 youth for six weeks with an adult supervisor dedicated to this project. Funds would also be used to rent necessary vehicles and equipment for the project as well as buy plants and seeds for the restoration.

This project would not only restore critical habitat that is home to salmon spawning but it would give our local youth a sense of ownership in their community. We ask that you consider this worthy project for funding.

Sincerely,

Sean Negherbon
City Administrator



September 29, 2016

Alex Campbell, Regional Solutions Coordinator
Office of Governor Kate Brown: Southern Oregon Region
100 East Main Street, Suite A
Medford, OR 97501

Dear Mr. Campbell,

Wildlife Safari submits this pre-application to the Youth Workforce Development and Community Infrastructure Pilot Project program.

Amount of grant request: Wildlife Safari requests \$167,000 in order to enhance the park's infrastructure so that we can efficiently serve 200,000 annual visitors per year (up from 150,000 per year in 2013). This will include installing asphalt on a currently unpaved lot so that it can be used as a parking lot (\$100,000), making road improvements to access the newly paved lot (\$30,000), and expanding the park admissions booth and the drive-thru entrance booth (\$22,000) so that the booths can add staff and move traffic more quickly.

Total cost of capital construction project: \$167,000

Sources of funds: This project will be fully funded by the Youth Workforce Development and Community Infrastructure Pilot Project program dollars.

Construction Description: By adding an additional parking lot, improving the roads that access the lot and enhancing the admissions and drive-thru entrance booth, Wildlife Safari will be well positioned to continue to be a main economic driver in Southern Oregon. Tourists come to Wildlife Safari from all over the Northwest, the country and the world. This generates local jobs and increases revenue for other local businesses. In fact, Wildlife Safari employs 80 year-round staff (70 full-time, 10 part-time) and an additional 20-30 staff are hired each summer. It is estimated that Wildlife Safari's guests generate \$17 million in local economic impact each year in hotel room stays, restaurants, and other tourist attractions.

Over the last few years, annual visitors to Wildlife Safari have grown from 150,000 people per year to 200,000 people per year. The new parking lot, improved road leading to the lot, and upgraded admission booth and drive-thru entrance booth will improve visitor experience and ensure that we have repeat visitors and good will generated by word of mouth and positive social media reviews. Visitor experience is very important in bringing additional tourists to Wildlife Safari. For example, our social media revenue (e.g. Groupon) has grown from \$41,000 in 2012-2013 to \$776,000 in 2015-2016. Social media is bringing a new generation from urban centers along I-5 to the park. By upgrading our infrastructure, we will be ready to greet our growing number of tourists, move them more smoothly through the park, expand booths to facilitate additional staff in booths, add space to be able to add mobile booths for high traffic times, and continue to fuel Southern Oregon's economy.

It is important to note that Wildlife Safari's walkable Safari Village is free and open to the public 363 days per year (closed Christmas and Thanksgiving). Wildlife Safari's mission is well-aligned with the South Coast Umpqua Regional Priorities' to "Build on the Recreation Economy" and provide "Access to Natural Resources."

Description of the youth workforce experience:

During the grant term (May 2017 to December 2019), Wildlife Safari will:

- Work with Umpqua Training and Employment to develop a structure for the youth work experience program.
- Hire 35 young adults, ages 17-25, not in school and with relatively low levels of work-relevant skills at the time of hire or lack a strong work history,
- 30 youth will work for at least 32 hours per week for at least 8 weeks and 5 youth will work at least 20 hours per week for 16 weeks.
- It is estimated that of these youth, 3 to 5 will transition from work experience directly to full-time employment with Wildlife Safari.
- The typical compensation for entry level employees is \$9.75 per hour.
- Work to be performed includes: customer service at Wildlife Safari's gift shop, café, admissions booth and drive-thru entrance booth, mobile "pop-up" entrance booths, tour guides, animal husbandry (e.g. animal care, feeding, etc), and maintenance.

Work experience at Wildlife Safari provides employees with transferrable skills for the booming tourist industry in Southern Oregon. Also, Wildlife Safari's extensive experience in employing 17-25 year olds means that we have the ability to instill good work habits and encourage a strong work ethic.

About Wildlife Safari: Established in 1972, Wildlife Safari's mission is "to enhance entertainment, education, and cultural experiences with a commitment to conservation, preservation, and research of native and exotic wildlife." This involves two types of service—caring for animals and educating park visitors about the importance of wildlife and how to care for our environment.

Accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), Wildlife Safari is able to trade and breed endangered species. The park's most significant contribution to preservation of endangered species has been through cheetah breeding—201 cheetahs have been born here, more than any other institution in the United States. Our cheetahs inhabit zoos and sanctuaries worldwide as an integral part of the AZA Cheetah Species Survival Plan. We also provide natural habitat and excellent care for 500 animals living at the park and we conduct wildlife research. Wildlife Safari is focused on providing first hand education about wildlife preservation and the status of endangered species. Over 200,000 visitors from throughout the country visit annually and are able to observe and learn about animals while driving through our 600-acre park. In our free admission area, Safari Village, families can enjoy live animals, picnic areas, and keeper Q & A sessions which involve encounters with lemurs, snakes, wallaroos, etc.

Our educational programming includes kids' camps, home school classes, field trips, internships for teens, and more. Wildlife Safari's field trips are designed for elementary through middle students; and field trips ranging from Crater Lake to the Pacific Coast are offered for high school students. The park also partners with Umpqua Community College to enhance their biology lab component and Dillard Alternative High School students come to the park for science class, taught by our Education Director. In addition, every year dozens of veterinary school students from local and international universities spend sessions in residence learning about exotic animal care under the tutelage of our head veterinarian.

If you have any questions or are interested in seeing a full proposal, please contact Tammi Ellison at 541-679-6761 x230 or tellison@wildlifesafari.net.

Sincerely,



Dan Van Slyke, Executive Director

Youth Workforce Development & Community Infrastructure Pilot Project City of Brookings Proposal, 09/30/2016

The City of Brookings (City) is interested in participating in the Pilot Project for the Youth Workforce and Community Infrastructure program. We believe that we can contribute to the success of this unique effort. The City proposes a Type 3 project that would employ youth workers as part of our existing Parks division seasonal staffing and would utilize grant funds toward a multi-phase Parks capital improvement project: Azalea Park Ball Fields Reconfiguration. (Note: Some youth work could occur directly on the proposed capital project, but we would like to maintain the flexibility to assign youth workers to all elements of Parks seasonal staff work.)

The Work Program. The youth work program would be folded into our seasonal Parks employee hiring process and workload staffing. Additional help is required each year during the peak season for City of Brookings Parks. Participants would engage in a variety of duties including construction of buildings, trails, foot bridges, and play structures. They would also install irrigation and landscaping and maintain existing park landscape and trails.

According to a recent Oregon Employment Department (OED) article, 75% of Southwest Oregon job openings expected through 2024 will require a high school diploma or less for entry level into positions (Southwestern Oregon's Occupational Employment Projections, 07/18/16, Shelton-Tideman). In that climate, work training programs like the one proposed may be especially valuable because they can provide training and practice for basic job skills that would be transferable to any future job opportunity. In terms of connections to identifiable career pathways, the experience available under the proposed program links well to both natural resources jobs and construction jobs. The OED article identifies construction as one of the fastest growing categories, expected to grow 10.2 percent between 2014 and 2024.

The opportunity announcement indicates a special preference for skills development and learning related to science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). The wide variety of work experiences, and associated training, offered in the Parks division includes STEM areas such as natural resources, ecology, and construction. Specific work examples might be identifying diseased trees, building trails, and helping construct a building from plans.

We propose a three year program, with three participants each year. Participants would work full time (40 hours per week) for a period of six months and would be compensated at \$12 per hour as a City seasonal employee. As recommended, we would budget at least \$250 for each worker to help cover career services. The cost to the City for each position would be approximately \$14,250.

The program would serve a total of nine participants and provide a total of 54 months of full time-employment over the three year period. The total cost to the City would be approximately \$128,250.

The City's long running summer staffing for the municipal pool is a measure of the City's readiness to undertake a youth work program. Since 1973 the City has hired lifeguards and other seasonal staff to run the pool. These positions are largely filled by teens and young adults. Currently we hire about twelve to fifteen pool staff who work for three to four months. Special on-boarding efforts include a training day conducted by Parks Supervisor Tony Baron and City Human Resources staff.

The Capital Project: Azalea Park Ball Fields Reconfiguration. The City of Brookings has developed a four-year, multi-phase project that will accommodate a variety of adult and youth recreation, including year-round athletic tournaments. Phase one includes the construction of a restroom and concession building, fencing and backstop for Field 2, and ADA ramp and pathway connections. Phase two will include the reconfiguration of Field 1 to allow for the addition of a dedicated multi-use field (soccer, football, lacrosse, ultimate frisbee, etc) as well as the construction of a play structure, enclosed dugouts, and the installation of landscaping complete with irrigation. Phase three of the project will include the preparation and installation of an all weather turf system on all three fields. The final phase of the project will include paved parking lots and lighting for playing fields and parking lots. Upon project completion, the Brookings-Harbor community will have a facility to host multi-sport athletic tournaments for the South Oregon and Northern California Coast region in every season of the year.

Phase one (\$353,000) is under construction and is funded in part from an Oregon Parks and Recreation (OPRD) Grant in the amount of \$212,000. Phase two (\$298,900) did not receive OPRD funding, therefore the project scope was reduced to what City funds were available (\$119,000) in our Capital Improvement Budget for FY 2016/17. Elements currently unfunded include playground construction, enclosed dugouts for both ball fields, and additional landscaping around the ball fields. We propose to use funding from the Youth Workforce Development and Community Infrastructure program for these elements, allowing the full implementation of Phase 2.

The Azalea Park Ball Field Reconfiguration Project is a perfect fit with the South Coast Umpqua Regional Priority of building on the Recreational Economy. The City also recognizes the economic importance of recreation. Our March 2016 Economic Development and Action Plan indicates the following strategy: "Make parks and recreation facilities part of the economic plan" (p 3). Further, it specifically calls for "improvements to sports fields at Azalea Park" and to "promote those facilities for regional tournaments" (p 4).

In a 03/18/2014 support letter for a previous phase of the ball field project, TravelOregon's Kristin Dahl described the economic benefit of an existing winter season Azalea Park softball tournament, which could be expanded and enhanced under the proposed project:

TravelOregon considers the existing Slippery Banana Belt tournament as a baseline precedent for assessing the economic benefit associated with field improvements and expansions. In 2013, 48 teams of 10-12 players, and families in tow, converged in Brookings for the annual Slippery Banana Soft Ball Tournament. The economic impact of an average of \$135 per visitor day infused over \$200,000 into the Brookings economy in one weekend... TravelOregon's baseline report on tourism for the South Coast of Oregon substantiates the viability of [the] Brookings proposal [to improve ball fields]-- active, recreation-oriented visitors spend an average of \$65 more per day at eateries with local food and beer.

Project Cost and Grant Request. The total cost of the four phased Azalea Park Ball Field Reconfiguration Project is \$2,654,000. Phase two is \$320,000 of which \$119,000 is funded by the City. We request funding for the balance of \$201,000 in order to complete Phase two.

If the City is invited to submit a full application, we are happy to consider adjustments to the proposal. For more information please feel free to contact Parks and Technical Services Supervisor Tony Baron at abaroon@brookings.or.us / 541-469-1159 or Management Analyst Chrissy Bevins at cbevins@brookings.or.us / 541-469-1138. Thank you very much for the opportunity and for your consideration of this proposal.



Tate Wardle
Ranger, Parks and Juvenile Department

94235 Moore Street, Suite 231
Gold Beach, OR 97444
ph: 541.247.3251
WardleT@co.curry.or.us

September 29, 2016

Regional Solutions Advisory Committee,

Please accept this letter as the pre-application request to move forward in invitation for the full Youth Workforce Development and Community Infrastructure Pilot Project.

The Curry County Parks & Juvenile Department has collaborated with the Bureau of Land Management, Wild Rivers Coast Alliance, Curry Watersheds, Wild Rivers Coast Forest Collaborative, Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest, Wild Rivers Coast Outdoor Recreation Action Team, Oregon State Parks, Travel Oregon, the Oregon Coast Visitor Association, International Mountain Biking Association and several other key partners to identify the need for development and rehabilitation of many trail system sites. These partners have co-created a regional trails plan that has already been awarded funds through the Recreational Trails Program administered by State Parks, including funds for trail building equipment. This pilot project will build on recent success by engaging youth in trail development in a way that creates a local workforce in a growing field. As importantly, the project will be guided by a regional strategy that will employ youth trained with these funds in future trail building projects encompassed by the regional trails plan.

This program can help Curry County reach goals in three important areas: First, the funds will build technical skill in the local youth workforce applicable in our growing outdoor recreation economy. Second, connecting the Humbug Mountain portion of the Oregon Coast Trail will create a unique through-hike experience for visitors, boosting our tourism economy. Finally, the trail system built will increase access to outdoor recreation for local residents, improving their health outcomes.

The goal in the development and rehabilitation of these trails is to sustain them in a safe and eco-friendly capacity that promotes long-term economic development and positive health outcomes. A focus on ADA compliancy, coupled with multi-use options for trail viability is desired. Having a securely developed trails system draws tourism year-round and identifies with corporations and businesses that lean towards establishment in an environmental and social conscience community. Some, but not all of those sites have been identified as: the Humbug Mountain portion of the Oregon Coast Trail, Kimball Hill Trail, Oak Flat and Buzzards Roost, Shasta Costa Creek, Lower Rogue River Trail, Myrtle Tree Trail and Pine Grove Trail. All located in Curry County. The Humbug Mountain connection has been assessed by State Parks, and preliminary work done to identify

This is a "TYPE 2" project that will directly employ youth workers through trail building. Curry County's Parks and Juvenile Department is ideally situated to provide structured experiences to complete the project, and build youth capacity that will be employed in similar projects in the future. Contractors, vested parties and Juvenile & Parks, will mentor and work one-on-one with 17-25 year-old youth from throughout the county to development and enhance their workforce skillset. This includes, but is not limited to such technical skills as: carpentry, surveying, tool and material maintenance, supply and logistics, project planning and implementation, trail construction, public interaction and wildland firefighting. Professional level skills of: conservation, riparian and stream restoration, silviculture, land and natural resource management, soil sciences, environmental policy, ecology, leadership and group dynamics. We will also offer wilderness first aid/first responder training certification to the youth, to further secure their experience, readiness and confidence in environmental



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Ranger, Parks and Juvenile Department

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and communal work. All of these skill sets actively support the priorities of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) and those of a career specific to the Pacific Northwest.

The estimated overall cost for the trail projects, training, workforce, materials and tools is \$320,000.00. We anticipate a minimum of \$27,000 of in-kind contributions in addition to the funds amount requested. Regional Solutions funds will also be leveraged by the regional trails plan, funded by Wild Rivers Coast Alliance for \$22,000, and Recreation Trails funds that procured \$23,000 for trail building equipment that will be used in this project. Youth will be directly employed for 8-12 months building a 7-10 mile section of trail.

We kindly ask that you consider supporting the development of the youth workforce in Curry County with development and retention of a sustainable trails system in Curry County.

Respectfully submitted,

Tate Wardle
Ranger, Curry County Parks & Juvenile Department

Coos County Forest Non-Motorized Trail Development Youth Trail Building Proposal

Amount of Grant Request	Total Construction Project Cost
\$60,000-70,000	\$278,571
Eligible Construction Project Category	No. of Work Experiences Provided
TYPE 2	20 for Phase 1

The Youth Workforce Development Opportunity

Coos County is pleased to submit this pre-application for the Regional Solutions Youth Workforce Development and Community Infrastructure Pilot Project. Coos County was recently awarded a grant from the Regional Trails Program to build 11.58 miles of non-motorized trails as Phase I of a project that will eventually create 30 miles of non-motorized trails on the Coos County forest. We believe that a youth trail building project would meet all the program goals stated in your implementation plan, as set forth below.

First: Support community infrastructure projects with strong economic development connections. This trail project would create a trail system that is part of a county-wide economic development plan that will make Coos County a tourism mountain biking destination location. Destination mountain biking is significant in Coos County’s tourism plan.

Second: Provide meaningful work experiences to young adults with little or no prior connection to the workforce. Trail construction creates important work experiences for relatively unskilled young adults. It teaches worksite expectations, workplace safety, teamwork, and use of hand tools. It also exposes young adults to working forests, another potential career path.

Third: Connect youth with basic career orientation and evaluation services. We would contract with a provider such as SCBEC or SWOCC to provide career orientation and evaluation services.

Fourth: Wherever possible, connect youth work experiences to identifiable career pathways. This work experience provides exposure to entry level jobs in the construction, forestry, or manual labor fields.

Fifth: Align with, or leverage, other investments in community infrastructure and/or youth employment. As shown, this project is already nearly 80% funded by a Regional Trails grant. This is a good opportunity to leverage youth workforce training with a shovel ready capital project.

Contact Person

Melissa Cribbins, Coos County Commissioner
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Project Background

Coos County is currently developing a new non-motorized trail system on county-owned forest lands. Phase 1 of the project, consisting of approximately 11.58 miles plus supporting infrastructure (signs, etc), has been approved for grant funding from the state's Recreational Trails Program. If the grant is anticipated to be awarded later this fall, then permitting and design will likely proceed this winter, with construction starting in the spring and carrying on through the summer of 2017.

Trail Location and Design

The trails will be located on the Coos County Forest off Highway 101 between Coos Bay and Bandon. They will be open to non-motorized users including hikers, mountain bicyclists, and trail runners. The area is actively managed for timber production. In order to minimize disturbance to harvesting activities the trails will be placed, when possible, in younger stands.

The trail design utilizes current best practices for sustainable trail development, including a rolling contour alignment with grades that do not exceed 10% and are always less than half the prevailing grade of the sideslope. This will reduce both water- and user based erosion seen on steep trails. Using a rolling contour alignment along a sidehill also reduces the ability for people to meander off the trail and impact sensitive areas.

Trail Construction

Construction will utilize current best practices, including full bench cut trail tread and frequent grade reversals, both of which reduce erosion. The work will be performed by qualified, experienced trail contractor utilizing small mechanized equipment and hand crews to perform manual shaping of the trails. The trail surface will be the existing mineral soil. It may be amended in places with crushed rock to create a better all-weather surface. The finished tread will be approximately 24" in width; slightly less in areas with flatter sideslopes and slightly more in areas with steeper sideslopes.

Invasive species Control

Coos County will partner with the Wild Rivers Coast Alliance (WRCA) to develop and execute a multi-year Gorse control program. WRCA is committed to reducing the presence of Gorse in the southern Oregon coast. This program will be coordinated with the Coos County Forestry Department, which also engages in Gorse removal pursuant to its timber management.

Youth Workforce Development & Community Infrastructure Pilot Project

Proposed Project Description: Youth Career Café
Proposer: Southwestern Oregon Workforce Investment Board (SOWIB)

Amount of Grant Request	Total Construction Project Cost
\$100,000-\$125,000	\$125,000-\$150,000 ¹
Eligible Construction Project Category	No. of Work Experiences Provided
TYPE 1	50 Annually

Overview

Engagement of Youth, particularly Out-of-School Youth (OSY) who are attached to neither education (secondary or post-secondary) nor the workforce has been an issue that has dogged the public workforce system for years. In a report from OED on the current crisis surrounding youth employment, it was found that only 9% of teenagers are using the public workforce system, known as WorkSource Oregon (WSO), as a job search tool, despite the fact that the unemployment rates for young people have never been higher. As older generations continue to age out of the workforce, employers indicate they have trouble with both filling existing openings and tapping into more long-term talent pipelines, meaning that this disconnect is becoming a major threat to the region's economic development.

As SOWIB has met with and spoken to youth around the area, a few common themes have emerged as to why so few youth visit their local WSO offices:

- Outreach and recruitment methods don't often align with how today's youth receive information; as a result, very few youth have ever heard of the WSO system.
- Even as many WSO offices have added services for youth, those who are aware of them in general believe that they are not "intended" for people of their age group.
- WSO centers look too much like "government" buildings or social services offices.

In addition to reaching youth, one of the bigger hurdles to helping young people enter the workforce is the lack of work experience. Paradoxically, employers say a lack of work experience among applicants makes it difficult to hire when they have openings, but youth are not being given the opportunity to gain work experience that would make them attractive to employers.

SOWIB aims to address these concerns through the development of Youth Career Cafés (YCCs). The aim would be to have one in Coos County and another in Curry County for a total of two projects. Each project would vary in size based on location and other factors,

¹The additional \$25,000 will be provided through a combination of state and federal resources in the SOWIB budget; the funds will be used to furnish the inside of the center, including paying for computers and other needed technology.

but would approximately range from 2,000 – 6,600 square feet in size. The approximate breakdown in construction costs would be 75% for tenant improvements, 10% for coffee equipment, and 10% in technology.

The YCCs will serve two primary functions. The first is to provide a fun, attractive environment where young people can network with peers and feel empowered to take control over their own career aspirations; the second is to provide the shell for a multitude of youth-oriented workforce development, education and other community partners to provide services in a one-stop type setting that is beneficial and cost-effective for all. Some partners may be permanently co-located while others simply use the space to connect with and serve the youth who are utilizing the center's services.

Each YCC will include technology that will serve as an open computer lab available to those who need it, as well as a training space where a variety of both in-person and online curriculums can be accessed. Trainings will include everything from GED preparation and building work readiness habits to career exploration and intro to baseline skills such as medical terminology or basic manufacturing techniques. Workshops on resume-writing, professional dress attire, and job interviewing skills will also be offered on a regular basis and video conferencing equipment will provide the opportunity for youth outside of the major population centers to access those and other trainings being offered.

Description of Youth Workforce Experience Activities

The YCC will address Work Experience opportunities in two distinct ways. The first will be with funds available through contracts entered into by SOWIB with direct service providers. Current providers are Umpqua Training & Employment (UT&E) in Douglas County and South Coast Business Employment Corporation (SCBEC) in Coos/Curry County. The length, compensation and work to be performed are variable and negotiated between the employer where the youth will be placed and the service provider. In total, 40 youth per year will receive Work Experiences funded through SOWIB.

The second type of Work Experience activity will be through the café aspect of the project. The idea is that participants in the various programs being offered at the YCC will staff the café on a rotational basis. It would provide an opportunity for the Youth to learn valuable customer service skills, business skills and professionalism. The rotations will last 6 weeks and the youth will receive competitive pay for their work. We expect 10 additional youth per year to participate.

Each youth participating in a Work Experience, regardless of the type, will additionally receive a wide-range of services available through the service providers that include assistance with placement into permanent employment and/or being connected to an opportunity for post-secondary training in a demand occupation.

Impact on Regional Solution Priorities

Business Retention, Expansion, and Creation, including Workforce Training

MEMORANDUM

TO: South Coast Umpqua Regional Solutions Advisory Committee
FROM: Alex Campbell, Regional Solutions Coord., SCURST
DATE: October 10, 2016
RE: Youth Work Experience Pre-Applications

Three Regional Solutions Team staff scored the eight pre-applications against the following criteria (which were included in the program description provided to all potential applicants):

- 1) **Impact of capital project** on one or more adopted South Coast Umpqua Regional Solutions Priorities and/or Southwest Oregon Workforce Investment Board sector strategies (health care and manufacturing) (30 pts).
- 2) **Quality of work experience** in terms of skill attainment and applicability of those skills to employer/labor market demands (30 pts), preference given especially to STEM-related learning and skills.
- 3) **Ratio of grant funds requested to total hours of work experience** provided (i.e., work experience hours/grant \$) (15 pts).
- 4) **Alignment** with and leverage of other regional efforts to promote **workforce** training and participation (15 pts).
- 5) **Opportunity** to transition work experience participants directly to full-time employment and/or additional training (10 pts).

Based on both average ranking and average score, it appears that the pre-applications fall into two tiers, i.e. those with an average rank in the top half and those with a below average rank:

	Average Rank	Average Score
Wildlife Safari	2.0	78
SWOWIB	2.3	79
SWOCC	3.3	76
DFPA	3.3	78
City of Brookings	3.7	77
Coos County	6.0	66
Curry Co Parks	6.3	67
City of Myrtle Creek	7.3	60

Here are the average scores by criteria:

	Criteria 1	Crit 2	Crit 3		Crit 4	Crit 5	Total
	Impact of project	Quality of work exp	Min. per \$	Score	Align to strategy	Opportunity	
Wildlife Safari	28	25	1.1	5	12	8	78
SWOWIB	25	23	2.3	10	13	8	79
SWOCC	27	23	1.9	9	10	7	76
DFPA	27	20	3.3	14	7	11	78
City of Brookings	28	21	2.8	11	8	8	77
Coos County	24	18	1.8	9	8	6	66
Curry Co Parks	23	18	1.8	9	8	8	67
C. Myrtle Creek	13	22	3.5	14	5	7	60

To further advance your discussion, below are a few different scenarios that would divide the available \$820,000 among the projects that scored relatively better:

Scenario 1

Applicant	Avg Rank	\$ Requested	\$ Allocated			Cum. Total
			Douglas	Coos	Curry	
Wildlife Safari	2.0	167,000	167,000			167,000
SWOWIB	2.3	125,000		67,500	67,500	302,000
SWOCC	3.3	250,000		250,000		552,000
DFPA	3.3	500,000	268,000			820,000
City of Brookings	3.7	201,000				
Total		1,243,000	435,000	317,500	67,500	
% of total			53%	39%	8%	

Scenario 2

Applicant	Avg Rank	\$ Requested	\$ Allocated			Cum. Total
			Douglas	Coos	Curry	
Wildlife Safari	2.0	167,000	167,000			167,000
SWOWIB	2.3	125,000				167,000
SWOCC	3.3	250,000		200,000		367,000
DFPA	3.3	500,000	250,000			617,000
City of Brookings	3.7	201,000			203,000	820,000
Total		1,243,000	417,000	200,000	203,000	
% of total			51%	24%	25%	

Scenario 3

Applicant	Avg Rank	\$ Requested	\$ Allocated			Cum. Total
			Douglas	Coos	Curry	
Wildlife Safari	2.0	167,000	167,000			167,000
SWOWIB	2.3	125,000		50,000		217,000
SWOCC	3.3	250,000		200,000		417,000
DFPA	3.3	500,000	200,000			617,000
City of Brookings	3.7	201,000			201,000	818,000
Total		1,243,000	367,000	250,000	201,000	
% of total			45%	31%	25%	

(For your reference, Douglas County accounts for approximately 56% of the population in the region; Coos approximately 33%; and Curry roughly 11%)