



## RS EXCHANGE REGIONAL SOLUTIONS

Monday, September 28th, 2026

### Upcoming RSAC Meetings

#### Monday, 10/12

- Central | 1:00-4:00pm | [Virtual](#)

#### Tuesday, 10/13

- Northeastern | 10:00am-12:00pm | [Virtual](#)
- South Central (10:30am-1pm) | [Virtual](#)
- Mid-Valley | 1:00-3:30pm | [Virtual](#)
- Southern | 1:30-3:30pm | [Virtual](#)
- North Central | 3:00-5:00pm | [Virtual](#)

#### Wednesday, 10/14

- South Coast | 12:00-2:00pm | [Virtual](#)
- South Valley/Mid-Coast | 1:00-3:00pm | [Virtual](#)
- Metro | 1:00-3:00pm | [Virtual](#)

#### Thursday, 10/15

- North Coast | 9:30-11:30am | [Virtual](#)
- Greater Eastern | 1:00-3:00pm | [Virtual](#)

RSACs will be considering RIF applications at these October meetings. Agendas and materials will be posted on our [website](#) one week in advance.

## Regional Updates

### Metro – Kathy Hyzy

#### **Low End Tour with 1803 Fund:**

I joined an enthusiastic group of community leaders and other stakeholders for a walking tour of the part of the Albina neighborhood now known as "The Low End". The 1803 Fund is an organization that seeks to restore Black Portland through investments in the community, beginning with a seven-acre section of Albina, where they are strategically purchasing properties to foster an interconnected economy that centers the education and experience of Black youth and families, restores economic and housing opportunities for Black Portlanders, and creates a strong sense of community identity and welcoming public spaces for everyone. Known as "The Low End", 1803 is already hosting events, designing reimagined spaces, and using art installations to rebuild a sense of place. Backed by a \$400 million investment pledge from Phil and Penny Knight, 1803's work here is shaping up to be a key contributor to Portland's ongoing revitalization, and a meaningful way to restore a community displaced by exclusive policies and infrastructure development that pushed them out in the 1950's and 60's.



### Eastern – Courtney Crowell

**Anthony Lakes USDA Loan:** Regional Solutions helped to connect the Anthony Lakes Outdoor Recreation Association (ALORA) with USDA to see if there might be an opportunity to help finance a new rental shop for the ski resort. After almost a year of work, USDA has been able to help the ski resort with a [\\$650,000 loan](#) to build a new rental shop to support the ski programs and local economy of the Anthony Lakes recreation area. This project is funded through USDA's [Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program](#) (REDLG) in

partnership with Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative (OTEC). This has been a great collaboration between ALORA, USDA and Regional Solutions and we are excited to see the project completed.

**Pendleton Round-Up:** It was great to have the Governor out at the Pendleton Round-Up this year to help celebrate the historic and always fun event. The Governor was able to attend multiple events throughout the Round-Up and catch up with leaders from across Eastern Oregon. She also had the opportunity to attend and speak at the Governor's luncheon following the Westward Ho parade and before the rodeo on Friday. Big thanks to everyone in Pendleton and the Round-Up Association for their tireless work every year to put on the best rodeo in America!

**Baker Heritage Museum Project:** Regional Solutions has been helping facilitate the loan of a portrait of Sen. Edward Baker (the first US Senator from Oregon) that the Oregon Military Department (OMD) owns to the Baker Heritage Museum, which is working on developing a central exhibit about the life of Sen. Edward Baker. The portrait hangs at the Armory in Baker City but as OMD has just recently shut down operations at the armory, it was good timing to see if the Baker Heritage Museum could borrow the portrait for their new exhibit. Big thanks to OMD for their willingness to work with community partners and we are excited to see the new exhibit come to life.

**Harney County Groundwater Collaborative Declaration of Cooperation Signing:** I attended the Oregon Solutions Declaration of Cooperation signing of the Harney Groundwater Collaborative Scoping project and was able to share that we'll dedicate \$500,000 from the Governor's fund at OWEB for the implementation of the collaborative. This funding will allow them to jumpstart their efforts to install water flow meters, incentivize irrigation modernization and participate in restoration activities designed to reduce groundwater use. This meeting also kicked off the official long-term implementation collaborative and we talked about the work that the group is doing around water flow meters and communication. OWRD also had the opportunity to share their updates on the implementation of the Division 512 rules and when notices about water allocation will be distributed. It's a complex process and there

is a real need for clear communication to the community. Luckily this collaborative table and OWRD are working close together on the communications efforts.

**UAS Test Range Closure:** Regional Solutions and the Governor's office have been working to help reopen the Oregon UAS test range after the University of Alaska Fairbanks paused operations. There are lots of conversations happening at the state and federal level to try and get the range back up and running and we'll continue to stay engaged with the city of Pendleton and other partners as we work through this complex situation.

### **South Coast — Jessica LaBerge**

**Housing Milestone for North Bend:** A big housing milestone to celebrate—and heartfelt thanks to the North Bend City/Coos-Curry Housing Authorities for their continued leadership and partnership. This update was provided directly by the Housing Authority, and we appreciate their ongoing coordination and communication.

North Bend Family Housing is now entering its final stretch toward opening. Phase I will bring 105 new affordable homes to the community, including units dedicated to extremely low-income households, families utilizing project-based vouchers, and 20 Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) units paired with supportive services. The project has officially moved into the pre-leasing stage. Property management is actively reviewing applications, completing eligibility documentation, and guiding households through the steps needed to prepare for move-in. The Housing Authority is coordinating all project-based voucher leasing, and PSH households are being connected through Coordinated Entry. North Bend Family Housing is currently planned to open on October 15, 2026, with initial move ins beginning as each part of the property becomes ready for occupancy.

A sincere thank you again to the Housing Authority team for sharing this update and for all their work to bring these homes, and this stability, to families in our community.

## Resources and Opportunities

### **DEQ Oregon Zero-Emissions Fueling Infrastructure Grant**

DEQ is providing approximately \$600,000 in one-time reimbursement funding through the Oregon Zero-Emission Fueling Infrastructure Grant Program. It expands the state's charging infrastructure for medium- and heavy-duty zero-emission vehicles. Federally funded through Oregon's [Climate Equity and Resilience Through Action Grant](#), this investment will support projects critical to increasing Oregon's EV fleet charging network and prioritize fleets that operate in or close to communities adversely affected by diesel pollution.

Eligible applicants include private businesses, public municipalities and Tribal Nations' fleets based in Oregon. OZEF awards will cover up to 80% of eligible costs, with up to \$137,000 available for installation of a single DC fast charger, or up to \$249,000 for two DC fast chargers. Applications for projects with multiple Level 2 chargers will also be considered. Project costs may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Charging equipment: Direct-current fast charging Level 3, alternating current Level 2, etc.
- Design and engineering.
- Installation costs: Trenching, wiring and electrical upgrades, labor and permitting, etc.
- Related intelligent equipment and software, designed to monitor vehicle and infrastructure performance.

A rolling application period opened Sept. 9; applications will be considered on a weekly basis in the order received. Therefore, applicants are encouraged to submit complete applications quickly for consideration. Applicants should expect to receive notification within six weeks of submittal.

For more information visit the DEQ website [here](#).

### **Oregon Humanities Community Storytelling Fellowship - Apply by Oct. 1st**

Applications are currently open for Oregon Humanities' 2027 Community Storytelling Fellowship. This fellowship is awarded annually to Oregonians who want to tell stories about communities that are underrepresented in Oregon media. Each fellow receives \$5,000 to support the creation of true stories—including journalism, creative nonfiction, comics, video, audio, photography, and other media—about those communities.

Six fellowships will be awarded in 2027. **Three fellowships will be reserved for storytellers living in rural communities.**

The application deadline is **October 1st at 11:59 p.m.**

To learn more or to apply, visit Oregon Humanities website [here](#).

### **DEQ Diesel Emissions Mitigation Grants – Apply by Oct. 21st**

DEQ provides grant funding to support businesses, governments and equipment owners in replacing older and more polluting diesel engines with new, cleaner technologies and exhaust control retrofits. Grants are distributed to awardees as a reimbursement of eligible project costs incurred during the project period.

The 2026 cycle has opened and applications are due by Oct. 21st. For more information, see the DEQ website [here](#).

### **ODOT Capital Investment Plan Virtual Open House**

Oregon has far more transportation needs than available funding can address. Across the state highway system, aging infrastructure, safety needs, and other critical investments compete for limited transportation dollars. ODOT cannot advance every needed project, which means we must make difficult choices about which investments move forward. The Capital Investment Plan, or CIP, is a new way to make those choices more clearly and consistently. While not a funding commitment, this 10

-year plan helps ODOT look across transportation needs statewide, identify and prioritize potential investments, and better connect long-range goals with the projects they are able to fund and deliver.

For this first CIP, transportation professionals, local and regional partners and communities across Oregon helped identify and evaluate potential investments. The result is a draft portfolio of projects that best advances Oregon's transportation priorities within the funding they expect to have available. ODOT is interested to hear your perspective! Weigh in online [here](#) by November 2nd.