

Mass Timber Code-UP Community Assistance Project

Background

Through the Build Back Better Regional Challenge, the U.S. Economic Development Administration awarded the [Oregon Mass Timber Coalition \(OMTC\)](#) \$41.4 million to develop and expand Oregon's emerging Mass Timber industry, with an emphasis on utilizing mass timber products in prefabricated/modular home construction. The Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) is utilizing funding through this grant to help cities update and modernize local development codes to encourage the use of mass timber modular housing.



Image source: www.masstimbercoalition.org

Working with a consulting team and the Department of Consumer and Business Services in 2022, DLCD audited the development codes of five cities to identify local regulatory barriers to developing mass timber and modular housing. Starting in the Fall of 2023, the Code-UP project team will continue this work by providing additional jurisdictions with code audits, amendment recommendations, and community engagement services.

We are pleased to announce ten jurisdictions that have been selected to receive technical assistance this year: Chiloquin, Clatsop County, Creswell, Gates, Lincoln City, Mt. Vernon, Phoenix, Rufus, Sandy, and Talent. Consistent with the federal grant award, staff prioritized assistance to wildfire affected and rural communities.

DLCD is committed to assisting a total of thirty jurisdictions over the next five years through a model code funded by EDA. Please contact us if you are interested in future updates.

Next Steps

Project consultants [MIG](#) and [Cascadia Partners](#), DLCD's Mass Timber Coordinator, and DLCD staff will support the Code-UP project team to complete the following tasks for each selected community.

1. **Provide Adoption-Ready Code Amendments:** Consultants will audit local code to understand potential barriers and opportunities for modular mass timber housing and prepare draft code amendments based off those findings.
2. **Engage Community Members Equitably:** Consultants will gather local data and information to assist in engaging traditionally underserved communities. They and DLCD staff will use a range of methods to engage community members.
3. **Provide Additional Capacity:** DLCD regional representatives and the AmeriCorps RARE member will assist in local planning commission and city council work sessions and adoption hearings.

Questions? Contact Us:

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