

Department of Land Conservation and Development

2021-23 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT APPLICATION

Please complete each section in the form below. Type or write requested information in the spaces provided. **Submit completed applications by October 1, 2021**.

Date of Application: October 1, 2021

Applicant: City of Springfield, Oregon

(If council of governments, please also include the recipient jurisdiction name if applicable)

Street Address:225 Fifth StreetCity:SpringfieldZip:97477

Contact name and title: Monica Sather, Senior Planner

Contact e-mail address: msather@springfield-or.gov

Contact phone number: 541-736-1038

Grant request amount (in whole dollars): \$79,945

Local Contribution (recommended but not required): \$11,200 is currently available in the City's FY22 budget. To build efficiencies in the project, these funds may go toward tasks before the execution of a Grant Agreement, after which the project will start its timeline within the grant period. The estimated in-kind contribution is \$110,308 for Springfield and Lane County.

Project Title:

Natural Resource Inventories & Protections for Springfield's UGB Expansion Areas

Project summary: (Summarize the project and products in 50 words or fewer)

This project will update Springfield's Natural Resource Study for Springfield's wetland, riparian, and wildlife resources pursuant to Goal 5, will apply stormwater protections to watercourses, and will provide a framework for where future development—primarily employment opportunities and public services—may be best-sited in Springfield's urban growth boundary expansion areas.

Project Description & Work Program

Please describe the proposed project, addressing each of the following in an attachment.

Attachments A, B.1, and B.2 respond to Sections A through I listed below. Attachment A contains the narrative and work program. Attachment B provides budget information along with the requested payment schedule. Attachment C shows the project timeline.

A. Goals and Objectives. State the goals or overall purpose of the project. Describe particular objective(s) the community hopes to accomplish. Please indicate whether this is a stand-alone project or is part of a longer multi-year program. If it is the latter, describe any previous work completed, subsequent phases and expected results, and how work beyond this project will be funded.

B. Products and Outcomes. Clearly describe the product(s) and outcome(s) expected from the proposed project. Briefly describe any anticipated significant effect the project would have on development, livability, regulatory streamlining, and compliance with federal requirements, socioeconomic gains, and other relevant factors.

C. Equity and Inclusion Considerations. Using the <u>TA Grant Equity Guidance</u>, identify priority populations in the project planning area. Describe the anticipated impact of your proposed project on priority populations. Describe a preliminary outreach and engagement plan with specific goals and outcomes for participation of priority populations in the project. Include specific tasks and products related to the outreach and engagement plan in sections D and E.

D. Work Program, Timeline & Payment.

- 1. Tasks and Products: List and describe the major tasks and subtasks, with:
 - The title of the task
 - Steps to complete task
 - The interim and final products for each task
- 2. Timeline: List all dates for the project including tentative start date after the contract is signed, task completion dates, and project completion date. If the project is part of a multi-year program, provide an overview of the expected timelines in sequence of expected start dates and completion date for each phase and describe subsequent phases to be completed.
- **3.** Payment Schedule: Develop a requested payment schedule showing amount of interim and final payments. Include the products that will be provided with each payment request. The payment schedule should generally include no more than two payments an interim and final payment.
- **E. Evaluation Criteria.** Include a statement in the narrative that addresses the program priorities and evaluation criteria presented in the application instructions ("Eligible Projects and Evaluation Criteria").
- **F. Project Partners.** List any other public or private entities that will participate in the project, including federal and state agencies, council of governments, city and county governments, and special districts. Briefly describe the role of each (*e.g.*, will perform work under the grant; will advise; will contribute information or services, etc.).
- **G.** Advisory Committees. List any advisory committee or other committees that will participate in the project to satisfy the local citizen involvement program. Include specific goals for participation by priority populations in advisory committees.

I. Cost-Sharing and Local Contribution. DLCD funds are only a part of overall project costs; please identify sources and amounts of other funds or services that will contribute to the project's success. Cost-sharing (match) is not required but could be a contributing factor to the success of the application.

Will a consultant be retained to assist in completing grant products? Yes oxtimes No \Box

Does the applicant intend to seek technical assistance from DLCD's equity and inclusion consultant? Yes \boxtimes No \square (See TA Grant Equity Guidance)

Local Official Support

The application *must include a resolution or letter from the governing body* of the city, county, district, or tribe demonstrating support for the project. If the applicant is a council of governments on behalf of a city, a letter or resolution from the city council supporting the application must be included. *The application will not be complete if it does not include this item.* The letter of support may be received by DLCD after the application submittal deadline, but it must be received before a grant is awarded.

Attachment D.1 provides a resolution by the Springfield City Council in support of the project and application. Attachments D.2 and D.3 provide letters of support from the Springfield Utility Board and Willamalane Park and Recreation District.

Product	Grant Request	\$ 14,043 \$ 52,4 \$ 13,222 \$ 29,0 \$ 8,315 \$ 16,0 \$ 29,715 \$ 38,7 \$ 29,715 \$ 38,7 \$ 7,370 \$ 11,0 \$ 9,442 \$ 12,3 \$ 9,790 \$ 15,7 \$ 8,011 \$ 11,0 \$ 1,628 \$ 1,9			Total Budget
1	\$ <u>30,630</u>	\$	<u>14,043</u>	\$	<u>52,453</u>
2	\$ <u>16,385</u>	\$	<u>13,222</u>	\$	<u>29,607</u>
3	\$ <u>4,200</u>	\$	<u>8,315</u>	\$	<u>16,025</u>
4	\$ <u>8,640</u>	\$	<u>29,715</u>	\$	<u>38,355</u>
5	\$ <u>4,500</u>	\$	<u>7,370</u>	\$	<u>11,870</u>
6	\$ <u>4,080</u>	\$	<u>8,772</u>	\$	<u>12,852</u>
7	\$ <u>2,000</u>	\$	<u>9,442</u>	\$	<u>11,442</u>
8	\$ <u>5,500</u>	\$	<u>9,790</u>	\$	<u>15,290</u>
9	\$ <u>3,600</u>	\$	<u>8,011</u>	\$	<u>11,611</u>
10	\$ <u>320</u>	\$	<u>1,628</u>	\$	<u>1,948</u>
TOTAL	\$ <u>79,945</u>	\$	<u>110,308</u>	\$	201,453

Product Request Summary

*NOTE: Springfield has \$11,200 to contribute to the project for Fiscal Year 2022. To keep momentum on the project, some of these funds may go toward consultants' or LCOG's work on tasks before calendar year 2022. Any amount remaining can contribute as the City's financial match for the project elements that occur after execution of a Grant Agreement. Local match is shown for tasks that will likely occur soonest.

Submit your application with all supplemental information to:

Gordon Howard, Community Services Division Manager

E-mail (preferred): DLCD.GFGrant@dlcd.oregon.gov

Mail: Department of Land Conservation and Development 635 Capitol Street N.E., Suite 150 Salem, OR 97301

Phone: 503-503-856-6935

APPLICATION DEADLINE: October 1, 2021

DLCD TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT APPLICATION (2021-23) NATURAL RESOURCE INVENTORIES & PROTECTIONS FOR SPRINGFIELD'S URBAN GROWTH BOUNDARY EXPANSION AREAS

GOALS/OBJECTIVES & PRODUCTS/OUTCOMES

Springfield is currently home to approximately 63,000 residents and is part of the larger Eugene-Springfield metropolitan area with 230,000 residents and growing. Springfield recognizes natural areas as critical assets for sustaining healthy communities. This project will influence thoughtful growth in areas abundant with natural resources. The possibility of this project could not be more timely. With the recently acknowledged expansion of Springfield's Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) (acknowledged March 2019), Springfield has the opportunity to take a holistic look at these urbanizable areas and plan for multiple functions and places that fulfill a variety of needs. particularly in the north Gateway and Mill Race expansion areas given their designation as large employment sites suitable for accommodating Springfield's target industries. Springfield's Commercial & Industrial Buildable Land Inventory and Economic Opportunities Analysis (2015) identified this deficiency. Some property owners in the UGB expansion areas are eager to develop their properties. Property owners in the North Gateway area have nearly 200 acres ready to meet Springfield's needs, but recognize the need to first establish protections for wetlands, waterways, and habitats. A component of this work to protect Springfield's natural assets involves adopting locally significant resource sites as part of updating the Springfield Natural Resources Study in accordance with Oregon's Statewide Planning Goals and Administrative Rules.

Overall Project Goals

The progress and momentum achieved through recently conducted wetland and riparian inventories and assessments within Springfield's UGB expansion areas present an opportune, and crucial, moment to pivot toward defining Springfield's natural assets and economic development policy needs. This project is a multi-year effort. Starting in 2020, the project team competed the key technical steps in its natural resource inventories. The next step will incorporate those resources into existing, and potentially new, protection measures. This work will assist in achieving the following goals:

- .1 Promote a healthy, safe, and clean community by making wise use of natural resources.
- .2 Provide better understanding and certainty for property owners and developers by making development decisions streamlined and predictable.
- .3 Enable urbanization of Springfield's designated employment areas by meeting State-mandated planning requirements based on Oregon Statewide Planning Goal 5 (Natural Resources, Scenic and Historic Areas, and Open Spaces).
- .4 Identify ways to enhance Springfield's work by addressing other Statewide Planning Goals: air, water, and land resources quality (Goal 6), natural hazards (Goal 7), recreation (Goal 8), and economic development (Goal 9).
- .5 Further Springfield's conformance with the Springfield Comprehensive Plan.

The project will directly address the wetland and riparian requirements of Statewide Planning Goal 5: Natural Resources, Scenic and Historic Areas, and Open Spaces requirements for the expansion areas (which are primarily located in North Gateway and the south Springfield area along the Mill Race and Willamette River (see project area map, page 4). Information generated from the inventory and assessment will also provide opportunities to coordinate with and enhance Springfield's work toward achieving Goal 6: Air, Water and Land Resources Quality, specifically by updating the City's Water Quality Limited Watercourse Map as a new part of the original project scope; and Goal 9: Economic Development.



Overall Project Objectives

The following objectives will help accomplish the project's goals:

- <u>Objective 1</u>: Incorporate public/project partner input into relevant tasks and deliverables based on a plan for stakeholder participation that is appropriately scaled to the project
- <u>Objective 2</u>: Complete the "standard" riparian inventory for significance determination to inform policy options
- <u>Objective 3</u>: Adopt local wetland, riparian, and wildlife inventories and assessments
- <u>Objective 4</u>: Protect Water Quality Limited Watercourses in the UGB expansion areas
- <u>Objective 5</u>: Develop resource protection policy options for consideration
- <u>Objective 6</u>: Select resource protection measures, develop, and adopt relevant comprehensive plan or development code amendments

Products & Outcomes

A subsequent phase (after the grant period) will be to adopt the inventories and protection measures, which local agency funds will likely cover. The intended **outcome** of the adopted inventories, protection measures, Natural Resources Study update (Comprehensive Plan amendment), and resultant policies is: to broaden, improve, and diversify the Springfield and regional economy while maintaining or enhancing environmental quality and natural heritage. The Work Program provides a full list of products. Springfield and Lane County co-adopted Springfield's UGB expansion areas to meet Springfield's economic needs while including areas with substantial natural resources that have potential to serve as public assets (e.g., new areas designated Public Land & Open Space and areas within the floodplain). Integration of natural resource goals and objectives into these and related efforts is a first step to conserve the ecological health of these finite natural resources, to effectively implement economic policies identified in the Springfield can create additional possibilities for employment that provide adequate wages to support households.

Ultimately, the project will provide predictability to development, streamline the permit review process, and support principles that are at the foundation of our livelihoods—protecting the natural resources upon which we depend, particularly should the need for a Goal 5 Economic, Social, Environmental and Energy Consequences (ESEE) analysis be identified and satisfied. Later steps to ensure environmental and economic health will rely on this work. For example, **Economic Policy #26 of the Springfield Comprehensive Plan** states: "Develop and apply new development standards to lands added to the Springfield UGB prior to annexation and development to ensure that new development contributes to a healthy, safe, and clean community while enhancing, protecting and making wise use of natural resources."

EQUITY & INCLUSION

Springfield recognizes the power of first-hand local knowledge to inform better outcomes. Substantially completed progress on this project informs Springfield's proposed plan to ensure project activities align with the abilities and needs of people the project intends to serve. With the project underway since 2020, Springfield has the unique opportunity to reflect on what forms of strategies to involve the public worked well and what might be better moving forward. Springfield proposes to take the lessons learned and apply them to the project team's commitment to effective

and meaningful outreach and engagement. The project team will make a deliberate effort to continue involving priority populations.

Priority Populations in Springfield & the Project Area

Community Context

The 2020 Census (QuickFacts Finder) provides data for Springfield as a whole. At 63,230 reported residents, socioeconomic data of note for priority populations (vulnerable, marginalized, and overburdened communities) include:

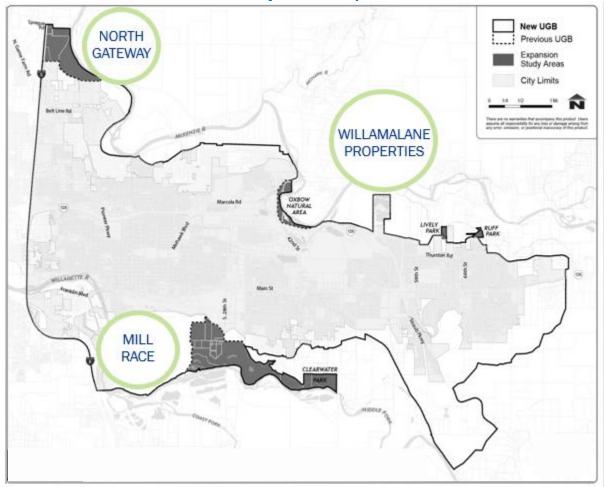
- **Aging/older community members:** The percentage of Springfield's residents aged 65 and over (14.1%) is lower than that of Oregon's (18.2%).
- Minority community members: Springfield is home to at least 10,244 minority residents (16.2% of the city's population). Specifically:
 - □ 11.4% are Hispanic or Latino (as compared to 13.4% in Oregon as a whole).
 - □ 5.6% are two or more races (a higher percentage than Oregon's 4%).
 - \Box 1.7% are Native American.
 - \Box 1.6% are Asian.
 - \Box 1% are Black or African American.
 - $\hfill\square$ 0.5% Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander.
- Community members that may have limited access: Considerations of ease of access to knowledge, economic resources (income), and interactive environments apply:
 - Households with computer devices make up 91.7% of Springfield's population, and households with broadband internet subscriptions make up 84.3%. These percentages are similar to, but slightly lower than, Oregon's as a whole (93% and 85.9%, respectively).
 - □ Springfield's households earn less income (median: \$47,695), and Springfield's community members face more poverty (19.3%) as compared to the state (\$62,818 and 11.4%, respectively).
 - □ The percent of Springfield's community members who are disabled and are under 65 years of age (14.5%) is notably higher than the state's (9.9%).

Project Area & Priority Populations

Correlations between these characteristics of the population are unknown, but these trends provide context to guide public outreach and involvement in situations where activities may reach community members beyond the specific project area. The project area represents a smaller area of Springfield's jurisdiction. The Census Bureau's Block Group data provide a better-tailored picture of the community fabric that makes up Springfield's project area and areas just beyond the project area. The project area (also referenced as "study areas") is the three general areas where Springfield's UGB expansion became official in 2019 as acknowledged by the Land Conservation & Development Commission.



Project Area Map



Privately-owned properties represent nearly one-third of the 792-acre project area. The City of Springfield, Springfield Utility Board, and Willamalane Park and Recreation District own about two thirds of the area under various combinations of sole and/or joint ownership of individual properties. The 17 privately owned properties make up 260 acres. Six of these properties, including a 62-acre property, are vacant. Block Group data¹ show that:

Near (and including) the North Gateway area, the proportion of disabled community members (26%, 374 persons) and elderly community members (22%, 259 persons) is larger than the region-wide average (16.4%, and 16.3%, respectively). Minority community members represent 12% (140 persons) of the total population in or near the project area, and Hispanic or Latino Households represent 10%. Nearly 30 of these households speak Spanish as their primary language and use limited English. Households in poverty (19) represent 4% of households near the project area.

¹ Source: Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization (CLMPO) Title VI Communities of Concern, defined as concentrations of one or more of four socioeconomic factors: minority population, households in poverty, elderly population, and people with disabilities. CLMPO's data source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey at the Block Group level.

- Near (and including) the Mill Race area, the proportion of elderly community members is larger than the region-wide average (16.3%) at 18% or 264 persons. Disabled community members represent 15% of the community in or near the project area (or 209 persons). Minority community members represent 17% (243 persons) of the total population in or near the project area, and Hispanic or Latino households represent 13%. These households do not speak Spanish as their primary language. Households in poverty (45) represent 9% of households in or near the project area.
- There are no homes or businesses within the Willamalane Properties area, as they are publicly owned and are primarily used for park and recreation. Immediately surrounding the area, the proportion of elderly community members (22%, 261 persons) is larger than the region-wide average. Disabled community members represent 15% of the community near the project area (or 172 persons). Minority community members represent 11% (136 persons) of the total population near the project area, and Hispanic or Latino households represent nearly 2%. These households do not speak Spanish as their primary language. Households in poverty (51) represent 10% of households near the project area.

Putting these Numbers into Action

These data help define which priority populations the project will seek to engage. Elderly residents and residents with disabilities are most geographically connected to the project area by way of proximity as compared to other priority populations. Within and immediately surrounding the project area, Spanish-speaking populations have much less of a presence than elderly and/or disabled residents. Given Springfield's rich presence of Hispanic or Latino residents, and the amount of public lands in project area, the project's outreach activities included (and will continue to include) efforts to engage these community members. Recognition of Indigenous People's cultural connections to the project can also deepen understanding of locally significant resource sites.

Impacts to/Outcomes for Priority Populations

Springfield looks forward to completing a post-project evaluation of representation and participation by priority populations. Springfield proposes to evaluate the representation of and participation by priority populations as a formal deliverable. This evaluation may further inform shorter- and longer-term impacts to and outcomes for elderly, disabled, Hispanic or Latino, and Tribal Nations resulting from the project. Potential impacts and outcomes identified so far include short-term (**ST**) and long-term (**LT**) benefits and burdens:

Potential Benefits:

- ST: New connections made with the project team
- **ST/LT:** Awareness of, and empowerment to participate in, local government decisions
- LT: Trust and sustained relationships that carry forward to other future project efforts
- LT: Opportunities for renewed land management practices that reconnect Tribal Nations to heritage and protect and/or restore the ecosystem if knowledge shared about how Tribal Nations once used natural resources in the project area can influence protection policies
- LT: Increased economic prosperity if new jobs result in employment opportunities that fit skills and interests
- LT: Personal health resulting from policies intended to sustain environmental health



Potential Burdens:

- **ST:** Time away from personal or business matters while participating in the project
- LT: If Springfield follows the "standard" program approach for protecting wetlands and riparian corridors, the ESEE analysis will provide a key opportunity to consider how specific project decisions may result in long-term burdens (Task 2.4)

Outreach & Engagement with Priority Populations

The project began with inclusiveness as a guiding principle and well-informed, empowered stakeholders and partners as an overall goal for participation. Moving forward, this project will reinforce this practice. The outreach and participation plan in this application is consistent with the project's approved Community Engagement Plan (CEP).

The formal advisory group for this project is the Springfield Planning Commission in its role as the Springfield Committee for Citizen Involvement, which approved the CEP. However, this post-project evaluation is a meaningful way to reflect on the level to which priority populations participated in the project, possible reasons for such levels, and whether the project team met its goals for participation. The following **goals** specific to Springfield's elderly, disabled, and Hispanic or Latino residents and Tribal Nations as the priority populations this project aims to reach will help guide the project team in its assessment of whether proposed activities are effective:

- .1 Springfield's older community members can engage with the project with tools other than those that rely on electronic formats.
- .2 Activities and tools for Springfield's disabled and Hispanic or Latino community members are useful and available in a timely manner.
- .3 Developed understanding of Tribes' connections to and use of the project area.
- .4 Appropriate consideration of the needs of Tribes in Goal 5 protection programs.
- .5 City staff become a trusted resource for information and assistance.

Some activities and deliverables for previous project tasks will reach (and have already reached) beyond the project area. The project will continue to do so for mailings, certain meetings/conversations, and may do so for social media announcements as appropriate. The project will continue to focus on two types of audiences for outreach and engagement: (1) property owners within the project area, and (2) the broader community and stakeholders.

A clear understanding of the policy implications resulting from proposed natural resource protections is especially important for property owners due to how these policies may affect the allowable uses and locations of those uses on their properties. The focus for property owners within the project area will be to ensure they are empowered to review and comment on information about resources on their properties. Involving the broader community is also a component to the project, as many of the public lands in the project area are park and recreation sites. Additionally, policies to protect natural resources affect environmental and public health beyond a property line.

Springfield's initial outreach to property owners within the project area included a Spanish-written invitation to Spanish speakers to contact staff who could discuss the project with them in Spanish. The City heard from all but one property owner in response and was granted permission to access property for in-person inventory work, with none requesting a Spanish-speaking resource for information. Mailed letters will continue to include this invitation. The activities to engage Spanish-

speaking community members align most appropriately with the team's work to engage people who do not own property within project area.

Alongside each activity are corresponding project tasks (as identified in the Work Program) that appear best-suited for the activity. Some activities and deliverables are intentionally general due to the availability of the State-provided equity and inclusion consultant only after execution of the Grant Agreement. These broadly defined and open-ended activities can benefit from consultant expertise on how to make culturally competent connections that honor identity when communicating with a diverse population.

Objective: Pursue Pointers on Participation First

Overall Action: Explore ways to invite elderly, disabled, and Spanish-speaking community members and Tribal Nations to participate in the project. With an opportunity to learn and seek guidance from an equity and inclusion consultant, an area of interest includes identification of how to approach communication with these priority populations, how/where to share project information through established community resources before elected officials make key decisions, to share when and how elected officials will make key decisions, and to share how people can inform the decisionmaking process. Possible activities include:

Activity	Related Project Tasks in Work Program
Seeking resource information from the Lane Independent Living Alliance and/or the LCOG Senior and Disability Services team to guide development on project materials for elderly and disabled community members within and outside the project area Determining if an on-site/walking meeting and/or a virtual meeting with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde is possible	
Considering whether additional outreach to Tribal staff and the Oregon's State Agencies and Tribal Governments Natural Resources Workgroup can be done in a respectful and timely manner	Task 2 (2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4): Identify Protections
Understanding whether sharing information about the project through or at the <u>Chifin Native Youth</u> <u>Center</u> is appropriate to help make connections. This Youth Center is named after a specific band of the Kalapuya Tribe who originally lived at the confluence of the McKenzie and Willamette Rivers	Task 6 (6.1, 6.2, 6.4): Adopt Plan Amendments
Connecting with <u>Centro Latino Americano</u> , which is also now home to Huerto de la Familia and Downtown Languages	
Along with the consultant, discussing these proposed activities with the City's Committee for Diversity & Inclusion (Thanks to their work, Springfield is now a member of the Government Alliance on Race & Equity.)	



Objective: Learn with Language that Speaks to All

Objective. Learn with Language that speaks t	
Activity	Related Project Tasks in Work Program
Continue to ensure people who are deaf or hard of	Task 2 (2.2): Identify Protections
hearing are aware that the City can provide an	Task 6 (6.2, 6.4): Adopt Plan Amendments
interpreter for public meetings.	
Continue to provide, if requested, a personal PA	Task 2 (2.2): Identify Protections
receiver for people who are deaf or hard of	
hearing and provide an induction loop for people	Task 6 (6.2, 6.4): Adopt Plan Amendments
who use hearing aids.	Tool 1 (1 1): Europed 9 Finalize Inventories
Ensure mailings have adequately large, readable	Task 1 (1.1): Expand & Finalize Inventories
print (e.g., a non-stylized font in size 16 where	Task 2 (2.2): Identify Protections
practical or size 14).	Task 6: Adopt Plan Amendments
Ensure documents provided online and e-mail updates are compatible with software that has word recognition and can read typed words. For example, a compatible document format is Adobe Acrobat Portable Document Format instead of a scanned copy of a previously printed document.	Task 1: Expand & Finalize Inventories Task 2: Identify Protections Task 6: Adopt Plan Amendments
Make colors and symbols on project maps appropriate for people with visual disabilities (e.g., provide adequate contrast) and, where possible, caption certain maps for people who may need a text description and who may need software to verbally describe what is on the map.	Task 1: Expand & Finalize Inventories Task 2: Identify Protections Task 3: Update the Springfield Natural Resources Study Task 4: Prepare Adoption-Ready Plan Amendment Package Task 6: Adopt Plan Amendments
In written materials, when appropriate (e.g., letters to people in and near the project area, legal notice for public hearings, etc.), communicate that the 711 Relay/TTY are available tools for public meetings.	Task 6: Adopt Plan Amendments Additional TBD
Ensure mailed letters and e-mail updates make	Task 1 (1.1): Expand & Finalize Inventories
recipients aware of an option to speak to	Task 2 (2.2): Identify Protections
someone in Spanish.	Task 6: Adopt Plan Amendments
Post announcements of Tech. Memo #3 (Goal 5 options) in Spanish and English on City social media. Provide staff phone number for a resource to speak with someone in Spanish.	Task 2 (2.2): Identify Protections

Objective: Focus on Fairness for All Income Levels

Activity	Related Project Tasks in Work Program
Continue to coordinate with the Public Library on	Task 2 (2.2): Identify Protections
hours of operation and availability of computers.	Task 6 (6.2, 6.4): Adopt Plan Amendments
Continue to provide prepaid postage with any letters sent to recipients in the project area that offer an opportunity for written feedback prior to legally required public notice.	Task 2 (2.2): Identify Protections
In recognition of people's busy schedules and	Task 1: Expand & Finalize Inventories
time constraints, continue to emphasize that	Task 2 (2.2, 2.3): Identify Protections

City of Springfield Oregon I Natural Resource Inventories & Protections for UGB Expansion Areas

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people can contact staff at any time. Accommodate one-on-one conversations as requested by interested parties. Appropriate members of the project team will be available for virtual or in-person meetings as COVID-19 precautions allow.	(cont.) Task 6: Adopt Plan Amendments
Use <u>SpringfieldOregonSpeaks</u> to provide transparent and convenient access to materials for Planning Commission work sessions and public hearings, decision makers, and live meetings. Use other virtual meeting tools for convenient access to live Council and Board meetings.	Task 2 (2.3): Identify Protections Task 6 (6.2, 6.4): Adopt Plan Amendments

Objective: Provide Places for All Community Partners

Activity	Related Project Tasks in Work Program
Continue to ensure that any in-person meetings are wheelchair-accessible and safe for people who are blind or partially sighted.	Task 2 (2.2): Identify Protections Task 6 (6.2, 6.4): Adopt Plan Amendments
Work with the City's Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator to accommodate other requests as needed. This approach will allow the City to ask: "What works best for <i>you</i> ?" to not limit solutions to preconceived assumptions.	Task 1 (1.1): Expand & Finalize Inventories Task 2 (2.2): Identify Protections Task 6 (6.2, 6.4): Adopt Plan Amendments

Objective: Apply Added Knowledge to Natural Resource Protections

Activity	Related Project Tasks in Work Program
Incorporate consideration of priority populations into the ESEE analysis if/where Springfield's elected officials provide direction to use the ESEE approach.	Task 2 (2.4): Identify Protections

Progress so Far

The basic requirements for natural resource work for wetlands, riparian corridors, and wildlife habitat when following Statewide Planning Goal 5 and for adopting stormwater protections pursuant to Goal 6 involves sending letters to property owners and occupants within the project area and/or near the project area and other legal requirements for public hearings and land use decisions (e.g., published notice in the newspaper). The City sent the first required letter, which sought permission to access properties of interest for field work.

The project team expanded upon these requirements to engage the Springfield community (and beyond) as well as stakeholders with specific interest or areas of expertise (e.g., Tribal Nations, watershed councils, economic development partners, and other partner agencies). Springfield's approved Community Engagement Plan identified this need given how many public lands there are in the project area, and because of the inherent tradeoffs between our built and natural environments, which affect everybody.

In response to COVID, the team adapted to COVID circumstances by expanding its community engagement deliverables beyond the scope envisioned in early 2020. For example, the team canceled plans to hold community meetings in locations throughout the project area—where project

outcomes would most directly affect residents and employers/employees. Reimagined activities included:

- Holding an online conversation with all affected property owners early on about the work ahead. This conversation occurred before our target date to have owners' permissions in place for access to their properties.
- Introducing the project to stakeholders identified in the Community Engagement Plan while sharing the project webpage and noting where to sign up for e-updates.
- Individually addressed, direct e-mails to staff contacts of each Tribal Nation in Oregon sharing information about the project, how to comment on drafts or otherwise participate, and how to contact the project team.
- Consultation with the Interim Director of the Oregon Legislative Commission on Indian Services who provided references for additional leaders of the Oregon's State Agencies and Tribal Governments Natural Resources Workgroup to contact via e-mail.
- Sharing the draft inventory results with property owners, other stakeholders, and the broader community. To get feedback on the draft report in a setting that did not allow for little to no face-to-face interaction meant getting creative on how to let people know the results were ready and on how we let them know of ways to share their thoughts in a convenient way. Tools to get feedback involved:
 - □ Sharing the report on the project webpage for all-hours access.
 - □ A story map to make the technical (and hundreds of pages) report clearer, relevant, and easier to access. The story map brought the PDF maps in the report to life with its interactive features. One feature enabled someone to click around the screen to see what the results meant; another allowed someone to zoom into a property or to type in an address search.
 - □ A questionnaire linked at the end of the story map and on webpages, shared by social media, and announced in physical locations throughout Springfield.
 - □ Both the questionnaire and story map resembled what someone might expect to see when participating in an in-person open house (e.g., information stations, a way to understand how the project might affect their property, and a way to provide feedback).
 - Right-sizing efforts to the scale of the project and tailoring tools to meet the needs of those most affected by the project. The project area defined (and will define) the need to prioritize involvement with directly affected properties. The project team also prioritized focused outreach to property owners and occupants in the project area and to adjacent neighborhoods. Outreach to these groups involved personalized letters. The letters noted recipients could request their own appointment to meet with the consultants and other members of the project team to learn more and ask questions about the results. For people who did not have internet access, the letters noted the Public Library was available for computer use and provided contact information and Library hours/operating protocol during COVID. The letters for the property owners also included two copies of the printed wetland and riparian inventory maps. The maps zoomed to the results for just their properties. Springfield provided two copies of the maps so affected properties could share feedback by writing right on the map and sending it back to the City with prepaid postage, with the other copy meant to let recipients keep one as a record.



These tools were the "main event" for diving into the content and results of the work produced. To get the message out that results were available, the project team spread the word with:

- A news release
- Social media along with our partner agencies' social media platforms
- Reaching out to our interested parties list with an e-update, and
- Being mindful of the benefits to not solely relying on the internet. Large (weatherproof) posters were at park and trail locations within and near the project area to announce the project and availability of the questionnaire. This approach got people in the frame of mind of thinking about natural resources and directly experiencing the places that this project affects. The posters had a QR code, so those who had smartphones could go right to the questionnaire or story map on the project webpage. The poster also had a very short link to the project webpage in case someone needed to write the link down or type it in later.

Some Outcomes & Lessons Learned

The project team reflected on how it could or would have done something differently and on what went well given the need to rapidly adjust engagement efforts. The City received no requests for language translation or for ADA accommodations (e.g., 711 Relay, software readers, or large print). Some lessons learned include:

- Not everyone is comfortable with remote meeting technology. When the project team hosted online information sessions and conversations with property owners, some participants were shy to speak up and preferred anonymity on the screen. Though someone would not be invisible in an in-person open house, they would not necessarily have to share their name or thoughts with everyone in attendance.
- Consider ways to reach connect with people in a culturally respectful way. Specifically, "cold call" e-mails may prove ineffective, especially if a relationship might not yet be established. The timing or manner of outreach to some priority populations resulted in no interactive participation. It is unknown whether some priority populations such as Spanish-speaking households or Tribal Nations participated in the survey.

In a world of many engaging virtual tools, simple strategies can still be powerful and effective. Though outreach mostly went virtual, the outreach with posters around town and the letters mailed to property owners (including copies of the maps and self-addressed, stamped return envelopes) worked well, particularly for seniors and for people who might not have internet access.

WORK PROGRAM

The project team has made substantial progress toward accomplishing the project's goals in alignment with the priorities of the TA Grant Program. The work plan identifies tasks critical to the continuity of this project and to bringing it to completion. A key element of the Goal 5 inventories and of this project is the Local Wetlands Inventory (LWI). DLCD TA Grant funds from the 2019-21 biennium and local match from both the City and Springfield Utility Board covered the consultant cost to prepare and obtain approval of the LWI. The City anticipates LWI approval in late winter 2022. Despite some task dependencies on this LWI approval, these tasks are conservatively timed for late spring and summer 2022 to accommodate the LWI decision process. As shown below, additional work can occur in the meantime.



One possible efficiency prior to execution of a Grant Agreement is to secure a consultant contract for environmental services to complete the riparian and wildlife inventories and assessments. The expertise environmental consultants will continue to bring to this project is essential for Springfield in its effort to obtain adequate information regarding the interrelationships between the biology (of both plants and wildlife) and Springfield's Goal 5 resources. Upon a signed contract with the consultant, the consultant can begin to set up data and organize for the field during the winter with compensation from City funds. Another efficiency is to prepare preliminary findings for Water Quality Limited Watercourses in the UGB expansion areas to inform Goal 5 protection options in a more holistic manner (Task 2) and to get a lead on later phases of the project when preparing the staff report (Task 4).

Continued work with LCOG also brings efficiency benefits. LCOG is a team member essential to the success of this project. LCOG brings deep multidisciplinary experience in natural resource planning, mapping tools (Geographic Information Systems), and community engagement.

A note on equity & inclusion: The symbol: represents an opportunity for equity and inclusion for priority populations. Specifically, it represents a point in the project where the City and LCOG see a need to incorporate mindful considerations of priority populations in and near the project area into project deliverables. Additional discussion with these activities for the project begins on page 6.

A note on timeline and payment: The timeline in the proposed scope of work represents target dates. However, specificity is provided given the time- and seasonally sensitive nature of conducting accurate inventories. Attachment C depicts the timeline in chart form, and Springfield's requested payment schedule is in Attachment B.2.

TASK 1: EXPAND & FINALIZE INVENTORIES

Consultant and City will jointly complete this task along with support from LCOG as needed. City will take management lead for this task.

Subtasks/Task Elements

- .1 Finalize the "Standard" method for the Riparian Corridor Inventory (OAR 660-023–0030, OAR 660-023-0090) by determining significance
 - .a Seek follow-up permission for property access and obtain where feasible.

- .b Conduct any necessary follow-up field work.
- .c Prepare written report (memorandum), including: (a) determination of significance as part of narrative summary, and (b) appendices (e.g., maps, field notes, and scorecards).
- .d Prepare updated geodatabase as supplement to and basis for written work and final mapped products.
- .2 Revise the final, DSL-approved Local Wetlands and Riparian Corridor Inventory and Assessment for the Urban Growth Boundary Expansion Areas of the City of Springfield, Oregon report to remove "results pending" notes about riparian resources in the North Gateway study area, to update notes about Water Quality Limited Watercourses within Springfield's Urban Growth Boundary, and to add reference to the separate memo prepared for Task 1.1
- .3 Complete Safe Harbor Wildlife Habitat Inventory to determine significant habitat sites (OAR 660-023-0110)
 - **.a** Field verify as needed at time of WHA field work for riparian corridors (Task 1.1).

- .b Based on Safe Harbor (OAR) sources for wildlife habitat in expansion areas (including Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife), prepare base map(s) and geodatabase.
- .c Prepare written report (memorandum) summarizing findings as appropriate. This product is contingent on findings and will be part of the product list only if significant wildlife habitat sites are found outside of Springfield's wetland and riparian areas. Due to the potentially sensitive nature of this information, Springfield will determine with DLCD the extent to which this product must be limited in detail or kept internal.

Products

- Technical Memorandum #1: Significant riparian corridor findings ("Standard" method)
- Technical Memorandum #2 (contingent/pending inventory results): Significant upland wildlife habitat findings ("Safe Harbor" method)

Timeline

February - August 2022

Grant Budget

\$47,015

TASK 2: IDENTIFY PROTECTIONS

LCOG and City will jointly manage this task, with LCOG as lead for completion of materials. The City proposes to connect with the equity and inclusion consultant as early as possible to inform project elements and tools used for outreach to and participation by priority populations; this could occur earlier than June 2022 while simultaneously accomplishing other tasks under Task 1.

Subtasks/Task Elements

- .1 (April August 2022): Based on a previous June 2021 draft, finalize memorandum outlining Goal 5 options for consideration, including the tradeoffs of the Standard (ESEE analysis) or Safe Harbor approaches for wetlands and riparian corridors (wildlife will meet Safe Harbor protections). Create abbreviated, user-friendly executive summary. Updates to include:
 - .a Based on final LWI approval and findings of riparian significance under the Standard inventory approach (Task 1.1), describe and map protection measures of inventoried wetlands and riparian resources using both the Goal 5 Standard and Safe Harbor approaches.
 - **.b** Review and describe through narrative and maps potential protection mechanisms under Goal 6 (e.g., Springfield's Water Quality Limited Watercourses) and, as applicable to the Mill Race study area, Goal 15.
 - .c Review and describe existing protection mechanisms for water resources within Springfield. LCOG to work with Springfield staff and DSL to determine recommendations for whether any of the identified resources should undergo a Standard process ESEE analysis to assign appropriate protection measures.
- .2 (September October 2022): Share findings of final memorandum describing potential protection mechanisms with the public and partner agencies prior to work sessions with appointed and elected officials. Any meetings will be considered according to the applicable public health requirements in place at the time.



.a Seek input from stakeholders on policy options by sharing the memorandum on the project webpage. Announce its availability and the opportunity to comment on social media, e-updates, and/or other formats as determined by the equity and inclusion consultant, DLCD, and City. Guidance may include suggested ways to provide



opportunities for participation by priority populations, such as places and formats to communicate with Tribal Nations, Spanish-speaking community members, and people with disabilities. See pages 7-9 for specific but preliminary ideas. Continue to be available by virtual appointment/office hours, phone, and e-mail as ways to remain accessible for comments and questions.

- **.b** Ensure partner agencies have opportunities for involvement early in this process and to the level desired (e.g., DLCD, Lane County, Springfield Utility Board, Willamalane Park and Recreation District).
- .3 (December 2022 January 2023): Discuss Goal 5 protection options at work sessions with appointed and elected officials with Goal 6 context for Water Quality Limited Watercourses in mind. Ensure public (including priority populations) is aware of options to attend Planning Commission and Council meetings. Obtain final direction from City Council on whether to proceed with assigning Standard and/or Safe Harbor Goal 5 protections to wetland and riparian resource sites.
- .4 Conduct ESEE analysis if and where deemed appropriate.
- .5 Draft new protections for significant wildlife habitat sites outside of wetland/riparian resource sites if and where deemed appropriate.
- .6 Draft amendments to the Springfield Development Code if and where deemed appropriate.

Products

- Technical Memorandum #3: Resource protection options identified with cross program relationships, and considered for decision
- Compiled set of outreach materials and/or written summary of tools and formats used for Task
 2.2 as appropriate with priority populations in mind
- Technical Memorandum #4 (contingent/pending results of direction from community engagement and work sessions): ESEE analysis, which will include anticipated impacts to and outcomes of priority populations in the project area
- Technical Memorandum #5: (contingent/pending results of initial wildlife habitat inventory sources and whether those habitats are limited to proposed riparian and wetland protection boundaries within the expansion areas): Wildlife Habitat Analysis
- Draft Code Amendments (contingent/pending results of direction from community engagement and work sessions)

Timeline

April 2022 - March 2023

Grant Budget \$23,420

TASK 3: UPDATE THE SPRINGFIELD NATURAL RESOURCES STUDY

Subtasks/Task Elements

- .1 Amend the Springfield Natural Resources Study to:
 - .a Convert resource site names to nomenclature used in the Study.
 - **.b** Update appendices (e.g., resource site descriptions, ESEE if applicable).
 - .c Update narrative in main body to document process, ESEE (if applicable), include new list of resource sites, define "high" and "moderate" quality wetlands, etc.

Products

Updated Springfield Natural Resources Study (Legislative Version)

Timeline January – April 2023

Grant Budget

\$5,500

TASK 4: PREPARE ADOPTION-READY PLAN AMENDMENT PACKAGE

This task to complete final draft products sets Springfield up to adopt Goal 5 and Goal 6 protections in a timely manner, with the goal being to begin the adoption process as soon as possible after May 31, 2023.

Subtasks/Task Elements

.1 Prepare draft staff report to include findings of fact; plan amendments with corresponding amendments on mapped products; and amendments to the Springfield Development Code if applicable to include the locally significant Goal 5 sites (wetland, riparian, and wildlife) and Goal 6 Water Quality Limited Watercourses in applicable City plans and/or policies.

Products

 Hearings-ready draft staff report, findings of fact, plan/map amendments, and (if applicable) code amendments

Timeline

April – May 2023

Grant Budget

\$3,600

TASK 5: EQUITY EVALUATION

Subtasks

- .1 Meet with the project team to hold a debrief focused on whether the outreach to priority populations and tools for participation were effective.
- .2 Prepare a written assessment reflecting thoughts shared at the meeting. Written assessment to include summary of outreach methods, observed outcomes, and how the City and its partners can learn from these outcomes to apply improved understandings to future work.

Products

 Written assessment: Post-project (at end of grant period) evaluation of participation by priority populations as detailed in Task 6.2

Timeline

June 2023 (to be delivered with closeout form)

Grant Budget

\$320



TASK 6: ADOPT PLAN AMENDMENTS

A follow-on task that will likely occur after May 31, 2023 will be for Springfield and Lane County to begin the process of co-adopting amendments associated with the project work (e.g., send notices of public hearings, hold work sessions and public hearings with Springfield and Lane County appointed and elected officials, etc.). The final, short-term outcome of the work will be an ordinance adopting the inventories, plan amendments to incorporate into the Springfield Natural Resources Study. amendments to the Springfield Development Code as applicable, and adoption of Water Quality Limited Watercourse protections.

Subtasks

.1 Prepare and send notice of public hearings.



- .2 Hold joint Work Session(s)/Public Hearing(s) with Springfield and Lane County Planning Commissions.
- .3 Revise plan amendments and findings of compliance with Statewide Planning Goals based on public input and Planning Commission action.
- .4 Hold joint Work Session(s)/Public Hearing(s) with Springfield City Council and Lane County Board 🔍 of Commissioners with updated staff reports and record.
- .5 Finalize plan amendments and findings based on Council direction and adopt ordinance.
- .6 Send notice of ordinance adoption.

Products

Ordinance adopting plan amendments to incorporate into the Springfield Natural Resources Study, amendments to the Springfield Development Code as applicable, and adoption of Water **Quality Limited Watercourse protections**

Timeline

Fall/winter 2023 (2024 if needed)

Grant Budget

\$0 (task to occur after grant project end date)

ONGOING TASK: PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Overall project management by the City includes oversight and administration of contracts, including:

Task Elements

- .1 Monitor work plan, budget, timeline
- .2 Prepare progress reports
- .3 Review invoicing and supporting materials
- .4 Regular check-ins with project team

Products

Progress reports

Timeline February 2022 – adoption

Grant Budget

\$0 (staff time incorporated into project tasks as in-kind)

ADDITIONAL EVALUATION CRITERIA

Grant Program Priorities

Promotes economic development (Priority 2): Starting in 2008, the City conducted a Commercial and Industrial Buildable Lands Inventory and Economic Opportunities Analysis with the objective of meeting the Springfield's employment needs for the year 2030. As a result of this work, Springfield expanded its UGB to include large employment sites to support economic development in the City's targeted industries. Having just obtained acknowledgement of the Economic Element of Springfield's Comprehensive Plan and resulting UGB expansion-already halfway into the planning period, Springfield senses the urgency to expeditiously take the necessary steps to ready the expansion sites for annexation and ultimate development. One of the necessary steps to allow for eventual urbanization of the large employment sites is the update of Springfield's Natural Resources Study to map the resource areas, determine significance, and adopt a list of significant resource sites as part of the comprehensive plan. The property owners in the North Gateway area are particularly anxious to move forward. This area is proximate to other key employers including Sacred Heart Medical Center at Riverbend, PacificSource, and Wayfair, and is one of the busiest business districts in the city and region, with numerous hotels, restaurants, retail centers, and a regional Bus Rapid Transit line to serve it all. Findings from inventory work could inform candidate sites for wetland banking for capital projects to put public infrastructure in place (e.g., sewer) and can inform a priority transportation need in the area for future adoption of a street network. In the Mill Race area, interest in opportunities brought by the UGB expansion has already begun. One property owner presented a development vision for a business to the City in summer 2021.

The project furthers the City's economic development goals, particularly:

- EG-1 Broaden, improve and diversify the Springfield economy while maintaining or enhancing environmental quality and Springfield's natural heritage
- **EG-5a** Champion businesses and entrepreneurs that promote a healthy, safe, and clean community while enhancing, protecting, and making wise use of our natural resources
- **EG-7** Make development decision predictable, fair and cost-effective

Springfield's efforts are aligned with those of Lane County's. Springfield's proposed work ultimately supports achievement of one of Lane County's core missions: "to maintain, protect, and enhance the livability and sustainability of Lane County's natural and built environments," which complements the community and economic development initiatives in the Lane County Strategic Plan. This project calls attention to Lane County's vibrant community-based philosophy by giving businesses a lead on preliminary site planning with completed inventories, identification of compatible employment sites based on the sensitivity of natural resources, and resulting reduced development timelines.

The impact of natural resources on Springfield's local economy goes beyond identifying locally protected sites to ready employment land as an economic development tool. The recreational and educational aspects offered by wetlands, riparian areas, and other natural areas directly relate to economic development. These areas represent part of Springfield's unique identity. The more Springfield can do to preserve and celebrate its important natural spaces, the more residents and visitors can see these places as opportunities to have fun, relax, and enjoy unique scenery. Many of the wetlands units in the UGB expansion areas are located on publicly-owned properties. These natural resources also have potential to serve as amenities on some privately owned land. Wetlands and other waterways are also part of the City's green infrastructure system. Green infrastructure reduces up-front costs of built infrastructure and longer-term costs of maintaining such

infrastructure by providing similar functions. For example, wetlands can respond to storm events like storm sewers by absorbing and storing water to help prevent overflows in unwanted areas.

Addresses resilience to natural hazards and climate change (Priority 3): Given the presence of floodway and floodplain in the UGB expansion areas, sound decisions must occur to ensure that development is thoughtfully located for compatibility with natural resources; this approach will position Springfield as a resilient community that protects the health and safety of its residents and neighbors. The project's draft Local Wetlands Inventory identifies 70 acres of wetland area that are candidates for additional, local protection beyond what Springfield's Federal and State partners require. These wetlands have capacity to act like sponges by absorbing floodwater. An acre of wetland can store between 1 and 1.5 million gallons of flood event to unsafe levels or saving these gallons of water from threatening nearby structures by allowing them to soak into nearby wetlands can mean the difference between saving or losing lives and saving or depleting post-emergency recovery resources.

Beyond wetlands' potential to help minimize the devastating effects of flood emergencies, wetlands and other natural resources in the UGB expansion areas sustain life each day and combat other effects of climate change. The natural resources this project will become part of Springfield's "green infrastructure" system. Springfield's natural resources are appropriately termed "green infrastructure" because the infrastructure upon which Springfield will depend must not only make long-term financial sense by using "green" dollars wisely—it must make environmental sense by using green plants wisely. This project presents many opportunities to:

- Send cleaner water to the region's water management facility and to provide cleaner drinking water: Vegetation in and near wetlands and watercourses reduces erosion of areas along the bank and keeps sediment out of the water after a rain event (especially riparian areas). Wetlands act as filters/purifiers because they absorb and hold water before it soaks into the ground. Wetlands can remove as much as 90% of solids in water.
- Adapt to the changing conditions of weather patterns and retain wildlife habitats: Green infrastructure cleans and cools air, which are functions that will become increasingly important as wildfires and hotter periods become prevalent. Vegetation can dissipate ambient heat through evaporation. Retaining vegetative shade along waterways and retaining impervious surfaces can also keep surface temperatures low enough so aquatic life can thrive. Although wetlands only make up about 5% of the land surface in the contiguous United States, wetlands are home to about 30% of our nation's plant species. For animal species, the strips of land that follow watercourses can serve as critical travel corridors because they allow animals to move freely.

Updates a Comprehensive Plan or implementing code to respond to a change in State law or advance regulatory streamlining (Priority 5): The acknowledgement of Springfield's UGB expansion in March 2019 means the City can now address remaining requirements for enabling appropriate urbanization of the employment lands in the expansion areas (Grant Program Priority 1). Policy 47 of the Springfield Comprehensive Plan is an example of taking this action: prior to approval of a Plan amendment or zone change that allows urban development within the North Gateway or Mill Race District urbanizable lands, the Springfield Local Wetlands Inventory (LWI) must be updated in accordance with Statewide Planning Goal 5 and associated Administrative Rules. Thus, before any property within the UGB expansion areas become annexed and rezoned to allow for development of employment sites, the City needs an adopted LWI for those areas. Applicants will

need to show how plans for their properties comply with Statewide Planning Goals and meet the corresponding Springfield Development Code (SDC). This project allows Springfield to be proactive in making requirements known, as updates to Springfield's Natural Resources Study (an element of the Comprehensive Plan) and an update to Springfield's Water Quality Limited Watercourses Map will be implemented through the Development Code. Springfield's appointed and elected officials may choose to apply the current Goal 5 protection program represented in the Development Code, or a need might exist for Code updates. As the resource protections in the Code would apply throughout the UGB, any new Code language will be clear and objective as required for needed housing.

GRANTEE CAPACITY

The City of Springfield has a solid track record of grant management with elected leaders and a staff team whose work is motivated by and is grounded in the value of making positive contributions to places through partnerships and innovation. Springfield City staff work within a collaborative team structure across divisions and departments. The City's project team will include Environmental Services staff, Geographic Information Systems staff, a Public Information & Education Analyst, the City Attorney's Office, and Planning staff.

In Springfield, successful planning projects made possible by DLCD-funded grants include a(n):

- DLCD Technical Assistance Grant (2019-21). The work ahead is a functional, seamless continuation of the previously awarded Grant to conduct inventories and assessments of wetlands and riparian corridors of recent UGB expansion in Springfield (now with additional scope elements). Ms. Belson's and Ms. Sather's performance on that project as made possible by the rest of the team reflects the capability of Springfield to manage complex technical subcontracting, agile and comprehensive stakeholder outreach, interagency coordination, and policy evaluation. The team in place to continue in this work will remain largely, if not completely, in-tact. As such, the City is in a strong position to move quickly and efficiently through the project tasks outlined.
- Oregon Housing Planning Project Grant (2018) to inform the Springfield Development Code Update Project with in-depth analysis of opportunities for Springfield's needed housing types through regulation. Under this award, JET Planning (selected consultant) and Springfield focused on whether Springfield's existing development standards for residential uses provide clear and objective language for all housing options and identified significant regulatory barriers to development in the Development Code. The Code Update Project will result in a full re-write of the Development Code to facilitate quick review of applications, provide easy-to-understand language, support economic development, and encourage investment, among other goals. As a high priority of Planning Commission and Council, Springfield is currently engaging multiple stakeholders and committees.

The City's project manager for the project proposed for this 2021-23 cycle, Monica Sather, will continue in this capacity to ensure the timeliness and quality of communication and products. This team will remain successful under the direction of Sandy Belson, Interim Planning Manager, who throughout her career has secured and managed over 20 projects funded by Oregon State grants.

From 2009-2012, as project manager for the Siuslaw Estuary Partnership, Ms. Belson obtained broad support for watershed protection and restoration in this project largely funded by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This collaborative effort accounted for many interests in resolving conflicts and collaboratively finding solutions amongst the City of Florence, 18 government partners (federal, state, local, and Tribal), and various stakeholders. As part of that process, the City of Florence voluntarily developed and adopted a Local Wetlands and Riparian Inventory.



A portion of the grant funds is proposed to maximize local resources by working with LCOG on the project. As part of the project team, LCOG brings decades of mapping analysis (Geographic Information Systems) to inform sound decisions, long range and current planning experience, natural resources policy development, community engagement, and project management experience to the table—much of which has been implemented through DLCD and/or DSL grant programs and partnerships with federal agencies. In addition to working with communities in Lane, Douglas, and Coos Counties, LCOG has substantial knowledge of planning for natural resources in Springfield, including in 2011, when LCOG worked with the City and Pacific Habitat Services to complete wetland and riparian inventories and assessments in Glenwood.

Springfield also has substantial experience in executing other grant projects at the State level. Partnerships made possible with the support of DLCD's Transportation & Growth Management Program allowed Springfield to execute 10 grant projects in this capacity.

RST PRIORITIES

The project is consistent with the Regional Solutions Team priority to address development uncertainty and permit streamlining for sites containing wetlands as one way to ready employment land. Identifying the locations of locally significant wetlands, additional resource sites such as riparian sites, followed by defining their protection areas helps people invested in the local and regional community develop visions for development sites and gives applicants a clear picture to inform preparation of site plans that meet code and permit requirements. Accomplishing the prosperity envisioned by Statewide Planning Goal 9 with the needed Goal 5 work through this grant speaks to Oregon's legacy of planning for high quality natural and urban environments.

MULTIPLE JURISDICTIONS

Springfield recognizes that when public agencies can use information generated by a project and apply the information to benefit their work, the greater community is the ultimate recipient of these benefits. Springfield holds strong to the value of maximizing our resources through community partnerships. The City of Springfield is a member of TEAM Springfield. This four-agency partnership also includes the Springfield Utility Board (SUB), Springfield Public Schools, and the Willamalane Park and Recreation District. A unique aspect that Springfield brings to its role is to approach TEAM Springfield development projects with financial resources, intergovernmental agreements, and staff who are dedicated to resolving issues related to the protection and enhancement of natural resources while balancing development interests. Approximately two thirds of the UGB expansion areas are under various combinations of SUB, Willamalane, and City ownership. Much of the study area includes or is adjacent to waterways where utility service providers in Springfield and Willamalane have a stake in this planning process.

Willamalane and SUB, who both provided letters of support (Attachments D.2 and D.3), will need clarity about where the local natural resource protections resulting from the project apply and how protection requirements will affect their projects. Their involvement in the project so far provided opportunities for the City to explain current requirements, for the City and these agency partners to learn about how current and future projects overlap with potential future requirements, and has resulted in an intergovernmental agreement to support this project (executed summer 2020).

Willamalane operates two natural areas, three parks, and two multiuse paths within the UGB expansion areas. One of the natural areas—co-owned by Willamalane, SUB, and the City—is in the



midst of a master planning process. The information about wetlands, riparian resources, and wildlife gained from this Goal 5 work led by the City helped Willamalane prepare its <u>draft Master Plan</u>.

Specific to SUB's work, many of the properties within the expansion areas are above some of the region's most sensitive aquifers that SUB and the City collaborate on to protect to provide clean drinking water to Springfield and some of its neighbors. SUB also owns a water treatment facility and wellfields within the expansion areas. SUB's Willamette Wellfield in the southernmost expansion area is a 103-acre property which consists of 13 drinking water wells and a surface water treatment system which supplies approximately 40% of Springfield's drinking water.

Findings from completed wetland work so far for this project enabled LCOG and DSL to work with the US EPA under a federal grant to further scientific and practical understanding of much-needed, refined assessment tools for wetlands across Oregon.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

Project Partners

DLCD and DSL will continue to provide critical guidance and direction to the City, LCOG, and consultant on how to comply with the technical and legal requirements. DLCD's Regional Solutions Team may also continue to play an instrumental role in assisting the project team with framing technical content in an understandable, relatable way to inform conversations with the community. Lane County staff will continue to advise on how the City's efforts can best-align with Lane County's in preparation for additional County support during the co-adoption process. The project team will continue to seek information from the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife for species data.

Input from property owners, residents, and business owners in the project area and input from neighbors provided accurate information to the project team as it prepared its draft wetland and riparian inventories and assessments. Almost 50 members from the larger community also participated through a survey to help the project team accurately map and describe the inventoried resources and shared their perspectives on general approaches Springfield can take to protect the resources. Additional outreach and participation from community members will benefit upcoming project phases. The diagram on the next page reflects these partnerships and relationship to the center of what our partner agencies do to fulfill their missions: to serve the public.





Advisory Committees

The Planning Commission in its role as the Committee for Citizen Involvement approved a Community Engagement Plan for the project on April 21, 2020 and approved amendments on December 15, 2020. The project scope does not anticipate participation from an additional advisory committee.

Local Officials

Enclosed with this application are:

- Springfield Resolution: On September 20, 2021, the Springfield City Council passed Resolution 2021-33 reaffirming their support for the project and for this Grant Application (Attachment D.1).
- Letters of Support: the Willamalane Park and Recreation District and the Springfield Utility Board (TEAM Springfield partners) expressed their interests in seeing the project move forward (Attachments D.2 and D.3).

In fall 2019, the Lane County Board of Commissioners and Lane County's Community and Economic Development Manager expressed support for the project. The 2019-21 Technical Assistance Grant application for this project included their written statements of support. The associated documents are available upon request.

LEVERAGE & CONTRIBUTION

The estimated total cost of the project during the grant period is \$201,453. Springfield seeks \$79,945 in Technical Assistance grant funds to work toward project completion, which will enable payment to a consultant team with expertise in wildlife habitat assessments and other environmental subjects, staff support from LCOG, and materials to support community involvement (e.g., translation services). Attachments B.1 and B.2 provide a breakdown of cost contributions and requested schedule for grant payments. The estimated local, in-kind contribution is \$110,308 for staff services at Springfield and Lane County. Springfield has \$11,200 to contribute to the project for Fiscal Year 2022. To keep momentum on the project, some of these funds may go toward the consultant's work or LCOG's work on tasks before calendar year 2022. Any amount remaining can contribute as the City's financial match for the project elements that occur after execution of a Grant Agreement.

For the 2019-21 TA Grant cycle, the City contributed \$25,734 as financial match toward the project (\$2,000 higher than initially anticipated). The Springfield Utility Board also contributed \$13,554 toward consultants' completion of the initial Local Wetlands & Riparian Corridor Inventories/Assessments between summer 2020 and spring 2021. Substantial staff time from the City and Lane County allowed for continual progression and timely products to submit with progress reports to DLCD.

DLCD TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT APPLICATION (2021-23) NATURAL RESOURCE INVENTORIES & PROTECTIONS FOR SPRINGFIELD'S URBAN GROWTH BOUNDARY EXPANSION AREAS

PRODUCTREQUEST(IN-KIND STAFF SERVICES)CONTRIBUTION (CASH)*BU1Tech. Memo #1: Riparian Findings & Comparisons\$30,630\$14,043\$6,690\$52Tech. Memo #2: Upland Wildlife Habitat Findings\$16,385\$13,222\$0\$2	OTAL JDGET 52,453
1 Riparian Findings & Comparisons \$30,630 \$14,043 \$6,690 \$5 2 Tech. Memo #2: Upland Wildlife Habitat Findings \$16,385 \$13,222 \$0 \$2	-
2Upland Wildlife Habitat Findings\$16,385\$13,222\$0\$2	0.007
(Contingent Task)	29,607
Tech. Memo #3: \$4,200 \$8,315 \$4,510 \$1 Options \$4,200 \$8,315 \$4,510 \$1	6,025
Tools/Formats	38,355
Tech. Memo #4: \$4,500 \$7,370 \$0 \$1 5 ESEE Analysis (Contingent Task) \$4,500 \$7,370 \$0 \$1	1,870
Tech. Memo #5: Upland Wildlife	2,852
Draft Code7Amendments (Contingent Task)\$2,000\$9,442\$0\$1	1,442
Updated Springfield 8 Natural resources \$5,500 \$9,790 \$0 \$1 Study	5,290
9Adoption (Hearings) Ready Package\$3,600\$8,011\$0\$1	1,611
Priority Populations	1,948
TOTALS	
\$79,945 \$110,308 \$11,200 \$2	01,453

PRODUCT REQUEST SUMMARY

*NOTE: Springfield has \$11,200 to contribute to the project for Fiscal Year 2022. To keep momentum on the project, some of these funds may go toward consultants' or LCOG's work on tasks before calendar year 2022. Any amount remaining can contribute as the City's financial match for the project elements that occur after execution of a Grant Agreement. Local match is shown for tasks that will likely occur soonest.

ATTACHMENT B.2 DLCD TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT APPLICATION (2021-23) NATURAL RESOURCE INVENTORIES & PROTECTIONS FOR SPRINGFIELD'S URBAN GROWTH BOUNDARY EXPANSION AREAS

REQUESTED PAYMENT SCHEDULE

PAYMENT TIMING	AMOUNT	PRODUCTS			
Interim: September 2022	\$51,215	 Tech. Memo #1: Riparian Findings & Comparisons Tech. Memo #2: Upland Wildlife Habitat Findings (Contingent Task) Tech. Memo #3: Resource Protection Options 			
Final: June 2023	\$28,730	 Outreach & Summary of Tools/Formats Tech. Memo #4: ESEE Analysis (Contingent Task) Tech. Memo #5: Upland Wildlife Protection Analysis & Recommendations (Contingent Task) Draft Code Amendments (Contingent Task) Updated Springfield Natural Resources Study Adoption-Ready Materials Evaluation of Outreach & Engagement by Priority Populations 			

ATTACHMENT C DLCD TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT APPLICATION (2021-23) NATURAL RESOURCE INVENTORIES & PROTECTIONS FOR SPRINGFIELD'S URBAN GROWTH BOUNDARY EXPANSION AREAS

PROJECT TIMELINE

QUARTER	1	2	3	4	56	7	8
Task 1: Expand & Finalize Inventories	Qua	arte	ers	1-3			
Subtask .1: Finalize "standard" method for the riparian inventory/determine significance							
Subtask .2: Revise DSL LWI & riparian inventory document for consistency							
Subtask .3: Complete safe harbor wildlife habitat inventory							
Task 2: Identify Protections	Qu	arte	ers	2-5			
Subtask .1: Finalize policy/protections memo and create executive summary							
Subtask .2: Share findings of final memo with public and partner agencies							
Subtask .3: Get direction on Goal 5 protection options from appointed/elected officials							
Subtask .4: Conduct ESEE analysis if and where deemed appropriate							
Subtask .5: Draft new protections for significant wildlife habitat sites as necessary							
Subtask .6: Draft code amendments as necessary							
Task 3: Amend the Springfield Natural Resources Study	Qu	arte	ers	4-5			
Subtask .1: Convert resource site names to nomenclature used in the Study							
Subtask .2: Update appendices (e.g., resource site descriptions, ESEE if applicable)							
Task 4: Prepare Adoption-Ready Plan Amendment Package	Qu	arte	ers	4-5			
		arte					
Task 6: Adopt Plan Amendments	(Tin	nin	gТ	BD)		
Subtask .1: Prepare and send notice of public hearings							
Subtask .2: Hold joint work sessions/public hearings with City and County Planning Commissions							
Subtask .3: Revise plan amendments and findings based on feedback							
Subtask .4: Hold joint work sessions/public hearings with City Council and County Board of Commissioners							
Subtask .5: Finalize plan amendments and findings based on City Council direction and adopt ordinance							
Subtask .6: Send notice of adoption							
Ongoing Task: Project Management	Qua	arte	ers	1-B	eyo	nd	
Subtask .1: Monitor work plan, budget, and timeline							
Subtask .2: Prepare progress reports							
Subtask .3: Review invoicing and supporting materials							
Subtask .4: Regular check-ins with project team							

CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, OREGON RESOLUTION NO. 2021-33

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A GRANT APPLICATION SEEKING PLANNING ASSISTANCE FROM THE OREGON DEPARTMENT OF LAND CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT TO UPDATE THE SPRINGFIELD NATURAL RESOURCES STUDY AND ADOPT WATER QUALTIY LIMITED WATERCOURSES FOR SPRINGFIELD'S URBAN GROWTH BOUNDARY EXPANSION AREAS

WHEREAS, the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) offers planning assistance through its Technical Assistance Grant Program for the 2021-2023 biennium;

WHEREAS, Technical Assistance Grants are competitive, merit-based grants that support completion of significant local planning projects, including updates to comprehensive plans and implementing regulations for land use topics related to housing, growth management, economic development, natural resources, emergency resilience, and infrastructure;

WHEREAS, LCDC acknowledged Springfield's urban growth boundary (UGB) expansion in March 2019;

WHEREAS, such acknowledgement enabled the City to begin addressing priority actions on its planning work program for establishing an appropriate development framework in Springfield's UGB expansion areas;

WHEREAS, the UGB expansion areas are planned for sites that offer opportunities for job creation and contain public assets such as parks, utilities, and natural resources;

WHEREAS, accurate information is necessary to define the development framework for employment and public lands and to provide certainty to development in a way that also makes wise use of green infrastructure for a clean, safe, and healthy community;

WHEREAS, identifying the locations and values of Springfield's natural resources helps accomplish these objectives;

WHEREAS, identifying and protecting Springfield's natural resources within its UGB expansion areas involves an update to the Springfield Natural Resources for wetlands, riparian corridors, and wildlife and involves applying protections to Water Quality Limited Watercourses; and,

WHEREAS, planning assistance from DLCD could, in part, provide Technical Assistance Grant funding necessary to update the Springfield Natural Resources Study and incorporate Water Quality Limited Watercourses into Springfield's UGB expansion areas;

WHEREAS, financial match contributions by Technical Assistance Grant applicants is a discretionary element of the Technical Assistance Grant application; and,

WHEREAS, the funds approved for this work in the City's Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) Budget are available to support the project,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD:

<u>Section 1</u>: The City Council supports continuing to define appropriate protections for

wetlands, riparian corridors, and wildlife as part of updating the Springfield Natural Resources Study pursuant to Oregon Statewide Planning Goal 5 and supports work needed to apply protections for Springfield's Water Quality Limited Watercourses in its UGB expansion areas.

<u>Section 2</u>: The Development and Public Works Community Development Division Director or designee is authorized to apply for DLCD Technical Assistance Grant funds to help fund the work described in Section 1.

<u>Section 3</u>: The City is able to participate financially toward the project as reflected in the adopted FY22 Budget.

<u>Section 4</u>: This Resolution will take effect upon adoption by the Council.

ADOPTED by the Common Council of the City of Springfield this 20th day of September 2021, by a vote of 6 for and 0 against.

ATTEST:

City Recorder

REVIEWED & APPROVED AS TO FORM

Mary Bridget Smith DATE: September 30, 2021 SPRINGFIELD CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE October 1, 2021

Gordon Howard, Community Services Division Manager Department of Land Conservation and Development 635 Capitol Street NE, Suite 150 Salem, OR 97301

Dear Mr. Howard,

On behalf of Springfield Utility Board (SUB) staff and in my capacity as General Manager, please accept this letter as SUB's continued support for Springfield's effort to protect our community's natural resources. SUB shares this value as, together, we ultimately strive to provide exceptional service to the public now and for years to come. SUB works with the City on multiple fronts, and one area of focus is to protect the quality of Springfield's water.

2020 was no exception. Last year, SUB contributed funds toward consultants' completion of the inventories and assessments of the wetlands and riparian corridors in Springfield's urban growth boundary (UGB) expansion areas. We have seen the progress on the project for that phase and have appreciated the City's updates and answers to our questions along the way.

The UGB expansion areas are of particular interest to SUB for reasons of our ability to provide equipment and facilities to treat water and of our ability to protect water at the outset. SUB owns nearly 200 acres in the Mill Race expansion area, which does not include a property that is currently jointly owned by SUB, the Willamalane Park and Recreation District, and the City. SUB's exclusively owned properties include the existing Willamette Wellfield, treatment and corrosion control facilities, outdoor pipe storage, and indoor equipment storage. The Willamette Wellfield currently accounts for 40% of SUB's water supply, and we expect that percentage to increase.

As SUB grows, both to meet demand and to address regulatory requirements, we anticipate a need for additional facilities in the UGB expansion areas. We plan to use our developed and undeveloped properties for the full range of uses needed to collect, treat, and distribute drinking water. The UGB expansion to include our properties was a welcome tool to allow SUB and the City to work together to meet urban levels of service.

The preliminary findings of the draft inventories and assessments submitted to the State earlier this year show wetland and riparian resource sites within our properties. Understanding where and how certain development requirements apply in and near Springfield's significant natural resources will give the needed clarity to SUB when we scope projects that provide high quality drinking water while enabling SUB to deliver cost effective services to our customers.

Regarding source-based protections, the Mill Race and North Gateway expansion areas are within Springfield's most sensitive sections of Springfield's Wellhead Protection Area (WHPA), where contamination of the aquifers is of highest risk. Future development of employment lands within the UGB expansion areas and WHPA would present a major change to the landscape that surrounds our drinking water resources. When stormwater infiltrates, it can carry a load of

contaminants with it. Springfield's proposed project will serve us well to ensure Springfield's wetland assets continue to have capacity to filter pollutants from stormwater discharge.

Quality and quantity go hand-in-hand when it comes to protecting the supply of our drinking water. Springfield's wells are replenished by precipitation that percolates through the ground into aquifers. The UGB expansion areas are all in critical recharge areas for Springfield's wells. When land surfaces convert from pervious to impervious, precipitation has less opportunity to infiltrate, thereby reducing the amount of water that reaches the aquifer.

We look forward to the City making strides toward completion of one of its priority natural resource projects. Thank you for your consideration to award Springfield a Technical Assistance Grant as a foundation for an environmentally, equitably, and economically bright future our community can count on.

Sincerely,

Jeff Nelson, General Manager Springfield Utility Board



October 1, 2021

Gordon Howard, Community Services Division Manager Department of Land Conservation and Development 635 Capitol Street NE, Suite 150 Salem, OR 97301

Dear Mr. Howard:

The work made possible through a Technical Assistance grant award to the City of Springfield for its natural resource work in Springfield's urban growth Boundary (UGB) expansion areas will continue to embody the longstanding partnership between the Willamalane Park and Recreation District and the City. Our related missions work to improve the environmental, socioeconomic, and physical health of our community and visitors, upon which all our livelihoods all depend.

Willamalane's projects on the horizon in the UGB expansion areas span from restoration and enhancement of natural spaces to constructed facilities. Information about Springfield's significant natural resources will allow us to plan better for our parks. Specifically, an understanding of where projects can be compatibly sited affords opportunities for us to gain efficiencies in project development and allows for more transparent, accurate, and effective engagement with our community.

This approach to collaboration and knowledge sharing based on Springfield's project has already been put into practice. The knowledge we gained from some key project milestones brought important conversations to the table throughout the past year. We were able to use findings from the draft Local Wetlands and Riparian Corridor Inventories and Assessments and apply them to our Master Plan for the Georgia Pacific Natural Area, which is located in the Mill Race UGB expansion area. The Master Plan identifies recreational and ecosystem-based needs, interests, goals, and actions for this 120-acre property, which is currently co-owned by Willamalane, the Springfield Utility Board, and the City.

Beyond the Georgia Pacific Natural Area, Willamalane is committed to creating and promoting inclusion across all public spaces, places, facilities, and programs that the district manages. Our mission is to: "Deliver exceptional parks and recreation to enrich the lives of everyone we serve." They must be equalizers that welcome and serve all regardless of income, race, or age. Accordingly, we have taken action for a district-wide diversity, equity, and inclusion strategy to ensure that everyone can fully enjoy our existing and future public places.

Willamalane must understand how we can best address barriers and provide opportunities, and with knowledge of where we can provide certain improvements based on the natural resources Springfield should protect. The requested funding will facilitate understanding of our properties in Springfield's UGB expansion areas. Please accept this letter as strong support for Springfield's important mutually-beneficial project and consider investing in Springfield.

Best regards,

EnMadans

Eric Adams Parks, Planning & Facilities Director willamalane Park and Recreation District