



The data and online mapping tool required as part of HB 2918 can be viewed at:
https://tools.oregonexplorer.info/OE HtmlViewer/index.html?viewer=surplus_lands

HB 2918 Legislative Context

In 2021, the Oregon Legislature passed HB 2918, requiring that all Oregon city and county governments prepare and submit an inventory of surplus real property owned by the local government that is located inside an urban growth boundary or located in an area zoned for rural residential use. The bill directs the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) to develop and implement an electronic system for receiving and displaying a statewide inventory of city and county surplus lands.

The intent of HB 2918 is to 1) increase local government transparency, 2) establish a centralized and comprehensive inventory of public-owned surplus lands, and 3) more easily facilitate the creation of public-private partnerships that reduce the cost of development, particularly the cost necessary to acquire land for the development of publicly-supported housing.

A total of \$68,000 was appropriated to DLCD to facilitate the creation and maintenance of the database and map. DLCD is also required to submit a report to the Legislative Assembly summarizing the results of the inventory collection by February 1 of every even-numbered year.

Other provisions of the legislation established new processes related to how local governments advertise and consider a proposal for lands that are no longer suitable or needed for the duties and responsibilities of the government entity. These provisions are not the subject of this report.

Project Development

Implementation of this legislation consists of three major elements:

1. Database scoping, creation, and development, including stakeholder engagement,
2. Database rollout and data collection, and
3. Data geolocating, analysis, and publishing.

Database Scoping, Creation, and Development

To inform DLCD's approach to this work, the department formed a Working Group comprised of various local and state government officials, affordable housing developers, and land use advocates. The purpose of the Working Group was to advise DLCD on how to best create a functional and effective surplus land reporting system. The Working Group met once over Zoom and held two other "email meetings" to review and discuss specific elements of the surplus land inventory framework and database tool. Primary input offered by the Working Group included:

- Streamline the data entry process as to not overburden local government staff who are already overcapacity;
- Incorporate the data entry tool into DLCD's existing *Housing Portal* dashboard;
- Allow local governments to update and edit database entries in real-time; and
- Roll out a "Version 1.0" of the surplus lands inventory now and work towards additional features and functionality in future versions as local governments get more comfortable with the tool.

In addition to advice from Working Group stakeholders, DLCD contracted with the Institute of Natural Resources (INR) at Oregon State University, which creates and maintains several other DLCD online mapping dashboards. INR staff were part of the core project management team and supported the development of the inventory mapping tool.

The Working Group and the project team established a series of data attributes to incorporate into the data collection tool:

1. Lot/Parcel Description,
2. Location including address, tax lot ID, or latitude and longitude coordinates,
3. Lot/Parcel Size in acres,
4. Local Zoning Designation, and



5. Site Constraints including floodplains, limited access, steep slopes, natural resources, or existing development.

Database Rollout and Data Collection

On December 1, 2021, DLCD sent an email to all cities and counties informing them that the Surplus Lands Inventory was ready for entries. To complete the submittal requirement, local government staff must register or log in to their *Housing Portal* account and complete the 2022 Surplus Lands Inventory entry form. Local governments had until January 1, 2022, to complete the entry. However, DLCD did not close the entry dashboard and will continue to accept entries or updates to previously submitted entries over time.

In addition to emails directly from DLCD, the League of Oregon Cities, the Association of Oregon Counties, and the Oregon Public Property Management Association sent notices of the inventory submittal deadline to their members.

Data Geolocating, Analysis, and Publishing

On January 4, 2022, DLCD conducted a preliminary data scrape to begin geolocation and clean-up of the inventory before transferring the data to INR. Utilizing the Oregon Explorer ArcGIS Online Mapping Tool, INR mapped the data and added several map data layers including jurisdictional boundaries, urban growth boundaries, enterprise zones, and natural hazards. The map is readily available online using the link at the beginning of this report.

On January 25, 2022, DLCD and INR pulled a snapshot of the submitted data for the purposes of this report and to conduct analysis. In total, 78 of the 241 Oregon cities and 15 of the 36 counties submitted entries in the database – a 34% response rate.

These 93 local governments submitted a total of 537 entries – an average of 5.7 entries per submitting jurisdiction. The three local governments that submitted the most entries were Clackamas County (174), Lincoln City (115), and Columbia County (70).

Many local governments indicated that they do not own any surplus lands. A total of 54 local governments submitted Housing Portal entries indicating no surplus lands – nearly 60% of all submitting jurisdictions.

Recommendations for Future Versions of the Surplus Lands Inventory

The first version of the Surplus Lands Inventory was streamlined to ensure local governments and DLCD could meet the deadlines set forth by the Legislature. Future versions of the Inventory will include additional features and tools that make it more useful and informative.

During each phase of the Surplus Lands Inventory project rollout, DLCD received suggestions and feedback on how to improve the process, the data collection system, and the inventory.

Better Process for Designating Land as Surplus

There is no standard process or definition of what it means for real property to be classified as “surplus”. As a result, many local governments have not established a process of their own. This resulted in most local governments submitting no surplus land entries. Working Group members recommended that prior to the next database entry due on January 1, 2024, DLCD publish a guidance document outlining a uniform process for how local governments determine which lands are surplus. This may lead to increased inventory entries.

More Database and Mapping Integration

These features include creating a web service interface that will allow local governments and DLCD to edit and map data seamlessly without the need for slow and inefficient data transfers.

Additionally, the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) hosts several statewide surplus lands databases for other state departments and entities. DAS has confirmed that future integration of the Local Government Surplus Lands Inventory into the statewide mapping system is possible. This would increase public visibility of the inventory.