



# REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

## RURAL TRANSPORTATION EQUITY



The State of Oregon is offering a new service to support rural communities with funding that the legislature added to the 2021-2023 budget for the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD).

Targeted community outreach aims to identify opportunities to provide transportation options, such as biking, walking, and transit, in alignment with upcoming and available transportation grant funding programs administered by state and federal partners. Successful applicants will seek engagement opportunities with hard-to-reach populations and strategically prioritize projects that enhance access to transportation options and resources by all community members.

### Eligible Communities

Communities that may apply and/or be served by this program are both:

- Under 20,000 in population, and
- Outside Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) boundaries

### Available Services

Communities may request support for one, or a combination, of the following:

- **Engaging Underserved Communities in Rural Areas**  
Technical assistance to engage transportation-disadvantaged, and/or traditionally-underserved populations in transportation planning efforts, focused on transportation options. Outreach and engagement activities will be developed with the community, along with training materials and replicable strategies for future best practice engagement.
- **Strategic Investment Planning Support**  
Technical assistance to prioritize and provide project-level analysis to projects that align with state and federal funding streams such as Safe Routes to School, Oregon Paths Program, Transportation Innovation grants, and other (bicycle, pedestrian, and transit) opportunities. Plan documents will include profile(s) of underserved communities; inventory gaps in bicycle, walking, and transit networks; a prioritized project list; and select project “packages” for communities’ application to competitive funding opportunities.

### Project Identification Criteria

Engagement and planning projects will be selected based on the following criteria:

- **Project readiness:** Expressed community support, dovetail with an ongoing project, ability to complete prior to June 30, 2023.
- **Presence of Transportation Disadvantaged populations:** Census data, ODOT [Active Transportation Needs Inventory](#) score, legacy population.
- **Interest and compatibility with emergent funding streams:** Safe Routes to School, Oregon Paths Program, Federal Land Access Program, Transportation Options and Innovation Grants, among other state and federal transportation funding opportunities.

Please complete the next page to express interest. DLCD Staff will respond to interested parties to develop concepts and award grant funds, as capacity allows. Thank you for considering this pilot opportunity!

For more information, please contact Madeline Phillips: (503) 507-5167; [madeline.phillips@dlcd.oregon.gov](mailto:madeline.phillips@dlcd.oregon.gov)



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Please submit this Request for Assistance by **June 1, 2022** to DLCD by email to [madeline.phillips@dlcd.oregon.gov](mailto:madeline.phillips@dlcd.oregon.gov)

### REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE: Rural Transportation Equity Project

**Applicant:** (Name)

- City:
- County:
- Tribal Nation:
- Council of Government:
- Other Special District:

**On behalf of these eligible cities:**

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**Contact Person** (Name and Title):

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**Contact phone number:**

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**Contact e-mail address:**

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**Service(s) of Interest:** (Select all that apply)

- Engaging Underserved Communities in Rural Areas for transportation options
- Rural Strategic Investment Planning Support

**Preferred Approach:** (select one)

- Grant (Project to be completed by applicant's staff or local procurement, reimbursement)
- Project consultant(s) provided by DLCD, as resources allow.

**Brief Project Proposal:** (Please include key population information, modal challenges, and context, as available – 500-word limit recommended):

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Signature of local governing body representative

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Date

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Title