

# TGM 2019 Grant Application

Transportation and Growth Management Program grant application for the year 2019.

Be sure to download and review the [2019 application packet](#) before filling out this grant application. Additional resources and examples of successful applications can be found on the [TGM planning grants page](#).

*You can save your progress by clicking the "Save" button at the bottom of the form.*

**Type of grant**

Category 1: Transportation System Planning

**ODOT region (1-5):**

4

**Primary applicant jurisdiction:**

Wasco County

**Project title:**

Wasco County Transit Development Plan

**Mailing address:**

511 Washington Street, Suite 101, The Dalles, Oregon 97058

**Contact person name:**

Tyler Stone

**Contact person title:**

County Administrator

**Contact phone:**

(541) 506-2552

**Contact email:**

tylers@co.wasco.or.us

**List other local jurisdictions providing match:****Summary description of project:**

Wasco County has not yet benefited from the short- and long-term strategic guidance of a Transit Development Plan. In February 2018, transit operations in Wasco County with the LINK Transportation Network transitioned to Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD). With increased transit funding through House Bill 2017, Wasco County and MCEDD seek to create a full Transit Development Plan with expected outcomes including: 1) a comprehensive outreach process that offers community input on mobility needs and issues; 2) an existing conditions report including factors that impact mobility and transit use in Wasco County; 3) an operational and capital plan that meets identified needs and gaps; 4) a detailed financial and implementation plan that offers a viable and sustainable blueprint for the next 20 years. The outcomes will consider coordination with other transit providers in the Gorge in recognition of our important regional connections.

## Project cost table

### TGM funds requested

Consultant:

\$ **Consultant**  
125,000

Local reimbursement:

\$ **Local Reimbursement**

**Total TGM funds requested**

**\$ Total TGM Funds Requested**  
125,000

## Local match

**12% minimum (calculated)**

**\$ 12% Minimum**  
17,045

## Match to be provided

Labor, supplies and services during project:

**\$ Labor, supplies and services during project**

Payment when Intergovernmental Agreement is signed:

**\$ Check at time of IGA signing**  
20,000

### Certifications

This application was prepared by staff of the primary applicant or staff of one of the involved jurisdictions.

**Consultant name (if applicable):**

### Untitled

By checking this box, I certify that my organization listed above supports the proposed project, has the legal authority to pledge matching funds, and has the legal authority to apply for Transportation and Growth Management funds. I further certify that matching funds are available or will be available for the proposed project. I understand that all State of Oregon rules for contracting, auditing, underwriting (where applicable), and payment will apply to this project.

### Date

6/5/2019

## Eligibility requirements

The following three eligibility requirements are reviewed on a pass/fail basis. Applications found to not meet each of these requirements will not be scored against the award criteria and will not be awarded a grant.

### 1. Clear transportation relationship

A proposed project must have a clear transportation relationship and produce transportation benefits. A project must entail analysis, evaluation and selection of alternatives, development of implementation actions, and public involvement that results in a long range transportation plan, land use plan, or other product that addresses a transportation problem, need, opportunity, or issue of local or regional importance.

#### 1. Clear Transportation Relationship

The project would result in a Transit Development Plan for Wasco County that would produce the transportation benefits of laying out an operational and capital plan, financial and implementation plan for the next 20 years of transit. This work would be accomplished by consultants who would incorporate comprehensive community outreach on mobility needs and issues and analyze alternative scenarios to determine the most viable and sustainable plan for transit to fully serve the transit needs of Wasco County through 2040.

## **2. Adoption of products to meet project objectives**

A proposed project must include preparation of an adoption-ready product or products that lead to a local policy decision and that directly address the project objectives, such as a transportation system plan, comprehensive plan amendment, land use plan, code amendment, implementation program, or intergovernmental agreement. Projects are expected to include adoption hearings (or equivalent) by the governing body or to prepare products which will be adopted as part of a larger project.

### **2. Adoption of Products to Meet Project Objectives**

This project will provide Wasco County and MCEDD with a Transit Development Plan that will be adopted at public hearings to guide the development of the transit system and services throughout Wasco County. The implementation program will be overseen by MCEDD as operator of the LINK Transportation Network, with policies, goals, objectives and recommended improvements for LINK management, operations and capital. In addition, Wasco County and MCEDD will encourage partners including the City of The Dalles (and where necessary or appropriate other jurisdictions outside of Wasco County) to adopt the Transit Development Plan into their respective transportation system plans and, if applicable, include any proposed on-street capital improvements in local budgets or capital improvement plans.

## **3. Support of local officials**

A proposed project must clearly demonstrate that local officials, both the primary applicant and any co-applicants, understand the purpose of the grant application and support the project objectives. A resolution of support, meeting minutes, or authorized letter from the governing body of all applicants (e.g. City Council, Board of Commissioners, or Transit Board) must be submitted with the application to meet this requirement.

**Upload your resolution, minutes or authorized letter from governing body of applying jurisdiction(s) here:**  
WascoCo LOS.pdf

## **Award criteria**

Applications will be scored on the following criteria. Instructions for responding to these criteria can be found in the [application packet](#).

TGM may award up to 10 bonus points for innovation.

### **1. Proposed project addresses a need and supports TGM objectives (up to 40 points)**

The project clearly and effectively addresses a local or regional transportation or transportation-related land use issue, problem, need, or opportunity and will achieve one or more of the TGM objectives.

### **1. Proposed project addresses a need and supports TGM objectives (up to 40 points)**

The purpose of the project is to develop a Wasco County Transit Development Plan for the next 20 years, including: 1) a comprehensive outreach process that offers community input on mobility needs and issues; 2) an existing conditions report including factors that impact mobility and transit use in Wasco County; 3) an operational and capital plan that meets identified needs and gaps; 4) a detailed financial and implementation plan that offers a viable and sustainable blueprint through 2040. The outcomes will consider coordination with other transit providers in the Gorge in recognition of our important regional connections.

With increased transit funding through House Bill 2017 and increased transit options from regional providers connecting into Wasco County, development of a full Transit Development Plan presents an important opportunity to set a clear direction for the future of transit in Wasco County.

The specific TGM Objectives that will be achieved by this project include:

1. Provide transportation choices to support communities with the balanced and interconnected transportation networks necessary for mobility, equity, and economic growth.

1.1 A balanced, interconnected, and safe transportation system that provides a variety of transportation options and supports land uses. \*\*Response: A TDP will allow for Wasco County to improve the interconnectedness of transit options in the County and beyond.\*\*

1.2 Appropriately sited, designed, and managed local, regional, and state transportation facilities and services that support the movement of goods and provide for services. \*\*Response: A TDP will guide future siting, design and management of transit facilities (bus stops, routes, vehicle facilities, etc.) as well as transit services (hours, vehicles, etc.) to ensure they are appropriate based on an analysis of future needs.\*\*

1.3 Mobility choices for underserved communities and those with limited options. \*\*Response: A TDP will analyze the mobility needs of underserved communities in Wasco County and result in an implementation plan to increase their options.\*\*

1.4 Safe and convenient walking, biking, and public transportation opportunities to support a healthy, active lifestyle. \*\*Response: A TDP will include analysis of the needs and opportunities to better serve transit users with bike racks and routes to key destinations that improve health.\*\*

4 Save public and private costs with compact land uses and well-connected transportation patterns.

4.2 Future transportation needs accommodated within the existing or improved system, thus minimizing, delaying, or providing an alternative to constructing additional major infrastructure projects. \*\*Response: A TDP will result in a more useful transit system for the future of Wasco County. This will result in increased ridership, lowering the number of personal vehicles on the road and helping to create an alternative to major infrastructure projects such as wider roads and more parking lots or structures.\*\*

5 Promote environmental stewardship through sustainable land use and transportation planning.

5.1 Transportation systems and land use patterns that protect valuable natural resources, promote energy efficiency, and reduce emissions of air pollution and greenhouse gases. \*\*Response: A TDP will result in a well-designed transit system in Wasco County that will encourage additional riders over time. More riders mean fewer personal vehicles on the road, thereby reducing emissions of air pollution and greenhouse gases. Additionally, the TDP will evaluate the future of an electric vehicle transit fleet for Wasco County, resulting in a possible greater reduction in air pollution and greenhouse gases.\*\*

### **2. Proposed project is timely and urgent (up to 25 points)**

The application demonstrates timeliness and urgency. The project is needed now to:

- address pressing local transportation and land use issues
- make amendments to local plans or regulations necessitated by changes in federal regulations, state requirements, or regional plans
- make amendments to local plans or regulations necessitated by changes that were not anticipated in previous plans including growth or lack of growth, changes in land use patterns, or changes in available funding
- build on, complement, or take a necessary step toward completing or implementing other high-priority community initiatives, including supporting a Governor's Regional Solutions team priority
- resolve transportation or land-use-related issues affecting the project readiness of local, regional or state transportation projects for which funding is expected to be obligated within the near future.

## **2. Proposed project is timely and urgent (up to 25 points)**

Wasco County has not yet benefited from a Transit Development Plan (TDP). The City of The Dalles completed a Transit Feasibility Study as part of its 2016 Transportation System Plan update. This city-only plan has already proved useful in receiving grant funding for a deviated fixed route in The Dalles that was just launched in April 2019. A Wasco County TDP would draw on the background research in this Feasibility Study, but expand the focus to the entirety of Wasco County with a fully-developed operations, capital, financial and implementation plan for transit through 2040.

Additionally, there have been numerous changes to public transit reaching into Wasco County since The Dalles' 2016 Transit Feasibility Study. These include:

- Operation of the LINK Transportation Network transferring to MCEDD in February 2018.
- Approval of House Bill 2017 which results in large increases in transit funding to Wasco County.
- Increased fixed route services to The Dalles from Columbia Area Transit (Hood River County) and Mount Adams Transportation District (Klickitat County), providing opportunities to tie into a strong, larger regional system.

A TDP would assist in creating a strong vision and goals for transit in Wasco County, as well as building out the governance and administrative structure. The timing of the TDP would also fit well with the launch of the deviated fixed route in The Dalles noted above, by allowing MCEDD to assess and then build on the new service for longer-term transit opportunities and for routes reaching beyond The Dalles.

We also see the opportunities coming for smaller transit operations through new technologies, such as mobile ticketing, electric vehicles, and real-time transit information online, plus possibly autonomous vehicles in the future. A TDP will enable Wasco County transit providers to best plan for these opportunities.

## **3. Proposed project approach is reasonable (up to 20 points)**

The application demonstrates a clear approach to achieving the expected outcome and includes consideration for adoption. Where substantial coordination with other local, regional, and state planning efforts will need to occur, the mechanisms and responsibilities for the coordination are clear.

### **3. Proposed project approach is reasonable (up to 20 points)**

The following description of project tasks and timeline describe the work to be completed within this

project, pending scope negotiations. It also indicates the parties managing and completing each task, and the project's adoption process. Due to the limited time availability of staff, Wasco County and MCEDD will rely substantially on the collaborative work of a consultant for the majority of the work.

**Task 1: Inventory of existing services**

Months 1-2 of project. Coordinated and completed by MCEDD.

**Task 2: Review relevant established plans, goals, and policies from the below jurisdictions.**

Months 1-2 of project. Coordinated and completed by consultant.

- Wasco County
- Neighboring Counties: Hood River and Sherman in Oregon, Klickitat in Washington
- Wasco County Cities: The Dalles, Dufur, Maupin, Mosier, Antelope, Shaniko
- Adjacent Transit Service Providers: Columbia Area Transit, Mount Adams Transportation Service
- Non-Profits
- Private Transportation Providers

**Task 3: Research, analysis, needs**

Months 2-3 of project. Coordinated and completed by consultant with assistance from MCEDD.

- Demographics
- Economy
- Population
- Transit Dependent
- Limited English Proficiency (i.e. Spanish)

**Task 4: Public outreach**

Months 1-12 of project. Coordinated and completed by consultant with assistance from MCEDD.

Conducted early to gather input as well as public meetings to gather feedback on a draft plan prior to adoption.

- Wasco County Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund Advisory Committee
- Wasco County Special Transportation Fund Advisory Committee
- Focus Group with local jurisdictions
- Focus Group with transportation providers
- Public meetings (4-6 throughout the County)
- Focus Group or survey of Human Service Providers and/or elderly and disabled populations
- Focus Group (youth/ students)
- Focus Group (Limited English proficiency groups)
- Survey current riders
- Survey general public
- Survey other groups as needed

**Task 5: Outcomes/ benchmarks**

Months 3-5 of project. Coordinated and completed by consultant.

**Task 6: Gap analysis**

Months 4-6 of project. Coordinated and completed by consultant.

- Operating and service gaps
- Capital and infrastructure Needs

**Task 7: Coordination/ collaboration**

Months 5-7 of project. Coordinated and completed by consultant with assistance from MCEDD.

- Assess and examine relationships between the LINK Transportation Network, human service organizations, other Transportation providers, local jurisdictions within and adjacent to Wasco County.
- Provide recommendations for improving coordination, collaboration, IGA's, etc. to accomplish collective

goals and/or to resolve issues where goals may not be aligned

**Task 8: Vision and opportunities**

Months 7-9 of project. Coordinated and completed by consultant.

- Assess future ridership potential
- Future service recommendations
- Future transportation options
- Future connections between transit and recreational areas
- Future technologies

**Task 9: Land Use Development**

Months 9-10 of project. Coordinated and completed by consultant.

- Analyze development trends, growth opportunities
- Development mechanism for transit input into land use decisions (local, County, etc.)
- Develop examples of model language for local jurisdictions for decisions effecting transit or development having an impact on transit services

**Task 10: Develop Wasco County Transit Development Plan Document**

Months 6-12 of project. Coordinated and completed by consultant.

- 20-year vision based on a comprehensive analysis of current and future conditions in Wasco County that may affect transit
- Identify and prioritize recommendations based on public input, research, assessment etc.
- Develop operational and capital improvement plan that meets identified needs and gaps
- Develop detailed financial and implementation plan that includes short- and long-term projects, constrained and unconstrained financing

**Task 11: Presentation to Local Governments and Adoption**

Months 12-14 of project. Coordinated and completed by MCEDD with assistance of consultant.

- Presenting final draft to Wasco County Board of Commissioners and the Cities of The Dalles, Dufur, Maupin and Mosier for feedback
- Making changes to address needs of communities within the plan
- Presenting final plan to Wasco County Board of Commissioners for adoption

## **4. Proposed project has community support (up to 5 points)**

The application demonstrates that there is local support for project objectives, a commitment to participate, and a desire to implement the expected outcome.

### **4. Proposed project has community support (up to 5 points)**

The nine attached letters indicate local support for the project and its objectives and also outline each respondent's commitment to participate in the planning process and its outcomes.

**Upload letters of support from stakeholders here:**

CGCC Letter.pdf

Dufur\_LOS.pdf

GOBHI\_LOS.pdf

MCEDD\_LOS.pdf

Mosier TGM Letter of Support 2019.pdf

NWCPRD\_LOS.pdf

OC TGM Ltr of Support.pdf

TGM Letter of Support 2019\_Commute Options.pdf

TheDalles\_LOS.pdf

## **5. Proposed project sponsor readiness and capacity (up to 10 points)**

The application demonstrates that the local government is ready and able to begin the project within the TGM timetable and that there is local commitment and capability to manage and complete the project. The application demonstrates, if applicable, successful performance on previous TGM projects.

### **5. Proposed project sponsor readiness and capacity (up to 10 points)**

Wasco County will be working primarily with MCEDD, operator of the LINK, as the lead on this project. MCEDD has proven transit commitment and capability to manage this project through its years of mobility management in the region as leader of the Gorge TransLink, the regional alliance of transit providers. MCEDD Executive Director Amanda Hoey has successfully led large regional planning projects, such as development of several five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies for the five-county region during her 13 years with the organization. She will be assisted by Jessica Metta, MCEDD Deputy Director, who has also led regional planning initiatives in her 10 years with MCEDD and has a Masters' in land use planning. MCEDD staff, including work from Amanda and Jessica, have managed the last several three-year updates of the county-wide Coordinated Transportation Plans for Hood River, Sherman and Wasco Counties. MCEDD is confident in its capacity to manage this project and the consultant team that will be brought on to complete the work.

Upon receipt of this grant and using ODOT policies and procedures that meet state and federal requirements, MCEDD and Wasco County are prepared to commence public procurement for the consultant to complete the work and is confident the project can be completed by September 2021. MCEDD looks forward to working with TGM staff to select the project consultant that best fits our specific planning services.

MCEDD has never received a TGM grant. Wasco County received one that allowed for successful development of the Wasco County Transportation System Plan, adopted in November 2009.

## **Upload supplemental application materials**

**Project area map (optional):**

ProjectAreaMap.pdf

**Title VI: Racial & Ethnic Impact Statement form**

Racial-Ethnic-Impact-Statement\_WascoCo.pdf

[Download the Racial & Ethnic Impact Statement here](#)



**If you encounter any issues with the submittal process, please contact:**

Abigail Erickson  
Planning Section Web Coordinator  
[Abigail.ERICKSON@odot.state.or.us](mailto:Abigail.ERICKSON@odot.state.or.us)



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

511 Washington St, Ste. 101 • The Dalles, OR 97058  
p: [541] 506-2520 • f: [541] 506-2551 • [www.co.wasco.or.us](http://www.co.wasco.or.us)

***Pioneering pathways to prosperity.***

May 15, 2019  
Oregon Department of Transportation  
Transportation and Growth Management Program  
555 13th Street, Suite 2  
Salem, OR 97301

TGM Grants Committee:

The Wasco County Board of County Commissioners is in full support of Wasco County's application to the Transportation and Growth Management Program, in partnership with Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD), for grant assistance to develop a Wasco County Transit Development Plan. Wasco County will greatly benefit from the long-term guidance and short-term strategies that such a plan can provide.

In 2016, The Dalles Transportation System Plan included development of a Transit Feasibility Study for Wasco County's largest city, which was implemented in April 2019 with a new deviated fixed route. With this new route and increased transit funding through the Statewide Transportation Improvement Funds (STIF), Wasco County, in partnership with MCEDD, seeks to build off The Dalles Transit Feasibility Study to create a full county-wide Transit Development Plan, providing short- and long-term strategic guidance to transit providers in Wasco County for the provision of transit services, operational and capital expenditures, and coordination with Columbia Gorge regional transit providers over the next 20 years.

Wasco County's citizens would benefit from a comprehensive, county-wide Transit Development Plan as we move into a future of population growth with an increased elderly population. We also see this as an opportunity to bring in more partners and increase support for disabled and low-income populations through transit. For these reasons, as well as the technological advances that are coming to make transit more useful than ever, we fully support this proposal.

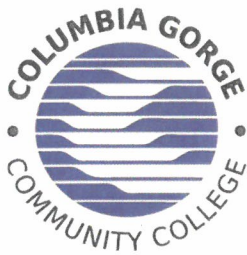
We are committed to assisting the development of this plan and will participate by providing input into the plan and engaging in community outreach. We also appreciate and respect the work of MCEDD in the region and welcome the opportunity to develop this plan together.

We authorize our staff to submit this application, to accept the award if approved, to sign all required documentation pertaining to the grant and to commit to providing cash and/or in-kind match as noted in the application if approved.

We fully support this grant application and urge your approval.

Sincerely,

Steven D. Kramer  
Commission Chair



## Columbia Gorge Community College

*building dreams, transforming lives*

June 5, 2019

Oregon Department of Transportation  
Transportation and Growth Management Program  
555 13th Street, Suite 2  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear TGM Grants Committee:

I am writing today to urge you to approve Wasco County's application to the Transportation and Growth Management Program for grant assistance to develop a Wasco County Transit Development Plan. Wasco County has never benefited from the long-term guidance and short-term strategies that such a plan can provide.

In 2016, The Dalles Transportation System Plan included development of a Transit Feasibility Study for Wasco County's largest city, which was implemented in April 2019 with a new deviated fixed route. With this new route and increased transit funding through the Statewide Transportation Improvement Funds (STIF), Wasco County, in partnership with Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD), seeks to build off The Dalles Transit Feasibility Study to create a full county-wide Transit Development Plan, providing short- and long-term strategic guidance to transit providers in Wasco County for the provision of transit services, operational and capital expenditures, and coordination with Columbia Gorge regional transit providers over the next 20 years.

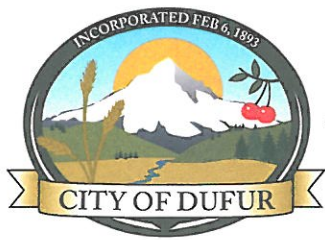
Lack of access to efficient, affordable public transportation is one of the continuing barriers to academic success identified by students at Columbia Gorge Community College. Implementation this spring of deviated fixed route service to The Dalles Campus was an important step forward; a county-wide transit development plan will guide future improvements, allowing more students to realize our college's mission of "Building dreams and transforming lives by providing lifelong educational opportunities for our community."

We are committed to assisting Wasco County, in partnership with MCEDD, in developing a Wasco County Transit Development Plan and will participate by providing statistical information and survey support, participating in community outreach, and helping reach target populations. We fully support the county's grant application and urge your approval.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marta Yera Cronin".

Dr. Marta Yera Cronin, President



PO Box 145  
Dufur, OR 97021

Office 541-467-2349  
Fax 541-467-2353  
dufurbcity@ortelco.net

June 5, 2019

Oregon Department of Transportation  
Transportation and Growth Management Program  
555 13th Street, Suite 2  
Salem, OR 97301

TGM Grants Committee:

I am writing today to urge you to approve Wasco County's application to the Transportation and Growth Management Program for grant assistance to develop a Wasco County Transit Development Plan. Wasco County has never benefited from the long-term guidance and short-term strategies that such a plan can provide.

In 2016, The Dalles Transportation System Plan included development of a Transit Feasibility Study for Wasco County's largest city, which was implemented in April 2019 with a new deviated fixed route. With this new route and increased transit funding through the Statewide Transportation Improvement Funds (STIF), Wasco County, in partnership with Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD), seeks to build off The Dalles Transit Feasibility Study to create a full county-wide Transit Development Plan, providing short- and long-term strategic guidance to transit providers in Wasco County for the provision of transit services, operational and capital expenditures, and coordination with Columbia Gorge regional transit providers over the next 20 years.

The City of Dufur would benefit from having this plan complete will allowing the possibility of extending the public transportation further out to help resident that either or not longer allowed to drive or low income families that may or may not have cars.

We are committed to assisting Wasco County, in partnership with MCEDD, with development of a Wasco County Transit Development Plan and will participate by helping provide community outreach as well hold public meetings as needed. We fully support their grant application and urge your approval.

Sincerely,

Merle A. Keys  
City of Dufur  
Mayor





May 28, 2019

Oregon Department of Transportation  
Transportation and Growth Management Program  
555 13th Street, Suite 2  
Salem, OR 97301

TGM Grants Committee:

I am writing today to urge you to approve Wasco County's application to the Transportation and Growth Management Program for grant assistance to develop a Wasco County Transit Development Plan. Wasco County has never benefited from the long-term guidance and short-term strategies that such a plan can provide.

In 2016, The Dalles Transportation System Plan included development of a Transit Feasibility Study for Wasco County's largest city, which was implemented in April 2019 with a new deviated fixed route. With this new route and increased transit funding through the Statewide Transportation Improvement Funds (STIF), Wasco County, in partnership with Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD), seeks to build off The Dalles Transit Feasibility Study to create a full county-wide Transit Development Plan, providing short- and long-term strategic guidance to transit providers in Wasco County for the provision of transit services, operational and capital expenditures, and coordination with Columbia Gorge regional transit providers over the next 20 years.

Greater Oregon Behavioral Health, Inc. (GOBHI) collaborates with MCEDD and The Link to provide Non-Emergent Medical Transportation in Wasco County. As our critical public transportation partner, we hope to see an expansion of public transportation services throughout rural Wasco County. Public Transportation provides access to many essential services including medical services, behavioral health services, fresh healthy food choices, social activities and physical recreation.

We are committed to assisting Wasco County, in partnership with MCEDD, with development of a Wasco County Transit Development Plan and will participate by providing input into the plan and helping identify and reach target population. We fully support their grant application and urge your approval.

Sincerely,

Kevin M. Campbell, CEO



May 8, 2019

Oregon Department of Transportation  
Transportation and Growth Management Program  
555 13th Street, Suite 2  
Salem, OR 97301

TGM Grants Committee:

Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD) is in full support of Wasco County's application to the Transportation and Growth Management Program for grant assistance to develop a Wasco County Transit Development Plan. Wasco County has never benefited from the long-term guidance and short-term strategies that such a plan can provide, and we look forward to working in partnership with Wasco County as the co-applicant to fill this need.

In 2016, The Dalles Transportation System Plan included development of a Transit Feasibility Study for Wasco County's largest city, which was implemented in April 2019 with a new deviated fixed route. With this new route and increased transit funding through the Statewide Transportation Improvement Funds (STIF), we seek to build off The Dalles Transit Feasibility Study to create a full Transit Development Plan, providing short- and long-term strategic guidance for the provision of transit services, operational and capital expenditures, and coordination with other transit providers in the Columbia Gorge region over the next 20 years.

As the operator of the LINK Transportation Network, the primary public transit service in Wasco County, MCEDD would benefit significantly from a comprehensive county-wide Transit Development Plan as we move into a future of population growth and especially an increased elderly population. We also see this as an opportunity to bring in more partners and increase support of disabled and low-income populations through transit. For these reasons, as well as to help us prepare for the technological advances that are coming to make transit more useful than ever, we fully support this proposal.

We are committed to assisting the development of this plan and will participate by providing staff to work closely with a consultant throughout plan preparation. We also appreciate and respect the work of Wasco County staff and elected officials and welcome the opportunity to develop this plan together.

We fully support this grant application and urge your approval.

Sincerely,



Amanda Hoey  
Executive Director

# CITY OF MOSIER

small enough to make a difference

June 5, 2019

Oregon Department of Transportation  
Transportation and Growth Management Program  
555 13th Street, Suite 2  
Salem, OR 97301

TGM Grants Committee:

I am writing in strong support of Wasco County's grant application to the Transportation and Growth Management Program for assistance in developing a Wasco County Transit Development Plan. Wasco County has never benefited from the long-term guidance and short-term strategies that such a plan can provide.

In 2016, The Dalles Transportation System Plan included development of a Transit Feasibility Study for Wasco County's largest city, which was implemented in April 2019 with a new deviated fixed route. With this new route and increased transit funding through the Statewide Transportation Improvement Funds (STIF), Wasco County, in partnership with Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD), seeks to build off The Dalles Transit Feasibility Study to create a full county-wide Transit Development Plan, providing short- and long-term strategic guidance to transit providers in Wasco County for the provision of transit services, operational and capital expenditures, and coordination with Columbia Gorge regional transit providers over the next 20 years.

In winter, the only passable road out of the Mosier Valley is Interstate 84. The small town of Mosier has no medical facilities, no gas station and no major grocery store. Many of Mosier's residents are elderly or retired and concerned about transportation to and from the destinations that provide their care. We also have many residents who are conservation minded citizens and would ride the bus or train to The Dalles, Hood River or Portland if public transit were more available. Also, with the freeway entrance just ¼ mile from Mosier's downtown and located halfway between The Dalles and Hood River, it seems only fitting that Wasco County be supported in developing a transit plan to more effectively serve rural communities like Mosier. I know there are many small rural towns like ours throughout the County that face the same issues.

Therefore, we are committed to assisting Wasco County, in partnership with MCEDD to develop a Wasco County Transit Development Plan and will participate by attending meetings, gathering local data and participating in community outreach in order to assist key rural populations. We wholeheartedly support MCEDD's grant application and urge your approval.

Sincerely,



Colleen Coleman  
City Manager

City of Mosier  
*"small enough to make a difference"*  
208 Washington Street / P.O. Box 456  
Mosier, OR 97040



May 8, 2019

Oregon Department of Transportation  
Transportation and Growth Management Program  
555 13th Street, Suite 2  
Salem, OR 97301

TGM Grants Committee:

Please accept this letter in support of Wasco County's application to the Transportation and Growth Management Program for grant assistance to develop a Wasco County Transit Development Plan. Wasco County has never benefited from the long-term guidance and short-term strategies that such a plan can provide.

The Northern Wasco County Parks & Recreation District (NWCPRD) would greatly benefit from a transit development/master plan for Wasco County. Public parks, trails, playgrounds, green spaces, and recreational sport facilities are necessary components of a diverse, vibrant, and economically healthy community. However, a lack of transportation prevents many of our community members from visiting our parks or participating in our programs. Comprehensive planning such as a Transit Development Plan would address the larger issues of connecting communities to essential services like ours over the next 20 years.

We are committed to assisting Wasco County, in partnership with MCEDD, with the development of a Wasco County Transit Development Plan and will participate by providing input and feedback on the plan details, assisting in community outreach, and will promote any community survey efforts to collect data to supply accurate results for the plan. We fully support their grant application and urge your approval.

Sincerely,

Scott Baker  
Executive Director





**Opportunity  
Connections**

Live•Work•Connect

June 5, 2019

Oregon Department of Transportation  
Transportation and Growth Management Program  
555 13th Street, Suite 2  
Salem, OR 97301

TGM Grants Committee:

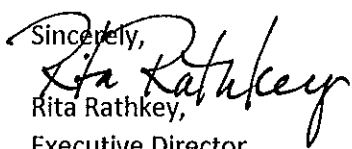
I am writing today to urge you to approve Wasco County's application to the Transportation and Growth Management Program for grant assistance to develop a Wasco County Transit Development Plan. Wasco County has never benefited from the long-term guidance and short-term strategies that such a plan can provide.

In 2016, The Dalles Transportation System Plan included development of a Transit Feasibility Study for Wasco County's largest city, which was implemented in April 2019 with a new deviated fixed route. With this new route and increased transit funding through the Statewide Transportation Improvement Funds (STIF), Wasco County, in partnership with Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD), seeks to build off The Dalles Transit Feasibility Study to create a full county-wide Transit Development Plan, providing short- and long-term strategic guidance to transit providers in Wasco County for the provision of transit services, operational and capital expenditures, and coordination with Columbia Gorge regional transit providers over the next 20 years.

Opportunity Connections (OC), as a private nonprofit, has been providing residential, employment, and community services to people with disabilities since 1967. Over the last five years we have focused on community access and employment with a person centered program. Our clients have many and varied goals. Community transportation has become all the more important and provides an element of independence and community integration that people with disabilities need to enhance their life style and reach their potential. Our staff and clients are very excited with the new deviated fixed route available in Wasco County. The increased mobility throughout the community allows the general public the opportunity to meet and gain a better understanding of people with disabilities. Planning for the future will assist not only our population to gain independence, but all of Wasco County to connect with the rest of Oregon.

We are committed to assisting Wasco County, in partnership with MCEDD, with development of a Wasco County Transit Development Plan and will participate by (enter specifics, such as providing input into the plan, participating in community outreach, helping reach target populations, etc.). We fully support their grant application and urge your approval.

Sincerely,

  
Rita Rathkey,  
Executive Director



May 8, 2019

Oregon Department of Transportation  
Transportation and Growth Management Program  
555 13th Street, Suite 2  
Salem, OR 97301

TGM Grants Committee:

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Commute Options has worked closely with MCEDD over the last few years. We promote transportation options. Securing the Transportation and Growth Management Program grant would benefit transit ridership.

We are committed to assisting Wasco County, in partnership with MCEDD, with development of a Wasco County Transit Development Plan and will participate in community outreach. We fully support their grant application and urge your approval.

Sincerely,

*Jeff Monson*

Jeff Monson  
Executive Director  
Commute Options  
50 SW Bond Street, Suite 4  
Bend, OR 97702  
[www.commuteoptions.org](http://www.commuteoptions.org)

541 330-2647



## CITY of THE DALLES

313 COURT STREET  
THE DALLES, OREGON 97058

(541) 296-5481  
FAX (541) 296-6906

May 13, 2019

Oregon Department of Transportation  
Transportation and Growth Management Program  
555 13th Street, Suite 2  
Salem, OR 97301

TGM Grants Committee:

I am writing today to urge you to approve Wasco County's application to the Transportation and Growth Management Program for grant assistance to develop a Wasco County Transit Development Plan. Wasco County has never benefited from the long-term guidance and short-term strategies that such a plan can provide.

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The City of The Dalles supports studies and strategies that identify infrastructure improvements that will improve the livability of our area, as well as help attract new businesses and visitors.

We are committed to assisting Wasco County, in partnership with MCEDD, with development of a Wasco County Transit Development Plan and will participate by providing input into the plan, participating in community outreach, and helping reach target populations.

The City of The Dalles fully supports their grant application and urge your approval.

Regards,

Julie Krueger, MMC  
City Manager

# Project Area Map for Wasco County's TGM Application for

## Wasco County Transit Development Plan

Project area covers all of Wasco County, including all incorporated cities noted below.



## RACIAL AND ETHNIC IMPACT STATEMENT

**This form is used for informational purposes only and must be included with the grant application.**

[Chapter 600 of the 2013 Oregon Laws](#) require applicants to include with each grant application a racial and ethnic impact statement. The statement provides information as to the disproportionate or unique impact the proposed policies or programs may have on minority persons<sup>1</sup> in the State of Oregon if the grant is awarded to a corporation or other legal entity other than natural persons.

1. The proposed grant project policies or programs could have a disproportionate or unique positive impact on the following minority persons:

Indicate all that apply:

Women	Asians or Pacific Islanders
Persons with Disabilities	American Indians
African-Americans	Alaskan Natives
Hispanics	

2. The proposed grant project policies or programs could have a disproportionate or unique negative impact on the following minority persons:

Indicate all that apply:

Women	Asians or Pacific Islanders
Persons with Disabilities	American Indians
African-Americans	Alaskan Natives
Hispanics	

3. The proposed grant project policies or programs will have no disproportionate or unique impact on minority persons.

**If you checked numbers 1 or 2 above**, please provide below the rationale for the existence of policies or programs having a disproportionate or unique impact on minority persons in this state. Further provide evidence of consultation with representative(s) of the affected minority persons.

*By checking this box, I hereby certify the information contained on this form is true, complete, and accurate to the best of my knowledge.*

**Dated:**

Printed Name:

Title:

Agency Name:

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<sup>1</sup> “Minority person” are defined in SB 463 (2013 Regular Session) as women, persons with disabilities (as defined in ORS 174.107), African Americans, Hispanics, Asians, or Pacific Islanders, American Indians and Alaskan Natives.