

PIER Infrastructure Program Overview

Planning, Infrastructure, Economic Revitalization (PIER)



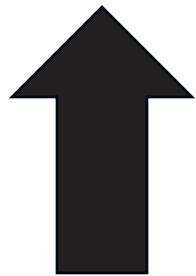
Module Objectives



After this module, you should understand:

- Infrastructure Program Background and Program Design
- How to apply for an Infrastructure Project
- Identify Eligible Infrastructure Activities and Applicants
- Where to find program resources

PIER Life Cycle



You are Here

Program Description & Background

In November 2021, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced it awarded Oregon \$422 million in Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds for recovery efforts in response to the 2020 Labor Day Fires.

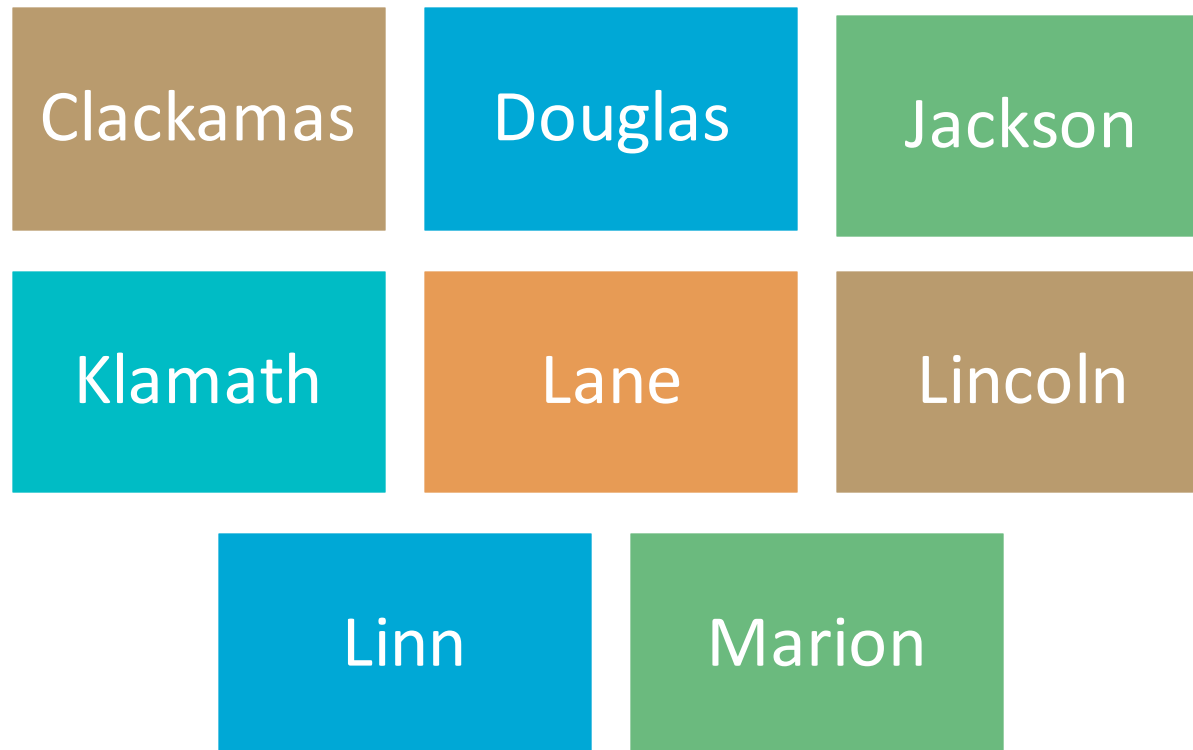
Administered by Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS), this money will pay for new programs to help individuals, households, and communities continue to recover.

This effort, which is called ReOregon, will provide funds to rebuild and create new housing, infrastructure, economic revitalization, and planning opportunities to areas impacted by the fires.



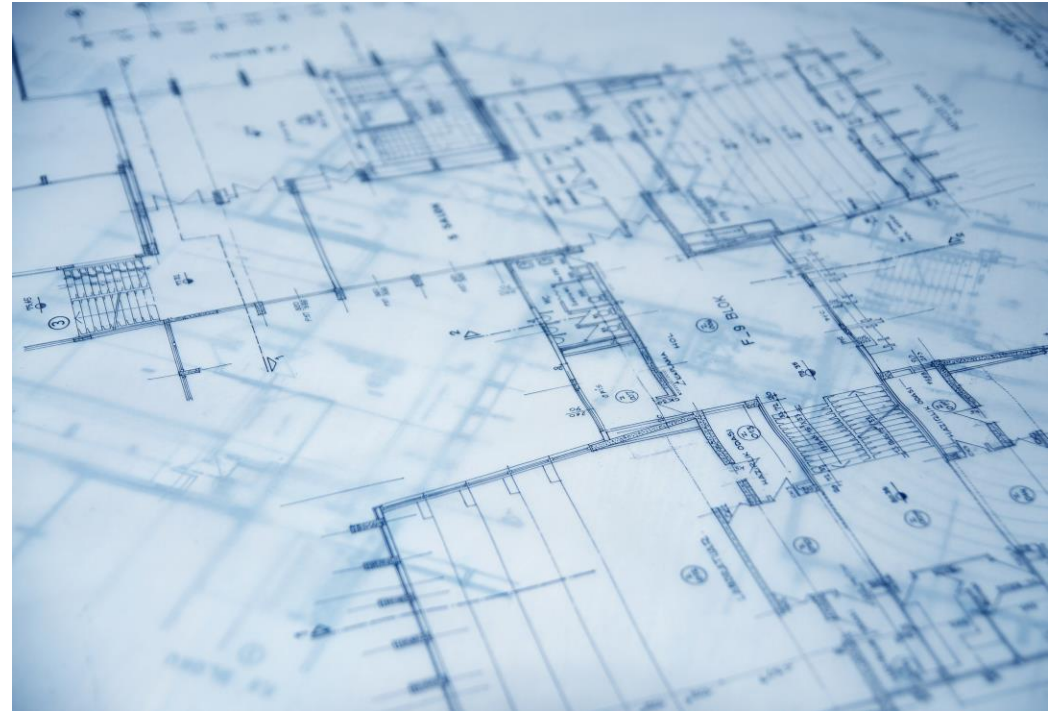
Program Description & Background

OHCS created a Public Action Plan available on the [ReOregon website](#) which describes how the state will spend the \$422 million CDBG-DR allocation to support recovery from the 2020 Labor Day Fires in the following counties:



Program Description & Background

The **PIER program** established in the action plan addresses **planning, economic revitalization,** and **infrastructure** needs after the disaster. There are \$42 million CDBG-DR dollars allocated to PIER.



Program Description & Background

Timely	Projects must be completed within 6 years (February 2028)
Minimum Budget	Projects must request at least \$500,000
Tie-back or Mitigate	Projects must tie-back to the disaster or mitigate against future risks
Eligible	Projects must meet the criteria of an eligible CDBG-DR project

PIER projects must meet certain requirements.

Method of Distribution

MID County	Percent of Total PIER Program Allocation	PIER Allocation
Clackamas	5.7%	\$ 2,415,826
Douglas	5.7%	\$ 2,399,446
Jackson	32.9%	\$ 13,849,117
Klamath	4.0%	\$ 1,703,097
Lane	18.8%	\$ 7,926,980
Lincoln	6.4%	\$ 2,684,967
Linn	7.4%	\$ 3,110,691
Marion	19.1%	\$ 8,027,045
Total of MIDs	100.0%	\$ 42,117,170

Method of Distribution by OHCS

- For each eligible county an allocation was made
- Each county created a regional Selection Committee to select projects for OHCS approval
- **Minimum project award \$500,000**

How to Apply

Each county has established a Selection Committee. These Regional Selection Committees each have their own process.

To learn more about **Lane, Jackson, Douglas, and Klamath counties** processes, please visit their websites:

- Lane County [[link](#)]
- Jackson County [[link](#)]
- Douglas County [[link](#)]
- Klamath County [[link](#)]

To learn more about **Lincoln, Linn, and Marion counties**, or if you are unsure who to reach out to, please reach out to PIER@hcs.oregon.gov to request a contact.

Selection Committees

Selection Committees are made up of local representatives and may include:

- Municipal government representatives
- County government representatives
- Economic development district representatives
- Long-term recovery group representatives
- Tribal representatives (if applicable)



Voting members may add voting members from government, special districts, or other organizations and ex-officio non-voting members. These voting members will receive and review projects, then vote to decide if the project will move to OHCS review.

Who can apply?



- Tribes
- State Agencies
- Counties
- Municipal governments, districts, and authorities
- Other public or quasi-public entities, including Councils of Government (COGs)

Project Description Form

To apply, a Project Lead should submit the appropriate Project Description Form, or approved alternative document, to the correct Selection Committee for their review.

- There is a separate form for each eligible project: [Planning](#), [Economic Revitalization](#), and [Infrastructure](#).
- The forms will include a full project description, budget, and eligibility criteria.
- The forms will include information about the project lead entity responsible for implementing the project and the agency or organization responsible for operating and maintaining the project or program.
- If selected, the project will move forward to OHCS review.

Eligible Activities



- Repair, replacement or relocation of damaged public facilities
- Rebuild or build new public facilities or improvements such water or wastewater facilities, emergency communications systems, drainage improvements, and/or other projects that address specific current or projected hazards
- FEMA Public Assistance (PA) or Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) match

Tie-back or Mitigation

Each project activity must either:

- **Tie-back to the Disaster:** Any recovery activity must clearly relate to the recovery needs resulting from the 2020 Labor Day fires and directly or indirectly support new housing and/or replacement of damaged housing. OHCS intends this language to be read broadly to include economic revitalization activities and creation of public facilities, such as parks, to the extent the local partners determine that these actions are important to supporting demand for housing in the impacted area.
- **Mitigate future Disasters:** Any mitigation activity must reduce the expected loss of life or property in the face of identified natural hazards. Sample mitigation activities include community resilience plans, applying ignition-resistant materials to public facilities, and other infrastructure projects that clearly result in increased resilience to future disasters.

Ineligible Activities

Improving or building buildings such as city halls or other administrative buildings primarily for the general conduct of government (except for the removal of architectural barriers, ie ADA compliance)

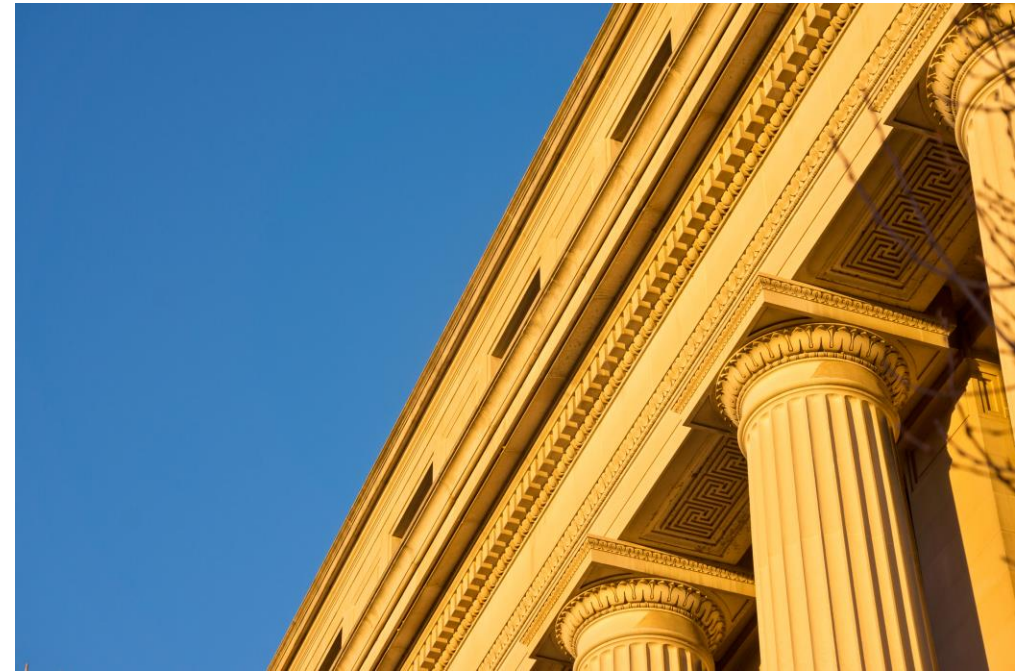
Equipment that is not an integral part of a public facility

Operation costs of the public facility

Maintenance or repair due to deferred maintenance

General capacity development and growth without disaster tieback

Assistance to privately-owned-for-profit utility companies that do not meet requirements stated in HUD's guidance ([CDBG-DR-Private-Utility-Req-for-grants-Public-Law-117-43](#))



National Objectives



Each infrastructure project must also meet a CDBG-DR national objective.

There are two types of national objectives that infrastructure projects can qualify for:

- Low Moderate Income (LMI)
- Urgent Need (UN)

National Objective: Low Moderate Income (LMI)



LMI Area (LMA) benefit:

When using the LMA national objective all the following must be met:

- The service area of the project must be defined on a map
- The project services must be available to all residents in the defined service area
- The service area must be primarily residential
- At least 51 percent of the residents in the defined service area must LMI persons

National Objective: Low Moderate Income (LMI)



Documentation may include either:

- An income survey of households in the service area: [CDBG Income Survey Toolkit](#)
- HUD LMI data for the service area by block group [LMISD - All Block Groups, Based on 2011-2015 ACS - HUD Exchange](#)
- HUD LMI data for the community at [LMISD by Local Governments, Based on 2011-2015 ACS - HUD Exchange](#)

National Objective: Urgent Need (UN)

When using the Urgent Need national objective all the following must be met:

- Like the LMI National Objective, the service area must be defined, and the characteristics of the beneficiaries must be reported on—however, the project does not need to meet the 51% LMI threshold
- Describe the specific need and its related urgency the project is addressing and how the existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community in which the project takes place
- How the project responds to the urgency, type, scale, and location of the disaster-related impact as described in the OHCS unmet or mitigation needs assessments in the [ReOregon Action Plan](#)



Critical Actions and Elevation Requirements for Non-Residential Structures



Activities that are defined as Critical Actions must be elevated

- Critical Actions are defined as "any activity for which even a slight chance of flooding would be too great" per [Title 44 in CFR](#).
- Critical Actions include but are not limited to hospitals, nursing homes, emergency shelters, police stations, fire stations, and principal utility lines.

Critical Actions and Elevation Requirements for Non-Residential Structures



- All Critical Actions within the **500-year floodplain** must be elevated or floodproofed to the higher of the 500-year floodplain elevation or three feet above the 100-year floodplain elevation.
- If information about the location of the 500-year floodplain is unavailable, and the Critical Action is in **the 100-year floodplain**, then the structure must be elevated or floodproofed at least three feet above the 100-year floodplain elevation.

Infrastructure Resiliency Requirements

- All newly constructed infrastructure must be **designed and constructed** in a resilient manner to **withstand extreme weather** events and the impacts of climate change.
- The project engineer will be required to incorporate and certify the inclusion of **mitigation and resilient design standards** that increase resilience to disasters and reduce or eliminate the long-term risk.



After Project Selection



Verify project scope



Discuss meeting national objective criteria



Review budget materials



Thoroughly review application expectations



Provide time for Q&A

The Project Lead will meet with OHCS to review their project prior to submitting the official Project Description Form to OHCS.

Question



True or False? The following must be met when utilizing the LMI Area National Objective:

- The service area of the project must be defined on a map.
- The project services must be available to all residents in the defined service area.
- The service area must be primarily residential.
- At least 51 percent of the residents in the defined service area must be low- and moderate- income persons.

Question



True or False? The following must be met when utilizing the LMI Area National Objective:

- The service area of the project must be defined on a map. **True!**
- The project services must be available to all residents in the defined service area. **True!**
- The service area must be primarily residential. **True!**
- At least 51 percent of the residents in the defined service area must be low- and moderate- income persons. **True!**

Additional Resources



- [OHCS ReOregon CDBG-DR](#) →
General Programs
- [OHCS ReOregon PIER Program](#) →
Policy and Forms

Questions?

Reach out to PIER@hcs.oregon.gov OR julie.lovrien@hcs.oregon.gov.

