



**REGIONAL SOLUTIONS OFFICE
GOVERNOR KATE BROWN**

Four Open RFI/Grant Application Opportunities for Eastern Oregon as of 09.27.17

1. **Opportunity:** Regional Solutions' Workforce Housing Initiative Request for Information (RFI)

a. **Deadline for responses to the RFI:** 10.13.17 (It was 10.02.17, but it recently got extended for League of Oregon Cities Conference)

b. **Comments from Courtney:**

- i. This effort is going towards one of the toughest challenges we hear in every community across the region regarding the relationship between job creation/fulfillment and housing production/attainment.
- ii. It's an RFI so think holistically, strategically, and creatively about how best to respond.

c. **Email regarding the RFI:**

The Governor's office hopes you will join in our efforts to help create paths forward to address an issue facing many Oregon communities, namely a lack of workforce housing. In her travels across the state, Governor Kate Brown heard time and again, from companies and communities alike, that the lack of workforce housing presents a clear threat to continued growth and prosperity. With her leadership, state agencies are looking at their current programs and tools to find opportunities to partner with communities, the business sector, and private housing developers to address the workforce housing shortage in Oregon.

The goal of this RFI is to further refine those tools and think about what other resources would be helpful in addressing this shortage. We hope to hear about examples of development projects and other efforts to address the housing shortage. We plan to use the information gathered during this process to develop and refine a Request for Proposals that will select a handful of pilot communities across the state to test these tools and create models for moving communities forward on workforce housing.

This problem has developed over decades and will not be solved overnight, but the Governor is committed to finding new ways forward. This RFI represents the next step in finding that path, and we thank you in advance for your participation.

Please review the RFI on our [website](#). If you are interested in submitting information, you may send your response to the RFI to lisa.howard@oregon.gov. Alternatively, you may

register and submit the information via the Oregon Procurement Information Network using the instructions below.

To log into ORPIN as a supplier:

- Go to the ORPIN website at <http://orpin.oregon.gov>.
- Log in with your username and password. If you do not have an account, click on Supplier Registration and follow the steps to set up a user account and company registration.
- Go to Browse Opportunities. Select Advanced Search.
- Enter DASPS-2839-17 into the Opportunity Field and click the Search button.
- Open the document summary by clicking on the search result.

To log into ORPIN as an internal (state agency) user:

- Go to the ORPIN website at <http://orpin.oregon.gov>.
- Log in with your username and password. If you do not have an account, send a request to the Help Desk at info.orpin@oregon.gov.
- Go to Browse Opportunities. Select Advanced Search.
- Enter DASPS-2839-17 into the Opportunity Field and click the Search button.
- Open the document summary by clicking on the search result.

Lisa Howard

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2. **Opportunity:** Department of Land Conservation and Development's (DLCD) Technical Assistance Grants

a. **Deadline for responses to the application:** 10.13.17

b. **Comments from Courtney:**

- i. DLCDC's top three priorities for the grants this time around are economic development work (i.e. a Targeted Industry Analysis), affordable and workforce housing, and resiliency.
- ii. These grants could be very helpful in Eastern Oregon.

c. **Info about the process:**

The Department of Land Conservation and Development offers grants to local and tribal governments to complete projects that update and modernize comprehensive plans, land use ordinances, development codes and other planning regulations.

Technical Assistance (TA) grant awards are guided by the Grants Allocation Plan. The allocation plan lists priorities such as:

- Planning to promote economic development
- Planning for affordable housing
- Natural hazards planning
- Infrastructure finance planning
- Updating codes to comply with changes in state law or streamline planning processes

The department is now accepting applications for the 2017-2019 biennium. Information about the grants, including the application, can be found [here](#).

3. **Opportunity:** Regional Solutions' Regional Infrastructure Fund Request for Information (RFI)

a. **Deadline for responses to the RFI:** 10.31.17

b. **Comments from Courtney:**

- i. It is critical that the Eastern Oregon puts forth a healthy quantity of projects so the fund deities (Advisory Committees, Coordinators, Team, Legislators, Business Oregon) better understand the community and economic development potential the fund can help unlock.
- ii. This fund is one of the most flexible for communities and businesses. Past projects include the Baum Industrial Park, Iron Triangle and Hermiston Water projects.
- iii. It's an RFI so think holistically, strategically, and creatively about how best to respond.

c. **Email regarding the RFI:**

The Regional Solutions Program – consisting of advisory committees, Governor's coordinators, and interagency state teams – provides a one-stop shop for communities throughout the state. Eleven Regional Solutions teams support community and economic development to help attract and expand business and industry, create good jobs, and improve the economy. They bring the right people to the table and coordinate state action to solve problems and streamline government. These state agency teams help integrate and align permitting requirements, remove barriers to business retention and expansion, and quickly respond to issues that address community and economic development priorities in the region.

One of the tools used by Regional Solutions to support economic and community development is the Regional Infrastructure Fund. The Regional Infrastructure Fund provides grants and loans to local governments for Regional Solutions projects. The Oregon Business Development Department administers the fund.

During the 2017 Legislative Session, the Legislature authorized the issuance of lottery bonds to produce \$4 million in net proceeds for the Regional Infrastructure Fund. We are sending out a Request for Information (RFI) to better understand the capital project needs that support job retention and creation in each of the economic regions in Oregon.

Please review the RFI materials on our [website](#) and consider submitting recommendations for projects. Project information will be reviewed by Regional Solutions Advisory Committees and some potential projects may be previewed to the Legislature at an informational hearing in February 2018. Benefits of responding to the RFI include increased exposure to your project and potential feedback from the teams and Legislature. Responses to the RFI will also be used to inform the funding application process which will begin in spring 2018.

RFI Response Deadline: October 31, 2017

For more information, please visit our [website](#).

Sincerely,

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4. Opportunity: Department of Land Conservation and Development's (DLCD) Pilot Urban Growth Boundary Expansion Process for Affordable Housing

a. Deadline for responses to the pre-application process: 11.01.17

b. Comments from Courtney:

- i. DLCD is very interested in getting cities to apply
- ii. Only 30% of the project's housing needs to be within the affordable range (80% or less of area median income) of the housing spectrum
- iii. The projects will NOT be going through the normal UGB expansion process.

c. Info about the process:

In 2016, the Oregon Legislature passed House Bill 4079 (HB 4079). HB 4079 aims to boost affordable housing by allowing two cities to develop affordable and market rate housing on lands currently outside urban growth boundaries (UGBs) without going through the normal UGB expansion process.

The law directed the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) to set up a process and select two pilot projects, one for a city with a population up to 25,000, and one for a city with a population greater than 25,000.

The proposed pilot project sites can be up to 50 acres, cannot be on high value farmland, and must meet other requirements. The pilot project cities must ensure the affordable housing on the sites remains affordable for the next 50 years, and must demonstrate efforts to accommodate and encourage needed housing within their existing UGBs.

LCDC has adopted rules to implement HB 4079. Required pre-applications from interested cities are due ~~September 5, 2017~~ **November 1, 2017 (new deadline)**. Full applications will be due in early 2018, at a date to be determined by the Department.

More info about the process, including the pre-application form, can be found [here](#).

