

HB 2613 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Economic Development

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/27

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Oregon Business Development Department to retain a consultant to develop a master plan for county fairground capital construction and to report on the plan to the Legislative Assembly during the 2020 regular session. Prescribes report content and Department requirements. Appropriates \$250,000 from the General Fund to Department for consultant services to develop master plan. Sunsets July 1, 2021. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Business Development Department, more commonly known as Business Oregon, is the state's economic development agency. Its mission is to invest in Oregon businesses, communities, and people to promote a globally competitive, diverse, and inclusive economy. Business Oregon supports the retention and expansion of existing Oregon businesses within traded sectors, carries out strategies to create a dynamic startup and entrepreneurial environment, and recruits companies from outside the state to fill supply chain gaps and grow existing industry clusters. It also operates infrastructure financing programs that are available to local municipalities for water systems, wastewater systems, port development, roads, and other infrastructure needs related to business growth and community development. Regional Development Officers serve as the starting point for communities to access the Department's infrastructure services. The Regional Development Officer and Regional Project Manager work directly with communities and their business partners to identify opportunities, address business growth and community development challenges, and manage resulting projects.

House Bill 2613 requires Business Oregon to retain a consultant to develop a master plan for county fairground capital construction and to report on the plan to the Legislative Assembly during the 2020 regular session. The measure prescribes the report content and Department requirements, and appropriates \$250,000 from the General Fund to the Department for consultant services to develop the master plan.