



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Parks and Recreation Department

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February 26, 2021

The Honorable Senator Betsy Johnson, Co-Chair
The Honorable Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward, Co-Chair
The Honorable Representative Dan Rayfield, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means
900 Court Street NE
H-178 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301-4048

Dear Co-Chairpersons:

Nature of the Request:

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) requests permission to submit a \$260,000 grant application to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), BLM ORWA (Oregon and Washington) Cultural Heritage and Paleontology Resource Management Programs.

The Department was notified of this competitive opportunity on January 26, 2021. The initial deadline for applications is March 26, 2021; this grant opportunity also could be applied for by April 26, 2021 or May 26, 2021.

Agency Action:

The grant fits within OPRD's mission that includes protecting outstanding cultural, historic, and recreational sites for the enjoyment and education of present and future generations. It is also fully aligned with the goals of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), which is a division of OPRD.

OPRD plans to use grant funding to hire a staff member as a Natural Resource Specialist 3, Special Projects Archaeologist for the period of October 1, 2021 through Sept 30, 2024 to serve as liaison to federal U.S. Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service to assist the agencies with fulfilling their responsibilities under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. Due to current revenue shortfalls OPRD as a result of COVID-19, OPRD does not need position authority, a vacant position will be used.

Work includes the consultation, review, and evaluation of projects submitted for Section 106, federal cultural resource protection, review. It also includes the development of programmatic agreements, memorandums of understating, and memorandums of agreement between SHPO and BLM for the treatment of historic resources. Further, work will include developing process improvements for BLM and Forest Service project review.

The BLM Grant Funds are federal funds that do not require a match. OPRD is committed to this project and will provide the equipment and supplies for the position.

Action Requested:

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) requests permission to submit a \$130,000 grant application to the BLM ORWA Cultural Heritage and Paleontology Resource Management Programs. If the grant is awarded, the Department will request expenditure limitation from the appropriate Legislative Committee or the Emergency Board.

Legislation Affected:

None.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lisa Sumption". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lisa Sumption
Director

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department Wittekind

Request: The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department requests authority to apply for a \$260,000 grant from the Bureau of Land Management.

Recommendation: Approve the request.

Discussion: The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) requests permission to apply for a \$260,000 grant from the Oregon and Washington Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Cultural Heritage and Paleontology Resource Management programs. These programs align with OPRD's mission of protecting outstanding cultural, historic, and recreational sites for enjoyment and education of current and future generations.

OPRD was notified of this grant opportunity on January 26, 2021. The initial application deadline is March 26, 2021.

If awarded, OPRD plans to use the grant funds to hire a Natural Resource Specialist 3, for the period of October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2024. The position would serve as a liaison to the federal U.S. Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service to assist the agencies with fulfilling their responsibilities under the National Historic Preservation Act.

As a result of current revenue shortfalls associated with COVID-19, an existing vacant position would be used. The Department is not requesting position authority. While there are no match requirements, OPRD expects to incur roughly \$5,000 per fiscal year of employee costs to cover cell phone, computer, and office supply expenses. OPRD will use existing limitation to cover these costs.

Analysis

Parks and Recreation Department

Cultural Heritage and Paleontology Resource Management

Analyst: Matt Stayner

Request: Approve the submission of a federal grant application in the amount of \$260,000 by the Parks and Recreation Department, to the U.S. Bureau of Land Management for Cultural Heritage and Paleontology Resource Management programs.

Analysis: The Bureau of Land Management Cultural and Paleontological Resource Management program funds partnerships that collaboratively encourage the public to learn about and engage with heritage resources in Oregon and Washington. There are several goals related to protecting and preserving cultural heritage sites and collections, and also increasing educational opportunities.

The Parks and Recreation Department intends to use grant funding, if awarded, to support an archaeologist position that will serve as a liaison between the agency, the Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Forest Service on cultural resource protection projects and coordination of agreements between the state and federal partners on the treatment of historic resources. The agency intends to repurpose an existing position that is currently vacant for this work. The federal grant funding does not require state matching funds. The agency intends on using the entire grant award to fund the personal services cost of the position over the 36-month grant period and to use existing budgetary authority to pay for ancillary position costs totaling approximately \$4,660 per year. The grant application is due March 26th.

Legislative Fiscal Office Recommendation: The Legislative Fiscal Office recommends approval of the request.