



Marion County
OREGON

Board of Commissioners

MARION COUNTY SUPPORTS HB 5042-1
Wildfire Grant Funding Requests FY 2019-21
March 17, 2021

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**BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS**

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Jan Fritz

We would like to acknowledge Senators Courtney and Girod for their support of the victims of the September wildfires and express our sincere appreciation as the residents of the North Santiam Canyon rebuild their lives.

Wildfire Recovery Grant for Marion County Parks - \$202,312

There are six Marion County parks located in the Santiam Canyon that were totally destroyed by the September wildfires and will be unusable for several years as we rebuild. Most parks sustained 100 percent loss of trees, vegetation, and park amenities. These funds will be utilized to start our rebuilding efforts that will include; new picnic areas, camp sites, trails, parking lots, and river access.

Wildfire Recovery Grant for Sheriff's Office Overtime - \$224,645

To ensure the safety of the North Santiam communities during the rebuilding process and to deter crime while residents are not on their property, it is critical to provide public safety services due to distance, lack of permanent residents, and the valuable construction equipment and supplies on site.

We have heard directly from the City of Gates regarding concerns of increased traffic and crime. Many residents complain of traffic issues such as speeding, tailgating, illegal passing, and aggressive driving. There is an increase of crime from assault, burglary, auto theft, and trespassing.

Marion County is requesting funding to pay for enhanced patrols in the Santiam Canyon.

Wildfire Recovery Grants for: City of Detroit - \$272,329
City of Gates - \$98,495

Six months after the fire, the City of Detroit still does not have a working water system and hundreds of homes and septic systems have been destroyed. Property owners are no longer paying utility bills in either city. The permanent property tax rates are some of the lowest rates in the state, with the City of Gates at .28 per \$1,000 and Detroit's permanent rate at \$1.15 per \$1,000, and disruption of local city government services has put undue burden on city personnel and elected officials.

Wildfire Recovery Grant for Idanha-Detroit Rural Fire Protection District - \$350,000

Marion County respectfully requests your consideration for this critical funding to maintain fire services as the communities continue their recovery process.

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