

**BOARD MEMBERS** 

April 16, 2021

City of Madras Councilor Bartt Brick,

City of Bend Councilor Anthony Broadman, Vice Chair

Dear Ways and Means Co-Chairs,

900 Court Street NE, Room H-178,

Representative Dan Rayfield

Oregon State Capitol

Salem, Oregon 97301

Joint Committee on Ways And Means

Crook County Commissioner Jerry Brummer

> Deschutes County Commissioner Patti Adair

> > Wayne Fording

Warm Springs. Tribal Council Member Brigette McConville

City of Culver Councilor Gretchen Schlie

City of La Pine Councilor

City of Metolius Councilor Denise Keeton

> City of Prineville Councilor Gail Merritt

City of Redmond Councilor Jay Patrick

Jennifer Letz

## APPOINTED MEMBERS

Agribusiness & Agriculture -Phil Fine

> Business & Industry -Katy Brooks

Timber & Wood Products -Tim Deboodt

> Tourism & Recreation -James Lewis

Under & Unemployed -Ron Osmundson As a regional Council of Governments, COIC serves the local governments of Central Oregon, including Crook, Deschutes and Jefferson counties and the cities of Bend, Culver, La Pine, Madras, Metolius, Prineville, Redmond and Sisters. Our role includes helping to identify and develop high-priority regional projects. In light of this, we strongly encourage the Joint Committee on Ways & Means to provide American Rescue Plan funding for the following high-priority regional projects:

Co-Chairs Senator Betsy Johnson, Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward, and

- #1 Priority: Regional Emergency Services Training and Coordination Center (RESTCC); \$25 million, scalable. The RESTCC is a proposed emergency services training and coordination center that will be located adjacent to the Redmond Airport. The RESTCC will provide facilities and props to meet mandatory emergency services training requirements (including law enforcement, fire, EMS, and associated training needs such as train derailment and aircraft rescue and fire-fighter training, etc.) and a dedicated Emergency Coordination Center (ECC) to support rescue and recovery from major regional or statewide natural disasters. The RESTCC would serve as the state's primary emergency response facility in the event of a Cascadia Subduction Zone event, and can be designed to support continuation of state governing functions if existing facilities west of the Cascades are non-functioning or inaccessible. Full development of the RESTCC is estimated at \$100 million, and the Phase 1 facility (including site prep, utilities/infrastructure, the ECC, driving courses and skills pads, and a drill tower with Class B burn) is estimated at \$25 million. We are requesting funding from the state in the amount of \$25 million to develop Phase 1 of this facility; this figure can be scaled.
- #2 Priority: Regional Mobility Hubs: \$3.5 million. As Central Oregon's population continues to grow, public transit will continue to be increasingly important to mitigate congestion, decrease pollution, and increase mode choice. Cascades East Transit has historically operated on a hub-and-spoke model for many of its services. CET is acquiring funding for mobility hub development which will allow a more multi-centric transit model to operate. This will a) remove first/last mile barriers; b) improve passenger safety and ease of transition between modes; c) increase active transportation; and d) improve access to key employment centers, school/training, health care, and other essential services.
- #3 Priority: COVID-19 Regional Economic Recovery Plan implementation fund; \$33-55 million statewide, or \$3-5 million for Central Oregon. COIC and the other ten Oregon Economic Development Districts (EDDs) have been funded by the Economic Development Administration to prepare regional COVID-19 Economic Recovery Plans. Our first strategies are due the end of May, and draft



strategies currently include a variety of projects related to small business recovery and development, workforce development and training, broadband infrastructure and access, and support for individuals and households (e.g. childcare and housing). EDDS are building these strategies collaboratively with our regional partners, communities, agencies, non-profits, and residents. We request \$3-\$5 million per region to serve as a COVID-19 economic recovery implementation fund to make small grants to support priority implementation projects in each community. The fund would be co-administered by the EDDs and Regional Solutions.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these regional priorities on behalf of the Central Oregon region.

Sincerely,

Tammy Baney

**Executive Director** 

Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council

T Baney

334 NE Hawthorne Ave,

Bend, OR 97701