

HB 3016 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment****Action Date:** 03/15/23**Action:** Do pass with amendments and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference.
(Printed A-Eng.)**Vote:** 9-0-0-1**Yeas:** 9 - Andersen, Helm, Kropf, Levy B, Levy E, Marsh, Osborne, Owens, Pham K**Abs:** 1 - Wallan**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued**Revenue:** No revenue impact**Prepared By:** Erin Pischke, LPRO Analyst**Meeting Dates:** 3/1, 3/6, 3/15**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Establishes the Community Green Infrastructure Grant Program administered by the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD). Authorizes DLCD to enter into intergovernmental agreements with the specified state agencies or an Indian tribe to provide program assistance. Establishes eligibility criteria for community green infrastructure project grant application planning or development. Establishes application and award criteria for grant program. Authorizes DLCD, in awarding grants, to give priority to projects meeting specified criteria. Establishes guidelines for community green infrastructure projects and green infrastructure economic development projects. Establishes Community Green Infrastructure Fund with moneys in the fund continuously appropriated to DLCD for the purpose of carrying out grant program. Requires allocation of funds in the following manner: 1) 30 percent for grants to be awarded for planning or developing green infrastructure economic development projects; 2) 40 percent for grants to be awarded for entities or projects located in green infrastructure improvement zones; and 3) 30 percent for grants to be awarded to entities or projects in tribal, rural, remote, or coastal communities. Authorizes DLCD to appoint an Advisory Committee on Community Green Infrastructure Investment (advisory committee) to provide consultation on the implementation of the Community Green Infrastructure Grant Program and provides criteria for appointing committee members. Requires the advisory committee to submit a report on the implementation of the Community Green Infrastructure Grant Program to the appropriate interim committees of the Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2024 of each even-numbered year. Requires Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) to certify Oregon nursery as a "green communities nursery" if certain criteria are met. Directs Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) to acquire and maintain urban tree canopy assessment tool with specified elements. Requires ODF, using the urban tree canopy assessment tool, to designate as green infrastructure improvement zones areas of this state that have a high level of poverty density and any of the following: low levels of tree canopy cover; poor vegetation health; high risk of pests, disease, or other threats to plant life; or other needs for revegetation or holistic native plant restoration. Authorizes ODF to integrate the urban tree canopy assessment tool with data from other agency mapping tools, including the environmental justice mapping tool developed pursuant to section 12, chapter 58, Oregon Laws 2022. Requires ODF to make the urban tree canopy assessment tool available on a website maintained by ODF, along with guidance for using the tool to promote environmental, social, and economic well-being. Requires ODF to develop and implement a program to provide technical and financial assistance to public bodies, tribal governments, watershed councils, and community-based organizations for planning for, responding to, and recovering from damage to habitats and urban tree canopies due to pests, diseases, or other natural or human-created conditions that lead to loss of tree canopy. Requires ODF to coordinate with ODA to support program activities related to any pests or diseases subject to quarantine under the laws of this state or of the United States. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

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ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Tree canopy assessment tool technology
- Staff and funding for Community Green Infrastructure Grant Program
- Examples of tree canopy assessment pilot projects
- Vulnerability assessment and response plan

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND:

The system of gutters, tunnels, pipes, and hard surfaces in cities that help capture and move stormwater is called “gray infrastructure.” Permeable and natural materials such as soil and plants, which absorb and store stormwater, are used in “green infrastructure” systems. Examples of green infrastructure projects include green roofs, rain gardens, and planting trees along sidewalks or in parking lot medians. Such projects can deliver benefits besides stormwater management, such as reducing the heat-island effect in cities and creating habitat for animals.

House Bill 3016 A establishes a Community Green Infrastructure Grant Program and Fund. The measure also directs the Oregon Department of Forestry to acquire and maintain an urban tree canopy assessment tool.