



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

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State Land Board

February 4, 2025

Tina Kotek
Governor

To: Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources
Co-Chair Frederick, Co-Chair Levy and Members of the Committee

Tobias Read
Secretary of State

From: Vicki L. Walker, Director, Oregon Department of State Lands

Re: Testimony on Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development's
2025-27 Governor's Recommended Budget.

Elizabeth Steiner
State Treasurer

Co-Chair Frederick, Co-Chair Levy, and members of the committee. I appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony on the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development's 2025-27 Governor's Recommended Budget.

The Department is pleased to support DLCD's budget. Our agency's missions are aligned, both seeking to protect Oregon's natural resource legacy for current and future generations and help communities thrive. DLCD's partnership has strengthened our efforts and improved results for our state in many ways.

A few examples of our partnership include managing Oregon's territorial sea through the state's Territorial Sea Plan and partnering to meet Statewide Land Use Planning Goal 5, particularly the wetlands planning process that protects Oregon's wetlands and waterways while also helping the state meet its housing goals. DLCD's 2025-27 budget continues our connected work and successful partnerships, focusing on advancing important priorities for our state.

Highlights include:

Supporting Housing Production. DLCD's policy package 504 requests \$500,000 to provide technical assistance to local governments for wetlands planning work that is essential preparing land for housing development. This package directly relates to the Department's package 500, which creates a position to double our capacity to provide technical support to local governments and DLCD. These POPs are essential to support local communities in changing or creating their urban growth boundaries. The Department is partnering with DLCD to identify ways to streamline processes and support residential development to meet the state's housing goals.

Advancing Coastal Opportunity. DLCD implements the Territorial Sea Plan which provides goals and policies to manage the territorial sea and the resources within it in trust for the public. As the owner of the land underlying the territorial sea, the Department works closely with DLCD in implementation of the Territorial Sea Plan, particularly as new ocean needs and uses are identified. The Department is currently pursuing legislation (Senate Bill 793) to ensure adequate compensation and fees for undersea cable easements. DLCD would be an essential partner in rulemaking to implement that policy should SB 793 become law. The Department is also participating in DLCD's work under House Bill 4080 (2024) to develop an Offshore Wind Energy Roadmap, which will define standards for consideration in the processes related to offshore wind energy development and approval.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony. I encourage your support of DLCD's 2025-27 Governor's Recommended Budget.