



HB 5024: OEDA & OEDA Members Support

OEDA is a statewide non-profit organization dedicated to the service and support of Oregon's economic development practitioners on the front lines of diversifying and expanding Oregon's economy. Our association represents members and stakeholders from more than 180 public and private entities from economic development corporations, cities, counties, ports, utilities, tribes, and many other organizations interested in attracting and retaining investment here in Oregon.

Business Oregon Budget and Key Policy Option Packages Within Budget

We urge continued investment in the Oregon Business Development Department's (OBDD) biennial budget. OBDD, generally referred to as Business Oregon, is responsible for providing economic and community development enhancement throughout the state—*the work this agency does is relied upon by all of our organizations.*

Business Oregon administers critical programs that assist businesses, local governments, and communities across the state to grow Oregon businesses and jobs. *We understand that lottery dollars are always in short supply and there is great competition for these dollars—these are our priority budget requests as these appropriations will each fill critical economic development needs:*

POPs 115 & 116: Special Public Works Fund (SPWF): \$60 million in Lottery Bonds to recapitalize fund

- This fund provides market rate and below market rate loans and some grants for municipal infrastructure and other facilities that support economic and community development. Specifically, the fund is used to build/rebuild essential infrastructure including levees, water systems, sewer systems, fiber/broadband, and roads. Without infrastructure, there is not capacity for business growth nor housing for employee growth.
- The fund money is also used to leverage more federal dollars by supporting the local match requirements for the Safe Drinking Water program, Community Development Block Grant program, and FEMA emergency funding. CDBG awards need a 2% match for state administration of the federal program. Similarly, SPWF provides the necessary 20% state match for Safe Drinking Water Fund projects and needed match for FEMA emergency projects. We can't afford to leave federal money on the table and SPWF provides critical match funding.

POP 501: Brownfields Redevelopment Fund: \$10.0 million in Lottery Bonds to recapitalize fund

POP 502: Brownfields Properties Revitalization Fund: \$5.0 million in Lottery Bonds to capitalize fund

- The Brownfield Redevelopment Fund provides loans and some grants to communities to support industrial/employment land readiness, affordable housing development, reuse of underutilized properties, and other community and public infrastructure investments on brownfield sites.
- Our state is littered with thousands of brownfield sites (some small and some large industrial sites) and this fund is critical to revitalization efforts of brownfield properties.

POP 103: Operational Staffing: \$1.7 million

This includes seven positions total across Business Oregon's operations division, including three that are currently limited duration positions that will otherwise end. These positions are key to delivering the kind of service Business Oregon's statewide partners expect, including timely processing of contracts and payments.

POP 104: EDMS Modernization: \$4.7 million

Business Oregon's Economic Development Management System (EDMS), a system designated to replace the Department's legacy loan, grant, bond, and tax incentive portfolio management system. Once fully implemented this system will allow Business Oregon to get away from many manual processes and should provide better customer experience from application to project closeout.

POP 118 & HB 2411: Industrial Site Loan Fund: \$40 million In addition, OEDA supports HB 2411, allocating \$40,000,000 to the Administrative Services Economic Development Fund, to the Oregon Business Development Department, the amount of \$40,000,000 for deposit in the Industrial Site Loan Fund established by HB 2411. This forgivable loan program would allow for reimburses to government entities, property owners, and businesses for development and planning activities related to industrial infrastructure development. (POP 118 requests \$10 million).

Each of these policy option package investments will support long-term economic growth, particularly in rural Oregon by focusing on infrastructure needs that directly support business expansion and job expansion. We urge your support.

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