



April 18, 2025

TO: Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction

FR: Stacy Michaelson, OSBA and Morgan Allen, COSA

RE: SB 5505 - Support for K-12 projects funded by OSCIM and SRGP

Co-Chair Girod, Co-Chair Nosse and members of the Subcommittee:

On behalf of the Coalition of Oregon School Administrators (COSA) and the Oregon School Boards Association (OSBA) we are asking for your support for \$108.9 million in Article XI-P bonds for the Oregon School Capital Improvement Matching Program (OSCIM) managed by the Oregon Department of Education and \$100.9 million of Article XI-M bonds for the Seismic Rehabilitation Grant Program (SRGP) managed by the Oregon Business Development Department. Both requests are included in the Governor's Recommended Budget as part of SB 5505. Additionally, the GRB adds lottery dollars to bring the total for OSCIM to \$175 million.

We have <u>provided the list of OSCIM projects</u> funded since the first round of grants in 2016 and <u>shared the SRGP projects</u> that were approved in May of 2024 to give you a sense of the tremendous positive statewide impacts each of these programs have had for school districts in every corner of Oregon. In total, more than 300 school projects have been funded through the SGRP grants and 96, or about half of all districts in Oregon, have received OSCIM matching grants.

Currently, there is an additional \$45 million in SRGP funds to be awarded to eligible applicants in April of this year. And there are nine school districts awaiting the results of the May 2025 election cycle that may be eligible to receive a bond matching grant through the OSCIM program if voters approve their bond request.

These investments are making much needed improvements in K-12 facilities across Oregon and have made an immeasurably positive impact across the state for students and local communities. But there is still a significant need for further investments.

We urge your support for investing \$100.9 million in the SRGP and \$108.6 million in the OSCIM bonding programs during the 2025-27 biennium. We want to be able to report back in two years another list of schools made seismically safe for students and communities that were able to pass a bond as a result of state matching funds. The investments in HB 5505 are critical to that effort.

2016-2024 K-12 OSCIM Bond Matching Grant Awardees - Data Provided by ODE

May 2024 K-12 Seismic Grant Awardees - Business Oregon Memo