



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: February 11, 2026

SUBJECT: Consideration of approval for Road Department submittal of a Better Utilizing Investment to Leverage Development (BUILD) Planning Grant Application for U.S. 97 South Interchange at Deschutes River Woods project

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Move approval of Road Department submittal of an application for a BUILD grant.

BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

The Better Utilizing Investment to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant program is a federal funding opportunity established with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 that provides funding for surface transportation projects that will encourage community development, safety and economic vitality. Deschutes County Road Department has identified the proposed highway interchange on south U.S. 97 near the community of Deschutes River Woods (DRW) as an eligible project for this funding opportunity. The application for funding will be within the Planning Grant category, and will include the planning, environmental clearances and preliminary engineering (design) work needed to attain a draft Design Acceptance Package (DAP), or 60% level of design.

Road Department staff will give a presentation of the BUILD program and the proposed U.S. 97 at DRW Interchange project. Road Department staff are seeking Board approval to submit the planning grant application, which is still being prepared. Applications are due on February 24, 2026.

BUDGET IMPACTS:

The total estimated project cost, including planning, environmental, design and construction, is approximately \$76 million. The proposed grant application request is \$5,250,000 for planning, environmental and design. Planning Grants are eligible for 100% Federal funding under the BUILD program.

ATTENDANCE:

Cody Smith, County Engineer/Assistant Road Department Director