



## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** April 13, 2022

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners

**FROM:** Peter Russell, Senior Transportation Planner

**RE:** April 18 debriefing on Transportation Growth Management (TGM) grant for 1) Tumalo Community Plan update; 2) rural trails for Sisters Country

The TGM Program is a joint planning grant program run by the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD). In the summer of 2020, Deschutes County applied for a \$75,000 grant to 1) Update the Tumalo Community Plan (TCP) and 2) implement the rural trails portion of the Sisters Country Vision Action Plan (SCVAP). Staff is providing an update on the grant's current status and coming events.

### I. BACKGROUND

The County applied for the TGM grant in late June 2020 and was selected in September 2020. ODOT gave the Notice to Proceed (NTP) on February 3, 2022, and the County entered into an agreement with Kittelson and Associates (KAI) to be the project's consultant. The grant will focus specifically on the bicycle, pedestrian, and transit components (aka Active Transportation) of the TCP. The rural trails portion of the TGM grant will focus on areas outside of Sisters and identify and map general corridors for trails to connect Sisters Country and the City of Sisters. Locations on Deschutes National Forest lands are not under County jurisdiction and likely will require further environmental work beyond the grant's scope. The TCP bike/ped/transit plan and Sisters Country rural trails may trigger amendments to portions of the Bike/Pedestrian (Section 5.5) of the Deschutes County Transportation System Plan (TSP). The amendments could include revised text, goals and policies, and maps.

### II. TGM GRANT AND TCP OVERALL UPDATE

KAI and County staff have identified members for the advisory committee for both the Tumalo and rural trails elements, including Board of County Commissioners Chair Adair (rural trails) and Commissioner DeBone (Tumalo) and Planning Commissioners Swisher (rural trails, then Chair

Keiras as Swisher's term ends in several months) and Altman (Tumalo). Staff and KAI have set a draft timeline for the project, including a May 3 internal meeting with ODOT staff. Other advisory committee members were drawn from local businesses, ODOT, Three Sisters Irrigation District (TID), Cascades East Transit (CET) and US Forest Service. For the TCP, staff has received interest in the resident position, although the person must live in Tumalo.

Staff is also updating the entire TCP and its sections on land use, public infrastructure, and transportation. Planning will hold a kickoff meeting at 6 p.m. Wednesday, May 11, at the Tumalo Community School. At that kickoff meeting staff will provide a brief survey, describe the purpose of the TCP and why it's being updated, and ask attendees to discuss their issues, concerns, and hopes for Tumalo. Staff will also mention the opening for a Tumalo resident on the TGM advisory committee.

Both the TGM project and the TCP overall update will have an online presence where the public can view StoryMaps, which are webpages with text, photos, maps, and the ability to post questions and leave contact information. Both the Road Department and the Building Division have graciously provided drone footage of Tumalo, which will be utilized in the online materials. Staff has used StoryMaps in previous public outreach efforts regarding wildfire and wildlife.

The TGM project and the TCP overall update will take approximately 12-18 months to complete, including public hearings before the PC and the Board.

### **III. COMPLEMENTARY PLANNING EFFORTS**

The Road Department has funded the update of the Transportation System Plan to 2040. That effort is underway and the TGM grant and the TCP overall update will inform the bike, ped, and transit sections of the TSP. The Planning Division is going to begin updating the Deschutes County Comprehensive Plan to 2040 as well. The TCP is a subset of that plan.

### **IV. CONCLUSION**

Staff is prepared to answer any questions.