



MEMORANDUM

TO: Deschutes County Planning Commission

FROM: Peter Gutowsky, AICP, Planning Manager
Tarik Rawlings, Associate Planner

DATE: September 16, 2021

SUBJECT: Department of Land Conservation and Development / Technical Assistance Grant

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an update to the Planning Commission regarding the status of a Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) Technical Assistance (TA) grant application. DLCD's TA grants are competitive awards to local communities that fund projects to update a comprehensive plan, local land use ordinances, or other planning compliance projects. The grants must align with the priorities provided in the DLCD Grants Allocation Plan.¹ In 2019, the Community Development Department (CDD) received a TA grant to incorporate Wildfire Mitigation Advisory Committee (WMAC) recommendations into the Comprehensive Plan and development code; and begin updating Goal 5 wildlife habitat inventories. The grant was closed out at the end of May. Both projects remain ongoing.

On September 27, CDD will seek approval from the Board of County Commissioners (Board) to submit a TA Grant application related to the Comprehensive Plan Update and Terrebonne Community Plan.² The deadline for submittal is October 1. If awarded, the grant duration is expected to be from January 2022 to June 2023.

I. Background

On August 11, 2021 CDD staff presented a Planning Division Work Plan Update to the Board.³ Based on high priority and ongoing long range planning projects, staff indicated that the Comprehensive Plan Update would likely be delayed until the spring of 2022. One benefit of the delay, however, is the opportunity to apply for a DLCD TA Grant to leverage additional resources, supplementing the County's financial and in-kind contributions to update the Comprehensive Plan, *Deschutes 2040*. The grant would

¹ https://www.oregon.gov/lcd/CPU/Documents/2021-23_Grants_Allocation_Plan.pdf

² Administrative Policy No. GA-20. The Department Director must inform the County Administrator and receive approval from the Board to proceed with any proposed grant application.

³ <https://mccmeetings.blob.core.usgovcloudapi.net/deschutes-pubu/MEET-Packet-9cad3580ace1416c92b379b56e4cb10e.pdf>. See Action Item #6.

also provide financial resources to initiate an update to the Terrebonne Community Plan.⁴ During this meeting, the Board agreed and, as a result, staff began the application process.

II. DLCD TA Grant Contributions and Tasks

Table 1 summarizes the grant request and County match (in-kind and direct).

Table 1 – Grant Contributions

Project	TA Grant Request	County Match	Total Budget
Comprehensive Plan Update	\$50,000	\$150,000 (direct) \$100,000 (in-kind)	\$300,000
Terrebonne Community Plan Update	\$50,000	\$100,000 (in-kind)	\$150,000
Total	\$100,000	\$350,000	\$450,000

Comprehensive Plan Update

Over the last ten years, the Comprehensive Plan has been amended in a piecemeal manner with various applicant- and staff-initiated legislative amendments. Although many of the goals and policies of the current Plan still hold value, the fundamental data, trends, and land use issues are becoming outdated. The updated Plan, which serves as the guiding document for land use in Deschutes County, needs to incorporate community input to craft new goals and policies regarding agriculture, forestry, housing, recreation, natural resources, natural hazards, economic development, and transportation. An updated community vision will carefully discuss and balance these values.

A TA grant will complement Deschutes County’s direct and in-kind resources to update the Comprehensive Plan, a multi-year process that will span beyond the grant timeline. It will contribute to a community engagement plan, revised population and community profile based on US Census 2020 data, an extensive review of current conditions, and existing goals and policies focusing on agricultural lands, forest lands, economic development, natural hazards, natural resources, public facilities, transportation, and rural housing. While legislative amendments are not expected until FY 2024-2025, the community conversations that will occur with the assistance of a consultant will ensure that Deschutes County’s Comprehensive Plan provides a land use policy framework to address growth and development into 2040.

Terrebonne Community Plan Update

Over the past several years, Deschutes County has observed an increased interest in economic development opportunities in the Terrebonne community. The interest is evident through the popularity of nearby Smith Rock State Park, one of the seven wonders of Oregon, the increased number of commercial land use proposals within Terrebonne’s commercial zoning districts, the Terrebonne Wastewater Feasibility Study, and the U.S. 97 Terrebonne/Lower Bridge Way improvements designed and funded for construction in 2023-2024. As the community of Terrebonne continues to grow and attract

⁴ The Terrebonne Community Plan is recognized in the Comprehensive Plan, Chapter 4, Urban Growth Management, Section 4.9. https://www.deschutes.org/sites/default/files/fileattachments/community_development/page/11797/terrebonne_community_plan.pdf

more diverse populations, Deschutes County has a responsibility and commitment to provide for the needs of these populations based on their own feedback concerning needs, desires, challenges, and opportunities.

A TA grant will enable the County to update the Terrebonne Community Plan's current conditions, vision, goals and policies. It also will build upon the efforts undertaken related to the Terrebonne Sewer Feasibility Study. In coordination with the County Environmental Soils Division, County Road Department, City of Redmond Public Works, and consultant engineers, the County will coordinate with the community to identify a preferred sewer alternative, and research options for creating a Sanitary District. Staff anticipates legislative amendments for the Terrebonne Community Plan to be initiated in the winter of 2023.

III. Next Steps

As noted above, staff will present the TA grant application to the Board on September 27, 2021 to seek approval for submittal.