



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: April 12, 2023

SUBJECT: Letter of support for the FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Grant

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Move approval of the proposed Letter of Recommendation for the BRIC Grant application.

BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

During the January 2023 presentation to the Deschutes County Board of County Commissioners, Oregon Living With Fire (OLWF) was given permission to submit application for the FEMA sponsored BRIC Grant, with Deschutes County named as the subgrantee. The application was completed, and we have learned the application was forwarded for National Competition by Oregon Emergency Management with the highest recommendation from Oregon. In June 2023 announcements will be made to the successful applicants. The BRIC application requested a water storage and sensor activated sprinkler system for the external buildings and infrastructure at the High Desert Museum (HDM). If the application is successful, this will prevent the need for evacuations for all values at the High Desert Museum, it has been determined that it will likely take weeks to successfully evacuate the irreplaceable items and animals from the Museum. For previous FEMA grant applications, letters of support from elected officials have proved beneficial.

BUDGET IMPACTS:

The BRIC Application requested \$3.25 million for the installation and maintenance of the water storage and delivery system at the Museum. There is a 10% match requirement of \$325,000 that can be attained with in kind match from the Museum. Additionally, there is a 5% administrative allowance that would come to Deschutes County to administer the grant during the three year period. Due to the necessity of agreements and environmental compliance, it is likely this would not become a fiscal impact until next fiscal year.

ATTENDANCE:

Dana Whitelaw, HDM Executive Director
Joe Stutler, Deschutes County Senior Advisor