



AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: March 6, 2024

SUBJECT: Oregon Parks & Recreation grant opportunity to explore developing a campground on County-owned property at Fort Thompson Lane

BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

In 2023, the County contracted with ECONorthwest to conduct a Camping Feasibility Study to explore the feasibility of private or public RV parks and campgrounds along with support amenities and infrastructure in three areas, including County-owned land at Fort Thompson Lane.

The State of Oregon offers a County Opportunity Grant Program which is administered by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department to fund qualified projects for Oregon counties.

Eligible projects include:

- Acquisition – Acquiring property for public camping facilities
- Development – Developing new campgrounds and/or support facilities
- Rehabilitation – Rehabilitating grounds or structures to meet ADA requirements
- Planning – Planning for future development of overnight camping facilities, including park master plans

The 2025 grant cycle is expected to open on August 1, 2024, with applications due October 1, 2024. The total amount anticipated to be available to all counties is between \$800,000 and \$1.1 million. In 2021—the most recent award cycle—grant amounts ranged from \$57,000 to \$500,000. Counties with more than 30,000 residents are required to provide a 50% local match.

BUDGET IMPACTS:

The cost would be 50% of any awarded grant funds.

ATTENDANCE:

Jen Patterson, Strategic Initiatives Manager