

AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: May 29, 2024

SUBJECT: Update on the possible use of County-owned property on Fort Thompson Lane

for a recreational campground

BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

In 2023, the County contracted with ECONorthwest to conduct a Camping Feasibility Study. The focus of the study was to determine the feasibility of recreation-focused developments in three areas located within Deschutes County, including County-owned land at Fort Thompson Lane. Developments analyzed included private or public recreational campgrounds along with support amenities and infrastructure.

The Board directed staff to explore the potential for campground development of the Fort Thompson Lane property, including possible grant opportunities from the Oregon State Parks County Opportunity Grant Program (COGP). Staff has researched land use review processes and potential next steps for campground opportunities on this property.

The attached memo summarizes applicable law, outlines a potential land use review process, and provides an overview of the COGP funding opportunity.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

There is no recommended motion. This item is brought forward for consideration by the Board. Potential options include, but are not limited to:

- 1. Begin the land use review process for a public campground on the Fort Thompson Lane property.
- 2. Consider exploring a County-wide park master plan process.
- 3. Direct staff to purse the COGP funding opportunity.

ATTENDANCE:

Will Groves, Planning Manager Stephanie Marshall, Senior Assistant Legal Counsel Jen Patterson, Strategic Initiatives Manager