



## AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

**MEETING DATE:** 3/28/22

**SUBJECT:** Discussion of Extension of four (4) Covid-19 limited duration positions for six months.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:**

A Resolution extending the FTE will be prepared for a forthcoming Board meeting.

**BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

Deschutes County Health Services (DCHS) continues to respond to community needs related to response and recovery efforts surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic. As we move into a new phase of the pandemic, continued required assurances for Public Health include: vaccine distribution, access to testing, outbreak management for high consequence settings, community information and support. In addition to the minimum required assurances, the COVID-19 response and recovery team prioritizes the following goals:

1. Protecting people who have been most harmed by COVID-19
2. Protecting people who are most vulnerable to COVID-19
3. Expanding access to vital health care and supporting a thriving workforce
4. Keeping schools open for students, staff and families, and helping students recover instructional time
5. Restoring social cohesion by listening to and supporting the priorities of local communities and the steps people can take to protect themselves and others

As needs in the community continue to evolve, including ebbs and flows in immediate demands, maintaining a core staffing structure is integral to DCHS's ability to respond to changes and provide an infrastructure for continually shifting demands. The breadth and depth of knowledge in current staff positions, as well as the community connections and relationships, if lost, are not easily replaced. To enable the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Program to recruit and/or maintain a cohesive and consistent workforce, we propose extending the following positions for 6 months, through FY23 (June 30, 2023):

- 1.0 FTE Admin Support Tech (position #2841)
- 1.0 FTE Management Analyst (position #2836)
- 2.0 FTE Public Health Nurse II (positions #2929 and #2844)

These FTEs have been very instrumental to DCHS's COVID-19 response, the loss of which will significantly hinder DCHS's ability to meet the goals listed above.

Due to vacancies and the extension of Federal Emergency Management Funds (FEMA) funds, Oregon Health Authority COVID-19 funds allocated to Deschutes County are available to cover the extensions. Specifically, positions will be paid for as follows:

<b>POSITION</b>	<b>FUNDING SOURCE</b>	<b>COST OF 6 MONTH EXTENSION</b>
1.0 FTE Admin Support Tech	50% PE01-09* 50% PE01-10**	\$38,572
1.0 FTE Management Analyst	50% PE01-09 50% PE01-10	\$61,436
1.0 FTE Public Health Nurse II	20% PE01-09 80% PE01-10	\$54,740
1.0 FTE Public Health Nurse II	100% PE01-10	\$58,390
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$213,138</b>

*\* Program Element (PE) 01-09 is for COVID-19 active monitoring: cultural and linguistic competency and responsiveness; testing coordination; case investigation; contact tracing; isolation and quarantine; wraparound supports; infection prevention and control for high-risk settings; and community education.*

*\*\* PE01-10 is for vaccine planning and delivery: collaborating with partners; assuring cultural and linguistic access; assuring populations most impacted by COVID-19 are served; promote vaccines and improve vaccine confidence in communities of color, Tribal communities, disability communities and others.*

**BUDGET IMPACTS:**

4.0 FTE limited duration positions extended from 12/31/22 to 6/30/23. An increase in planned expenditure in FY23 of \$213,138.

**ATTENDANCE:**

Emily Freeland, Program Manager