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BY: _____

April 1, 2021

Leana Kinley
PO Box 371
Stevenson, WA 98648

Dear Leana,

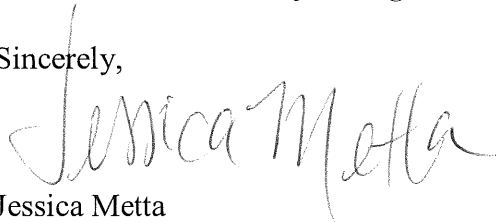
I am pleased to present the 2021 Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD) Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) project ranking, which includes your project(s). The MCEDD Board met in March to finalize prioritization of regional projects based on lists submitted through county economic developers.

The MCEDD Board and staff reviewed all the information you provided and prioritized the list based on the project's economic impact, regional impact, readiness to proceed, need for the project, level of local funding available and level of local capacity. The list of top ten priorities for both Oregon and Washington are enclosed with this letter. In addition, the Board voted to include all projects listed on the county priority lists in the CEDS update.

A full project list, including your submission(s), will therefore be incorporated into the 2021 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy which can be cited to show local support when seeking grants and loans.

Thank you again for participating in this process. If you have any questions about the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy or project ranking you are welcome to contact me at 541-296-2266 or jessica@mcedd.org.

Sincerely,



Jessica Metta
Executive Director

2021 Regional Priority Rank (Washington)

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Project</i>	<i>Reasoning</i>
1	Klickitat County	<p><u>Goldendale Pumped Storage Hydro</u> Project is a proposed \$2 billion pumped-hydro energy storage project. Using existing pumping infrastructure from an old aluminum smelting facility, the closed-loop system would include three variable-speed reversible pump-turbines for a total generating capacity of 1200 MW and a total pumping capacity of 1552 MW. The project would provide a range of services to the grid to support reliability and resilience in addition to specifically balancing variable wind generation. They have submitted documents to FERC and WA Dept. of Ecology for the project's license.</p>	Key industry sector impact and potential to open huge economic development opportunities regionally. Adds resiliency to the region.
2	City of Stevenson	<p><u>Stevenson Wastewater System – Public Infrastructure</u> The City of Stevenson is in need of a wastewater treatment plant upgrade to address the administrative order they are under due to processing more than their current system capacity. The public portion of the project is to bring the treatment plant into compliance and to allow for future growth, upgrade the collection system to reduce inflow and infiltration, and better manage the increased capacity. The City has drafted a final design for the treatment plant and collection system. They have received EDA supplemental disaster funding, a USDA RD loan to cover the matching costs to the EDA grant and have an application in to the Dept. of Ecology for financing the construction of the treatment plant. Collection system construction will begin Spring 2021 and the treatment plant will begin in 2022. Construction on the plant and collection system will continue through 2023.</p>	Addresses key business needs and industry sector and infrastructure. Adds resiliency to the region.
3	Port of Skamania	<p><u>Cascade Business Park Integrated Planning</u> Cascades Business Park is one of the few large remaining industrial sites in the Columbia River Gorge NSA within a one-hour drive of Portland. An integrated planning process would help prepare the 42-acre industrial/business park for development. The project would include an environmental site assessment, remedial investigation, feasibility study, site planning, and community involvement. The Port will be submitting an Integrated Planning Grant application with Dept. of Ecology in January 2021 to fund the project.</p>	Opens development in an otherwise severely land-constrained county.
4	Port of Klickitat	<p><u>Dallesport Industrial Park -DIP Lot 39 Development</u> Port of Klickitat is seeking funds to complete additional light industrial buildings. They are underway with one of five buildings proposed for the future development of Lot 39 in Dallesport.</p>	Addresses opportunities for key industry sectors, creates the “curb appeal” to encourage development in a more economically distressed area.

5	City of White Salmon	<p><u>Buck Creek Water System</u> Replace 7 miles of 14-inch water line that supplies water from Buck Creek to the City of White Salmon. The line is old and needs replacement as soon as possible as it would likely collapse in an earthquake, leaving the City without water until it could be repaired. This facility also supports the City of Bingen.</p>	<p>Primary city water source. Addresses key infrastructure needs. Adds resiliency to the region.</p>
6	Columbia Gorge Regional Airport	<p><u>Aviation Maintenance Training Facility</u> Project would include construction of a multi-use flex space and utilities expansion in airport business park. Columbia Gorge Community College would serve as a tenant for the flex-space to implement their proposed aviation mechanic training program.</p>	<p>Addresses opportunities for key industry sectors and encourages/spurs development in a more economically distressed area</p>
7	City of North Bonneville	<p><u>City of North Bonneville Lift Station Replacement</u> The City's lift station #3, built in 1976, experienced issues in Fall 2017 and continues to need constant maintenance and patching to function without the funds for complete replacement. Lift station #4 is also in need of upgrades, but priority is on #3.</p>	<p>Support for primary infrastructure in an economically distressed community. Adds resiliency to the region.</p>
8	City of Goldendale	<p><u>City of Goldendale Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements</u> Project includes grit removal, solids handling system, aeration system and process configuration system improvements.</p>	<p>Addresses key business, industry sector, and infrastructure needs</p>
9	Port of Klickitat	<p><u>Bingen Point Business Park</u> Task 1: BPBP Improvement Bring up to 5 acres to shovel ready condition Task 2: Flex Building Construction of a 15,000 sq. ft. flex building Task 3: Maple Street Improvements Construct street and public utility improvements for targeted properties</p>	<p>Addresses opportunities for key industry sectors</p>
10	Klickitat and Skamania Counties	<p><u>Broadband- Klickitat and Skamania</u> Stevenson and Goldendale have ongoing Broadband planning efforts and Skamania PUD has been awarded funds to support a feasibility study for a fiber based network in the County. A variety of strategies for improving broadband access and utilization are identified from regulatory changes to investments in infrastructure. Klickitat and Skamania Counties and their communities are seeking support for implementation of these strategies to address this critical infrastructure need.</p>	<p>Primary CEDS focus area. Important to expand opportunities regionally. Adds resiliency to the region.</p>

2021 Regional Priority Rank (Oregon)

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Sponsor(s)</i>	<i>Project</i>	<i>Reasoning</i>
1	Ports of Hood River and Klickitat, Klickitat County, Cities of Bingen & White Salmon	<p><u>Hood River-White Salmon Interstate Bridge Replacement</u> The existing bridge is nearly 90 years old, structurally obsolete and seismically deficient. A new bridge is needed to improve and ensure multi-modal transportation of people and goods across the Columbia River between the communities of Bingen and White Salmon in WA, and Hood River in OR.</p>	Core transportation connection. Resilience issue. Impact to key industry sectors
2	Hood River, Sherman and Wasco Counties	<p><u>Housing</u> Hood River: Development of the 780 Rand Road Housing Development project for affordable housing as well as additional land acquisition for affordable and attainable housing development in the City of Hood River and Hood River Co. Sherman: Sherman County has created incentives to encourage the construction of new rental housing and the rehabilitation of existing housing. The County continues to look for creative ideas that would solve the housing issues and is exploring additional investment in this area. Wasco: Challenges in access and affordability for residents and potential employees have hindered businesses' ability to grow. Better understanding this need and opportunities to address it will impact access to a robust workforce moving forward.</p>	Addressing housing constraints is the #1 overall strategy for the CEDS
3	City of The Dalles	<p><u>Dog River Pipeline Upgrade</u> The existing Dog River pipeline, which currently transports over 50% of the City's annual water supply, was constructed in the early 20th century. The City plans to replace it with a new 24-inch diameter ductile iron pipeline to supply future municipal water demands. The City has completed the permitting process for the project with the Forest Service and is beginning final engineering for the project. The City is still seeking the last pieces of the funding package.</p>	Would address deteriorating infrastructure serving the region's largest city. Supports housing, key industry sectors and water infrastructure. Adds resiliency to the region.
4	Sherman and Wasco Counties	<p><u>Broadband</u> Cascades East Interconnection Colocation Facility: In the Northwest, major colocation facilities are in areas threatened by the Cascadia Subduction earthquake. Q-life is developing a carrier neutral internet exchange where providers and emergency communications networks can meet in The Dalles and access scalable communication paths. The space for this facility would be collocated with the 911 Dispatch Center and Emergency Operations Center to also support enhanced emergency communications. Sherman: Sherman County and its four cities have invested in robust connectivity within each community as well as improvements to their wireless system that serves outlying areas. The County has installed four solar-powered trailers that can pick up the signal from wireless towers and redirect to those not in the direct line of towers. They would like to expand on this project.</p>	Broadband is a key infrastructure need outlined in the CEDS. Regional in nature. Adds resiliency to the region.

5	City of Hood River	<p><u>Hood River Elevated Sewer Line</u> The existing elevated sewer main on the south side of Interstate 84 is very old, exposed and there is no means to divert or stop the flow if there is a break on the main, with potentially catastrophic environmental costs. This project will install a lift station and re-route the sewer line.</p>	Addresses key business needs and industry sector and infrastructure. Adds resiliency to the region.
6	Port of Hood River	<p><u>Hood River Lot 1</u> Lot 1 is the largest remaining light industrial property in the City of Hood River. A significant infrastructure investment- specifically, water, sewer, and public streets - is necessary to prepare the site for industrial development to meet long-term job creation and economic development goals of the community.</p>	Addresses opportunities for key industry sectors
7	Cities of Moro, Rufus, Wasco	<p><u>Backup Power/ Emergency Generator Purchase and Integration for Primary Municipal Wells</u> The Cities of Moro, Rufus and Wasco have identified the need to install a 3-phase emergency backup generator for their primary municipal wells. This would ensure clean/adequate water supplies for sanitation and fire suppression efforts during a grid down scenario. This would help to mitigate the hazards associated with power outages such as with wildfire.</p>	Safety/security/resilience
8	Wasco County Soil and Water Conservation District	<p><u>Fifteenmile Water Below Ground Storage Pilot Project</u> Low stream flow is identified as a primary limiting factor in the Fifteenmile watershed, impacting protected species, agricultural producers, and the City of Dufur's water sources. The proposed pilot project would address two key uncertainties for determining the feasibility of a subsurface storage project to store water during high flow times and provide a more stable and ecologically beneficial water supply. The total cost of the full project if the pilot proves successful would be approximately \$1.5 million. The pilot portion could be completed if the submitted grant applications are funded.</p>	Addresses key industry sector and infrastructure needs
9	Port of Cascade Locks	<p><u>Bridge of the Gods Maintenance</u> Maintenance of the Bridge of the Gods and improvements to include a WaNaPa and Toll Booth Road intersection traffic circle or signalized intersection. The Port is also looking to design / construct a Pacific Crest Trail link across the river adjacent to the Bridge.</p>	Core transportation mechanism. Support for economically distressed community.
10	Sherman Health District	<p><u>Clinic Expansion/ Backup Generator</u> The Sherman Health District is researching expanding services be able to provide more healthcare services such as x-rays, physical therapy, dentistry, and integrated behavioral health. To accommodate, the Clinic would require more space and/or upgraded facilities. They would also like to upgrade the emergency generator currently onsite to be able to provide backup power to more key equipment.</p>	Addresses key business, industry sector, and resilience needs; opportunity for job creation.