## Wilsonville Community Opportunity Grant April 2024 Application/Award Log

Organization/Business	Description	\$ Request	\$ Award
Charbonneau Country Club	Community Emergency Radio Network	\$ 2,256.60	
Wilsonville Little League	Little League Eagle Scout  Dugout Renovation	\$10,000	
Wilsonville Skatepark Association	Skate Jam 2024	\$3,000	

\$15,256.60	

-Applicant Information-**Project Title** COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RADIO NETWORK **Applicant Name** Charbonneau Country Club City Wilsonville State OREGON Zip 97070 Contact (Name) Neil J. Kennedy Title Community Safety Coordinator

**Project Duration: Start Date** 

06/01/2024

**Estimated Completion Date** 

10/01/2024

Project Budget-

**Total Project Budget** \$ 5,411.60

Applicant Cash Match (a) \$ 1.155.00

In-Kind Resources (b) \$ 2,000.00

Total Applicant Match (a+b) \$ 3,155.00

**Grant Request** \$ 2.256.60

Project Narrative Questions

## Provide a project description

The Emergency Preparedness/Public Safety (EPPS) Committee of the Charbonneau Country Club needs to purchase 33 BTECH GMRS 5-Watt radios to be used by our Disaster Preparedness Team. Since 2016, the EPPS Committee has worked with all Charbonneau homeowner associations (HOAs) to establish an effective and coordinated approach to help minimize the negative effects of potential disasters for the community. Communications during any emergency, including extended power outages, wildfires or an earthquake, is our single, most vital problem to address.

HOA Disaster Preparedness Teams consist of residents who are trained to prepare for an emergency situation by building and strengthening disaster readiness among neighbors. There are two (2) leaders within each HOA designated as "Key Captains" who have oversight of their HOA team and are the first point of contact with the Charbonneau Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

The EPPS Committee has established an emergency communications network using FRS radios with a maximum power of 1.5 Watts. These are distributed to most of the 120 trained Captains throughout our HOAs and the system is tested annually during a community-wide drill. Although these radios are effective, they have relatively low power causing 'dead spots' in transmission and the oldest models are reaching their useful life span. Experience has taught us that to fortify and preserve the integrity of the communications network, it is vital that we upgrade radios for the Key Captains in each HOA to GMRS radios with 5-watt capability.

The key difference of these new radios from those our Key Captains have been using for communications in an emergency, is wattage power. The higher wattage radios will provide a more consistent connection with our EOC base station and enhance our ability to report our

status to the City of Wilsonville and Clackamas County Emergency Management. In a subduction zone earthquake, loss of the Boone Bridge will cut Charbonneau off from the City of Wilsonville and Clackamas County support, making communication vital.

Two base radios are located at the Charbonneau Activity Center with antennas on the roof, these radios transmit at 5 Watts. The Activity Center is the designated EOC and can run on backup generator power. There are two Dispatchers assigned to the EOC during an emergency, and their roles are to:

- o Via radio, receive and record status reports from each HOA
- o Pass on community status reports and requests for assistance to outside responders like the City of Wilsonville, Clackamas County Emergency Management team and TVF&R
- o Coordinate mutual assistance between HOAs and the Charbonneau EOC

## How does your project promote education, diversity, arts, civic engagement and/or provide entertainment and strengthen the community?

EDUCATION: In order to share our years of experience establishing and maintaining a viable emergency communication network, EPPS will host informational seminars for the greater Wilsonville Community, at no charge to participants. We have readily available meeting space and an experienced cadre of volunteers to conduct these events. While the distribution and training of our emergency team of Key Captains will only take a few months, we are prepared to offer this educational opportunity on an on-going basis.

DIVERSITY: The 3500+ Wilsonville residents, living in Charbonneau, represent a vulnerable, ageing population that depends on our ability to communicate with them in an emergency. A 3-day power outage during an ice storm presented us with real-world experience at how quickly a community can be cut off from vital information. It pointed to the need for alternate Emergency Operations Centers using portable radio base stations, something that has been put into place. A Key Captain's ability to report residents' requests for assistance will be enhanced by the use of more powerful 5-watt radios.

STRENGTHENING THE COMMUNITY: The culture, history and heritage of our Wilsonville community is part of our collective DNA. It strengthens and enhances us. Major disasters upend a community's resilience and put its future at risk. Long term studies confirm that the best results for the restoration of resiliency and recovery after a disaster happen in prepared communities. Think of New Orleans after hurricane Katrina, or New York coastal communities after superstorm Sandy. Emergency Preparedness strengthens a community and safeguards its cultural history.

What are your organization's goals for this project? And, what population are you aiming to serve? (youth, seniors, families, underprivileged, persons with disabilities, etc..) Using measurable amounts whenever possible, consider the question: How will you know that you succeeded in your goals?

GOALS: Our goal for this project is to fortify our established emergency communications network by upgrading the radio equipment used by the Key Captains of our HOA Disaster Preparedness Teams. We have identified a GMRS radio with 5-watt capability that will integrate with our present equipment. Upon purchase and receipt of 33 of these radios, they will be distributed to our HOA Key Captains and key members of our Incident Command Team who will be trained by our Communications Team

POPULATION SERVED: Our primary aim is to serve the residents of Charbonneau, a population with a mean age of 70. A viable communications network allows us to disseminate information to this population, to track emergency needs and report those to the respective agencies that might offer help.

MEASURABLE GOALS: Our Communications Team has tested the BTECH GMRS, 5-watt radio and confirmed that its superior power will conquer our "dead spots" issue. A community wide test of the network using the new radios would occur on 09/19/2024, during the Great Shake Out drill.

How are you/your organization suited to produce this project/program? Provide the community resources that will be used if applicable (volunteers, local vendors, local contributions, etc.)

The Emergency Preparedness/Public Safety (EPPS) Committee of the Charbonneau Country Club (CCC) has overseen the operations of our disaster preparedness efforts for more than 8 years. In 2023, CCC hired a Community Safety Coordinator, who brings full-time, professional oversight to those efforts. Our HOA teams consist of more than 125 volunteers, including those trained in emergency preparedness and a team of medically trained residents. Communications volunteers include engineers and HAM radio licensed operators.

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## **Project Budget**

This budget provides the detail of the project that the grant funds will be applied to. This should include how the funds from this grant will be spent. Expenses must be explicitly defined. Please include in-kind and cash match.

Income Sources	Amount	
City of Wilsonville Community Opportunity Grant		\$2,256.60
Charbonneau Country Club		\$1,155.00
In Kind Contribution (from Charbonneau Country Club)		\$2,000.00
Total Project Income		\$5,411.60

Expenses - Must be specifically itemized	Amount
30 BTECH GMRS 5-watt 2 way radios	\$2,256.60
30 FCC GMRS Readio Licenses	\$1,155.00
4 Educational Semminars (50 participants each)	\$2,000.00
Total Project Expense	\$5,411.60