

January 12, 2021

Board of County Commissioners
Clackamas County
Issues Meeting

Members of the Board:

Approve Request to Apply for Rental Assistance Program Funds from Treasury Department

Purpose/Outcomes	The U.S. Treasury Department released an announcement on January 6, 2021 with an opportunity for Clackamas County to apply for Rental Assistance Funds. \$25 billion will be distributed across the U.S. Clackamas County is deemed eligible to apply for this special award. These funds would be used for direct financial assistance to low-income Clackamas residents.
Dollar Amount and Fiscal Impact	Potential to increase Clackamas County’s Rental Assistance program by an estimated \$4 to 5 million dollars. No County General Fund Match is required.
Funding Source	U.S. Department of Treasury
Duration	Funds would need to be expended by December 31, 2021.
Previous Board Action	N/A
Strategic Plan Alignment	1. Ensure safe, healthy and secure communities 2. Individuals and families are healthy and safe
County Counsel	U.S. Treasury initiated, County Counsel not contacted
Contact Person	Brenda Durbin / Social Services Director / 503-706-6746
Contract No.	N/A

BACKGROUND:

Announcement of this funding opportunity was released on January 6, 2021. Because this funding originates out of the Department of Treasury, the process is expedited. In order to receive these funds payment information and a signed acceptance of award terms must be submitted not later than 11:59 p.m. EDT on January 12, 2021. Eligible grantees that do not provide complete information by 11:59 p.m. EDT on January 12, 2021, may not receive an Emergency Rental Assistance payment.

Funding award requires that not less than 90 percent of awarded funds must be used for direct financial assistance, including rent, rental arrears, utilities and home energy costs, utilities and home energy costs arrears, and other expenses related to housing. Remaining funds are available for housing stability services, including case management and other services intended to keep households stably housed, and administrative costs.

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Department**

RECOMMENDATION:

BCC provide affirmation that County can move forward with applying for Rental Assistance Funds from the Treasury. County staff will assure that due diligence occurs related to County Counsel and Finance review to assure County process has been followed.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Swift, H3S Director