# Clackamas County 2023 Congressional Briefing



# Clackamas County Board of Commissioners Tootie Smith – Chair Paul Savas Martha Schrader Mark Shull Ben West

# Clackamas County by the numbers

	LIC Local
Land Area:	1,879 sq. miles
City, County & State Roads:	2,428 miles
Persons per sq. mile:	229
% of Federal Forest:	52%
2022 Population:	430,421
Civilian Labor Force:	230,412 (Dec/22)
Employed Labor Force:	221,557 (Dec/22)
Unemployment Rate:	3.8% (Dec/22)
2021 Average Industry Wage:	\$63,357
Per Capita Income (2021):	\$45,342
Oregon's Fastest Growing Cities:	Happy Valley (1), Wilsonville (3), Sandy (4), Molalla (9) and Oregon City (10)

#### **Clackamas County Public and Government Affairs**

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### Clackamas County delivers vital public services in partnership with the State of Oregon

Clackamas County is truly urban, suburban, rural, and wild. We are dedicated to welcoming new residents and businesses, and committed to delivering community services that are dependable, accessible, and equitable to the public.

# **County Initiative**

Federal funding to support the I-205 Improvements Project

## **County Priorities**

- Funding and legislation to support the repair and ownership transfer of the **Willamette Falls Locks**
- Legislation for the responsible and sustainable management of federal forest lands, including O&C Lands, for wildfire prevention and predictable revenue to counties from shared timber receipts
- Legislation to support Mt. Hood recreation, access, and protection
- Policies and funding to support **housing and human services programs**, and other county operations that are reliant on federal resources
- Policies and funding to encourage increased food production and production acreage in the county, and support for the farming industry – especially family farms – to thrive and adapt to market and climate impacts.

# **Legislative Principles**

Clackamas County's policy positions will be guided by the five strategic goals below. Priority consideration will be given to policies that advance equity and inclusion, and support the county's goal of being carbon neutral by 2050.



### **Grow a Vibrant Economy**

The county supports legislation that incentivizes businesses to grow and prosper. Successful legislation will ensure the county has dedicated resources for attracting and growing industries and workforce, and qualifies for programs that assist efforts to expand economic development opportunities.



#### **Build a Strong Infrastructure**

The county supports legislation that encourages long-term investments in major infrastructure projects to improve the quality of life of county residents. Successful legislation will ease congestion, expand travel options, enhance seismic resiliency, spur economic growth in employment areas including the Sunrise Gateway Corridor, broaden telecommunication access, and promote science-based and ratepayer-minded water quality protections.



#### Honor, Utilize, Promote & Invest in our Natural Resources

The county supports legislation that ensures effective and sustainable management and conservation of our abundant natural and agricultural resources. Successful legislation will stimulate our natural resource-based economy, reduce wildfire risk, and improve the financial stability of counties by creating a predictable and long-term solution to county revenue needs.



#### **Ensure Safe, Healthy, and Secure Communities**

The county supports legislation that improves the health, safety, and wellbeing of all county residents and communities. Successful legislation will support access to community assets, such as parks and libraries, assist vulnerable populations including residents who are facing homelessness, substance abuse and addictions, behavioral health challenges, and public health threats. Legislation also should help reduce the crime rate and recidivism, promote and sustain best practices for justice-involved individuals, protect survivors of domestic violence, improve emergency communications and disaster preparedness, and enhance the region's readiness for threats or acts of terrorism.



#### **Build Public Trust through Good Government**

The county supports legislation that enhances the county's ability to deliver effective, reliable, and equitable services to county residents. Successful legislation will maintain the county's financial sustainability, allocate sufficient resources for county programs, preserve state and county shared revenue agreements, and support county efforts to attract and retain qualified employees. Legislation also should not impose unfunded mandates, preempt local tax sources, restrict local government authority, or use population as the sole criteria for federal funding allocations in cases where multiple jurisdictions serve a metropolitan area.

# **Congressionally Directed Spending for Federal Fiscal Year 2024**



### **Clackamas County Priorities**

Clackamas County serves over 430,000 residents and thousands of visitors each year. Congressionally Directed Spending is a vital funding mechanism that supports local priorities and enables the county to enhance the delivery of services to the public. In 2023, the county is requesting federal funding on the following four projects that will increase public safety, curb youth drug addiction, and support transit alternatives in our communities.

### **Clackamas 911 Safety, Wellness, and Service Enhancements**

Requesting \$1,000,000

#### Local Match \$250,000

Clackamas 911 provides emergency call-taking and dispatch to law enforcement, fire, EMS, and mental health providers throughout the county. This request will make improvements to a 37 year-old facility that will upgrade safety features, establish emergency preparedness infrastructure, improve acoustics for call takers, and provide respite and wellness rooms for employees. On average, Clackamas 911 takes over 1,000 calls per day.



### **Mt. Hood Transit Enhancements**

Requesting \$2,781,630

#### Local Match \$318,370

Mt. Hood Express, a public bus service administered by Clackamas County that runs along Highway 26 between Sandy and Timberline, seeks to improve access to and reliability of its transit service through the addition of a park-and-ride feature in the Welches area and transit stop improvements in Government Camp, including construction of a restroom. This project advances a component of the larger Vision Around the Mountain plan, which is aimed at improving access for visitors and workers on Mt. Hood, and reducing traffic along the corridor.



#### **Clackamas County Rural Transit Enhancements**

Requesting \$3,100,000

#### Local Match \$754,000

A variety of public transit services are available to county residents outside of the Portland urban area through a network of rural transit providers, including SMART (Wilsonville), SAM (Sandy), SCTD (Molalla), CAT (Canby), and Mt. Hood Express (Clackamas). This coordinated project would enable four of the providers to each add electric buses to their fleet, and allow the fifth provider to add a bike enclosure to promote last mile connections and safety improvements.



# Clackamas School-Based Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse Juvenile Justice Prevention Program

Requesting \$1,000,000

#### Local Match \$204,777

The Clackamas County Juvenile Department provides equitable juvenile justice, family support, intervention, and reformation services to youth so they can repair harm to victims, experience positive change, and contribute to a safe, healthy, and secure community. Collaborating with a local high school and community based organization, the county has launched a pilot program with the goal of preventing youth from entering the justice system and lessening demands on law enforcement by improving family



connections and increasing community resources for youth. A successful award will extend the program for an additional two years and expand into additional schools. The pilot aims to collect data that can justify long-term investments at the state or local level.



