



DAN JOHNSON
DIRECTOR

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES BUILDING

150 BEAVERCREEK ROAD OREGON CITY, OR 97045

May 19, 2022

Board of Commissioners
Clackamas County

Members of the Board:

**Approval to apply for a Rural Surface Transportation Grant
to replace the existing bridge across the Bull Run River. \$11,509,700 in requested grants funds.
Matching funds of \$2,867,425 funding through County Road Funds and an additional \$10,000
funding through Weyerhaeuser. County General Funds are not involved**

Purpose/ Outcomes	Approval to apply for a Rural Surface Transportation Grant to replace the bridge across the Bull Run River on Bull Run Road.
Dollar Amount and Fiscal Impact	\$11,509,700 in grant funds will be requested. Matching funds in the amount of \$2,867,425 will be provided from County Road Funds. Weyerhaeuser will contribute an additional \$10,000 towards this project.
Funding Source	Federal Highway Administration and Clackamas County Road Fund. Weyerhaeuser will contribute \$10,000. No county general funds will be involved.
Duration	Grant award would occur no later than January 2023. Project development would begin in 2022 and be complete no later than September 2027.
Previous Board Action	Discussion item at issues on 5/17/22.
Strategic Plan Alignment	1. This project will help meet the goal to provide travelers safe roads that are in good condition. 2. This project aligns with the Performance Clackamas Goal that by 2026 100% of county residents and businesses have access to safe and affordable infrastructure including multimodal transportation facilities.
Counsel Review	This item does not require Counsel Review. Finance has reviewed the lifecycle form.
Procurement Review	1. Was this item processed through Procurement? No 2. If no, provide brief explanation: This project is a grant application. If funds are awarded it will be processed through procurement.
Contact Person	Stephen Williams, Principal Transportation Planner - 742-4696

Clackamas County recently applied for funding to replace the Bull Run Bridge through a different federal grant opportunity. While a decision by FHWA awaits on that application, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law of 2021 created a new discretionary grant program called the Rural Surface Transportation Grant program. Replacement of the bridge over the Bull Run River on Bull Run Road is a strong candidate for Rural funding. The bridge is over 129 years old and has a sufficiency rating of 2 (out of 100), the second worst rating among over 8,000 publicly owned bridges in Oregon. The bridge is a vital connection to the Bull Run community (population 360) for emergency response and access to services in Sandy. It is also a critical connection for the Portland Water Bureau to access the Bull Run Reservoirs for operations and maintenance. Applications are due on May 23, 2022. Considering the importance of this bridge and its condition, a second grant application will increase the County's chances of being awarded funds.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff respectfully recommends approval to apply for a Rural Surface Transportation Grant to replace the bridge across the Bull Run River in the amount of \$11,509,700 and submit the attached Letter of Support.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen Williams- Principal Transportation Planner

Financial Assistance Application Lifecycle Form

Use this form to track your potential award from conception to submission.
Sections of this form are designed to be completed in collaboration between department program and fiscal staff.

**** CONCEPTION ****

Section I: Funding Opportunity Information - To be completed by Requester

Award type: Direct Appropriation (no application)
 Subrecipient Award Direct Award
Award Renewal? Yes No

Lead Department & Fund #: Transportation and Development

If renewal, complete sections 1, 2, & 4 only. If Direct Appropriation, complete page 1 and Dept/Finance signatures only.
If Disaster or Emergency Relief Funding, EOC will need to approve prior to being sent to the BCC

Name of Funding Opportunity: Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Opportunity (MPDG) - Rural

Funding Source: Federal State Local

Requestor Information (Name of staff person initiating form): Stephen Williams, Principal Transportation Planner

Requestor Contact Information: swilliams@clackamas.us, Desk phone: (503) 742-4656 Cell phone: (971) 280-2725

Department Fiscal Representative: Diedre Landon

Program Name and prior project # (please specify): US DOT Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Opportunity (MPDG) - Rural

Brief Description of Project:

The Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant Opportunity (MPDG) - Rural program, provides a unique opportunity for US DOT to invest in road, rail, transit and port projects off the Federal Highway System that promise to achieve national objectives. The Bull Run Bridge project meets these national objectives by providing access to critical infrastructure, the Bull Run Reservoirs, which are the source of fresh water for over 1.5 million people in the Portland area and in northwest Clackamas County.

Name of Funding Agency: US Department of Transportation

Notification of Funding Opportunity Web Address:

<https://www.transportation.gov/grants/rural-surface-transportation-grant>

OR

Application Packet Attached: Yes No

Completed By: Stephen Williams

May 6, 2022

Date

**** NOW READY FOR SUBMISSION TO DEPARTMENT FISCAL REPRESENTATIVE ****

Section II: Funding Opportunity Information - To be completed by Department Fiscal Rep

Competitive Application

Non-Competing Application

Other

CFDA(s), if applicable: 20.938

Funding Agency Award Notification Date: January 1, 2023

Announcement Date: March 22, 2022

Announcement/Opportunity #:

Grant Category/Title: Rural Surface Transportation Grant P

Funding Amount Requested: 80% of \$14,387,125 or \$11,509,700

Allows Indirect/Rate: Yes

Match Requirement: ~~\$2,877,425~~ \$2,867,425

Application Deadline: May 23, 2022

Other Deadlines: April 30, 2025 deadline to start construction

Award Start Date: October 1, 2023

Other Deadline Description: Construction required to start within 18 months of ol

Award End Date: September 30, 2029

Completed By: Stephen Williams

Program Income Requirement: No program income requirements

Pre-Application Meeting Schedule:

Additional funding sources available to fund this program? Please describe: Road Funds will be used to fund the required match, project management, administration and indirect expenses.

How much General Fund will be used to cover costs in this program, including indirect expenses? None

How much Fund Balance will be used to cover costs in this program, including indirect expenses? None

Section III: Funding Opportunity Information - To be completed at Pre-Application Meeting by Dept Program and Fiscal Staff

Mission/Purpose:

1. How does the grant/funding opportunity support the Department and/or Division's Mission/Purpose/Goals?

A goal in the county's Performance Management Plan, "Performance Clackamas" is to Build/Maintain Strong Infrastructure. The Bull Run Bridge has a bridge sufficiency rating of 2 and is approaching the point at which it must be closed.

2. What, if any, are the community partners who might be better suited to perform this work?

Clackamas County is the owner of the Bull Run Bridge and it is on a county road. There are no community partners better suited to perform this work.

3. What are the objectives of this funding opportunity? How will we meet these objectives?

The purpose of this funding opportunity is to provide funding for unique, high cost transportation infrastructure project that meets a critical need at a cost that exceeds the funds available for local governments.

4. Does the grant/financial assistance fund an existing program? If yes, which program? If no, what is the purpose of the program?

The grant funds will not be used for an existing program, they will be targeted to a specific project and will be used only for the proposed Bull Run Bridge replacement.

Organizational Capacity:

1. Does the organization have adequate and qualified staff? If no, can staff be hired within the grant/financial assistance funding opportunity timeframe?

Clackamas County Department of Transportation and Development has a Capital Projects Division that is staffed with professionals that have extensive experience in the development of projects with federal funds.

2. Are there partnership efforts required? If yes, who are we partnering with and what are their roles and responsibilities?

There will not be any partnership efforts required. Clackamas County will be the lead organization for this project.

3. If this is a pilot project, what is the plan for sunseting the project and/or staff if it does not continue (e.g. making staff positions temporary or limited duration, etc.)?

This is not a pilot project and will only provide funding for the Bull Run Bridge replacement. There will be no need for sunseting either the project or staff upon completion of this project.

4. If funded, would this grant/financial assistance create a new program, does the department intend for the program to continue after initial funding is exhausted? If yes, how will the department ensure funding (e.g. request new funding during the budget process, supplanted by a different program, etc.)?

This grant will not create a new program, it will only provide funding for the Bull Run Bridge replacement.

Collaboration

1. List County departments that will collaborate on this award, if any.

The Finance Department will be a collaborator on this project for grant reimbursements, procurement of professional design services and also bid letting of the project.

Reporting Requirements

1. What are the program reporting requirements for this grant/funding opportunity?

This program requires submission of invoices for reimbursement that must be accompanied by a written progress report.

2. How will performance be evaluated? Are we using existing data sources? If yes, what are they and where are they housed? If not, is it feasible to develop a data source within the grant timeframe?

DTD staff will develop a project schedule that will be used by project management staff to track the progress of consultants and contractors.

3. What are the fiscal reporting requirements for this funding?

A full finance report must be submitted monthly with the invoices identifying all expenditures and the percent completion for all contracts.

Fiscal

1. Will we realize more benefit than this financial assistance will cost to administer?

Yes, replacement of the Bull Run Bridge will cost \$14,387,125. If awarded this grant would provide 80% of the total cost of replacement of the Bull Run Bridge or \$11,509,700.

2. Are other revenue sources required, available or will be used to fund the program? Have they already been secured? Please name other sources, including General Fund or Fund Balance and amounts.

Road Fund will be used to pay for required match, project administration and management. No other funding is required for this project.

3. For applications with a match requirement, how much is required (in dollars) and what type of funding will be used to meet it (CGF, In-kind, Local Grant, etc.)?

The grant requires a 20% match which will be \$2,867,425. The match will be funded using Road Funds.

4. Does this grant/financial assistance cover indirect costs? If yes, is there a rate cap? If no, can additional funds be obtained to support indirect expenses and what are those sources?

Indirect expenses are eligible costs for this grant program.

Program Approval:

Karen Buehrig

May 10, 2022

Name (Typed/Printed)

Date

Signature

**** NOW READY FOR PROGRAM MANAGER SUBMISSION TO DIVISION DIRECTOR ****

****ATTACH ANY CERTIFICATIONS REQUIRED BY THE FUNDING AGENCY. COUNTY FINANCE OR ADMIN WILL SIGN.****

Section IV: Approvals

DIVISION DIRECTOR (or designee, if applicable)		
Mike Bezner	05/10/2022	
Name (Typed/Printed)	Date	Signature

DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR (or designee, if applicable)		
Dan Johnson	05/10/2022	
Name (Typed/Printed)	Date	Signature

FINANCE ADMINISTRATION		
Elizabeth Comfort	5.11.2022	
Name (Typed/Printed)	Date	Signature

EOC COMMAND APPROVAL (DISASTER OR EMERGENCY RELIEF APPLICATIONS ONLY)		
Not applicable		
Name (Typed/Printed)	Date	Signature

Section V: Board of County Commissioners/County Administration

*(Required for all grant applications. If your grant is awarded, all grant **awards** must be approved by the Board on their weekly consent agenda regardless of amount per local budget law 294.338.)*

For applications less than \$150,000:

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR	Approved: <input type="checkbox"/>	Denied: <input type="checkbox"/>
Name (Typed/Printed)	Date	Signature

For applications greater than \$150,000 or which otherwise require BCC approval:

BCC Agenda item #:

Date:

OR

Policy Session Date:

County Administration Attestation

County Administration: re-route to department contact when fully approved.
 Department: keep original with your grant file.

May 19, 2022

Office of the Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: 2022 Rural Surface Transportation Grant Program Application for Replacement of the Bull Run Bridge in Clackamas County, Oregon

Dear Rural Surface Transportation Grant Program Application Review Committee:

The Clackamas County Board of County Commissioners wishes to express their strong support for the 2022 Rural Surface Transportation Grant Program application for \$11.5 million to replace the Bull Run Bridge in Clackamas County, Oregon. While a portion of Clackamas County is within the Portland Metropolitan Area, it is a very large county and the Bull Run Bridge is located well outside the metropolitan area in a very rural location. The project is one of vital importance for meeting the transportation needs of the rural area of the county and cannot be completed using funds that are available to Clackamas County.

We believe that the proposed Bull Run Bridge replacement project is an excellent candidate for Rural Surface Transportation Grant Program funding. Per 23 U.S.C § 173(g), a project that is selected to receive Rural Surface Transportation Grant Program funding must meet five program requirements. The project that we are proposing meets all five of the program requirements as described below:

Rural Project Requirement #1: The replacement of Bull Run Bridge will generate regional economic, mobility or safety benefits. The replacement of Bull Run Bridge meets this requirement by providing greatly improved mobility in a rural area of Clackamas County. The improved truck mobility resulting from replacement of Bull Run Bridge will provide improved access to timber harvest areas of the county resulting in more jobs for workers in timber harvest and processing.

Rural Project Requirement #2: The Bull Run Bridge replacement will greatly decrease travel time and cost for residents and businesses of the area. The Benefit-Cost Analysis for this project determined that the value of the benefits is 73.75 times the cost of the project. In fact, that analysis shows that the annual decrease in cost of travel including vehicle occupant travel time, cost of vehicle operations, cost of air pollution impacts and human cost from additional crashes exceeds the total cost for the project.

Rural Project Requirement #3: The proposed Bull Run Bridge replacement will contribute to at least 3 of the National Goals identified in 23 U.S.C. § 150:

- Safety – The condition of the Bull Run Bridge will likely result in the closure of the bridge in the next 5 years. When that occurs travel by areas residents and businesses will greatly increase. The safety analysis conducted for this project showed that closure of the Bull Run Bridge would increase fatalities over the next 30 years from 6.3 to 32.7, and increase personal injuries from 38.3 to 158.4.
- Infrastructure Condition – The existing Bull Run Bridge has been assessed by the Oregon Department of Transportation as having a Sufficiency Rating of 2 out of 100, which is the second worst bridge out of over 8,000 bridges owned by state and local governments in the state. This project will replace one of the worst highway infrastructure assets in Oregon with a low maintenance bridge that will serve transportation needs in the area for at least 100 years.
- Environmental Sustainability – Replacement of Bull Run Bridge will greatly reduce the generation of air pollutants and greenhouse gases that will be generated if the bridge is closed. The air pollution analysis for this project shows that closure of the Bull Run Bridge instead of replacement will increase CO₂ generation over the next 30 years by 88,792 metric tons, increase generation of nitrous oxides 152.69 metric tons and increase generation of particulate matter by 2.58 metric tons.

Rural Project Requirement #4: The proposed Bull Run Bridge replacement project 30 percent Design Acceptance Package was completed in August 2019 by Quincy Engineering.

Rural Project Requirement #5: The requirement that construction begin no later than 18 months following the date of obligation is an aggressive schedule that Clackamas County staff believes can be met by starting the four most time consuming steps in the project development process following announcement of funding award rather than waiting for a funding agreement and obligation of funds. These steps are procurement and contract negotiations for design engineering, environmental clearance including NEPA and permitting requirements, right-of-way acquisition and public engagement. The steps should proceed quickly due to the preliminary work that the county has already carried out.

- Project Engineering - The previous completion of the 30 percent Design Acceptance Package will enable to county to provide a great deal of information to the selected design consultant and move directly into the design process.
- Environmental Clearance and Permitting – During the preliminary engineering process an assessment of environmental resources and the permitting requirements was carried out by Clackamas County and the Oregon Department of Transportation. The information that was developed showed that the environmental impacts were limited and that the required environmental clearance for the project would be a programmatic categorical exclusion. The analysis of permitting requirements showed that those were very limited and could be completed within one year.
- Right-of-way Acquisition – The right-of-way needs for this project are very limited. In the preliminary engineering analysis it was determined that right-of-way would only be needed from two adjoining properties, that both properties are owned by Portland General Electric (PGE) and that those have been identified as surplus. County right-of-way staff believes that the entire right-of-way process can be completed within 6 months.

- Public Engagement – Clackamas County staffed has conducted several community engagement events in the Bull Run area with the assistance of the Bull Run Community Planning Organization (CPO). Those events were strongly attended and support for the bridge replacement project was unanimous. The residents of the area clearly recognize that if the bridge were to be closed rather than replaced that their lives would be greatly impacted by increased daily travel, and the time and cost of that travel.

The Bull Run Bridge is vital to the health, safety and welfare of residents of the rural area of Clackamas County. Replacement of the bridge is the only way to avoid closure of this important access route, possibly within the next 5 years. As described in this letter, the Bull Run Bridge Replacement project clearly satisfies all five of the Rural Project Requirements as identified in 23 U.S.C. § 173(g). We urge that the Bull Run Bridge replacement project be selected for funding through the 2022 Rural Surface Transportation Grant program.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this project proposal.

Sincerely

CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Tootie Smith, Chair

On Behalf of the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners