



MEMORANDUM

TO: Clackamas County Board of County Commissioners
FROM: Gary Schmidt, County Administrator
RE: Documents Signed on Board's Behalf During Recess
DATE: March 6, 2025

REQUEST: No request, informational update only on a grant application signed during the Board's recess from February 26, 2025 to March 5, 2025.

BACKGROUND: Per County Code [Appendix C, Division C-050-0100 (5)], the County Administrator has authority to sign contracts on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners when there exists an emergency such that a quorum of the Board of County Commissioners cannot meet before an action must be taken for the protection of the public and/or public goods. The following was signed during the Board's recent recess:

1. **Disaster Management:** Approval of a Grant Application to Oregon Emergency Management for a Phase II flood mitigation feasibility study on the upper Sandy River. Grant value is \$290,943. Funding is through the Federal Emergency Management Agency and a required 25% match of \$72,735.75 in budgeted County General Funds.

RECOMMENDATION: Informational update only.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gary Schmidt, County Administrator

Attachments:

Attachment #A: Disaster Management Grant Application Staff Report

Attachment #A: Disaster Management Grant Application Staff Report



Daniel Nibouar

Director

Disaster Management
1710 Red Soils Ct., Ste. 225
Oregon City, OR 97045

Ph. 503-655-8378

www.clackamas.us

February 27, 2025

BCC Agenda Date/Item: _____

Board of County Commissioners
Clackamas County

Approval of a Grant Application to Oregon Emergency Management for a Phase II flood mitigation feasibility study on the upper Sandy River. Grant value is \$290,943. Funding is through the Federal Emergency Management Agency and a required 25% match of \$72,735.75 in budgeted County General Funds.

Previous Board Action/Review	August 8, 2013 and agenda item 08292013 E.4 filed as 2013-4352, Board approval of Phase I Flood Erosion Evaluation Study for the upper Sandy River.		
Performance Clackamas	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure safe, healthy and secure communities 2. Honor, utilize, promote and invest in our natural resources 		
Counsel Review	No	Procurement Review	No
Contact Person	Jay Wilson	Contact Phone	503-209-2812

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: This grant will fund a feasibility analysis of a high-risk location on the upper Sandy River (Attachment A) where bank erosion due to channel migration could threaten Barlow Trail Road and several private residences. This Phase II study is the follow up from the Phase I 2015 Flood Erosion Evaluation following the 2011 Sandy River flood. FEMA’s phased hazard mitigation grants allow a Phase I hazard study with the intention to implement a Phase II mitigation project. Non-federal match is \$72,735.75 will be covered by budgeted County general Funds.

Many miles of emergency levees were installed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers after the 1964 Sandy River flood of record and numerous locations are now compromised. If there is a levee failure, it could create a dangerous channel migration situation for people and properties. This Phase II grant will assess the flood risk to public and private properties and evaluate stream functions and habitat sensitivities to develop mitigation project alternatives and an estimate for no action, with a preferred course of action. As a Phase II project, this location has the highest recommendation for action from the Phase I analysis.

The County originally tried to seek Phase II funding in 2015, but the funds in the FEMA mitigation grant related to the 2011 flood were exhausted. The County Board then sought assistance from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers between 2019 and 2022 (Attachment B), but their feasibility study costs were prohibitive and the County did not have the ability to meet their 50% local match that time.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that the BCC approve the grant application for the Phase II Flood Mitigation Feasibility Study on the upper Sandy River.

Respectfully submitted,

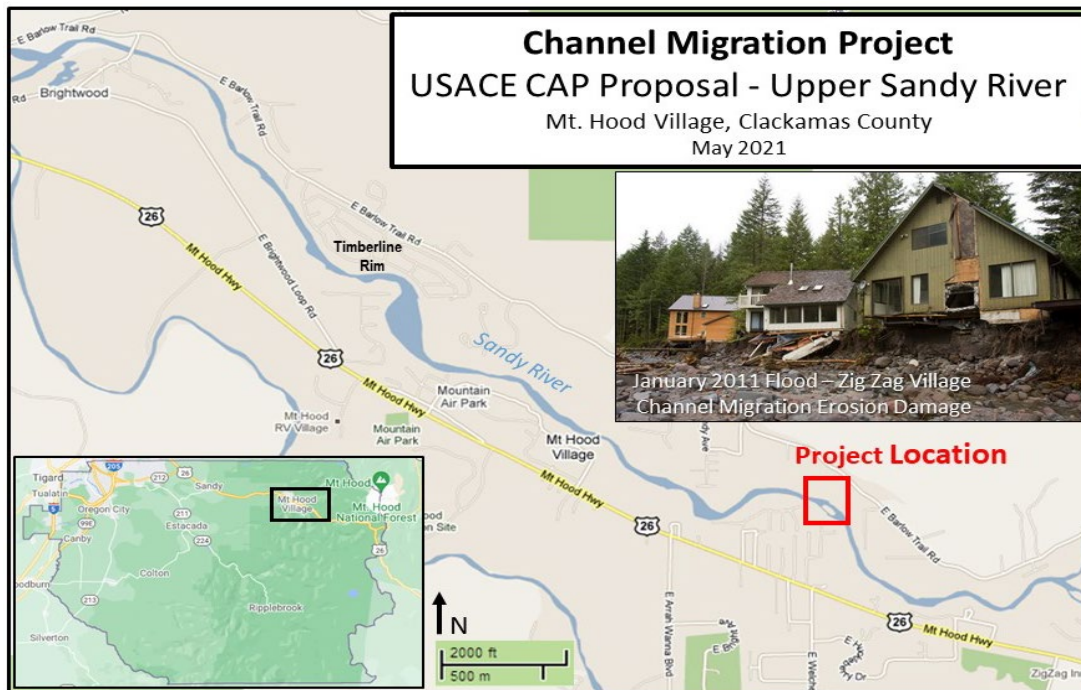
Daniel Nibouar
Director

For Filing Use Only

Upper Sandy River Basin Channel Migration Project - Clackamas County, Oregon

Background:

The upper Sandy River communities of Brightwood, Wemme, Welches, Zig Zag Village and Rhododendron in eastern Clackamas County (Map below) have faced decades of increasing channel migration due to excessive stream bank erosion with resulting foundation damage and scour to homes, bridges and water infrastructure. The 1964 Christmas flood destroyed 155 homes due to channel migration. The subsequent 1965 emergency work by the US Army Corps of Engineers to bulldoze miles of non-engineered levees fostered an increase of homes built in the Sandy River floodplain. After 60 years, those levees are now failing and during the 2011 flood we lost three homes and saw 111 feet of linear erosion in the Timberline Rim community.



At issue:

The loose sands and gravels of Mt Hood’s volcanic soils are especially susceptible to riverine erosion and will likely become more severe as we face increasing storm frequency and severity due to climate change. A 2015 Channel Migration Study commissioned by the County recommended six locations for reach-based bank restoration projects to reduce channel migration while improving habitat by opening side channels to restore floodplains that were disconnected in 1965. Site 5 (Figure A) is the largest project site with approximately 700 linear feet of eroded bank in 1964. This is an ideal location because it is upstream of the most populated area around Timberline Rim and it can potentially provide the most flood risk benefit and restoration of the largest area of disconnected floodplain.

Project Description and Purpose:

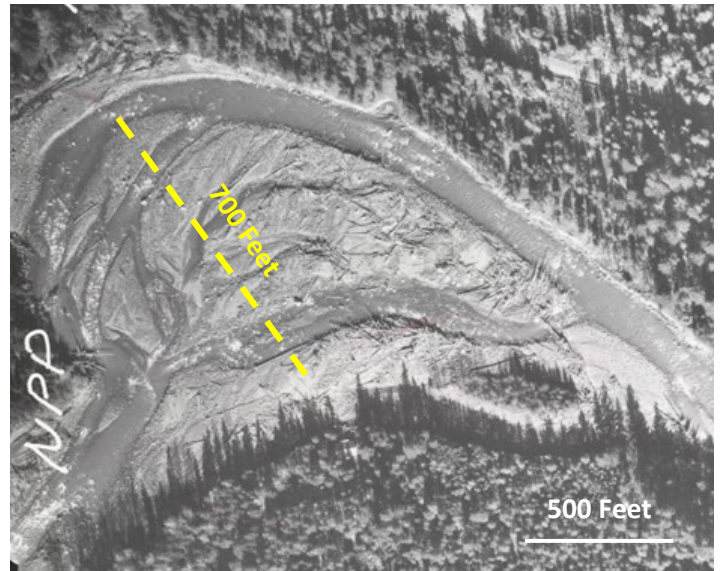
Project site 5 is located along the north side of the Sandy River (River Mile 41.6 to 41.8), where the river migrated about 600 ft during the December 1964 flood to form a large meander (Figure B.). After the flood in 1965 a levee was constructed by the USACE (Figure D.) that cut-off the meander and a large portion of floodplain. Removing all, or portions of, this levee will open up a large area for flood storage and channel development. Restorative flood protection measures can be taken along the northern margin of the meander (Figure C.) to ensure E. Barlow Trail Road and homes on the high terrace are protected. This project may entail acquisition of property or conservation easements, but is unlikely to have any adverse localized flood impacts due the large area of floodplain that will be reconnected.

Request:

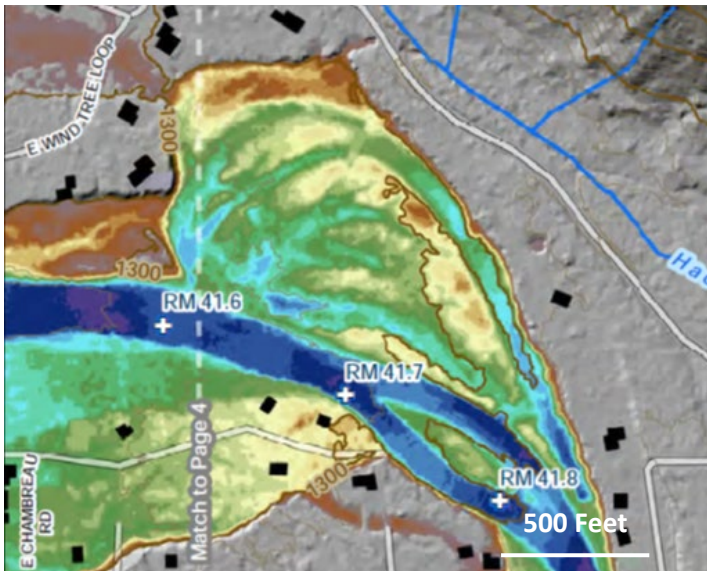
We need the feasibility study to determine the most appropriate course of action, examine all environmental and historical preservation requirements, and finally develop a scope of work and budget for project implementation.



A. 2015 - Ground Cover at Site 5
Scars from channel migration hidden from view.



B. Feb 1965 - Post Flood
700 feet of linear channel migration.



C. 2013 – LiDAR-based bare earth view
LiDAR and relative elevation mapping exposes remnant 1964 floodplain in relation to existing development.



D. Aug 1965 - Post USACE levee completion
Corps channelization and survey lines for future development.



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC SERVICES BUILDING
2051 KAEN ROAD | OREGON CITY, OR 97045

January 2019

Col Aaron Dorf
District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Attn: CENWP-PM-F (Valerie Ringold)
333 SW 1st Ave., Room #1018
Portland, OR 97204

Dear Sir:

This letter is to seek the assistance of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) under Continuing Authorities Program Section 1135 to remove un-engineered levees and berms from the emergency measures employed by the USACE along the upper Sandy River during their post-flood work in 1965 in eastern Clackamas County. This work is necessary to restore almost 600 feet of floodplain that was disconnected by the Corps' work when channelizing the upper Sandy River. By reconnecting the floodplain and numerous side channels along river miles 41.6 to 41.8, we expect to increase flood storage, slow flood velocities, and reduce flood risk downstream while opening side channels to improve habitat.

This project area (Site 5) was one of six identified as potential reach-based restoration project sites in the 2015 Flood Erosion Hazard Mitigation Evaluation report for the upper Sandy River, Clackamas County Oregon. This flood erosion study characterizes severe erosion from channel migration as the greatest flood hazard in the upper Sandy River, with erosive volcanic soils, a steep mountain gradient, and abundant sediment, the primary causes for episodic channel migration. Historically trying to control the river results in accelerated armoring and unintended erosion along neighboring properties, along with diminished habitat.

This project site will likely require the acquisition of several critical properties and easements to accommodate possible localized flooding due to reduced river velocities during flood stage. Property acquisition may also be necessary to provide an adequate safety buffer for E Barlow Trail Road, which runs along the northern bank of the project area.

We understand that as local sponsors, we would sign a feasibility cost share agreement with the Corps, and that we would share in 50% of the study costs, and that the local share may be provided as cash, work-in-kind, or a combination of both. We are aware that this letter does not obligate or commit us to any funding until such time as Federal Funding is available and we sign the cost-share agreement.

Your consideration of this request is appreciated. Please contact Nancy Bush, Director, Clackamas County Disaster Management, at 503-655-8665 or nbush@clackamas.us for further information.

Sincerely,

CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Jim Bernard, Chair
On Behalf of the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners

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.

If renewal or direct appropriation, complete sections I, II, IV & V only. Section III is not required.

If Disaster or Emergency Relief Funding, EOC will need to approve prior to being sent to the BCC

****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 Fund # and Department:	100, Disaster Management
Name of Funding Opportunity:	Federal Emergency Management Agency - Hazard Mitigation Grant Program DR-4768-OR

Funding Source: Federal – Direct Federal – Pass through State Local

Requestor Information: (Name of staff initiating form)	Jay Wilson
Requestor Contact Information:	jaywilson@clackamas.us
Department Fiscal Representative:	Daniel Nibouar
Program Name & Prior Project #: (please specify)	Disaster Management - Hazard Mitigation

Brief Description of Project:

This project is a follow up from the 2011 Sandy River flood and was identified in 2015 during Phase 1's Sandy River Flood Erosion Study from HMGP-1956 as Site 5. This location is the most recommended Phase 2 project for implementing and demonstrating mitigation for channel migration hazards. Objectives of this project are to protect Barlow Trail Road and adjacent residences from bank erosion and increase flood storage, while improving habitat. This Phase 2 feasibility study will determine the functional values of the site, evaluate and determine alternative options, with a no alternative option, and recommend a preferred alternative.

Name of Funding Agency: U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency

Notification of Funding Opportunity Web Address: <https://www.oregon.gov/oem/emresources/Grants/Pages/HMA.aspx>

OR

Application Packet Attached: Yes No

Completed By:

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

Assistance Listing Number (ALN), if applicable:		Funding Agency Award Notification Date:	TBD
Announcement Date:	Dec. 9, 2025	Announcement/Opportunity #:	N/A
Grant Category/Title	Mitigation: Natural Hazards	Funding Amount Requested:	\$218,297.25
Allows Indirect/Rate:	5%	Match Requirement:	25% non-federal match - \$72,735.75
Application Deadline:	February 24, 2025	Total Project Cost:	\$290,943.00
Award Start Date:	TBD	Other Deadlines and Description:	
Award End Date:	TBD		
Completed By:		Program Income Requirements:	
Pre-Application Meeting Schedule:	Submitted on January 13, 2025		

Additional funding sources available to fund this program? Please describe:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has an eligible Continuing Authorization restoration program that proposed a \$500,000 feasibility study in 2022 for Site 5 that would require a 50% non-federal share.

How much General Fund will be used to cover costs in this program, including indirect expenses?

\$72,7235.75

How much Fund Balance will be used to cover costs in this program, including indirect expenses?

In the next section, limit answers to space available.

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?

Based on the County's 2024 Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan, this project supports the following goals: 1.) Protect Life and Property - Develop and implement mitigation and climate adaptation projects and policies that aid in protecting lives by making homes, businesses, community lifelines, and other property more resilient to natural hazards and impacts from climate change; and 2.) Enhance Natural Systems, - Incorporate natural hazard mitigation planning and activities into watershed planning, natural resource management, natural systems enhancement, and land use planning to protect life, property, and ecological system.

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

We have some environmental partners that support habitat protection, but none have the responsibility or authority to protect private and public property.

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

This funding opportunity is a type of hazard mitigation grant called Advance Assistance to conduct the feasibility analysis and scope of work development for a proposed project. The contractors will conduct a site assessment of flood erosion risk and environmental functions, flood impact analysis, wetland delineation, and then determine the alternatives and preferred scope and initial design.

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

This HMGP grant proposal funds a flood mitigation project that is part of the County's Hazard Mitigation program.

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?

Yes, this project will be managed by Jay Wilson, who is responsible for the County's Hazard Mitigation Program. He will be the project lead for contracting a fluvial geomorphology consultant and overseeing their work on the feasibility study.

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

No, there are no partnerships involved at this time for the feasibility study.

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

No, this is not a pilot 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.)?

No, this project will not create a new program, but it does support the County's Hazard Mitigation program. Depending on the findings and recommendations of the feasibility study, the County may decide to pursue additional funding, and at that time, may seek partnerships for the sake of the project's scope and implementation.

Collaboration

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

Aside from Disaster Management and Finance for grant administration, we may seek review from Transportation and Development for issues involving Barlow Trail Road and residential properties withing and adjacent to the project area.

Reporting Requirements

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

Disaster Management and Finance will provide quarterly reports to Oregon Emergency Management during the three year performance period.

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?

The consultant will provide monthly invoices that will include complete accounting of progress, budget and schedule in an agreed upon format. The consultant's on-site analysis will generate original data based on field work for habitat and flood risk assessments.

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

Disaster Management and Finance will provide quarterly reports to Oregon Emergency Management during the three year performance period.

Fiscal

1. Are there other revenue sources required, available, or will be used to fund the program? Have they already been secured? Please list all funding sources and amounts.

The total project costs are \$290,943.00. Clackamas County is seeking \$218,297.25 from the FEMA HMGP-DR-4768-OR grant fund and providing \$72,735.75 as the required 25% non-federal match.

2. 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.)?

\$72,735.75 is the required local (non-federal) match that will be provided from the General Fund.

3. 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?

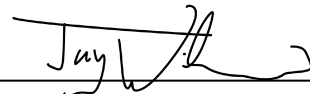
the FEMA HMGP grant allows for the sub-applicant to apply for 5% of the project costs to cover eligible management costs.

Other information necessary to understand this award, if any.

Program Approval:

Jay Wilson

Feb. 11, 2025



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

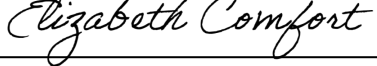
DIVISION DIRECTOR (or designee, if applicable)

Daniel Nibouar	2/12/2025	
Name (Typed/Printed)	Date	Signature

DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR (or designee, if applicable)

Name (Typed/Printed)	Date	Signature

FINANCE ADMINISTRATION

Elizabeth Comfort	2.12.2025	
Name (Typed/Printed)	Date	Signature

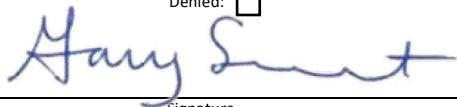
EOC COMMAND APPROVAL (WHEN NEEDED FOR DISASTER OR EMERGENCY RELIEF APPLICATIONS ONLY)

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 \$150,000 and below:

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR	Approved: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X	Denied: <input type="checkbox"/>
Gary Schmidt	03/03/2025	
Name (Typed/Printed)	Date	Signature

For applications up to and including \$150,000 email form to BCC staff at CA-Financialteam@clackamas.us for Gary Schmidt's approval.

For applications \$150,000.01 and above, email form with Staff Report to the Clerk to the Board at ClerktotheBoard@clackamas.us to be brought to the consent agenda.

BCC Agenda item #: Date:

OR

Policy Session Date:

County Administration Attestation

County Administration: re-route to department at

and

Grants Manager at financegrants@clackamas.us

when fully approved.

Department: keep original with your grant file.