

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission

April 13, 2023

Agenda Item:	6b	Action
Public Comment Allowed:	Yes	
Topic:	Recreational Trails Program Grant Approvals	
Presented by:	Michele Scalise, Manager, Grants & Community Programs	

The Recreational Trails Program (RTP) is a federal aid assistance program administered by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Funds are appropriated out of the Highway Trust Fund and represent fuel tax attributed to non-highway recreational use. Funds pass through ODOT and are administered by OPRD.

RTP supports projects that develop and enhance public recreational trails for both motorized and non-motorized uses. Federal law requires that 30% of RTP funds are used for motorized trail projects, 30% for non-motorized projects, and 40% for diverse use projects. Projects can meet more than one category. OPRD sets aside 30% of funds for motorized projects and the remaining 70% for non-motorized projects. The diverse use requirement is met through these categories.

Eligible applicants to the program are cities, counties, park and recreation districts, state agencies, federal agencies, tribal governments, and non-profits that partner with a public land manager or operate a public recreation area. Applicants must provide a match of at least 20%.

The RTP Grant Advisory Committee met March 8-9, 2023 for their annual review of grant requests. Applicants requesting \$50,000 or more were required to give a presentation during the meeting. The Committee scored project applications based on established criteria including needs identified in the 2016-2025 Statewide Recreation Trails Plan. Twenty-four grant requests were submitted to OPRD, requesting a total of \$2,731,108 in funding assistance. Thirteen of these projects were recommended to receive grants with the \$1,945,000 of available funding.

Final grant amounts may change and as funding becomes available, may be offered to projects below the funding thresholds. Upon approval from the [Oregon State Parks and Recreation Commission](#), projects will be submitted to FHWA for their approval and authorization of funds.

Prior Action by Commission: Prior annual RTP grant approvals

Action Requested: Staff requests that the Commission approve the ranking and distribution of RTP grants as recommended by the RTP Grant Advisory Committee.

Attachments: **6b Exhibit A) RTP Motorized Funding Recommendations**
6b Exhibit B) RTP Non-Motorized Funding Recommendations
6b Exhibit C) Map of Recommended Projects

Prepared by: Jodi Bellefeuille, Program Coordinator

<p style="text-align: center;">Oregon Parks and Recreation Department April 13, 2023 Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Grant Approval Motorized Grant Requests \$545,000 Available</p>						
Ranking	Project Name	Applicant	County	Brief Project Description	Total Project Cost	Grant Funds Requested
1	Harney County Snowmobile Club Trail Groomer*	Oregon State Snowmobile Association	Harney	Purchase a winter trail groomer for operation by the Harney County Snowmobile Club and the Oregon State Snowmobile Association (OSSA).	\$ 348,543	\$ 278,835
2	Thousand Springs Sno-Park Expansion Phase 1	National Forest Foundation	Jackson	We propose to expand the Thousand Springs Sno-Park lot by 0.38 acres (the equivalent to approximately 10-13 additional pickup/trailer and RV/trailer combination parking spots) to accommodate the high	\$ 313,286	\$ 250,504
Total of Motorized Projects Recommended for Funding					\$ 661,829	\$ 529,338
Funding is not available below this threshold. If additional funding becomes available, the Committee recommends offering funds in order of ranking.						
3	Snow Safety Education Mobile Classrooms*	Oregon State Snowmobile Association	Statewide	Oregon State Snowmobile Association is asking for 1 of 2 over the Snow Safety Education Mobile Classrooms (trailers). <i>As of 3/16/23, FHWA has deemed this an ineligible proposal under RTP Safety and Education guidance. The proposal will not be funded.</i>	\$ 77,755	\$ 62,155
4	Tread Lightly! Ethics Education and Stewardship*	Tread Lightly!	Statewide	Tread Lightly! will promote responsible outdoor recreation through ethics education and stewardship projects including partnerships with public land management agencies, industry and recreational enthusiasts.	\$ 50,080	\$ 39,297
5	Mt. Hood Skyline Sno-Park Warming Shelter Expansion*	Mt. Hood Snowmobile Club	Wasco	Expansion of existing warming shelter to allow for additional firewood storage along with storage of trail signs and equipment. Expansion of outside roof to allow for standing room outside the front entrance.	\$ 125,000	\$ 100,000
Total of Motorized Projects Not Recommended for Funding					\$ 252,835	\$ 201,452
Grand Total of Motorized Funding Requests					\$	730,790

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**Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Project Ranking
Non-Motorized Grant Requests**

\$1,400,000 Available

Ranking	Project Name	Applicant	County	Brief Project Description	Total Project Cost	Grant Funds Requested
1	Building a New Accessible Trail to Blue Pool	National Forest Foundation	Linn	The National Forest Foundation, Willamette National Forest, Cascade Volunteers, and Northwest Youth Corps will build a new, accessible trail to Blue Pool (Tamolitch Falls) to create a more accessible and sustainable trail to this popular site.	\$ 253,136	\$ 148,046
2	Mountain Bike Trail Rehabilitation	Central Oregon Trail Alliance	Deschutes	Conduct heavy trail restoration of a portion of Tiddlywinks, a mountain bike trail near Bend, OR, that is popular with locals, tourists, youth programs, and riders of adaptive bikes.	\$ 60,834	\$ 48,048
3	Hood River County Mountain Bike Family and Inclusion Project*	Hood River County	Hood River	Purchase and installation of a double vault toilet, expansion of a parking area, several additions to skill building area including an accessible adaptive mountain bike trail, and construction of a 5700' beginner/intermediate trail.	\$ 219,088	\$ 147,300
4	Mountain of the Rogue Trail Development*	Bureau of Land Management, Medford District	Jackson	Construct approximately 3.1 miles of multi-use and mountain bike flow trails including a new zone for youth, beginner, and adaptive riders.	\$ 176,667	\$ 127,624
5	North Umpqua Trail Recovery - Fisher Creek Bridge*	National Forest Foundation	Douglas	Continued restoration of the wildfire-impacted North Umpqua Trail by replacing a burned bridge at Fisher Creek with a steel bridge.	\$ 208,900	\$ 150,000
6	West River Trail Extension*	City of Lebanon	Linn	This project will build 2,160 feet of 10-foot-wide, fully accessible public trail, with trailside amenities. The project provides a future trail connection location. And creates a 3,660 foot long looped trail.	\$ 297,486	\$ 158,943
7	Jack-Ash Trail Phase II Construction*	Siskiyou Upland Trails Association	Jackson	Construct approximately 5 miles of new non-motorized trails for Phase II of the Jack-Ash Trail project in Jackson County, OR.	\$ 86,992	\$ 69,588

Ranking	Project Name	Applicant	County	Brief Project Description	Total Project Cost	Grant Funds Requested
8	Horseshoe Prairie Nordic Area Improvements	Blue Mountain Land Trust	Union	Blue Mountain Land Trust Blues Crew proposes to expand and improve the existing trail system and signage and install a seasonal warming shelter at the Horseshoe Prairie Nordic Ski Area in the Umatilla National Forest.	\$ 135,296	\$ 86,250
9	Gorge Towns to Trails: The Dalles Connection	Friends of the Columbia Gorge	Wasco	Friends of the Columbia Gorge is requesting support in the construction of a 3.1-mile (one-way) hiking trail connecting the Mt. Ulka Preserve to the Historic Columbia River Highway and the Discovery Center in The Dalles.	\$ 175,260	\$ 131,839
10	Crane/Warner Mountain Trail Restoration*	Oregon Timber Trail Alliance	Lake	Large-scale trail restoration of the Crane/Warner Mountain region in Southern Oregon for safe and accessible trail use.	\$ 146,700	\$ 111,000
11	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park Trail Rehab*	City of Corvallis	Benton	This equity-focused project will rehabilitate existing trails and construct new trail segments for enhanced accessibility, various difficulty levels, and circulation to points of interest.	\$ 490,086	\$ 200,000
Total of Non-Motorized Projects Recommended for Funding					\$ 2,250,444	\$ 1,378,638
Funding is not available below this threshold. If additional funding becomes available, the Committee recommends offering funds in order of ranking.						
12	Bull Gap Road to Trail Conversion*	Rogue Valley Mountain Bike Association	Jackson	The Bull Gap Road to Trail Conversion would convert one mile of degraded Forest Service road into two separate trails - a dual direction multi-use trail and a descending intermediate mountain bike only flow trail.	\$ 149,483	\$ 117,212
13	Millicoma Marsh Trail Improvement Project*	Coos Bay School District 9	Coos	Restore 0.47 mile of accessible trail (MMT), add 0.37 mile accessible trail, expand/restore trailhead parking, add maintenance tools for volunteers.	\$ 192,854	\$ 138,685
14	WRCMBA South Region Tool Trailer*	Wild Rivers Coast Mountain Bike Association (WRCMBA)	Curry	Purchase and outfit of South Region Tool Trailer for WRCMBA's trail maintenance and volunteer needs in the Brookings, Gold Beach and Agness areas.	\$ 56,512	\$ 40,264

Ranking	Project Name	Applicant	County	Brief Project Description	Total Project Cost	Grant Funds Requested
15	Oregon Timber Trail Signage Project*	Oregon Timber Trail Alliance	Various (9 counties)	The Oregon Timber Trail is a 670-mile trail running from Lakeview to Hood River, Oregon. The Oregon Timber Trail Alliance is proposing a system of signs to aid navigation, increase awareness, and improve map information.	\$ 175,700	\$ 140,000
16	Cathedral Tree Trail Rehabilitation*	City of Astoria	Clatsop	Heavy restoration for the multi-use trail providing improved safety for hikers, ADA access to the Cathedral Tree and enhanced recreational opportunities for mountain bikers with a dedicated mountain bike line.	\$ 129,988	\$ 103,990
17	Hesthavn Nature Center Accessible Trail	Audubon Society of Corvallis	Benton	A 0.2 mile loop crushed gravel trail at our nature center will be upgraded to a concrete trail in order to make it more accessible to people using walkers or wheelchairs.	\$ 31,704	\$ 19,209
18	Martin Bridge Trail Reconstruction*	Wallowa-Whitman National Forest	Baker	Reconstruction / rehabilitation of 3.2 miles of trail through Wild & Scenic River (Scenic) corridor to complete a 6.4-mile piece that connects two major forest roads.	\$ 53,305	\$ 42,320
19	Columbia River Heritage Trail Assessment*	Morrow County	Morrow	County will hire a trail consultant to assess the condition of the trail and provide some development alternatives for ADA accessibility.	\$ 25,000	\$ 20,000
Total of Non-Motorized Projects Not Recommended for Funding					\$ 814,546	\$ 621,680
Grand Total of Non-Motorized Funding Requests					\$ 2,000,318	

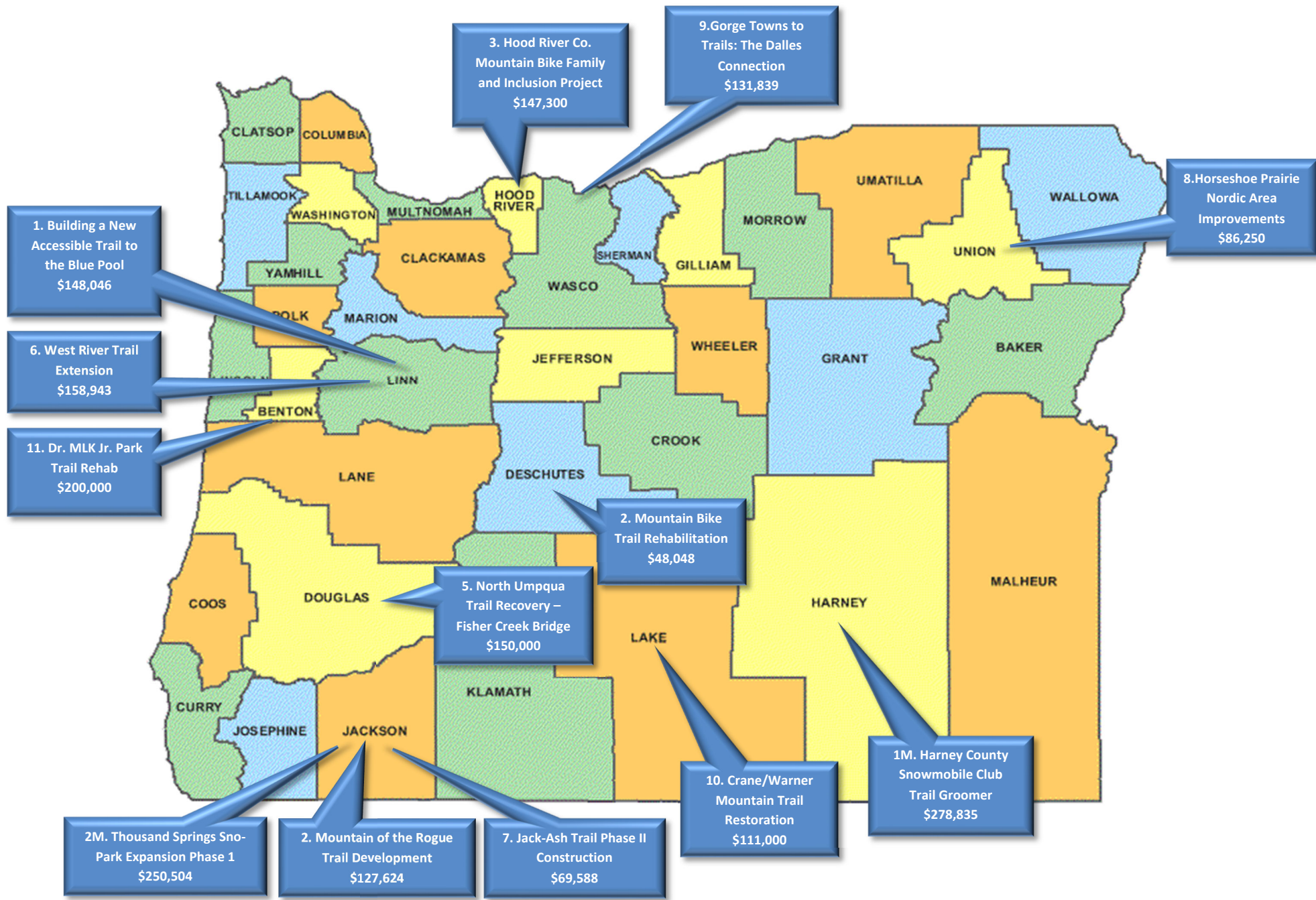


Exhibit C: Projects recommended for funding by the RTP Advisory Committee

(#M = Motorized project)