

Appendix D

Funding Sources

The following list provides brief descriptions and contacts for the funding strategies presented in Chapter 6. The list includes both monetary and non-monetary sources such as volunteerism and partnerships with community groups.

Local Tax Options

Bonds

To issue long-term debt instruments, a municipality obtains legal authorization from either the voters or its legislative body to borrow money from a qualified lender. Usually, the lender is an established financial institution, such as a bank; an investment service that may purchase bonds as part of its mutual fund portfolio; or, sometimes, an insurance company.

Issuing debt is justified based on several factors:

- Borrowing distributes costs and payments for a project or improvement to those who will benefit from it over its useful life, rather than requiring today's taxpayers or rate payers to pay for future use;
- During times of inflation, debt allows future repayment of borrowed money in cheaper dollars; and
- Borrowing may improve a municipality's liquidity to purchase needed equipment or for project construction and improvements. Debt issuance also does not exhaust current cash-on-hand, allowing such general fund revenues to be used for operating expenses.¹
- Interest rates rise as the maturity term of a bond increases, as borrowers have to compensate investors for locking up their resources for a longer period of time.

Oregon Law requires that all Unlimited-Tax General Obligation (ULTGO) bonds be authorized by a vote of the people. The *Oregon Bond Manual – 4th Edition*, recommends municipalities hire a bond counsel prior to the bond election to ensure that all requirements are met. The Bond Manual also notes that approval of an ULTGO bond requires considerable effort. Some examples of methods for gaining public support include: attitude polls, forming a bond issue citizens' committee, holding public meetings, leaflets, and door-to-door canvassing. Note that under Oregon law, no public resources may be used to advocate a pro or con position regarding a ballot measure. Accordingly, any printed materials must be purely explanatory in nature.

A fundamental rule associated with issuing long-term debt instruments is not to issue them for a maturity period longer than the project's useful life. People should

¹ *Oregon Bond Manual – 4th Edition*, 1998, Oregon State Treasury and Municipal Debt Advisory Commission.

not be paying for a major park or recreational facility after it is no longer in use.² Further, Talent should be very clear about the specific acquisitions and other actions to be carried out with the bond revenue, as the City will be asking residents to pay for park and recreation acquisitions. Working with the community is a key aspect of a successful bond measure.

The key benefit of bonds for park acquisition and development is that they City can generate a substantial amount of capital. This capital can then be used to purchase parkland or for major capital improvements that will serve the community far into the future.

Levies

A local option levy for capital improvements provides for a separate property tax levy outside the City's permanent rate limit. This levy may be used to fund a capital project or a group of projects over a specified period of time, up to ten years. Revenues from these levies may be used to secure bonds for projects, or to complete one or more projects on a "pay as you go" basis.

The advantages of levies include reduced interest, increased flexibility, enhanced debt capacity, improved borrowing terms, and increased fiscal responsibility. The major disadvantages of the approach are insufficient funding, intergenerational inequity (if, for example, long term facilities are paid for disproportionately by current users), inconsistency of funding requirements, and use of accumulated reserves. There are also legal requirements for Talent, including property tax limitations imposed by Ballot Measure 50 (approved by Oregon voters at the statewide special election ballot on May 20, 1997).

Prior to Measure 50, Oregon's property tax system was a levy-based system. With its adoption, the system was converted to a combination rate and levy-based system, eliminating the taxing district's 'tax base' for operational purposes, which automatically increased by six percent annually. Instead, each taxing district has a frozen tax rate for operation expenses, but local jurisdictions may obtain revenue through bonds and local option levies. Revenues from local option levies are also subject to limitations under Measure 5.³

Local option levies require voter approval and are subject to the double majority requirement of Measure 50 and are not considered to be a good alternative to the use of general obligation bonds for large projects or groups of projects. Property tax levies can be used for land acquisition and capital improvements, however, they are also frequently used for facility operations and maintenance.

Partnerships

Partnerships play an important role in the acquisition of new park and recreation facilities and in providing one-time or ongoing maintenance support.

² Crompton, John L. 1999. *Financing and Acquiring Park and Recreation Resources*. Champaign, IL, Human Kinetics.

³ Assessor's Office of Columbia County, Oregon. *Measure 50*. Online. Available <http://www.co.columbia.or.us/AssessorsOffice/measure50.m.asp>

Federal

US Fish and Wildlife Service

Assistance available through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service include the Partners for Fish and Wildlife program. Since 1987, the program promotes conservation and habitat protection by offering technical and financial assistance to private (non-federal) landowners to voluntarily restore wetlands and other fish and wildlife habitats on their land.

Contact:

Partners for Fish and Wildlife, Oregon
26000 SE 98th Ave. Suite 100
Portland, Oregon 97266
Phone: (503) 231-6179
Fax: (503) 231-6195
Website: <http://partners.fws.gov>

Bureau of Land Management

The BLM manages a wide variety of public land uses in Oregon. Public land uses include land for wildlife, recreation, timber harvest, livestock grazing, mineral resource extraction and other public uses. The BLM offers grants for land acquisition requiring that it be used for public and recreation purposes. Local government can also obtain parklands at very low or at no cost if there is a developed park plan.

Contact:

Oregon State Office
Bureau of Land Management
333 SW First Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97204
P.O. Box 2965, Portland, Oregon 97208
Phone: (503) 808-6002
Fax: (503) 808-6308
Website: <http://www.or.blm.gov>

United States Forest Service

The Pacific Northwest Region of the U.S. Forest Service offers urban and community forestry funds and assists with economic diversification projects.

Contact:

Group Leader, Grants and Agreements
USDA Forest Service – Pacific Northwest Region
333 SW First Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97208
P.O. Box 3623, Portland, Oregon 97208-3623
Phone: (503) 808-2202
Website: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6>

State

Division of State Lands, Wetland Mitigation Banking

The Wetland Program provides technical and planning assistance for wetland planning efforts. Elements of the program include wetland inventory, identification, delineation, and function assessments as well as wetland mitigation, public information and education.

Contact:

Wetland Mitigation Specialist
Division of State Lands
775 Summer Street NE, Suite 100
Salem, Oregon 97301-1279
Phone: (503) 378-3805, Ext. 285
Website: <http://statelands.dsl.state.or.us>

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) provides and protects outstanding natural, scenic, cultural, historical and recreational sites for the enjoyment and education of present and future generations. OPRD administers grants and provides technical assistance to communities involved in parks planning.

Contact:

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
725 Summer Street NE, Suite C
Salem, Oregon 97301-1279
Phone: (503) 986-0707
Website: <http://www.prd.state.or.us>

Oregon Youth Conservation Corps

The Oregon Youth Conservation Corps (OYCC) provides communities with needed services, while unemployed youth are placed in gainful activities. OYCC funding is distributed in equal amounts to each county in Oregon every summer. The program funds individual projects ranging from \$5,000 to \$10,000. The OYCC program consists of grants of labor and capital financing. Grants support conservation or environment-related projects proposed by non-profit organizations.

Contact:

Oregon Youth Conservation Corps
25 Capital Street NE, Third Floor
Salem, Oregon 97310
Phone: (503) 378-3441
Fax: (503) 373-2353
Website: <http://www.oycc.state.or.us/Default.htm>

Local

There are a variety of public, private, and non-profit organizations available to provide the City of Talent with additional parks and recreation facilities and services. Local partnerships create cooperation among public and private partners in the area. A list of potential partners besides police and fire departments, utility providers, and the school district include:

- Cascades Rotary
- Boosters
- Community Association
- Garden Club
- Historical Society & Museum
- Lions Club
- Upper Rogue Kiwanis
- Boy Scouts of America
- Girl Scouts

Local businesses may also be willing to partner with the city to provide partner services. The Chamber of Commerce is a good way to begin to form such partnerships.

Not-for-Profit Organizations

The Nature Conservancy

This is a national environmental organization focused on the preservation of plants, animals and natural communities. They have worked in direct land acquisition and in obtaining conservation easements for protection of wilderness and agricultural lands. Their grants program is usually focused on acquisition of land, but they are willing to work with communities who want to purchase land if it is to be set aside for environmental preservation.

Contact:

The Nature Conservancy of Oregon
 821 S.E. 14th Avenue
 Portland, Oregon 97214
 Phone: (503) 230-1221
 Fax: (503) 230-9639
 Website: <http://nature.org/Oregon>

Private Donations

Donations of labor, land, or cash by service agencies, private groups or individuals are a popular way to raise small amounts of money for specific projects. Two key motives for donation are philanthropy and tax incentives. These benefits should be emphasized when collaborating with landowners. Most organizations implement capital campaigns focused on specific projects for cash donations. The typical strategy for land donations is to identify target parcels (such as identified in the land acquisition section of the Plan) and then work directly with landowners.

Soliciting donations, like partnering, takes time and effort on the part of City staff, but can be mutually rewarding. The City of Talent must establish a nonprofit parks foundation to implement a capital campaign and to accept and manage donations. The city should begin working on setting up such a group or recruit volunteers to provide the services. Generally, donations are not stable sources of land or finances and should not be relied upon as a major portion of funding.

Pursuing donations through partnerships can provide advantages to all parties involved. For example, working a land transaction through a non-profit organization may provide tax benefits for the donor, provide flexibility to the City, and reap financial benefits for the non-profit.

Grants

The securing of grants is a good strategy to supplement park acquisition and development funds. Many grant organizations throughout the country fund park acquisition and improvements, although few provide funds for ongoing maintenance activities. Most grant organizations have lengthy processes that require staff time and effort, and grants usually have very specific guidelines and only fund projects that address the granting organization's overall goals. Moreover, grants should not be considered a long-term, stable funding source. This appendix provides contacts for state, regional, and federal granting organizations and outlines these organizations' goals.

The grant process is highly competitive. When identifying possible grant funding, allocate staff time appropriately for applicable grants and pursue partnerships for volunteer grant writing. As grant agencies often look favorably upon collaborative projects, developing partnerships between agencies, organizations, and the City will improve the City's competitiveness in the grant application process.

Private Grant-Making Organizations

National Grants

Kodak American Greenways Awards Program

This program is a partnership of the Eastman Kodak Company, The Conservation Fund, and the National Geographic Society. The program provides small grants, a maximum of \$2,500, to stimulate the planning and design of greenways in communities throughout the U.S.

Contact:

The Conservancy Fund
1800 N. Kent Street, Suite 1120
Arlington, Virginia 22209-2156
Phone: (703) 525-6300
Fax: (703) 525-4610
Website: <http://www.conservationfund.org/conservation>

State Grants

Oregon Community Foundation Grants

The Oregon Community Foundation (OCF) prioritizes funding based on a set of principles and four funding objectives.

- To nurture children, strengthen families and foster the self-sufficiency of Oregonians;
- To enhance the educational experience of Oregonians;

- To increase cultural opportunities for Oregonians;
- To preserve and improve Oregon's livability through citizen involvement.
- OCF awards about 200 grants annually. Most Community Foundation Grants are between \$5,000 and \$35,000 but multi-year grants may range up to \$150,000 for projects with particular community impact. Around 5 percent of Community Grants are above \$50,000 and tend to be created only for projects that are an exceptionally good fit with OCF priorities, have a broad scope of impact, and address an area to which OCF's board has decided to give special attention.

Contact:

Oregon Community Foundation
 1221 SW Yamhill, #100
 Portland, Oregon 97205
 Phone: (503) 227-6846
 Fax: (503) 274-7771
 Website:

http://www.ocf1.org/grant_programs/grant_programs_fr.htm

The Collins Foundation

The purpose of the Collins Foundation is to improve, enrich, and give a greater expression to the religious, educational, cultural, and scientific endeavors in the State of Oregon and to assist in improving the quality of life in the state. The trustees of the Collins Foundation work through existing agencies and have supported proposals submitted by colleges and universities, organized religious groups, arts, cultural and civic organizations, and agencies devoted to health, welfare, and youth.

Contact:

Director of Progress
 The Collins Foundation
 1618 SW First Avenue, Suite 505
 Portland, Oregon 97201
 Phone: (503) 227-7171
 Website: <http://www.collinsfoundation.org>

Oregon Department of Forestry

This department oversees all aspects of forest policy in Oregon, appoints the state forester and adopts the rules for forestry practices in the state. Grants are available for parks programs but are restricted to development involving trees and forest canopy.

Contact:

Urban and Community Forestry Assistance Grants
 Forestry Assistance Program
 2600 State Street
 Salem, Oregon 97310

Phone: (503) 945-7391
Website: <http://www.odf.state.or.us>

Public Grant-making Organizations

Federal

National Park Service – National Heritage Areas Program

The United States Congress designates a national heritage area as a place where “natural, cultural, historic, and recreational resources combine to form a cohesive, nationally distinctive landscape arising from patterns of human activity shaped by geography”. (National Park Service, <http://www.cr.nps.gov>) Through Strategic public and private partnerships, federal grant money is available to leverage funding opportunities for nationally designated heritage sites.

To determine if the City of Talent qualifies as a National Heritage Area, the community must complete a suitability/feasibility study, using the ten guidelines developed by the National Park Service. All ten guidelines can be found at the National Park Service website.

The designation enhances local pride and includes limited technical planning and financial assistance from the National Park Service. Federal designation depends on Congressional support and the degree to which a community is engaged in a support of the designation. The four critical steps that need to be followed prior designation are:

1. Completion of a suitability/feasibility study;
2. Public involvement in the sustainability/feasibility study;
3. Demonstration of widespread public support among heritage area residents for the proposed designation;
4. Commitment to the proposal from key constituents, which may include governments, industry, and private, non-profit organizations, in addition to area residents.

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/heritageareas/REP/criteria.pdf>

Contact:

National Heritage Areas Program

1201 Eye Street, NW

8th Floor

Washington D.C., 20005

Phone: (202) 354-2222

Fax: (202) 371-6468

Website: <http://www.cr.nps.gov/heritageareas/REP/criteria.pdf>

Land and Water Conservation Fund

This fund provides federal dollars from the National Park Service that are passed down to states for acquisition, development, and rehabilitation of park and recreation areas, and facilities. To be eligible for Land and Water Conservation Fund grants, the proposed project must be consistent with the outdoor recreation goals and objectives contained in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) and elements of a jurisdiction’s local comprehensive

land use and parks master plans. Emphasis should be placed on the grants available to the State of Oregon rather than federal funds.

Contact:

Land and Water Conservation Fund
725 Summer Street NE, Suite C
Salem, Oregon 97301
Phone: (503) 378-4168 Ext. 241
Fax: (503) 378-6447
Website: http://www.prd.state.or.us/grants_lwcf.php

U.S. Department of Transportation

Through the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21), the U.S. Department of Transportation authorizes federal surface transportation programs for highways, highway safety, and transit. TEA-21 provides funding for parks and connections that include:

- Bicycle transportation and pedestrian walkways;
- Recreational trails program;
- National Scenic Byways Program;
- Transportation and Community and System Preservation Pilots.

Contact:

U.S. Department of Transportation
400 7th Street, S.W.
Washington D.C., 20590
Phone: (202) 366-4000
Website: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/tea21/index.htm>

State

State Highway Funds

At least 1% of the State Highway Funds which the City receives must be spent for bicycle/pedestrian improvements and maintenance within existing street rights-of-way. Oregon Revised Statute 366.514 required the Oregon Department of Transportation and cities and counties within Oregon to “expand reasonable amounts of the highway fund to provide bikeways and walkways” and it requires “the inclusion of bikeways and walkways whenever highways, roads, streets are constructed or relocated, with three exceptions: 1) where there is no need or probable use, where safety would be jeopardized, or where cost is excessively disproportionate to the need or probable use.”⁴ ODOT also administers the Pedestrian and Bicycle Facility Improvement Grant Program, which provides grants of up to \$200,000 for sidewalk completion, ADA upgrades, crossing improvements, and minor widening for bike lanes or shoulders. Competitive

⁴ Oregon Department of Transportation. *Funding Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements*. Online <http://www.odot.state.or.us/techserv/bikewalk/funding.htm>. Accessed June 2005.

projects involve no right-of-way or environmental impacts; have significant local matching funds available; consider the needs of school children, the elderly, disables, or transit users; and have support of local elected officials. Grant money may not be used for the completion of trails and/or bikeways within parks but can be used to help fund larger pedestrian and bicycle improvements occurring within street rights-of-way.⁵

Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)

State Pedestrian and Bicycle Grants

ODOT provides grants to cities and counties for pedestrian or bicycle improvements on state highways or local streets. Grants amount up to \$200,000, with local match encouraged. Projects must be administered by the applicant, be situated in roads, streets or highway right-of-ways. Project types include sidewalk infill, ADA upgrades, street crossings, intersection improvements, and minor widening for bike lanes. Grants are offered every two years.

Contact:

Oregon Department of Transportation
Bicycle and Pedestrian Program
355 Capital Street N.E., Fifth Floor
Salem, Oregon 97301
Phone: (503) 986-3555
Fax: (503) 986-4063

Transportation Enhancement Program

These funds are available from ODOT projects that enhance the cultural, aesthetic and environmental value of the state's transportation system. Some of the eligible activities include bicycle/pedestrian projects, historic preservation, landscaping and scenic beautification, mitigation of pollution due to highway runoff, and preservation of abandoned railway corridors. The application cycle is every two years.

Contact:

Transportation Enhancement Program
Oregon Department of Transportation
Phone: (503) 986-3528

Transportation Safety Grants

Transportation Safety Grants promote vehicle, pedestrian, bicycle, and motorcycle safety programs. Projects are chosen by problem identification and there is no application process.

Contact:

Bicyclist & Pedestrian Traffic Safety
ODOT Transportation Safety Division
235 Union St N.E.

⁵ Oregon Department of Transportation. *Funding Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements*.

Salem, Oregon 97301
Phone: (503) 986-4196

Additional ODOT funding information can be found on Oregon's Economic Revitalization Team website:

http://www.oblpct.state.or.us/Gov/ERT/about_us.shtml

Oregon Economic and Community Development Department (OECDD)

Oregon Tourism Commission

The Oregon Tourist Commission focuses on tourism related projects, and offers matching grants of up to \$100,000 for tourism projects. These can include marketing materials, market analysis, signage, and visitor center development planning. Grants do not include funding for construction.

Specific Oregon Economic and Community Development Department funds can be found at the Economic Revitalization website:

http://oblpct.state.or.us/Gov/ERT/about_us.shtml

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Water Quality Non-point Source Grants

The DEQ offers grants for non-point source water quality and watershed enhancement projects that address the priorities in the Oregon Water Quality Non-point Source Management Plan. Grants require a minimum of 40 percent match of non-federal funds and a partnership with other entities. Approximately \$2.7 million is available each year, and applications are due around June 15th each year.

Contact:

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
Phone: (503) 229-5088

Specific Oregon Department of Environmental Quality grants can be found at:

<http://www.deq.state.or.us/programs.htm> or the Economic Revitalization Team's website:

http://www.oblpct.state.or.us/Gov/ERT/about_us.shtml

Oregon Division of State Lands

Easements

The Oregon Division of State Lands grants easements for the use of state-owned land managed by the agency. Easements allow the user to have the right to use state-owned land for a specific purpose and length of time. Uses of state-owned land subject to an easement include, but are not limited to, gas, electric and communication lines (including fiber optic cables); water supply pipelines and ditches, canals and flumes; innerducts and conduits for cables; sewer, storm and

cooling water lines; bridges, skylines and logging lines; roads and trails; and railroad and light track.

Contact:

Oregon Division of State Lands
Phone: (503) 378-3805

Wetlands Program

The Oregon Division of State Land's Wetlands Program is implemented through the 1989 Wetlands Conservation Act. The program has close ties with local wetland planning conducted by cities, providing both technical and planning assistance.

Contact:

Wetland Mitigation Specialist
Division of State Lands
775 Summer Street NE, Suite 100
Salem, Oregon 97301-1279
Phone: (503) 378-3805, Ext. 285
Website: <http://statelands.dsl.state.or.us/>

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department administers several grant programs including the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, Local Government, and Recreation Trails grants.

Local Government Grants

These grants provide for the acquisition, development, and rehabilitation of park and recreation areas and facilities. Eligible agencies include city and county park and recreation departments, park and recreation districts, and port districts.

Contact:

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
Phone: (503) 986-0711

Grants Coordinator

Phone: (503) 986-0712
Fax: (503) 986-0793

Recreation Trail Grants

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department accepts applications for Recreation Trail Program (RTP) grants every year. Types of projects include:

- Maintenance and restoration of existing trails;
- Development and rehabilitation of trailhead facilities;
- Construction of new recreation trails; and
- Acquisition of easements.

Grant recipients are required to provide a minimum of 20 percent in matching funds. Projects must be completed and costs billed within two years of project authorization.

Contact:

Recreation Trails Grants
Phone: (503) 986-0750
Fax: (503) 986-0793

General Contact:

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
725 Summer Street NE, Suite C
Salem, Oregon 97301
Phone: (503) 986-0707
Website: <http://prd.state.or.us/grants.php>

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) administers a grant program that awards more than \$20 million annually to support voluntary efforts by Oregonians seeking to create and maintain healthy watersheds. Types of grants provided by OWEB include: upland erosion control, land and/or water acquisition, vegetation management, watershed education, and stream habit enhancement.

Contacts:

Grant Program Manager
Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board
775 Summer Street NE, Suite 360
Salem, Oregon 97301-1290
Phone: (503) 986-0203
Fax: (503) 986-0199
Website: <http://www.oweb.state.or.us>

Park and Recreation Districts

Special districts, such as park and recreation districts, are financed through property taxes and/or fees for services. Information regarding special districts is found through the Special District Association of Oregon (SDAO). SDAO was established to pursue the common interests and concerns of special districts.

Contacts:

Executive Director
Special Districts Association of Oregon
727 Center Street NE, Suite 208
P.O. Box 12613
Salem, Oregon 97309-0613
Phone: (503) 371-8667; Toll-free: 1-800-285-5461
Fax: (503) 371-4781
Website: www.sdao.com

Land Trusts

Local and national land trusts may be interested in helping to protect open space in the Talent area.

The Wetlands Conservancy

The Wetlands Conservancy (TWC) is a non-profit land trust. It is dedicated to preserving, protecting, and promoting the wildlife, water quality and open space values of wetlands in Oregon.

Contact:

Executive Director
The Wetlands Conservancy
P.O. Box 1195
Tualatin, Oregon 97062
Phone: (503) 691-1394

Land Trust Alliance

The Land Trust Alliance assists nonprofit land trusts and organizations that protect land through donation and purchase. This is done by working with landowners interested in donating or selling conservation easements, or by acquiring land outright to maintain as open space. Membership of the alliance is one of the qualifications for assistance from this organization.

Contact:

Program Director
Land Trust Alliance
3517 NE 45th St
Seattle, Washington 98105-5640
Phone: (206) 522-3024
Website: www.lta.org

Northwest Land Conservation Trust

The trust works with Oregon land owners to establish conservation easements to preserve and protect, agricultural land, forest land, wildlife habitat, wetlands, scenic open space, and other natural resources.

Contact:

Northwest Land Conservation Trust

P.O. Box 18302

Salem, Oregon 97305-8302

Website: <http://www.open.org/~nwlct/>

