



# BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

1300 NW Wall Street, Bend, Oregon  
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## DESCHUTES COUNTY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

8:00 AM

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2023

VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL

A virtual legislative update meeting was held on Friday, February 24, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. via Zoom Virtual Meeting Platform, for a weekly scheduled event during this 2023 Legislative Session.

### Deschutes County Attendance:

X	Commissioner Anthony DeBone	X	Nick Lelack, County Administrator
X	Commissioner Patti Adair	X	Erik Kropp, Deputy County Administrator
X	Commissioner Phil Chang	X	Whitney Hale, Deputy County Administrator
X	Dave Doyle, Legal Counsel	X	Kim Riley, Assistant Legal Counsel
	David Givans, Internal Auditor	X	Robert Tintle, Chief Financial Officer
X	Chris Doty, Road Department Director	X	Janice Garceau, Health Services Director
X	Kristie Bollinger, Property Manager		Stephen Gunnels, District Attorney
X	Peter Gutowsky, Community Development Director	X	Kathleen Hinman, Human Resources Director
	Keith MacNamara, Veterans' Services Manager	X	Deevy Holcomb, Community Justice Director
X	Lee Randall, Facilities Director		Kevin Moriarty, Forester
X	Chad Centola, Solid Waste Director	X	Tim Brownell, Incoming Solid Waste Director
	Shane Nelson, Sheriff	X	Sara Crosswhite, 9-1-1 Director
	Steve Dennison, Clerk	X	Cheyenne Purrington, Houseless Strategies and Solutions Director
X	Geoff Hinds, Fair & Expo Director		Scot Langton, Assessor
	Charles Fadeley, Justice of the Peace		Will Groves, Planning Manager
X	Holly Harris, Behavioral Health Director		Jen Patterson, Strategic Initiatives Manager

X	Tom Kuhn, Public Health Program Manager	X	Angie Powers, BOCC Administrative Assistant
X	Tania Mahood, IT Director		
<b>Legislators Present:</b>			
	Senator Lynn Findley	X	Representative Jason Kropf
	Representative Emerson Levy		Representative Werner Reschke
	Representative Vickki Breese Iverson	X	Reagan from Senator Knopp's office
X	Senator Tim Knopp	X	Senator Dennis Linthicum
<b>Others Present:</b>			
X	Doug Riggs, NW Policy Advocates President		Gabriel Velásquez, NW Policy Advocates Legislative Coordinator
X	Jennifer, community member		

## 1. Introductions

Commissioner DeBone called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.

## 2. Updates from NW Policy Advocates

Doug Riggs reported that revenues are up, as are lottery revenues and kickers. He acknowledged that courthouse expansion funding is an important topic for Deschutes County, but is several months off based on the revenue forecast. Redmond property has been added to the list of potential sites for semiconductor infrastructure development by tapping into the federal CHIPS Act funding. Modifications to **SB 644** allowing for rural ADUs is in process. He also highlighted behavioral health workforce issues and housing and homelessness issues as key topics.

Rep. Kropf reported that it's still early in the session, with 3,591 bills in total. Housing and homelessness is a top priority. Accessing federal CHIPS Act funds to grow the semiconductor industry is another priority, with the Redmond property highlighted as a potential site. They are awaiting the May forecast before releasing the final budgetary numbers. The state is well-positioned with reserves. Our Stabilization Center is receiving statewide notice.

Commissioner DeBone commented on the dynamic between property values and the affordable housing crisis in the county. It is important for our land use system to balance maintaining property values with green space with affordable housing.

Senator Linthicum briefly discussed bills related to water issues which would impact Deschutes and Klamath counties. The kicker is just under \$4 billion. It is important to remember that the increase in state revenues is temporary, citing the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) refunds and corporate bailouts during COVID as

examples. Governor Kotek's spend is \$32.1 billion in general funds, most of which is allocated. He advised cautionary spending.

Reagan from Senator Knopp's office discussed the two largest state expenditures: housing/homelessness and the semiconductor package. Sen. Knopp highlighted Rep. Kropf's Early Learning Program, as well as **SB 853** which has bipartisan support. SB 853 will no longer allow state workers to telecommute from other states and be reimbursed for travel expenses when they return to Oregon for work-related business. He commended Redmond, Deschutes County and Mr. Riggs for an exceptional job in elevating the Redmond property as a potential infrastructure site for the semiconductor package. He spoke of the recent heavy snowfall in Portland and how it disrupted road travel.

Commissioner DeBone proposed a site visit and tour of the Redmond property with EDCO, REDI, City of Redmond and Deschutes County in attendance with legislators invited to attend, in an effort to further spotlight the site.

Commissioner DeBone, as COIC Chair, spoke briefly on a policy option package related to rural housing capacity development similar to a previous year's **HB 2345**. It's a request for rural development dollars in La Pine and northern Klamath County, along with Crook and Jefferson counties.

The Board was not supportive adding the Deschutes County logo to a letter from CORE3 to the legislature asking for \$5.5 million in capital, due to the higher-priority ask for courthouse expansion funding. The county has supported CORE3 in the past through land donation.

Mr. Riggs, Mr. Gutowsky and Commissioner Chang discussed a proposed dash one amendment to **SB 644** relative to wildfire hardening and defensible space. The amendment's goal is to allow counties to move forward with authorizing ADUs as long as they abide by existing ORS hardening standards. Minimum defensible space standards in the international fire code will be cited, which will likely align with the State Fire Marshall. Sen. Golden has made a commitment to move the bill quickly once amended.

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### 3. Department Updates on Priority Bills

Geoff Hinds provided an overview of **HB 3214**, which prohibits the utilization of animals for a variety of different activities. Tracking will be adjusted to a priority 3 and monitor, as the bill is not currently moving.

Nick Lelack mentioned **HB 2001** with dash 8 amendments, which provides significant resources addressing housing and homelessness. He wished to add it to everyone's radar as it's moving quickly. Mr. Riggs added that it includes \$25 million towards homeless youth programs and funding on new standards of housing needs analysis for cities. A **Ballot Measure 110** package is an important one to watch, and he will forward on Rep. Nosse's list of recommendations once it's finalized. Behavioral Health bills are beginning to move.

Janice Garceau flagged **Legislative Concept 4359** which funds local Community Based Organizations for local public health authorities and how funds are distributed. Tom Kuhn may be asked to testify. **HB 2463** relates to Admin Burden and she may be asked to testify because she co-chaired the work group.

Chad Centola shared that **HB 3229** establishes an annual fee increase for air quality permits and establishes a cap on the fee increases. He wished to flag this bill for watching as it moves forward.

Mr. Riggs and Chris Doty reported that an amendment to **HB 2101** is being drafted by AOC and ODOT, the ODOT Fund Exchange bill.

Tom Kuhn shared that he may be providing testimony in support of **HB 3090**, which prohibits the selling and distribution of flavored inhalant delivery systems or flavored tobacco products.

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#### 4. Other Items:

- Commissioner DeBone thanked everyone for their attendance and participation.
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**Next Meeting:** The next virtual legislative update meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 3, 2023 at 8:00 a.m.

**Adjourn:** Chair DeBone adjourned the meeting at 8:54 a.m.

*Respectfully Submitted by:*



**Angie Powers, BOCC Administrative Assistant**