



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

1:00 PM, MONDAY, AUGUST 4, 2025

Allen Room - Deschutes Services Building - 1300 NW Wall Street - Bend

(541) 388-6570 | www.deschutes.org

AGENDA

MEETING FORMAT: In accordance with Oregon state law, this meeting is open to the public and can be accessed and attended in person or remotely, with the exception of any executive session.

Members of the public may view the meeting in real time via YouTube using this link: <http://bit.ly/3mmlnzy>. **To attend the meeting virtually via Zoom, see below.**

Citizen Input: The public may comment on any topic that is not on the current agenda. Alternatively, comments may be submitted on any topic at any time by emailing citizeninput@deschutes.org or leaving a voice message at 541-385-1734.

When in-person comment from the public is allowed at the meeting, public comment will also be allowed via computer, phone or other virtual means.

Zoom Meeting Information: This meeting may be accessed via Zoom using a phone or computer.

- To join the meeting via Zoom from a computer, use this link: <http://bit.ly/3h3oqdD>.
- To join by phone, call 253-215-8782 and enter webinar ID # 899 4635 9970 followed by the passcode 013510.
- If joining by a browser, use the raise hand icon to indicate you would like to provide public comment, if and when allowed. If using a phone, press *9 to indicate you would like to speak and *6 to unmute yourself when you are called on.
- When it is your turn to provide testimony, you will be promoted from an attendee to a panelist. You may experience a brief pause as your meeting status changes. Once you have joined as a panelist, you will be able to turn on your camera, if you would like to.



Deschutes County encourages persons with disabilities to participate in all programs and activities. This event/location is accessible to people with disabilities. If you need accommodations to make participation possible, call (541) 388-6572 or email brenda.fritsvold@deschutes.org.

Time estimates: *The times listed on agenda items are estimates only. Generally, items will be heard in sequential order and items, including public hearings, may be heard before or after their listed times.*

CALL TO ORDER

CITIZEN INPUT

The Board of Commissioners provides time during its public meetings for citizen input. This is an opportunity for citizens to communicate to the Commissioners on matters that are not otherwise on the agenda. Time is limited to 3 minutes.

The Citizen Input platform is not available for and may not be utilized to communicate obscene or defamatory material.

Note: *In addition to the option of providing in-person comments at the meeting, citizen input comments may be emailed to citizeninput@deschutes.org or you may leave a brief voicemail at 541.385.1734.*

AGENDA ITEMS

- [1.](#) **1:00 PM** 2025 Legislative Session Review from Northwest Policy Advocates and discussion of the upcoming special session and the 2026 Legislative Session
- [2.](#) **1:45 PM** Applications for the BLM/OWEB Good Neighbor Authority Grant Program and the BLM Community Fire Assistance Program

OTHER ITEMS

These can be any items not included on the agenda that the Commissioners wish to discuss as part of the meeting, pursuant to ORS 192.640.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At any time during the meeting, an executive session could be called to address issues relating to ORS 192.660(2)(e), real property negotiations; ORS 192.660(2)(h), litigation; ORS 192.660(2)(d), labor negotiations; ORS 192.660(2)(b), personnel issues; or other executive session categories.

Executive sessions are closed to the public; however, with few exceptions and under specific guidelines, are open to the media.

3. Executive Sessions under ORS 192.660 (2) (h) Litigation and ORS 192.660 (2) (d) Labor Negotiations

ADJOURN



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: August 4, 2025

SUBJECT: 2025 Legislative Session Review from Northwest Policy Advocates and discussion of the upcoming special session and the 2026 Legislative Session

BACKGROUND:

Deschutes County Lobbyist Doug Riggs of Northwest Policy Advocates will provide an overview of the 2025 legislative session. Riggs will also present information on the upcoming special session on August 29, 2025 regarding transportation issues and review next steps in preparation for the 2026 short legislative session.

BUDGET IMPACTS:

None

ATTENDANCE:

Jen Patterson, Strategic Initiatives Manager
Doug Riggs, Northwest Policy Advocates



NWPA

N W P O L I C Y A D V O C A T E S

Deschutes County 2025 End-of-Session Report

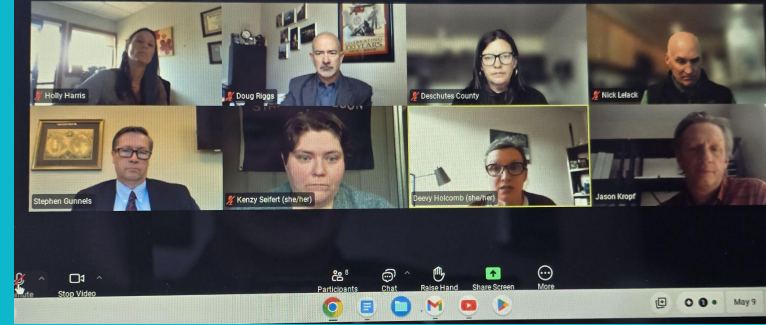
August 2025



08/04/2025 Item #1.

2025 Session

08/04/2025 Item #1.



Session Overview

- ▶ 3,492 bills to work in 150 days
- ▶ Fewer bills passed than usual
- ▶ Critical issues failed
- ▶ Unresolved: Sustainable wildfire / transportation funding,
- ▶ Question marks:
 - Will the federal administration cut funding to Oregon's Medicaid program?
 - Will Oregon be required to lower its health care provider tax?
- ▶ Special Session called for Friday, August 29 to address ODOT's \$350 million funding shortfall

2025 Legislative Session Summary

Oregon's 2025 regular legislative session convened January 21, 2025, and adjourned June 27, 2025.



Measures

Measures include bills, resolutions, and memorials, which may be revised if legislators request amendments.



2,037
House Bills

56 Joint
Resolutions

1,267
Senate Bills

24 Joint
Memorials

6 Resolutions

76 Concurrent
Resolutions

1,915
Proposed
Amendments

640 bills were sent to the governor for signature.

Committees

Each measure is sent to one or more committees, where lawmakers hold public hearings to gather testimony from community members, and conduct work sessions to decide whether to amend (change) a measure before sending it to the Oregon Senate or House of Representatives for a vote.



1,483
Committee Meetings

2,377
Public Hearings

2,295
Work Sessions

Public Engagement

Oregonians can participate in the legislative process by submitting written testimony or delivering verbal testimony virtually or in person during public hearings.



101,899
Pieces of Written Testimony Submitted

17,678
Sign Ups to Testify in Public Hearings





NWPA

NW POLICY ADVOCATES

08/04/2025 Item #1.

Deschutes County

Priority Bills

Deschutes County Funding Priorities

Several Deschutes County priorities were included:

- \$10 million: **CORE3**
- \$3.1 million: **Children's psychiatric facility**
- \$4.6 million: **Juniper Mitigation/Water Restoration** in seven Eastern and Southern Oregon regions through SWCDs
- \$150,000 for **COIC management** of Juniper projects/\$500,00 for monitoring
- \$2 million: **High Desert Museum**
- \$4 million **for Mosaic Medical**
- \$65 million: **Behavioral health housing** (to be allocated through OHA RFPs)
- \$10 million: **Housing infrastructure funding** (to be allocated through OHCS/OBDD process)
- \$40 million: **Industrial Readiness bonds** (to be allocated by OBDD).
- \$205 million: **Homeless shelter funding** (a last-minute victory)
- \$1.5 million: **Museum at Warm Springs'** permanent exhibition renewal

Other Related Priorities

Several county priorities were funded, including:

- **\$5.7 million** lottery funds for **county fairs**
- **\$1.05 million** General Funds, and **\$2.18 million** for bonds for the **Oregon State Fair Council**
- **\$2.54 million Union County Fair Association:** water / wastewater improvements
- **\$3 million Harney County Fairgrounds:** flooding infrastructure repair / improvement
- **\$24 million** Special Purpose Appropriation: **fire protection** expenses
- **\$150 million** Special Purpose Appropriation: **natural disaster prevention**, preparedness, response and recovery

Transportation



STATE OF OREGON
Office of the Governor
TINA KOTEK

PRESS RELEASE
July 22, 2025

MEDIA CONTACT
Governor Tina Kotek Press Office
news@govpress.oregon.gov

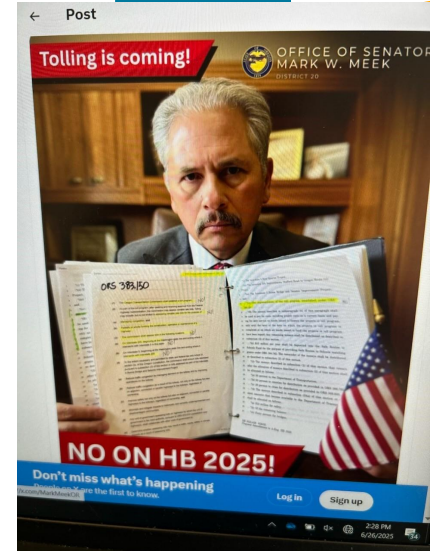
Governor Kotek Calls for Special Session to Address Transportation System Emergency

08/04/2025 Item #1.

- HB2025 collapsed
- Kotek: 600-700 layoffs at ODOT
- Closure of 21 facilities (including Sisters)

Special Session Friday, August 29

- **Required to convene:** quorum of 60% of the members of each body
- Outstanding issues:
 - *Highway Cost Allocation Study (important to the truckers)*
 - *Great Streets/Safe Routes to Schools funding*
 - *Project Labor Agreement changes, etc.*
- Questions: "Accountability measures" to ensure that the new revenue is well spent. "Why weren't those unveiled early in the Session?"



Water

08/04/2025 Item #1.

- [SB1154](#), which deals with **areas of groundwater concern**, also passed in the last days of Session and heads to the Governor's desk for signature. (South County relevance)
- **New procedures / review processes for water transfers** ([SB1153](#)) died in the last few weeks of Session. Despite amendments, irrigators, farmers, property owners and others in agriculture remained concerned. City, county and special district advocates were heavily engaged in the discussions and evening work groups.
- No Deschutes mitigation/conservation statutory extension
- No funding for municipal water conservation efforts

Workforce/Contracting:

08/04/2025 Item #1.

- **Unemployment payments for striking *public* workers** ([SB916](#)) – passed. The final version made one change, reducing the total number of eligible weeks from 26 to 10.
- [HB2688](#) expands the definition of **public works** for the purpose of applying the **prevailing wage** rate (PWR) to off-site manufacturing that includes “bespoke,” off-site fabrication, preconstruction, assembly or construction work performed specifically for, and in accordance with, specifications for public works projects as defined in ORS 279C.800.

Housing

Land use/housing bills that passed included:

- [SB967](#) expands provisions to allow for the creation of **local improvement districts** in areas outside of urban growth boundaries..
- [HB3145](#), the LIFT Housing Program Funding for **factory-built/modular housing**.
- [HB3712](#) extends the **Homestead Property Tax Deferral Program**
- [HB2316](#) allows **governments to sell land within the UGB for housing**
- [SB974](#), the “**shot clock**” bill, requires **local governments** or special districts to complete **final review** of final engineering plans for **residential development within 120 days** of submission. Changes to the bill made it palatable for local govt. by the end of the Session
- [HB2138](#) allows townhomes/ triplexes in more places, building on ‘19 “middle housing” reforms



Taxes

08/04/2025 Item #1.

Reforms to the **Transient Lodging Tax (TLT)** failed in the Senate in the last days of Session. [HB3962](#) would have modified the TLT formula from 30/70 to 60/40 and given local communities more flexibility to address challenges created by an influx of tourists.

Two property tax bills did pass:

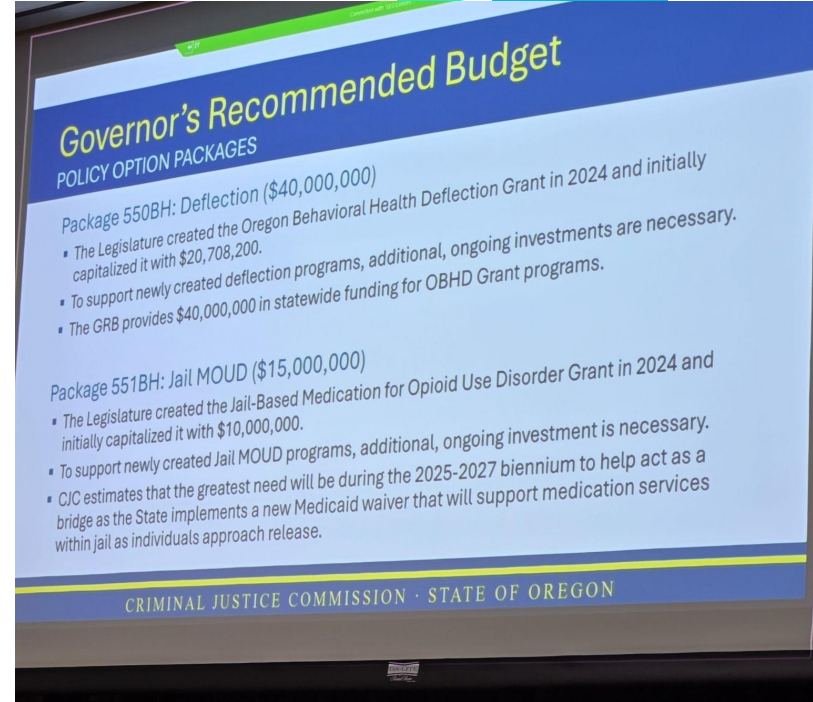
- [HB2089](#) – **Property Tax Foreclosure** implements the Supreme Court's *Tyler* decision concerning the disposition of tax foreclosure proceeds now goes to the House floor. A number of provisions were removed from prior versions (foreclosure notice timing, notice to lien holders and mortgages, and real property posting notice). Likely that small "fixes" may be needed in future Sessions.
- [HB2321](#) – **Ballot Measure 5 and 50 Task Force** (certainly a key for us to watch during the interim).

Behavioral Health - IMPACTS

Legislative Policy and Research Office's [Behavioral Health Summary Report](#) summarizes which bills passed and failed this Session. Some highlights:

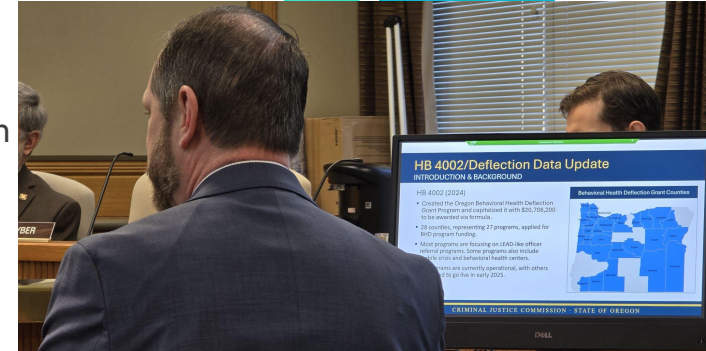
[HB5005](#) and [HB3069](#) appropriate an additional \$10 million to the IMPACTS grant program and, importantly, IMPACTS will be included as a permanent grant program and as part of the CJC's current service level budget moving forward. Move IMPACTS decision-making authority to the Commission effective July 1, 2026.

IMPACTS will become a permanent fixture of the CJC's current service level budget.



Behavioral Health – passed

- [HB2024](#) – workforce incentive package (\$2 million for tuition assistance and loan forgiveness for public BH workers, \$1 million for United We Heal and worker safety training) – (potential scholarship program)
- [HB2059](#) – Residential investment in BH infrastructure (\$65 Million for adult res and \$10 million for child res)
- [HB2005](#) – A&A & CC policy changes (new timelines for A&A, updates CC criteria, new guidance for appointing public guardians, and other targeted reforms) Also included \$5.4 million for CMHP's for CC services
- [SB5526](#) – ODHS budget bill (IDD) – received current service level funding instead of the 100% full funding that Counties requested.
- [SB729](#) – MH support for individuals with IDD – to ensure people with IDD are not discriminated against in health care and BH settings



Behavioral Health – failed

- [HB2202](#) – task force recommendation re: admin burden reduction –. HB4092 workgroup will continue to work on developing a more impactful proposal for 2026 or 2027
- [SB725](#) – IDD caseload cap bill, for individuals who receive case management services through a CDDP

Wildfire

- All told, **\$260 million** over the biennium towards wildfire mitigation and prevention.
- Oral nicotine tax ([HB3940](#)), aiming to **raise \$60 million** during the next two years. Other funding elements are contained within state agency budgets.
- Legislation to **repeal the state wildfire maps**, [SB83](#), passed the Senate in April, but was bottled up in the House Rules Committee until late June. Passed through a procedural motion by Rep. Emerson Levy.
- **ADU Housing Bill** [SB75](#), which updates the wildfire hazard standards for rural ADUs, made its way through the process as well with just days left to spare.



Next Steps

Preparation for Special
Session, Interim & 2026
Short Session

Interim To-Do List

- ☐ Monitor transportation Special Session
- ☐ Evaluate the impact of this Session's decisions
- ☐ Consider whether budget requests or policy change might be needed
- ☐ Thank your state Legislators for their hard work this session!
- ☐ Meet with your state Legislators
- ☐ Prepare to mobilize allies and supporters in the fall, as we get ready for the 2026 "Short" (35-day) Session

Long Session Done!



DOUG RIGGS
Director

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COREY BARBER
Outreach Director

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NWPA
NW POLICY ADVOCATES



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: August 4, 2025

SUBJECT: Applications for the BLM/OWEB Good Neighbor Authority Grant Program and the BLM Community Fire Assistance Program

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Motion to approve the applications submitted for the BLM/OWEB Good Neighbor Authority Grant Program and the BLM Community Fire Assistance Program, and further authorize the County Administrator to accept such grants if awarded.

BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

The Deschutes County Natural Resources Department has applied for an OWEB/BLM Good Neighbor Authority Grant and a BLM Community Fire Assistance Grant. The applications were submitted before securing Board authorization due to the need to meet the inflexible deadlines, and can be withdrawn should the Board so direct.

Both of these grant opportunities are similar in scope and would complement completed treatments throughout the County.

- 1) The Deschutes County Fuels Reduction & Forest Restoration Project will be a three-year project spanning from September 2025 to November 2028. The Deschutes County Natural Resources Department will have three years of grant awards for fuels reduction projects within Deschutes County.

The Deschutes County Fuels Reduction and Forest Restoration Project will treat County-owned parcels in high wildfire risk areas as well as forest restoration projects. With the allotted funds, the Deschutes County Natural Resources Department will offer grant opportunities to Deschutes County property owners, organizations, and local municipalities to implement defensible space projects, forest restoration projects, fuels/fire mitigation projects, and noxious weed projects. The Deschutes County Natural Resources Department will allocate \$75,000 each year to fund three \$25,000 projects, totaling \$225,000 over the three years.

- 2) The second grant is the Deschutes County BLM Community Assistance 2025 Fuels Reduction Project. This project proposes to accomplish fuels reduction on non-

federal lands adjacent to or with benefit to BLM lands within Deschutes County. Funds will be utilized for contractual fuels reduction using contractors and agreements with landowners. The project will target treatment on approximately 320 acres of non-federal lands adjacent to or with direct benefit to BLM lands. Activities would include tree thinning, pruning and brush mowing, mastication and/or removal.

BUDGET IMPACTS:

- 1) Deschutes County Fuels and Forest Restoration Project Reduction Project total amount is \$275,000. Most of the award (\$225,000) would be used for contracted services tied to community awards through a grant application process. The remaining amount (\$50,000) would be used to treat County property.
- 2) Deschutes County BLM Community Assistance 2025 Fuel Reduction Project t total amount is \$480,000 Most of the award (\$300,000) would be used for contracted services tied to community awards through a grant application process. The Indirect cost would amount to \$40,000. We would also provide a \$40,000 In-kind match to leverage the project and ensure success. The remaining \$100,000 would be used to treat County properties.

ATTENDANCE:

Kevin Moriarty, County Forester
Lauren Street, Natural Resources Specialist