

WORK SESSION

1. Needs Based Assistance Annual Report and 2021-22 Plan – *Matt Mercer and Michael Egging*

Mr. Mercer said he wanted to address the current COVID guideline prior to presenting the Needs-based Assistance annual report. He showed a slide that represents the average cases per day that showed the daily numbers going up to high rates like in January. He said the statewide hospitalizations numbers are going up as well. He explained that as long as the statewide number stays under 300, then the county will not go in the red (extreme) zone regardless of the case count.

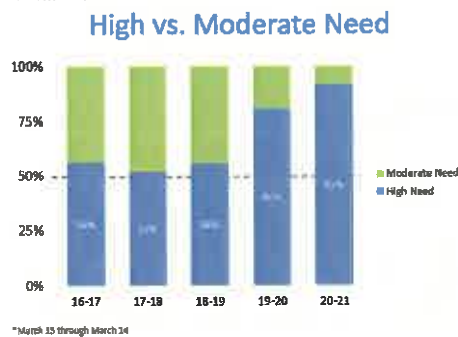
Mr. Mercer explained the Needs-based assistance program has three areas of focus:

Recreation Scholarships

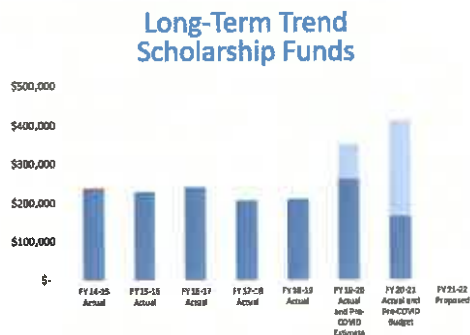
Outreach and partnerships

Targeted Programs: Free/Low Cost Opportunities

Mr. Egging shared that the number of applications for households and individuals have gone up significantly. He attributed this to making the application process and qualifications simpler. He explained that due to lack of programming the applications did go down through the year of the pandemic. He said the assistance is divided in high need and moderate need. This year high need was more prevalent.



Mr. Egging explained the long-term trends in the scholarship funds.



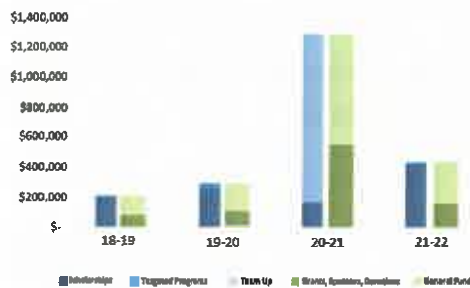
Mr. Egging spoke about the Team Up program that provided all-day childcare for children during the school closures. He reviewed the following:

- \$1 million total Team Up financial assistance

- 724 children served
- Over half received financial assistance
- 157 children had never used scholarships before
- 54 of the new scholarship users have signed up for more programming
- 11% identified Spanish as primary language
- 304 children have transitioned to Kids, Inc.

He explained that Team Up was separate from the scholarship program and explained the funding for all of the programs.

Needs-Based Assistance



Mr. Mercer said money from other programs were used to support the scholarship program in the past year.

Mr. Mercer spoke about the 2021-2022 NBA plan goals:

- Provide for growth in scholarship funding (over 150%)
- Adapt targeted programs, and seek additional opportunities
- Continue to address potential increase in need due to COVID-19 impacts
- Build on outreach efforts and partnerships

Mr. Mercer explained the FY 21-22 Assistance Levels in the following graphs:

FY 21-22 Assistance Levels

Program Classification	Core Programs		Complementary Programs	
	High	Moderate	High	Moderate
Disabled	75%	50%	50%	50%
Youth (18 & Under)	75%	50%	50%	50%
Senior (65+)	75%	50%	50%	50%
General Adults	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Need Level	Facility Passes	
	High	Moderate
Disabled	50%	25%
Youth (18 & Under)	50%	25%
Senior (65+)	50%	25%
General Adults	50%	25%

Mr. Mercer spoke about the targeted programs:

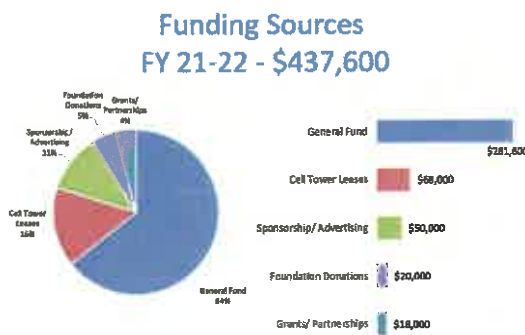
- Housing Works partnership: 100% free for the residents with potential for year-round partnership

- Discover the Outdoors: Outdoor opportunities for underserved kids, if transportation guidance allows this program will be held this summer.
- Days of Play: Unsure if this can happen since it is a drop-in program
- FAN Voucher Program: Provide vouchers to schools for BPRD programming as a way to introduce families to the scholarship programs.

Free Programs and Events: These programs were cancelled last year, hoping to reinstate this year.

- Over 250 free opportunities Pre-COVID
- Community Events
- Senior Social Programs
- Family Nights at JSFC
- Low Fee Family Skates at The Pavilion

Funding Requirements for FY 21-22 is \$437,600, double of FY 18-19. This year will reflect an increase in scholarships and a reduction in targeted programs due to the pandemic.



The board asked if the district is retaining scholarship families through COVID and how staff identifies families with Spanish as a first language. Mr. Mercer said the scholarship retention level is very high and explained that the outreach work that staff has done provided information about the Spanish speaking families.

Mr. Mercer said staff is asking for a vote on this topic during the business session tonight.

2. Legislative Update – Don Horton

Executive Director Horton said he intended on doing this update earlier, but the timing of the legislature made it better for this evening. He explained that through ORPA, there is a legislative committee that represents several agencies and throughout the state. Executive Director is the representative for Central Oregon. This group tracks many bills and not all apply to this district. Bills are monitored and do not take a position on every bill. There are eight bills that he wants to review with the board.

HB2125: A COVID Bill that asks for a study on parks during COVID. This could help the district to recoup some money and will have some data that will be interesting.

HB2823A: Emergency response for catastrophic events. This is intended to help agencies prepare for a disaster.

HB3040: SDC bill, this one has changed a lot over the session. There has been a lot of opposition and has now changed to be a study on SDCs. The study will cost just under \$1 million and is likely to die due to lack of funding.

HB3115: Speakers bill, lying and sleeping on public properties (time, place and manner). This directs cities in the creation of ordinances of addressing homelessness issues. This would not allow for criminalizing homelessness if there is not an alternative available.

Director Méndez suggested that the board work close with the city council to address this issue as it continues to get worse.

SB299A: This bill would create a Children's District. This is specifically targeted to serve underserved populations and would make it easier for counties to do without a vote

SB0395: Department of transportation funding for trails from 1%-5%. Could be modified to 3%. This would provide funding for certain trails.

SB0554A: Gun law, gives municipalities the right to restrict firearms in public buildings. This includes special districts and would prevent a concealed carry. Ordinance on firearms could occur at the local level with this bill. A discussion of how staff could enforce this type of ordinance would be necessary.

HB3389: Unemployment tax rate calculations would be spread out over more time. The district unemployment tax rate was .01% prior to COVID and is moving to 4.1% after COVID. This would help the district by eliminating a large bill to the district and could save the district \$375,000-\$400,000 a year by spreading the tax payment out.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes: 04/06/2021
2. Approve Public Contract for Portable Restrooms

Director Schoenborn made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Director Méndez seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

BUSINESS SESSION

1. Needs Based Assistance 2021-22 Plan Approval – *Matt Mercer*

The board commented on the pride in offering scholarships and programs through the NBA plan.

Director Kropf made a motion to approve the Needs-Based Assistance Plan for Fiscal Year 2021-22. Director Schoen seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

2. Approve Public Contract for Credit Card Processing Services -- *Justin Sweet, Dave Arnold and Jut McDaniels*

Mr. Sweet shared the procurement process. He said a request for proposal (RFP) was issued on March 8 statewide. In response, the district received one response by the deadline from Vermont Systems. This was evaluated by staff and met the requirements of the proposal and many others that staff desired. Vermont Systems is used for the Rec Trac software and in negotiations on the costs.

Mr. Arnold said staff has been evaluating the need to update the credit card system for some time. Mr. McDaniels said the current processor has not been able to keep up with necessary updates to credit card processing. This recommended contract will eliminate a middle service provider by moving to PayTrac within Vermont Systems. The contract will provide:

- One contract, eliminating the middle service provider that is currently in place
- Better user experience for the customer when there is an issue
- Higher level of security
- Better platform if charges are disputed
- Allows for installment payments and reoccurring billing
- Better mobile experience

Mr. Arnold said this will be a little more expensive, he added that it is worth the higher costs for the benefits.

The board expressed concern about approving a contract without knowing the costs. Mr. Sweet said the pricing has been confirmed and staff is negotiating other aspects of the contract. Ms. Lombard joined in the meeting to clarify that the motion is to authorize the executive director to award the contract and negotiate further. The board suggested changing the motion to reflect the negotiation and execution.

Director Méndez made a motion to authorize the executive director to negotiate and execute a contract with Vermont Systems, Inc., for credit card processing. Director Schoenborn seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

3. Railroad Overpass Agreement for Pedestrian Bridge at Alpenglow Park – *Ian Isaacson, Brian Hudspeth and Paul Taylor*

Executive Director Horton said normally staff does not ask the board to approve easements, but this one has an extenuating circumstance that includes some risk. Mr. Isaacson gave a brief background of the bridge. In 2017, staff met with the BNSF project team to discuss the district's desire to install a pedestrian bridge for safety of the community with connections to the new park and schools. Staff is now working on agreements and easements needed for the project. Mr. Taylor, legal council for the district, said the railroad has a lot of protections under federal law and commented that contracts are often one-sided and contain statements that are not always logical. He said he reviewed the

contract and discovered some risk to the district, including strict guidelines for completion. He said the environmental liability section contains language that if the district or the railroad releases a hazardous substance, the district is liable for the cure. The railroad has rejected legal council's request to change the language to remove the district liability for anything the railroad does, but this was rejected. He said the contract is standard language for their documents. Executive Director Horton said he believes the benefit of the bridge outweighs the risk and asked the board to approve this decision. The bridge is partially built, outside of the easement area. If the board does not agree to the BNSF terms, the project will be abandoned.

The board asked about the risk of meeting timelines. Mr. Isaacson said construction of the bridge is ahead of schedule and is not a concern. The board asked about the process if there were a problem. Mr. Taylor said there would be a process through the railroad, likely to be fixed by the railroad and a bill sent to the district for the area within the easement zone. The board asked for clarification on the easement space. Executive Director Horton said the bridge does not fall within the railroad property. The easement is over the railroad.

Director Schoen made a motion to authorize the executive director to finalize and execute the Overpass Agreement and any associated documents with BNSF Railway to build the Alpenglow Park pedestrian bridge. Director Schoenborn seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Horton gave an update on Larkspur Community Center stating that 2800 people a week are being served, which is good for the pandemic. He said there are over 5000 people a week being served between Larkspur and JSFC. Executive Director Horton announced that summer programs are open and filling and reminded the board to fill out the DEI survey.

PROJECT REPORT

BOARD MEETINGS CALENDAR REVIEW

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Director Méndez said he enjoyed the budget tour and was pleased to have Henry join him by bike and he appreciates the work staff did to pull off the tour. Director Méndez asked the board if they would support a letter that the city of Bend is writing in favor of a rewrite of the MUTCD manual.
- Director Schoenborn said he enjoyed the budget tour as well and appreciates being able to see the projects.
- Director Schoen also commented on the staff and said they did a great job on the tour presentations. She said she has been in the community recently and continues to hear wonderful feedback from people about Larkspur. Director Schoen added that park and recreation plays a part in social justice and she said she hopes the verdict today will play a part in furthering social justice.
- Director Kropf remarked about the social justice issues that society is facing. He acknowledged gratitude for staff, the Team Up program and making programs and facilities inclusive.

ADJOURN 9:11 pm

