

AGENDA ITEM FOR ADMINISTRATIVE MEETING () Discussion only
(X) Action

FROM (DEPT/ DIVISION): Planning Division

SUBJECT: ODOT Grant Request: Driver Safety Education along Highway 395 in Hermiston

<p>Background: Umatilla County has previously received ODOT Transportation Safety grant funding for safe driving education and marketing activities along Highway 11 in Milton-Freewater. This request is for a similar grant along Highway 395 in Hermiston. The grant would provide funding for marketing driver safety and provide overtime funding for Sheriff’s Office patrols. If awarded, the grant requires a 20% match from the County which can include in-kind match. Staff are requesting approval for in-kind match in the amount of \$7,500.</p>	<p>Requested Action: Authorize staff to submit the grant application.</p>
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ATTACHMENTS: 2026 Funding Opportunity Request, Budget and Cost Sharing worksheet

Date: (3/3/26) Submitted By: Megan Davchevski, Planning Division Manager

*****For Internal Use Only*****

Checkoffs:

- () Dept. Head (copy)
- () Human Resources (copy)
- () Fiscal
- () Legal (copy)
- () (Other - List:)

To be notified of Meeting:
Megan Davchevski, Charlet Hotchkiss

Needed at Meeting: Megan Davchevski

Scheduled for meeting on: March 4, 2026

Action taken:

Follow-up:



- Umatilla County

Staff:

Application Deadline:

Project Name: US395 SAFETY OUTREACH

Application

Application Type

New

Project Location:

Along US395 between Hermiston and US730 in Umatilla County.

Local Political Subdivision:

County

Estimated Funding Requested:

\$30,000

Anticipated Expenses:

Traffic Safety Problem Identification:

US395 between Hermiston and US730 has recently experienced a large increase in vehicle crashes and fatalities. The overarching goal for this corridor is to eliminate fatalities, reduce crashes, promote safety and educate drivers. The City of Hermiston's Safety Action Plan completed in 2024 calls out US 395 as having a high rate of large truck crashes and poor streetlighting, as well as having the most characteristics correlated with increased rates of pedestrian and bicycle crashes. Data also shows high clusters of crashes involving impaired drivers along US 395 in the Hermiston area as well . ODOT's Safety Priority Index System (SPIS) identifies safety problem locations based on crash frequency, severity, and rate. Five locations along US395 within the Hermiston area were identified in the 2022 SPIS locations. Specifically U395 near Harper Road and US395 near Punkin Center Road.

Brief Project Description:

The project will provide a visible messaging campaign to promote positive behaviors that will make US395 safer and provide additional funds for the Umatilla County Sheriff's Office to increase their presence on/around the identified corridor. As part of the project, Umatilla County will help form and facilitate a "US395 Safety Focus Group" which will include residents, business owners, and partnering agencies working on an adopted communications plan that will work to increase transportation safety and awareness and outreach within the community surrounding the corridor with the goal of reducing fatal and serious injury crashes.

Ability to Deliver Within Timeline and Budget:

Umatilla County has managed a TSO Safety Grant for the OR11 Safety Outreach project for the 2.5 grant cycles successfully. The same staff that has worked on that project will manage the grant through this cycle if awarded. County Staff has worked closely with ODOT staff throughout the years of being awarded this grant to assure grant compliance as well as receive helpful ideas and advice from our ODOT reps.

Authority to Submit

I have reviewed this Application and have the authority to submit on behalf of my organization.

Daniel N. Dorran
Chair, Board of Commissioners