



CITY OF BEND

May 12, 2020

Honorable Governor Kate Brown
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CITY MANAGER
Eric King

RE: Federal CARES Funding and Assistance for Local Governments

Governor Brown:

On behalf of the entire Bend City Council, I write to request a strong distribution of Coronavirus Relief Funds for local governments throughout Oregon.

You've received materials from us already detailing both the financial struggles we face and the many actions we have taken to support our community in this time of crisis. In those materials, we've outlined both direct costs to City (up to \$10 million in lost revenue and nearly \$3 million in additional service needs) as well as the extreme need for supports for both residents and local businesses.

COVID-19 related jobs losses in Deschutes County are among the very worst in the State. The impacts within the City of Bend are even more dire. In fact, Bend is the hardest hit of all Oregon's Metro Areas.

We request a strong allocation of CRF funds, not just to offset direct city costs, but so that we may work with local partners and services providers to distribute funds quickly and where needed most to provide support for residents and local businesses. We need this funding now, and we will need it long after federal SBA funds have been expended.

In addition, we urge your continued advocacy for future funding from Congress to address local revenue shortfall with an emphasis on police, fire, emergency, and infrastructure needs. CRF funds can't be used for this purpose.

Your executive actions have kept Oregon safe. As you continue your efforts to lead Oregon through this crisis, we ask that you provide your local government partners with the resources we need to lead our communities through as well.

Sincerely,

Sally Russell
Mayor of Bend