

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission

Date: June 14, 2023

Agenda Item: 7b - Veterans and War Memorial Grant Program- Grant Requests **Action**

Public Comment Allowed: **Yes**

Topic: Veterans and War Memorial Grant Program - Grant Requests

Presented by: Chrissy Curran, Heritage Services Division and SHPO Director

Background:

The Veterans and War Memorials Grant Committee met May 8, 2023, by videoconference, and is recommending projects for Commission approval as identified on Attachment A.

The Veterans and War Memorials Grant Program was established after the passage of House Bill 2739 in 2005. State funding assistance is available to local governments that are working in partnership with Veterans' organizations for the construction and restoration of memorials honoring veterans and war memorials located on public property owned or controlled by a local government or tribe. Funding for the projects is to be derived from existing OPRD lottery funds.

Upon solicitation, OPRD received three project applications. The projects were evaluated based on established criteria and scores. After tabulation of scores and discussion of the grant criteria and purpose, the committee is recommending two of the projects for the Commission's consideration and approval.

- 1) The City of St. Helens to expand an existing memorial. The City submitted a modest project proposal with solid matching funds.
- 2) A restoration project for a memorial located at the Douglas County Courthouse. The need for the restoration was outlined well in the proposal.

The third application, from the City of Stanfield, was not recommended for funding because it appears substantial park development is required in order to make the memorial possible, and the components of that development include elements beyond the memorial itself, which are not appropriate for this grant source. In addition, content of the memorial features has not yet been determined, a process that takes considerable time.

The Veterans and War Memorials Grant Program recently shifted from annual to once per biennium in order to make the program more efficient and aligned with the state biennium. Due to this shift, there are three active projects from the last funding cycle that will end by December 30, 2023. Of the \$300,000 allocation for this program, \$100,000 was held back to ensure funding for the three current projects. This resulted in \$200,000 available to be awarded for

funding in this grant cycle, of which \$91,794.35 is being recommended for funding the two projects. This will leave \$108,205.65 remaining unawarded for the biennium. The statute and rules for this program do not specify an amount to be awarded each biennium. These are local government grant funds, so they can be folded into Local Government Grant Program awards.

Prior Action by Commission: Approval of previous grant requests.

Action Requested: Approval of the advisory committee's recommendations to fund the Veterans and War Memorial projects totaling \$91,794.35 per Attachment A.

Attachments: Attachment A: Veterans and War Memorials Grant Project Recommendations

Prepared by: Karen Litvin

2023 Memorial Grants
Heritage and Community Programs, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Approved

Applicant	Project Description	County	Grant Request	Grant Award	Match
City of St Helens	This project will install 7 new branch of service monuments and 7 corresponding flags at the existing McCormick Park Veterans Memorial. It will include an ADA-accessible concrete walkway leading to the new monuments.	Columbia	\$32,875	\$32,875	\$28,130
Douglas County	The project includes repairing cracked walkway, removing/replacing damaged grout between the stones/base, replacing plaques, refurbishing plaques, adding POW/MIA monument, installing two new flag poles and cleaning site.	Douglas	\$58,919	\$58,919	\$20,980
Number of Applications: 2			\$91,794	\$91,794	\$49,110

Not Approved

Applicant	Project Description	County	Grant Request	Grant Award	Match
City of Stanfield	The City of Stanfield is looking to build a beautiful, quiet veteran's memorial park just 1 mile north of the I84/Hwy 395 Interchange where locals and tourists can stop and reflect on those that have served our country.	Umatilla	\$180,000		\$142,000
Number of Applications: 1			\$180,000		\$142,000

Grand Totals: (all applications)		Number of Applications: 3	\$271,794	\$91,794	\$191,110
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