

CITY OF COOS BAY CITY COUNCIL

Agenda Staff Report

MEETING DATE	AGENDA ITEM NUMBER
July 21, 2026	3.a

TO: Mayor Benetti, Council President DiNovo, and City Councilors

FROM: Jeff Adkins, Fire Chief

THROUGH: Nichole Rutherford, City Manager

ISSUE: Consideration to Accept the Oregon Health Authority Rural Healthcare Transformation Program (RHTP) Catalyst Grant - Would Require Adoption Resolution 26-27 to Appropriate the Grant Funds

SUMMARY:

The Oregon Health Authority has awarded the City of Coos Bay a \$911,520 Rural Healthcare Transformation Program (RHTP) Catalyst Grant to improve cardiac arrest survival throughout Coos County. The City of Coos Bay will serve as the lead agency, administering the grant and coordinating the purchase and distribution of advanced cardiac care equipment for regional fire and EMS partners. The grant requires no local matching funds and will significantly strengthen emergency cardiac response capabilities across the county.

ACTION REQUESTED:

If it pleases Council, accept the Oregon Health Authority Rural Healthcare Transformation Program Catalyst Grant in the amount of \$911,520 and adopt Resolution 26-27 appropriating the funds.

BACKGROUND:

Sudden cardiac arrest remains one of the leading causes of death in the United States. Patient survival depends on rapid recognition, early CPR, prompt defibrillation, and advanced cardiac care. In Coos County, those challenges are compounded by rural geography, extended ambulance response times, long transport distances, and limited healthcare resources. In many communities, local fire departments arrive several minutes before transporting ambulance crews and must provide prolonged lifesaving care until transport becomes available.

Recognizing these challenges, the City of Coos Bay Fire Department developed a regional project in partnership with Bay Cities Ambulance, Bandon Fire District, Central Coos Fire & Rescue, Charleston Fire District, Hauser Fire District, North Bay Fire District, and North Bend Fire Department. The project was submitted through the Oregon Rural Healthcare Transformation Program and was selected for funding by the Oregon Health Authority. The City of Coos Bay will serve as the grant recipient and fiscal administrator for the project.

Grant funding will be used to purchase modern cardiac care equipment that will be strategically distributed throughout participating agencies based on operational need and regional coverage.

Enhanced AEDs will be distributed among participating rural fire agencies.

Ten public access AEDs will be installed at strategically selected public buildings and high-occupancy locations throughout the City of Coos Bay, expanding access to lifesaving defibrillation before emergency responders arrive.

LUCAS mechanical CPR devices will also be distributed throughout participating agencies, including two assigned to Coos Bay Fire & Rescue. These devices provide consistent, high-quality chest compressions during cardiac arrest incidents and patient transport while allowing responders to perform other lifesaving interventions.

Beyond the equipment itself, this project strengthens regional coordination by standardizing cardiac care capabilities across multiple agencies, improving interoperability during multi-agency incidents, and expanding access to advanced cardiac care in rural communities. More than 65,000 residents and visitors throughout Coos County are expected to benefit from the improved emergency medical response capabilities created through this project.

The grant includes \$71,520 for grant administration and project management. These funds will offset the City's costs associated with procurement, financial management, reporting, and overall project coordination required by the Oregon Health Authority.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

The total grant award is \$911,520. No local matching funds are required. All equipment purchases and grant administration costs will be paid through grant funding. The City of Coos Bay will administer the grant and distribute equipment to participating partner agencies in accordance with the approved grant budget.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- City of Coos Bay_Catalyst NOIA Update 6.30.26.pdf
- Resolution 26-27 Appropriation Authority_Oregon Health Authority RHTP Grant.pdf