

OKANOGAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS'

RESOLUTION 117 - 2023

A resolution adopting the .09 Public Infrastructure Policy for funding projects

WHEREAS, RCW 82.14.370 authorized the legislative authority of a rural county to impose sales and use tax at a rate not to exceed .09 percent; and

WHEREAS, Okanogan County Ordinance 9198-7 imposed the collection of sales and use tax for public facilities in rural counties as authorized by RCW 82.14.370; and

WHEREAS, said tax is to be used to finance public facilities serving economic development purposes; and

WHEREAS, in 2008 the Board of Okanogan County Commissioners (BOCC) approved Resolution 54-2008 for the purpose of funding facilities and economic development in Okanogan County; and

WHEREAS, resolution 373-2011 amended resolution 54-2008 and suspended allocation of funds pending further action of the Board; and

WHEREAS, the .09 Public Infrastructure Policy for Funding Projects was recently updated to include a process for funding projects in anticipation that funding would be made available for projects;

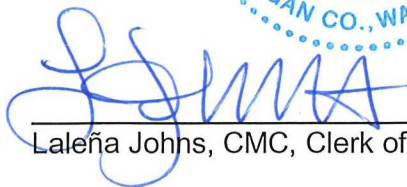
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the BOCC that the attached .09 Public Infrastructure Policy for funding projects is hereby adopted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the BOCC will adopt further policy that will outline fund allocation details.

Dated at Okanogan, Washington this 5th day of September, 2023.



ATTEST:




Laleña Johns, CMC, Clerk of the Board

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OKANOGAN, WASHINGTON**

Absent

Chris Branch, Chairman



Andy Hover, Member



Jon Neal, Member

.09 Public Infrastructure Policy for funding Projects

Moneys collected under this section may only be used to finance public facilities serving economic development purposes in rural counties and finance personnel in economic development offices. The public facility must be listed as an item in the officially adopted county overall economic development plan, or the economic development section of the county's comprehensive plan, or the comprehensive plan of a city or town located within the county for those counties planning under RCW **36.70A.040**, or provide affordable workforce housing infrastructure or facilities. For those counties that do not have an adopted overall economic development plan and do not plan under the growth management act, the public facility must be listed in the county's capital facilities plan or the capital facilities plan of a city or town located within the county or provide affordable workforce housing infrastructure or facilities or in the Economic Alliance [Comprehensive Economic Development Recovery Strategy](#).

Criteria for evaluating project proposals for funding:

ELIGIBILITY

The project being proposed is seeking funding for a project that fits the following definitions”:

1. **"Public facilities"** means bridges, roads, domestic and industrial water facilities, sanitary sewer facilities, earth stabilization, storm sewer facilities, railroads, electrical facilities, natural gas facilities, research, testing, training, and incubation facilities in innovation partnership zones designated under RCW **43.330.270**, buildings, structures, telecommunications infrastructure, transportation infrastructure, or commercial infrastructure, port facilities in the state of Washington, or affordable workforce housing infrastructure or facilities.
2. **"Economic development purposes"** means those purposes which facilitate the creation or retention of businesses and jobs in a county, including affordable workforce housing infrastructure or facilities.
3. **"Affordable workforce housing infrastructure or facilities"** means housing infrastructure or facilities that a qualifying provider uses for housing for a single person, family, or unrelated persons living together whose income is no more than 120 percent of the median income, adjusted for housing size, for the county where the housing is located.
4. **"Workforce Development"** project meets the goals of creating, attracting, expanding, and 19 retaining businesses, providing family wage jobs, and providing affordable workforce housing infrastructure or facilities.

The Project has clearly and effectively demonstrated:

1. The project is ready to go because it has:
 - A well-defined scope (could include planning).
 - A reliable budget

- No problems that would prevent implementation after funded. (2 years max)
2. The project demonstrates commitment through:
 - Planning coordination and consultation with local stakeholders.
 - Public Participation.
 - Summarize previous efforts made towards the project (could include phases)
 - Indicating local in kind and cash contributions
 - A documented local priority
 3. The project enhances the infrastructure needs of the community and county because:
 - It expands its capacity to serve economic diversification, well being and growth of Okanogan County.
 4. The project will lead to the creation or retention of long-term jobs and the opportunity for workforce training.
 5. This project will create new and more effective economic development partnerships and opportunities within Okanogan County.

Projects funded through the Okanogan County .09 Public Infrastructure Prioritization Process will commit to the following annual reporting as required by the state of Washington and Okanogan County:

1. Final Project Cost, Total Funds Leveraged and by whom.
2. Economic Development impact including businesses created and or retained due to the infrastructure improvements.
3. Jobs Created and or retained.
4. Number of Affordable Housing units created.

All projects must apply through the Economic Alliance .09 Public Infrastructure Prioritization Process to be eligible for funding. This process is completed on an annual basis, unless it is an emerging opportunity, then it is eligible to submit an application through that separate process, also through the Economic Alliance.