



City of Ridgefield 2024 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Community Initiated Projects/Community Project Funding Requests

<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Federal Request</u>
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South Royle Road Corridor Improvement Project	\$4 million
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The City of Ridgefield is seeking funding to construct the final phase of improvements to the Royle Road Corridor from Pioneer Street to Hillhurst Road. This project supports multi-modal transportation options, increases safety, and improves fish passage. Needed improvements will make this section of Royle Road a “Complete Street” and a “Safe Route to School” by adding separate bike lanes and sidewalks. It will greatly improve safety by widening to two lanes and adding left turn lanes at dangerous intersections. A culvert will be replaced over Gee Creek which is currently a barrier to fish passage. The project is a partnership with the Clark Regional Wastewater District, which will provide a sanitary sewer line. A water main will also be included to provide a complete loop around the central part of the City of Ridgefield for increased resiliency. *THUD HIP account*

Kennedy Well Project	\$1.5 million
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The development of Kennedy Well will provide the needed capacity to serve Ridgefield’s 14,000 residents and help ensure first responders have a resilient water source if an emergency occurs. For example, a needs analysis concluded that a large fire lasting two hours or more would result in a water shortage for city residents. This is an unacceptable risk and additional water capacity is needed to ensure resiliency. In addition, the population is expected to increase to over 26,000 by 2035.

The development of Kennedy Wells is critical to Ridgefield’s current and future needs. It is anticipated that over the next ten years, the quantity of water needed to serve the community is expected to double, resulting in a **water deficit**.

Ridgefield has purchased water rights from the Kennedy farm and will construct four water wells that will provide 1,200 gallons per minute (gpm). The \$1.5M would go towards the testing and construction of a well. The total project cost for the Kennedy Well is \$3 million but can be phased. Ridgefield is seeking federal funding to offset this significant expense and will pass on the savings to ratepayers. *Interior STAG account*

Ridgefield Waterfront Park	\$3 million
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The City of Ridgefield and Port of Ridgefield are partnering to develop an eight-acre Waterfront Park that will be the cornerstone of the long-planned Waterfront Redevelopment Project. To date, there has been over \$100 million invested to reconnect the waterfront, clean up and dredge Lake River and

prepare the waterfront for prime reuse. The Waterfront Park will tie all of these investments together to ensure completion of this exciting community project. A Waterfront Master Plan is being finalized and will identify a phased set of improvements for the park with extensive public outreach conducted by the city and port. The Master Plan will identify park amenities and how the park will connect with the rest of the port property, the Division Street boat launch and the Ridgefield Wildlife Refuge. *USDA RD Community Facilities*

11th Street Overpass	\$3 million
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The 11th Street overpass will serve as a vital link between the employment districts east and west of I-5 in Ridgefield. Currently the only access across I-5 within the City limits is at Pioneer street, and local traffic must go out of its way to cross the freeway here, contributing to congestion in this area. The congestion routinely backs up vehicles on the I-5 northbound off-ramp with the back of traffic queues reaching toward the I-5 mainline. With the overpass in place, the Union Ridge business park east of the freeway will be connected to the Port of Ridgefield's 11th Street industrial area west of the freeway, as well as to the commercial areas that are located along 45th Avenue.

The goals of this project are to:

- Reduce congestion at the I-5/Pioneer/SR 501 interchange.
- Improve safety along SR 501 by reducing traffic queues.
- Provide an alternative circulation route that relieves an Interstate Highway interchange.
- Provide a continuous route for bicycle and pedestrian travel through the area and across I-5.
- Increases the economic potential of the area by reducing congestion and delays.

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/007ff50894ec4f00af51023205a97a84/page/Page/?dlg=STATUS-DETAILS> The \$3M would go towards the design, engineering and permitting needs of the project. *THUD HIP account*

Grant Request

ADA Transition and Mobility/Access Plan	\$56,000
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The City of Ridgefield, Washington, in partnership with Clark County, Washington, and the Cowlitz Indian Tribe, seeks a \$56,000 planning grant (to be matched with \$14,000 in local funds) from the Department of Transportation's Reconnecting Communities: Regional Partnerships Challenge Grant. Working with members across the community, Ridgefield will create the Ridgefield ADA Transition and Mobility/Access Plan to address pervasive gaps in ADA accessibility to crucial services and community centers.

The Ridgefield ADA Transition and Mobility/Access Plan will identify projects and priorities to make Ridgefield more accessible for all community members by creating a 6-year prioritized program of projects. Ridgefield is proud to partner with the Cowlitz Indian Tribe to specifically seek out tribal members for participation and input in the planning process. Additionally, the city will partner with Clark County through its Commission on Aging to ensure that older community members across the county have a voice in this project. Once the city has collected all data, Ridgefield and its partners will develop a prioritized list of projects and a funding strategy to address each gap.