

IMPACT STATEMENT

Legislation title: Authorize an Intergovernmental Agreement with the State of Oregon on behalf of Portland State University (PSU), to provide selected PSU students with the opportunity to earn scholarships and stipends while working at the Bureau of Development Services (BDS) (Ordinance)

Contact name: Rebecca Esau, BDS Land Use Services Manager
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Presenter name: Rebecca Esau

Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:

The Bureau of Development Services (BDS) has prepared an ordinance authorizing a one year Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the State of Oregon, acting by and through the State Board of Higher Education, on behalf of Portland State University (PSU), to provide selected PSU students with the opportunity to earn scholarships and stipends while working at BDS.

BDS and PSU will work together to provide selected PSU students who meet diversity qualifications with the opportunity to earn a scholarship and stipend while working at BDS. Students will be assisting development review planners in the administration of the zoning code. By this IGA, PSU agrees to support BDS work in the development review process by providing three Graduate Research Assistants (GRAs) that meet diversity qualifications. BDS agrees to contribute to PSU to help fund the scholarships, stipends and administrative costs as described in the IGA.

Financial and budgetary impacts:

The cost for BDS for FY2016-17 will be \$17,295 per student intern. This provides a scholarship and stipend for the student and covers the cost for PSU to administer the program. The total yearly cost for the 3 GRAs to BDS for FY2016-17 will be approximately \$51,885.

Funds for this IGA with PSU is available in the Bureau of Development Services FY 2016-17 budget.

Community impacts and community involvement:

The Bureau of Development Services did not engage in any community involvement for this IGA. PSU did develop a Strategic Plan during the 2013-14 academic year that engaged planning practitioners, alumni, MURP students and Toulon School faculty in intense roundtable deliberations about the important issues facing our communities, and how PSU can prepare MURP students to better address those issues. It was recognized that communities of color have been historically underrepresented in the planning profession, and stand to benefit from increased engagement of MURP students and faculty around planning issues facing their communities.



**City of
Portland, Oregon**
Bureau of Development Services
FROM CONCEPT TO CONSTRUCTION

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Memorandum

187891

Date: July 6, 2016

To: Mayor Charlie Hales
Commissioner Nick Fish
Commissioner Amanda Fritz
Commissioner Steve Novick
Commissioner Dan Saltzman

From: Paul L. Scarlett, Director
Bureau of Development Services

PLS

RE: Bureau of Development Services Ordinance to Authorize IGA with the State of Oregon, acting by and through the State Board of Higher Education, on behalf of Portland State University

The Bureau of Development Services (BDS) has prepared an ordinance authorizing a one year Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the State of Oregon, acting by and through the State Board of Higher Education, on behalf of Portland State University (PSU), to provide selected PSU students with the opportunity to earn scholarships and stipends while working at BDS. This ordinance will also authorize the Director of the Bureau of Development Services to renew this IGA for up to three years ending no later than June 30, 2020.

Background

BDS and PSU will work together to provide selected PSU students who meet diversity qualifications with the opportunity to earn scholarships and stipends while working at BDS. Students will be assisting development review planners in the administration of the zoning code. By this IGA, PSU agrees to support BDS work in the development review process by providing three Graduate Research Assistants (GRAs) that meet diversity qualifications. BDS agrees to contribute to PSU to help fund the scholarships, stipends and administrative costs as described in the IGA.

Students will come from the Master of Urban and Regional Planning (MURP) program. MURP is a two-year, 72-credit professional degree program designed for those interested in working as professional planners. The curriculum includes a 43-credit core that focuses on the history and theory of planning as a field, plan implementation, analytical methods (including Geographic Information Systems [GIS]), and the dynamics of metropolitan development. Most planners that work at BDS go through this program or similar programs at other higher education institutions.

The MURP program at PSU developed a Strategic Plan during the 2013-14 academic year that engaged planning practitioners, alumni, MURP students and Toulon School faculty in intense

roundtable deliberations about the important issues facing our communities, and how PSU can prepare MURP students to better address those issues. It was recognized that communities of color have been historically underrepresented in the planning profession, and stand to benefit from increased engagement of MURP students and faculty around planning issues facing their communities. Goal #4 for the Strategic Plan is to *Sustain progress in diversity and inclusion in the MURP program.*

The lack of diversity in the planning profession is faced by BDS with every planner job recruitment. Despite city wide equity initiatives, BDS gets limited number of diverse applicants for planner positions. This IGA will benefit BSD over time by increasing diversity in the planning profession in general and at BDS in particular. By helping increase opportunities for diverse students to attend the MURP program and holding internships at BDS, over time BDS will have more diverse applicants interested in working for the City of Portland.

The yearly cost for BDS for FY2016-17 will be \$51,885. This includes the administrative cost to operate the program, student stipend and scholarship tuition. Funding for this program will come from fee revenue generated by BDS. Students who receive this scholarship/stipend will not be City of Portland employees. All funding will go directly to PSU who will in turn fund the stipend and scholarship to the GRAs.

Through this Ordinance, City Council votes to authorize the IGA for the joint BSD and PSU student scholarship/stipend program.