



**HOUSE MAJORITY OFFICE
SENATE MAJORITY OFFICE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 6, 2024

Press Contact:

House Majority Office: *Lucas Bezerra*, Lucas.Bezerra@oregonlegislature.gov

Reps. Levy and Kropf Secure Major Investments for Deschutes County to Increase Housing Production and Behavioral Health Treatment

*Lawmakers deliver over \$4.5 million in new funding to address urgent local needs in
central Oregon*

Deschutes County, OR - Today, the Governor signed the Emergency Housing Stability and Production Package ([Senate Bill 1530](#), [Senate Bill 1537](#)) into law. Between this package and other legislation signed recently, including the Oregon Drug Intervention Plan ([House Bill 4002](#), [House Bill 5204](#)), over \$4.5 million in new funding expands crisis stabilization and drug treatment services, develops more affordable housing, and improves water and sewer infrastructure that will pave the way for more housing development.

“Central Oregon’s population is growing and the actions we took this legislative session go a long way to ensure housing here remains affordable, and that drugs stay out of our communities and people struggling with addiction can get the help they need,” said **Rep. Emerson Levy (D-Deschutes)**. “Our growing community needs to remain a safe place to live, work, and raise a family. That’s what these investments do.”

Major projects secured by lawmakers include:

- \$2,500,000 to the City of Redmond for water, sewer and stormwater infrastructure for Northpoint Vista development, meaning an increase in housing supply.
- \$1,500,000 to Deschutes County Community Mental Health Program to support the Deschutes County Stabilization Center

- \$525,000 to BestCare Treatment Services, Inc. to expand detox capacity in Central Oregon

"This funding builds on what we have done to make our communities safer and create more affordable housing," said **Rep. Jason Kropf (D-Bend)**. "Investments in treatment and housing are investments in the health and wellbeing of our community."

Deschutes County will also benefit from statewide investments aimed at improving connections between substance use disorder services and the criminal justice system so more Oregonians get the help they deserve.

- Grants to assist counties with setting up deflection programs that will connect Oregonians dealing with addiction to treatment services and prevent them from becoming involved in the criminal justice system (\$30 million) – *HB 5204*
- More staff and coordination for drug courts to divert those already involved in the justice system to treatment (\$9.7 million) – *HB 5204*

These new investments are part of the legislature's statewide commitment to taking immediate action on the drug crisis, building more affordable housing, and sheltering the Oregonians living on our streets. The [House](#) Democratic caucus prioritized these issues in their 2024 session agendas.

Both Reps. Levy and Kropf represent Deschutes County in the Oregon Legislature and worked to secure this funding for the community.

###