



STATE OF IDAHO

C. L. "BUTCH" OTTER
GOVERNOR

August 7, 2012

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State Funding Supports Infrastructure Projects in Idaho

BOISE – The Port of Lewiston in western Idaho and Clark County in the east will receive funding from the Rural Economic Development and Integrated Freight Transportation Program (REDIFIT) to benefit Idaho's freight shipping infrastructure.

The Port of Lewiston will receive a loan for \$600,000 for a dock extension. The dock extension will improve the efficiency, productivity, and safety of marine operations. Extending the west end of the dock will provide better staging for containerized and non-containerized cargo and will allow the staging of a second barge.

In eastern Idaho, Clark County will receive a grant for \$10,500 for a Centennial Energy Park Conceptual Rail Infrastructure and Design for an Intermodal Rail Spur. The funds will cover the development of an intermodal commerce authority and the engineering fees for the design of a two phase conceptual rail infrastructure multi modal project in the new energy park located in Clark County.

"Transportation infrastructure is a critical need for economic development," Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter said. "Competitive transportation that can help Idaho companies get products to market faster and more cost-effectively will generate jobs and provide economic returns for future generations."

To be eligible for the loans, recipients must show assistance to qualified rail lines or freight shippers to upgrade, expand, rehabilitate, purchase or modernize equipment and facilities for Idaho's freight shipping infrastructure. Up to 90 percent of project costs can be financed through the loan at interest rates ranging from 2 percent to 4 percent annually, depending on the length of the loan.

Grants are available for the specific purpose of planning and development of Intermodal Commerce Authorities and have a cap of \$100,000. Applicants must match 100 percent of the funds awarded.

Grants are accepted annually with the next round due May 15, 2013. Loan applications are accepted quarterly. For more information about the program, contact Laura Johnson at the Idaho State Department of Agriculture at (208) 332-8533, (208) 867-6005 or laura.johnson@agri.idaho.gov or visit the website <http://www.agri.idaho.gov/Categories/Marketing/transportation.php>

The Rural Economic Development and Integrated Freight Transportation (REDIFIT) Program is administered by the Idaho State Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the Idaho Transportation Department and Idaho Department of Commerce.

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