

Oak Ridge Reservation Communities Alliance  
FY 2021 Quarterly Report for the Period  
January 1 thru March 31, 2021

Numerous activities in support of the ORRCA grant scope of work took place during this **third quarter** of the FY21 grant period.

**Q3 Activities in Support of the Scope of Services:**

- (1) Members continued discussions with the State of Tennessee's grant management team to discuss the grant for FY21. Discussion centered around possible budget modifications to shift some funding among categories due to the COVID-19 pandemic, e.g. travel to public education and outreach. The proposed, revised budget that was submitted to TDEC in December was approved at the virtual meeting of ORRCA in March. However, additional revision may be requested to support subsequent modification to the budget to support the ORRCA scope of work.
- (2) Members prepared the 2nd quarter grant reports, as well as financial statements, to submit to the State of Tennessee in support of the ORRCA scope as described in ORRCA's approved work plan and the Tennessee Oversight Interlocal Agreement.
- (3) Staff from member jurisdictions continued to meet to discuss and plan public education and outreach activities for the new grant period. The Request for Proposals (RFQ) in support of public education and outreach scope was issued in January 2021. The team reviewed all responses and held virtual interviews with the finalists. The team independently ranked the responses and made a recommendation to ORRCA, which was approved at their March meeting. Procedures for selection process and public advertisement were followed and a resolution to proceed with a contract for services was approved by the Oak Ridge City Council at their March meeting. Leveraging assets among the team, including the National Park Service, continues to promote efficiencies and collaboration in the delivery of ORRCA scope.
- (4) Members' staff met with TDEC and DOE to update and coordinate public education and outreach activities.
- (5) Members reviewed progress and issues related to the State's monitoring of DOE activities, including environmental sampling and progress toward resolving

disputes and achieving Federal Facilities Agreement milestones.

- (6) Members continued to monitor studies and activities related the DOE's proposed plan for the Environmental Management Disposal Facility (EMDF). Members continue to urge community engagement of all parties, particularly with respect to waste acceptance criteria and discharge limits.
- (7) ORRCA members continued to participate in detailed planning for DOE's annual Intergovernmental Meeting, which was held virtually in November 2020. A decision whether to hold an in-person meeting, likely in Nashville, or to develop another virtual meeting is expected soon. The National Governor's Association continues to serve as the key planning organization, along with the Energy Communities Alliance and other intergovernmental organizations working on DOE EM issues.
- (8) Members participated in virtual conferences with the State Historic Preservation Office, National Park Service, DOE, and others to review and discuss plans for the remainder of K-25 interpretation pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act. A key discussion point was whether to pursue the construction of an equipment building at the site given that no authentic equipment was available to display.
- (9) Members continued to participate in virtual conference roundtable discussions about Workforce Development, COVID impacts, and potential opportunities and obstacles that could impact the DOE's Environmental Management program.
- (10) Members participated in virtual meetings with the stakeholder outreach team of the National Park service to discuss interpretive themes and plans for the Manhattan Project National Historical Park.
- (11) Members monitored for news about DOE's budget for FY2022, which contains funding for Oak Ridge DOE programs.
- (12) Members participated in meetings and planning for the proposed Oak Ridge Airport to be located at the East Tennessee Technology Park.
- (13) Members continue to participate in planning for the DOE National Cleanup Workshop, to be held in September 2021.
- (14) Members participated in numerous virtual meetings with DOE, Energy Communities, and other stakeholders to discuss nuclear waste management,

DOE's Vision, and proposed projects, NEPA studies, and related topics that may impact DOE's programs in Oak Ridge.

- (15) Member jurisdictions continued to monitor DOE's proposed interpretation of the high-level radioactive waste definition. This issue could have implications for waste disposal across the DOE complex.
- (16) Members participated emergency response planning activities related to EM and the Oak Ridge Reservation, including work toward updating disaster recovery plans and annual emergency response exercise.
- (17) Members held their quarterly meeting as a "virtual" meeting on March 1<sup>st</sup>. State requirements for public notice and procedures were followed pursuant to the Governor's emergency orders relating to conducting public business during the COVID pandemic.