



# Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

## Department of Land Conservation and Development

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Web Address: <http://www.oregon.gov/LCD>

November 3, 2008

The Honorable Peter Courtney, Co-Chair  
The Honorable Jeff Merkley, Co-Chair  
State Emergency Board  
900 Court Street NE  
H-178 State Capitol  
Salem, OR 97301-4048



Dear Co-Chairpersons:

### **Nature of Request**

The Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) requests that the Emergency Board acknowledge receipt of a report on the recent activities of the Task Force on Land Use Planning (the Big Look Task Force) created by 2005 Senate Bill 82. In addition to the information provided in this letter, the department and Task Force will be prepared to briefly discuss the Task Force's final recommendations at the next meeting of the Emergency Board.

### **Agency Action**

The 2005 Legislature adopted Senate Bill 82, which established the Oregon Task Force on Land Use Planning, to study and make recommendations on (a) the effectiveness of Oregon's land use planning program in meeting current and future needs of Oregonians in all parts of the state; (b) the respective roles of state and local governments in land use planning; and (c) land use issues specific to areas inside and outside of urban growth boundaries and at the interface between areas inside and outside urban growth boundaries. The Task Force was appointed in 2006 by the Governor, the Senate President and the Speaker of the House.

Following a brief hiatus due to funding issues, the Task Force resumed its activities in March of 2008 after the Legislative Assembly, in its 2008 Supplemental Session, appropriated General Fund to resume activities. The 2008 Legislative Assembly approved the following Budget Note to Senate Bill 5556-A:

The Task Force shall report to the Oregon Legislative Assembly on its progress in carrying out its work plan, at quarterly intervals or at key milestones. In addition to the preliminary conclusions and alternatives identified by the Task Force in its July 2007 report, in developing materials for public engagement the Task Force should identify key future land use outcomes (or alternative outcomes) that it believes are desirable, and appropriate outcome indicators for those.

Following the appropriation of funds, the Task Force resumed activities by first reviewing and refining its prior analyses and very preliminary proposals. In May, June, and July of 2008 the Task Force met with key interest groups asking their perspectives and recommendations. Input received during that initial outreach stage was the basis for materials developed for a state-wide public engagement campaign.

In preparation for public engagement and outreach, the Task Force developed a video documentary outlining the primary issue areas. From the farmer with concerns about land preservation and urban encroachment to the home builder who thinks Oregon's urban growth boundaries are too restrictive, the documentary puts a personal face on the stories of real Oregonians grappling with these important issues everyday.

In early September 500,000 copies of a 12-page tabloid publication were inserted in over 28 different community newspapers across the state. The newspaper insert served as an invitation and overview of the topics up for discussion at town hall meetings around the state. The Task Force also conducted a survey available both at the town halls and on the website that sought feedback on the main issues being considered. Results of this survey are posted on the web.

Through September and October, 11 town hall meetings were held across the state with a total of 1,330 participants. The workshops presented information and ideas, and allowed for discussion with Task Force members. Workshops were held in: Bend, Burns, Coos Bay, Eugene, The Dalles, Klamath Falls, La Grande, Medford (2), Portland, and Tillamook.

Finally, in addition to the newspaper inserts, public workshops, and survey, the Task Force promoted further opportunities for smaller groups to gather feedback within their own communities through "Meetings in a Box." Contents included the Big Look DVD, instructions, survey materials, and additional background information. Meeting attendees could then fill out the opinion survey online or via mail.

Having completed an aggressive public outreach and engagement process, the Task Force met with key interest groups again on October 29, 2008 for additional targeted feedback on draft recommendations. It met again the following day to come to agreement and give direction for finalizing those recommendations. The department and Task Force anticipate that final recommendations will be available in advance of the Emergency Board meeting and will be prepared to briefly discuss the recommendations at the meeting.

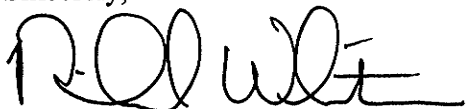
### **Action Requested**

The department requests acknowledgment of the report.

### **Legislation Affected**

None.

Sincerely,



Richard Whitman  
Director



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Dear Co-Chairpersons:

### **Nature of the Request**

The Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) requests that the Emergency Board acknowledge receipt of a report on grants awarded by DLCD to local governments to develop coordinated plans for efficient and sustainable service delivery in unincorporated and urbanizing urbanized areas during the 2007-09 biennium.

### **Agency Action**

The 2007 Legislative Assembly approved the following Budget Note to House Bill 5033-A:

Unincorporated urbanized area public services and facilities are provided by several different governmental and special service district units. Failure among these agencies to develop long range unified public facilities plans have resulted in a fragmented and costly approach to service system delivery and construction. Consequences of this lack of coordinated planning and programming are apparent in the urban and urbanizable areas. An additional \$500,000 General Fund is provided in this budget to provide grants to local governments to develop coordinated plans for efficient and sustainable service delivery in unincorporated and urbanizing urbanized areas. The Department of Land Conservation and Development is directed to provide to the Emergency Board by December 2008 a report on the grants awarded during the biennium with documentation of the amounts of grants expended.

To date, the department has awarded \$225,000 General Fund for grant purposes outlined in the Budget Note. The grant award was made to the City of Damascus. The city, Oregon's second newest, is currently in the process of developing an initial Comprehensive Plan for acknowledgement under Oregon's statewide land use planning requirements. A \$225,000 grant was requested and awarded for purposes of studying and developing a Public

Facilities Plan as part of the city's initial Comprehensive Plan acknowledgement process. Grant work is underway. Funds have not yet been drawn down.

The department has not received requests for the remaining \$275,000 of available grant funds designated for Budget Note purposes. There are still available funds should a local government submit a suitable application, but time is running short during the 2007-09 biennium to effectively use the funds. The department has received applications for other Technical Assistance grants far in excess of available funds. As noted during the 2007 Ways and Means process, if an application for a grant relevant to this Budget Note is not received soon, the funds will be employed for other important planning projects.

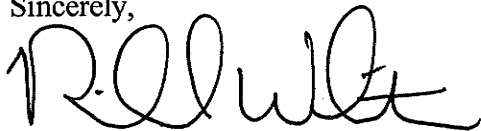
**Action Requested**

The department requests acknowledgment of the report.

**Legislation Affected**

None.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Whitman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and a long, sweeping underline.

Richard Whitman  
Director