

# DLCD

Richard Whitman, Director

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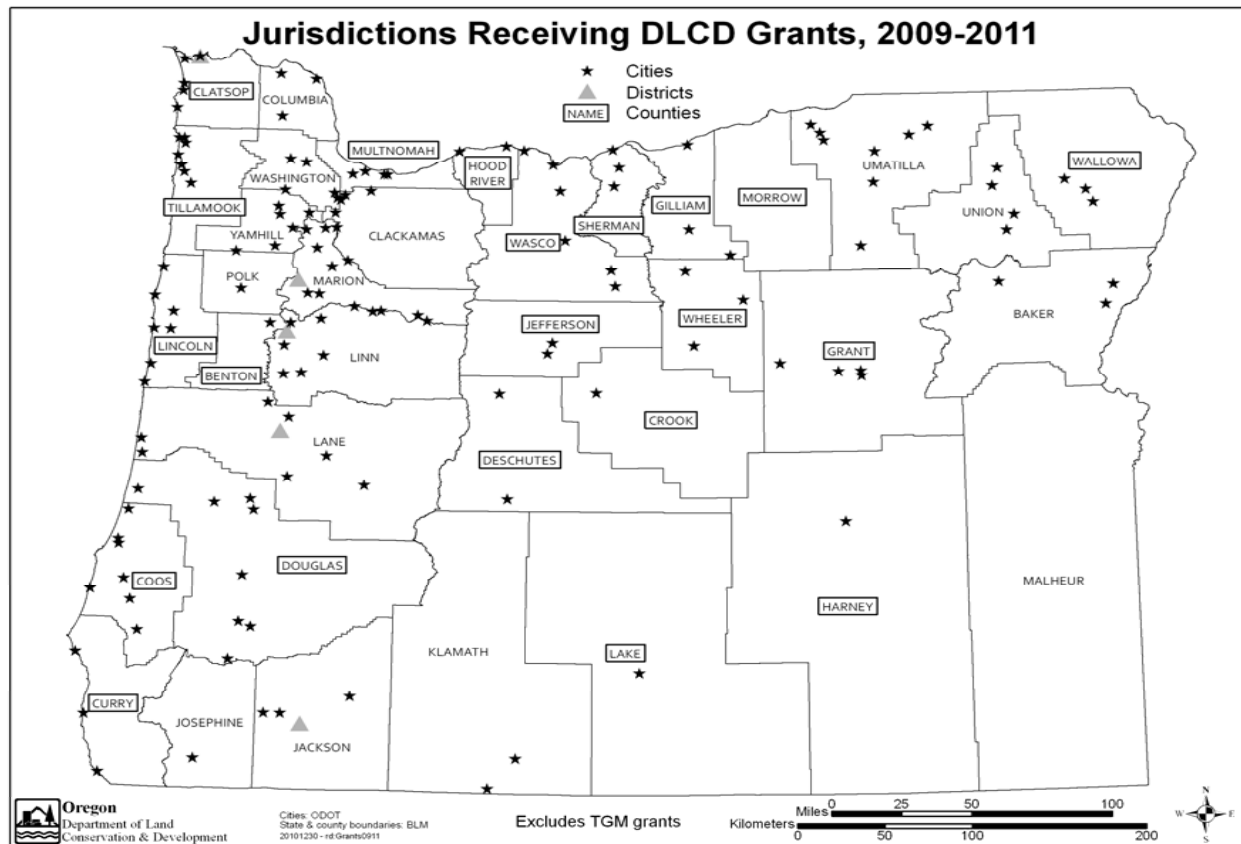
[http://www.oregon.gov/LCD/docs/publications/2009-11\\_biennial\\_report.pdf](http://www.oregon.gov/LCD/docs/publications/2009-11_biennial_report.pdf)

# The Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development

2011



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*Agency Mission: "To help communities and citizens plan for, protect and improve the built and natural systems that provide a high quality of life. In partnership with citizens and local governments, we foster sustainable and vibrant communities and protect our natural resources legacy."*

Cover photos: (left to right) Redmond - Timothy Park, Blue Dot Studio; Astoria - Public Domain, Roger Warren; Pendleton; Hood River Valley - Public Domain, Peter Marbach



## Who We Are

The Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) is a small state agency with about 55 permanent staff. We are responsible for making Oregon's statewide land use program work for communities in all parts of the state. We do this through partnerships with cities and counties, state development agencies (Transportation and Business Oregon), and natural resource agencies (Agriculture, Forestry, Water Resources, State Lands, Environmental Quality and Fish and Wildlife), as well as citizens.

The Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC), a seven-member citizen commission from around the state, sets long-term policy (together with the legislature). When certain major local land use decisions (such as urban growth boundary (UGB) amendments) are appealed, LCDC hears those cases and resolves the appeals.

DLCD is organized into four divisions:

- **Coastal:** oversees Oregon's federally-delegated coastal management program, providing grants and technical assistance to coastal communities.
- **Planning Services:** reviews over 1,300 local plan amendments per year and provides technical expertise in urban, rural and transportation/growth management areas.
- **Community Services:** provides technical assistance from five regional offices to cities and counties to carry out planning efforts, administers grants to support local planning projects.
- **Administration:** provides support for the LCDC, policy development and operations.

*"The program's success is due to the working partnership between state and local governments and to citizen participation."* -Renew America (National Conservation Program)

Cities, counties and districts are the "front line" of the statewide land use program. We recognize that each city and county has unique values and aspirations, and that it is our job to help them, within the broad direction provided by state policy. The core functions of the program are management of urban growth and conservation of rural lands and natural resources. Helping cities and counties address their priorities within the context of state and regional interests requires that we be problem solvers.

**Land Conservation & Development Commission members:** John VanLandingham, Marilyn Worrix, Tim Josi, Greg Macpherson, Hanley Jenkins, Christine Pellett, Bart Eberwein.

**Local Officials Advisory Committee members:** George Endicott, Larry Givens, Charlotte Lehan, Keith Mays, Nikki Whitty, Dick Gordon.

## What We Accomplished in 2009-2011

**Ballot Measures 37 (2004) and 49 (2007):** Compensated long-term rural landowners affected by land use regulations by authorizing 6,131 new dwellings and 3,878 new parcels. Statutory deadlines for processing claims were met and expected outcomes were achieved.

**Portland Metro Urban and Rural Reserves:** Metro and the three Portland area counties completed a landmark effort (Washington County pending) identifying where the region will and will not grow for the next 50 years. DLCD coordinated the state's involvement, and LCDC reviewed and approved most of the local designations. This program provides certainty for rural land owners to encourage long-term investment in agricultural and forest operations, while allowing communities to plan for efficient growth.



**Vernonia Recovery:** Helped plan for relocation of local schools out of the flood plain, and supported FEMA response.

**Urban Growth Boundary Amendments:** Approved UGB amendments for 10 jurisdictions.

**Jackson County Regional Planning:** Jackson County, Medford and the cities in the Rogue Valley are nearing completion of a regional effort to identify where the area will grow, together with protections for the agricultural industry in that part of the state. DLCD has provided significant funding and staff support for this effort, which will be submitted to LCDC for review in 2011.

**Economic Development Planning:** DLCD works with state and local partners to supply industrial sites for new and expanding companies. This effort includes exploring means to provide adequate public facilities and services.

**Ocean Alternative Energy Planning:** Developing a coast-wide plan for ocean alternative energy development, including fisheries protection elements. Phase One (policies) is complete, Phase Two (mapping) is scheduled for completion in late 2011.

**Preparing for Climate Change and Providing Tools to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions:** The department led an effort to assess climate risks to Oregon and identify priorities to begin preparing for the effects of higher temperatures. DLCD and ODOT are working with metropolitan areas to identify how they could reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transportation.

**Forest Land Conversion:** Maintaining commercial forest operations in Oregon is important to the state's economy. DLCD is working with the Oregon Department of Forestry and other partners to develop non-regulatory tools to encourage continued timber production from private lands.