



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Department of Land Conservation and Development

635 Capitol Street NE, Suite 150

Salem, Oregon 97301-2540

Phone: (503) 373-0050

Fax: (503) 378-5518

www.oregon.gov/LCD



November 19, 2010

TO: Land Conservation and Development Commission
FROM: Richard Whitman, Director
SUBJECT: **Agenda Item 5, December 2, 2010, LCDC Meeting**

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

I. INFORMATION UPDATES

A. PARTICIPATION IN APPEALS, AND RECENT LUBA AND APPELLATE COURT OPINIONS

ORS 197.090(2) requires the director of the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) to report to the Land Conservation and Development Commission (the Commission or LCDC) on each appellate case in which the Department participates, and on the position taken in each such case.

ORS 197.040(1)(c)(C) requires LCDC to review recent Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA) and appellate court decisions to determine whether goal or rule amendments are needed.

1. Department participation in appeals

Between September 28 and November 15, 2010, the Department received 25 notices of appeal filed with LUBA. The Department filed none of these notices.

2. LUBA opinions

Between September 28 and November 15, 2010, the Department received copies of 13 recently issued LUBA opinions. Of these, LUBA dismissed 2, remanded 5, reversed 1, affirmed 6, invalidated 0 local decisions, and transferred no petitions to circuit court.

Two decisions concern the application or interpretation of a statewide planning goal or LCDC administrative rule:

- **Goals 2 & 3: Santiam Water Control District v. City of Stayton, LUBA No. 2009-070, affirmed 10-19-10. City not obligated under Goal 2 to coordinate updated Storm**

Water Master Plan with petitioner. Adoption of updated plan does not implicate Goal 3 because no agricultural lands are affected.

- **Goal 2:** Parker Johnstone Wilsonville Honda v. ODOT, LUBA No. 2010-019, affirmed approval of I-5/Wilsonville Road Interchange Area Management Plan on 10-4-10. Oregon Transportation Commission decision to close Parkway Avenue access is not arbitrary and is supported by substantial evidence.

Neither of these decisions requires goal or rule amendments.

3. Appellate court opinions

Between September 28 and November 15, 2010, the department received 2 notices of appellate judgment from LUBA, but no copies of recently issued opinions from the Court of Appeals.

4. Opinions of interest: None.

5. Appeal notices of interest: None.

B. GRANTS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS AND CONTRACTS

General Fund Grants:

The Commission's Grants Advisory Committee will meet in early December for an update on the progress of current grant projects and to discuss preliminary priorities for the 2011-2013 biennium. DLCD welcomes suggestions for improving the grant program; we will continue to explore ways to make the grant program as effective as possible in helping Oregon communities plan for their future.

DLCD grant managers and administrative staff are also notifying grant award recipients to begin wrapping up grant projects for the current biennium. The department has asked for final grant products to be submitted under a May 31, 2011 deadline in order to complete grant closeouts and be prepared to award 2011 grants as soon as possible in the biennium.

Coastal Program Grants:

1. In addition to planning and technical assistance grants to coastal local governments, the Coastal Program recently made three awards under a new Mini-Grant program to non-governmental organizations. In September, the program solicited proposals for up to \$500 for projects that support the mission of the Coastal Program. Only three proposals were received and all were awarded: the Haystack Rock Awareness Program at Cannon Beach, the Heceta Head Conference in Florence, and the Port Orford Ocean Resource Team.
2. The Coastal Grants Specialist has been working closely with staff from the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC) to implement a DLCD-PSMFC Memorandum of

Agreement that implements a special NOAA grant of \$499,000 awarded to the DLCD on behalf of the West Coast Governors Agreement (WCGA). DLCD is the grantee; PSMFC is managing all aspects of the grant, which includes ten sub-contracts to carry out items in the WCGA Action Plan.

3. The department will appear before the December legislative E-Board to seek retroactive approval to apply for a grant of \$759,000 from NOAA that would be awarded over three years. The grant will enable the department to work with the Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce, Clatsop Community College, Oregon Extension Sea Grant, and the cities of Gearhart, Seaside, and Cannon Beach to improve community resilience to coastal hazards by developing citizen-based mapping and observation programs to support local hazard planning and response efforts. The grant, if successful, would begin October 1, 2011 and run through September 20, 2014. (see Attachment A)

C. City of Damascus Update

Damascus is very close to complying with the schedule the commission ordered last year. Metro and the department have been working closely with the city on their comprehensive plan. The City of Damascus Planning Commission has recommended adoption of the city's comprehensive plan map and sections of the comprehensive plan to the City Council. The City Council held their first hearing on the comp plan work November 15, the council is planning on adopting the comp plan map and section of the comp plan on November 29. The transportation system plan has been on hold for over a year and will be continued in January 2011, the TSP is expected to be completed in 18 months/July 2012. The department will work with the city on a new compliance schedule and will bring it to the commission in March 2011 with the adopted comp plan and map for partial acknowledgement. The new compliance schedule will include the remaining comp plan elements, zoning map, and implementing ordinances.

II. DEPARTMENT PROGRAM ACTIVITIES AND INITIATIVES

A. COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Coastal Planners Conference: The Coastal Program held the annual Coastal Planners Conference on October 21-22 at the Florence Events Center. More than 60 people attended. Thursday afternoon included a presentation from Don Lewis, Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries, on flood hazards and risk analysis and two local government showcases, one on planning projects and the other on GIS projects (See Agenda, Attachment B).

Thursday evening, October 21, the program hosted a Coastal Awards dinner and made first-ever awards to a number of coastal jurisdictions, individuals, and organizations. The winners of the 2010 Coastal Planners Awards were (see Awards, Attachment C):

Excellence in Local Government Planning: **City of Astoria**

Problem Solving: **City of Newport**

Habitat Protection: **City of Cannon Beach**/Friends of Haystack Rock

Urban Vitality: **City of Waldport**

Waterfront Revitalization: **City of Florence**

Public Access: **City of Brookings**

Information Technology: **Curry County**

Local Government (two awards): **City of Lincoln City** and **Tillamook County**

Elected Official: **James Auburn, Mayor, City of Port Orford**

Professional Service: **Diane Morris, City of Brookings**

Non-Profit: Oregon Coastal Zone Management Association (OCZMA)

Award of Special Merit: Against All Odds: **Port of Newport**

Friday, October 22, featured two presentations from Nate Wood, US Geological Survey: 1) community vulnerability to effects of climate change; and 2) socio-demographic vulnerability to tsunami events. These presentations were sandwiched around the Coastal Planners' Roundtable, a very popular and informative 3 hours situation report from all jurisdictions.

B. COMMUNITY SERVICES

Jon Jinings continues to work with department staff and commissioners Jenkins and Pellett with the commission's solar energy work group to determine if and what rules the commission may need to adopt regarding the siting of solar energy generating facilities on Oregon agricultural lands. Jon Jinings and Darren Nichols also attended the ODFW / BLM sponsored Symposium on Renewable Energy and Eastern Oregon Landscape Conservation in Bend on November 9. The symposium focused on Oregon's need to resolve growing conflicts between natural resource conservation and energy development.

During late October and early November, the deputy director and community services division manager visited cities and counties in the Columbia River Gorge, in Central Oregon, and in Southeast Oregon to introduce the department's new regional representative, Karen Swirsky, and to hear from Oregon communities in the region.

Jon Jinings and Karen Swirsky are working closely with the City of La Pine and department staff to help prepare La Pine's inaugural comprehensive plan for presentation to the commission. The commission is scheduled to see the plan for the first time in January.

Jennifer Donnelly is also working closely with the City of Damascus and other state and regional agencies to prepare that city's inaugural comprehensive plan for presentation to the commission.

Eastern Oregon regional representative Grant Young continues to work closely with the City of Pendleton and the City of Hermiston on those cities' periodic review work programs. Grant is also invited to participate in an Oregon Solutions "City Solutions" project focused on providing workforce housing in Pendleton. This will give the department an opportunity to work with

Oregon Solutions to see how periodic review and the new City Solutions process may be able to work together.

C. DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

The Local Officials Advisory Committee met on October 11. The meeting was attended by Commissioner Worrix and the director, as well as Commissioner VanLandingham. Items discussed included the agency budget, possible legislative initiatives from outside the department (including destination resorts, EFU events, industrial lands, and the transportation planning rule). Committee members gave a recap of information presented at the League of Oregon Cities Annual Conference. This was the last meeting for three committee members: Dennis Luke, Janet Taylor, and Rod Park. Recommendations for new appointments will be submitted to the commission in January.

Other activities in the director's office during October and November included:

Week of October 11 – Attended meetings with the Destination Resorts Sub-Work Group, LOAC, Natural Resources Cabinet, senior staff of multiple agencies (DLCD, ODOT, OBDD & ERT), and CIAC. The director also met with Michael Jordan and other state agency directors regarding Metro's Community Investment Strategy and participated in a Marion County Work Session on Farmland Activities.

Week of October 18 – Attended Destination Resorts Work Group meeting and the LCDC meeting.

Week of October 25 – Attended meetings of the House Interim Agriculture and Natural Resources work group on urban land use issues, Natural Resources Cabinet, AOC Farmland Activities Task Force, and LCDC. Welcomed students to Student Planning Day at DLCD.

Week of November 1 - Attended meetings with the AOC Farmland Activities Sub-Work Group and the SB 1059 Target Rulemaking Advisory Committee. Gave an overview on state climate change planning efforts to Metro's JPACT.

Week of November 8 – Meeting regarding FEMA and National Flood Insurance, AOC Farmland Activities Task Force, Natural Resources Cabinet, Climate Adaptation Framework meeting.

Week of November 15 – Destination Resorts Work Group, AOC Conference – panelist on Greenhouse Gas Reduction Update, STIP Stakeholder Committee, MPAC, AOC Conference roundtable session, meeting with PSU faculty regarding the urban forum.

D. OPERATIONS SERVICES

The Operations Services fiscal team is preparing for implementation of GASB 54 (fund balance reporting requirements) and upcoming calendar and biennium year-end activities which roll into

the state's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA) report.

Payroll staff and the operations services manager continue successfully working with the Department of Agriculture payroll in addressing the workload needs of the agency and sharing services on payroll/benefits. Payroll management and payroll backup are continuing in the same way as it has at DLCD. DLCD continues to appreciate the Department of Agriculture's timely and valuable assistance.

The budget officer is working with the director's office and the operations services manager in continuing to ensure financial reporting accountability. Division managers continue their critical roles in ensuring timely expenditure projections. The department has received its DAS BAM Analyst Recommendations Report and has attended a joint appeal hearing on October 8, 2010 with the Land Use Board of Appeals. Results from the appeal hearing will not be immediately known. Additional budget development will continue through the fall and during the next legislative session. A Governor's Recommended Budget will likely occur in January/February 2011.

The information technology unit continues working with department management in evaluating and determining current and future technological needs for the department.

E. PLANNING SERVICES

The department is working closely with staff from the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to conduct work directed by Senate Bill (SB) 1059 (2010). SB 1059 directs the commission to adopt rules setting greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions targets for metropolitan areas to plan for reducing emissions from light vehicles by the year 2035.

Key activities through the second week of November include:

- The Target Rulemaking Advisory Committee (TRAC) held its first meeting on November 2. TRAC is chaired by Commissioner John VanLandingham.
- Worked with ODOT policy and technical advisory committees to begin to scope out the statewide transportation strategy for reducing GHG emissions from the transportation sector. The statewide transportation strategy will help inform target rulemaking by establishing baseline assumptions about state policies and programs to reduce GHG emissions from the transportation sector.
- Worked with ODOT, Department of Environmental Quality, and Department of Energy staff to develop the modeling assumptions to inform the agency technical report due on March 1, 2011 that will advise the commission on target rulemaking.

- Worked with ODOT to select consultant teams to assist with preparation of scenario planning guidelines (led by Fregonese Associates) and a toolkit of GHG reduction measures for use by metropolitan areas (led by Cambridge Systematics).
- Worked with ODOT staff and staff from metropolitan planning organizations to develop a draft scenario planning funding report. ODOT and DLCD are responsible for submitting a final report to the Legislature in January 2011.

Further information on department's work and work of the various committees assisting with SB 1059 work is available at the following link:

<http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TD/TP/SB1059.shtml>

III. DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL AND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

A. NEW STAFF AND PROMOTIONS

The last director's report stated the Planning Services Division had hired two individuals from within DLCD to assist with completion of tasks required by SB 1059 (2010), and that two other positions were in the midst of recruitment. These two positions have been filled:

Mary Weber joined the department on November 2 as the Climate Change Outreach Specialist. Mary graduated from Portland State University with a Bachelor's degree in Sociology and a Master's degree in Urban Planning. Mary most recently worked at David Evans and Associates in Portland as a project manager. She has also worked as the interim community development director for the city of Damascus and for many years as a senior manager at Metro.

Rob Zako joined the department's SB 1059 efforts November 15, and will assist with target rulemaking and "other tasks as assigned." Rob graduated from Harvard with a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics and from the University of California, Berkeley, with a Doctorate in Theoretical Physics. Rob most recently was self-employed as a transportation, planning, and public involvement consultant. Before going solo, he was the transportation advocate for 1000 Friends of Oregon.

B. DEPARTING EMPLOYEES

Measure 49 continues to reduce staff as work is completed. Tim Fitzgerald (Program Analyst 1) and Alinda Meola (Intake Specialist) ended their employment with the agency in October 2010.

C. RECRUITMENTS

The department currently has no open recruitments.

IV. LCDC POLICY AND RULEMAKING UPDATES

A. Target Rulemaking Advisory Committee (TRAC)

The Target Rulemaking Advisory Committee (TRAC) held its first meeting on November 2. TRAC was established in June to advise the commission about rulemaking directed by HB 2001 (2009) and SB 1059 (2010) about setting GHG emissions targets for the state's metropolitan areas to plan to reduce emissions from light vehicle travel. Chair VanLandingham chairs TRAC. Details on the TRAC meeting and other background information is available on the department's website at http://www.lcd.state.or.us/LCD/target_rulemaking_advisory_committee.shtml.

B. Current Rulemaking

The department has four current rulemaking projects underway. One of these, "housekeeping" rule cleanup, is scheduled for a public hearing at the December 2 commission meeting, but is recommended for continuance until January (see Item 2). The other rulemakings underway, to be concluded early next year, include:

- Solar Energy on Farmland
- Willamette River Greenway boundary amendment in Portland
- Irrigation Reservoirs on Farmland

1. Solar Energy on Farmland

LCDC initiated this rulemaking at its September meeting. At issue are requirements in OAR division 33 (Agricultural Lands) that restrict siting of commercial energy generating facilities, including solar arrays, on high value farmland greater than 12 acres in size, and greater than 20 acres on non-high value farmland. If those thresholds are exceeded, the applicant is currently required to seek an exception to Goal 3. The department's rulemaking will explore the approval process and may recommend changes.

2. Willamette River Greenway Boundary Amendment in Portland

This rulemaking is at the request of the City of Portland, and would amend the Willamette Greenway boundary in the city. The department is requesting that the commission reinstate this rulemaking to ensure proper notice of potential fiscal impacts of the rule.

3. Irrigation Reservoirs on Farm Land

This item was added to the LCDC 2009-2011 policy agenda at the July 2010 LCDC meeting and rulemaking was initiated at the commission's September meeting. The rulemaking was requested by members of the Oregon Board of Agriculture. The department initially recommended that this rulemaking go forward without a Rules Advisory Committee but, after consultation with various interests, the department is now recommending that this rulemaking be advised by a rules advisory committee (see agenda item 6d). The focus for this rulemaking is clarification as to

allowance of reservoirs on lands zoned for exclusive farm use. Reservoirs are allowed as a farm use on the farm property being irrigated, but are not clearly allowed on EFU lands if the reservoir is being used to irrigate other agricultural lands

C. LEGISLATIVE CONCEPTS

The department's proposed legislative concepts for the 2011 Legislative Session are as follows:

1. Streamlining and improving the post-acknowledgement plan amendment (PAPA) processes;
2. Streamlining the process for UGB amendments and urban reserves, reviewed by LCDC in the manner of periodic review;
3. A policy neutral cleanup of "needed housing" statutes, including local government reporting requirements; and
4. Minor changes to DLCD's Transfer of Development Rights Pilot Program.

The concepts were approved for drafting by DAS and the Governor's office last June. Legislative Counsel has drafted these concepts and provided a copy to the department. At this time, the department has not received word as to whether the Governor-Elect intends to file these concepts (agency legislative concepts become the Governor's concepts). Meanwhile, the department does not intend to release copies of the final drafted concepts to the public unless and until authorized by the Governor's office.

D. OTHER POLICY ACTIVITIES

- **AOC Farmland Activities Task Force:** Following the 2010 legislative special session, the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) agreed to establish a task force focusing on ancillary uses on farmland throughout the state. Passage of SB 1055 temporarily addressed concerns of some winegrowers with regard to events on farmland, but most interested parties agreed that a larger scope was needed to analyze a wide range of events including weddings, musical, dining-related, and athletic events on farmland. AOC initiated the workgroup in late April of 2010, and Director Whitman is a task force member. Several meetings have been conducted, with Yamhill County Commissioner Mary Stern as chair. AOC staff, with some technical assistance from the department, is working on a more specific proposal that will be presented at the next task force meeting.
- **Destination Resorts:** An informal workgroup led by Senator Dingfelder has been meeting for many months to see if there are acceptable alternatives to the destination resort models allowed under statute and Goal 8. Nine counties have created ordinances necessary to map and site destination resorts, but large resorts created under goal and statute have had mixed success financially, and in the case of one county residents have asked that destination resort provisions be rolled back. The department has helped staff this effort through the director's office. The work group is entering a key phase to see if recommendations can be generated for the 2011 legislative session.

- **Urban Forum:** In adopting its 2009-2011 Policy Agenda, LCDC directed the department to organize an urban land use forum to address several fundamental aspects of Oregon's land use planning program, and to develop consensus recommendations for updating the program. The three topics currently included in this effort concern the use of population estimates in land use and transportation planning, public facility finance and planning issues facing local governments, and urban growth management policies, procedures and requirements, including overall goals and effectiveness. The director and Bob Rindy have been meeting with Portland State University and the National Policy Consensus Center to discuss different models for the forum, but at this time no "start date" for the forum has been chosen. A faculty seminar on population forecasting issues is set for late November.
- **Legislative work group:** The department is participating in a work group chaired by Representative Edwards concerning industrial lands and other urban development issues.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Letter to Emergency Board regarding NOAA Grant
- B. Coastal Planners Conference Agenda
- C. 2010 Oregon Coastal Planners Awards



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Department of Land Conservation and Development

635 Capitol Street NE, Suite 150
Salem, Oregon 97301-2540
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www.oregon.gov/LCD

November 1, 2010



The Honorable Peter Courtney, Co-Chair
The Honorable Dave Hunt, Co-Chair
Interim Joint Committee on Ways and Means
900 Court Street NE
H-178 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301-4048

Dear Co-Chairpersons:

Nature of the Request

The Department of Land Conservation and Development requests retroactive authority to apply for a federal grant of \$759,400 from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). These federal funds do not require a state match.

On September 3, 2010, I informed you by letter that the department intended to apply to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a grant in the amount of \$750,000. We were invited by NOAA on August 16, 2010, to apply with a submittal deadline of September 15, 2010. We subsequently worked with the Columbia River Estuary Taskforce (CREST), Oregon Sea Grant, Clatsop Community College, the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI), and Ecotrust (a non-governmental organization with superior coastal data and information technology expertise) to flesh out a work program and costs. The final budget in our application and for this request to you is now \$759,400.

Please note that, if successful, the grant would begin October 1, 2011, which is in the 2011-13 biennium, and end September 30, 2014, which is in the 2013-15 biennium. The grant would be awarded over three federal fiscal years: \$250,000 in FFY12 (October 1, 2011 – September 30, 2012); \$259,400 in FFY13 (October 1, 2012 – September 30, 2013); and \$250,000 in FFY14 (October 1, 2013 – September 30, 2014). If the department is successful in its application, we will seek sufficient federal fund limitation during the budget development process in the 2011 Legislature.

Grant funds will enable several coastal communities in Clatsop County to engage citizens in planning for increased resilience to coastal hazards. The Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce (an association of local governments) will work with Clatsop Community College, Oregon Sea Grant, Ecotrust, and the cities of Astoria, Cannon Beach, and Seaside to build local networks of individuals and organizations and provide them with the technical resources, training, facilitation, funding, and direction to institute community-based mapping systems to document and monitor changing coastal and shoreland conditions. DOGAMI and the department will work with NOAA, the U.S. Geological Survey and others to provide technical assistance and planning and policy advice.

The Honorable Peter Courtney, Co-Chair
The Honorable Dave Hunt, Co-Chair
November 1, 2010

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Agency Action

The grant will enable the department to contract with partners Clatsop Community College, Oregon Sea Grant, Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce, and Ecotrust to conduct various parts of the joint work program. Funds will also be contracted to the local governments to support costs of map development, conducting vulnerability assessments, and other aspects of participation. The department will maintain project management and coordination among all the partners and will retain funding to support 0.5 FTE professional staff capacity to do so. The department's Coastal Grants Officer will administer the grant and all contracts with partners and will provide all necessary financial and performance reports to NOAA.

The department, through its Coastal Management Program, has a strong interest in strengthening the capacity of local governments to engage in the proposed work. The funding provided by this grant would align closely with the department's mission and several Statewide Planning Goals. Among these are Goal 1 -- Citizen Involvement, Goal 7-- Natural Hazards, Goal 17-- Coastal Shorelands, and Goal 18-- Beaches and Dunes. Assisting local governments to plan for coastal hazards has been a central part of the work of the Program and its annual federal Coastal Zone Management Grant. We are eager to advance this work with partners and the local governments to develop capacity and employ innovative practices at the community level. We believe this will be a model for future work in other coastal communities and will encourage NOAA to provide funding to support that work.

Action Requested

The Department of Land Conservation and Development requests retroactive authority to apply for a federal grant of \$759,400 from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). No state match is required.

Legislation Affected

Chapter 652, Section 3, Oregon Laws 2009

The department is designated the state's Coastal Management Agency pursuant to ORS 196.435.

Yours very truly,

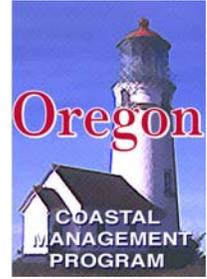


Richard Whitman
Director

Attachments

cc: John VanLandingham, Chair, Land Conservation and Development Commission

Oregon Coastal Planners Fall Network Meeting MEETING AGENDA



**October 21 & 22, 2010
Florence Events Center**

Thursday, October 21

- 1:30 pm GIS Projects Showcase (Local Govt. Representatives)
- City of Cannon Beach
 - Curry County
 - City of North Bend
 - City of Astoria
- 2:30 pm Coastal Flood Hazard and Risk Analysis (Don Lewis, DOGAMI)
- 3:30 pm Planning Projects Showcase (Local Govt. Representatives)
- City of Brookings Downtown Improvements and Art Walk Alley
 - City of Waldport Downtown Improvement Project
 - City of Astoria Columbia Riverfront Vision Plan
 - City of Newport Wilder Area Plan.
- 5:00 pm Adjourn
- 5:30 pm Reception (at Events Center)
- 6:30 pm Planners Awards Dinner

Friday, October 22

- 8:30 am Donuts and Coffee
- 9:00 am Coastal Program Updates
- 9:45 am Climate Change and Vulnerability (Nate Wood, USGS)
- 10:30 am Break
- 10:45 am Local Government Roundtable
- NOON Lunch (RSVP is required)**
- 12:30 pm Local Government Roundtable (Continued)
- 2:15 pm Break
- 2:30 pm Demographic Sensitivity to Tsunami Hazards (Nate Wood, USGS)
- 3:15 pm Wrap-Up and Adjourn

2010 Oregon Coastal Planners Awards

Presented October 21, 2010
Florence Events Center

Planning

Excellence in Local Government Planning: City of Astoria

This award intended to recognize an exceptional long range or special area planning effort. We're pleased to present this award to **the City of Astoria** for its success in planning for urban and waterfront revitalization.

Astoria's Riverwalk started back in 1992 with just two blocks along the waterfront. When Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad pulled out of Astoria in 1996, it could have been seen as a negative; instead the city capitalized on the opportunity and it became the impetus for what is today the five mile long Riverwalk trail, which is now lined with hotels, restaurants, parks, a museum and a maritime memorial, and supports the restored trolley during the summer months.

But with success come challenges. In 2008 the city recognized the need to look comprehensively at the future of its riverfront, with an eye toward accommodating new development while protecting the working waterfront and the city's historic character. The result was the Riverfront Vision Plan, an effort that involved a nearly two year process to develop a community vision for balancing future development of Astoria's waterfront. The payoff is a plan that promotes a mix of uses on the riverfront that will provide public and visual access, will support the city's economy and maintain Astoria's working waterfront character.

For these outstanding efforts, we are pleased to present the Excellence in Local Government Planning award to the City of Astoria.

Excellence in Problem Solving: City of Newport

This award recognizes a jurisdiction tackling a particularly difficult or complex land use issue. The deserving winner of this award is the **City of Newport** for its challenging work to update its Geologic Hazards regulations.

The city began this project in the winter of 2009 as a part of its efforts to comprehensively update its zoning code. City staff developed a draft code proposal which included the incorporation of the DOGAMI risk zone maps for shoreline and erosion hazards, a first among coastal jurisdictions, along with several alternative approaches for the review of development in hazard areas. As the public review process for this proposal unfolded, a myriad of complex technical, legal and policy issues presented themselves. The city staff and planning commission worked diligently to thoughtfully examine these issues and systematically work through them in an extensive public process.

After eight separate work sessions before the planning commission, a public workshop, and two public hearings, the planning commission produced a recommendation to the city council which incorporates the use of the DOGAMI risk zone maps and provides for a clear process for the review of development in hazard areas. Final adoption is pending before the city council.

2010 Oregon Coastal Planning Awards

For excellent work in working through the complex issues presented by this code update project, we present the Excellence in Problem Solving award to the City of Newport.

Projects

Habitat Protection: City of Cannon Beach

We're very pleased to present this award to the **City of Cannon Beach** for its work in establishing and supporting the Haystack Rock Awareness Program. Haystack Rock, one of the iconic landscape features of the Oregon Coast, is also a critical habitat area accessible to thousands of visitors each year. The Haystack Rock Awareness Program is a stewardship and environmental educational program whose mission is to increase the awareness of the fragile environment in the Haystack Rock Marine Garden and National Wildlife Refuge.

Since its modest beginning in 1985, HRAP has educated and inspired tens of thousands of adults and children to learn about the natural resources of Oregon's coast. The focus of the program is on stewardship and protecting the ecosystem from thoughtless harm. To accomplish this, HRAP offers an extensive interpretive program on the beach during the spring and summer months, providing trained staff to answer questions and provide guidance to visitors on the ecological importance and fragility of the habitats at Haystack Rock.

For this outstanding program, we are pleased to present the habitat protection award to the City of Cannon Beach.

Urban Vitality: City of Waldport

This award recognizes efforts to repair or enhance the urban function, appearance, or vitality of a coastal community. The 2010 award goes to the **City of Waldport** for its downtown plan and revitalization project.

This project is a great example of making a plan and following through. The genesis of this venture was an assessment by the Oregon Downtown Development Association about 9 years ago. The report included conceptual designs for the city's business district on Highway 101, that were further detailed in a downtown refinement plan funded by a grant from the State's Transportation and Growth Management Program. With plan in hand, the city made a successful bid for Transportation Enhancement funding through the Oregon Department of Transportation. The city's urban renewal agency kicked in match money and detailed construction plans were drawn up. In 2008, construction was completed. The finished project put all utilities underground and provided wide attractive pedestrian areas, enhanced by new free standing street lamps, furniture and planters. Sidewalk extensions, constructed with attractive paving stone, provide shorter, safer pedestrian crossings on busy Highway 101. And to really make this effort pay off in the long haul, the city adopted a downtown development district to ensure that new development and redevelopment is attractive and functional in this pedestrian friendly setting.

Kudos to the city staff, public officials and many citizens who championed this excellent effort from start to finish!

2010 Oregon Coastal Planning Awards

Waterfront Revitalization: City of Florence

This award goes to a community for promoting the reuse and revitalization of an urban waterfront. The 2010 award goes to the **City of Florence** for its historic and ongoing efforts to revitalize and enhance their waterfront.

The city of Florence and the Port of Siuslaw have long been supporters of a revitalized old town. Old town was once the site of the ferry terminus, lumber milling and fish processing. Thanks to local champions, old town is still a vibrant place of business and a real pleasure to residents and visitors alike. What started as a few refurbished buildings on Bay Street has evolved into a busy mixed-use commercial district several blocks deep that serves the whole community. The once blighted area now commands the highest rents and property values in the community. It's a success story that has featured many important contributors over the years. This award recognizes that, without skillful local government leadership, this kind of achievement is rare indeed. Congratulations to all who have made old town Florence one of the great places on the Oregon Coast!

Public Access: City of Brookings

This award goes to a community for outstanding work in providing or enhancing public access to the ocean or a coastal waterway. The 2010 award is presented to the **City of Brookings** for its work to improve coastal access at Chetco Point.

Chetco Point once provided access for ships bring goods to a thriving mill town on the southern Oregon Coast. Remnants of the old wharf are yet visible at Chetco Point, but maritime activities have since shifted to the Port on the lower Chetco River. Today, the city has reserved about nine acres of this choice headland for public use and enjoyment. Chetco Point Park affords wonderful views of the Ocean, the Port of Brookings-Harbor, the Chetco River and Macklyn Cove. The trail out to the point offers several vistas, as well fire rings and picnic tables. In addition to sight seeing and whale watching, visitors to the Point can view seal and seabirds on the rocky outcroppings. And, consistent with this areas reputation as a city of flowers, unique wild flowers can be found in abundance on the Point. This award is in appreciation to the city for its forward thinking and its many efforts to ensure that this gem remains in the public trust for future generations to enjoy.

Information Technology: Curry County

This award recognizes the use information technology to improve a local planning program. The 2010 award goes to **Curry County** for its excellent, user-friendly, web-accessible GIS system.

Curry County developed its GIS late in the game. Most local governments in Oregon already had a system in place and were enjoying the benefits that accrue from this powerful tool. What sets Curry County's system apart from many other GIS is the breadth of its investors and users and the ease of accessibility of many of its features to virtually everyone. The county engaged with local governments, public utilities, the real estate community, resource managers and fire suppression services early on and the pay-off has been outstanding. The County's broad and skillful approach to GIS development made this an enterprise that has become a game changer for many organizations throughout the county. Anyone that has used GIS knows about the power and efficiencies this tool brings to the work place. The manner in which the Curry County

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enterprise GIS was developed demonstrates how the wide delivery of GIS services can benefit a community on many levels. This award gives thanks to the County for its vision to create and deliver such an excellent public service to the people Curry County!

Leadership

Elected Official: James Auburn, Mayor, City of Port Orford

This award recognizes leadership by an elected official in addressing a difficult or complex planning problem. The 2010 award goes to **James Auburn, Mayor, City of Port Orford**, for his leadership on numerous fronts related to planning and community development.

Every community needs a man like James Auburn. Every community should be so lucky! Mayor Auburn's volunteerism bespeaks his obvious passion for his community. When he isn't contemplating how to best run a small city on a shoe string budget, he is actively engaged in making it a better place to live and do business. He has championed plans to enhance the look and function of the town. He advises the Port Orford Ocean Resource Team that recently won national honors from NOAA for their support of local fishers and marine resources. He chairs the Redfish Rocks marine reserves community team that advises ODFW on matters relating to one of only two marine reserves on the Oregon Coast. His concerns about polluted storm-water runoff and its affect on coastal waters resulted in regulations to help contain and treat polluted runoff. He participated in the construction of a bio-swale project at the Battle Rock wayside that demonstrates an attractive way to treat stormwater runoff from a large Oceanside parking area. Governor Kulongoski recently appointed James to convene an Oregon Solutions Project that will lay the ground work for a marine interpretive center at Battle Rock Park. This award recognizes Mayor Auburn's leadership. His passion for Port Orford shows us all that the diligent and focused work of an individual can have a broad and resounding affect on an entire community. Thank you Mayor Auburn!

Professional Service: Diane Morris at the City of Brookings

This award recognizes leadership by an individual local government planner to promote and use planning as a means to address community needs and to protect coastal resources. The award this year goes to **Diane Morris at the City of Brookings** for her many years of service to local government and her consistent support for the planning objectives of the OCMP.

Dianne Morris loves Brookings. She started her planning career in the Curry County offices in the 1980's, mentored by Chuck Nordstrom, who led the county through a challenging acknowledgement process. Chuck says he hired her because she was friendly, bright, and willing to learn the complexities of Oregon land use planning. In retrospect, he says it was one of the best decisions he would make in his long tenure with Curry County. Her positive outlook, her energy and her desire to understand the principals and practices of the planning profession has made her one of the most valued and respected planners in the State of Oregon today. Over the past several years, she has headed up the City of Brookings planning department, re-writing much of the city's development code while overseeing the department's busy day to day decision-making. Dianne's love for her home has carried over to her energetic work as a steward of its natural resources and built environment. This award commends Dianne for her steadfast

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commitment to the sound planning principals that have helped to make Curry County and the City of Brookings unique and extraordinary places!

Leadership by a Local Government: Tillamook County; City of Lincoln City

This award is given for Leadership by a local government to address an important local issue through planning or community action. On behalf of the Oregon Coastal Management Program and the Department of Land Conservation and Development I am very pleased to announce two winners of this award. Both are well deserved and represent significant positive efforts and substantial leadership.

The first is **Tillamook County** for the County's efforts to date through the Oregon Solutions Tillamook Basin Flooding Reduction project. The County has set a great example of how local governments can work with its citizens, stakeholders, and agency partners to resolve a complex and long-standing land use problem. The collaborative process has produced significant tangible results completed on the ground and should produce multiple benefits into the future. Examples of completed projects include the removal of a very significant fill area in the floodway, the installation of a large spillway in a key location in the floodway (which has already shown successful), and completion of a study to help encourage businesses in the floodway to relocation to other areas within the community. There are other key partners in this effort, but the reality is that the successes of this project simply would not have occurred if it had not been for the leadership and perseverance of the County.

The second award is granted to **City of Lincoln City** for the City's efforts to address climate change and sustainability. The City has set a great example of how local governments can proactively work with its citizens to increase awareness and take actions to foster a more sustainable community, plan for possible effects of climate change, and reduce the city's contribution to greenhouse gas emissions.

Lincoln City is a leader on the Oregon coast and beyond in these efforts. Examples of these City's numerous efforts include the adoption of urban farming and wind and solar ordinance, significant carbon footprint reduction efforts, and establishment of the FIRST electrical charging stations on the entire Oregon coast. The Lincoln City Community Sustainability Committee is key in these efforts to increase awareness and actions that foster a more sustainable living agenda for residents and visitors to thrive economically, socially, and environmentally.

We are honored to award these two (2) awards for **Leadership by a Local Government** to Lincoln City and to Tillamook County.

Non-Profit: Oregon Coastal Zone Management Association (OCZMA)

This award is presented for **Leadership by a Non-Profit** organization in coastal resource and management issues. We're pleased to recognize the **Oregon Coastal Zone Management Association (OCZMA)** for its leadership in representing local governments in a variety of resource and development issues affecting the coast.

Founded in the late 1970s, the Oregon Coastal Zone Management Association is an association of local governments on the Oregon coast whose purpose is to provide a voice

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for cities, counties and ports in state and federal management activities affecting the coast. Under the leadership of their Executive Director Onno Husing, OCZMA has been a strong and effective advocate for local governments on a wide range of issues, including transportation, telecommunications, economic development, land use and ocean policy.

For its many contributions to improved coastal management and their key role in strengthening the state and local partnership that is the cornerstone of the Oregon Coastal Management Program, the award for Leadership by a Non-Profit Organization goes to the Oregon Coastal Zone Management Association.

Award of Special Merit: Against All Odds: Port of Newport

The final award is the **“Against All Odds” award of special merit**. This award honors a planning effort that succeeded despite difficult or even hopeless circumstances. Given that description, we can think of no more fitting winner than the **Port of Newport** for its successful effort to bring the NOAA Marine Operations Center-Pacific homeport facility to Newport.

Through a process that started back in 2007 with an evaluation of 80 potential sites in the Pacific Northwest, later filtered down to 30, then 11, and finally winnowed to four finalists, the Port persevered and survived each cut. But by February 2009, it became clear that the odds were long going up against the strong proposals of the three other finalists from the Puget Sound region. To be successful, the port needed help in underwriting the cost of facility construction. Given the state of the economy, that prospect looked bleak. Port Manager Don Mann recalls Senator Betsy Johnson’s initial response to the port’s lobbying efforts for lottery funds: “Don, we’re cutting schools and human services; what have you been smoking?” But, as it had throughout the selection process, the port’s proposal proved compelling on its merits, and eventually the legislature authorized the funding.

Finally, on a Tuesday morning last August, the phone rang at the port office; it was the NOAA project manager. Don assumed it was a courtesy call to say “thanks, but sorry.” Instead, he heard the word “congratulations”. Thanks to the port’s unwavering efforts in the face of what Senator Johnson called “the mother of all long shots” had come home. The NOAA Pacific Fleet headquarters was coming to Newport.

So for its amazing work to make the NOAA homeport in Newport a reality, the Award of Special Merit goes to the Port of Newport.