REGIONAL SOLUTIONS: An Overview with an Agriculture Focus

STATE OF OREGON
REGIONAL SOLUTIONS PROGRAM
WWW.REGIONALSOLUTIONS.OREGON.GOV
Regional Solutions is a community and economic development program operating out of the Governor’s Office that recognizes the unique needs of each region in the state and works at the local level to identify priorities, solve problems, and seize opportunities to get specific projects completed.
Regional Solutions Program: Purpose

Support community and economic development which includes:

• Attracting, retaining, and expanding businesses
• Building stronger and more vibrant communities

Through:

• Coordinating intergovernmental and interagency projects
• Leveraging private, public, and philanthropic resources
Regional Solutions Program:

Regions – Teams – Committees

Regions are strategically aligned with the 11 federally designated economic development districts in Oregon.
Regional Solutions Program: Regions – **Teams** – Committees

- 11 Regional Solutions Teams (RSTs)
- Each RST: Includes five core state agencies and a coordinator
- The role of the team is to make things happen
Regional Solutions Program:

*Regions – Teams – Committees*

Five key members appointed by the Governor:

1. Convener
2. Private Sector Representative
3. Philanthropic Representative
4. A member recommended by AOC
5. A member recommended by LOC

Additional members added by these appointees.
Regional Solutions Program: 
Regions – Teams – **Committees**

The role of the committees is to...

1. Establish Regional priorities for community and economic development in the region;

2. Assist Regional Solutions coordinators and teams with connecting to local resources; and

3. Consider, review, and recommend regional implementation project proposals.
Regional Solutions Program: *Outcomes*

Community and economic development projects that:

- Address regional priorities,
- Involve multiple agencies, and
- Address sustainable goals and objectives

Work plans track agency involvement, expected outcomes, targets, and milestones.
Mid-Valley
Regional Priorities
Marion, Polk, Yamhill

Primary Goal: Become a center for agri-business innovation and agri-tourism

• Promote regional workforce development opportunities
• Increase business capital for existing and emerging businesses
• Explore passenger and freight rail opportunities
• Expand agri-tourism opportunities which highlight local produce, viticulture/winery operations, and visitor hospitality amenities
• Enhance programs that encourage business retention and expansion
• Engage in local government infrastructure assessments
Mid-Valley: Quinoa, Transload, Nuts, Wine, Meat, and CTEC

Project: Salem-Keizer Career Technical Education Center

Description: 150,000 square-foot center that provides regional workforce development opportunities through 10 programs, including Agriscience.

RS engagement: Provided Regional Infrastructure Funding, connected center with private and public entities, and facilitated construction/renovations.
Southern Oregon: GAG and Food

**Project:** Fry Family Food Hub, Jackson County

**Description:** An aggregation, processing and distribution center as well as a commercial kitchen and farm stand.

**RS engagement:** Provided technical assistance on land use issues and Regional Infrastructure Fund resources.
Eastern Oregon: Wine, Water, and Reload

**Project:** Milton-Freewater Wine Production Facility

**Description:** A facility to process and bottle wine to enhance and promote the Rocks District American Viticulture Area.

**RS engagement:** Providing technical and resource expertise to the City of Milton-Freewater for the past few years on the concept.
North Central: Fire

**Project:** Fire recovery in Wasco, Sherman, and Gilliam Counties

**Description:** This group helped to distribute information through various local networks and over media and arranged well-attended and livestreamed (on Facebook) open house events with resource providers.

**RS engagement:** Convened federal and local partners to make sure farmers were receiving information on crop insurance, federal programs, and other considerations post fire.
In conclusion...

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Need more info?

www.regionalsolutions.oregon.gov
The Oregon Solutions Network

The Oregon Solutions Network (OSN) connects Regional Solutions with...

- **Oregon Solutions**: Oregon’s statewide collaborative implementation program, and;
- **Oregon Consensus**: Oregon’s statewide dispute resolution program