

MEETING SUMMARY

CENTRAL OREGON REGIONAL SOLUTIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Date: November 30, 2015

Committee members present:

Mike Hollern, Convener *

Melanie Widmer, Madras Sanitary

Becky Johnson, VP OSU Cascades

Amy Tykeson, Tykeson and Associates *

Betty Roppe, Prineville Mayor *

George Endicott, Redmond Mayor

Ken Mullenex, La Pine Mayor

Benny Benson, Energyneering

Roger Lee, Economic Development for Central Oregon

Andrew Spreadborough, Exec Dir. Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council

Mae Huston, Jefferson County Commissioner

Fran Willis, Oregon Community Foundation *

- Denotes Executive Committee members

Regional Solutions Team:

Kelly Hill, Department of Environmental Quality

Rob Hardie, Department of Transportation

Rob Del Mar, Department of Energy

Scott Edelman, Department of Land Conservation and Development

Damon Runberg, Employment Department

Clark Jackson, Business Oregon

Guests (spellings may be incorrect):

Peggy Lynch, Oregon League of Women Voters (via conference call)

Adam Meyer, Oregon League of Conservation Voters (via conference call)

Cate O' Hagan, Arts Central

Jamie Chrisman, Bend Chamber

Transformative Transportation Project Update: Andrew Spreadborough, Exec. Dir., Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council (COIC) updated the group on the recommended project elements in light of the reduced funding and more accurate cost estimates. The priorities for the Regional Solutions funding are: one new low floor bus for service in Bend, improvements to the La Pine park and ride lot, upgrades to key bus stops in Bend to improve the rider experience (shelters with covers and wifi) and match funding (\$200k) for a Connect Oregon application to

fund a combined transit hub and park and ride facility in Redmond. The Connect Oregon application also includes a match from the City of Redmond's Urban Renewal fund and the Oregon Community Foundation. Once initial scoring for the Connect Oregon applications is available, the group will evaluate whether these priorities need to be revisited.

Creative Economy Action Plan Kick-off: Cate O'Hagan (Exec. Dir. Arts Central) and Paul Nicholson (consultant) described the work on the Creative Economy Action Plan. Paul will start by identifying current employment (with assistance from Damon Runberg at the Employment Department). The ultimate goal of the project is to identify action steps to increase arts employment as well as identify how these jobs will lead to the creation of other jobs outside the arts. How can we enhance the arts organizations that will serve as a springboard to other economic development? How does a vibrant arts community contribute to the region being attractive to people who can live anywhere? Goal is to have a draft report for the committee to review at their April meeting.

Draft 2015-17 Regional Solutions Budget Approach: Annette went over the one page flow chart of the draft approach for identifying and funding future Regional Solutions priority implementation projects. Goal is to create the criteria and process now and then ask for an allocation of funds that will be distributed after the legislature adjourns using the criteria and process established by rule. This approach ensures that each of the committees receive consistent criteria for recommending projects. Draft rules will go out for public comment after the February legislative session.

Team update:

- a. La Pine Rural Resource Forum – Annette described the outstanding work done by the City of La Pine in hosting the rural resource Forum on October 26th. Priorities discussed at the forum are: Downtown revitalization, branding, creating a work space for new businesses, availability of housing, and need for sewer infrastructure to address groundwater contamination. The Rural Resource Forum brought together state, federal, and philanthropic funding partners to create a partnership to assist the community in advancing these priorities. The Regional Solutions Team is lead in following up on the downtown revitalization and sewer infrastructure priorities. The team has already been actively engaged in these priorities for several years.
- b. Sisters Outreach Meeting – The Central Oregon Regional Solutions Team held an outreach meeting with the City of Sisters on November 5th. Rob Hardie from ODOT summarized the priorities discussed: need for work force housing, desire to look at truck mobility at Locust and Cascade Avenue (potential round about?), and the priority of updating the city land use plan to address current land needs.
- c. Daimler, Madras – Clark Jackson gave an overview of the team's work on the EDCO led recruitment. Annette along with DLCD and DEQ were involved early to address the need for sewer at the site adjacent to the treatment plant but outside the UGB, Department of State Lands provided technical assistance with wetland permitting, and mitigation and infrastructure was jointly funded by Business Oregon and ODOT.

This project represents a significant investment in the city/county/region and everyone worked together closely to make it a success.

Opportunity for Public Comment:

Peggy Lynch expressed her thanks for being able to participate via conference call.

Committee agreed to the 2016 meeting schedule:

January 25th (1:30 – 3:30)

April 14th (10:00 - noon)

June 16th (10:00 - noon)

August 11th (10:00 - noon)

December 15th (10:00 - noon)