

MEETING SUMMARY

CENTRAL OREGON REGIONAL SOLUTIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Date: April 24, 2017

Meeting location: Redmond City Hall, Redmond

Committee members present:

Mike Hollern, Convener*

Becky Johnson, VP, OSU Cascades

Amy Tykeson, Tykeson and Associates*

Betty Roppe, Prineville Mayor* (via conference call)

Erin Borla, Roundhouse Foundation*

Dennis Scott, La Pine Mayor

Jon Skidmore, Assistant City Manager (alternate) Bruce Abernethy, Councilor, City of Bend

Roger Lee, Economic Development for Central Oregon

Karen Friend, Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council (COIC)

Lonny Macy, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs

Tony DeBone, Commissioner, Deschutes County

John Gilbert, Pacific Crest Affordable Housing

Corey Schmid, Seven Peaks

George Endicott, Mayor, City of Redmond

Wally Corwin, JeldWen

Benny Benson, Energyneering Solutions

*Denotes Executive Committee members

Regional Solutions Team:

Annette Liebe, Regional Coordinator, Governor's Office

Scott Edelman, Department of Land Conservation and Development

Della Mosier, Department of Transportation

Thomas Schnell, Business Oregon

Scott Linfesty, Building Codes Division

Guests/presenters:

Scott Aycock, COIC

Jackson Lester, COIC

Katy Brooks, Bend Chamber

Jamie Christman, Bend Chamber

Chuck Arnold, City of Redmond

Sue Hollern, Art in Public Places

Jody Ward, Art in Public Places

Carol Leone, Museum at Warm Springs

Jasmine Barnett, Arts and Culture Alliance

Kevin Barclay, Arts and Culture Alliance
Amanda Bird, Tower Theater
Shannon Sullivan, Tower Theater
Laura Winter, Oregon Community Foundation
Fran Willis, Oregon Community Foundation
Lisa Dobey, St. Charles
Steve Curley, Small Business Development Center

I. 2015-17 Priority Project Updates

A. Transformative Transportation Project

Jackson Lester (Senior Transit Planner, COIC) provided an overview of the status of the three elements included for funding 1) park and ride facilities in Redmond and La Pine, 2) seven enhanced bus stops in Bend, and 3) purchase of a low floor bus.

The committee discussed some of the key features they believe are needed in order to improve transit in Central Oregon. These include depot monitors, WiFi at stations and on buses, real time monitoring of buses, and apps that will tell a rider when the bus will be arriving. The buses now have the gear to do WiFi but paying for operational costs is still a challenge. Cost is approx. \$40 per month. Corey Schmid, Seven Peaks Ventures, mentioned that she can connect COIC to a company in Portland that developed an app for tracking transit systems. Jackson indicated that while there will always be infrastructure and capital projects, the role of technology is a key aspect of creating a vision for transit in Central Oregon. Committee members also were interested in efforts to create partnerships with private ride services such as Uber. COIC has submitted a pre-application for Transportation Growth Management funding.

Committee members asked how the 32 park and ride spaces in Redmond will be managed. Jackson said that initially spaces will be first come first served. COIC is working on partnerships with the Central Oregon Breeze to create access to the valley. There was also interest from the committee in pursuing private businesses to sponsor bus shelters. COIC is currently working with a 3rd party contractor to pursue advertising on buses; this is expected to expand to sponsorships of shelters.

In La Pine, the Oregon Department of Transportation has acquired property on 4th St. between Huntington Road and Highway 97. Community visioning is just starting. Goal is to make transit hub/park and ride lot part of a community center.

B. Innovation Center for Entrepreneurship (ICE) – OSU Cascades

Becky Johnson presented the update on ICE; the two meeting/pitch rooms that convert to classrooms have been completed. OSU is still considering design options for the office space for entrepreneurs. A grant application has been developed and will be submitted to the US Economic Development Administration to fund the equipment for the shared biosciences

lab equipment. OSU is in the process of hiring an Exec Dir for ICE. Recruitment announcement closes on May 12th.

II. Arts and Culture Alliance (ACA) Strategic Plan

Kevin Barlay, ACA President passed out a review draft of the Strategic Plan for the Central Oregon Arts and Culture Alliance.

Strategic issues identified are:

1. Solidify ACA's business model, develop systems and staff organization appropriately.
2. Establish a sustainable revenue model and fundraise to reach annual goals.
3. Develop and support board of directors in leading volunteer driving organization.
4. Grow and involve membership especially in Jefferson and Crook Counties.

Committee and team members were invited to provide input on the draft Strategic Plan. The Arts and Culture Alliance plans to present their final Strategic Plan during the August Committee meeting. Kevin is also organizing a panel presentation with artists and others who can speak to the connection to jobs/economic development. Committee members asked if the ACA works to connect artists to businesses who need the services of artists. Mayor Endicott indicated that he's like to see greater acknowledgement of Redmond's art in public places and arts & culture in the Strategic Plan.

III. Review of Regional Priorities

- A. Update to the Regional Solutions work plan – Annette proved an overview of the priorities identified by the committee in September 2015 and the projects the team has been working on related to those priorities. Document is available as meeting materials along with the agenda on the Regional Solutions webpage. Committee requested that measurable outcomes be established for each of the priorities and that a “dashboard” be created that can be reviewed during each meeting. Committee also recommended revising the wording for the OSU Cascades priority to reflect that the campus has been established and what's needed now is continued investment/growth. Infrastructure, including power supply, needs to be explicitly recognized. The cost of infrastructure is a major barrier to industrial site development. Some see the land use system as a barrier as well including, the ease of the LUBA appeals process. Commissioner DeBone requested assistance with obtaining information from state agencies related to the South Deschutes County Goal 11 exception process.
- B. Roger Lee, Executive Director, Economic Development for Central Oregon
Roger reviewed the goals, objectives and activities in the 2016-18 EDCO Strategic Plan. Materials are available on the Regional Solutions webpage along with the agenda for this meeting. EDCO is focused on creating conditions that allow business to move, start and grow.

C. Scott Aycock, Economic Development Manager, Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council

Scott provided a high level overview of the priority issues, strategies and action plans from the recently completed Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

Materials are available on the Regional Solutions webpage along with the agenda for this meeting.

IV. Public Comment – there was no public comment

V. There was consensus among committee members that the priorities currently identified as high focus and support priorities still reflect the needs of the region.

VI. Meeting dates for 2017:

- August 10, 10:00 am – noon, location TBD
- October 19, 10:00 - noon