



REGIONAL SOLUTIONS OFFICE
GOVERNOR KATE BROWN

South Central Oregon Regional Solutions Advisory Committee
Representing Klamath and Lake Counties

MEETING SUMMARY

Thursday July 18th, 2019

10:00 am – noon

Library

Innovation and Learning Center

220 H Street (Old Middle School)

Lakeview, OR

Regional Solutions Advisory Committee:

Jane O’Keeffe, Convener

Randy Cox, Klamath County Econ Development Association

Brand Winters, Lake County Commissioner

Carol Westfall, Klamath Falls Mayor

Peter West, Energy Trust

Sandra Fox, OIT

Jim Walls, Lake County Resources

Betty Riley, South Central Oregon Economic Development District

Regional Solutions Team:

Annette Liebe, Regional Solutions Coordinator

Susan Bethers, Oregon Parks and Recreation

Rob Del Mar, Oregon Department of Energy

Jarod Johnson, Department of Transportation

Scott Edelman, Department of Land Conservation and Development

Jon Jinings, Department of Land Conservation and Development

Guests:

Christie Albertson, Lake County Health District

Mark Alberston, Lake County Commissioner

Ginger Casto, South Central Oregon Econ Dev District

I. Legislative De-Brief – Annette Liebe, Regional Coordinator

Annette Liebe, Regional Solutions Coordinator passed out a handout (posted on the website) and provided a high level overview of the major budget decisions from the

2019 legislative session; she mentioned that there were some agencies with funding programs that she is still waiting for information from and the list would be updated in the future. Annette indicated that funds dedicated for Regional Solutions projects through the Regional Infrastructure fund had not been funded during the 2019 session. The Governor's Office is evaluating options for moving forward including a 2020 session request.

Housing was the issue that received significant funding during 2019; more than \$336M for addressing and preventing homelessness (\$70.5M), increasing affordable housing supply (\$206.5M), investing in permanent supportive housing (\$54.5M) and accelerating development in Greater Oregon (\$5M). Annette highlighted the \$5M Greater Oregon Housing Accelerator to support collaborative partnerships with employers to increase workforce housing. The RST will work with the SCRSAC to develop projects for this funding. The first step will involve rulemaking to establish funding criteria/parameters.

II. Overview of Regional Housing Needs Analyses – Scott Edelman, DLCD

Scott provided an overview of the Regional Housing Needs Analyses completed for Klamath Falls, Paisley and Lakeview during 2019 by a consultant on contract with the Department of Land Conservation and Development. Scott's presentation is posted on the Regional Solutions website.

Overall, the analyses show that all these communities have enough land in their Urban Growth Boundaries to accommodate future housing needs. The largest need for housing is in Klamath Falls, with Lakeview and Paisley not needing any, or much, new housing. The analyses assumed people would spend 35% of their income on housing (higher income families may not indeed choose this) and as a result, the analyses indicate needs for lower and higher income households. Of the new housing needed the following percentages are needed for households earning less than 80% of Area Median Income by jurisdiction: 48% in Lakeview, 47% in Paisley and 55% in Klamath Falls.

III. Klamath Falls housing workgroup – Randy Cox, KCEDA

Randy provided an overview of the work the Klamath County Economic Development Association (KCEDA) is doing with employers and investors to identify housing needs, assemble a local investment fund that can be leveraged with additional equity investment. Randy's presentation is on the Regional Solutions website. KCEDA's current focus is on building additional units to support the planned expansion of Kingsley Field. The focus is on units that will rent for \$110-

\$1600/month. There are however additional employers in need. Randy noted that any state investment would be helpful in moving quickly.

IV. Lakeview Housing meeting overview/next steps – Annette Liebe

Annette went over the summary of the June 13th meeting jointly convened by the chamber, SCOEDD and Regional Solutions. The meeting summary is available on the Regional solutions website. There are a number of follow up items; the committee discussed who could best convene a small group to address the follow up items and use the work KCEDA has done in Klamath County as a model for making progress in Lakeview/Lake County. One main benefit is that all of Lakeview is a federally designated opportunity zone which provides short and long term tax incentives for investment. There was general consensus that this person should be someone local however, there currently is no one local who is funded to convene this group.

Christie Albertson, Lake County Health District mentioned an initiative call “Outback Strong” focused on helping people live better; the initiative also recognizes housing as a determinant of health. The district is interested in Permanent supportive Housing and has applied to Meyer Memorial Trust for a grant to assist with this effort.

There was agreement that a scope of work needs to be developed for a “housing accelerator” type of position who could convene local follow up. A small group will work on this scope of work: Ginger Casto, Betty Riley Randy Cox, Kim Travis and Annette Liebe. That person ideally will bring local developers and funders (Obsidian finance) to the table. Oregon Solutions may be one option for moving this forward although they are not “local.” Potential members for a local committee: Dan Lazley, Scott Langum, Town Council, the hospital, Mike McGowan, GK Sound.

The meeting adjourned at noon. Annette will send out a doodle poll to schedule the next meeting.