



Southern Oregon Regional Solutions Advisory Committee

Representing Jackson and Josephine Counties

AGENDA

Monday, October 17, 2016 <> 1 PM – 3 PM

Southern Oregon Research and Extension Center (SOREC)

569 Hanley Road, Central Point, OR 97502-1251

Call-in option: 877-848-7030 Password: 5495754#

1:00	Welcome/Self-Introductions	
1:05	Introduction to SOREC	Information
	Rich Roseberg, Director - SOREC	
1:15	Committee Members & Terms	Discussion/Action
	Bill Thorndike, Convener	
1:20	Advisory Committee Role & Impact	Discussion
	Bill Thorndike, Convener	
1:40	Process for Selecting Projects	Discussion
	Alex Campbell, RS Coordinator	
1:45	Project Status updates	Information
	SO Regional Solutions Team	
2:15	Illinois Valley Rural Resource Forum	Information
	IV Community Development Organization	
2:55	Public Comment	

The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. To request an interpreter for the hearing impaired or for other accommodations for persons with disabilities, please make requests at least 48 hours before the meeting to Lisa Howard at 503-378-6502 or lisa.howard@oregon.gov, or by TTY: Oregon Relay Services at 1-800-735-2900.

Southern Oregon Regional Solutions Team

PROJECT TRACKING MATRIX

October 2016



SOUTHERN OREGON REGIONAL SOLUTIONS TEAM MEMBERS

Alex Campbell, Regional Coordinator – Governor Kate Brown’s Office
Art Anderson, Regional Solutions Liaison – Oregon Department of Transportation
Larry Holzgang, Business Development Officer – Business Oregon
Kate Jackson, Regional Solutions Coordinator – Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
Josh LeBombard, Field Representative – Oregon Dept. of Land Conservation & Development
Mary Baker, Regional Coordinator – Business Oregon’s Infrastructure Finance Authority
Russell Stauff, Watershed Manager – Department of Fish & Wildlife
Guy Tauer, Regional Economist – Oregon Employment Department
Kenny LaPoint – Oregon Housing & Community Services
Amy Gilroy – Oregon Department of Agriculture

Southern Oregon Regional Priorities

Regional Priorities:

- Maintain and Enhance Forest Industry Infrastructure, Active Forestry Management on O & C Timber Lands
- Business Retention, Expansion, Creation, and Recruitment
- Regulatory Streamlining
- Water Conservation and Stream Restoration
- Workforce Training
- Downtown Revitalization
- Agricultural Economy
- Recreational Economy
- Community Infrastructure

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Project and Description	Regional Priorities	Partners/Leverage	Milestones	Status	Project Management
<p><u>Water for Irrigation Streams and Economy (WISE)</u> The project will increase irrigation water delivery system efficiency with water conservation and quality benefits. The project core is to pipe the irrigation system. Other possible project elements include integration with stormwater drainage, re-use of gray-water/effluent, and hydro-power generation.</p> <p><i>http://www.wiseproject.org/</i></p>	<p>Water Conservation and Stream Restoration</p> <p>Agricultural Economy</p>	<p>Irrigation districts (MID, TID, RVID), City of Medford, Medford Water Commission, Jackson County, Bur. of Reclamation, OR Solutions stakeholders, ODFW, ODA, Water Resources Department</p> <p>Leverage: Federal earmark for demonstration.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 2012: Oregon Solutions outcome: identify EIS funding, create a multi-year plan and recommend a governance structure to implement the plan. ✓ State legislature provided \$1.4M for preliminary design and NEPA. ✓ 2015: Oregon Solutions stake-holders reconvened. ✓ 2016: Bureau of Reclamation re-scoping contract with HDR for preliminary design, cost estimating and NEPA scope. ✓ April 2016: Grant received for water rights study. 	<p>Talent Irrigation District is preparing to contract with Karen Williams to develop overall project plan framework.</p> <p>HDR Task Order revisions are with Bureau of Reclamation contracts department.</p> <p>Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District cooperating with Rogue Valley Irrigation District on pilot project.</p>	<p>Agency Lead: IFA (State contribution)/DEQ. Team Lead: Mary Baker (IFA) & Kate Jackson (DEQ)</p> <p>RST Role: Continuation of Oregon Solutions project; assist with community engagement & funding</p> <p>Team: IFA, DEQ, Steve Mason (coordinating engineer)</p>
<p><u>North Valley Industrial Park Expansion:</u> Park is practically the only available acreage for business expansion in unincorporated Josephine County. Expansion requires upgrade and/or replacement of sewer treatment facility (owned by the school district).</p>	<p>Business Retention, Expansion, Creation, and Recruitment</p>	<p>Josephine County, North Valley School District</p> <p>Leverage: US EDA funded concept evaluation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ IFA funded project with SPWF funds project # A15005 (\$60,000), County provided \$40,000 match for a total project cost of \$100,000. ✓ Fall 2015: CivilWest under contract to complete preliminary engineering report (PER) of new wastewater treatment approach. ✓ September 2016: CivilWest's scope was amended to include analysis of serving airport and related properties. 	<p>As of the first of September the Preliminary Engineering Report was still about 70-75% complete. Work is commencing to gather the new information to include the airport property into the planning area and project.</p>	<p>Agency Lead: IFA (State contribution). Team Lead: Mary Baker</p> <p>RST Role: Support technical evaluation; identify resources.</p> <p>Team: IFA, BO, DEQ, Josephine Co.</p>
<p><u>Grants Pass Airport Taxiway</u> A new parallel taxiway at is needed to address safety concerns (maintenance and other personnel currently cross</p>	<p>Business Retention, Expansion, Creation, and Recruitment</p>	<p>Josephine County, FAA</p> <p>Leverage: FAA has committed \$1.7M to</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ IFA has agreed to make RIF funding (\$344,000 awarded) available in advance to allow project to proceed. ✓ FAA has committed to project in Capital Improvement Plan. 	<p>Contractor is selected and scope of work complete, work underway.</p>	<p>Agency Lead: IFA. Team Lead: Mary Baker</p>

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runway frequently) and expand future development opportunities.	Community Infrastructure	construction of new taxiway.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Josephine County has submitted PNIF (project intake form for IFA). ✓ IFA staff acted to issue funding authorization. 		<p>RST Role: Agency Coordination. Funder (RIF\$).</p> <p>Team: ODOT, IFA</p>
Food Hub Warehouse distribution and collection center for organic produce grown in the Rogue and Applegate Valleys. The Food Hub will allow these growers to process produce and combine their produce into truck size volumes for distribution.	Agricultural Economy Recreational Economy	Fry Family Farm, Rogue Valley COG Leverage: RST RIF contribution is contributing only to facilities that will be shared with multiple growers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Fry Family received necessary exemptions to land use regulations to proceed with project, including wastewater connection. ✓ IFA agreed to advance funds against RIF contribution (\$369,000) to allow project to proceed. ✓ February 2016: Construction broke ground. ✓ Structure complete. ✓ Grand opening August 2016. 	Project complete.	<p>Agency Lead: IFA. Team Lead: Mary Baker/Josh LeBombard</p> <p>RST Role: Land use technical assistance. Funder (RIF\$).</p> <p>Team: IFA, DLCD, RVCOG</p>
Gold Hill Kayak Whitewater Park Ti'lomikh Falls has the makings of one of the best natural whitewater parks in the world.. The project proposed in-stream modifications to improve safety and function of the course and related park improvements, including a monument to First Nations activities in the area such as the Takelma salmon ceremony. www.goldhillwhitewater.org	Recreational Economy Community Infrastructure	City of Gold Hill, Gold Hill Whitewater Center, SOREDI, RVCOG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ RS/RIF funds made available to support project design (~\$80,000). ✓ GHWWC contracted with River Design and McLaughlin Whitewater design. ✓ Preliminary concept drawings complete. 	Design team is bringing on environmental consultant to assist with permit preparations.	<p>Agency Lead: GH Whitewater Center. Team Lead: Alex Campbell</p> <p>RST Role: Supporting and coordinating permitting and funding for this project. Funder (RIF\$).</p> <p>Team: DSL, State Parks, ODFW, DEQ</p>

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<p><u>Medical Campus Redevelopment (Grants Pass)</u> Brownfield and TGM funding are assisting Josephine County with the demolition of the Dimmick Hospital in Grants Pass, cleanup of the adjacent site and building, and with site redevelopment.</p>	Downtown Revitalization	Josephine County, City of Grants Pass, EPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Study of site redevelopment potential recommended senior housing with large spectrum of care from independent living to nursing home (\$56,100 TGM Quick Response grant). ✓ Primary hospital building has been demolished. Support from EPA/IFA, ~\$1.5M. ✓ County has secured assistance of a consultant with extensive industry experience to lead effort to identify development partner(s). ✓ Summer 2016: Josephine County received a grant to evaluate remediation needs of all remaining buildings. 		<p>Agency Lead: Jo. County. Team Lead: Alex Campbell</p> <p>RST Role: Agency Coordination</p> <p>Team: Business Oregon, IFA, DLCD, DEQ</p>
<p><u>Medford Airport One</u> Project Allred is a warehouse distribution center recruitment project looking for a West Coast expansion. The company's preferred site is the Airport One property, an Oregon certified site, and the City of Medford has asked for assistance to extend Industry access road.</p>	Business Retention, Expansion, Creation, and Recruitment	City of Medford, SOREDI, DEQ Clean-up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 2016: Project is a "go," construction underway. ✓ Property owner has entered voluntary cleanup program. 	Recent activity has focused on initial development, a new distribution center for American Tire on approx. 5 acres. Construction on the building is underway. A project manager from DEQ clean-up has been assigned to assist in characterization and removal of some contaminated soils that are on site.	<p>Agency Lead: Business Oregon. Team Lead: Larry Holzgang</p> <p>RST Role: Agency Coordination</p> <p>Team: ODOT, Business Oregon, DEQ</p>
<p><u>Project Stagecoach</u> Southern California company looking to purchase light industrial land in the Northgate Marketplace development along Hwy 238. RST is assisting with environmental issues and a</p>	Business Retention, Expansion, Creation, and Recruitment	SOREDI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ODOT assisted with changes to Highway 238 design to improve attractiveness of site. 	Project on hold as company evaluates northern California location.	<p>Agency Lead: Business Oregon. Team Lead: Larry Holzgang</p> <p>RST Role: Agency Coordination</p>

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possible Prospective Purchaser Agreement.					Team: ODOT, Business Oregon
Blackwell Road Interchange Logistics company expanding/relocating into the Blackwell interchange area (I-5 Exit 35) after adoption of the long range land use plan and the Highway 140 Corridor Plan. Possibly leverage new user to stimulate water line extension.	Business Retention, Expansion, Creation, and Recruitment	City of Central Point, SOREDI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A \$5M 2018 STIP project to enhance Blackwell Road coming off the interchange design was begun. 	<p>Target company has identified another site for operations consolidation, further north on Blackwell.</p> <p>Possible water line extension (from Central Point), would still be beneficial. Continuing to explore other potential users.</p>	<p>Lead Agency: BO. Team Lead: Larry Holzgang</p> <p>RST Role: Assist with land use, transportation issues and utility finance (IFA SPWF).</p> <p>Team: BO, IFA, DLCD, ODOT</p>
Spalding RSIA Spalding Industrial Park is one of the very few locations in Josephine County/Grants Pass, with vacant industrial land, including a 65 acre parcel..	Business Retention, Expansion, Creation, and Recruitment	City of Grants Pass, SOREDI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ March 2014: RST worked with the city to designate the industrial park as a regionally significant area. ✓ Summer 2016: Potential user has purchased former mill site in park. 	<p>Infrastructure costs have escalated dramatically since last estimated (~\$4 million to ~\$20 million). City of Grants Pass has authorized a new urban renewal plan that would participate, but Business Oregon and other staff are exploring alternative service approaches.</p>	<p>Agency Lead: Business Oregon. Team Lead: Larry Holzgang</p> <p>RST Role: Funding and Agency Coordination</p> <p>Team: IFA, ODOT, BO, DLCD, City of Grants Pass</p>
Project Thermal A business expansion project seeking to utilize an alternative thermal energy source to offset operating costs.	Business Retention, Expansion, Creation, and Recruitment Agricultural Economy	Local company, SOREDI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 2016: Have identified waste heat opportunity and commenced early stage project scoping. ✓ 2016: Oregon Department of Energy assisting with thermal transfer technology design. 	<p>Seeking funds for complete pre-design work.</p>	<p>Lead Agency: Governor's Office. Team Lead: Alex Campbell</p> <p>RST Role: RST agencies assisting with financing tools and feasibility analysis.</p>

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<p><u>Little Butte Creek Irrigation Pod</u> The project will convert more than 500 acres of flood-irrigated pasture to a sprinkler system, 300 acres of which will convert to a pod system. Benefits of the on-farm improvements are a more efficient water delivery, less quantity of polluted water runoff into Little Butte Creek, and improved water quality.</p>	<p>Water Conservation and Stream Restoration</p> <p>Agricultural Economy</p>	<p>County SWCD, ODA, OWEB, and participating landowners.</p>	<p>✓ \$282,000 from Regional Solutions/RIF allocated to project.</p> <p>✓ May 2016, project partners received award \$73,820 from OWEB that will contribute to the project.</p>	<p>Some projects will move forward in advance of RS fund availability.</p>	<p>Team: DLCD, Business Oregon, Department of Energy, SOREDI</p> <p>Agency Lead: DEQ. Team Lead: Kate Jackson</p> <p>RST Role: Former Oregon Solutions project; assist community outreach. Funder (RIF\$).</p> <p>Team: DEQ</p>
<p><u>Aquatic Center at Emigrant Lake</u> (New project): The Ashland Rowing Club has been training on Emigrant Lake for several years and begun hosting training camps (including this past spring for the US Junior National Rowing Team). The Club leadership is exploring establishing a new Aquatic Center at Emigrant Lake, not just for rowing but for all kinds of human powered watercraft.</p>	<p>Recreational Economy</p>	<p>Jackson County Recreation Dept., Ashland Rowing Club</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>Club is developing funding plan.</p>	<p>Agency Lead: Governor's Office. Team Lead: Alex Campbell</p> <p>RST Role: Technical assistance.</p> <p>Team: DEQ, ODFW, IFA.</p>

Southern Oregon Regional Solutions Team

Team Roles

Maintain and Enhance Forest Industry Infrastructure

- Business Oregon will reach out to businesses in the Forest Products industry, and work with these companies to provide technical assistance and access department resources as appropriate.
- Business Oregon will participate in, and partner with forest products industry trade associations to support the Forest Products Industry and new innovation.
- Governor's office will support local forestry collaboratives.

Business Retention, Expansion, Creation, and Recruitment

- Business Oregon will reach out to 50 businesses over a 12 month period. Will coordinate with these businesses to assist them to retain and/or create new jobs.
- Business Oregon will partner with SOREDI and other local economic development agencies to bring technical assistance and the resources of the State on recruitment and expansion projects.
- Business Oregon will partner with the Oregon Outdoor Association and SOREDI to reach out to outdoor gear and apparel companies in Southern Oregon in order to assess the potential of setting up a Southern Oregon Chapter of OOA.
- DLCD will partner with SOREDI, other local economic development agencies, businesses, and local jurisdictions to provide land use technical assistance and grant opportunities to assist in the preparation of industrial lands.
- IFA will partner with local jurisdictions to provide technical assistance and funding opportunities for publicly owned infrastructure needed to support job creation and retention opportunities.
- Employment Department will prepare customized data for potential employers looking into our region, such as local wage rates, workforce availability, employment and unemployment data, demographics.
- DEQ will provide technical support to assist new and existing companies comply with applicable environmental regulations.
- ODOT will assist with coordinating key infrastructure improvements to support new business and industrial land development.

Regulatory Streamlining

- Business Oregon, DEQ, IFA and DLCD will connect businesses with appropriate regulatory and/or permitting agencies and work as a liaison between the business and agency to help facilitate a smooth process.
- Business Oregon, DEQ, IFA and DLCD, as requested, will work with and offer recommendations to regulatory and permitting agencies and departments regarding potential streamlining options.
- Governor's office will convene multi-agency work groups, where appropriate, to tackle complex, priority projects.
- Water Conservation and Stream Restoration
- DLCD will partner local jurisdictions to protect natural resources and conserve scenic and historic areas and open spaces.
- IFA will assist with finance and project management on major projects, such as WISE.
- DEQ will partner with local jurisdictions to implement water quality protection programs. Staff provide technical assistance on request.

Southern Oregon Regional Solutions Team

Team Roles

Workforce Training

- Business Oregon will continue to partner with the Rogue Workforce Partnership to offer intelligence gathered in business outreach calls, and to make connections between workforce providers and businesses.
- Employment Department supports workforce training by providing labor market information, for instance, employment estimates and wages for hundreds of occupations are used to select occupational fields in demand and with higher wages. In some cases, data is presented directly to the trainees to help them understand local labor market conditions.
- Downtown Revitalization
- DLCD will partner with local jurisdictions to provide land use technical assistance and grant opportunities to encourage and facilitate revitalization of downtown areas.
- IFA will partner with local jurisdictions to provide technical assistance and funding opportunities for publicly owned infrastructure improvements.
- ODOT will work with local jurisdictions to maximize benefits of enhancement and other projects to downtown revitalization.

Agricultural Economy

- DLCD will partner with businesses and local jurisdictions to provide land use technical assistance and grant opportunities to help preserve agricultural lands and foster a healthy and diverse agricultural economy.
- Through water conservation work—above—team will work to ensure long-term viability of agricultural production.
- Key agricultural businesses will be incorporated into business retention work—above—and ODA will be integrated into those efforts as appropriate.

Recreational Economy

- DLCD will partner with businesses and local jurisdictions to provide land use technical assistance and grant opportunities to help foster recreational opportunities.
- Governor's office and team will support projects that have the potential to drive destination visitation to the region.

Community Infrastructure

- DLCD will partner local jurisdictions to provide land use technical assistance and grant opportunities regarding infrastructure needs.
- IFA will partner with local jurisdictions to provide technical assistance and funding opportunities for publicly owned infrastructure improvements.
- DEQ supports local jurisdictions in planning and building wastewater infrastructure improvements. DEQ State Revolving Fund provides funding opportunities for wastewater, irrigation and storm water construction projects.
- Rural access to broadband is a key element of community infrastructure and team will explore convening efforts to improve access.

Executive Summary

Purpose

The value of strategic planning is nearly universally recognized. Successful strategic planning moves communities beyond cycles of negativity and entrenched conflict to begin authentic collaborative efforts. By effectively convening intersecting players and resources, a community can define itself and chart realistic visions for genuinely shared courses of action. These efforts in turn mobilize previously untapped and uncoordinated capacity for tangible community development and sustained accomplishments. The expressed outputs of the Illinois Valley 20/20 Community Vision and Strategic Plan (IV 20/20 Vision) were to:

1. Identify and analyze emerging trends, opportunities, and community issues
2. Create a vision statement that represents the aspirations of the community for the next five years and beyond
3. Develop a plan that identifies community priorities
4. Create a structure for implementation

The Community Voice

The IV 20/20 Vision was commissioned by the Illinois Valley Community Development Organization (IVCanDO). IVCanDO staff, board, and members demanded that this plan be a product of the community as a whole and put a special emphasis on hearing voices and engaging community members beyond the usual participants of community development efforts. Input events were held at a variety of times and locations, focus groups gathered input from underrepresented groups, and surveys were held open longer for special outreach.

From surveys taken during the strategic planning process, the top three things most appreciated about the Illinois Valley were:

1. Clean air and water
2. Peace and quiet, living close to nature and beautiful surroundings
3. The small town rural feel

See Appendix G for complete survey results.

From the public meetings, focus groups, and interviews, the top five priorities of the community were clearly identified as:

1. Public Safety and Law Enforcement
2. Access to Shelter and Healthy Food
3. Community Development and Beautification
4. Lodging and Community Gathering Places
5. Community Pride and Participation

Community Snapshot

The local Illinois Valley team identified the community market area as the valley between two mountain ridges on either side of Highway 199, 17 miles from the border with California to Hayes Hill Summit. The data in this section corresponds to this area and is updated census 2010 information for the year 2015. While some of the data may not match local perception, this is what the public records show.

- Population 2015: 10,617
- Population growth since 2000 is modest: 973 persons (Some local leaders note that true population growth may be much stronger.)

- Age: 18.6% of the population is under 19 years compared to 24% at the state level. In the study area, 26% are over 65 compared to 16% for the state.
- Median income: \$28,912; for Oregon as a whole it is \$51,672; for Josephine County, the median is \$37,666. (Some local leaders note that true household income may be much higher due to unreported income.)
- The high poverty level of 27.7% is tied to low incomes and the low wage job base.

See Appendix E for detailed Economic Vitality Scan.

Sustainable Development Approach

Sustainable development has been defined in many ways, but the most frequently quoted definition is from *Our Common Future*, also known as the Brundtland Report, 1987: “Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.” The Illinois Valley has its own definition, taken from the forthcoming book on the Natural Selection Alternative, by Orville Camp, 2016. “We must retain a healthy, sustainable natural community ecosystem to achieve a healthy sustainable human community.”



One resident said, “I love the ‘outdoor classroom-ability’ of our valley and the punch of culture our dynamic artistic community supplies.”

Focus Areas and Strategies

Building on the three sustainable development principles of People, Place, and Prosperity, the IV 20/20 Vision is a collection of action ideas organized around 18 strategies in six focus areas. Since this is a plan for five years rather than ten, there is a focus on some immediate needs and the opportunities for solutions. The heartfelt concerns expressed during the planning process largely reflect symptoms of failings in our society as a whole. For that reason, the plan places special emphasis on the top five areas of strategic priority: Public Safety and Law Enforcement; Access to Shelter and Healthy Food; Community Development and Beautification; Lodging and Community Gathering Places; Community Pride and Participation.

