Below are some highlights from the Governor’s Regional Solutions Coordinators, on behalf of the eleven interagency teams across Oregon.

North Coast Region – Jennifer Purcell

- **Westport**: Clatsop County recently signed an agreement with Business Oregon for $450,000 in Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF) Funds for dredging and dock improvements to restore Westport Slough for commercial use. RS Team members from Business Oregon and Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) have been working closely with the County to advance this regionally significant economic development investment. RS is meeting with local stakeholders to discuss timing, sequencing, and funding for a number of related infrastructure and community development projects.

- **City of Cannon Beach**: The City of Cannon Beach was awarded a $140,000 Transportation Growth Management (TGM) grant to fund the City’s first ever Transportation System Plan (TSP). Cannon Beach faces unique and challenging long-range planning impacted by three major forces: a growing tourist economy, a sensitive geologic and topographically limited footprint, and increasing threats from climate change. Adoption of a TSP will help City leaders maintain Cannon Beach’s reputation as one of America’s most beautiful and unique coastal destinations, while providing its citizens a safe and resilient transportation infrastructure to foster growth and development.

- **Clatsop County**: Clatsop County was awarded a $107,000 TGM grant to fund a tsunami evacuation plan for coastal Clatsop County. A Tsunami Evaluation Facility Improvement Plan (TEFIP) will enhance resilience efforts by concentrating on life safety, establishing evacuation routes, and providing for infrastructure needed to facilitate and improve evacuations. Clatsop County's proposed TEFIP seeks to identify and prioritize dual-use routes that can serve as emergency evacuation routes as well as year-round recreational facilities. The plan will assess the risk and vulnerability of the County’ transportation infrastructure, analyze existing evacuation facilities and improvement needs, and identify financing options to implement the plan.

Upcoming Scheduled Regional Solutions Advisory Committee Meeting

- **North Coast Regional Solutions Advisory Committee Meeting**: October 3, 2019, 1:00-3:00 PM; Location: Englund Marine & Industrial Supply, 95 Hamburg Ave., Astoria, OR
Mid-Valley Region – Jody Christensen

- **Housing Investments**: The Mid-Valley, South Valley/Mid-Coast, South Coast-Umpqua, and North Coast Coordinators met with Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) Director Margaret Salazar, Interim Assistant Director of Public Affairs Kim Travis, and Government Relations, and Communications Liaison Ariel Nelson to discuss the historic $336.5 million investment approved by the 2019 Legislature. The allocation will be used to fund programs that focus on several key statewide housing related issues: addressing and preventing homelessness ($70.5 million); increasing the supply of affordable housing ($206.5 million); accelerating development in greater Oregon ($5 million +); and, investing in permanent supportive housing ($54.5 million).

**Major Highlights:**

- **$5 million** – The Greater Oregon Housing Accelerator will help local governments and employers bring new housing for workers so they can live in the communities where they work.

- **$150 million** – The Local Innovation and Fast Track (LIFT) Housing Program provides housing to underserved populations, namely communities of color and rural communities. Critically, the LIFT program also includes homeownership opportunities that allow families to build intergenerational wealth and stability.
  - RS Coordinators and RS team members are ideally positioned to assist with the projects and pilots, and will be instrumental in getting the word out about the programs and project timelines.

**Upcoming Scheduled Regional Solutions Advisory Committee Meeting**

- **UPDATE**: Mid-Valley Regional Solutions Advisory Committee: Friday, September 20, 9 AM – 12PM; **Location Confirmed**: City of Independence Event Center – 555 South Main Street, Independence, OR 97351

South Valley/Mid-Coast Region – Sarah Means

- **Childcare Summit – Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties**: The Early Learning Hub (ELH) serving Lincoln, Benton and Linn counties is working on a ‘Child Care Summit’ for employers. Employers have long voiced their concerns over the lack of available, quality, affordable child care within coastal counties, including during a community outreach session hosted last fall. The primary barriers preventing working families for securing available, quality, and affordable childcare have been identified as cost, availability of care providers, hours of care provided, and age of child accepted. A group of Albany manufacturers has expressed a willingness to provide support for childcare. The United Way is willing to be the fiscal agent for any funding dedicated to future childcare expansion efforts.

  - Next steps in the effort include arranging a follow-up meeting with stakeholders to discuss funding options, leveraging additional support for in-home and center based care, increasing providers certifications, and connecting with Career and Technical Education (CTE) in high-school to encourage future childcare careers. A better understanding of in-home childcare, and how to encourage and support expansion of this service is needed. Additionally, an understanding of how to support businesses willing to financially support childcare for employees needs further consideration. RS will continue to engage and be a good partner in this important effort.

**Upcoming Scheduled Regional Solutions Advisory Committee Meeting**

- South Valley/Mid-Coast Regional Solutions Advisory Committee: September 26, 2019; 2 pm-4 pm; Location TBD
Greater Eastern & Northeast Regions – Courtney Warner Crowell

- **Umatilla Basin Water Infrastructure Projects**: RS participated in a productive meeting with the Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD), the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology), and large agriculture producers from both Oregon and Washington who are working on water infrastructure projects in the Umatilla Basin. These projects received $11 million in state funding to help create piping projects to use Columbia River water for irrigation. In order to use the Columbia River water, the agriculture users have to find mitigation. During our last meeting, the group discussed an innovative way to find mitigation through the Washington Water Trust. This was a first step in this process, and RS will continue to help coordinate the path forward for this project.

- **Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Workforce and Education Project with Blue Mountain Community College (BMCC)**: RS has been working to help create a career pathways program for the UAV industry with BMCC. This project is becoming more of a reality with BMCC closing in on the internal capacity necessary to offer three different tracks for career opportunities within the UAV industry. This is a close collaboration with an industry who has been asking for this type of program to grow their workforce locally in Pendleton. This week, RS brought together BMCC and the Eastern Oregon Workforce Investment Board (EOWIB) to see if there was an opportunity to work together and leverage resources. RS is working to get BMCC and the UAV industry on the next workforce board meeting agenda and will continue to help coordinate the collaboration between BMCC and the UAV industry moving forward.