



RS EXCHANGE

REGIONAL SOLUTIONS

Weekly Report

Wednesday, February 5th, 2020

Below are some highlights from the Governor's [Regional Solutions \(RS\) Coordinators](#), on behalf of the eleven interagency teams across Oregon.

North Coast Region – Jennifer Purcell

- **Beals Alley Redevelopment, Tillamook:** RS convened a meeting with the City of Tillamook, Tillamook Urban Renewal Agency, Tillamook Chamber, Business Oregon, and the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to discuss redevelopment of a downtown alley. Heating oil tanks have been located adjacent to a block of properties, at least one is known to have leaked. In addition to assessment and cleanup of contamination, improving pedestrian-friendly access is important to local businesses and a proposed apartment development project. Ineffective stormwater management causing standing water and poor lighting are affecting safety for employees and residents. Next steps include exploring Oregon's Brownfields program funding at Business Oregon and DEQ, and identifying resources for cleanup, planning and redevelopment.
- **Build Early Conference:** RS attended Oregon Housing and Community Services' (OHCS) Build Early Conference, bringing together leaders in early childhood education, affordable housing and philanthropy. Panelists explored opportunities to leverage historic investments in both affordable housing and early childhood education passed in the 2019 Legislative Session. Economist Rob Grunewald presented compelling evidence of the cross-sector benefits of early learning investments, including graduation rates, crime statistics, workforce productivity, homeownership, and health outcomes. Early learning leaders, community partners, local governments, providers, and developers joined OHCS, Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Early Learning Division (ELD), and Oregon Community Foundation (OCF) leaders to consider creative approaches to shared space, innovative partnerships, and co-location opportunities.
- **Childcare Provider Technical Assistance:** RS convened Early Learning Hub, Childcare Resource and Referral, Small Business Development Center, and Workforce Investment Board partners to explore business assistance, workforce development, and training resources for childcare providers.

Mid-Valley Region – Jody Christensen

- **Bernau Vineyard Estate: A Biodynamic Experience:** RS recently received an update on the Bernau Estate project. The Bernau Estate Biodynamic Vineyard, Winery & Gardens, located south of Dundee on Highway 99, will be the first experience of its kind to welcome the public to learn about biodynamic farming practices and the benefits to the environment and health through a working farm and production facility.



Artist rendering of the future Bernau Vineyard Estates just south of Dundee on Hwy 99W.

- The winery will be dedicated to producing méthode champenoise sparkling wines from the biodynamic fruit to make this category the next "pinot noir" for Oregon. The project received FY 2017-19 Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF) to be used for the design and construction of the "public" biodynamic gardens portion of the Bernau Vineyard Estate.
- In September 2019, Yamhill County received an Immediate Opportunity Award (IOA) of \$724,500 to help construct turning lanes on OR 99W to improve the access safety for the new Bernau Estate. Access construction is expected to be completed in the summer of 2020.

Upcoming Scheduled Regional Solutions Advisory Committee Meeting

- **Mid-Valley RSAC:** Friday, March 20th, 2020, 9 AM – 12 PM; Location – TBA

South Valley/Mid Coast Region – Sarah Means

- **Millersburg Industrial Development:** RS convened partners associated with industrial development in the City of Millersburg, including the transload facility proposed and over 300 acres in total of industrial land adjacent to that site. The City of Millersburg owns approximately 200 acres of land and are working through necessary steps in order to develop those properties. Linn County owns approximately 190 acres of land – 60 acres that are being planned for the transload facility and an additional 130 acres of ancillary industrial development. The immediate ask of the RS Team from the owners/developers is assistance with wetlands – specifically the Joint Permit Application (JPA) process. According to their delineation, there are 40 acres of wetlands on-site and 7 of those 40 acres will be immediately impacted as a result of rail line development needed for the facility. RS Team members will be engaging with the Department of State Lands (DSL) and US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) on an ongoing basis as the industrial development in Millersburg has been identified as a regional priority by the South Valley/Mid-Coast (SVMC) RSAC. Additional conversation are also being planned with Business Oregon related to the Regionally Significant Industrial Sites (RSIS) program and logistics/distribution business recruitment opportunities for the site. Thanks to the state agencies that made time to attend this important meeting including Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), DEQ, the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD), and Business Oregon.

Southern & South Coast Regions – Alex Campbell

- **Grants Pass Drinking Water:** City of Grants Pass drinking water treatment plant was built in the 1930's. The City considered a seismic rehabilitation and concluded that a new plant is needed. The approximate total project cost is \$80 million. Business Oregon organized a "one-stop" meeting last week to share/compare state financing options with federal programs (including the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) "WIFIA" program).

- **Roseburg Medical Education College:** The project, which has secured \$10 million commitments from both City of Roseburg and the State of Oregon, is now being led by a newly-formed non-profit, the Umpqua Valley Development Corporation Board. The Board is conducting a site selection process. The RS Team will be providing comments on possible sites to assist with the Board's decision making.

Metro Region – Raihana Ansary

- **Timberline Lodge:** Timberline Lodge would like to improve transportation safety, access and capacity at their facility. As part of this effort, RLK Corporation, Timberline Lodge's parent company, obtained a permit from the United States Forest Service (USFS) to operate the Summit Ski Area at Government Camp. They would like to install a high-speed gondola from the Summit Ski Area to Timberline Lodge. To achieve this vision, relocating the rest area currently located in the Summit Ski Area parking lot is required. The rest area is currently owned by Oregon Travel Experience, a state agency. While the gondola will be privately funded, public funds are being requested to relocate the rest area currently at Summit Ski Area. Additional improvements to support safe access to Timberline Road include transit hub infrastructure along with park-and-ride facilities on and west of Mt. Hood. This fits in with the timing of ODOT's "Vision around the Mountain Transit Study."
 - *Update* – Metro RS participated in a meeting convened by Timberline Lodge that included a number of partners including Senator Jeff Merkley's Office, Senator Ron Wyden's Office, Congressman Earl Blumenauer's Office, Clackamas County Commissioner Paul Savas, Clackamas County planning and tourism staff, Oregon Travel Experience staff, Travel Oregon staff, Mount Hood National Forest representatives and Oregon Solutions (OS) leadership. Timberline Lodge convened the meeting to build a coalition of stakeholders around a shared vision for improved transportation access and safety on Mount Hood. OS was also invited to provide an overview of their program and services. There seems to be interest among partners to have OS conduct an assessment to see if it would be appropriate for OS to convene a process and help identify a project scope and roles and responsibilities for partners. Metro RS will continue to engage as this moves forward and will connect with the Governor's Transportation Policy Advisor, Brendan Finn, to explore ways state agencies may engage and to see if there is a state agency that would be appropriate to sponsor a Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) grant application for the relocation of the rest area.

North Central Region – Nate Stice

Upcoming Scheduled Regional Solutions Advisory Committee Meeting

- **North Central RSAC:** Wednesday, February 12th, 2020; 1 PM – 3 PM; Location – Columbia Gorge Community College, Board Room (Building 1); 400 East Scenic Drive, The Dalles, OR 97058

Central Region – Annette Liebe

Upcoming Scheduled Regional Solutions Advisory Committee Meeting

- **South Central RSAC:** March 9th, 2019; 1 PM – 3 PM; Lakeview, Location – TBD

South Central Region – Annette Liebe

Upcoming Scheduled Regional Solutions Advisory Committee Meeting

- **Central RSAC:** March 12th, 2020; 9 AM – 12 PM; Location – TBD

[Greater Eastern](#) & [Northeast Regions](#) – Courtney Warner Crowell

- **Eastern Oregon Border Board:** RS attended the monthly Border Board meeting where they discussed the bill they have in the Legislature this session to change the language in the statute from 10 projects to 10 programs. They also had more discussion about creating an executive director position and issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP) through Business Oregon to get that position in place. Finally, the board is about to announce that they will have grant opportunities ready for the community to apply. The first three programs that will be available for applications are the Scott Fairley Community Edge Grant Program, the Ready Workforce grant program, and the Community Planning program. When these grant applications are ready to go live, we will help spread the news.
- **Morrow County Economic Development:** Members of our RS team attended the Morrow County Economic Development Group meeting this week and gave an overview of RS and talked about how our Team can help the different communities in Morrow County. It was a great discussion about how we can partner with the new Morrow County Community Development Director and we also talked about projects we are currently working on with Heppner and Lone. Additionally, we had a good discussion about the need for more housing in the entire county and how they might get help from the state to update their Housing plans.