

Florence Community Child Care Center Dream Becoming Reality



Photo used with permission of The Siuslaw News

Florence has no child care center providing infant/toddler care and limited pre-school-age care. In 2007, the Florence Area Coordinating Council (FACC) held a community summit where child care for infants and toddlers was identified as a top community priority. Quality Child Care of Florence (QCCF) began as a

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Western Lane Community Foundation

Siletz Tribal Charitable Contributions Fund

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SELCO Credit Union

Abbey's Pizza

Ladies of Elk

area churches

and many

individual contributors

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subcommittee of FACC and in 2009 incorporated as a 501(c)(3) non-profit with the sole purpose of developing and opening a child care center.

Since 2000 several new, large employers have made Florence their home. Employers cite lack of quality, affordable child care as a major negative issue in recruitment and retention of staff. In addition, family poverty is a serious issue in Florence, yet very few child care providers in the area have a system in place for parents to utilize government child care subsidies.

In 2008, the Lane County Commission on Children and Families adopted "Increase quality childcare for 0-3 year olds" as one of their top three focus areas for the next seven years. As a department of an LCOG member agency, the Department of Children and Families asked LCOG for strategic planning and grant writing assistance to help QCCF develop their Child Care and Learning Center. The Ford Family Foundation provided an initial planning grant.



Now QCCF has raised 100% of their capital budget of \$313,525 plus partial funding for furniture and equipment (grants are pending). Funds will be used to purchase and install a triple-wide, purpose-made modular child care center on the campus of Siuslaw School

District adjacent to the middle school, Early Childhood CARES, and Head Start. QCCF will lease the land from the school district. Early Childhood CARES and Head Start have agreed to let QCCF use their playground. QCCF has ordered the modular facility and is nearing completion of their bidding process for site work, utilities, and porches and ramps. The project will create seven new jobs in Florence. In addition, local contractors are being selected to prepare the site, install utilities, and build porches and ramps. Many contractors and local business are contributing time and materials. This is truly a community project.



George Kloeppel
LCOG EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DIRECTOR'S DESK

Not So Different, Really

The first of November marked the 66th “birthday” of Lane Council of Governments. Since announcing that I would be retiring next summer, I have been inclined to more introspection about the history and the organizational journey of this agency with which I have been associated for three decades. I hope that such musings are “normal.”

Recently, I spoke to a group about LCOG, its origins and purpose. The historical portion of my standard luncheon speech is intended to lay a foundation for a description of today’s council of governments.

Let me share a few of my talking points, because many of today’s participants in the LCOG enterprise are relatively new to public service, and very few who were present at the beginning are still with us.

As World War II was ending, a small group of far-sighted individuals—from business, government and the academy—correctly anticipated rapid post-war growth in the central part of Lane County. These pioneers of regionalism concluded that planning for growth would be in the best interest of the community, and—significantly—that working together toward the development of such plans could lead to more efficient and higher quality results. They were thinking of schools, utilities, parks, transportation facilities, industrial development and housing, among other things.

Six local jurisdictions—Eugene, Springfield, Lane County, the Eugene Water Board (now EWEB), and School Districts 4 (now Eugene 4-J) and 19 (Springfield Public Schools), pulled together \$14,000 and formed the Central Lane County Planning Commission. They also hired a one-person staff, Howard Buford of Salinas, California. Buford, who had graduated from Oregon State College with a degree in landscape architecture, started work November 1, 1945. The organization’s name was changed after a few years to Central Lane Planning Council—primarily to avoid confusion with Lane County government—and the name was changed again in the early 1970s to Lane Council of Governments.

What had started as six local governments working together to manage expected growth evolved over time to the LCOG that we know today. Twenty-eight jurisdictions now jointly

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own the agency through their membership; and the \$14,000 initial budget has grown to over \$34 million in the current fiscal year.

Howard Buford remained with the agency for the rest of his career, retiring in the early 1970s, and he lived to see much change, both to the agency that he had started and the community that he loved.

But I wonder...has that change been so profound as to make today's council of governments unrecognizable to the founders—that handful of individuals, thinking big thoughts at a table in the Eugene Hotel? Maybe not. Remember, what they were seeking was efficient and responsive local government; and their strategy was to encourage jurisdictions to work together, to assure that the plans of one city were compatible with those of another, and to realize maximum efficiency, both from joint planning and shared implementation of plans. That vision was not so different from the underlying purpose and mission of the Lane Council of Governments of 2011. It was a good idea then, and it is a very good idea today. Happy birthday, LCOG.



LCOG Unveils New Logo

As part of LCOG's recent marketing campaign, the Creative Services team took on the task of redesigning the LCOG logo. Representative staff from each program area collaborated to ensure that the logo would work well with all program areas and for the agency as a whole. Creative Services Senior Designer Sarah Finney explained, "It's important to receive input from staff and a design charrette encourages thoughtful discussion and brings new ideas to a project." Look for the new logo on LCOG websites, as well as maps, brochures, and marketing materials.



The new design includes a new tagline — WORKING TOGETHER FOR OUR COMMUNITY. For information about LCOG's logo design services, please contact Colene Doll by phone (541-682-4389) or e-mail at cdoll@cog.org.



Cindy Johnson

CLIENT EMPLOYED PROVIDER SPECIALIST

Cindy Johnson started at LCOG in 1998 as a Client Employed Provider (CEP) clerk working with in-home care providers. She worked in the Eugene office for two years and then at the Springfield location.

She also served as a Financial and Services Screener, primarily working with people interested in Senior & Disabled Services. As a screener, Cindy also informed the community of available services.

After agency budget cuts, Cindy returned to the CEP unit, working within the Homecare Worker Unit. She works closely with the caregivers that assist LCOG clients. Her expertise includes the payment process.

"Knowing that we have made such a difference in our clients lives brings such satisfaction."

To contact Cindy, please call (541-682-4481) or e-mail cjohnson@lcoog.org.

2011 Oregon State Community Service Champion Award Presented to S&DS

Experience Works helps low-income seniors, with multiple barriers to employment, get the training they need to find good jobs in their local communities. Experience Works operates employment and training programs for low-income older adults in many Oregon counties, including Lane County.

Mary Miller, Oregon's Experience Works Program Director, presented Senior & Disabled Services Director, Kay Metzger, with the 2011 Oregon State Community Service Champion Award on



Elizabeth Willis, District Aide Nancy Pierce, Lynn Boone, Kay Metzger, Sandy Karsten, and Lane Workforce Partnership Executive Director Chuck Forrester

September 28, 2011. Selection was based on the fact that S&DS provides good training opportunities and of has placed several Experience Works in unsubsidized positions when openings arise.

"Senior & Disabled Services has been pleased to partner with Experience

Works for several years in this mutually beneficial relationship. We have been able to provide training sites for Experience Works trainees in numerous settings and job positions, from kitchens, to receptionists, to filing and mailing, data entry and higher-level clerical positions. Trainees have been placed in several of our service locations in Lane County. These trainees have brushed up on their skills or developed new ones at the same time they are helping us accomplish real work! We look forward to continuing this partnership into the future," said Senior Meals Program Manager Sandy Karsten.

Senior & Disabled Services Funding Update

This past year, the 2011 State Legislature faced extremely difficult decisions due to limited state revenue. Services were reduced for many state-funded agencies, including Senior & Disabled Services. As part of the state's budget reductions, all local government agencies under contract with the Department of Human Services to provide Medicaid and Food Stamp eligibility and case management for seniors and people with disabilities were funded at 85% of what it would cost a state office to do comparable work. While the number of people served by S&DS has grown by almost 20% over the past two years, the amount of funding from the state's Department of Human Services has only grown by 3.5% over the same time period. The funding was not sufficient to maintain the status quo and reductions had to be implemented.

During the summer months, S&DS went through an extended process of evaluating how to reduce costs to live within extremely limited resources. Since 95% of S&DS' budget is for staff time, reducing staff-related costs were unavoidable and a reduction-in-force process was initiated.

LCOG/S&DS Management felt strongly that prior to laying off permanent staff positions other options should be vigorously explored. To that end, furlough options were offered first. Management and Supervisory level staff accepted pay reductions with 1.5 days per month furlough effective July 1, 2011. Staff represented by the Service Employees International Union opted to not accept furlough options. As a result, it was necessary to eliminate five positions from the payroll. Consistent with LCOG's strong preference to avoid laying off permanent employees, Voluntary Separation Incentives were offered to SEIU-represented staff. Five staff applied for, were approved, and voluntarily separated from the agency effective October 1, 2011. Since that time, work assignments have been shifted to accommodate the loss of five staff positions.

While this has been a very difficult process, if there is anything positive it is that S&DS has been able to successfully finesse its way through this reduction in workforce without sending any permanent S&DS staff person to the unemployment lines. However, we are facing challenges responding to the number of requests for intakes, as there has been no reduction in work and our caseloads continue to climb monthly. S&DS continues to seek help for seniors and people with disabilities by providing quality services and information that promotes dignity, independence and choice, to the best degree possible with limited funding.

Nobody Should Have to Live with Abuse

There's an older adult neighbor you've chatted with at civic meetings and block parties for years. When you see her coming to get her mail as you walk up the street, you slow down and greet her at the mailbox. She says hello but seems wary, as if she doesn't quite recognize you. You ask her about a nasty bruise on her forearm. Oh, just an accident, she explains; the car door closed on it. She says goodbye quickly and returns to the house. Something isn't quite right about her. You think about the bruise, her skittish behavior. Well, she's getting pretty old, you think; maybe her mind is getting fuzzy. But there's something else—something isn't right.

As older adults become more physically frail, they're less able to stand up to bullying and or fight back if attacked. They may not see or hear as well or think as clearly as they used to, leaving openings for unscrupulous people to take advantage of them. Mental or physical ailments may make them more trying companions for the people who live with them.

Tens of thousands of seniors across the United States are being abused—harmed in some substantial way, often by people who are directly responsible for their care. More than half a million reports of abuse against elderly Americans reach authorities every year, and millions more cases go unreported. It is estimated that for every case of elder abuse reported, another 12 or 13 are not. Accordingly, there is a great need for people to report suspected abuse.

To report elder abuse, please call Senior and Disabled Services in Lane County at 541-682-4038. To find the phone number for your local office you can go to www.oregon.gov/DHS/localoffices/index.shtml.

Age Knows No Limits Project – Honoring Older Americans in Lane County 2012

Senior & Disabled Services is one of the members of the Age Knows No Limits Project, an alliance of Lane County programs which serve people age 60 and older. This project celebrates older Americans (in Lane County) for the many ways they contribute to society, the workplace, our communities and our families. During May, Older Americans Month, the Age Knows No Limits Project will recognize several older adults from around the county whose active engagement inspires others and captures the true essence of this year's theme, "Living Inspirations".

Six to eight Honorees will be selected during the winter. They will be featured on the 2012 Poster and introduced at a reception on May 25, 2012.

Nominations from the community are being solicited now through December 15, 2011. For more information and the nomination materials, please go to www.ageknowsnolimits.org, or contact Sandy at 541-682-4378 or skarsten@lcog.org.

In January 2011, a survey was completed for seniors ages 60+ residing in their own homes

DEMOGRAPHICS: Those that live alone are primarily female, ages 65-74. 69% are female.

INCOME: Those that live alone are poorer. 74% make less than \$1,800 per month.

HOUSING: Those that live alone have more housing cost challenges. 32% reported paying more than 30% on housing costs, 56% of those respondents live alone.

IN-HOME ASSISTANCE: Those that live alone have a greater need for in-home assistance, including meal preparation, housekeeping, personal care, medication management and help in evacuating in case of an emergency.

TRANSPORTATION: Those that live alone have a greater need for accessible/special transportation. 16% of respondents reported needing accessible/special transportation. Out of those, 59% live alone.

HEALTH/NUTRITION: Those that live alone have poorer health habits. Out of all respondents that did not eat at least 3 servings of fruits and vegetables per day (45% of those surveyed), 59% live alone.

FINANCIAL: Those that live alone have greater difficulty in paying for basic and medical needs. 35% of respondents reported they did not have enough money to pay for basic needs such as food, utilities and housing. Out of those, 54% live alone.

Community Needs Assessment

Older Americans Act (OAA) services are specifically directed to those who are not living in an institution or care facility. OAA targets people living in their own home and is intended to assist people 60 and older to remain independent and healthy, avoiding the need for public assistance programs for as long as possible.

In accordance with federal and state policy, Senior & Disabled Services is required to develop a comprehensive and coordinated service delivery system to meet the needs of older adults in Lane County. Part of this process is to complete a community needs assessment. In January of 2011 a survey was completed for seniors ages 60+ residing in their own homes (see sidebar). This study will be available for review in the coming months. This article represents a targeted synopsis of the studies findings. One of the questions that was evaluated was those who replied "yes" to "live alone." 54% of the survey respondents answered yes to this question.

Sweet & Sparkling Affair

Sweet miniature desserts were piled high on the guests' plates as they enjoyed a performance by Harpist Mary Grace and drank sparkling wine. Two dollar bills flew through the air as everyone popped their balloons hoping to win \$100 (participants purchased helium balloons that were filled with \$2-\$100 bills). Lane Senior Services Coalition (LSSC) celebrated its first annual fundraising event, "A Sweet and Sparkling Affair," on October 20, 2011. LSSC provides emergency services for seniors in crisis. This year the event raised over \$4,000.



LSSC receives requests from Senior Connections to assist seniors in crisis that have exhausted all other resources. Support has ranged from helping to repair a leaky pipe in the wall to financial assistance. One story that stands out involved a woman that was suffering from stage 4 cancer. She was living in the garage

of a friend that was rat infested and her bed was on the floor. She had identified a new apartment to move into, but could not afford the down payment. Through the assistance of Senior Connections staff and LSSC's support, the woman was able to obtain the funding required to move into a new apartment.

Regional Land Information Database Update

Geographic Information System work was initiated by LCOG in 1968 with a federally-funded taxlot project for Oakridge. The system evolved in the 1970s to include all of the taxlots and landuse parcels in the county, a county-wide address system and integration of various files on the regional shared mainframe computer. The regional GIS system, now referred to as the Regional Land Information Database (RLID), was nationally recognized. It still is.

Thirty years ago, a project was initiated through LCOG to “develop a single accurate computerized base map” so the local governments in the region could benefit from “the productivity improvement of integrating mapping activity and information on the computer that is currently compiled manually in a fragmented, inefficient and costly manner.” At the time that this was written, a typical subdivision plat was manually mapped at least five times, sometimes more than ten times. The project envisioned that “ultimately, this project will allow the subdivision to be entered in the computer once.”

On October 4, 2011, Lane County Assessment and Taxation announced all taxlot maintenance will occur in the GIS taxlot layers using ESRI ArcGIS software. This is an exceptional accomplishment that required several decades of shared planning, collaboration and effort by staff from Lane County, the cities of Eugene and Springfield, and LCOG.

WWW.RLID.ORG

Regional Land Information Database of Lane County

Welcome to RLID

The **REGIONAL LAND INFORMATION DATABASE (RLID)** is the central resource for most land-based information in Lane County, Oregon. The system comprises a data warehouse of regional land information from city, county & state government agencies and other service districts. A suite of web-based applications allows users to view, query, analyze & map data and print customized reports.

System Info

The Lane County Assessment & Taxation Department certified the 2011-2012 tax roll around 2:30 pm on Thursday, October 6th. RLID data now includes 2011 property tax and value data. Weekly updates to property data will now resume - until next year at certification time!

Updates to taxing district information for 2011 tax code areas (TCAs), including a link to the new billing rates document, should be

RLID News

Save time and money by receiving your subscription invoices electronically!
Make your RLID subscription management easier by paying your invoices online. Click the icon or [this link](#) for details.

City of Springfield historic properties are now referenced in RLID! You'll find this information in the "General Taxlot Characteristics" section of the Detailed Property Report.

Quick Look application... **Locate Nearest Eugene-Springfield Fire Station & Hydrant.** This FREE application allows users to enter an address (*partial address is ok*) and follow step-by-step instructions to identify fire protection

FEATURES

QUERY LOOK (Free Info)

STREET NAME SEARCH

MAPS, DATA & CUSTOM SERVICES

RLID BROCHURE



Janell Wooten

FINANCIAL SERVICES MANAGER

Janell Wooten started at LCOG in May of this year as the Financial Services Manager. Prior to LCOG, Janell has worked for several local governmental entities, most recently with Lane County Human Services Commission. Janell joined the Fiscal Services unit at the start of the unit's most busiest time—the annual audit. Now that the audit is completed, she is looking forward to spending more time getting to know staff and the services provided to member agencies.

"LCOG is a great organization and truly focused on providing needed services to our community. I am happy to be a part of LCOG!"

To contact Janell, please call (541-682-6529), or e-mail jwooten@lcoog.org.

Fern Ridge Service Center Awarded \$1.5M Community Development Block Grant

The City of Veneta received notification in August of a \$1.5 million Community Development Block (CDBG) award for the construction of the Fern Ridge Service Center, a Senior Center and Food Bank in Veneta to replace the Tony Garcia Service Center. The new facility will be the home of the Senior Meals Program Café 60 and Meals on Wheels in Veneta, will provide space for the Veneta Senior Connections Area Coordinator, and will house the local food pantry operated by the LOVE Project.

The CDBG grant is matched by the Ford Family Foundation which awarded the project a \$250,000 grant. With the Ford Family Foundation grant award and other local fundraising, the Fern Ridge Service Center (FRSC) has secured nearly \$350,000 in additional private funds.



The Fern Ridge Service Center, now operating out of the Garcia Center, has been instrumental to the health and welfare of residents in the Fern Ridge area since 1972.

Census Data Continues to Flow

In addition to the data from the 2010 Census, the Census Bureau continues to release data from the American Community Survey (ACS). The ACS represents a significant departure from the way the Census Bureau used to collect information, and understanding those differences is key to making appropriate use of the data.

Prior to 2010, the nationwide census conducted once each decade included both the short form, which was completed by every household, and the long form, which was filled out by a relatively small sub-set (i.e., a "sample") of

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households, and enabled the Census Bureau to collect more detailed information in such areas as housing, income, and transportation.

Beginning with the 2010 Census, there is no longer any "long form", instead more detailed information is collected through an ongoing sampling of households, known as the American Community Survey. Because the ACS data are being collected continuously over time, they do not represent any single "point in time", unlike the long form data, and because they are the results of a sampling, as opposed to a census, they are referred to as estimates. Unlike the older Census long-form data, ACS estimates are released each year, but not for all areas.

The Census Bureau releases 1-year ACS estimates for cities and counties with populations of 65,000 or more, 3-year estimates for cities and counties with populations of 20,000 or more, and 5-year estimates for all cities and counties, regardless of population. In addition, 5-year estimates are released for all tracts and block groups, regardless of population. This means that here in Lane County, we can get 1-year ACS data for Lane County and for the City of Eugene, we can get 3-year data for the City of Springfield, in addition to Lane County and Eugene, and we can get 5-year data for all cities, all tracts, and all block groups. These same population thresholds apply to other statistical areas, such as school districts.

Each year, 1-year estimates are released sometime during September, 3-year estimates are released during October, and 5-year estimates are released during November. In each case, the data represent the sampling period up to and including the prior calendar year. For example, the 1-year estimates released this fall were collected during 2010, the 3-year estimates just released last month were collected during 2008, 2009, and 2010, and the 5-year ACS estimates scheduled to be released later this month were collected during the calendar years 2006 to 2010, inclusive. The ACS data being released this year are the first ACS data that correspond to the 2010 configuration of census tracts and block groups.

Users of the data are strongly cautioned to keep in mind that the ACS is a survey and not a census, and the sampling rates may not be sufficient to produce reliable data down to the smaller geographies for all parameters. The Census Bureau publishes Margins of Error with the ACS estimates, and some are quite large relative to the data. Widespread calls for an increase in sampling rates did result in a revision of how sampling rates are stratified, so that the sampling rates for small-population areas were increased at the expense of sampling rates in large-population areas, as well as a small overall increase in sampling rates made possible by additional funding from Congress.

An interactive cross-walk between ACS table numbers and the old long form (SF-3) table numbers can be found at:
http://www.census.gov/acs/www/guidance_for_data_users/2009_table_comparisons/

Additional information about comparing ACS data from one year with another year, or with other Census data, can be found at:

http://www.census.gov/acs/www/guidance_for_data_users/comparing_data/

The Census Bureau publishes a number of "Compass Guides" for specific user communities, which can be also be located through these pages.

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR ALERTME



Community Emergency Notification System “Alert Me” Registration Opens

What if you could learn about an emergency occurring near your home no matter where you are? If you carry a cell phone, now you can.

Public safety agencies in Lane County are expanding their Community Emergency Notification System, known as CENS, with the “Alert Me” registration for cell phone voice and texting. By registering on the CENS Alert Me website, Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) or cellular phone owners may receive the same emergency message and critical information about emergency situations as those with land-line phones — but only



if you register. CENS allows public safety agencies in Lane County to identify an affected area and, if necessary, send a message and/or text that describes the situation and recommends protective actions residents should take.

The CENS system will automatically call out to all land-line and opt-in telephone numbers within that geographic area and deliver the re-

corded message once a voice is heard. Some of the many uses of the system include: tsunami warnings, emergency evacuations, natural disaster alerts, missing child alerts, hazardous material incidents and neighborhood emergencies.

For more information, please contact Megan Banks by phone (541-682-7413) or by e-mail at mbanks@lcog.org.

LCOG GIS and Creative Services Internship Programs

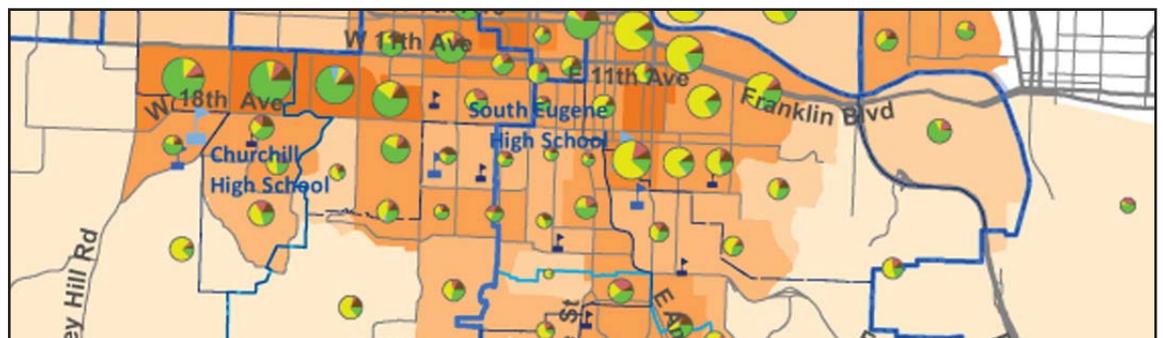
Since 2005, the LCOG Applied GIS team has hosted over 30 interns from the University of Oregon and Lane Community College. Interns work in a professional environment alongside LCOG staff on a variety of projects spanning those areas the Applied GIS group supports: natural resource, land use, and transportation planning. Current interns are UO students Daniel Ronan, working on a bicycle transportation project, and Bennett Dong, working in land use planning. Intern Josef Gordon is completing work on a variety of LiDAR analyses for building classification and vegetation analysis.

Student interns are able to work on computers and software made available by the UO and LCC. For more information about Applied GIS Intern Program, please contact David Richey by phone (541-682-6664) or by e-mail at drichey@lco.org.

In June 2011, LCOG Creative Services team developed an intern program to work with students from the University of Oregon departments of Art and Digital Arts. Students have assisted on a variety of projects including the Cycle Lane project smart phone application, online publication design, and logo redesign efforts. Art student Pilar Diehl is currently assisting staff on several projects including a graphic standards document and website design. For more information about Creative Services Intern Program, please contact Sarah Finney by phone (541-682-4072) or by e-mail at sfinney@lco.org.

4J Technical Assistance

LCOG has been retained by Eugene School District 4J to support the district with information research and analysis. Project work includes mapping and analysis of district demographic and enrollment trends, and help in determining the number of students to be expected from new housing developments.



It's How We Get There That Matters!

The Regional Transportation Plan recommends how to invest more than \$2 billion in anticipated federal, state, and local transportation funding in the region for the next 25 years. That's a lot of money! The Plan deals with all the regional parts of the transportation system—roads, bike paths and walkways, and plane, train, and bus services. That's a lot of moving of people and goods! Every four years, LCOG updates the Plan as part of our federal requirements as a Metropolitan Planning Organization. That's a lot of work!

And a lot of work it has been—analyzing data, running computer models, making maps, modernizing goals and objectives, and updating project lists. The big picture is making sure that the updated Plan addresses the important trends and issues for the next 20 years. The details are highly technical and complex. LCOG staff has worked closely with partner staff from the cities of Coburg, Springfield, and Eugene, Lane County, the Oregon Department of Transportation, Lane Transit District, point2point Solutions, and Willamalane Park and Recreation District to update the Plan.

A whole other side of the update is getting word out to the public. You may have seen posters on the bus, a flyer at the library, or an ad in the newspaper. Maybe you attended an open house or received an email or saw an announcement on MetroTV. Perhaps you heard a presentation at the Chamber of Commerce, League of Women Voters, Latino Business Network, or other group you belong to. It might have been at the Springfield Farmers Market or Eugene Celebration that you learned about opportunity to comment on the updated Plan. All of these and more comprised the public outreach for the update.

The Metropolitan Policy Committee is expected to adopt the 2011 update of the Regional Transportation Plan in December.



Lane Council of Governments is the Metropolitan Planning Organization, the lead agency for regional transportation planning for the Central Lane County area.

City of Coburg Wastewater Groundbreaking

The City of Coburg celebrated an official groundbreaking to commemorate the start of construction on the Coburg Wastewater Project Phase 2 and 3—the treatment facility and collection system—on Friday, November 4th, 2011 at the future treatment facility site. Federal, state, and local elected officials, including representatives for Congressman DeFazio and Senator Wyden and Representative Phil Barnhart spoke about the state and regional support that this project has received for over a decade. Speakers also discussed the project's positive environmental, economic, and livability impacts. Mayor Judy Volta, city councilors, funding agencies, businesses, and residents joined in honoring this important community investment.



State Representative Phil Barnhart speaks at groundbreaking.



Coburg Wastewater Groundbreaking for Treatment Facility and Collection System (left to right) John Thiel, City Councilor; Nick Batz, representing Congressman DeFazio; Phil Barnhart, State Representative; Juine Chada, representing Senator Wyden; Faye Stewart, Lane County Commissioner; Judy Volta, Mayor; Jerry Behney, Councilor; Jae Pudewell, Council President; John Fox, Councilor; and Don Schuessler, former City Administrator.



Over 40 Years of Serving Oregon's Planning Community

Oregon Planning Institute 2011



**Thanks to all those
who participated!**

See you next year.

Over 300 planners and related professionals converged in Eugene at the Lillis Business Center of the University of Oregon for the 2011 Oregon Planning Institute held September 14-16. Participants came from the far reaches of the state as well as from across the world. International attendees from Scotland and Serbia enriched the conference with a diverse perspective, joining the mix of rural and urban outlooks from Ontario to Portland. John VanLandingham, Chair of the Land Conservation and Development Commission, delivered opening remarks and set the stage for the keynote by David Brewer, Chief Judge of the Oregon Court of Appeals. Attendees had 35 sessions to choose from over a course of 3 days. Subjects included technical ones such as using Census Data to the fullest as well as broader topics addressing sense of place, the past and future potential of agriculture in Oregon, transportation, and energy.

The **REGIONAL FOCUS** is published by Lane Council of Governments on a quarterly basis. Back issues are also available in PDF format at www.lcog.org/rfnews.cfm

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