



2014

Legislative Agenda Planning Meeting

Wednesday, November 13, 2013

1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

BCC Hearing Room

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Gary Schmidt, Chris Lyons & Jared Anderson
Public and Government Affairs

DATE: November 13, 2013

RE: Preparation for 2014 Legislative Agendas

At today's planning meeting the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) will meet with department directors and the government affairs team to begin planning the 2014 federal and state legislative agendas. The meeting agenda is attached.

PLANNING MEETING

Each department was asked to complete a questionnaire to highlight federal and state policy and funding priorities. A summary of those priorities and the questionnaires are attached.

The planning session will include focused discussions by issue areas in order to identify and narrow the County's legislative priorities for the 2014 calendar year. After this planning session, the government affairs team will meet with department directors to further clarify and focus the agendas. Final legislative agendas will be provided to the BCC for review in mid-December and approval in mid-January.

STATE AGENDA

The County's 2013 state agenda included the following priorities:

Funding priorities:

- Public Safety Funding: Community Corrections, Juvenile Justice, 9-1-1, Justice Court
- State/County Shared Revenue Agreements
- RV License Fees & County Parks
- Health, Housing, & Social Services Funding

Policy priorities:

- Industrial Site Readiness
- Winery Events
- Rural Clackamas County Area Commission on Transportation (ACT)
- Law Library Services
- Compost Siting
- Lavender Farm
- PERS Reform
- Health Care Transformation

Focus was on maintaining funding to county programs & services and protecting key county policy priorities by assuring a seat at the negotiating table.

The 2014 short session will begin on February 3, 2014. The 2014 session may not exceed 35 calendar days unless two-thirds of each chamber votes to extend the session. **It is expected that the short session will be focused primarily on adjusting the 2013-2015 state budget.**

FEDERAL AGENDA

The County's 2013 federal agenda included the following priorities:

Funding priorities:

- Sunrise System – Tolbert Overpass
- Public Safety Funding
- Protect Critical Safety Net Funding

Policy priorities:

- Preserve the Municipal Bond Market
- County Timber Payments
- Federal Forest Management and O&C Lands
- Federal Transportation Funding Reauthorization
- Willamette Falls Locks & Heritage Area

The federal government was shut down on October 1, 2013 due to the inability of Congress and the President to reach agreement on the federal budget. After an agreement was reached on October 16, 2013 to reopen the federal government and lift the debt ceiling, a budget conference committee has been tasked with reconciling the budget resolutions passed by each chamber earlier this year and agreeing on final FY 2014 funding levels by Dec. 13, 2013. The committee's negotiations also may include discussions on formulating a long-term plan on tax and spending policies. Both Senators Wyden and Merkley were appointed to the committee. The legislation, HR 2775, funds the government through Jan. 15, 2014 and suspends the debt limit until Feb. 7, 2014.

NEXT STEPS

At today's planning meeting you will be asked to identify and narrow specific countywide funding and policy priorities at both the state and federal levels. This feedback will assist departments in focusing priorities. The government affairs team will present the BCC with a draft 2014 County legislative agenda for preliminary review at a study session on December 17. A second study session on January 14 will seek BCC approval of the final legislative agenda. The legislative agenda will serve as a blueprint to protect, maintain, and enhance County funding and policy priorities at both the state and federal levels.

**CLACKAMAS COUNTY 2014 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA
PLANNING MEETING**

November 13, 2013, 1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
BCC Hearing Room

AGENDA

Overview of State and Federal affairs

Goals of the planning meeting

Review of draft State Legislative Priorities (by Department)

- Business and Community Services
- C-COM
- Finance
- Health, Housing and Human Services
- Juvenile
- Tourism
- Transportation and Development

Review of draft Federal Legislative Priorities (by Department)

- Business and Community Services
- Emergency Management
- Health, Housing and Human Services
- Juvenile
- Transportation and Development

Commissioner observations, comments and direction

Next Steps

Adjourn

Summary of State Legislative Priorities

Business and Community Services

- Support legislation to achieve a more equitable distribution of RV license revenue between the state and counties for parks.
- Support funding for the newly established Oregon Industrial Site Readiness Program.

C-COM

- Support legislation to ensure that carriers of prepaid wireless devices pay 9-1-1 tax.
- Support an increase to the current monthly 9-1-1 tax of \$0.75, which has remained unchanged since 1995.
- Support efforts that would provide spending authority to install the Next Generation (NG9-1-1) network.

Finance

- Monitor and influence proposed legislation to ensure adequate and stable funding of county programs and services.
- Preserve counties' share of tobacco, liquor, video lottery and recreational vehicle fee revenue.
- Oppose preemption of local tax sources and other efforts to restrict local government authority.

Health, Housing and Human Services (H3S)

Community Solutions

- Monitor changes to low-income weatherization and energy assistance services in the Oregon Housing and Community Services Department that may result from the Governor-requested transition plan.
- Monitor changes resulting from the re-chartering of state and local workforce investment boards.

Public Health, Behavioral Health, Children, Youth & Families, Community Solutions

- Maintain existing budget commitments made in 2013.
- Support efforts to prohibit private insurance companies from denying or canceling health care coverage of inmates who are housed in county jails.

Social Services

- Support funding for Oregon Project Independence (OPI) to help keep seniors in their homes and avoid unnecessary or premature placement in higher cost care settings.
- Support funding for Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) for options counseling, gatekeeper, and senior mental health programs.

- Monitor and influence efforts to clean up the Developmental Disabilities budget.
- Advocate for the unallocated portion of the set aside for seniors' programs.

Juvenile

- Advocate for maintaining Juvenile Crime Plan Prevention funding from the Youth Development Council to county juvenile departments at the highest funding level possible, which provides approximately \$215,000 annually to the County Juvenile Department.

Tourism

- Support efforts to increase information sharing between the state and counties relating to lodging facilities that collect & remit the state's 1% transient lodging tax.
- Support legislation that gives enforcement authority to cities and counties that have local transient lodging taxes (TRT) in order to address TRT violations.
- Support efforts to address concerts that include overnight lodging and may be subject to transient lodging taxes.

Transportation and Development

- Advocate for state transportation policy and funding that primarily focuses on road maintenance and construction.
- Advocate for legislation and funding to support an additional lane of capacity in each direction of I-205 from Stafford Road to OR 99E.

Summary of Federal Legislative Priorities

Business and Community Services

- Support legislation for responsible management of federal forest lands, including O&C Lands, which improves counties' financial stability and creates a predictable, long-term solution to county revenue needs. Advocate for an extension of Secure Rural Schools (County Payments) funding to bridge the gap until the forestry legislation generates new revenues.
- Support continued operation and restoration of the Willamette Falls Locks, and designation of the Willamette Falls Heritage Area.

Emergency Management

- Ensure continuation of grant funding for the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG), which provides approximately \$208,000 annually to the County's emergency management program.

Health, Housing and Human Services (H3S)

Community Solutions

- Monitor changes at the U.S. Department of Energy that could impact funding for Weatherization and Energy Assistance Programs.
- Oppose funding reductions to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as the Food Stamp Program.
- Support reauthorization of the Workforce Investment Act, which provides funding for education and job training in the County for adults, dislocated workers, and youth.

Housing & Community Development

- Support an increase in funding in the voucher, public housing, and capital fund programs, which provide vital funding for the operations of the County's Housing Authority.
- Support an increase in funding for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to no less than \$3.3 billion and an increase in funding for the HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Programs to no less than \$1.6 billion. This would restore funding for these programs to their FY 2011 levels.
- Support regulatory relief for the Public Housing and Voucher programs due to significant funding cuts in recent years.

Social Services

- Support reauthorization of the Older Americans Act, which is the major vehicle for the organization and delivery of social and nutrition services to seniors.

Juvenile

- Support continued funding of the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grants through reauthorization of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJDDA) Act, which provides approximately \$115,000 annually to the County Juvenile Department for youth services.

Transportation and Development

- Advocate for legislation and funding to support an additional lane of capacity in each direction of I-205 from Stafford Road to OR 99E.
- Advocate for passage of a surface transportation authorization bill that adequately funds the maintenance and construction of roads in order to improve the reliability and safety of our transportation system and meet the needs of our interconnected economy.

Legislative Questionnaire Responses

2014 Legislative Agenda Questionnaire

The Board of County Commissioners will convene a planning session on the County's 2014 state and federal legislative agendas on Wednesday, November 13 from 1:30 – 4:30 p.m. in the BCC Hearing Room. In preparation for that session, please **complete and return this questionnaire to Jared Anderson (janderson@clackamas.us) by Wednesday, October 23, 2013.**

Your responses will be used to develop the County's federal and state legislative agendas for 2014, which will communicate the County's legislative priorities to members of the federal congressional delegation, state legislators and the public. The final documents will be used to influence legislative action and guide our interactions with federal and state policymakers during the coming year.

Department Name:	CCOM
Contact Person:	Bob Cozzie, Mark Spross

STATE

Please list and prioritize your department's STATE legislative priorities for 2014. Please include both budget and policy priorities.

Budget Priorities - Please be specific and provide supporting data (i.e. describe impact of state funding reductions to county program and need for additional funding).

As in previous years, the 9-1-1 tax is a high priority. Currently land-lines, contract cell phones, and some VOIP phones are being taxed, but pre-paid wireless devices are not. This creates a discrepancy, and has had a significant impact on 9-1-1 funding in Oregon.

We will continue to work with Oregon APCO/NENA (Association for Public Communications Officials and National Emergency Number Association) to work toward developing a law to ensure all devices capable of accessing 9-1-1 are taxed appropriately.

Policy Priorities - Please address known or anticipated bills to be introduced in the 2014 state legislative session that will impact your department. Indicate your recommended position for each bill.

It is important to mention that Oregon APCO/NENA has not yet set a legislative agenda, but it is likely that there will be a bill seeking an increase to the current 9-1-1 tax from \$0.75, and perhaps a bill seeking spending authority to install the Next Generation (NG9-1-1) network.

2014 Legislative Agenda Questionnaire

FEDERAL

Please list and prioritize your department's FEDERAL legislative priorities for 2014. Please include both budget and policy priorities.

Budget Priorities - Please be specific and provide supporting data (i.e. describe impact of federal funding reductions to county program and need for additional funding).

Policy Priorities - Please described federal policy changes, either suggested or currently under consideration (provide bill #), that are critical to county operations.

2014 Legislative Agenda Questionnaire

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Department Name:	Emergency Management
Contact Person:	Nancy Bush

STATE

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Budget Priorities - Please be specific and provide supporting data (i.e. describe impact of state funding reductions to county program and need for additional funding).

Policy Priorities - Please address known or anticipated bills to be introduced in the 2014 state legislative session that will impact your department. Indicate your recommended position for each bill.

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Policy Priorities - Please described federal policy changes, either suggested or currently under consideration (provide bill #), that are critical to county operations.

The Clackamas County Emergency Management (CCEM) priority is the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) funding. This funding has been somewhat stable over the past few years and has been a established source of funding for state and local emergency management since the 1980s. It is important that the funding continue in order to support local emergency management since natural disasters continue to be on the rise in the United States. Without the funding local response would suffer to its residents during times of flooding, earthquakes, winter storms, tornados, etc. The EMPG funding also supports staff as well as program materials in order for emergency managers to support plan updates, relationship building, response, and recovery. In the current fiscal year Clackamas County is receiving approximately \$208,000 from EMPG funding, which is about 20% of CCEM's operating budget. CCEM supports at a minimum stable funding of the EMPG.

Without the EMPG funding support and response for disasters will be delayed and in some cases non-existent, which endangers lives and the economy.

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Department Name:	H3S
Contact Person:	Cindy Becker

STATE

Please list and **prioritize your department's STATE legislative priorities for 2014.** Please include both budget and policy priorities.

Budget Priorities - Please be specific and provide supporting data (i.e. describe impact of state funding reductions to county program and need for additional funding).

Housing & Community Development

No significant State of Oregon funding is provided

Social Services

Advocate for continuation of OPI expansion dollars allocated during the 2013 Special Session.

Much time and effort will be spent ramping program up, and we don't want to see a lot of vulnerable seniors be cut off from this critical service because of funding fluctuations.

Advocate for continuation of new state money supporting ADRC (Aging and Disability Resource Connection) funding for Options Counseling, Gatekeeper, and Senior Mental Health programs.

Clean up the Developmental Disabilities budget

The budget for developmental disabilities has undergone numerous changes/fixes/re-starts since it was passed. State DHS will try to fix one of the reduction errors they made in the re-balance; however, other issues remain in terms of addressing caseload growth. DHS will be implementing a workload model which we need to watch carefully in terms of how it affects our budget.

Advocate for un-allocated portion of set aside from Special Session for Seniors' programs.

The legislature did not allocate all of the funding for seniors from the Special Session – we need to be on top of these discussions.

Public Health, Behavioral Health, Children, Youth & Families, Community Solutions

At a minimum, maintain existing budget commitments made in 2013.

2014 Legislative Agenda Questionnaire

Community Solutions

Monitor changes in Oregon Housing and Community Services Department.

A year ago, the Governor asked the Oregon Housing and Community Services to develop a new way in providing housing and community services, which also includes low-income weatherization and energy assistance services. The transition plan is expected to be presented to the Governor and legislature no later than February 2014. Once the plan is accepted, second year biennial funding for programs and administration can be approved and implementation of proposed changes can begin. It is anticipated that programs will be transitioned by the beginning of the 2015-17, if not sooner. At this time, it is unclear how low-income weatherization and energy assistance services will be impacted.

Policy Priorities - Please address known or anticipated bills to be introduced in the 2014 state legislative session that will impact your department. Indicate your recommended position for each bill.

Community Solutions

Monitor changes resulting from re-chartering of state and local workforce investment boards (Governor and Legislature).

In July 2013, Governor Kitzhaber issued an executive order (13-08) directing the re-chartering of state and local workforce investment boards. In addition, the executive order directs state agencies with workforce development programs to work together and develop a plan to better align state services in support of the re-chartered boards. By December 31, 2013, specific criteria and mechanisms will be developed to re-charter local Workforce Investment Boards (LWIB). Local workforce Investment Boards must comply with the criteria by June 30, 2015. In addition, in preparation for the 2014 Legislative Session, those state agencies that currently administer Oregon's workforce programs along with the Governor and the Legislature will develop a plan to better align infrastructure of the workforce system to support the work of the re-chartered boards. These state agencies will also develop an integrated workforce budget by 2015.

One issue for Clackamas County is the re-distribution and potential consolidation of local LWIBs by December 31st. In order to be effective, re-designation conversations must occur in partnership with local elected officials, organizations, and other stakeholders. Given this extremely short timeline, any efficiency gained through the process would be undermined. Moreover, any additional alignment or efficiencies that may occur through such a process would not be accomplished if service area boundaries are not addressed comprehensively and in partnership with everyone throughout the system. Delaying re-designation until all partners are prepared to proceed together would not hamper LWIB's ability to effectively serve customers.

2014 Legislative Agenda Questionnaire

FEDERAL

Please list and **prioritize** your department's **FEDERAL** legislative priorities for 2014. Please include both budget and policy priorities.

Budget Priorities - Please be specific and provide supporting data (i.e. describe impact of federal funding reductions to county program and need for additional funding).

Housing & Community Development

Increased funding in the voucher, public housing and capital fund programs is critical to maintaining a sustainable level of operations of the Housing Authority. Currently HUD has prorated program payments, including the impact of sequestration, that have critically impacted the sustainability of the programs. Currently the programs are prorated as follows:

- Voucher Housing Assistance payment: approximately 95%
- Voucher administrative fee: prorated at approximately 67%
- Public Housing Operations formula eligibility: prorated at approximately 85% of HUD determined need.
- Public Housing Capital Fund: funded at approximately 52% of the annual accrual baseline as established by HUD's 2010 Capital Needs Assessment.

Increased funding for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Programs. Support the National Association of Counties (NACo) resolution to fund the CDBG Program at no less than \$3.3 billion, and the HOME Program at no less than \$1.6 billion. This would restore funding for CDBG and HOME to their FY 2011 levels.

The FY 2011 HUD Appropriations Act reduced CDBG funding by over 16% to \$3.3 billion, and HOME funding was cut to \$1.6 billion. These programs were further cut in the FY 2012 HUD Appropriations Act to \$2.948 billion for CDBG and \$1 billion for HOME. The combined cuts are 25% for CDBG and 48% for HOME.

The CDBG, HOME and Public Housing programs are funded by Congress as part of the Transportation Housing and Urban Development budget (THUD).

Social Services

Reauthorization of the Older Americans Act. While appropriations continue to be made even though the current authorization has lapsed, federal lobbyists feel it is important the Act gets officially reauthorized.

Community Solutions

Monitor changes in Department of Energy which could impact Weatherization and Energy Assistance Programs funding.

Support funding of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

In September 2013, the House of Representatives passed a Farm bill. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (food stamp program) is traditionally reauthorized in the farm bill, but not this year. In June, the House

2014 Legislative Agenda Questionnaire

rejected a farm bill that would have cut \$20 billion from the SNAP program because Democrats opposed the cuts as too severe, and Republicans said it did not go far enough to reduce what they considered a bloated program. So a House farm program bill was approved without the nutrition title. The nutritional and the farm program bills will now go to the Senate, which approved its own farm bill earlier this year.

Included in this bill is funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (also known as Food Stamps) The House bill cut \$39 billion from the program over a period of 10 years and imposes significant new restrictions on SNAP Employment & Training (SNAP E&T). The proposal would allow states to cut off SNAP benefits for most adults if they are not working or participating in an employment or training program for at least 20 hours a week, and creates a financial incentive for states to take up this option by allowing states to keep half of the federal savings from cutting people off of SNAP. Furthermore, states that decline to take up this option would actually face a fiscal penalty, as these states would lose all federal matching funds (commonly referred to as "50-50 funds") for their existing SNAP Employment & Training programs. Beyond this, the proposal offers no funding for job creation, work or new employment or training programs. States would be rewarded solely on the basis of declining SNAP caseloads. The Senate has proposed \$4.1 billion in cuts to SNAP. A Senate amendment was added that would increase hardship on SNAP recipients. The amendment would bar from SNAP, for life, anyone who was ever convicted of one of a specified list of violent crimes at any time — even if they committed the crime decades ago in their youth and have served their sentence, paid their debt to society, and been a good citizen ever since. The amendment would mean lower SNAP benefits for their children and other family members. Until both houses of Congress hash out a final deal, SNAP funding is unsettled.

Policy Priorities - Please described federal policy changes, either suggested or currently under consideration (provide bill #), that are critical to county operations.

Housing & Community Development

Regulatory relief for the Public Housing and Voucher programs to allow for cost savings. Items for possible inclusion in the relief are as follows:

1. Allow payment standards to be immediately reduced to lower the cost of individual vouchers.
2. Stop the portability of vouchers to other housing authorities where the vouchers are not absorbed by the receiving Housing Authority. Most receiving Housing Authorities currently do not absorb the transferring voucher. This results in the HACC having to pay in some cases a higher Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) cost and having to share the administrative fee that comes with each voucher.
3. In the Voucher Program limit inspections to every two years with Landlords self-certifying the unit condition in the off year. This cuts the inspection work load nearly in half resulting in cost savings in staffing.
4. In the Voucher and Public Housing Program, change the annual tenant income certification to bi-annual. This would significantly reduce the administrative staff time spent on this task.
5. In the Voucher and Public Housing programs limit interim income certifications to cases where a resident's income decreases by more than 15%. This would result in a reduced work load and staffing cost savings.
6. Establish a moratorium on new rule or data requests that result in increased administrative burden.
7. Allow use of the Public Housing Capital Fund and Operating Fund interchangeably. This would allow greater flexibility of directing funds to the highest need and more closely reflects practices in the private market.

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8. In the Public Housing and Voucher program streamline resident community service requirements. Currently HUD requires staff to track resident participation in 8 hours of community service per month for residents that are not disabled, senior, working or in a work program. Streamlining this process would create administrative relief and save staff time.

Community Solutions

Reauthorize the Workforce Investment Act.

In July 2013 the Senate Health, Labor, Education and Pensions (HELP) committee voted to advance the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) reauthorization bill out of committee. The bill has yet to reach the floor for a vote. WIA was originally authorized in 1998 and is more than a decade overdue for reauthorization. The workforce development field has made significant advances since WIA was originally authorized in providing employment and training services. Congress must act to reauthorize WIA if these best practices are to be reflected in current law.

2014 Legislative Agenda Questionnaire

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Department Name:	Juvenile Department
Contact Person:	Ellen Crawford, Director

STATE

Please list and prioritize your department's STATE legislative priorities for 2014. Please include both budget and policy priorities.

Budget Priorities - Please be specific and provide supporting data (i.e. describe impact of state funding reductions to county program and need for additional funding).

HB 3231, directing the development and implementation of the Youth Development Council continue to be a priority. This directly impacts the Juvenile Crime Plan Prevention monies that have been allocated to Counties since 1995; that have produced significant outcomes not only in the reduction of juvenile crime, but also in the reduction of chronic juvenile offenders.

Although monies have been sustained for the first year of the biennium, funding formula allocations for the second year of the biennium are a significant concern for County Juvenile Departments in how the distribution formula is being interpreted by the Youth Development Counsel. Whereas these prevention dollars have been allocated based upon youth population in the past, the YDC is communicating these JCP prevention dollars will be disseminated through a Request for Proposal process, with public and private entities competing for the dollars.

For the Clackamas Juvenile Department this amounts to just over \$215,000 annually, which pays for prevention services such as Community Diversion Panels, Skills groups in educational settings for at-risk youth, and Restorative Justice practices, such as Victim Offender dialogues and youth services with community providers.

Policy Priorities - Please address known or anticipated bills to be introduced in the 2014 state legislative session that will impact your department. Indicate your recommended position for each bill.

None at this point. If the YDC produces a bill to change funding formula for the JCP Prevention dollars, the OJDDA association will be prepared to provide amendments to sustain population based funding formulas.

2014 Legislative Agenda Questionnaire

FEDERAL

Please list and prioritize your department's FEDERAL legislative priorities for 2014. Please include both budget and policy priorities.

Budget Priorities - Please be specific and provide supporting data (i.e. describe impact of federal funding reductions to county program and need for additional funding).

Continued support for the reauthorization of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJDDA) Act is a priority. Funding streams for Juvenile Accountability Block Grants have been reduced 88% from 2002 to 2012. The Clackamas Juvenile Department currently receives just over \$115,000 in federal funding services for Latino youth and families, gang prevention services, shelter care services and drug court treatment services. Additionally, OJJDP provides significant research and data regarding best practices which leads to lower recidivism rates and increased public safety.

Policy Priorities - Please described federal policy changes, either suggested or currently under consideration (provide bill #), that are critical to county operations.

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Department Name:	Tourism
Contact Person:	Jim Austin

STATE

Please list and prioritize your department's STATE legislative priorities for 2014. Please include both budget and policy priorities.

Budget Priorities – Please be specific and provide supporting data (i.e. describe impact of state funding reductions to county program and need for additional funding).

Policy Priorities – Please address known or anticipated bills to be introduced in the 2014 state legislative session that will impact your department. Indicate your recommended position for each bill.

We will be speaking with our statewide affiliate organization, Oregon Destination Marketing Organizations, and other likely partners such as Travel Oregon, about a few pieces of legislation that would be beneficial to Tourism. These are in very early concept form at this point. They may or may not be ready for the upcoming session. The concepts are as follows:

- 1) Change state statutes to allow the Oregon Department of Revenue (DOR) to share information about the lodging facilities that collect and remit the state's 1% transient lodging tax (TRT) to DOR with cities and counties who have their own local TRT so that the registration/certification lists can be crosschecked to ensure that lodging facilities that are signed up for and are collecting and remitting both the state and local tax.

As it stands currently, DOR will not share even basic information about the lodging facilities that it has on its registration list with local governments. This makes it difficult for locals to ascertain which facility owners/operators are in violation of

2014 Legislative Agenda Questionnaire

local TRT ordinances. As more and more people offer their vacation homes as vacation rentals, this problem has been expanding.

With the mountain area comprising such a significant part of the vacation and recreational options that Clackamas County has this is an issue we've been wrestling with.

- 2) Change state statutes to give cities and counties similar enforcement authority for TRT violation that DOR has. Currently, the statutes authorizing local transient lodging taxes do not provide locals with any enforcement authority of options. This makes it very difficult to "go after" operators who have been knowingly and flagrantly disregarding local TRT registration, collection, and remittance requirements for years. It is not so much an issue with hotels, motels, and B&Bs as it is with vacation rentals that are rented by owner operators.

- 3) The third issue is perhaps more of a problem still in its infancy, but here it is. There is a proliferation of two-day, overnight concerts that offer "free camping" as part of the ticket price. Most certainly it can be argued that the "camping" portion of the ticket has monetary value that can be associated with it. This portion of the ticket would equate to a fee for overnight lodging, which could reasonably be argued is subject to TRTs. As these overnight concerts are occurring all across the state there should be a state-wide policy for dealing with it.

2014 Legislative Agenda Questionnaire

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Policy Priorities - Please described federal policy changes, either suggested or currently under consideration (provide bill #), that are critical to county operations.

CLACKAMAS COUNTY 2013 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Oregon counties and the state are partners in delivering vital public services. As governmental bodies close to local communities, counties are on the front line of coordinating and delivering many shared state-county services to the public. Counties work in close partnership with the state to ensure that services are delivered at the local level in a responsive, efficient and effective manner.

Oregon counties and the state are partners in policy making. Counties are participating in the transformation of large public service systems and bring expertise, experience and resources to matters of statewide concern.

As with most governments, Clackamas County faces the challenge of providing more and better services within tighter fiscal limits. We are committed to protecting the financial health of both counties and the state to ensure that the vital services communities rely upon are preserved during this difficult economic time.

COUNTY FINANCE

Financial Sustainability

Monitor and influence proposed legislation to ensure adequate and stable funding of county programs and services. Counties partner with the state to provide vital public services and are on the front line of ensuring that services continue and reach those who need them.

State/County Share Revenue Agreements

Preserve counties' share of tobacco, liquor, video lottery and recreational vehicle fee revenue. Monies received by counties fund economic development programs, county park and recreation areas and essential front line services, including sheriff's patrol, jails and health services.

Preemption & Local Control

Oppose preemption of local tax sources and other efforts to restrict local government authority. Local control allows counties to create and fund programs that foster innovation and address the unique needs of their communities.

Public Employee Retirement System (PERS) Reform

Support reforms that increase the stability and sustainability of the PERS system while maintaining a healthy retirement benefit for public employees. Reforms should focus on key cost drivers, spread the burden equitably among members and effectively balance the principles of benefit affordability and benefit adequacy.

COUNTY LAW LIBRARY

Law Library Services

Preserve high-quality law library services and materials in Clackamas County and advocate for continued local control of county law libraries. Clackamas County has a robust law library program that helps preserve residents' access to justice by providing direct professional legal research assistance and legal materials, resources and services to everyone.

BUSINESS & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Industrial Site Readiness

Support state financing and incentive programs to assist local government in making industrial sites market ready. The availability of market-ready industrial sites is essential to job creation and economic growth. Assistance is needed for due diligence and capital investments for transportation, sewer, water, brownfield cleanup, wetland mitigation and site aggregation.

Employment Land Availability

Support legislation that will increase the ability of local governments to bring needed employment lands into Urban Growth Boundaries (UGB) to support economic growth and job creation. Support efforts to reduce complexity and expense while improving flexibility and efficiency of the land use decision-making process.

Recreational Vehicle (RV) License Fees & County Parks

Support legislation to achieve a more equitable distribution of RV license revenue between counties and the State. Counties provide 49 percent of campsites in Oregon, yet receive only 35 percent of this dedicated funding source for parks. The percentage is scheduled to further drop to 30 percent in 2015.

Willamette Falls Legacy Project

Secure funding to support redevelopment of the 23-acre former Blue Heron paper mill site adjacent to Willamette Falls in Oregon City. Clackamas County has been working in partnership with Oregon City, Metro, and the State of Oregon to explore the feasibility of redeveloping the site, which presents significant structural and environmental challenges. The site's location provides a rare opportunity for a unique economic redevelopment project that would complement and strengthen Oregon City's downtown and create a regionally-significant visitor amenity and historic tourist attraction to benefit the local economy.

HEALTH, HOUSING & HUMAN SERVICES

Health Care Transformation

Support the continued implementation of Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs) as a means to limit sharply rising health care costs and promote access to care for all Oregonians. Maintain or strengthen counties' role in governance of CCOs and their ability to administer and oversee the delivery of mental health, addictions and public health services.

Funding for Health and Social Services

Preserve state funding levels for health and social services to enable Clackamas County programs to continue at current service levels and, in some cases, provide additional prevention and treatment services to individuals and families. Approximately 26,000 uninsured County residents with incomes 200% below the federal poverty level could be eligible for these benefits.

Early Learning Council (ELC) & Youth Development Council (YDC)

Support legislation that ensures a smooth transition of services from local commissions on children and families to the ELC and YDC.

- Secure a role for counties in developing the local service delivery system and continuing proven programs for youth and their families; and
- Ensure continuity of programs and services by extending funding for local commissions on children and families from June 30, 2013 to January 1, 2014 or until local accountability hubs are fully implemented.

Affordable Housing & Support Services

Support efforts to create and preserve affordable housing and support services for moderate, low and very-low income residents and those experiencing homelessness.

- Increase funding to the State Homeless Assistance Program and the Emergency Housing Account;
- Increase funding for veterans' housing needs to meet rise in number of homeless veterans in Clackamas County;
- Support funding for Oregon Project Independence (OPI) to help keep seniors in their homes and avoid unnecessary or premature placement in higher cost care settings;
- Support effort to prohibit discrimination of Housing Choice Vouchers (Section 8) in the private rental market; and
- Support reauthorization of the Farmworker Housing Tax Credit (FHTC) program.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Community Corrections Funding

Advocate for adequate and stable funding of the Department of Corrections' Grant-in-Aid Program to counties, which provides key funding for probation and parole services, drug/alcohol treatment, work release, community service and victim services.

Any cost savings achieved through public safety reform should be reinvested in the criminal justice system and used to increase funding for prevention and rehabilitation programs, including mental health, drug/alcohol treatment and more intensive supervision.

Juvenile Justice Grant Funding

Advocate for maintaining state grants to county juvenile departments at the highest funding level possible. Basic and Diversion funding from the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA) and Prevention funding from the Youth Development Council (YDP) allow counties to meet the needs of high-risk youth and safely manage juvenile offenders in local communities.

9-1-1 Operations & Funding

Support legislation to improve operations and funding for 9-1-1 centers:

- Support renewal of the 9-1-1 excise tax;
- Prevent state “sweeps” of the 9-1-1 account;
- Require payment of the 9-1-1 tax by users of prepaid wireless devices and Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) services;
- Ensure multi-line telephone systems (MLTS) are able to pinpoint caller location; and
- Oppose state-mandated consolidation of 9-1-1 centers and preserve local control of consolidation decisions.

Justice Court Funding

Support a legislative fix to HB 2712 (2011) to minimize negative revenue impacts to county justice courts, including lowering the \$60 priority payment to the state and ensuring payments to counties are an equal priority to payments made to the State.

TOURISM & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Winery Events & Activities

Support allowing wineries to hold events and engage in other economic development activities, while maintaining the ability for counties to appropriately regulate the level of activity and associated impacts.

TRANSPORTATION & DEVELOPMENT

Roadway Policy & Funding

Advocate for state transportation policy and funding that primarily focuses on road maintenance and construction.

Rural Clackamas County Area Commission on Transportation (ACT)

Support efforts to form an ACT for rural Clackamas County – one of the few areas in the state not covered by an ACT or MPO. Ensure that residents and stakeholders in rural Clackamas County have an opportunity to be involved in the state-level transportation project selection and prioritization process.

CLACKAMAS COUNTY 2013 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

COUNTY FINANCE

Municipal Bond Market

Support measures to preserve the tax-exempt municipal bond market, which plays a critical role in financing essential infrastructure investments. By exempting municipal bond interest from taxes, the government creates an incentive for investors to buy them, which helps hold down borrowing costs of counties, cities and other entities that issue them. States and localities argue that limiting the tax break would curtail a vital funding source for schools, libraries, bridges and roads.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Federal Forest Management and O&C Lands

Support legislation for responsible management of federal forest lands, including O&C Lands, which improves counties' financial stability and creates a predictable, long-term solution to county revenue needs. Federal forest legislation should balance economic, social and environmental values so that significant areas of federal forest are focused on producing forest products and significant areas of federal forest are also focused on environmental protection.

Secure Rural Schools & Community Self-Determination Act

Support future reauthorization or extension of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act or similar legislation. Extending the Secure Rural Schools Act would continue critical funding to timber dependent counties in Oregon while Congress works to enact legislation to allow for responsible management of federal forest lands. This historically important source of revenue, derived from federal O&C lands, is critical to timber-dependent counties in Oregon, including Clackamas County. From 2001-2010, the Act provided the County approximately \$12 million per year for the county road and general funds.

HEALTH, HOUSING & HUMAN SERVICES

Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8)

Oppose future discretionary funding cuts to the Federal Housing Choice Voucher Program. The program (formerly known as Section 8) provides assistance to families that rent units in the private rental housing market. An 8% reduction in Federal funds would require the County to subsidize the Federal Housing Choice Voucher program by approximately \$120,000 per year or reduce service levels by 75 families.

Support reform of the Housing Choice Voucher Program to reduce administration, streamline process, and benefit clients. Over the past 3 years, funding to the County to administer the Housing Choice Voucher Program has been reduced, yet the administrative rules, regulations, and processes have not lessened commensurately. Many housing authorities are at risk of not meeting compliance standards simply because staff levels needed to complete the required documentation have been reduced to bare minimums.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) & HOME Funding

Restore Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME funding to 2011 levels. If funding remains unchanged, Clackamas County programs would face significant funding cuts up to 25 percent. CDBG funds are the only funds available to the County to construct infrastructure improvements in low income areas, while the HOME program is a keystone in the development of any affordable housing project in the County. In addition to the social impacts, there is a significant economic impact from the expenditure of these funds in the County. It is estimated that last year, through a combination of CDBG, HOME and leveraged funds, the County was able to create/maintain 107 direct jobs.

Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS)

Support continued funding for the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS), which provides key information for local communities to plan investments and services. This information is crucial to the administration of the CDBG program. Without this data identifying eligible low income areas, the County will be required to expend significant amounts of limited administrative funds to conduct area surveys.

Workforce Investment Act (WIA)

Support reauthorization of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA). In Clackamas County, the WIA funds education and job training for adults, dislocated workers and youth. Job seekers receive services ranging from job search assistance to intensive occupational training. Community Solutions for Clackamas County utilizes WIA funds to serve vulnerable populations with significant barriers to employment, such as public assistance recipients, offenders, veterans and individuals utilizing public housing resources.

Older Americans Act (OAA)

Support reauthorization of the Older Americans Act (OAA). The OAA is considered to be the major vehicle for the organization and delivery of social and nutrition services to seniors. In Fiscal Year 11/12, over 248,000 meals were provided to seniors by the 10 senior centers operating in Clackamas County.

Support reforms that increase flexibility at the local level related to meal funding, which would enable the merging of two nutrition funding streams and allow local agencies to fund nutrition programs to meet local needs. Oppose reforms that would give states more authority over some types of OAA funding, which could allow the withholding of Health Prevention dollars from locally-operated Area Agencies on Aging. Although Clackamas County only receives approximately \$20,000 per year for Health Promotion activities, these dollars are able to be contracted out to the network of 10 senior centers in the County.

Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

Oppose reductions to the Department of Health & Human Services' Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). Clackamas County receives approximately \$1 million per year in federal energy assistance to help over 3,000 low income households in Clackamas County keep their heat and lights on.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

Oppose reductions to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as the Food Stamp program. The SNAP program has grown significantly in Clackamas County over the past 5 years, from 19,330 recipients in 2007 to 44,380 as of October, 2012. It is an essential benefit to many individuals and families.

TRANSPORTATION

Sunrise System

Secure \$26 million to complete the Tolbert Overcrossing component of the Sunrise System. The Sunrise System is a package of transportation projects totaling \$184 million, which are designed to improve local and regional access for freight, motor vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians to the Clackamas Industrial Area, while significantly improving regional economic competitiveness and community livability. The Tolbert Overcrossing remains the last unfunded component of the System. The project will construct a new overcrossing of the Union Pacific Railroad that will serve the Lawnfield Industrial Area and provide needed access to Camp Withycombe, a Department of Defense (DOD) facility that recently expanded. In 2010, DOD authorized \$11.4 million for distribution in 2016 through the Base Relocation Act, but those funds have not yet been appropriated. This authority presents an opportunity to secure \$11.4 million for the project from DOD.

Transportation Reauthorization

Advocate for passage of a surface transportation authorization bill that adequately funds the maintenance and construction of roads in order to improve the reliability and safety of our transportation system and meet the needs of our interconnected economy.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Juvenile Justice Funding

Support increased federal funding for juvenile justice. Federal allocations for juvenile justice services have dropped significantly in the past decade. Since 2002, funding for the State Formula Grants Program has declined 55%, the Delinquency Prevention Program has declined 79% and the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant has declined 88%. These reductions result in more youth incarcerated in adult jails; erode and jeopardize nationwide progress on juvenile justice improvements that have led to historic low rates in youth-offending across all U.S. states; and eliminate support for cost-effective delinquency prevention programs and alternatives to incarceration shown to increase public safety and decrease recidivism, while producing cost savings to the public.

Emergency Management

Support continuation of grant funding for the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Program. EMPG is the backbone of the nation's emergency management system and provides key assistance in building and implementing the county's emergency management capabilities. The grant includes funding for staff and program materials for emergency management plan updates, relationship building, response and recovery. It is important that funding continue in order to support local emergency management as the number and frequency of natural disasters in the United States continues to rise.

Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS)

Support reauthorization and continued appropriations for COPS grants to local governments. The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), which advances the practice of community policing in law enforcement agencies, has awarded more than \$2.7 million in grant funding to Clackamas County since 1999. The County's Interagency Methamphetamine Initiative has been funded multiple times, including funds for enforcement teams, technology upgrades, youth outreach and improved juvenile detention efforts. The Clackamas County Sheriff's Office has been a leader in creating and implementing innovative community policing strategies, as well as developing regional and interagency partnerships, which exemplify the types of investments the COPS program seeks to make.

WILLAMETTE FALLS LOCKS, LEGACY PROJECT & HERITAGE AREA

Willamette Falls Locks

Support continued operation and restoration of the Willamette Falls Locks so that they may continue to be an economic, recreational and historic driver to the region. The Locks bridge the upper and lower stretches of the Willamette River, without which the Willamette becomes two disconnected rivers for navigation purposes. The Locks were operated safely under a reduced schedule until November 2011, when an inspection discovered the gates were in danger of fracture and could not be safely operated. Clackamas County remains a member of the One Willamette River Coalition and seeks federal support to repair and reopen the Willamette Falls Locks.

Willamette Falls Legacy Project

Secure funding to support redevelopment of the 23-acre former Blue Heron paper mill site adjacent to Willamette Falls in Oregon City. Clackamas County has been working in partnership with Oregon City, Metro, and the State of Oregon to explore the feasibility of redeveloping the site, which presents significant structural and environmental challenges. The site's location provides a rare opportunity for a unique economic redevelopment project that would complement and strengthen Oregon City's downtown and create a regionally-significant visitor amenity and historic tourist attraction to benefit the local economy.

Willamette Falls Heritage Area

Support designation of the Willamette Falls Heritage Area. Designation as an historic area will strengthen the identity of the historic working communities of Oregon City and West Linn by preserving and promoting their distinctive natural, cultural, scenic, recreational and industrial resources. Clackamas County remains an active partner in the Willamette Falls Heritage Area Coalition and fully supports federal designation of the Willamette Falls as a National Heritage Area.