



Sue Hildick

Director

Public & Government Affairs
2051 Kaen Road
Oregon City, OR 97045

503-655-8751

clackamas.us

October 6, 2022

Board of County Commissioners
Clackamas County

Members of the Board:

A Board Recognition of Three County Programs/Projects to Receive 2022 National Association of Counties (NACo) Awards

Purpose/Outcome	To recognize three County programs and staff that received 2022 Achievement Awards from the National Association of Counties (NACo).
Dollar Amount and Fiscal Impact	None
Funding Source	N/A
Duration	N/A
Previous Board Action/Review	N/A
Strategic Plan Alignment	These Items align with the County's Performance Clackamas goals to build a strong infrastructure, build public trust through good government, and ensure safe, healthy and secure communities.
Counsel Review	N/A
Procurement Review	No. These items were not processed through procurement.
Contact Person	Ed Nieto, Public and Government Affairs, 971-284-7094 or enieto@clackamas.us
Contract No.	N/A

BACKGROUND:

Clackamas County received three 2022 Achievement Awards from the National Association of Counties (NACo). The NACo Achievement Awards Program recognizes innovative county government programs, which are judged on:

- Innovation and Creativity
- Measurable results and effectiveness
- Enhanced level of citizen participation in, or the understanding of, government programs

The winning entries are:

WES Solids Handling Capacity Improvements Project

Completed in 2021, Clackamas Water Environment Services' (WES) highly-innovative project provides a vital wastewater infrastructure upgrade that ensures reliable, efficient and affordable wastewater treatment services for nearly 200,000 county residents for generations to come.

The project added a third anaerobic digester to accommodate a population that doubled over 35 years. In addition to ensuring protection of public health and the environment, the additional capacity supports future economic growth.

The project also includes a new cogeneration system that transforms organic waste into renewable energy, producing heat for five of WES' Tri-City Water Resource Recovery facility's buildings and 4,324 megawatts of electricity, which is enough to offset nearly half of the facility's energy usage.

The new cogeneration system will save \$319,000 on electricity and \$99,500 on heat in the first year alone. As the population grows, the average annual savings are anticipated to be \$619,000 on power and \$191,000 on heat, with savings used to offset rates for customers.

Committed to environmental stewardship, this WES project supports Clackamas County's climate action goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2050, while extending the benefits of renewable power to county residents.

Courtney Avenue Complete Streets / Health Impact Assessment Project (DTD & CCPHD)

Clackamas County is one of the four counties that make up the Portland-metropolitan area in Oregon. The county is urban, suburban and rural with more than 1,400 miles of county-maintained roads in unincorporated urban and rural areas, and a population of more than 420,000.

In a county so large and diverse, it is challenging to meet the varied needs of residents. One way we are meeting that challenge is by pooling resources and expertise between our Department of Transportation and Development (DTD) and Public Health Division (PHD) to ensure infrastructure investments support goals across multiple departments.

Cross-sector staff collaborate between departments to advance *Health and Safety in All Policies* initiatives, a set of program strategies to integrate health into government decision-making.

The latest example is an innovative health impact assessment (HIA) on a project to construct Complete Street Improvements along Courtney Avenue, a residential street in an urban, unincorporated area. The recommendations provide:

- Strategies for staff to maximize the health benefits of complete streets projects,
- Action areas to leverage the project to improve issues seen as traditionally outside of the transportation planning space (like mental health), and
- System improvements to incorporate health and equity within DTD plan and project development.

Storm Debris Response and Voucher Program (DTD)

Clackamas County, Oregon encompasses nearly 1,900 square miles in the Portland-Metro area, with approximately 420,000 residents. The county is both urban and rural with a varied landscape including valleys, hills, rivers and Mt. Hood.

A 40-year ice storm hit the Portland Metro area in February 2021, creating treacherous road conditions and hazards like live downed power lines. Hundreds of thousands of homes were without power for up to two weeks, and massive amounts of debris were strewn along roadways and on residential properties.

The Transportation Maintenance Division entered into emergency response to close roads unsafe to pass, clear debris from roadways and assist our utility providers in clearing work zones to repair infrastructure and restore power to residents and businesses.

In the aftermath of the ice storm, residents faced a significant clean-up effort to remove fallen trees and limbs. To help people living in unincorporated areas dispose of debris from the ice storm, the Sustainability & Solid Waste Division, as part of the Emergency Operations Center response, created an innovative and first-of-its-kind responsive voucher program to help private property owners clean up ice storm debris for use at participating yard debris disposal locations and participating landscape and arborist companies.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff respectfully recommends the Board receive this presentation on the county's three 2022 NACo awards.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sue Hildick".

Sue Hildick, Director
Public and Government Affairs