

CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Study Session Worksheet

Presentation Date: May 14, 2013 **Approx Start Time:** ^{10:00}~~9:30~~ AM **Approx Length:** 30 min
Presentation Title: Ag Investment Plan Food System ONESop – An Oregon Solutions Project
Department: BCS Ag and Forest Economic Development Division
Presenters: Rick Gruen, Manager

WHAT ACTION ARE YOU REQUESTING FROM THE BOARD?

Support to accept Oregon Solutions project support with the Ag Investment Plan's Food System ONESop project. It is anticipated that the Governor will accept the Oregon Solution's recommendation of the project and identify co-conveners to lead a team of community partners to develop a technical assistance ONESop, Owner's Manual, and agreements to increase efficiency and collaboration among the partner organizations. This project has an economic development perspective and is intended to assist producers, processors, and distributors of food in Clackamas County.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The absence of an adequate agriculture and food system infrastructure in our tri-county region impedes the development and growth of a resilient food system economic cluster that is less reliant on imports. The Food System ONESop can facilitate the creation of a stronger food system cluster industry, align workforce development and job creation, and protect/enhance the regions' strategic foodshed assets by:

- Meeting the growing demand for increased access to diverse technical assistance;
- Closing supply and demand gaps in aggregation, transportation and distribution to meet demand for a year round, consistent supply of healthier, local foods sought by retailers, wholesalers, institutions, restaurants, specialty markets and consumers; and
- Developing regional food system policy that connects the growing of healthy food with the eating of it in a manner that meets food access/equity challenges related to hunger and obesity.

The Clackamas County Food System ONESop concept is conceived as a virtual public, private, non-profit, and academic partnership. The partnership will support the tri-county region's foodshed vision to advance economic development and job creation in the emerging food system cluster. It will also foster community co-benefits such as increased public health, food equity, and environmental stewardship. This innovative partnership will draw from ONESop partners' diverse expertise – collaboratively implemented – to help producers, processors, and distributors navigate and connect to a set of linked services and resources. These include finance, legal, land use/zoning, regulatory, food policy, sustainable certification, production, marketing, conservation, and education services and resources.

Complementary strategic efforts have already identified major challenges to and opportunities for advancing sustainable regional and county-level foodshed economies and corollary co-benefits.

- The region spends \$4.8 billion on the consumption of food and food related inputs from outside the region.
- We currently import 90%-95% of our food from outside the region.
- Each 1% increase in local food consumption results in \$40 million in regional economic benefit.
- Underutilized agricultural and nursery lands could provide increased production and certainty to meet a large share of the regional food system's demand.
- Oregon ranks 12th in the nation for hunger while, at the same time, 25% of Oregonians are considered obese.

Oregon Solutions would provide ONESop partners with several outcomes and/or deliverables:

1. Concept Refinement – Concept refinement is critical for building the necessary level and type of

detail to foster producer support for long-term success and ONEStop utilization. This deliverable includes a detailed assessment of needed partners, services, and skills for strengthening the framework to ensure relevancy, efficiency, and effectiveness.

2. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – A Partner MOU will define partners' roles and responsibilities to formalize participation in ONEStop.
3. Optional Tasks Depending on Funding Available:
 - a. Owners' Manual – Creation of an "Owner's Manual" that details the framework and service delivery mechanisms for accessing or implementing technical assistance, training, education, Research and Development, and other functions through the ONEStop.
 - b. Pilot Study Group – Hands-on testing and evaluation of the ONEStop programming framework. This test-run will allow adaptive refinements and benchmarking prior to full implementation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (current year and ongoing):

The Oregon Solutions Program provides matching funds to support project development and implementation as memorialized in an Intergovernmental Agreement. This comes via an award of matching funds to cover the cost of project management, convening/facilitating, and developing/producing project deliverables. The specific project budget is yet developed, but the initial estimate for the project is \$50,000-60,000. The Oregon Solutions Program would contribute 50% and BCS Ag and Forest Economic Development Division would contribute 50%. The BCS portion would come from the Division's allocated share of lottery dollars provided by BCS Business and Economic Development. The Division has budgeted up to \$30,000 for the cost of the project.

LEGAL/POLICY REQUIREMENTS:

It is our goal to eventually be able to recommend policy changes, revisions, and/or adoptions.

PUBLIC/GOVERNMENTAL PARTICIPATION:

Anticipated Food System ONEStop Partners include, among others:

Clackamas County	Institutional Food Buyers	Clackamas County Tourism
Clackamas Soil and Water	Alliance	and Cultural Affairs
Conservation District	Oregon Food Bank	Thompson Farms
EcoTrust/Food Hub	Oregon State University	Pitkin-Winterowd Farms
Mercy Corp Northwest	Extension Service	Hansen Family Farms
Organically Grown Company	Oregon Department of	Siri & Son Farms
1000 Friends of Oregon	Agriculture	Community by Design, LLC
Friends of Family Farmers		

OPTIONS:

1. Accept Oregon Solutions' support if the Governor chooses the project.
2. Not accept the support.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff respectfully recommends Option 1 to accept Oregon Solutions' support for the Food System ONEStop if the Governor chooses the project and direct staff to bring forward a memorializing IGA.

SUBMITTED BY:

Division Director/Head Approval: RG

Department Director/Head Approval: GB

County Administrator Approval: LSB

