

# CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

## Study Session Worksheet

**Presentation Date:** October 7, 2014    **Start Time:** 10:30 am    **Length:** 1 hour

**Presentation Title:** Federal Agenda Update

**Department:** Public and Government Affairs

**Presenters:** Gary Schmidt

**Other Invitees:** Chris Lyons, Public and Government Affairs  
Hal Hiemstra, Michelle Giguere and Mark Dedrick, Ball Janik

### WHAT ACTION ARE YOU REQUESTING FROM THE BOARD?

None. This is an informational update of the County's 2014 federal agenda.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In January, the Board of County Commissioners approved the County's 2014 federal agenda:

- Support continuation of the **Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act** (county timber payments).
- Support legislation **for responsible management of federal forest lands**.
- Advocate for passage of a **surface transportation reauthorization bill**.
- Secure funding to support **I-205 expansion**.
- Support continued operation of the **Willamette Falls Locks**, designation of the **Willamette Falls Heritage Area**, funding to support **Blue Heron redevelopment**, and measures to address **Willamette Falls sea lions**.
- Support **critical funding programs** for Juvenile Services; Public Safety; Emergency Management; Health, Housing and Human Services.

In March, County Commissioners Ludlow, Bernard, Schrader, and Smith visited Washington, D.C. to promote the County's federal agenda by meeting with Congressional members and staff and federal agency representatives.

The County contracts with the lobbying firm Ball Janik to develop and implement strategies to accomplish County goals. Today, the Ball Janik team is present to discuss the current federal climate and update the Board on the status of the County's federal priorities. Attached is a memo from Ball Janik.

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (current year and ongoing):

Depending on action or inaction by Congress, the County may face reduced or eliminated federal revenue sources for key County programs. Potential implications are outlined in the attached Congressional Update Memo.

### LEGAL/POLICY REQUIREMENTS:

N/A

**PUBLIC/GOVERNMENTAL PARTICIPATION:**

Public and Government Affairs (PGA) continues to work closely with the Board of Commissioners, County Administration and County departments to develop strategies and approaches to pursue federal funding for important County projects and to guide federal policy issues that have the potential to impact Clackamas County. PGA also continues to build and maintain effective partnerships with the Congressional delegation members and staff to work together on these shared priorities.

**OPTIONS:**

N/A

**RECOMMENDATION:**

N/A

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- County 2014 Federal Agenda.
- Congressional Update Memo from Ball Janik.

**SUBMITTED BY:**

Division Director/Head Approval \_\_\_\_\_

Department Director/Head Approval s/Gary Schmidt

County Administrator Approval \_\_\_\_\_

For information on this issue or copies of attachments, please contact Gary Schmidt @ 503-742-5908
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FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE  
PRIORITIES

Executive Summary

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### **Federal Forest Management and Oregon and California (O&C) Lands**

Support legislation for responsible management of federal forest lands, including O&C Lands, to provide certainty to the forest products industry and create predictable, long-term solutions to the revenue needs of counties. Federal forest legislation should balance economic, social and environmental values so that significant areas of federal forests are dedicated to the production of forest products, while other forests are dedicated to 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

### **Funding for the Housing Choice Voucher, Public Housing and Capital Fund Programs**

Support increased funding for the voucher, public housing, and capital fund programs, which is critical to maintaining a sustainable level of operations for the Clackamas County Housing Authority. In particular, the Voucher Program (formerly known as Section 8) provides assistance to 1,531 families in Clackamas County that rent units in the private rental housing market. Any further reduction in federal funds would require the County to subsidize the voucher program or significantly reduce service levels.

### **Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher Program Regulatory Relief**

Support reform of the Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher Programs to reduce administration, streamline process and benefit clients. Over the past three years, funding to the County to administer these programs 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, allocating no less than \$3.3 billion for CDBG and no less than \$1.6 billion for HOME. These programs have experienced drastic funding cuts since Fiscal Year 2011, resulting in a 25% reduction to CDBG and a 48% reduction to HOME funding. 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 in 2013 the County was able to create and retain 125 jobs through a combination of CDBG, HOME and leveraged funds.

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE  
PRIORITIES

Executive Summary, continued

**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 also utilizes WIA funds to serve vulnerable populations with significant barriers to employment, such as the disabled, 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 2013, over 228,000 meals were provided to seniors by the 10 senior centers operating in Clackamas County.

**Weatherization and Energy Assistance Programs**

Oppose funding reductions to the Department of Health & Human Services' Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and the Department of Energy's Low Income Weatherization Assistance Program. Clackamas County receives approximately \$1 million per year in federal energy assistance to help meet the heat and electricity needs of more than 3,000 low-income households in Clackamas County.

**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, from 19,330 recipients in Fiscal Year 2007 to 42,100 as of October 2013. It is an essential benefit to many individuals and families.

**TRANSPORTATION**

**I-205 Expansion**

Advocate for funding to support an additional lane of capacity in each direction of I-205 from Stafford Road to OR 99E. Without additional travel lanes, this section of I-205 will be overwhelmed by forecasted traffic volumes and will negatively impact regional freight mobility.

**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 the transportation system and meet the needs of an interconnected economy. Investments in road infrastructure will ease congestion and increase mobility while facilitating economic growth.

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE  
PRIORITIES

Executive Summary, continued

## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

### **Juvenile Justice Funding**

Support increased federal investment in juvenile justice programs. Federal appropriations to states, localities and tribes for key federal juvenile justice programs have been cut dramatically in the last decade: Since 2002, funding for the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP) Title II State Formula Grants Program has declined by 50%; funding for JJDP Title V Local Delinquency Prevention Grants Program has been cut by nearly 80%; and funding for the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Program (JABG) has been reduced by 90%. Despite the fiscal climate, federal funds to support state and local juvenile justice standards and improvements must be considered essential investments. These monies support programs that are based in evidence, proven to prevent delinquency, reduce recidivism and increase public safety – critical investments that are worth the cost.

### **Emergency Management**

Support continuation of grant funding for the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Program as a stand-alone grant and process. 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 continue 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**

### **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.

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE  
PRIORITIES

Executive Summary, continued

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**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.

**Willamette Falls Sea Lions**

Support legislation that provides the State of Oregon with more authority to actively manage problem sea lions at Willamette Falls. Also support the development of a long-term strategy to reduce sea lion predation on adult salmon, steelhead, sturgeon and lamprey in the Willamette River and especially near Willamette Falls. Populations of California and Steller sea lions continue to increase annually at the falls, leading to increased mortality of already endangered salmon and steelhead populations.



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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Clackamas County Board of County Commissioners

**FROM:** Hal Hiemstra  
Michelle Giguere  
Mark Dedrick

**DATE:** September 30, 2014

**CLIENT:** Clackamas County

**RE:** Congressional Update

Thank you for the opportunity to visit with you at your October 7 Work Session. We appreciate the chance to provide you with a brief Congressional update and hope this summary will be helpful to you prior to our discussion.

### **House and Senate currently out of session:**

With House and Senate elections just around the corner, both houses of Congress have now adjourned until after the election. Prior to adjourning, they completed the must-do business of keeping the government running by passing a Continuing Resolution to fund the government until December 11th. The focus for now has moved to anticipating outcomes of the election, and the possible impacts those results will have on the upcoming "lame duck" session of Congress in the near term, and the 114th Congress in the longer term. At this time, it appears fairly certain that the leadership of the House of Representatives will remain in Republican hands, but current polling suggests that it is quite possible that leadership of the Senate will shift from the Democrats to the Republicans. A shift to Republican control of both the House and Senate in the 114th Congress would likely lead to a lame duck session that is both shorter and more limited in scope.

If the Democrats lose control of the Senate, they will attempt to use the lame duck session as their last opportunity to push through legislative priorities that could easily be sidelined next year. There will be little incentive for Senate Republicans to go along with such a strategy. In a scenario where control of the Senate flips, the agenda of the lame duck session will most likely be narrowly focused on passing continued spending authority for FY15. While it had been expected that Members of Congress would be asked to debate a war-authorization proposal during the lame duck session, Speaker Boehner has recently signaled that he would prefer to postpone that debate until 2015. Depending on how quickly the President nominates a new attorney general, debate over Attorney General Holder's replacement may also intrude on any legislation that might otherwise have been considered in the lame duck.



For example, issues such as a tax extenders bill or an O&C timber management bill, are unlikely to advance during the lame duck session if the Senate flips. Even if control of the Senate is retained by the Democrats, it is probable that their grip on control will be weakened and that could reduce the Democrats' ability to drive through many legislative proposals during November and December.

### **The FY2015 Appropriations Process and the Continuing Resolution (CR):**

The current CR runs through December 11, 2014. By that date, Congress must either pass 12 individual FY15 appropriation bills (not likely), pass a massive omnibus spending bill that would roll all 12 bills into one, or pass a longer-term CR that would extend federal spending authority at FY2014 levels well into next year and perhaps all the way to September 30, 2015. If control of the Senate shifts, Senate Democrats are likely to push for a CR that would run until September 30, 2015. Conventional wisdom suggests that Republicans would be more inclined to seek a shorter term CR – giving them the opportunity to rewrite spending bills in a way that more closely reflects their own spending priorities. On the other hand, Republicans may be willing to support a longer-term CR now, so that they can focus all of their energy early next year on the FY16 appropriation bills and next year's Budget Reconciliation process.

Budget Reconciliation bills provide a unique opportunity to make significant changes in entitlement spending and revenues since Reconciliation bills cannot be amended on the floor of the House or Senate and only need to pass Congress by a simple majority. While the rules for budget reconciliation in the Senate restrict the procedure to provisions dealing with the budget, Congress has used reconciliation occasionally for non-budget legislation, including rewriting health care and social welfare policy, as the Republican majority did in passing major welfare reform in 1996.

### **2014 Clackamas County Federal Priorities:**

Despite current unknowns concerning the upcoming election and the impact it will have on the appropriations process, we will continue to advocate for the County's positions and communicate on a regular basis with your policy team, with Oregon's Congressional delegation, and with relevant committee staff and agencies within the Administration.

Following are brief updates on the federal FY15 budgeting process and the County's 2014 federal legislative priorities.

#### **Economic Development**

- **Federal Forest Management and O&C Lands**
- **Secure Rural Schools & Community Self-Determination Act**

On the House side, an O&C Lands proposal authored by Congressman Peter DeFazio, Kurt Schrader and Greg Walden passed the House in 2013 as part of a much larger federal lands package, the Restoring Healthy Forests for Healthy Communities Act. This legislation would set aside approximately 1.5 million acres





of O&C lands for timber production, while setting aside some of the remaining lands for wilderness. The House passed this same legislation again in September of this year.

On the Senate side, Senator Wyden introduced his own legislation, the Oregon and California Land Grant Act, in December of last year. He introduced an updated version of this legislation earlier this summer. Unlike the House legislation, which is national in scope, Senator Wyden's legislation is solely focused on Oregon lands. Throughout this process he has released several draft revisions as well, for comments. Senator Wyden has been working closely with Congressman DeFazio and Governor Kitzhaber, and additional changes may be made prior to the bill's scheduled markup in the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee on November 13.

Ball Janik has been working with the Oregon Congressional delegation, the House Natural Resources Committee, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, Governor Kitzhaber, and other Oregon counties throughout this process to ensure that Clackamas County's interests are known and addressed in a final version of the bill.

On Secure Rural Schools, the program was reauthorized for one year in October of 2013. That reauthorization expires on October 2, 2014. Both the House and Senate O&C bills include language reauthorizing Secure Rural Schools. Ball Janik has had conversations with Congressman DeFazio, ranking member of the House Natural Resources Committee, and Senator Wyden, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, and both are very committed to extending Secure Rural Schools when Congress reconvenes after the election, whether as part of a larger O&C package, or by itself.

### **Transportation**

- **Secure Transportation Reauthorization Bill**

Map21, our nation's existing surface transportation authorization, was set to expire on October 1, 2014, and should have been reauthorized by that date. Though the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee passed a long-term extension of MAP21, that legislation stalled earlier this summer over the lack of a long-term federal transportation funding plan. In July, with the Highway Trust Fund set to be depleted by mid-August, the Senate Finance Committee, led by Senator Ron Wyden, joined the House of Representatives in passing a short-term funding "patch" that provided enough funding to keep the existing Highway Trust Fund solvent until May, 2015. Theoretically, the Senate and House could tackle the long-term federal funding issue and also pass a federal multi-year surface transportation authorization during the lame duck session, but the short-term extension of MAP 21 essentially took both issues off the table until the next Congress.

House Speaker Boehner has recently made public comments about the possibility of considering transportation funding during the lame duck session, but it appears much more likely that any debate over long-term funding will be postponed until spring of 2015.



Assuming that a MAP 21 reauthorization bill is not passed during the lame duck session, the Senate will have to debate a new reauthorization bill next year – and that bill could look quite different from the one passed this year if the Committee is chaired by Senator James Inhofe as opposed to Senator Barbara Boxer. Regardless of who chairs the Committee next year, Senator Merkley sits on the Senate EPW Committee, and should he be reelected, we will continue to work with him and his staff in representing the County's interests and transportation priorities.

On the House side, no reauthorization bill was introduced this year, but we are aware that reauthorization proposals are being shared between the Republicans and the Democrats and Chairman Shuster has announced that he expects to mark up a reauthorization bill before the current short-term extension expires in May, 2015. Chairman Shuster has repeatedly expressed his support for limited "directed Congressional spending" directed at public entities such as counties, cities and ports, and he is expected to explore ways to accomplish this objective in the House MAP 21 reauthorization proposal. Representative Peter DeFazio remains the 2nd most senior Democrat on the House Transportation Committee. The current ranking Democrat is in a tough reelection fight and depending on the outcome of his election, Rep. DeFazio may end up being the most Senior Democrat negotiating the House reauthorization bill. We continue to frequently meet with Rep. DeFazio and his staff to ensure that they keep the County's transportation priorities in mind.

- **I-205 Expansion**

With limited federal funding available for new projects such as the widening of I-205 from Oregon City to Stafford, working with your policy team, we have begun to explore lower cost design alternatives that USDOT could adopt which would allow the County and ODOT to reduce chronic traffic congestion on I-205 sooner rather than later. During Mr. Schmidt's recent trip to Washington, D.C. we met with representatives of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to begin this dialogue. Since then we have continued to hold exploratory conversations with ODOT and are now reaching out to both ODOT and FHWA representatives to advance the issue further.

### **Federal Appropriations**

Throughout the past year Ball Janik has worked with the County to identify federal programs that matter the most to the County, and that provide significant resources. We have then worked with the Oregon Congressional delegation and the Appropriations Committee to provide details about how the County has used these federal dollars, and the impact changes to the program would have. We have outlined some of these programs below, and their current status in Congress.

### **Health, Housing and Human Services**

- **Housing Choice Voucher, Public Housing and Capital Fund Programs**



The House-passed version of the FY15 Transportation Housing appropriations legislation included \$19.3 billion for the Housing Choice Voucher program. This was an increase of \$179 million over the previous fiscal year, although it was below the President's budget request of \$20 billion. The Senate committee-passed bill includes \$19.6 billion for this program. This voucher program provides assistance to more than 1,500 families in Clackamas County that rent units in the private rental housing market. These increases in both bills are good news, and mean that the county will likely not need to either reduce service levels or subsidize the program.

The Public Housing Operating Fund is funded at \$4.4 billion in the House legislation, the same as was enacted in FY14. The Senate bill funds this program at \$4.475 billion. This is \$75 million above FY14, but \$125 million under the administration's request.

The House funds the Public Housing Capital Fund at \$1.775 billion. This is a \$100 million cut from FY14, and \$150 million below the administration's request. The Senate funds this program at \$1.9 billion, \$25 million above FY14 and \$25 million below the administration's request.

- **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME funding**

The House funds CDBG at \$3 billion, which is \$30 million below FY14, but \$200 million above the administration's request. The Senate funds CDBG at \$3.02 billion, which is \$10 million below FY14.

The House severely cuts HOME, recommending a funding level of \$700 million, which is \$300 million below FY14 and \$250 million below the administration's request. The Senate funds HOME at \$950 million, which is \$50 million less than FY14, and the same as the administration's request.

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. These proposed cuts, particularly the House's proposed cuts to the HOME program, are troubling. To that end we have shared these details with the delegation, and they will be pushing to ensure that the higher numbers are included in the final versions of the legislation.

- **Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS)**

Both the House and Senate direct the Census to continue to use ACS to innovate and collect data.

- **Workforce Investment Act (WIA)**
- **Older Americans Act (OAA)**
- **Weatherization and Energy Assistance Programs**

In May 2014, Republicans and Democrats reached a bipartisan, bicameral deal to reauthorize WIA, Congress then passed the Workforce Innovation and



Opportunity Act (WIOA) in July, and the President signed the WIOA on July 22. Since then, federal agencies have been developing resources to aid in the implementation of the new Act. While the majority of the law's provisions do not go into effect until July 1, 2015, or even later, plans for the transition are well underway.

The Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration has issued a guidance memo (Training and Employment Notice 05-14), that "announces its current implementation plans, shares key statutorily-required implementation dates, and provides initial informational resources regarding the provisions in the new law." With Gary Schmidt, Ball Janik has met with senior officials in the Department of Labor about the implementation, and in the coming months we will continue to work with County staff in developing comments on these implementation plans.

Neither the House nor Senate have taken up the Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill.

At the direction of the County, Ball Janik has also worked to share the innovative work that Clackamas County (WICCO) has been doing on the issue of workforce training. Along with Gary Schmidt, we have had productive meetings with both Department of Labor and the Office of the Vice President, who has taken a leading role in the administration on this issue. We will continue to work with the delegation to tell this story moving forward.

- **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)**

Both the House and Senate committee-passed Agriculture Appropriations bills include \$82.3 billion for SNAP. This is \$81 million over FY14 levels, but \$2 billion under the administration's request.

### **Public Safety**

- **Juvenile Justice Funding**
- **Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS)**

House appropriation funding levels for juvenile justice programs and COPS initiatives are substantially below previously enacted funding levels. For example, Juvenile Justice programs are proposed at \$31 million below FY14 enacted levels, while COPS is at \$118 below FY14. The Senate, meanwhile, has proposed a \$3 million increase for Juvenile Justice programs, and a \$10 million increase over FY14 for COPS.

Though the current round of COPS grant funding were quite limited in scope and no County funding requests are currently pending, Ball Janik will continue to monitor new grant making opportunities in the coming months and keep the County's policy team closely informed as application deadlines and conditions are announced.



- **Emergency Management Performance Grants**

The House and Senate committee-passed Homeland Security Appropriations bills fund the Emergency Management Performance Grant program at \$350 million, which is the same as FY14. Both keep the program as a separate grant program, which is in line with Clackamas County's request.

**Willamette Falls Locks and Heritage Area**

- **Willamette Falls Legacy Project/Masterplan for Redevelopment:**

We have been working with County officials and County partners on the project throughout the spring to help advance this project to the stage where a formal agreement has now been entered into by the County, Metro, Oregon City, and the State. We are now tasked with working with the County and its partners to help secure federal, local, regional, and other funding for the portion of the redevelopment masterplan related to public access and the riverwalk – while at the same time working on and preparing for opportunities to secure funding related to economic development at the old Blue Heron site. Key milestones must be achieved by March, 2015, in order to see the release of some of the \$5 million in State funding that was previously approved. We are currently meeting with key Congressional offices and following up with federal agency officials, and this will continue throughout the fall. We will continue to work with the coalition and the County to be prepared for the next session of the State Legislature and to be able to respond to federal discretionary program grant opportunities.

**Additional Recent Outreach on behalf of the County**

Ball Janik continues to represent the County in a variety of ways not identified above. For example, we continue to follow closely the Congressional debate over EPA's definition of "waters of the U.S.", and have provided regular updates to the County's policy staff on Congressional action on this matter.

We have advised the County on issues associated with the Aurora Airport Tower and helped to coordinate Congressional outreach to the FAA about funding for the tower. We also continue to advise your policy team about National Marine Fisheries policies associated with sea lion control, and have shared with the Oregon Congressional delegation the County's concerns about conflicts between sea lions, fisheries, and public safety.

Finally, as we did with the Commissioner's trip to Washington D.C. in March of this year, we recently coordinated Mr. Schmidt's July meetings in Washington with the Congressional delegation and various agency officials within the Administration. We always stand ready to advise and coordinate such visits and look forward to next visits by County officials.