CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Study Session Worksheet

Presentation Date: Jan. 28, 2014   **Approx Start Time:** 2:30 p.m.   **Approx Length:** 30 min.

Presentation Title: County Recognition of McLoughlin Area Plan Implementation Team (MAP-IT)

Department: Department of Public and Government Affairs

Presenters: Gary Schmidt, Director, Public and Government Affairs; Ellen Rogalin, Community Relations Specialist, PGA/DTD

Other Invitees: Barbara Cartmill, Acting Director, Transportation and Development

WHAT ACTION ARE YOU REQUESTING FROM THE BOARD?

How does the Board of County Commissioners want to recognize the McLoughlin Area Plan Implementation Team (MAP-IT) in the future?

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

MAP-IT is made up of representatives from three Community Planning Organizations (Oak Grove, Jennings Lodge and Clackamas) and the McLoughlin Area Business Alliance. It was formed (as stated in the organization's January 16, 2013 *Statement of Purpose*, attached) "to serve as a Task Force, working with the McLoughlin Area community as well as Clackamas County staff (where appropriate) to identify and set priorities for projects and programs recommended in the MAP II report while ensuring that they incorporate the visions, values and programs adopted in the MAP I framework plan."

In February 2013, the Board of County Commissioners recognized MAP-IT as an advisory task force to the Clackamas County Board for up to one year. That recognition included:
- Providing MAP-IT with a County staff liaison to provide:
  - Administrative support to MAP-IT (attend meetings, take and prepare meeting summaries, post meeting information and emails on website)
  - Internal updates as needed to the BCC liaison and appropriate staff
  - Support for communications between MAP-IT and County staff
- Committing up to $15,000 to support a community open house / workshop and mailing, and up to $1,000 for printing costs
- Expecting MAP-IT to
  - solely focus on prioritizing projects and programs from MAP 2
  - defer any disputes between properties and businesses to the County or other appropriate agency.

Since then MAP-IT has met monthly (except for December 2013), developed subcommittees to follow through on MAP II-recommended projects and programs (attached), and submitted three quarterly reports to the County Commission (attached). Accomplishments during the past year include the following:
- Working with ODOT on safety improvements for McLoughlin Boulevard, including pedestrian refuge islands and continuous sidewalks
- Working with ODOT, Service District #5 and PGE on improved street lighting

- Working with the business community and County Code Enforcement to enforce existing codes on temporary signs
- Working with the business community to design and install banners to help brand Oak Grove and Jennings Lodge as great places to be
- Working with North Clackamas Parks to improve Trolley Trail signage
- Sponsoring community events, including a Special Olympics Torch Run in July
- Working with County traffic safety and public health staff to secure a grant to conduct a health impact study of McLoughlin from Boardman to Hull

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (current year and ongoing):
The $16,000 earmarked for this past year was not requested or spent.

LEGAL/POLICY REQUIREMENTS:
Not applicable

PUBLIC/GOVERNMENTAL PARTICIPATION:
A PGA staff member has served as the County's liaison with the MAP-IT committee.

OPTIONS:
1. Direct staff to continue the current relationship with MAP-IT for another year or other specified period of time, with appropriate evaluation
2. Continue current recognition of MAP-IT and continue to host the MAP-IT web pages, discontinue staff support to MAP-IT meetings, and ask for MAP-IT to continue to submit periodic reports to the BCC
3. Direct staff to end the current relationship with MAP-IT
4. Direct staff to create a different type of relationship with MAP-IT.

RECOMMENDATION:
Staff respectfully recommends that the Board of Commissioners approve Option 2 -- continue current recognition of MAP-IT and continue to host the MAP-IT web pages, discontinue staff support to MAP-IT meetings, and ask for MAP-IT to continue to submit periodic reports to the BCC.

ATTACHMENTS:
- Attachment A: *Recognition of the McLoughlin Area Plan - Implementation Team (MAP-IT)*, Feb. 11, 2013
- Attachment B: MAP-IT *Statement of Purpose*, Jan. 16, 2013
- Attachment C: Chart of MAP-IT Subcommittees
- Attachments D, Quarterly Reports
  - D-1: *Priorities for MAP-IT Task Force*, May 31, 2013
  - D-2: Memo from McLoughlin Area Plan Implementation Team, Sept. 27, 2013
  - D-3: Memo from McLoughlin Area Plan Implementation Team, Dec. 30, 2013

SUBMITTED BY:
Division Director/Head Approval _____

Department Director/Head Approval ___s/Gary Schmidt_____

County Administrator Approval _____

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Gary Schmidt, Public and Government Affairs

DATE: February 11, 2013

RE: Recognition of the McLoughlin Area Plan - Implementation Team (MAP-IT)

McLoughlin Area Plan (MAP) Committees 1 and 2 were supported by County resources to help facilitate a community-led visioning and planning process from 2009 to 2012 in the McLoughlin Corridor area in unincorporated Clackamas County between the cities of Milwaukie and Gladstone. That process resulted in a plan that reflects the community's long-term vision for the area, and outlines projects and programs to implement to realize that vision.

The McLoughlin Area Plan - Implementation Team (MAP-IT) was formed by the community in 2012 to, as noted in the group's *Statement of Purpose*, "identify and set priorities for projects and programs recommended in the MAP II report while ensuring that they incorporate the visions, values and principles adopted in the MAP I framework plan." MAP-IT is made up of representatives from Community Planning Organizations (CPOs), neighborhoods and the business community.

MAP-IT has asked for recognition from the Board of County Commissioners and for continued County support as outlined below. Attached is a memo from MAP-IT requesting recognition and the MAP-IT *Statement of Purpose*.

Staff recommends that the Board of Commissioners recognize MAP-IT with the following guidelines:

County Role in MAP-IT

MAP-IT is recognized as an advisory task force to the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners, for a period of up to one year (until February 2013).

County Staff Liaison -- Public and Government Affairs (PGA) will provide a staff member to serve as the County staff liaison to support MAP-IT in the following ways:
- Attend the full-group monthly meeting (not subcommittee meetings).
- Take and produce minutes for the full-group monthly meetings.
- Serve as the liaison between MAP-IT and other county staff; all requests to county staff would flow from the MAP-IT chair to the County staff liaison.
- Provide and maintain a website for MAP-IT on the County's web system, which will include MAP-IT full-group and subcommittee minutes, agendas, meeting notices, contact lists, the MAP 1 and MAP 2 reports, and other material deemed appropriate and manageable by the County staff liaison working with the MAP-IT chair.

County Internal Reporting -- The County staff liaison will provide regular updates as needed on MAP-IT activities to the BCC liaison (Commissioner Savas), the Director of the Department of Transportation and Development (Cam Gilmour) and the Director of PGA (Gary Schmidt).

Financial Support --
- Clackamas County has committed up to $15,000 to support a community open house/workshop to discuss project priorities and to conduct a mailing to MAP area residents. Additionally, PGA will provide up to $1,000 for printing costs for pertinent MAP-IT documents.
- No other funds are currently committed to support MAP-IT or to complete the projects that MAP-IT will prioritize.

County Expectations of MAP-IT --
- MAP-IT will solely focus on prioritizing projects and programs from MAP 2.
- MAP-IT will not handle disputes between properties or businesses, but will defer those requests to the County or other appropriate agency.
- The Department of Transportation and Development (DTD) will respond to MAP-IT requests for technical assistance in the same manner as it responds to requests from CPOs. These requests should flow between the MAP-IT chair and the County staff liaison.
- DTD will not undertake any projects in response to requests from MAP-IT that are not in the department's work plan. If requests for technical assistance take on more of a project look in scope and/or scale, the DTD director, in consultation with the PGA director, will decide whether that work can continue.
- The County will reevaluate its relationship to MAP-IT if it feels these expectations are not being met.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

MCLOUGHLIN AREA PLAN IMPLEMENTATION TEAM

16 JANUARY, 2013

The purpose of the MAP IT committee (McLoughlin Area Plan Implementation Team) is to serve as a Task Force, working with the McLoughlin Area community as well as Clackamas County staff (where appropriate) to identify and set priorities for projects and programs recommended in the MAP II report while ensuring that they incorporate the visions, values and principles adopted in the MAP I framework plan. In order for this effort to succeed, any recommendations from this Task Force will need to be reviewed and approved by the entire community, probably through polling as well as at a community-wide open house. After those have taken place, any modifications required will be made before the final recommendations of the Task Force are presented to the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners for their consideration and possible action.

We recognize that financial constraints may require that many of our recommendations cannot be implemented for a considerable period of time. However, we believe that having an identifiable set of community-supported goals for our area may help to serve as a guide for current and future County planning and budgetary decisions.

Our intent is to reduce demands on County staff by focusing questions on these issues through our committee where possible rather than asking staff to deal with what can, at times, be numerous requests from different individuals for information or action on the same items.

Where appropriate, we hope that the staff would consider using us a resource in their dealings with the communities represented on our committee or in any other capacity as needed.

The three individual CPO's represented on our Committee as well as the McLoughlin Area Business Alliance will continue to function as before. We hope that their representatives on our Task Force will keep them updated on our actions and will return to our meetings with suggestions from their constituents.
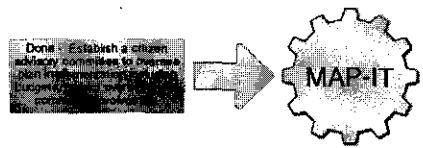
MAP I Values:
1. Community Connections
2. Health & Safety
3. Green & Sustainable
4. Access & Connectivity
5. Diverse & Inclusive
6. Local Economy
7. Local Self-determination

MAP I Guiding Principles:
1. Economic Vitality
2. Transportation
3. Social
4. Design
5. Environmental
6. Administrative

MAP I Vision:
In the future, our community fabric of thriving neighborhoods, shops, restaurants and services, is green & sustainable, healthy & safe; woven together by walkable tree-lined streets, trails, natural areas & open spaces; and strengthened by our diversified local economy, great educational opportunities, and engaged citizens.

PROJECTS - Short Term
PROJECTS - Long Term
PROGRAMS - Short Term
PROGRAMS - Long Term

Done - Establish a citizen advisory committee to oversee plan implementation (budget)

MAP-IT

Technical Advisory

Establish an ongoing technical advisory committee that includes area and district

Existing Subcommittees

1. Signage & Branding
2. Safe Pedestrian Crossings & Connections
3. Community Events
4. Streetscape
5. Technical Advisory

Economic Vitality

Develop a job incubator area

Construct infrastructure improvements for development or redevelopment of properties, i.e. utility connections or upgrades, stormwater facilities, street connections and internal circulation for motorists and pedestrians

Develop a vacant and underutilized land inventory

Develop a program that promotes new businesses and

Review and improve sign code to reduce glare, distraction and clutter

Develop a brand for the area. Assist in marketing and business recruitment

Coordinate enforcement to lessen negative inventory

Infrastructure

Develop an area-wide wayfinding system for motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians

Construct new bike/pedestrian bridge over the Willamette river

Improve East-West connections to improve access to I-205

Construct new local street connections

Improve access to the Willamette River and its tributary streams

Help provide fire protection including sprinklers and stations if necessary

Social Connections

Work with TriMet to determine new opportunities for public transit

Develop a grid of neighborhoods with distinct names to better associate with different areas

Update Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy and local housing plan

Identify and increase partnerships with non-profit housing development organizations

Support schools by encouraging youth through programs and community involvement

Increase access and options for childcare, after school programs, and vocational and job skill programs

Develop a community shuttle system that links local destinations

Work with regional partners to increase services for homeless and at-risk youth

Encourage community-wide events and activities

Enforce proper property use & maintenance

Site offender treatment facilities to limit negative impacts to families

Develop recreation facilities, i.e. skate parks and community gardens

Help provide public plazas or other gathering space as part of development or redevelopment

Develop a community center

Design

Modify the existing Zoning and Design Ordinance to better protect

Develop a community

Create an inventory of historic buildings, sites, and resources

Create gateways to the area

Environment

Identify strategies to protect and enhance natural habitat

Restore Boardman Creek and wetlands, mitigate flooding in the vicinity of Jennings Avenue

Adopt green infrastructure best practices for new public improvement projects and redevelopment sites

Provide incentives for energy conservation and green infrastructure projects associated with new development or redevelopment

Identify and designate wildlife and recreation corridors linking to parks, open spaces and waterways

Help restore habitat within the plan area

Support the cost of cleaning up contaminated properties

PRIORITIES FOR MAP-IT TASK FORCE
May 31, 2013

The following projects and programs are at the top of the MAP-IT priority list now because they provide significant safety, access and visual improvements to McLoughlin Boulevard at a relatively minimal cost. Many are also related to or part of projects or programs that are already underway or planned.

1. **Work with ODOT on final specifications for resurfacing and safety improvements to McLoughlin Boulevard, Naef – Glen Echo – Clackamas Bridge**
   a. Eliminate gaps in sidewalk system planned by ODOT, assuring a continuous sidewalk system on both sides of McLoughlin from Milwaukie to Gladstone
   b. Ensure the provision of adequate and safe lighting at every intersection on McLoughlin from Milwaukie to Gladstone
   c. Advocate with ODOT to install pedestrian-activated rapid flash beacons at current pedestrian islands on McLoughlin (Hull, Boardman, Vineyard and Risley)
   d. Work with ODOT to consider lowering the speed limit on McLoughlin to 35 mph

   MAP II Reference: p. 37, McLoughlin Blvd. Improvements

2. **Work with Clackamas Lighting District #5 to oversee and install a system of pedestrian lighting for the length of McLoughlin, resulting in a uniform system of street lights which can be used to display theme banners identifying the District and its neighborhoods. This might begin at nodes as identified in the MAP II process.**

   MAP II Reference: p.40, McLoughlin Blvd. Improvements

3. **Work with ODOT to improve pedestrian safety at the Jennings Ave/McLoughlin intersection and surrounding area**
   a. Install a continuous sidewalk system on Jennings Ave. from McLoughlin to Oatfield, ensuring the safety of children attending Candy Lane and Jennings Lodge Schools
   b. Advocate with ODOT to modify the traffic signal at the McLoughlin/Jennings intersection by adding exclusive pedestrian phase to increase the safety of schoolchildren from the two nearby grade schools and users of this Trolley Trail crossing of McLoughlin

   MAP II Reference: p. 51, Strengthening Connections

4. **Work with ODOT to install a signalized crossing at the corner of Vineyard and McLoughlin (when finished, the flashing beacon at the island, mentioned above, would be removed)**
   MAP II Reference: p.50, Strengthening Connections

5. **Work with County Code Enforcement to enforce existing sign display codes on McLoughlin**
   MAP II Reference: p. 42, Neighborhood and Community Improvements

6. **Work with the North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District to improve the Trolley Trail from Courtney south to approximately 15200 Arista by adding clear identification (signage, street markings) and features to enhance the park-like quality of the trail with appropriate landscaping, lighting, benches, etc.**
   MAP II Reference: p. 48, Parks, Open Space and Natural Habitat

27 September, 2013

To: Board of Commissioners

       Clackamas County

From: McLoughlin Area Plan Implementation Team

Honorable Chair and Commissioners:

As per our agreement when MAP-IT was formally recognized by your commission on February 12, 2013, this constitutes our quarterly report of progress since our last report to you in June.

We are pleased to report that the MAP-IT committee has continued to make good progress in prioritizing the programs and projects identified in the MAP I and MAP II process. We have continued to meet monthly and have had 4 meetings since our June report to you. The committee as a whole revisited the MAP II process and went through a special session during which we listed every program and project from MAP II, agreed on appropriate groupings and assigned them to one of our five subcommittees which have been operating since March of this year. They have met many times since then. We are enclosing a chart listing the subcommittees and the programs and projects for which they are primarily responsible.

Our Economic Development Subcommittee (then known as the Branding Subcommittee) was successful in developing a tourism and business development project for the area. The product of their efforts was a successful sponsorship and promotion of the Special Olympics Torch Run on July 12, 2013, raising more than $5,000 for that organization. They also oversaw the design, printing and distribution of a promotional brochure listing the attractions and events of our area and the design and production of 39 special theme banners for display the length of McLoughlin Boulevard, from Gladstone to Milwaukie. Some of you were present at the ceremony in early August when the first banners were hung. That event generated successful media coverage for the area and for Clackamas County. These efforts were funded by a tourism grant and by private funding.

This same subcommittee has also been actively contacting businesses along McLoughlin, encouraging them to improve their outdoor sign displays. With support from County Code Enforcement, a number of individual businesses as well as strip malls have reexamined their own sign policies and have brought them into compliance with County code, reducing the "visual clutter" along the Boulevard.

Another of our subcommittees, Community Infrastructure, has been working with ODOT and other agencies to address the safety and connectivity issues which are of great concern to our communities. So far, ODOT has responded with an improvement and upgrading of the present pedestrian refuge islands on McLoughlin and has met with the subcommittee and others to discuss the urgent need for a better sidewalk system on McLoughlin and other arterials as well as improved lighting and crosswalk upgrades. We expect positive results to come from these exchanges.

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One of our greatest challenges (as is yours) is locating and accessing adequate funding to bring some of this about. The recent decision by C-4 to approve a recommendation to Metro for assistance in funding the installation of sidewalks and bikeways on Jennings Avenue between McLoughlin and Oatfield was one of the results of these efforts. That meeting was attended by approximately 50 members of our committee and its communities. Your endorsement of this recommendation was greatly appreciated.

Our Social Connections Subcommittee continues to work with students at Rex Putnam High School, helping to develop the upcoming International Baccalaureate Lecture Series and furthering their already established connection with the Leadership Students. This subcommittee is also joining with the local, on-going Social Roundtable, inviting 6 additional organizations to the group. To advance their program of developing a grid of local neighborhoods for the three CPO areas, an initial presentation was made at the Oak Grove Community Council. Encouraging area residents to define boundaries for their own local neighborhoods will be a time-consuming, ongoing process requiring many local and area-wide gatherings. All of these efforts are designed to encourage connections between neighbors and neighborhoods, serving to strengthen our social fabric, a need which was expressed many times during the MAP I and MAP II process

Our Environment Subcommittee has become involved in a number of local projects focused on protecting and improving our local environment. On July 20, they partnered with the North Clackamas Urban Watershed Council in staging the Urban Islands and Stream Paddling event on the Willamette River, one of our most important natural resources. We hope that this introduced more of our citizens to the natural treasures we already possess and the importance of protecting them. They are also partnering with SOLV on a local clean-up project along the Boardman Wetlands, at Hull Ave. This takes place on September 28 from 2:00 – 4:00 P.M.

Our Design Subcommittee is busy setting up partnerships and internships with architecture students from PSU as part of their community outreach efforts. The plan is for them to work with us in the development of an overall design for the McLoughlin Boulevard business area which could result in increased business and community activity, something we all want to see happen.

Ideas and suggestions continue to bubble to the surface during our meetings, both from the committee and from the public in attendance. We are trying to develop additional approaches to encourage greater public involvement in our efforts, both through attendance at our meetings and in joining with one of our subcommittees in the work they are doing.

We have almost finished our discussions on the next areas of focus for further consideration. Not surprisingly, many are centered on McLoughlin itself, since there is general understanding that part of the strength, health, safety and attractiveness of the neighborhoods is inexorably linked with the strength, health, safety and attractiveness of McLoughlin Boulevard. The crime statistics seem to bear this out – crime goes down in vital, well-used areas and increases in dark, unfriendly, little-used areas. So, some of the areas we will continue to address:

1. Adequate street and pedestrian lighting for the entire length of McLoughlin, from Park to Glen Echo

2. A continuous sidewalk system for the same area, <u>on both sides of the street.</u>

3. Programs offering incentives as well as assistance for the properties along McLoughlin where façade upgrades are needed

4. An annual "McLoughlin Clean-up Day," encouraged if not sponsored by the County and local businesses. This can involve local service clubs, church organizations, business organizations, CPOs and others. Those who help to pick up debris are much less likely to add to it in the future.

Other programs and projects will come to the fore between now and the end of this year.

All in all, MAP-IT is moving forward in what it was designed to do – involve the community in identifying and prioritizing the programs and projects from MAP II, investigating their feasibility and working toward identifying possible sources of funding to accomplish them.

We appreciate your continued assistance and encouragement.

Ed Gronke, Chair

Jennifer Harding, Vice Chair

December 30, 2013

To: Board of Commissioners

Clackamas County

From: McLoughlin Area Plan Implementation Team (MAP-IT)

Honorable Chair and Commissioners:

Since our last report to you on September 27, our committee has continued to meet monthly. In addition, our subcommittees have also met regularly, most on a monthly basis.

Along with members of our Economic Vitality Subcommittee, we recently appeared before you at a study session to make suggestions and answer questions about the current sign code as it applies to the businesses on McLoughlin Boulevard. It was a constructive discussion, and we look forward to the opportunity to participate when this code is part of the review process scheduled for next year. In the meantime, we and MABA have continued to encourage compliance with the temporary sign code -- and the positive results are clear to all who travel on McLoughlin Boulevard.

Our subcommittees are working cooperatively with County staff in examining options and locating sources of financing to improve street lighting in the McLoughlin area. This is identified as a high-priority item for residents, businesses, drivers and pedestrians. Everyone involved agrees that a uniform lighting system would improve the over-all appearance of the area while helping to reduce accidents as well as crime along the Boulevard.

Our Community Infrastructure Subcommittee worked with County Traffic Safety and Public Health to secure a grant for a Health Impact Study of a section of McLoughlin (Boardman to Hull) which can serve as a blueprint for further studies of the Boulevard as our Design Subcommittee begins working on developing over-all design suggestions for the future appearance of McLoughlin.

Our Environmental Subcommittee has continued to work with other groups and with the community on the restoration of the Boardman Basin, a key riparian resource for this area. They are helping to focus efforts, from voluntary clean-up days to actively lining up grant money for much of the work still to be done.

We continue to interface with ODOT as the resurfacing project for the southern portion of McLoughlin nears its beginning in 2014. We will be at all their public hearings on this project and will be prepared to make constructive suggestions, when appropriate.

As you can see, even though MAP-IT has met only three times since our last quarterly report, a good deal has been accomplished. Of course, much remains to be done, and our members look forward to the opportunity to be part of the solution to the needs identified.

Once again, we thank you for your support and understanding of our efforts. We hope that you will continue to maintain that support as our work continues.

Ed Gronke, Chair   Jennifer Harding, Vice-Chair