

CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Study Session Worksheet

Presentation Date: January 22, 2013 **Time:** 10 am **Length:** 30 minutes

Presentation Title: Approval of 2013 State Legislative Agenda

Department: Public and Government Affairs

Presenters: Gary Schmidt, Jared Anderson and Chris Lyons

WHAT ACTION ARE YOU REQUESTING FROM THE BOARD?

Public and Government Affairs is seeking Board approval of the County's 2013 state legislative agenda.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Each year Clackamas County adopts a state legislative agenda which serves as a blueprint to protect, maintain and support County funding and policy priorities at the state legislature. This agenda is not the final word on the County's legislative priorities. As issues arise during and throughout the legislative session, the Board of Commissioners will be asked to comment and determine support or opposition to developing legislation.

The 2013 Oregon legislative session will focus primarily on PERS reform, funding for the Columbia River Crossing, improving education funding, public safety reform and growing jobs and the economy. Clackamas County's state legislative agenda focuses primarily on maintaining State/County shared revenue agreements and program funding to various county programs and services, including public safety; health, housing and human services; economic development and transportation. Other priorities are outlined in the attached state legislative agenda.

This agenda reflects feedback from the Board of Commissioners, County Administration and department directors. A legislative planning session was held on January 16 to narrow this agenda. Today, the final state legislative agenda is presented for review and approval.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (current year and ongoing):

The County's state legislative agenda supports continued State/County shared revenue agreements and other funding streams that support major County programs and services. Loss of these revenues would result in potential cuts to County programs and services.

LEGAL/POLICY REQUIREMENTS:

N/A

PUBLIC/GOVERNMENTAL PARTICIPATION:

N/A

OPTIONS:

1. Approve the County's 2013 state legislative agenda.
2. Direct staff to investigate or research additional priorities for consideration.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Board approve the County's 2013 state legislative agenda in time for the County's legislative dinner on January 31. The State legislature convenes on February 4. The agenda will be revised and updated throughout the legislative session as issues arise and develop.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attached is the County's 2013 state legislative agenda.

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

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.