

CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Staff Presentation Worksheet

Presentation Date: Tuesday, August 23, 2011 Time: 1:30 pm -2:30 pm Length: One Hour

Presentation Title: 2011 Legislative Session Wrap Up

Department: Public and Government Affairs

Presenters: Troy Rayburn and Gary Schmidt

POLICY QUESTION

None. This briefing is an update on:

- (1) the outcomes of the 2011 state legislative session;
- (2) how the County's state agenda fared under the State of Oregon's \$3.5 billion budget short fall; and
- (3) the Government Affairs work plan during the interim.

ISSUES AND BACKGROUND

The 2011 Legislative Session operated under the auspice or burden of a \$3.5 billion budget short fall and the need to close that gap.

Clackamas County's 2011 state legislative portfolio was approximately 50 pages in length and included about 750 bills.

In addition to various Clackamas County departments and elected officials, Government Affairs (GA) staff worked cooperatively and effectively during the 2011 Legislative Session with *numerous*:

- state legislators and their personal staff;
- committee staff;
- state agency staff;
- various state lobby associations;
- regional partners; and
- other active participants.

All of these different entities are important to PGA and Clackamas County and are considered valuable to the legislative process and our interim work.

Session Overview

State/County Shared Revenue Agreements -

Priority: "Support legislation that would lift preemptions and grant counties greater authority ..."

Progress: Clackamas County joined its regional partners, Multnomah County and Washington County, in providing testimony in support of HB 2385 that would remove prohibition against imposition of taxes by a county on cigarettes and tobacco products. The bill died in committee, but Government Affairs (GA) was engaged throughout with both of our regional partners and AOC in front of the Legislature.

GA regularly met and followed up with both the House and Senate chairs of the revenue committees where bills involving shared revenue agreements such as the cigarette tax, beer and wine taxes, video lottery receipts were introduced and heard.

The Clackamas County Finance division was also regularly consulted for analysis purposes, opinion, etc.

Result: State/County Shared Revenue Agreements were primarily held harmless this past legislative session. Most of staff's work was spent monitoring proposed legislation, consulting relevant players in the State Capitol, at AOC and the County Finance division to prevent negative impacts to Clackamas County.

Health, Housing and Human Services (H3S) -

Priority: "Focus on County flexibility in making reductions rather than program-specific cuts by the State."

Progress: Clackamas County worked extensively with Multnomah and Washington counties, AOC, various state lobby associations and legislators to ensure counties had a seat at the table during the important conversations around HB 3650.

HB 3650 establishes the Oregon Integrated and Coordinated Health Care Delivery System to replace managed care systems for recipients of medical assistance by January 1, 2014. Managed health care oversees the bulk of services to the more than 500,000 people enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan. Efforts will now focus on the most chronically ill of the Oregon Health Plan recipients -- those who account for a disproportionate share of rising medical costs -- and emphasize prevention and primary care.

According to H3S, the new law may have an impact on our local oversight activities in the second year of the biennium if the development of the new Coordinated Care Organizations are not organized and implemented in partnership with counties.

Result: The final details of the law have yet to be worked out, thus, the total effect is yet to be determined. Staff is aware of the legislators' interest in learning how cost savings can be achieved.

Juvenile Justice -

Priority: "monitor and effect proposed legislation ..."

Progress: Juvenile Justice, Corrections, GA and the Oregon Juvenile Department Directors Association worked cooperatively both as a team and independently to minimize proposed cuts. GA also worked with Juvenile Justice to develop a specific information piece to hand out in meetings with legislators and state agency staff.

These efforts paid off with the recovery of \$942,259 to the Juvenile Crime Prevention Plan's basic funding. This recovery of funds will provide services for community diversion panels, day treatment services and resource coordination for Latino youth and families, dispute resolution, drug court treatment for families, sex offender treatment, and shelter care.

The most influential tool used by Juvenile and Government Affairs (GA) were the young recipients of Clackamas County's Juvenile Justice programs. Two young men, 15 and 17, volunteered to tell their stories as young heroin addicts before the Joint Ways and Means Committee. GA coached them on:

- how to interact with elected officials;
- how to tell their story or testify;
- the protocols of public speaking before a group of senior senators and members of the House of Representatives; and
- how to answer questions.

Although our joint efforts did recover funds, there was a 12.78% reduction in state funding to Juvenile Crime Prevention Plan. This accounts for a \$65,598 reduction for the biennium.

Future, undetermined, impacts to follow include the elimination of the State Commission for Children and Families and the creation of the Early Childhood Learning Council.

Result: Beneficial work went into:

- building coalitions (and maintaining those relationships);
- developing testimony;

- general and specific outreach to legislators and agency staff; and
- producing information to assist in telling Clackamas County's Juvenile Justice's story.

The final details in terms of structure and administration of funding associated with the elimination of the State Commission for Children and Families and the creation of the Early Childhood Learning Council have yet to be worked out, thus, the total effect on the County is yet to be determined.

Family Court / Justice Court -

Priority: "monitor and effect proposed legislation ..."

Progress: There were two bills, HB 2710 and HB 2653 that were a cause for concern to the County. Both bills stabilized funding and kept trial court and court services (in-general) open and accessible to all people.

However, other court related services -- such as mediation services, drug courts, referees and pretrial release programs -- are likely to be reduced or eliminated. Specific cuts will hinge on whether other sources of money or staffing are available elsewhere to enable those services to continue.

The budget does include the first permanent source of funding for courthouse improvements, following a lottery-backed bond of almost \$12 million to pay for 32 critical projects identified in a 2007 study.

Under the three-decade old law that allowed the state to take over operation of trial courts, counties retained the responsibility to provide for buildings and maintenance.

Still, the current budget slices 7.5 percent of the courts' workforce, mostly in unfilled positions.

Result: Although the bills successfully secured stable funding for courts, the impact to counties and other court related programs is yet to be fully or clearly identified. Most of staff's work was spent monitoring proposed legislation, consulting relevant players in the State Capitol and at AOC and coordinating with Family Court and Justice of the Peace to provide information about potential impacts to Clackamas County. The final details in terms of structure and administration of funding have yet to be worked out, thus, the total effect on the County is yet to be determined. Family Court, however, anticipates reduced (approximately \$10,000) but stable funding for the biennium.

Other Departments -

Priority: "monitor and effect proposed legislation that would cut funding..."

Progress: GA worked cooperatively with the Sheriff's Office, Business and Community Services, Corrections, County Communications (C-Com/911), Emergency Management, Tourism and Cultural Affairs, Transportation and Development (DTD), Water Environment Services and Employee Services to:

- monitor legislation;
- develop and maintain legislative relationships;
- provide accurate and timely technical information;
- distill information; and
- share the County's story with legislators.

Result: These efforts resulted in no major negative legislation or extensive cuts to services.

Interim Work –

Government Affairs (GA) staff is in the process of meeting with department directors to debrief about the recent legislative session and assess what worked and what can be improved upon for the future. GA met with nine county departments before submitting this staff report on Wednesday, August 17. Feedback to-date has been supportive and encouraging.

To better serve the departments, it is Government Affairs' goal to develop a deeper understanding of department specifics by spending more time with individual departments and their state lobby associations.

GA has also been looping back around with state legislators since adjournment to keep the channels of communication open and the relationships intact.

In addition, Government Affairs staff is scheduling time to meet with both cities and chambers of commerce during the interim to not only develop relationships and open channels of communication, but learn their issues as they might apply to work in Salem.

Staff is also working to expand its list of partners to include more of our departments' state lobby associations and state agencies that impact their work. The goal being to partner in the same manner as GA did with Juvenile Justice and its state lobby association.

Staff has been meeting with the commissioners and other elected officials. Feedback to date has been supportive and encouraging. This process will continue throughout the interim and in lead up to the 2012 Session.

All of the above mentioned outreach and work will be the lead up to GA's efforts for the 2012 Legislative Session. GA is anticipating scheduling a series of study or work

sessions with the Board this fall in the same manner as the lead up to the 2011 Legislative Session.

QUESTIONS PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION

Does the Board have any questions or feedback about how the County's priorities fared in the 2011 state legislative session?

SUBMITTED BY:

Division Manager Approval

T. Raybin

Department Director Approval

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County Administrator Approval
