

CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Staff Presentation Worksheet

Presentation Date: Tuesday, Nov 23, 2010 **Time:** 2:30 pm -3:30 pm **Length:** One Hour

Presentation Title: Session I – Narrowing Focus of 2011 Legislative Agenda

Department: Public and Government Affairs

Presenters: Troy Rayburn, Government Affairs Manager
Elissa Gertler, Director of Public and Government Affairs

POLICY QUESTION

What specific issues do the Board of Commissioners want tracked and advocated for during the 2011 Oregon State Legislative Session?

The Board of Commissioners and County Administrator will see there is a large list of issues when reading through the following staff report. Staff would like to narrow the focus and receive specific direction regarding what issues should comprise the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners' legislative agenda.

This list of specifics should further be broken down into two tiers. Tier I would be the Board's top priorities and, considering the tone of the upcoming legislative session, easy wins. Tier II would be important issues, but the government affairs manager would primarily focus on Tier I issues with support from the department directors tracking Tier II.

ISSUE & BACKGROUND

Staff will come before the Board in three sessions to identify and confirm the Clackamas County Legislative Agenda for the Oregon State 2011 Legislative Session. Session I – Tuesday, Nov. 23; Session II – Tuesday, Dec. 21; and our final session, Session III, will be scheduled for the legislative recess in late January 2011.

Session I – Update the Board and County Administrator on the new government affairs manager's work to date in identifying key legislative issues and priorities.

Session II – Provide refined list of key issues for Board review.

Session III – Confirm and finalize 2011 Legislative Agenda once the legislative "lay of the land" is established.

Initial Issues Identification –

The Governmental Affairs Manager has spent his first month in his new position undertaking the following activities:

- meet with department directors and identify key issues and primary staff
- meet with elected officials
- meet with regional partners
- meet with Clackamas County’s legislative delegation
- meet with legislative administrative staff in Salem
- meet with Association of Oregon Counties (AOC)
- attend AOC conference
- attend the Transportation Managers Advisory Committee (TMAC) Retreat
- attend Legislative Committee Days in Salem
- attend the Department of Health, Housing and Human Services Legislative Advocacy Training Session
- schedule and implement two BillTrackOR training sessions for county personnel
- work with department directors to develop talking points on what Clackamas County has already accomplished in this economic recession to make programs or systems more efficient and to do more with less.

Based on this work, some key themes have started to emerge:

The department directors appear to fully understand the reality associated with the 2011 Legislature remedying a *\$3.2 billion budget gap*. As a result, their “asks” have been in accordance with the unique circumstances of this particular legislative session. Staff has not heard any requests for additional funding for existing public services or advocating for new programs or public services.

There is an understanding of and a desire for the Government Affairs Team to tell our story under already difficult circumstances and to keep in regular communication with designated department contacts.

The following is a brief outline of comments received from department directors:

- Department of Business and Community Services –
 - Economic Development
 - Clackamas County relies on state payments to the county from Video Poker revenue dedicated to Economic Development. That revenue stream to the County has been declining the last couple of years, we surmise primarily due to the economy and indoor smoking ban. Like to see that remain dedicated to EcDev and hopefully increase over time.
 - Clackamas County will want to stay abreast of bio mass efforts, access to state and federal forest lands for timber harvests and or commercial thinning for bio mass, job creation and rural economic development

- State incentives such as BETC, SIZ's etc. to ensure we have the tools necessary to compete with other states in EcDev
- Parks (both County Parks and NCPRD). Measure passed reauthorizing Lottery proceeds to State Parks. State Parks used previous authorized funding to catch up on all of their deferred maintenance and construct new state park facilities. The reauthorizations will continue to provide State Parks a significant amount of funding into the future. We do not receive any of that funding directly; we can apply for grants that are extremely competitive among all county parks and special park districts such as our North Clackamas Parks and Rec District. We would advocate for more funding directed into the grant program from the newly reauthorized stream as well as a change in the state-county revenue sharing of RV fees, increasing our share from the current 35%. Senator Martha Schrader was aware of this issue and our need and had discussed sponsoring legislation to alter the formula on behalf of counties. With her apparent loss in the election we are not sure if this will be carried forward unless we find new advocates.
 - ORS 390.134 allocates 35 percent of the RV fees to counties for county parks. 90 percent of the funds are allocated to the 36 counties by formula (50 percent by the number of RV campsites in each county, 20 percent by the number of RV registrations, and 30 percent by population), and 10 percent is set aside by administrative rule for the County Opportunity Grant Program.
- Department of Emergency Management –
 - no monetary (\$\$\$) asks
 - watch for efforts to repeal seismic rehabilitation bonds for planning and response
 - monitor efforts to change medical examiner's duties
- Department of Health, Housing and Human Services –
 - no monetary (\$\$\$) asks
 - reductions are unavoidable – maintain County's option of where to make reductions rather than state directing which programs need to be cut; give counties a dollar figure to reduce and define the parameters, then let counties make the cuts
 - monitor efforts to regionalize services - work with Multnomah County and Washington County to develop regional strategies; oppose movement to do regional structure
 - align or link H3S with public safety (Sheriff Roberts)
 - focus on prevention opportunities and resources
 - work with various association/contract lobbyists
- Department of Juvenile Justice –
 - no monetary (\$\$\$) asks
 - work with association or contract lobbyists
 - Legislative Counsel (LC) 364 – revises laws relating to fines for offenses * single fine vs. range of fines * state grab of county funds; oppose
 - mitigate monetary (\$\$\$) cuts – Juvenile planning for a 25% reduction in funding for the 2011-2013 biennium and is currently operating in this biennium under an approximate 27% reduction; thru cost savings Juvenile should have no service or staff reduction for the remainder of the current biennium

- Department of Transportation and Development -
 - no monetary (\$\$\$) asks
 - urban renewal districts - monitor efforts to modify or change HB 3056 (2009)
 - land use- monitor any efforts or action that might change existing land use planning and permitting in rural and urban unincorporated Clackamas County
 - transportation - follow all transportation legislation, in particular anything to do with funding that may come our way or to the greater Portland region; coordination on regional agenda or asks (e.g. transit)
 - dog services - track legislation that may affect animal services program
 - Surveying and Public Land Corner - monitor legislation Clackamas County may have to implement; the County Surveyor is housed in DTD and reports to the Deputy Director
 - building codes - track legislation that may require Clackamas County to be responsible for implementing should building plan review and processing somehow be affected by legislation

- Department of Water and Environment Services -
 - no monetary (\$\$\$) asks
 - monitor the Oregon State Department of Environmental Quality's interest in proposing new toxicity requirements
 - work with contract lobbyist

In addition to the series of one-on-one meetings with the department directors, staff has meet with other various county elected officials and with each of the commissioners to begin listing and condensing the Board's legislative interests. The following is a bulleted summary by commissioner:

- Chair Peterson –
 - good neighbor policy - be a good regional partner
 - build respect – network, do your homework and earn the trust of others
 - regionalization of county services - communicate cost and timeline for county to change and conform to a new regional model and its associated deadlines imposed by the state; push back on parameters for regionalization
 - transit funding – link to BETC (business energy tax credit) and tie to economic development and the creation of jobs (i.e. Oregon Ironworks Streetcars and Miles Fiber glass)
 - Columbia River Crossing (CRC) – monitor legislation regarding the governance of the CRC Project
 - Hwy 43 – lay the framework for jurisdictional transfer from State to county; identify program and funding strategies (i.e. ODOT's various pots of money) for 2012 Legislative Session; build in funding for maintenance and safety due to poor condition of state highways
 - local preemption – need to remove in order to empower counties

- Commissioner Bernard –

- community corrections - watch for cuts
- tourism – monitor efforts to take away funding from counties and give to cities
- Aurora Airport – monitor legislation that may affect development or regulation; coordinate with legal counsel, Dan Chandler

- Commissioner Lehan –
 - land use – need a defense strategy; protect farm lands
 - 20 yr supply of buildable lands – monitor / watch for amendments to SB 100 (yr. ?); do not support expansion of urban services into rural areas
 - Aurora Airport – monitor legislation that may affect development or regulation; coordinate with legal counsel, Dan Chandler
 - French Prairie – monitor legislation that may affect development or regulation; coordinate with legal counsel, Dan Chandler
 - rural / urban reserve land – monitor changes to
 - mobile home parks – view as form of affordable housing; want to protect fair treatment of mobile homeowners; monitor action or efforts to change rules that protect rent rates (rent justification) and mediation services

- Commissioner Lininger –
 - Measure 73 – is it an opportunity or obstacle? communicate cost and timeline to change and conform to a new model for drug court and providing treatment; avoid associated deadlines imposed by the state
 - Health and Human Services – need to mitigate from being primary source for cuts
 - regionalization of county Health and Human Services – do not oppose efforts for greater efficiency, but communicate cost and timeline to change and conform to a new regional model and its associated deadlines imposed by the state; push back on parameters for regionalization
 - labor – support efforts regarding greater efficiency (i.e. FTE cost containment), but not anti-labor
 - Oregon Affordable Housing Tax Credit – support

QUESTION(S) PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION

What specific issues do the Board of Commissioners want tracked and advocated for during the 2011 Oregon State Legislative Session? These limited issues will become Tier I of the Boards legislative agenda. What other issues does the Board want monitored through department directors and the directors' identified point person? This list will become Tier II.

OPTIONS AVAILABLE

Identify and list Tier I issues.

Identify and list Tier II issues.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The 2011 Legislative Session will be unlike any other in recent history. As the Board knows, it is important to fully understand the reality associated with the Legislature remedying a \$3.2 billion budget gap. Tempers will be short. Elected members of the legislature, the new Governor and his staff, appointed agency staff and legislative staff will have little patience for extensive wish lists and big ticket funding items. As a result, staff recommends the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners' Legislative Agenda be concise, specific and realistic considering the tone of the upcoming legislative session. In Study Session II, based on today's feedback, staff will provide recommendations for items that should be part of the Legislative Agenda.

SUBMITTED BY:

Division Director/Head Approval T. Rayburn
Department Director/Head Approval Glenn Miller
County Administrator Approval _____

For information on this issue or copies of attachments, please contact Troy Rayburn @ 503-742-5923