

CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Policy Session Worksheet

Presentation Date: 10/11/16 **Approx. Start Time:** 10:30 a.m. **Approx. Length:** 1 hour
Presentation Title: Federal Legislative Agenda Update
Department: Public and Government Affairs
Presenters: Gary Schmidt
Other Invitees: Hal Hiemstra, Michelle Giguere and Mark Dedrick – Summit Strategies

WHAT ACTION ARE YOU REQUESTING FROM THE BOARD?

None. This is an informational update of the County's 2016 federal agenda.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In January, the Board of County Commissioners approved the County's 2016 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**.
- Secure funding to support **Sunrise Phase II and I-205 expansion**.
- Support continued operation and restoration of the **Willamette Falls Locks**, designation of the **Willamette Falls Heritage Area**, and funding to support the **Willamette Falls Legacy Project** (former Blue Heron site redevelopment).
- Support **critical funding programs** for Juvenile Services; Public Safety; Emergency Management; Health, Housing and Human Services.

In February, Commissioner Schrader visited Washington, D.C. to promote the County's federal agenda by meeting with Congressional members and staff and federal agency representatives. In July, Gary Schmidt and Chris Lyons visited D.C. to do the same. In September, Commissioners Schrader and Savas visited D.C. to do the same.

The County contracts with the lobbying firm Summit Strategies to develop and implement strategies to accomplish County goals. Today, the Summit Strategies 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 Summit Strategies.

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.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

- This item aligns with the Public and Government Affairs Strategic Business Plan goals to provide intergovernmental connections and relationship building, strategic policy development and messaging, legislative, advocacy, and outreach services to county elected officials and departments so they can build key partnerships to achieve policy goals important to Clackamas County, with special emphasis on the strategic results in the BCC Strategic Plan.
- This item aligns with two of the County's Performance Clackamas goals:
 - Build a strong infrastructure; and
 - Honor, utilize, promote, and invest in our natural resources.

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:

- Congressional Update Memo from Summit Strategies
- County 2016 Federal 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
--



MEMORANDUM

TO: Clackamas County Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Mark Dedrick
Hal Hiemstra
Michelle Giguere

DATE: October 3, 2016

CLIENT: Clackamas County

RE: Congressional Update

Thank you for the opportunity to visit with you at your October 11, 2016 Policy 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.

Appropriations Bills/Continuing Resolution

As has become the norm the past few years, Congress was unable to complete the normal budgeting and appropriations process through regular order. In fact, despite publicly stated goals to the contrary at the beginning of the year, Congress failed to send any FY2017 Appropriations bills to the President prior to the end of the fiscal year on September 30. Without passage of the appropriation bills, Congress was faced with either shutting down the federal government on October 1, or passing a Continuing Resolution (CR) to keep the government operating for a period of time covered by the CR.

Congressional disputes over the last two weeks of session at the end of September kept the nation wondering whether Congress would or would not manage to pass a CR by the September 30 deadline. It did finally - but not without significant negotiations between the two parties and the White House. Ultimately, disagreements over funding for drinking water issues in Flint, Michigan, were resolved by agreeing to fund those activities in a pending Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) bill now making its way through Congress. With that issue resolved for the time being, and a new bi-partisan agreement on \$1 billion in Zika funding – an issue that had eluded Congress for most of this year -- Members of Congress passed a CR as part of the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations bill late in the night September 26 and headed home to campaign for reelection. The current CR funds the government through December 09. After the November election, Congress will return to Washington for a lame-duck session to either pass another longer term CR, an Omnibus Appropriations bill rolling the remaining 11 appropriation bills into one giant spending bill, or



perhaps a few smaller “mini-bus” bills that would repackage the 11 appropriation bills into several smaller spending plans.

2016 Clackamas County Federal Priorities:

Despite the unknowns concerning the upcoming Presidential Election and possible shifts in majority status in the Senate, and/or the strength of the Majority in the House, during the upcoming lame duck session we will continue to advocate for the County’s positions and communicate on a regular basis with you and your policy team, with Oregon’s Congressional delegation, and with relevant committee staff and agencies within the Administration.

Following are brief updates on the County’s 2016 federal legislative priorities.

Economic Development

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

While 2014 and 2015 saw significant action on O&C lands legislation, with many proposals being introduced and considered, 2016 has been quieter on this front. Senator Wyden has re-introduced a slightly changed version of his package from last Congress, on which the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee has held a hearing. There has been no action in 2016 on O&C issues.

Summit Strategies has been working with the Oregon Congressional delegation, the House Natural Resources Committee, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, Governor Brown’s office, and other Oregon counties throughout this process to ensure that Clackamas County’s interests are known and addressed if any legislation moves forward.

The Secure Rural Schools program was reauthorized for two years in April of 2015, as part of the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act. The two years of payments authorized for the SRS program cover FY2014 and 2015. This program needed to be reauthorized if payments were to continue through FY 2016. The President’s FY 2017 budget called for a five year reauthorization of SRS, with mandatory funding starting at \$225 million for FY2017.

Wildfires

The past few years have had very difficult wildfire seasons, and as a result there has been a great deal of work done to move legislation that would treat wildfires as emergencies -- much in the way that hurricanes and tornadoes are considered emergencies – instead of robbing all other USFS accounts to pay for firefighting and clean up. Bipartisan efforts in the House and Senate, including both Senators Wyden and Murkowski and Congressman Schrader and Cong. Walden, have introduced legislation to increase the funding available for these efforts. Last year Senator Wyden, along with Senator Crapo from Idaho, introduced the Wildfire Disaster Funding Act. It is designed to end the cycle of underfunding fire suppression, which currently forces federal agencies to steal from fire prevention funding to fight fires. Congressman Walden’s Resilient Federal Forests Act (H.R.2647) passed the House on a vote of 262-167 in July. Earlier this year, Senators Murkowski and Cantwell introduced a bipartisan bill aimed at addressing this



issue, and the increasing bipartisanship effort we are seeing on this issue increases the chances that this problem can be dealt with positively during the lame duck session, possibly as part of the Energy bill.

Transportation

• Surface Transportation Grant Programs

At the federal level, much of the focus on transportation has been on developing and publishing rules and guidelines implementing the FAST Act which was enacted in December 2015.

In addition, the Obama Administration rolled out the 8th round of TIGER funding and the first round of FASTLANE Freight Grants. In late July, USDOT announced nearly \$500 million in TIGER grant awards. One Oregon project - a \$7.3 million project proposed by the Port of Portland for a Portland Marine Terminal Freight and Jobs Access Project - was included among the projects selected for funding.

Also in July, USDOT announced its first round of FASTLANE grants. At that time, the agency made \$789 million available for 19 projects located in 15 states and the District of Columbia. The largest grant – at \$165 million -- went to a project on I-95 just south of Washington, D.C. which is intended to add capacity and unlock a notorious congested freight bottleneck. The smallest project – funded at just \$5 million – went to a grade separation access project in Tukwila, Washington, just south of Seattle.

Oregon DOT submitted the I-205 Abernathy Bridge project for funding in the first FASTLANE round of funding. In their recent visit to Washington, D.C. Commissioners Savas and Schrader met with USDOT officials to learn of strengths and weaknesses of that grant proposal and the County's policy team, led by Gary Schmidt, have now followed up with ODOT in order to improve on a second FASTLANE application.

In September, we learned that the Administration was considering announcing the next FASTLANE funding round sometime this Fall, but so far, the next Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) has not been announced. The closer we get to the November election, the more likely it is that the 2nd FASTLANE round of funding will slip into the first or second quarter of 2017.

It is worth noting that both Presidential candidates have made significant new infrastructure funding a key part of their proposed jobs platforms – with Candidate Clinton calling for a \$275 billion investment in transportation infrastructure and Candidate Trump calling for twice that level of funding. It would be up to Congress however, to determine how to fund such significant new spending, and doing so would be a difficult task. But, whoever gets elected President in November will push hard for quick wins in their first 100 days and both candidates are pledging that they will make a serious run at new transportation funding during their first few months in office. If that happens, we will continue to push for policies that would assist County projects and to give priority to projects that are already recognized as National High Priority Corridors such as the I-205 corridor.



FY17 Appropriations

Throughout the past year, Summit Strategies has worked with the County to identify federal programs that matter the most to the County, and that could potentially provide significant new resources to the county to implement social services goals and other key objectives. We have worked with the Oregon Congressional delegation and the Appropriations Committees to provide details about how the County has used federal resources in the past, and the impact changes to existing federal programs would have on the county's ability to continue to deliver critical services to County residents. We have outlined some of these programs below.

Transportation and Housing

The Transportation-HUD (THUD) Appropriations bill passed in the House in June of this year. It has passed out of committee in the Senate, but has yet to pass the full body.

- **The House and Senate THUD bills include full funding for the FASTLANE freight grants and propose funding of the TIGER program at \$450M (House) and \$525M (Senate).**
- **Housing Choice Voucher, Public Housing and Capital Fund Programs**

The Senate version of the THUD Appropriations bill includes \$20.2 billion for Housing Choice Vouchers, while the House includes \$20.4 billion. These are both over the FY16 enacted level of \$19.6 billion.

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

Both the Senate and the House bills include \$3 billion for CDBG and \$950 million for HOME, the same as the FY16 enacted levels.

- **Weatherization and Energy Assistance Programs**

The Senate includes \$214.6 million for the Weatherization Assistance Program while the House includes \$212 million. Both of these are increases from the FY16 enacted level of \$211.6 million.

- **Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program**

The Senate includes \$3.4 billion for LIHEAP, the same as the FY16 enacted level. The House includes an increased level of \$3.5 billion.

Human Services

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

Both the House and the Senate include \$79.7 billion for SNAP, a slight decrease in the \$80.9 billion in the FY16 enacted level.



- **Moving to Work (MTW) Program**

The Senate included \$3 million for research and study for this program while the House included \$2 million. The FY16 Omnibus increased the number of participating agencies, and extended then-current MTW agreements until FY28.

Public Safety

- **Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG)**

The Senate and the House both include \$350 million for EMPG, the same as the FY16 enacted level.

- **First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet)**

The Senate Committee Report states that “The Committee is supportive of FirstNet continuing a funding agreement with the Department of Commerce’s Inspector General for the purposes of oversight and accountability of FirstNet through the end of fiscal year 2017.”

- **Community Oriented Policing (COPS) funding**

Both the Senate and the House include increases in COPS funding, over the FY16 enacted level of \$212 million. The Senate includes \$215 million while the House includes \$299 million.

- **Juvenile Justice funding**

The Senate includes \$272 million for Juvenile Justice funding, a slight increase over the FY16 enacted level of \$270 million. The House includes \$184 million.

Willamette Falls Locks

Tremendous efforts underway by the County and stakeholders are yielding great results in terms of developing enhanced relationships with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and development of an effort to conduct a study on how the federal government might dispose of the Locks and transfer them to an eligible entity, including examination of what would be needed to repair the Locks and restore them to operation. We attend local meetings with the Locks Task Force and other less formal working groups with County officials, staff, and other partner stakeholders, and we regularly update the Oregon congressional delegation on progress. We have also worked with the Corps and stakeholders to finalize the Sec. 106 consultation agreement.

Working with your policy team, project partners, and the Congressional delegation, we succeeded in getting funding for a disposition of assets study included in the President’s FY’16 work program (\$60,000), and in the proposed budget for FY17 (\$270,000), and \$250,000 planned for FY’18.



Since then we've continued working closely with the Army Corps, both in Portland and Washington, D.C., and have worked with the Congressional delegation and the Appropriations committees in the House and Senate to ensure that funding will be provided for moving the study forward. Both the House and Senate Energy and Water Appropriations bills include the requested \$270,000 for FY17, and reports from the Corps in D.C. indicate that the disposition study will be complete in calendar year 2017, although there is ongoing discussion about the length of the study and how to meet key milestones while still doing a thorough study. Discussion is also ongoing between the State Task Force and the Corps in terms of trying to have work done on parallel tracks. We are now beginning to work with the Corps and the Oregon Congressional delegation to ensure that the final \$250,000 needed is included in the President's FY18 budget even though there is a bit of confusion on the length of the study.

In addition, we have been working with Congressmen DeFazio and Schrader and Senators Wyden and Merkley while the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) has moved through Congress this year. Specifically, we drafted a provision which was included in both the House and Senate bills to require the Corps, when conducting a national disposition study of their assets, to consider economic, recreational, historic and cultural impacts. While this was an important change, because the Corps has not initiated the previously called for nationwide study, we continued to work with our Senators and drafted a "perfecting" amendment that would ensure that factors other than commercial tonnage be weighed and evaluated on any specific study – such as the WF Locks. In early September, as the Senate was considering its version of WRDA on the floor, our Senators successfully negotiated a change to the bill that requires the Corps to look at economic and recreation impacts on the local and State level when it is doing disposition of asset studies. This is a big win!

As one of its final acts before recessing for the next five weeks, the House of Representatives passed its version of the WRDA Reauthorization bill. In addition to its inclusion of our language on the nationwide study, the bill authorizes \$17.4 billion in water projects to be carried out by the Army Corps of Engineers. It does not include our "perfecting" amendment, but we will be working during the Congressional recess with Senate and House delegation and Committee staff as they prepare to go to a House/Senate conference on WRDA. While not guaranteed, most people expect that a final Conference Report can be agreed to during the lame-duck session and a 2016 WRDA bill will be signed into law before the end of the year – especially since the deal just struck on the CR indicated that funding for the Flint, MI, water issue will be addressed in WRDA.

Willamette Falls Legacy Project/Masterplan for Redevelopment:

We continue to work with County officials and project partners on redevelopment of the former Blue Heron mill site. We have helped to coordinate multiple visits and tours by congressional staff and work closely with all the stakeholders on this project. We have provided information and timelines on various federal grant programs and have helped to coordinate and attend meetings in D.C. by County, Metro, and other officials. As the project moves forward, some of the federal grant programs that we have identified are becoming riper for applications. An example of this is the EPA brownfield grant program in which we worked with the County, Metro, the congressional delegation and the EPA to help secure \$400,000.



Willamette Falls Heritage Area:

The County and stakeholders' efforts to move a heritage area designation forward made great strides last year with approvals in Salem and passage of SB131. We are working closely with County staff and the working group to make sure that when it is timely, new legislation on federal designation will be easier to move forward. We have assisted the County with meetings in D.C. with officials from the Department of Interior and are in regular communication with the partners on the project.

Cooper Spur Land Exchange

The Cooper Spur land exchange fix has passed both the House and the Senate this year. The Senate included the land exchange as part of their energy package while the House passed theirs as a stand-alone bill. As part of this process, Summit Strategies worked with the Oregon delegation, the House Natural Resources Committee and the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. We helped to draft letters in support of the legislation, and attended hearings and mark-ups.

There are several avenues forward where this land exchange could pass during a lame-duck session of Congress. First, there is a chance that a larger energy bill could move, and the land exchange is well positioned to be a part of that package. Second, there are frequently packages of public lands bills that are attached to other moving vehicles, regardless of their connection. The fact that this bill has passed both the House and Senate gives it a good chance of being attached to such a measure should it happen. We will continue to work to ensure that it is included in legislation during the lame duck session of Congress.

Additional Recent Outreach on behalf of the County

We continue to work with the County, and other Oregon interests, on the issue of Cross Laminated Timber (CLT). Our efforts have included briefing the Oregon Congressional delegation and federal agency staff.

We also continue to monitor the County's interest in legislation involving stormwater blending and treatment regulations, and possible legislation on this issue. We also continue to advise your policy team about National Marine Fisheries policies associated with sea lion control, and reauthorization of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act.

Finally, we coordinated and scheduled County trips with Commissioners and staff in February, July, and September. These trips included meetings with every member of the Oregon Congressional delegation, Congressional Committee staff, and key agencies including the Department of Transportation, US Army Corps of Engineers, and the Department of Interior.

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE
PRIORITIES

Executive Summary

FEDERAL FOREST MANAGEMENT

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

Support legislation for responsible management of federal forest lands, including O&C Lands, which will reduce wildfire risk and also improve the financial stability of counties by creating a predictable, long-term solution to county revenue needs. 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 permanent reauthorization or extension of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act (County Payments) 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.

Stewardship Contracting

Support reauthorization of Stewardship Contracting within the Healthy Forests Restoration Act that would include payments to counties as part of the retained receipts generated from stewardship contracts for the management of federal forests.

Cross Laminated Timber (CLT)

Support efforts to develop the Cross Laminated Timber (CLT) industry in Clackamas County, in coordination with partners in the Pacific Northwest Manufacturing Partnership (PNMP). The timber industry in Oregon is well positioned to orient itself to meet the increasing demand for CLT products, which will boost Oregon's productivity, attract more investment, and create greater opportunities for local manufacturers to compete on a national and international scale.

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

Support funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), which helps to fund critical outdoor recreation and conservation projects. This funding is a key component in local efforts to create and improve parks and trails, preserve natural areas and cultural sites, safeguard watersheds, and enhance access to public lands.

Wildfire Disaster Funding

Support policy changes at the Department of the Interior and the U.S. Forest Service to prohibit "fire borrowing" and prescribe necessary funding for essential wildfire suppression. New, dedicated funding to wildfire suppression will help free up resources to increase federal forest management and lower future wildfire occurrences.

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE
PRIORITIES

Executive Summary, continued

TRANSPORTATION & DEVELOPMENT

I-205 Expansion Funding

Advocate for federal funding to support an additional lane of capacity in each direction of I-205 from Stafford Road to OR 99E. The Oregon portion of I-205 is federally designated as a High Priority Corridor and is of vital importance to the Portland metropolitan region. Without additional travel lanes, this section of I-205 will be overwhelmed by forecasted traffic volumes and will negatively impact regional freight mobility.

Sunrise Phase II Funding

Advocate for federal funding to support extension of the Sunrise System from 122nd Ave. to 172nd Ave. or other operational enhancements that contribute to the entire Sunrise System. This project is vital to improving access to thousands of acres of employment lands, many of which are ready for development.

Mt. Hood Cooper Spur Land Exchange

Support efforts to finalize the Mt. Hood Cooper Spur land exchange, which will provide greater certainty for future development at Government Camp while permanently protecting new areas on the Mountain. This land exchange was initially authorized by the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009.

Waters of the United States

Oppose the Waters of the U.S. rule that seeks to clarify federal jurisdiction under the Clean Water Act, which has the potential to greatly expand the scope of federal jurisdiction and subject Clackamas County to new rules, standards, and significant new costs.

Great Lakes Blending

Oppose “sweeping” rules on storm water blending, which has the potential to greatly expand the scope of federal regulation on stormwater treatment and subject wastewater service districts in Clackamas County to new rules, standards, and significant new costs.

Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) program

Support robust continued funding for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) program, which is a federal-state partnership that provides communities a permanent, independent source of low-cost financing for a wide range of water quality infrastructure projects.

WILLAMETTE FALLS PROJECTS

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

Willamette Falls Heritage Area

Support federal designation of the Willamette Falls National Heritage Area. Designation as a 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 Legacy Project

Support efforts to aid in the 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.

HEALTH, HOUSING & HUMAN SERVICES

Funding for Housing Programs

Support increased funding for the housing choice voucher, public housing, Rental Assistance Demonstration, 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 five 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.

Moving to Work (MTW) Program

Support designation of Clackamas County within the Moving to Work (MTW) Program, which provides public housing authorities with the opportunity to test innovative, locally-designed strategies with the aim of using federal dollars more efficiently while helping residents find employment and increasing housing choices for low-income families.

National Housing Trust Fund (NHTF)

Support funding for the National Housing Trust Fund (NHTF) to support local production, preservation, rehabilitation, and operation of rental housing. Prevent efforts to combine the NHTF with the HOME Investment Partnerships Program.

**FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE
PRIORITIES**Executive Summary, continued

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Funding

Support funding for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME). 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.

Older Americans Act (OAA)

Support reauthorization of the Older Americans Act (OAA), which is the major vehicle for the organization and delivery of social and nutrition services to seniors. In FY14-15, 256,722 meals were served 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 the County.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Funding

Oppose funding 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 18,897 recipients in FY06-07 to 39,764 recipients in FY14-15. It is an essential benefit to many individuals and families.

Institutions for Mental Disease (IMD) Rule

Support elimination of the Institutions for Mental Disease (IMD) Rule for addictions and mental health treatment facilities, which are currently prohibited from receiving Medicaid reimbursements for persons between the ages of 22 and 64 if the facility has more than 16 beds.

Privacy Protections for Addictions

Support careful revision of federal regulations relating to privacy protections of alcohol and drug abuse patient records to enable improved information sharing for people with addictions.

Public Health Funding

Support funding increases to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) and the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services' Prevention and Public Health Fund. These programs are critical to assisting public health departments with prevention activities, as well as efforts to prepare for responding to a range of public health threats.

**FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE
PRIORITIES**Executive Summary, continued

PUBLIC SAFETY**Juvenile Justice Grant Funding**

Support continued federal funding of juvenile justice programs, including the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP) Title II State Formula Grants Program, JJDP Title V Local Delinquency Prevention Grants Program, and the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grants. 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. In particular, the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant provides approximately \$115,000 annually to the County Juvenile Department for youth services.

Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP)

Support reauthorization of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP), which established the Office for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) to support local and state efforts to prevent delinquency and improve the juvenile justice system. Reauthorization is critical to providing research, resources, and application of best practices in juvenile justice throughout Clackamas County.

Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG)

Support continuation of grant funding for the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Program as a stand-alone grant and process, which provides approximately \$208,000 annually to the County's emergency management program. 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.

First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet)

Support FirstNet, which was created by Congress in 2012 and is working to build, operate, and maintain the first high-speed, nationwide wireless broadband network dedicated to public safety. This network will be an essential tool to first responders on life-saving missions.

NextGen 9-1-1

Oppose federal mandates potentially stemming from the Federal Communications Commission study of NextGen 9-1-1 infrastructure needs, including an investigation of the necessity and feasibility of national PSAP consolidations. While Clackamas County supports streamlining efforts, the county believes that local entities are the most suitable to determine when consolidations should occur, rather than federal mandates.

Prepaid Wireless Taxing Mechanism

Support the development of a monitoring and enforcement mechanism to prevent the loss of prepaid wireless taxing revenue. This fix could help to address the estimated \$280 million in lost revenue nationally as a result of inefficient or non-existent prepaid wireless taxing mechanisms.

**FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE
PRIORITIES**

Executive Summary, continued

Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI)

Support funding for the Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) program, which provides grants to assist high-threat, high-density urban areas in efforts to build and sustain the capabilities necessary to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism. These grants are key to enhancing the Portland metropolitan region's preparedness efforts for threats or acts of terrorism.

Federal Financial Participation

Support statutory clarifications to allow insurance coverage for individuals housed within Community Corrections Centers but who are not inmates.

Community Oriented Policing (COPS) Funding

Support robust federal funding for Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) grants to local governments. The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, 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 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.