

CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Policy Session Worksheet

Presentation Date: 10/29/19 **Approx. Start Time:** 2:30 p.m. **Approx. Length:** 30 minutes
Presentation Title: Local Elected Official Award
Department: Public and Government Affairs
Presenters: Dylan Blaylock, Katie Wilson
Other Invitees: Sue Hildick, Director of Public and Government Affairs; Tim Heider, Public Affairs Manager; Amy Kyle, Strategic Communications Manager

WHAT ACTION ARE YOU REQUESTING FROM THE BOARD?

Staff requests the Board of County Commissioners determine whether to move forward with a local elected official award, determine its name and scope, and the subsequent method of selection.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

At a recent Policy Session, Commissioners expressed interest in resurrecting the Darlene Hooley Award, which was last given in 2012, and directed Public & Government Affairs staff to explore options.

The award was originally initiated by County Chair Lynn Pederson. While there is no specific documentation of the scope or candidate selection process, records indicate the intent was to honor local or regional political office holders who had overcome adversity, made significant contributions to their community, and who evoked a spirit of grass roots organizing.

There are three aspects to consider: award name, scope, and selection process.

Name:

1. **Darlene Hooley Achievement Award:** Maintain the name of the award as it is to continue to honor Darlene Hooley by name.
2. **Alternative name:** Choose a new name which does not call out a specific person, but characterizes the spirit of the award to ensure the longevity of the award. Depending on the Board's choice of scope (below), potential names include either the **Clackamas SPIRIT Award**, or the **Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Award**.

Scope:

1. **Award for Local Elected Official(s) which highlights achievement:** This award can be given each year to any holder of a public office (as defined by the Clackamas County Clerk's Office) that has gone above and beyond his/her duties. Recognition can be for actions taken in the immediate 12 months prior to the call for submissions for such an award, or for a longer amount of time (a "body of work" award). The actions/duties being honored could be tied to a strategic priority of Performance Clackamas. Further, this award could be granted to entire boards for actions taken. **Examples: A long-standing mayor is instrumental in improving local economic development. A special district board creates an innovation approach to tackle housing affordability.**
2. **Award for Local Elected Official(s) who represent or champion equity, diversity and inclusion:** The intent of this recognition would be similar to what was assumed with the Darlene Hooley award but would celebrate leaders who represent or champion diversity in our community and whose work is aligned with the county's equity, diversity,

and inclusion goals. Again, the award would be given to someone who has gone beyond their duties for actions taken in the immediate 12 months prior or for a longer amount of time. ***Examples: A school board is instrumental in addressing health care needs of youth in underserved populations. A local mayor champions providing improved library services to their aging community.***

With either of the options above, selectees should be restricted to holders of public office only, in order to properly differentiate this award from the county's already-existing Community Involvement Award. That award is given every year around April.

Methods of selection:

Staff proposes four ways to make a call for nominations/selections:

1. **BCC decides without soliciting recommendations:** Commissioners can determine which individual or group receives the award based on criteria above or based on criteria yet to be determined.
2. **Submissions from county staff:** Commissioners can solicit recommendations/nominations from members of the Executive Management Team and county staff. Recommendations would be based on interactions that have monitored successes/progress that the potential awardee has made with our immediate community, or in helping to further a county program/initiative.
3. **Submissions from elected officials:** Commissioners could solicit recommendations/nominations solely from elected office holders in Clackamas County. This includes state representatives, federal representatives, city and county office holders, and special district representatives.
4. **Submissions from the public:** Similar to the methodology used in the Small Grants Program.

Selection Process

For Option #1 listed above, Commissioners decide.

For Options #2 through #4, county staff would organize the outreach/call for submissions, organize an internal committee to review the applications, and make recommendations.

Staff recommends that the Board select the awardee annually in early November, and bestow the award upon the recipient in early December.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (current year and ongoing):

Nominal cost of an award or plaque. Depending on the method of selection, staff time ranges from nominal to significant.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

- This item aligns with the county's Performance Clackamas goals by **Building Public Trust through Good Government** in general by recognizing outstanding work on behalf of the community.

LEGAL/POLICY REQUIREMENTS:

N/A

PUBLIC/GOVERNMENTAL PARTICIPATION:

PGA currently provides an account team to support BCC/County Administration tasks.

OPTIONS:

1. Staff recommends that the Commissioners move forward with the creation of an award similar to the Darlene Hooley Achievement Award and approve the staff recommendations to determine the name, scope, and method of selection.
2. Adjust the recommendation and approve next steps.
3. Do not approve any further work to be done.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Commissioners move forward with the creation of an award similar to the Darlene Hooley Achievement Award and approve the staff recommendations to determine the name, scope, and method of selection.

ATTACHMENTS:

N/A

SUBMITTED BY:

Division Director/Head Approval _____

Department Director/Head Approval s/Sue Hildick

County Administrator Approval _____

For information on this issue or copies of attachments, please contact Sue Hildick @ 503.742.5900
