

CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Study Session Worksheet

Presentation Date: 04/02/2014 **Approx Start Time:** 9:30 a.m. **Approx Length:** 45 Min

Presentation Title: **2014 State Legislative Session Review & Legislative Priority Development Process**

Department: Public & Government Affairs

Presenters: Gary Schmidt, Jared Anderson, Chris Lyons

WHAT ACTION ARE YOU REQUESTING FROM THE BOARD? The first portion of the study session is informational only and will focus on reviewing key outcomes related to Clackamas County's 2014 state legislative agenda. The second portion will focus on discussing internal processes and procedures for adopting County state legislative priorities and responding to legislative action during legislative sessions. The BCC will be asked to discuss and affirm internal processes and procedures to guide state-level Government Affairs activities in future sessions.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: The 78th Oregon Legislative Assembly adjourned *sine die* on Friday, March 7, two days ahead of the maximum 35 days allowed in the state constitution for even-numbered-year, or "short," sessions. The Public & Government Affairs Department (PGA) was tasked with advancing the County's 2014 state legislative agenda, which outlined the County's key policy and funding priorities at the Oregon State Legislature. In addition to providing legislative support to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) and internal county departments, PGA worked cooperatively and effectively with numerous groups during the 2013 session to advance the county's legislative agenda. These groups included state legislators and their staff; legislative committee staff; state agency officials; various state lobby associations, including the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) and League of Oregon Cities (LOC); and other regional and local government partners.

The attached report entitled *2014 State Legislative Session Summary* summarizes key legislative outcomes related to Clackamas County's 2014 state legislative agenda. The original agenda was approved by the BCC on January 14, 2014 and was expanded throughout the session in order to respond to proposed legislation.

The attached document entitled *State Legislative Priority Development: Proposed Processes & Procedures* outlines a process for adopting state legislative priorities and responding to legislative action during sessions from this point forward. PGA seeks BCC input on the draft in order to affirm an internal process that will both guide the formation of legislative priorities and provide direction to Government Affairs staff during sessions.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (current year and ongoing): PGA monitored and influenced the state budget reconciliation bills, which provide critical funding for various county programs, including H3S programs, community corrections, juvenile services, resolution services and county law libraries. In the 2013 session, lawmakers withheld 2 percent from the 2013-15 general fund budgets of state agencies, with the exception of

education programs. Counties fared comparatively well in the budget reconciliation process: **HB 5201A**, the 2014 budget reconciliation bill, restored 25 percent of these cuts to most affected agencies, with the Departments of Corrections and Human Services receiving the full 2 percent holdback. Detailed funding implications can be found in the attached document entitled *2014 State Legislative Session Summary*.

LEGAL/POLICY REQUIREMENTS: N/A

PUBLIC/GOVERNMENTAL PARTICIPATION: N/A

OPTIONS:

1. Approve processes and procedures for state legislative priority development.
2. Provide additional feedback and direct staff to come back to the BCC with additional recommendations.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve processes and procedures for state legislative priority development.

ATTACHMENTS: *2014 State Legislative Session Summary* and *State Legislative Priority Development: Proposed Processes & Procedures*.

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 Jared Anderson @ 503-742-5923
--

2014 State Legislative Session Summary

Public & Government Affairs
Clackamas County



CLACKAMAS
COUNTY

Government Affairs Staff

Gary Schmidt, Director of Public & Government Affairs

503.742.5908 (office)

gschmidt@co.clackamas.or.us

Jared Anderson, Government Affairs Specialist

503.742.5923 (office)

971.269.9632 (cell)

janderson@co.clackamas.or.us

Chris Lyons, Government Affairs Specialist

503.742.5909 (office)

971.202.3007 (cell)

clyons@co.clackamas.or.us

Table of Contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	1
FINANCE	3
<i>Financial Sustainability.....</i>	3
<i>State/County Shared Revenue Agreements</i>	3
<i>Franchise Fees.....</i>	3
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PARKS	4
<i>Recreational Vehicle (RV) License Fees & County Parks</i>	4
<i>Industrial Site Readiness</i>	4
HEALTH, HOUSING & HUMAN SERVICES	5
<i>Funding for Health & Social Services.....</i>	5
<i>Affordable Housing & Support Services.....</i>	5
<i>State Workforce System</i>	6
PUBLIC SAFETY	7
<i>9-1-1 Operations & Funding.....</i>	7
<i>Juvenile Justice Grant Funding.....</i>	7
<i>Inmate Health Care Coverage.....</i>	8
<i>Medical Marijuana</i>	8
TRANSPORTATION & DEVELOPMENT.....	9
<i>Roadway Policy & Funding.....</i>	9
<i>I-205 Expansion.....</i>	9
<i>Columbia River Crossing</i>	9
<i>Damascus Land Use Planning.....</i>	9
<i>Forest Products (Fritch Log Homes)</i>	10
<i>Urban Growth Boundary and Land Use “Grand Bargain”</i>	10
<i>Public Consultant Services</i>	11
<i>Exotic Animal (Lynx) Exemption</i>	11

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY





















The 78th Oregon Legislative Assembly adjourned *sine die* on Friday, March 7, two days ahead of the maximum 35 days allowed in the state constitution for even-numbered-year, or “short,” sessions. The 2014 short session – the second of its kind since voters approved annual legislative sessions in 2010 – generated significant debate on their ability to produce meaningful public participation and good public policy. Originally billed as an opportunity to rebalance the state budget and deliberate less-divisive and complex issues, the 2014 session was flooded with major policy measures including recreational marijuana legalization, liquor privatization, gun control, and funding the Columbia River Crossing (CRC) – all within an extremely compressed timeline. Unfortunately, legislative rules that limited the number of introduced bills and instituted short deadlines did not seem to restrict the significance or complexity of many of the measures considered.


In the 2013 session, lawmakers withheld 2 percent from the 2013-15 general fund budgets of state agencies – with the exception of most education programs – after the previous budget cycle ended with less money than expected. Filling budget gaps for the Department of Corrections, which currently has 200 more prisoners than projected, and the Department of Human Services, which faced a \$100 million budget gap, topped the list of budget priorities during the 2014 session. Positive state revenue forecasts allowed lawmakers to restore 25 percent of the 2 percent “holdback” to most affected agencies, although there were exceptions: **HB 5201A** – the 2014 budget reconciliation bill – restored the full 2 percent holdback for the Departments of Corrections and Human Services.

Nearly 250 bills (excluding resolutions and memorials) were introduced in the 2014 session, of which over 90 were deemed to be of local government significance and actively tracked by Public & Government Affairs (PGA). In addition to providing legislative support to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) and internal county departments, PGA worked cooperatively with numerous groups during the session to advance the county’s legislative agenda. These groups included state legislators and their staff; legislative committee staff; state agency officials; various state lobby associations, including the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) and League of Oregon Cities (LOC); and other regional and local government partners.

This report summarizes key legislative outcomes related to Clackamas County’s 2014 state legislative agenda. The original agenda was approved by the BCC on January 14 and was expanded throughout the session in order to respond to proposed legislation. A comprehensive end-of-session report will be produced by AOC in the coming months and will be distributed to commissioners and department managers at that time.

2014 STATE AGENDA RESULTS

FINANCE	<i>Financial Sustainability</i>	
	<i>State/County Shared Revenue Agreements</i>	
	<i>Franchise Fees</i>	
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PARKS	<i>Recreational Vehicle License Fees & County Parks</i>	
	<i>Industrial Site Readiness</i>	
HEALTH, HOUSING & HUMAN SERVICES	<i>Funding for Health & Social Services</i>	
	<i>Affordable Housing & Support Services</i>	
	<i>State Workforce System</i>	
PUBLIC SAFETY	<i>9-1-1 Operations & Funding</i>	
	<i>Juvenile Justice Grant Funding</i>	
	<i>Inmate Health Care Coverage</i>	
	<i>Medical Marijuana</i>	
TRANSPORTATION & DEVELOPMENT	<i>Roadway Policy & Funding</i>	
	<i>1-205 Expansion</i>	
	<i>Columbia River Crossing</i>	
	<i>Damascus Land Use Planning</i>	
	<i>Forest Products (Fritch Log Homes)</i>	
	<i>Urban Growth Boundary & Land Use Grand Bargain</i>	
	<i>Public Consultant Services</i>	
	<i>Exotic Animal (Lynx) Exemption</i>	

LEGEND			
	<i>Goal Achieved</i>	<i>Mixed Results</i>	<i>Goal Not Achieved</i>

FINANCE

Financial Sustainability

Goal: *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.*



Result: PGA monitored and influenced the state's budget reconciliation bills, which provide critical funding for various county programs, including H3S programs, community corrections, juvenile services, resolutions services and county law libraries. In the 2013 session, lawmakers withheld 2 percent from the 2013-15 general fund budgets of state agencies, with the exception of education programs. Counties fared comparatively well in the budget reconciliation process: **HB 5201A**, the 2014 budget reconciliation bill, restored 25 percent of these cuts to most affected agencies, with the Departments of Corrections and Human Services receiving the full 2 percent holdback.

State/County Shared Revenue Agreements

Goal: *Preserve counties' share of tobacco, liquor, video lottery and recreational vehicle (RV) 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.*



Result: PGA monitored legislative activity to preserve counties' share of tobacco, liquor, video lottery and recreational vehicle fee revenue. As described in more detail below, PGA was successful in helping to pass legislation to achieve a more equitable distribution of RV license fee revenue between counties and the State. Meanwhile, no bills were passed that pose a negative impact to counties' share of other shared revenue agreements.

Franchise Fees

Goal: *Advocate for prohibiting public agencies from subjecting other public agencies to franchise fees in public right-of-ways. A proliferation of new franchise fees levied on public agencies has the potential to greatly increase costs to ratepayers.*



Result: While the issue of public right-of-way fees was not a focus during the short session, PGA will lead discussions on this item during the interim to ensure that it is considered in the 2015 legislative session.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PARKS

Recreational Vehicle (RV) License Fees & County Parks

Goal: *Support legislation to achieve a more equitable distribution of RV license revenue between counties and the State. Counties provide 49 percent of campsites in Oregon, yet receive only 35 percent of this dedicated funding source for parks. The percentage is scheduled to further drop to 30 percent in 2015.*



Result: PGA worked in close collaboration with AOC to successfully advance **SB 1514**, which passed unanimously in both the House and Senate. The bill revises the distribution of RV fees that are distributed between the Oregon Parks & Recreation Department (OPRD) and counties for the purposes of operating and maintaining parks. Effective immediately, counties' share of RV license fees will increase from 35 percent to 40 percent, with counties' share further increasing to 45 percent beginning July 2015. Current estimates suggest that Clackamas County parks will receive an additional \$100,000/year under the new law.

Industrial Site Readiness

Goal: *Advocate for state funding to support the newly established Oregon Industrial Site Readiness Program. Funding will assist local governments in making industrial sites market ready. The availability of market-ready industrial sites is essential to job creation and economic growth. Assistance is needed for due diligence and capital investments for transportation, sewer, water, brownfield cleanup, wetland mitigation, and site aggregation.*



Result: While the issue of funding for industrial site readiness was not a focus among legislators during the short session, it is likely to reemerge as a priority during the 2015 legislative session. PGA will continue to work with partners to advance this issue at that time.

HEALTH, HOUSING & HUMAN SERVICES

Funding for Health & Social Services

Goal: *Preserve state funding levels for health and social services programs – behavioral health, social services, public health, children, youth & families, community solutions, developmental disabilities – to enable Clackamas County programs to continue at current service levels and, in some cases, provide additional prevention, support and treatment services to vulnerable individuals and families.*



Result: The County was successful in ensuring that funding remained intact for health and social service programs. At the end of the 2013 legislative session, the Legislature held back 2 percent of funding from all state agencies, including the Oregon Health Authority and Department of Human Services. All Counties, including Clackamas, adjusted their budgets to reflect the new reality. While the 2014 Legislature restored approximately 25 percent of those cuts to most state agencies, the Department of Human Services received the full 2 percent holdback as they were facing a significant shortfall. In addition, Clackamas County, in association with the Association of Oregon Community Mental Health Programs (AOCMHP), lobbied successfully for an additional \$1.14 million for Community Developmental Disability Programs (CDDP). This increase was on top of a successful rebalance request of \$1.3 million from the general fund to keep CDDP funding at 94% equity.

In addition, the Legislature approved an additional \$10 million for mental health programs and \$13 million for seniors (set aside from the 2013 legislative session).

Affordable Housing and Support Services

Goal #1: *Preserve state funding levels for Oregon Housing and Community Services.*



Result: The County was successful in ensuring that Oregon Housing and Community Service (OHCS) also received 25 percent of their original 2 percent funding holdback. In addition, \$500,000 in lottery backed bonds was issued for the preservation of existing affordable housing.

Goal #2: *Increase funding to the State Homeless Assistance Program (SHAP) and the Emergency Housing Account.*



Result: Along with other partners, Clackamas worked to increase funds to SHAP by \$500,000 and funds to the Emergency Housing Account by \$1.5 million. These funding increases constituted the full amount requested.

Goal #3: *Increase funding for veterans' housing needs to meet the rise in the number of homeless veterans in Clackamas County.*



Result: While additional funding was not sought during the 2014 legislative session, the increase from the last legislative session was preserved in the budget reconciliation process.

State Workforce System

Goal: *Monitor and influence proposed changes to the state's workforce system, including a new integrated workforce budget, to ensure that state services continue to support the work of re-chartered local workforce investment boards.*



Result: **SB 1566**, which is intended to untangle a web of jobs training and aid throughout Oregon, unanimously passed both the House and Senate. Governor Kitzhaber had prompted many of the changes last year when he issued an executive order to overhaul Oregon's workforce development system. The bill streamlines local services and assigns more oversight to a central state Workforce Investment Board that will advise the Governor and work with education & business groups on common goals.

PUBLIC SAFETY

9-1-1 Operations & Funding

Goal #1: *Require payment of the 9-1-1 tax by users of prepaid wireless devices and Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) services.*



Result: After years of failed attempts, the Legislature successfully passed a compromise bill to address the payment of the 9-1-1 tax by users of prepaid wireless devices and Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) services. PGA worked closely with partners to support passage of this legislation, which effectively closes a loophole allowing users to avoid paying the 9-1-1 tax. **HB 4055** extends the existing 9-1-1 tax to prepaid phones and VoIP services, with phone companies picking up the tab for prepaid customers until October 2015. After this date, the legislation levies a 75-cent fee to be applied on the sale of prepaid minutes at retail. The bill is expected to raise \$1.39 million in the 2015-17 budget cycle, which should bring in an additional \$25,000 annually to the County's Department of Communications (C-COM).

Goal #2: *Support an increase to the current monthly 9-1-1 tax of \$0.75, which has remained unchanged since 1995.*



Result: While an increase to the 9-1-1 tax was not a focus among partners during the short session, it may be prioritized in a future legislative session. PGA will continue to work closely with supporting organizations to ensure that this issue is advanced in a future session.

Goal #3: *Support new spending authority to allow for the installation of the Next Generation (NG9-1-1) network.*



Result: While the NG9-1-1 network was not a focus among partners during the short session, it may be a focus in a future legislative session. PGA will continue working with supporting organizations in coming sessions to ensure that this issue is advanced.

Goal #4: *Oppose state-mandated consolidation of 9-1-1 centers and preserve local control of consolidation decisions.*



Result: PGA successfully monitored legislation to ensure that no proposals were advanced to mandate the consolidation of 9-1-1 centers. While voluntary consolidation efforts are ongoing among 9-1-1 centers throughout Oregon, we oppose any legislatively-mandated efforts to consolidate.

Juvenile Justice Grant Funding

Goal: *Oppose efforts to restructure the juvenile justice funding system from population-based grants to counties to competitive grants. Counties rely on current state funding streams to ensure adequate funding of their juvenile justice programs. Basic and Diversion funding from the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA) and Prevention funding from the Youth Development Council*



(YDC) allow counties to meet the needs of high-risk youth and safely manage juvenile offenders in local communities.

Result: PGA worked closely with the Oregon Juvenile Department Directors Association and other county partners to lobby successfully in opposition to **HB 4134**, which would have changed the current population-based funding formula for juvenile crime prevention dollars to a competitive grant program. PGA worked with the Juvenile Department to arrange for two individuals with experience in the program to provide compelling testimony before the House Committee on Education. While the proposed bill was amended to create a Juvenile Crime Prevention Funding Committee to further explore funding issues, the amendment nonetheless included a delayed transition to a competitive grant program. The bill ultimately died in the Joint Ways & Means Committee, where it failed to receive a public hearing due to a lack of votes in the full Senate. AOC intends to convene a study on this issue during the interim.

In addition, **HB 5201A** partially restored 25 percent of the previous 2 percent holdback of general fund dollars to county juvenile programs. The restoration amount will add back approximately \$9,000 to the County's Juvenile Department.

Inmate Health Care Coverage

Goal: *Support efforts to prohibit private insurance companies from denying or canceling health care coverage of inmates in the custody of a county jail. Currently, the Sheriff pays the costs of an inmate's health care – pre and post adjudication – even for those inmates with private insurance coverage who continue to pay their premiums.*



Result: PGA worked closely with AOC, the Oregon State Sheriffs' Association, and other local government partners to lobby successfully for **HB 4110**, which would require private health insurance companies to pay eligible health care costs of pre-adjudicated inmates. Sheriff Roberts testified before the House Committee on Health Care in support of the bill, noting that the Sheriff's Office spends 11.5% of their budget on inmate health care. The bill unanimously passed both the House and Senate on the final day of the legislative session. The new law is expected to constitute significant savings for the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office.

Medical Marijuana

Goal: *Clarify that local authorities may regulate or opt out of medical marijuana dispensaries.*



Result: **SB 1531** was introduced to clarify that city and county governing bodies may regulate or prohibit the establishment of medical marijuana facilities. AOC & LOC worked feverishly to advance a position to reinforce local authority to regulate or ban facilities. Ultimately, an amendment was adopted specifying that cities and counties have until May 1, 2014 to enact moratoriums on facilities, but that those moratoriums sunset on May 1, 2015 unless the Legislature steps in to either extend the sunset date or repeal the sunset outright. AOC intends to offer legislation during the 2015 legislative session to repeal the sunset.

TRANSPORTATION & DEVELOPMENT

Roadway Policy and Funding

Goal: *Advocate for state transportation policy that adequately funds the maintenance and construction of roads in order to improve the reliability and safety of our transportation system and meet the needs of our interconnected economy. Investments in road infrastructure will ease congestion and increase mobility while facilitating economic growth.*



Result: While transportation policy and funding issues were not a focus of the short session, PGA will work to advance these issues during interim discussions leading up to the 2015 legislative session. A major transportation funding plan similar to the *Jobs & Transportation Act of 2009* is expected to be considered by the Legislature in 2015.

I-205 Expansion

Goal: *Advocate for funding to support an additional lane of capacity in each direction of I-205 from Stafford Road to OR 99E. Without additional travel lanes, this section of I-205 will be overwhelmed by forecasted traffic volumes and will negatively impact regional freight mobility.*



Result: PGA actively advocated for I-205 expansion in discussions relating to the I-5 Bridge Replacement project. While the proposal to fund the I-5 Bridge Replacement project failed in the short session, the related issue of I-205 congestion received significant attention among legislators and the media. PGA will continue to advocate for this issue in advance of the 2015 legislative session, when the Legislature is expected to consider a large transportation funding package.

Columbia River Crossing

Goal: *Ensure that a plan is in place to mitigate the projected impacts to I-205 resulting from any tolling of the I-5 Bridge.*



Result: On February 13, the House Transportation & Economic Development Committee held a public hearing on **HB 4113**, which served as a vehicle to fund the Oregon-led approach to the I-5 Bridge Replacement project. Chair Ludlow testified before the Committee on behalf of the BCC to express concerns relating to the project's impacts to I-205. Although numerous individuals raised concerns about I-205, including legislators on the Committee itself, the panel nonetheless voted 6-4 along party lines to pass the bill with the amendment. The bill later died in the Joint Ways & Means Committee after it became clear that support was lacking in the Senate, mostly as a result of the State of Washington walking away from the project.

Damascus Land Use Planning

Goal: *Monitor and influence proposed legislation relating to the City of Damascus.*



Result: Rep. Bill Kennemer (R – Oregon City) and Rep. Shemia Fagan (D – Clackamas) introduced **HB 4029** in response to the City of Damascus' inability to pass a comprehensive plan

to guide development. Specifically, the bill would provide a path for properties on the edge or boundary of Damascus to withdraw from the city until the city acknowledges a comprehensive plan or until the bill sunsets in 2025, whichever comes first. While the County remained neutral on the bill, PGA worked closely with the bill sponsors to successfully amend the language to limit the path to those tracts of land that are on the boundary of the City and within one-half mile of another city. This amended language was intended to ensure that lands removed from the city have a greater chance of annexing into a neighboring city and developing at an urban level. After unanimously passing the House, Senator Chuck Thomsen (R – Hood River) introduced an amendment in the Senate Committee on Rural Communities & Economic Development to delay implementation of the bill until after the November election. The amendment was not adopted and the bill passed unanimously out of committee. The Senate passed the bill in a vote of 28-2. Approximately 100 property owners are currently planning to turn in their applications to leave the city as soon as possible, likely to be annexed into nearby Happy Valley.

Forest Products (Fritch Log Homes)

Goal: *Support legislation to clarify the definition of “primary processing” and the types of activities that are allowed on forest land. A legislative fix is needed to allow Clackamas County business Fritch Log Homes to secure a conditional use permit to continue operations.*

Result: Senator Chuck Thomsen (R – Hood River) introduced **SB 1575** to provide Fritch Log Homes with a path to secure a conditional use permit from the County, which had previously been denied by the County hearings officer. Mike McCallister testified before the Senate Committee on Rural Communities & Economic Development on behalf of the BCC in support of the bill, alongside Mark Nystrom from AOC. At PGA’s request, the bill sponsors amended the bill to remove language that would make the activities an “outright use,” in favor of maintaining existing county land use review procedures for evaluating these proposals. Unfortunately, the bill failed to receive a work session and died in Committee in the face of strong opposition from the environmental community. However, Senator Arnie Roblan (D – Coos Bay) and Senator Thomsen will form a work group during the interim to prepare a new proposal for consideration during the 2015 legislative session. The County will have representation in the work group and PGA will continue monitoring this issue in advance of and during the 2015 session.

Urban Growth Boundary and Land Use “Grand Bargain”

Goal: *Monitor proposals to alter the urban growth boundary (UGB) and urban/rural reserves.*

Result: In response to the Oregon Court of Appeals’ multi-year delay in issuing a ruling on Metro’s urban growth boundary decision, Rep. John Davis (R – Wilsonville) and Rep. Brian Clem (D – Salem) introduced **HB 4078** to legislatively-validate the urban growth boundary adopted by Metro in 2011. The House Committee on Rural Communities considered the bill, as well as an alternative amendment that would impose time limits on the Court of Appeals to rule on certain land use decisions. While both versions drew significant opposition, the Committee unanimously passed the original bill and referred it to the House Rules Committee without

recommendation. Days later, the Court of Appeals issued a ruling that remanded Metro’s designation of urban and rural reserves, which provided momentum for the Clem/Davis bill. In two ½-day long meetings with dozens of stakeholders, Rep. Clem worked to negotiate a compromise bill – dubbed the land use “grand bargain” – that would make some changes to the UGB and urban/rural reserves in Washington County. An agreement among stakeholders was drafted into legislation and considered by the Rules Committee. Clackamas County worked with numerous legislators, including Reps. Clem, Davis, Unger (D – Hillsboro), Lininger (D – Lake Oswego), and Kennemer, among others, to ensure that County concerns were addressed. While the bill ultimately addressed only Washington County lands, Rep. Clem indicated his willingness to work on Clackamas County-specific land use issues during the 2015 legislative session. In addition, the Governor’s Office stated that they will ask DLCD and LCDC to confer closely with Clackamas County in determining how to address the portion of the remand from the Court of Appeals. The legislation passed both the House and Senate unanimously.

Public Consultant Services

Goal: *Oppose efforts to restrict local government authority by requiring use of the qualification-based selection process (QBS) for consulting contracts under \$100,000.*



Result: After its defeat in the 2013 session, House Majority Leader Val Hoyle (D – Junction City) reintroduced **HB 4119**, which expands the QBS process to consulting contracts under \$100,000. PGA worked closely with partners to actively lobby against the bill, which was opposed by all public-sector lobbying groups as it would prohibit the consideration of cost or work hours when selecting consultants, regardless of the contract size. The bill had momentum early in the session and passed the House Committee on Business and Labor. However, an immense lobbying effort convinced a majority of House members to oppose the bill. The bill was ultimately referred back to Committee, where it died upon adjournment.

Exotic Animal (Lynx) Exemption

Goal: *Support legislation to provide a Gladstone resident with an opportunity to secure an exotic animal permit for his pet lynx. The resident was in jeopardy of losing the 16 year old service animal upon failing to obtain a permit when the exotic pets ban took effect in Oregon in 2010.*



Result: Senator Alan Olsen (R – Canby) introduced **SB 1584** to allow the owners of exotic animals to apply for a permit to legally own their animals. While the bill originally opened the permitting process to all Oregonians currently skirting the state ban, an adopted amendment effectively narrowed the bill to assisting only the Gladstone resident. The amended bill passed both the House and Senate. The Gladstone City Council must now take action, as the city’s municipal code prohibits the ownership of all felines but domestic cats.

DRAFT – State Legislative Priority Development: Proposed Processes & Procedures

This document outlines processes and procedures for adopting the County’s state legislative priorities, responding to legislative action, and supporting the Board of County Commissioners’ (BCC) involvement in state legislative affairs. The goal is to affirm an internal process that will provide Public & Government Affairs (PGA) with the tools & resources needed to successfully promote and achieve the County’s legislative priorities. These tools & resources include the ability of PGA to focus on the BCC’s key strategic priorities, maintain consistent messaging with legislators & partners, and respond quickly and effectively to emerging issues.

About Public & Government Affairs

PGA represents the BCC and County departments in discussions with the U.S. Congress, federal agencies, the Oregon State Legislature and state agencies. In its role as government liaison, PGA works closely with internal stakeholders (BCC, Administration, County Counsel, & other County departments) and external stakeholders (affiliate organizations, other governments, legislators, & agency staff) to actively promote and accomplish the County’s legislative priorities.

During state legislative sessions, PGA maintains a full-time staff presence in Salem where it serves as the County’s lobbying team. In this role, the team represents, negotiates, and advocates for the County’s legislative priorities as outlined in the County’s adopted state legislative agenda, working closely with partner organizations and the County’s 21-member legislative delegation.

BCC State Legislative Involvement

Prior to the start of each state legislative session, the BCC participates in legislative agenda planning meetings to shape BCC and internal department priorities. The BCC vets the County’s proposed legislative priorities and adopts the County’s annual state legislative agenda, which serves as a blueprint for PGA, providing staff with clear legislative direction and focus.

The attached charts propose a draft process for developing state legislative priorities and responding to new issues that emerge during session. The draft process is intended as a starting point for BCC discussion. PGA proposes the use of a “Special Operations” Committee to 1) help shape the BCC’s draft strategic priorities in advance of session, and 2) respond to complex, emerging issues that arise during session and are not directly addressed in the County’s adopted agenda. The Committee would be comprised of two commissioners and representatives from Administration, County Counsel, PGA, and the appropriate department director. The Committee would have authority to take positions on bills and provide direction to PGA so that staff can carry out their lobbying responsibilities quickly and effectively. The full BCC would be notified of decisions made by the Special Operations Committee, and any commissioner may request for an issue to be placed on a meeting agenda for full BCC discussion.

During the legislative session, PGA will proactively seek opportunities to involve commissioners in executing the County’s legislative agenda, including meeting with legislators and testifying before committees. Commissioners should work in coordination with PGA when engaging in legislative activities to ensure consistent messaging. If a commissioner provides testimony, submits letters, or is in contact with legislators on non-agenda issues, it should be made clear that the opinion is that of the individual commissioner and not the entire BCC.

Additional Lobbying Support

PGA will request funding in the next budget cycle for an on-call state lobbyist contractor to provide additional lobbying support as needed. Decisions regarding the use of this contractor will be made at the discretion of the PGA Director and/or County Administrator.

