



CASCADES WEST ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Annual Report

April 1, 2009 through March 31, 2010

EDA Award No. 07-83-06380

District Context

The Cascades West Economic Development District (CWEDD) is designated by the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA) as the regional economic development planning organization for the Linn, Benton, Lincoln, and Lane Counties area of Oregon. The District was established in 1977 by the Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments (OCWCOG) for its service area of Benton, Lincoln, and Linn Counties. In 1983, OCWCOG agreed to expand the District to include Lane County. CWEDD is managed by OCWCOG, with services provided in Lane County through intergovernmental agreement with the Lane Council of Governments (LCOG).

CWEDD receives an annual planning grant from the EDA that, along with multiple other funding sources, works to achieve a broad community and economic development program. Over time, the availability of these EDA planning grant funds has allowed the region to address economic development barriers and develop several priority initiatives such as business lending and transportation programs.

Key Reporting Period Accomplishments

Some of the more significant efforts undertaken during the planning period include –

- Published 2009 CEDS Update Report and conducted regional economic development forum jointly with the BL3 Regional Investment Board.
- Prepared data for 2010-2015 CEDS revision, currently in committee review phase.
- Completed a pilot regional economic opportunities analysis for eight cities in Linn and Benton Counties.
- Identified options to address wetland mitigation needs to provide an adequate inventory of industrial lands.
- Built disaster resilience for businesses in Lincoln County under EDA funding.
- Structured priority marine cluster technical assistance and public works projects for EDA consideration.
- Continued development of a biofuels energy sector in the region.
- Worked with State and local governments on initiating carbon reduction plans.
- Initiated a wetlands delineation project for ten Willamette Valley cities.
- Received ARRA broadband development funds to bring services to one hundred critical institutions in three counties.

- ♦ OCWCOG obtained approval from Cascades West Financial Services, Inc. to again offer micro business loans.
- ♦ Supported efforts that delivered millions of dollars of investment to improve the region's transportation system.

These and other District activities are described on the following pages under:

- Collaborative Efforts and Coordination Activities
- Business Lending Support and Activity
- Public Works and Community Facilities Development Assistance
- Transportation Planning, Coordination, and Advocacy
- Other Community and Economic Development Activities



Collaborative Efforts & Coordination Activities

District staff provide support to multiple groups that are working to improve the community and economic well being of the region. Coordination and collaboration work requires District staff to play various roles in the economic and community development arena (convener, facilitator, traditional support staff role, key partner) - often simultaneously. Equally challenging is the broad spectrum of expertise required, as evidenced by the variety of efforts described below. Efforts specific to business lending, public works/facilities development, transportation planning and advocacy, as well as a potpourri of other economic development activities are described in subsequent sections.

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA): LCOG and OCWCOG staff have worked to identify potential projects that might align with added funding under the ARRA. Staff continues to closely track ARRA funding and works to keep local leaders and project proponents informed about emerging funding opportunities, requirements, and timeframes. Staff have assisted with applications and developed projects for ARRA funding in the areas of transportation, broadband telecommunications, green energy, and economic development.

Cascades West Economic Development District: OCWCOG published data updates to the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) in May 2009. A June 2009 regional economic development forum was conducted as a joint meeting of the CWEDD Board and the BL3 Regional Investment Board. Attendees celebrated recent accomplishments and identified interest in establishing a new non-profit that could work to create replacement funds for diminishing State and federal economic development support.

The District is preparing a revised CEDS for 2010-2015. Data updates have been completed. The Lane Economic Committee and CWCOG Community and Economic Development Committee will provide their review in April 2010. A regional forum to consider the revised CEDS is being planned for June 2010, pending keynote availability.

Lane Economic Committee (LEC): LCOG continues to provide staff support for this regional economic advisory committee comprised of fifteen members who represent business, government, labor, and education interests in Lane County. The LEC provides a forum to facilitate the exchange of information on economic development projects. To assist the LEC with a thorough and comprehensive analysis of obstacles to economic development in Lane County, the Lane Economic Committee extends

invitations to guests to discuss economic development activities and concerns. The LEC uses this exchange to better inform local elected officials about specific actions that can and should be taken to improve the local economic environment. In addition, these findings will provide background for future Economic Development District planning.

LCOG and the LEC would like to see a stronger linkage between transportation planning and economic development. The LEC is working to recruit more potential members from the business community to serve on the local Transportation Citizens Advisory Committee.

The current recession is changing the face of the local economic landscape. Many of the jobs which have been lost are likely to never return. Therefore, the LEC is working with the Lane Workforce Partnership and Lane Community College to focus on preparing students and the existing workforce for the jobs of the future.

Small city administrative budgets have been hit hard by the current economic downturn. Lane County has recently hired a new staff person to provide important economic development assistance to local small cities. This person will help with business recruitment efforts, grant writing, and assistance to existing businesses.

The City of Eugene recently hosted an Economic Prosperity Summit. This event was well attended by over 300 community members including local government staff, elected officials, and members of the business community. This Summit highlighted several areas for improvement to the area business climate. The LEC has decided to focus on one particular need: A centralized, one-stop location for information on local economic development service providers. Research is now underway to determine potential sites and funding sources.

The LEC believes that more involvement from the local business community can lead to better long term decisions regarding economic development. Recently, the LEC has solicited such input from local and regional banks regarding the outlook for short term business lending.

OCWCOG Community and Economic Development (CED) Committee: OCWCOG staffs and serves as a key partner on the OCWCOG Board-appointed CED Committee. The economic development partners at the CED table share information on local efforts and needs, and act as a liaison back to their entities on emerging trends and opportunities.

Based on the CED work plan, OCWCOG actively pursued projects during this reporting period on -

- ♦ Industrial Site Readiness: Evaluating the industrial development future of Linn and Benton Counties as part of an effort to clarify options for addressing the wetlands that lie on most undeveloped industrially zoned sites. (Detailed later in this section.)
- ♦ Entrepreneurial development efforts, including support to grow an angel investor network, republication of the Business Referral Network directory and distribution

of it to over 200 key partners, and design of a proposed Food Processing Cluster (see “Cluster Industry Efforts” below).

- ♦ Advocating for changes in the State of Oregon’s community and economic development programs.
- ♦ Continued advocacy for improvements to the region’s transportation system via the Cascades West Area Commission on Transportation (described later in this report).

At the joint CWEDD-RIB Forum in June 2009, attendees identified a need to find alternate project development and implementation funding to replace the loss of the State’s Regional Investment Program. OCWCOG Executive Committee and CED Committee representatives worked with staff to frame a non-profit corporation for the purpose of funding community and economic development efforts in the Linn-Benton-Lincoln region (LCOG already has a similar non-profit). Corporate bylaws and articles of incorporation have been drafted. The OCWCOG Executive Committee will discuss the proposal at their April 2010 meeting.

The CED Committee also agreed to research branding for the region to support needs identified by the biotech cluster work, entrepreneurial development, and industrial recruitment efforts. A Linn-Benton forum, “Our Economic Development Preparedness” scheduled for April 2010, will provide the perspectives of outside experts which policy makers requested to kick off the branding effort.

Cluster Industry Efforts

Marine Cluster: The decision this year by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to headquarter its west coast research facilities in Newport has led to increased attention to the coastal cluster of marine-related businesses. A business assistance effort has been framed by the non-profit Lincoln County Economic Development Alliance in partnership with CWEDD, Oregon Coast Community College, and Lincoln County. OCWCOG and the Alliance staff worked on developing a scope of work, budget, and request for a \$75,000 EDA investment in this effort. EDA’s funding decision is pending.

Motor Coach Cluster: LCOG was able to create a cluster of motor coach (RV) industries under a prior EDA-funded pilot project. The motor coach cluster in Lane County has continued to meet on a regular basis to address priority cluster needs.

The cluster has experienced significant decline. One major industry emerged from bankruptcy affiliated with a manufacturer of a wide array of transportation equipment. Another large RV manufacturer closed their operations and several parts manufacturers have also closed. Perhaps the most likely outcome is that the industry will continue, but with significantly reduced employment.

Energy Cluster: LCOG has participated in activities related to developing an energy cluster in the region. At the present time the major components of this emerging cluster are biofuels and solar panel development. The feasibility of developing a significant biofuels industry in the region has been investigated and business plans

are now being developed for several bio energy facilities which will use local resources to produce electrical and fuel energy.

The region is also developing as a location for solar manufacturing. Several firms have located in the region and another manufacturer is negotiating to locate in the area.

Food Processing Cluster: OCWCOG gathered local economic development leads together to consider how to support development of new, emerging, and small food processing businesses. The resulting strategy has been proposed for USDA RBEG funding. Primary partners are:

- OCWCOG, playing the role of project coordinator and providing linkages to its business lending program and the food supply network developed by the Cascades Pacific RC&D;
- Linn-Benton Community College's Small Business Development Center, providing business counseling and access to customized training;
- The Business Enterprise Center, which will evaluate development of a foods-related business incubator in Linn County;
- Albany-Millersburg Economic Development Corporation, accessing the expertise of large foods processors and OSU to support the needs of small processors;
- Corvallis-Benton Chamber Coalition, will continue their successful Food Biz Bootcamp and provide additional start-up and outreach assistance.

Benton, Lane, Linn, and Lincoln Regional Investment Board (BL³ RIB): The four counties in the District had collaborated since 1993 in developing a joint regional economic development strategy and implemented projects under the State Lottery-funded Regional/Rural Investment Strategies Program. Under direction of county-appointed board members, CWEDD served as the administrative agent for the RIB. District responsibilities included development of the Strategy, solicitation of applications for project funding, coordination of project review, negotiation of contracts for funding awards, and the ongoing monitoring of projects funded.

Given the State's decision not to renew funding of the Regional Investments Program, the role of the RIB shifted to oversight of previously-funded projects. This oversight responsibility ends in 2010. The RIB conducted their final meeting in December 2009, clarifying that they looked to the CWEDD to manage remaining projects and to close down the program.

Association of Oregon Economic Development Districts (OEDD): District staff continued to participate in a collaborative effort funded by EDA to refine the position of the Districts within Oregon's economic development system, increase their visibility, and strengthen their ties with State and federal agencies. A full color marketing piece that relays the variety of expertise and strength of partnerships available through the Districts was published and distributed during this reporting period. Corporate articles and bylaws were drafted and approved pending legal review (currently in process through arrangement by CWCOG).

OCWCOG staff took the lead on behalf of the OEDD in proposing the Districts provide project management and administrative services for ARRA-funded projects under the State Energy Initiative and the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program. Intergovernmental Agreements between the Districts and the Oregon Department of Energy for SEP projects are in place (further details provided in the “Public Works and Community Facilities” section).

Local Government Managers Meetings: LCOG facilitates bi-monthly meetings and OCWCOG facilitates monthly meetings of city and county managers to share information on topics of joint interest.

Industrial Lands/Wetlands Mitigation Project: It is estimated that over half of the vacant industrially zoned acreage in Linn and Benton Counties are wetlands. The uncertainty of the length of time required to move through wetlands analysis and the uncertainty of permit outcomes have been established as the primary impediments to build-to-suit industrial development. OCWCOG has lead a multi-year, multi-phase effort to address this siting barrier in cooperation with the Governor’s Office; Department of Land Conservation and Development; Department of State Lands; Oregon Employment Department; Business Oregon; Pacific Power; and the Cities of Adair Village, Albany, Corvallis, Halsey, Harrisburg, Lebanon, Millersburg, and Tangent.

This year, OCWCOG prepared a pilot “Regional Economic Opportunities Analysis” which evaluated growth potential of industrial sectors, analyzed industrial land demand, and assessed the ability of the existing industrial lands inventory to meet projected demand and provide for market choice. State partners assisted OCWCOG by providing a preliminary evaluation of wetland functions and values for a sample group of twenty prime (ten-plus acre) industrial sites. Findings from these analyses allowed OCWCOG to evaluate options for addressing wetlands constraints.

With concurrence of project partners, OCWCOG obtained grant funding from the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development for the third phase of the project, currently underway, which includes:

- ♦ Developing a list of industrial sites that closely align with the region’s economic development assets and market demand. Work by industrial lands experts will also provide perspectives on the overall economic development competitiveness of the Linn-Benton area.
- ♦ Preparing a preliminary business plan for a regional wetlands mitigation bank under guidance of a consortia of local governments.
- ♦ Pursuing Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) funding to develop a proposal, to be submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, for a Regional General Permit that would streamline the process for wetland permitting of the priority industrial sites. Proposed EPA funds would also establish the organizational structure for a publicly-owned wetland mitigation bank.

Wetlands Assessment: Working in conjunction with the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development, LCOG received funding to conduct a wetlands assessment for ten cities in the region. The assessment will identify and categorize

wetlands within the jurisdictions, develop detailed mapping of wetlands areas and work with the jurisdictions to change land use laws to adapt to the presence of wetlands in the area.

Disaster Resilience for Lincoln County Businesses: The Lincoln County Disaster Preparedness project is a continuation of efforts initiated in 2008, following a federal disaster declaration in the winter of 2007. The goal of this EDA-funded project is to enable the Lincoln County area of the Cascades West region to plan for and coordinate existing resources to build a more disaster resilient business community.

Project outcomes between April 1, 2009 and March 31, 2010 include:

- ◆ Convening the Disaster Resilience Task Force to evaluate outcomes of prior outreach efforts and prioritizing tasks for the upcoming project period.
- ◆ Framing a general business outreach strategy, emphasizing multi-media outreach and partnerships with local emergency management entities.
- ◆ Establishing a multi-media working group to develop and implement a media outreach effort. Group includes Lincoln County Public Information Officer, Sheriff's Office staff, and Department of Health and Human Services staff.
- ◆ Producing and placing the first in a series of televised PSAs featuring local business owners.
- ◆ Republishing *Disaster Resilience Toolkit for Businesses and Household Disaster Preparedness*, with significant updates.
- ◆ Presenting information and distributing booklets to business owners at local business group meetings to encourage preparedness at the workplace and of individual employees at home.
- ◆ Collaborating with the Oregon Coast Community College Small Business Development Center to provide community-based training and technical assistance for small businesses developing business continuity plans.
- Implementing a broad-based outreach effort through area radio broadcast and ongoing partnerships with local cable and radio stations.



Business Lending Support & Activity

Today's Outlook

Key partners in the financial industry are experiencing mounting pressure to maintain the quality of their loan portfolios during an economic crisis that has pushed unemployment and loan delinquency to levels that have not been seen for a decade. Increased scrutiny of lending practices and defaulting loans has resulted in fewer business owners able to qualify for much needed capital.

Comparison of Recent Lending Activity

Non-CWFSI Lending in Region

EDA Report Period	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010
Number of Businesses	54	38	26	21	23
Public Funds Lent (non-CWFSI)	\$12.9 million	\$4.4 million	\$2.4 million	\$1.7 million	\$3.0 million
Jobs Created or Retained	420	281	136	123	117.5

Addressing the Economic Crisis

- OCWCOG and LCOG lending staff are diligently working with business clients to provide options and remedies as clients need them.
- Flexibility in repayment of existing funding as well as access to additional working capital to fund increased costs will be important to businesses in all sectors.
- As elsewhere in the nation, there has been a significant shift in funding requests from projects that create jobs to projects which retain jobs.
- Because the economic downturn has impacted the sales performance of most borrowers, startup business increasingly must look to alternative lending partners, such as investors.
- It is imperative that additional public loan resources be provided to fill lending gaps before more businesses fail. SBA, EDA, and USDA resources play a critical role in filling the lending gaps that are emerging during this economic crisis. However, funding requests this year to the USDA for Linn County and for Lincoln County were not funded due to high demand for these funds nationwide.
- ARRA-based modifications to SBA programs currently allow SBA to pay borrower and lender fees, providing some relief to new SBA borrowers.
- Ability to fund smaller business projects was enhanced this year by re-establishment of the Economic Development Program for micro-enterprise loans and by award of BL3 Regional Investment funds.

Lending Services

Business lending activities of the OCWCOG and LCOG provide gap financing to assist start-up and expanding businesses. These efforts expand the local economy and generate new private sector jobs.

Loan fees and interest income support the lending program - no EDA planning grant funds are used to support these business lending efforts. However, lending activities remain an integral part of the CWEDD's overall economic development program.

Cascades West Financial Services, Inc. (CWFSI): OCWCOG, LCOG, and Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments (MWCOG) formed CWFSI in 1983 for the seven-county area of Benton, Lane, Lincoln, Linn, Marion, Polk, and Yamhill. CWFSI is a SBA-certified, private, non-profit development company providing access to the SBA 504 and SBA 7A programs. District staff serves on the board of CWFSI.

First Point of Contact: OCWCOG and LCOG continued to serve as “one stop” centers for businesses seeking public financial assistance for start-up and expansion. Both OCWCOG and LCOG have experienced a dramatic decrease in borrowers as well as in lenders that are willing to finance capital needs.

Micro-Enterprise Funds: OCWCOG and LCOG continue to receive inquiries for micro-enterprise development loans that they had previously provided utilizing CWFSI EDP and SBA Microloan funding. CWFSI EDP has recently been reinstated. Availability of these funds should increase the opportunities for small business financing needed in our communities.

OCWCOG packages loans for the -

- ◆ EDA Revolving Loan Fund (RLF)
- ◆ SBA 504 Program
- ◆ SBA 7(a) Programs (statewide)
- ◆ USDA-RBS Rural Development Fund (RDF)
- ◆ Regional Strategies Business Investment Fund (BIF)
- ◆ Lincoln County Revolving Loan Fund (LRLF)
- ◆ State and Federal Guaranty and Direct Loan Programs
- ◆ State and Federal Guaranty and Direct Loan Programs (statewide)
- ◆ CWFSI Economic Development Program

LCOG/CWFS packages loans for the -

- ◆ EDA Revolving Loan Fund (RLF)
- ◆ SBA 504 Program
- ◆ Regional Strategies Business Investment Fund (BIF)
- ◆ USDA-RBS Rural Business Development Fund (RBDF)
- ◆ SBA Pre-Qualification & SBA 7(a) Programs
- ◆ State and Federal Guaranty and Direct Loan Programs
- ◆ New Markets Tax Credit Business Loan - Real Estate Program, packaged in cooperation with the Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments

Business Counseling and Referral: Staff at both OCWCOG and LCOG counseled multiple small businesses not yet ready for expansion financing and made frequent referrals to the Small Business Development Centers at the community colleges and to the Senior Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE.)

Administration and Servicing:

- ♦ Each COG continued to service its own portfolios originated under the CWFS SBA 504 loan program and the respective USDA-RBS fund of each COG.
- ♦ OCWCOG provided central administration for the EDA RLF, Regional Strategies BIF, and the USDA-RBS RDF programs.
- ♦ OCWCOG contracted with LCOG to provide packaging services in Lane County for the RLF and BIF programs and servicing of the OCWCOG SBA 504 portfolio originated prior to the inception of the loan program at LCOG.
- ♦ LCOG provided central administration for the USDA-RBS RBDF.
- ♦ Under agreement with the Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments, LCOG shares the fee and servicing income on projects funded through New Market Tax Credit Business Loan Program. This cooperative approach takes advantage of Mid-Willamette's existing systems for managing these deals while allowing access to long-term real estate financing that is similar to, but more flexible than, the SBA 504 Program for businesses located in qualifying low-income areas.

Marketing: OCWCOG and LCOG continued to focus on marketing loan programs through referral agents (banks, CPAs, realtors, developers, borrowers). Marketing activities included presentations at bank staff meetings, training sessions, conferences, "meet the lenders" gatherings; press releases; distribution of brochures; signage at the site of funded projects; public speaking engagements; placement in chamber newsletters; and through COG websites. OCWCOG tracks readership of its electronic newsletter to bankers, realtors, and local government officials.

LCOG sponsored a lender education forum with training provided by multiple government lending groups including the SBA, USDA, and the State of Oregon. This forum targeted local bankers with the objective of increasing awareness of various gap financing programs.

LCOG is also active with various bank trade associations, including the Risk Management association (RMA). LCOG is a primary sponsor of many local RMA presentations. These sponsorships provide increased visibility and awareness for LCOG's various government loan programs.

OCWCOG continues to be an active member of the National Association of Development Companies (NADCO) which provides training and best practices for lenders active in the SBA 504 and 7(a) loan programs.

Impact of Lending Activity

District - Reporting Period: During the reporting period of April 1, 2009 through March 31, 2010, OCWCOG and LCOG lending activity excluding CWFSI (SBA 504, 7A, EDP) loans in the four-county District (Benton, Lane, Lincoln, Linn) has:

- ♦ Provided financing that allowed the start-up or expansion of 23 businesses in the District.
- ♦ Lent \$3 million in public funds.
- ♦ Contributed to the creation or retention of 117.5 jobs in the District.

District - Cumulative: Since 1983, OCWCOG and LCOG lending activity in the four-county District (Benton, Lane, Lincoln, Linn) excluding CWFSI lending (SBA 504, 7A, EDP, Microloan) has:

- ♦ Provided financing that allowed the start-up or expansion of up to 950 businesses in the District (some businesses have been repeat clients).
- ♦ Lent over \$135.6 million in public funds.
- ♦ Contributed to the creation or retention of at least 5,159 jobs in the District.

CWFSI - Cumulative: OCWCOG and LCOG continue to package loans outside of the District under contract with CWFSI. Since 1983, this overall OCWCOG and LCOG lending activity, including out of District and SBA 504 loans has:

- ♦ Provided financing that allowed the start-up or expansion of up to 1,143 businesses (some businesses have been repeat clients).
- ♦ Lent \$197.1 million in public funds.
- ♦ Contributed to the creation or retention of at least 8,486.

Summary of Lending Activity

The following table identifies each of the business loans closed during this reporting period, including those for CWFSI (SBA 504, 7A, EDP) by CWEDD staff for projects both within and outside of the four-county region.

Summary of CWEDD Lending Activity: Loans Closed April 1, 2009 – March 31, 2010

BUSINESS TYPE	COUNTY	CITY	PROGRAM	LOAN AMOUNT	OTHER PUBLIC FUNDS	PRIVATE FUNDS LEVERAGED	OWNERS EQUITY	TOTAL PROJECT	DATE FUNDED	EST. JOBS CREATED	EST. JOBS RETAIN	TOTAL EST. JOB IMPACT
OCWCOG Loan Activity												
Women's Center	Lane	Eugene	SBA 504	1,460,000	0	1,613,117	555,000	3,612,332	09/16/09	0	102	102
Auto Repair	Linn	Albany	SBA 504	338,798	0	445,150	92,576	876,524	02/17/10	3.5	7	10.5
Dentists	Benton	Corvallis	SBA 504	328,000	0	410,000	115,000	853,000	12/16/09	1	7	8
Restaurant	Lincoln	Siletz	RDF4	18,200	0	0	0	76,000	09/18/09	0	0	0
Recording Studio	Benton	Corvallis	RDF1-3	92,000	0	0	40,500	132,500	10/07/09	4.5	4	8.5
Restaurant	Lincoln	Siletz	LCLF	22,800	0	0	0	0	09/18/09	0	3	3
RV Park	Lincoln	Waldport	LCLF	25,000	0	0	5,990	30,990	05/26/09	0	1.5	1.5
Family Farm	Lincoln	Siletz	LCLF	50,000	0	0	29,900	79,900	10/28/09	1	1	2
Hotel/Motel	Lincoln	Newport	LCLF	25,000	0	0	3,034	28,034	06/15/09	0	4	4
Art Gallery	Lincoln	Rural	LCLF	20,000	0	0	10,000	30,000	05/21/09	0.5	1	1.5
Bakery	Lane	Oakridge	RLF	50,000	0	36,000	85,000	171,000	05/21/09	1	0	1
Automotive	Linn	Albany	BIF	15,134	0	0	5,978	21,112	09/03/09	3.5	7	10.5
Detailing	Benton	Corvallis	BIF	15,000	0	15,000	6,000	36,000	04/08/09	2	0	2
CPA Practice	Linn	Albany	BIF	15,000	0	0	5,000	20,000	09/17/09	1.5	0	1.5
OCWCOG All Loans	14 Loans			\$2,474,932	\$0	\$2,519,267	\$953,978	\$5,967,392		18.5	137.5	156
LCOG Loan Activity												
Restaurant	Lane	Springfield	SBA 504	586,000	0	815,000	244,500	1,645,000	04/15/09	16	0	16
Radio Station	Lane	Florence	IRP	114,453	0	413,434	0	527,887	05/05/09	1	6	7
Dentist	Lane	Creswell	IRP	150,000	0	1,243,000	33,000	1,426,000	05/06/09	0	7	7
Motel	Douglas	Roseburg	SBA 504	250,000	0	612,500	367,500	1,230,000	06/17/09	0	4	4
Restaurant	Lane	Springfield	SBA 504	602,000	0	850,000	255,000	1,707,000	07/15/09	16	0	16
Lab Testing	Lane	Eugene	EDA	34,500	0	34,500	12,500	82,000	07/15/09	1	0	1
RV Resort	Linn	Harrisburg	SBA 504	1,602,000	0	2,608,500	1,043,500	5,254,000	08/12/09	26	0	26
Pharmacy	Lane	Florence	IRP	150,000	0	374,000	127,000	651,000	08/25/09	5	0	5
Winery	Yamhill	Dayton	SBA 504	550,000	0	765,000	230,000	1,545,000	10/14/09	7	0	7
Excavation Contractor	Lane	Eugene	SBA 504	364,000	0	449,000	90,000	903,000	10/14/09	6	0	6
Chiropractor	Lane	Eugene	EDA	133,000	0	167,000	30,000	330,000	10/30/09	2	2	4
Manufacturer	Lane	Springfield	SBA 504	435,000	342,000	429,000	300,000	1,506,000	11/12/09	7	0	7
Manufacturer	Lane	Springfield	OBDF	342,000	435,000	429,000	300,000	1,506,000	11/12/09	5	0	5
Restaurant	Multnomah	Portland	SBA 504	307,000	0	372,000	74,400	753,400	12/16/09	7	0	7
Insurance Agency	Lane	Eugene	EDA	40,000	0	68,000	28,000	136,000	12/18/09	1	0	1
Environmental Consulting	Lane	Coburg	IRP	50,000	0	73,496	25,200	148,696	01/05/10	0	2	2
Fabrication/Printing	Lane	Springfield	SBA 7a	250,000	0	0	25,000	275,000	01/15/10	9	0	9
Landscape/Nursery	Lane	Florence	IRP	150,000	0	403,000	0	553,000	01/29/10	0	14	14
Manufacturer	Lane	Eugene	RLF	37,500	400,000	500,000	100,000	1,037,500	01/29/10	10	0	10
Manufacturer	Lane	Harrisburg	OBDF	500,000	0	600,000	1,100,000	2,200,000	02/15/10	21	0	21
Dentist	Linn	Lebanon	SBA 504	486,000	0	613,100	122,620	1,221,720	02/17/10	2	0	2
Manufacturer	Lane	Eugene	SBA 504	823,000	0	1,000,000	200,000	2,023,000	03/17/10	11	0	11
Manufacturer	Lane	Springfield	OBDF	150,000	0	150,000	75,000	375,000	03/19/10	5	0	5
LCOG All Loans	23 Loans			\$8,106,453	\$1,177,000	\$12,969,530	\$4,783,220	\$27,036,203		158	35	193
District Total	37			\$10,581,385	\$1,177,000	\$15,488,797	\$5,737,198	\$33,003,595		177	173	349



Public Works & Community Facilities Development Assistance

Assistance with the development of public works and community facility projects is an ongoing priority for the District. CWEDD staff provide technical assistance in the form of outlining potential projects, identifying funding options, seeking grant/loan dollars, preparing applications for funding, and managing grant funds and construction activity.

District staff worked on the following public works and community facilities projects during the annual reporting period of April 1, 2009 through March 31, 2010.

Alpine County Service District Dechlorination Project: The Alpine County Service District (ACSD) operates a domestic sewer system serving approximately 42 residences in the unincorporated southeast Benton County community of Alpine. OCWCOG assisted Benton County in securing a \$330,000 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) in 2008 to pay for needed upgrades to the ACSD's 20 year-old sewer system. Project design, environmental review, and construction bidding process were completed with OCWCOG assistance during this reporting period. Construction of the improvements began in late September 2009 and was substantially completed in January 2010. OCWCOG staff provides grant administration services for the project.

Blue River Water System Improvements: Through Lane County the Blue River Water District accessed a \$1 million Community Development Block Grant for water system improvements. The improvements include well system refurbishing, construction of a loop for consistent water delivery, and the construction of a second reservoir. During this reporting period, work was completed and the project closed out. LCOG provided grant administration for this project.

Broadband Infrastructure Improvements: LCOG received an ARRA grant to improve broadband in Lane, Douglas, and Klamath Counties. In Lane County the grant will be used to build fiber optic connections to schools, hospitals and other medical facilities, police and fire stations, libraries, and community centers in ten cities and two unincorporated communities. The project will also install additional fiber for use by telecommunications providers to provide broadband services to businesses and residents in those communities.

Brownsville Wastewater Improvements: During this first half of this reporting period, the City of Brownsville completed a major project that constructed an additional wastewater treatment lagoon and replaced a substantial amount of the

wastewater collection lines. The project was funded with a \$750,000 Community Development Block Grant and \$550,000 from the Oregon Water/Wastewater Finance Program (\$250,000 grant and \$300,000 loan). The USDA Rural Utilities Service provided additional project funding (\$1,189,200 grant and \$6,217,000 loan). OCWCOG staff assisted the City in obtaining funding and is provided grant administration services under contract.

Coburg Wastewater Facilities: LCOG staff continued its twelve-year effort to help the City of Coburg develop a City wastewater facility. The project was enlarged to include the installation of collection facilities on private property, increasing the cost of the project to \$27 million. The economic downturn had a significant impact on Coburg because of the bankruptcy of a major regional employer located there. The recession also caused one of the funding agencies to withdraw its pledge of assistance. LCOG worked with Coburg to secure alternative funding and to continue the construction schedule. Voters in Coburg endorsed the project in a March 2010 referendum of the project. Funding for the expanded project is being finalized and construction began during the reporting period. Completion is scheduled for 2012.

The \$27 million in funding which LCOG helped the City secure includes \$2.5 million in EDA grant funds. EDA support was critical to the project in that it helped retain employment at two large regional manufacturers in Coburg. Additional funding support was provided by the USDA Rural Utilities Services, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Oregon Economic and Community Development Department, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Mapleton Water District: LCOG served as contract administrator for a \$750,000 CDBG grant to Lane County for the Mapleton Water District. The project has replaced the water filtration system for the Mapleton Water District, allowing the District to overcome turbidity problems and improve service to this rural community. This project closed early in the reporting period.

Mill City Sewer System Improvements: The City of Mill City has a twenty year-old wastewater treatment system with components that were deteriorated due to hydrogen sulfide gas. The components needed replacement, and the system also required upgrades to resolve problems that occurred when a pump station overflowed. All project construction was substantially completed in January 2010. The \$2.5 million project was funded with an \$840,000 Community Development Block Grant, a \$1,266,000 loan and a \$335,000 grant from the Oregon Water/Wastewater Finance Program, and \$100,438 of local funds. OCWCOG staff provided grant administration services to the City under contract.

Monroe Wastewater System Improvements: The City of Monroe is working under a Mutual Agreement and Order (MAO) with the State of Oregon to make improvements to its wastewater system. As part of the project, the City has completed a new pump station to replace one that bypassed raw sewage into the Long Tom River during periods of heavy rain. The two existing treatment lagoons were undersized. During this reporting period the City acquired a site for an additional lagoon and substantially completed that lagoon. With the assistance of OCWCOG staff, the City

obtained a \$1,000,000 Community Development Block Grant and a \$1,000,000 loan from the Oregon Water/Wastewater Finance Program to fund the project. OCWCOG staff is providing grant administration services under contract with the City.

Port of Newport Terminal Site Redevelopment: The Port of Newport is pursuing EDA funding for the redevelopment of their old shipping terminal property. OCWCOG continues to support the Port's efforts to prepare a project for EDA consideration that would allow this site to accommodate new industrial space, Port storage, and the Port's offices. The Port is currently working through environmental issues alongside the project area (unrelated to the proposed project) to establish sequencing of proposed infrastructure improvements.

Port of Toledo Infrastructure and Marine Yard: OCWCOG continued to support the Port of Toledo's efforts to secure EDA funding for a project that would allow the Port to re-open and improve a private shipyard that was recently closed. The shipyard plays a pivotal regional economic role and is important to Oregon's marine industry. EDA funding for infrastructure improvements and the development of a ship haul-out facility that will allow ships to be scraped and painted on land instead of in the slough is proposed. The Port has acquired the site and completed a business plan that lays out a detailed improvement plan. OCWCOG continues to offer grant development assistance and is prepared to support the Port's application efforts. A draft application for this project was presented to EDA for this project.

Row River Water District Improvements: Through Lane County, the Row River Water District received a CDBG grant of \$1,000,000 to match \$440,000 in local funds to install a filtration and treatment system in the newly-formed Row River Water District. The District was established when the City of Cottage Grove relocated its municipal water collection system closer to the city, leaving over one hundred homes without support for their water system. LCOG is providing grant administration for the project.

State Energy Program Administration Services: The Association of Oregon Economic Development Districts worked with the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) to develop intergovernmental agreements for the EDDs to assist ODOE with the administration of projects funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act-funded State Energy Program (SEP).

OCWCOG is preparing to administer eight projects funded with \$253,500 of SEP grants. These projects will improve the energy efficiency of public buildings owned by Linn County, Benton County, and the City of Yachats.

LCOG is providing contract assistance to the ODOE for five energy conservation grants in Lane County. SEP grants to public institutions, primarily schools, will provide energy conservation facilities and solar collectors.



Transportation Planning, Coordination, & Advocacy

Transportation improvements remain a high priority for the CWEDD. District staff continued to provide support to a number of community-specific transportation projects, as well as to several multi-jurisdictional efforts. However, the need for transportation improvements continues to grow while the resources available to meet these increasing needs are dwindling. The recent opening of funding through the ARRA has increased staff's efforts in lining up priority local and regional projects with funding opportunities.

Efforts in Lane County

Eugene-Springfield Metropolitan Planning Organization: In 1973, LCOG was designated as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Eugene-Springfield metropolitan area. LCOG is responsible for conducting a continuing, comprehensive, and cooperative transportation planning process in the Eugene-Springfield metropolitan area. LCOG as the MPO, Lane Transit District, and the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) are jointly responsible for annually certifying that the transportation planning process for the area is conducted in accordance with federal transportation planning regulations.

Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC): LCOG continued to staff the MPC, which is the Central Lane MPO policy body. MPC is an intergovernmental committee created to promote problem solving and to resolve intergovernmental disagreements among the local governmental agencies. MPC provides policy direction for the development of the MPO's annual work program and transportation plan. It also sets priorities for projects for Central Lane MPO Transportation Improvement Program and Oregon's Statewide Transportation Improvement Program.

MPO Citizen Advisory Committee: LCOG provides staff support for the MPO Citizens Advisory Committee, designed to provide a formalized opportunity for citizen discussion and advice to the MPC, acting as an MPO. The twelve-member committee was formed to advise the MPO as the region moves forward with several large transportation projects.

Transportation Planning Committee (TPC): LCOG continued to staff the standing TPC under the direction of the LCOG Board and the Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC). The TPC undertakes necessary technical activities for the continuing, comprehensive, and cooperative (3-C) transportation planning process in the Eugene-

Springfield metropolitan area. TPC prepares plans, programs, and special studies to address transportation issues in the metropolitan area.

LCOG worked with the transportation planning and engineering staff of the cities of Eugene and Springfield, and with Lane County, LTD, LRAPA, and ODOT staff to implement the Transportation System Plan. The Plan required review and modification in light of changing funding circumstances.

Especially critical in this regard was the discovery of damage in the I-5 bridges over the Willamette and McKenzie Rivers. LCOG facilitated the public involvement in the design process for the new span of I-5 across the Willamette River and assisted with the transition from the design phase to the construction phase.

LCOG has also begun working with the respective jurisdictions in Lane County who are initiating work on updates to their local transportation system plans. In addition to providing assistance in the planning process, LCOG is playing a role in making sure that the transportation system plans of each jurisdiction are coordinated with the planning process in other jurisdictions.

Transportation System Improvement Planning: LCOG, serving as the Central Lane MPO, has worked for many years facilitating the development of local transportation project priorities. The MPO worked cooperatively with Lane County to set up project priorities for the Oregon Transportation Investment Act (OTIA) and the State Transportation Improvement Programs. LCOG has continued to work on implementation and modification of plans to accommodate changing circumstances. Responding to the opportunity presented by the ARRA, LCOG oversaw the development of an extensive list of transportation projects, the submission of applications for funding and the implementation of construction for project throughout Lane County.

Efforts in Benton, Lincoln, & Linn Counties

Cascades West Area Commission on Transportation (CWACT): OCWCOG staffs the CWACT, a standing committee of the OCWCOG Board of Directors chartered by the Oregon Transportation Commission. CWACT has provided a regional forum for transportation dialogue, coordination, and consensus decision-making for over a decade. CWACT membership includes representatives from cities and counties in the Benton-Lincoln-Linn Counties region as well as from the private sector.

CWACT and OCWCOG assisted in the local planning and implementation of two significant and comprehensive funding packages during the reporting period:

- ◆ The federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)
- ◆ State Jobs and Transportation Act (HB 2001)

CWACT and OCWCOG worked in partnership with the Oregon Department of Transportation on ARRA-funded state highway system projects, including a \$10 million pavement preservation project on I-5 in Linn County and a \$13 million

modernization project on Highway 20 in Lincoln County. Several bicycle-pedestrian projects, a bay front infrastructure project in Newport, and a park and ride lot at the Albany Transit Station were also funded through the ARRA.

CWACT and OCWCOG assisted local agencies in the development of a variety of local infrastructure projects. ARRA allocations to local agencies included: Corvallis Area Metropolitan Planning Organization \$1,200,000; Benton County \$490,000; Lincoln County \$680,000; Linn County \$1,100,000; cities in Lincoln County \$394,000 and cities in Linn County \$1,560,000.

CWACT and OCWCOG also assisted members in developing applications for:

- ♦ Transportation Investments Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) funds
- ♦ Transit Investments for Greenhouse Gas and Energy Reduction (TIGGER) funds

CWACT members supported and advocated for the approval of the State of Oregon Jobs and Transportation Act. This Act provides significant resources for State highways, local roads, public transportation, and multimodal projects.

OCWCOG staff coordinated CWACT's review and prioritization of projects for the Connect Oregon III funding approved by the 2009 Legislative Assembly. This \$100 million program focuses on multimodal projects (rail, aviation, ports, public transit).

Small Cities Allotment: CWACT advocated for changes to the State's Small Cities Allotment (SCA) program. The current SCA program provides grants of up to \$25,000 to cities with populations of 5,000 or fewer to improve local streets and related facilities. The total amount allocated for the program is \$1 million. CWACT recommended that the maximum grant be increased to \$50,000 and the total program be increased to \$2 million.

OCWCOG staff prepared a biennial report for the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) and assisted CWACT members with the biennial presentation/discussion with the OTC. With the assistance of a Technical Committee, CWACT also participated in the update of the 2010-2013 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program and development of the 2012-2015 STIP eligibility and prioritization criteria.

Corridor Planning: OCWCOG continued to support the need for long-range planning of the transportation facilities in the U.S. Highway 20 corridor between I-5 and the City of Philomath. CWACT staff prepared an application to complete this planning effort. Although the application did not receive approval, OCWCOG continues to work with ODOT and local partners in an effort to secure funding for corridor planning.

Corvallis Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO): OCWCOG provides administrative support to the Corvallis Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO). Designated by the Governor, CAMPO is responsible for transportation planning and programming in the Corvallis area. The organization operates under the auspices of a Policy Board comprised of representatives of the City of Corvallis, City of Philomath, City of Adair Village, Benton County, and the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT).

A primary task undertaken by CAMPO during this period was the update of its regional transportation plan (RTP). CAMPO also:

- Completed an improvement plan for the 9th Street corridor in Corvallis.
- Partnered with ODOT to begin development of an intelligent transportation system architecture (ITS) for areas of Benton and Linn Counties.
- Coordinated project submissions for funding under the ARRA.
- Aided the City of Adair Village in evaluating transit service options.
- Worked with the Oregon MPO Greenhouse Gas Emissions Task Force to establish rules and devise tools for reduction of transportation-related greenhouse gases.
- Continued involvement in the major transportation projects sponsored by ODOT.
- CAMPO is also active in the Oregon MPO Consortium (OMPOC), an association of the Policy Boards of six MPOs in the State of Oregon.

Corvallis 9th Street Improvement Plan: The Corvallis Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (CAMPO) completed work with the City of Corvallis and ODOT to develop an improvement plan for the 9th Street commercial corridor in Corvallis. The corridor has seen significant commercial growth and is faced with increased congestion, traffic volumes, and safety issues.

With substantial input from a project advisory committee and public meetings, CAMPO developed recommendations to address each of these issues. The 9th Street Improvement Plan was accepted by the Corvallis City Council as a guiding document in March 2010.

Cascades West Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Program: OCWCOG continued to manage the Cascades West Rideshare Program, which provides free commuter matching for carpools and the Valley VanPool. The Rideshare Program also pursues other transportation demand management strategies, provides regional advocacy for alternative modes, implements commuter benefits programs for employers, and develops travel alternatives planning strategies.

Cascades West Rideshare facilitated carpool formation for interested commuters through participation in the ridematching database and worked with employers on strategies to address the transportation needs of their employees. The Cascades West Transportation Management Area (CWTMA) added or processed over one hundred new commuters in the regional matching database during this reporting period.

Valley VanPool: OCWCOG continues to provide commuter transportation opportunities through Valley VanPool, a partnership with Salem Area Mass Transit District and Lane Transit District. OCWCOG and its partners in Valley VanPool leveraged ODOT funding to establish a new financial assistance program which offsets some vanpool participation costs. This program is now self-funding and makes vanpooling in the region a marquee transportation option. The viability of vanpooling expands the potential employment area for residents while also increasing the labor market pool for businesses in the region.

Advocacy and Coordination: OCWCOG staff served on statewide transportation demand management work groups and on the Board of Directors of the

Transportation Options Group of Oregon. Specific efforts were directed to the development of statewide online carpooling matching program in partnership with the States of Washington and Idaho. This program will integrate new technology, such as real time rideshare opportunities sent to personal phones, which enrich the number of situations through which ridesharing could be an option. The program is expected to be made available during 2010.

Transportation Brokerage: Cascades West RideLine, a transportation brokerage serving Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties, coordinates non-emergency medical rides primarily for Medicaid clients. The brokerage coordinated an average of 6,000 rides per month to over 1,000 individuals requiring a variety of services levels. The brokerage also handles calls for Valley VanPool and Cascades West RideShare, the regional programs described above which match commuters.

OCWCOG staff work to ensure that vital transportation links to health care systems are able to accommodate all clients' needs. OCWCOG has encouraged transportation contractors to provide specialized mobility equipment including wheelchairs, stretchers, securement devices, and lift equipment.

Linn County Special Transportation Program: OCWCOG continues to provide staff support for the Linn County Special Transportation program under a renewed two-year agreement. This program helped provide more than 165,000 rides in FY 2008-09 and is expected to provide more than 200,000 rides in FY 2009-10.

The Special Transportation Fund (STF) program, established by the State of Oregon in 1985, provides mobility for seniors over 60 years of age and for persons with disabilities who cannot access regular modes of public transportation (such as fixed route bus systems) or do not have access to personal transportation. STF enables these individuals to maintain a reasonable quality of life and level of independence by providing transportation services for employment/vocational, medical, nutritional, recreational, shopping, volunteer opportunities, and other needs.

OCWCOG and its partners played a role in obtaining more than \$20 million in transportation funding for seniors and people with disabilities from the Oregon Legislative Assembly and the Oregon Transportation Commission. Local allocations will be used for vehicle purchase and development of new transit services.

OCWCOG, working with local, regional, and State partners, advocated for an increase in special transportation funding. Local allocations will expand transportation options for seniors and people with disabilities.

OCWCOG assisted its Linn County partners in developing and implementing ARRA-funded programs and projects including the purchase of \$550,000 in vehicles and equipment for Albany Transit, \$317,000 in vehicles for the Linn-Benton Loop, \$208,000 in vehicles for the Sweet Home Senior Center's transportation programs, and \$170,000 in vehicles for the City of Lebanon.

Linn County Coordinated Public Transit - Human Services Transportation Plan:

OCWCOG updated the 2007 Linn County Coordinated Plan and continued to provide staff support on its implementation as well as the regional coordinated component in the plans of Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties. OCWCOG pursued multiple regional transportation programs to address the needs and opportunities identified in these plans during the reporting period.

The coordinated plans identified specific transportation needs and played an important role in the development of program and project applications for 2009-2011 ODOT discretionary grant funds. Linn County received \$437,000 in grants, Lincoln County received \$210,000, and Benton County received \$271,000.

OCWCOG staff continued to help local agencies in Linn County with their efforts to implement transit programs and projects funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act totaling \$1.2 million.

During this period, OCWCOG participated in efforts to implement recommendations of a State steering committee (which OCWCOG staff served on) that helped ODOT and the Department of Human Services investigate new revenue sources to enhance transportation funding for seniors and those with disabilities. This effort included review of current transportation services for seniors and the disabled, analysis of trends and projections, identification of key transportation issues, future demand and cost projections, and alternative funding options.

OCWCOG is currently working with the Association of Oregon Counties, ODOT, and the Oregon Department of Human Services to explore the establishment of a statewide transportation services coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan. This plan would address the needs of seniors, people with low incomes, and the disabled in a more comprehensive, coordinated, efficient, and cost-effective manner.



Other Community & Economic Development Activities

Entrepreneurial Development: LCOG is a partner with the Eugene Area Chamber of Commerce in analyzing and improving the environment for new and rapidly growing entrepreneurial businesses. This effort is taking place within the Chamber's Business Development Committee. Initial efforts are focused on three strategies:

- ♦ Creating greater networking opportunities for entrepreneurs
- ♦ Educating entrepreneurs regarding the existing tools and resources which are already available
- ♦ Creating a conduit to funnel qualifying entrepreneurial businesses into available sources of capital

OCWCOG is working in coordination the Corvallis-Benton Chamber Coalition to develop linkages between entrepreneurs and investors. OCWCOG provided staff support at the "Willamette Angels Conference". This annual conference links with LCOG's efforts noted above.

OCWCOG also continues to support the efforts of the Business Enterprise Center, a business accelerator/incubator, to develop a new facility. Strategies for ongoing operational funding as well as for facility development funding will be solidified as the BEC establishes its preferred operational location(s).

Telecommunications: Through a request supported by the District, the Oregon Coastal Zone Management Association obtained EDA funding for a coastal telecommunication plan. OCWCOG has offered to support to identify implementation funding.

LCOG provided staff support for local government consortia developing telecommunications infrastructure in Southern Oregon. The consortium includes members from Lane, Klamath and Douglas Counties. The consortium has facilitated connections within the region, including improved broadband service to Cottage Grove, Drain, Yoncalla, and Roseburg.

LCOG received an \$8.3 million BTOP grant to improve broadband services to over one hundred critical institutions in Lane, Douglas and Klamath Counties. Also, using a \$2.4 million local match, the project will improve broadband opportunities in eighteen cities and six unincorporated communities. Critical institutions including schools, hospitals, and state and local government offices will be provided the opportunity to improve their broadband connectivity. A local interconnection facility

in Eugene will also offer these institutions and local telecommunications providers in the region better access to data services and the internet.

City of Siletz Comprehensive Plan Update: OCWCOG assisted the City of Siletz in an update of its Comprehensive Plan, with support from the State of Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development and the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians. The intent of this process was to engage community members and stakeholders in developing a twenty-year vision for the community's growth and development. The process was directed by a local Comprehensive Plan Update Committee and included significant public outreach and input opportunities.

To inform the process, OCWCOG staff completed detailed inventories of buildable lands, economic opportunities, housing needs, natural and cultural resources, parks facilities, public facilities and services, and transportation infrastructure. These background documents are currently being reviewed by the Siletz City Council, along with the updated Comprehensive Plan and Comprehensive Plan Map, for anticipated adoption during the late spring of 2010.

Lincoln County Housing Needs Assessment: OCWCOG staff met with affordable housing advocates in Lincoln County to discuss the preparation of a countywide assessment of workforce housing needs. Based on input received, OCWCOG is preparing a draft scope of work for a potential study.

GIS Capacity: OCWCOG continues to maintain and build its Geographic Information Systems (GIS) capacity by investing in system upgrades and staff training. This continued investment has allowed OCWCOG to:

- ♦ Create a regional public transit map for publication
- ♦ Allow the public to view the impact of ARRA transportation projects in the CAMPO
- ♦ Provide baseline wetlands data for conversations about mitigation of wetlands on industrially zoned properties
- ♦ Work with the City of Siletz to update their Comprehensive Plan
- ♦ Develop displays for 9th Street Improvement Plan public involvement efforts
- ♦ Work with partner organizations for greater regional coordination

Regional Data Centers: OCWCOG and LCOG serve as the local Affiliate Data Centers for the U.S. Census Bureau. Participant Statistical Areas Program (PSAP) updates were completed for the Census Bureau during this reporting period. Under the PSAP, the COGs coordinated updates of block groups, census tracts, designated places, and all other census divisions that are completed by local governments. Updates submitted to the Census Bureau were reviewed and revised, then sent back to the localities to verify for final approval.

Facilitation: OCWCOG and LCOG provide facilitation services to community and economic development groups as well as to COG members. Facilitation work during this reporting period included:

- ♦ City of Brownsville exploration of a community and economic development plan
- ♦ City of Tangent exploration of developing a tax base

- ♦ City of Philomath and Philomath Downtown Association discussions on expanding the Urban Renewal District boundary, maximum indebtedness, and eligible projects
- ♦ Discussions among the cities of western Lane County about the development of joint action in pursuit of economic development for the region
- ♦ Exploration of the impacts of global climate change on the region and how to plan for the potential employment effects over the next decade
- ♦ Building on a Eugene-Springfield Economic Prosperity summit to enlarge the discussion for the development of a Lane County strategic economic development plan

For further information on activities described in this report –

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