



Executive Committee Meeting Agenda Packet

February 23, 2017, 9:00 a.m.

Cascades West Center
1400 Queen Avenue, SE
2nd Floor, Large Conference Room
Albany, OR 97322

The meeting locations are wheelchair accessible. If you need special assistance please contact Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments at 541-967-8720, forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting.

This page intentionally left blank



1400 Queen Ave SE • Suite 201 • Albany, OR 97322
(541) 967-8720 • FAX (541) 967-6123

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
AGENDA**

**February 23, 2017
9:00 a.m.**

Cascades West Center
1400 Queen Ave. SE
Albany, OR 97322

An Executive Session may be called as deemed necessary by the Chair, pursuant to ORS 192.660.

1. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes** (*Chair Sharon Konopa*)
(9:00 – 9:05 a.m.)

Minutes of the December 1, 2016 Special Executive Committee meeting will be reviewed for approval (Page 3).

ACTION: Motion to approve the December 1, 2016 Special Executive Committee meeting minutes.

2. **Review of the 2017-2020 Senior and Disability Services (SDS) Area Plan** (*SDS Director Dave Toler*)
(9:05 – 9:15 a.m.)

Staff will highlight some of the changes and strategies in SDS programs (Page 7)

ACTION: Information only, no action needed.

3. **OCWCOG Program Updates** (*All Program Directors*)
(9:15 – 9:30 a.m.)

Staff will be available to answer any questions from the Executive Committee on the program updates (Page 10, Page 12).

ACTION: Information only, no action needed.

4. **March Full Board Agenda Items** (*Chair Sharon Konopa*)
(9:30 – 9:35 a.m.)

The Executive Committee will review and comment on proposed agenda items for the next Full Board Meeting. Staff will present items for the agenda known to date, including:

1. **Consent Calendar**
 - a. Approval of previous Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
2. **FY2015-16 Audit Presentation**
3. **FY2016-17 Work Program and Budget Presentation**
4. **Board Endorsement of the 2017-2020 Area Plan**
5. **Program Update Question and Answers**
6. **Topics of Regional Interest**
7. **Other Business**
8. **Adjournment**

5. **Other Business**
(9:35 – 9:40 a.m.)

6. **Adjournment**
(9:40 a.m.)

**OREGON CASCADES WEST COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
SPECIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
January 19, 2017**

MEMBERS: Mayor Sharon Konopa, Albany; Commissioner Anne Schuster, Benton County; Commissioner Bill Hall, Lincoln County; Mayor Biff Traber, Corvallis; Councilor Bob Elliott, Lebanon; and Councilor Dann Cutter, Waldport.

STAFF: Executive Director Fred Abousleman; Deputy Director Lydia George; Finance Director Sue Forty; Senior and Disability Services (SDS) Director Dave Toler; Community and Economic Development (CED) Director Phil Warnock; Senior Accountant Janet Cline; Communications Consultant Lindsey Riley; and Administrative Assistant Jennifer Kelley.

The Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments' (OCWCOG) Special Executive Committee Meeting was called to order by Chair Sharon Konopa at 12:11 p.m. on January 19, 2017 at the Cascades West Center in Albany.

1. Welcome and Introductions

General introductions were made. Senior Accountant Janet Cline introduced herself; she was hired in December and relocated from Michigan.

2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Bill Hall motioned to approve the minutes from the December 1, 2016 Executive Committee meeting, Councilor Dann Cutter seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Approval of the 2017 Executive Committee Meeting Schedule

Councilor Cutter and Chair Konopa expressed concern that the proposed December Executive Committee Meeting was scheduled during the week between holidays. Councilor Cutter suggested moving the meeting to December 7th, to coincide with the Full Board meeting.

Councilor Cutter motioned to approve the 2017 Executive Committee Meeting Schedule, with the alteration that the December 28th meeting be moved to December 7th. Commissioner Hall seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director Fred Abousleman requested moving a meeting to the Coast and suggested discussing during an upcoming Full Board meeting.

4. Review of Executive Director's Accomplishments and Goals, and Employment Agreement

Finance Director Sue Forty and Senior Accountant Cline left the meeting.

Executive Director Abousleman stated that he achieved his previous goals, and stated that his goals for the coming year are to maintain sustainability for the organization. With budget cuts, it is a priority to avoid layoffs, if at all possible. Executive Director Abousleman stated that he thinks sustainability will be achievable unless there are radical, unpredictable cuts to incoming funding.

Executive Director Abousleman stated that another goal is to regionalize Senior and Disability Services.

Executive Director Abousleman stated that Union relationships have been good overall, and praised Deputy Director Lydia George for her current and previous work in Union communications and in Human Resources.

Commissioner Anne Schuster asked how many people are represented in the Union. Executive Director Abousleman estimated 110 to 120 people.

Executive Director Abousleman stated that he has fostered good relationships with our regional communities, and that he was the first OCWCOG leader to visit the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz in 7-8 years.

Executive Director stated that he would have liked to raise more revenue this past year, but capacity to do this was limited. He would like to increase capacity in the future.

Executive Director Abousleman stated that he was open to feedback from the Committee, and asked for questions.

Councilor Cutter commented that the economy has been expanding in the last few years, and that may be changing. Councilor Cutter asked whether there is a contingency fund to account for economic changes, or if certain positions are being left vacant.

Executive Director Abousleman stated yes, there are some contingency funds, and staffing levels are also being considered. Executive Director Abousleman also stated that there is a need for better data for staffing, including building a staffing model that is more flexible and adaptive. Critical positions need to be filled, however others may be able to stay open. It is important to have staffing models that are data-driven, technology-driven, and flexibility-driven.

Councilor Cutter asked whether salary is an issue when hiring or retaining staff. Executive Director Abousleman stated that OCWCOG salaries and benefits are fairly competitive; however, talent is becoming more difficult to attract, and outreach has had to expand.

Councilor Cutter asked whether a plan is in place to handle some salaries that may be disproportionate. Executive Director Abousleman stated that salary compression is an issue and has been for about 10 years. Solutions are being explored in order to solve the problem without cutting salaries, and staying competitive with similar agencies.

Commissioner Schuster asked whether OCWCOG has been targeting outgoing Federal workers as potential job candidates. Executive Director Abousleman stated that the organizations has been targeting graduating students, but had not previously considered targeting outgoing Federal employees; however, this would be a good idea.

Mayor Biff Traber asked whether internships have been considered. Executive Director Abousleman stated that OCWCOG already offers many internship positions.

Mayor Traber asked whether telecommuting has been considered as a possible incentive. Executive Director Abousleman stated it is being examined. However, it would be under a model wherein staff may be stationed at other locations, rather than working from home. Barriers are HIPAA compliance, data security, and renting facilities for work stations.

Councilor Cutter asked whether a plan was in place to address compression issues, and stated that this could be a potential weakness for maintaining talent. Executive Director Abousleman stated that OCWCOG has been examining salary schedules, and will report back with more information in the future.

Commissioner Schuster suggested telecommuting partnered with a City or County building to exchange workspaces at no cost to either organization.

Chair Konopa adjourned the Special Executive Committee meeting at 12:39 p.m. to move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the Executive Director's Employment Agreement, per ORS 192.660 (i).

5. Reconvene into Regular Session

Chair Konopa reconvened the Special Executive Committee Meeting at 12:45 p.m.

The Executive Committee agreed to enter into a three-year contract with Executive Director Abousleman that will begin March 1, 2017 through December 31, 2019. Section 3A has been revised to allow for a twelve-month salary for termination without cause. No other changes in salary or benefits were made. Mayor Traber recognized an error in Section 14 regarding the car allowance. The Board increased the car allowance last January.

Mayor Traber motioned to recommend Executive Director Abousleman's Employment Agreement to the Board with the correction on the car allowance. Commissioner Hall seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

6. Special Projects Discussion

Executive Director Abousleman introduced the concept of a *Special Projects Fund* as discussed at the last Board meeting, and directed the Executive Committee members to review Attachment 3 in the Agenda Packet for potential funding levels.

Chair Konopa asked whether City Managers have had an opportunity to review the numbers.

Executive Director Abousleman stated that they had not, but would be getting them at the City/County Manager/Administrator lunch scheduled for January 20th.

Councilor Cutter suggested a flat rate member fee to fund the *Special Projects Fund*, so that funding the project would be more equitable. However, this would put more of a burden on smaller communities. Councilor Cutter stated that he is a proponent of raising the dues in general.

Chair Konopa suggested asking City Managers at the upcoming lunch meeting. She stated that smaller communities would likely benefit more from this *Fund*, as larger jurisdictions already have funds and resources in-house to accomplish projects. Councilor Cutter agreed that smaller communities would benefit more.

Executive Director Abousleman stated that projects could be in coordination with City or County projects. Executive Director Abousleman stated that dues currently coming in are used to match funds. OCWCOG does not have dues dollars to run special projects.

Mayor Traber asked how projects and amounts would be decided upon. Executive Director Abousleman stated that money would be fully under Board control, not OCWCOG control.

Executive Director Abousleman suggested that an example of special projects could be to work with city housing departments to establish regional housing. The Board could join with other area jurisdictions to expand projects. Other examples could be for researching common City or County codes or other research projects; grants; watershed management; emergency planning; and economic resilience; or others.

Councilor Cutter stated that often pieces of information come up at Board meetings, with members suggesting potential projects. Waldport's leadership continually asks what other jurisdictions are doing, however nobody has money set aside for investigation or research.

7. OCWCOG Annual Dinner

Executive Director Abousleman stated that OCWCOG has not held an Annual Dinner in 10-15 years. Most other regional Councils of Government in Oregon have Annual Dinners. Executive Director Abousleman stated that he would like to organize an Annual Dinner that would feature awards, and he could give a *State of the Region* presentation. The event could be sponsored, and proceeds would go to the *Meals on Wheels* program.

Executive Director Abousleman asked whether discussion could move forward to the Full Board meeting for approval. The Committee agreed. Commissioner Hall suggested rotating the location on an annual basis among the three Counties. Executive Director Abousleman stated that this was the plan.

8. Adjourn

Chair Konopa adjourned the meeting at 1:02 pm.

Minutes recorded by Jennifer Kelley.



Senior and Disability Services

1400 Queen Ave SE • Suite 206 • Albany, OR 97322
(541) 967-8630 TTY/Voice • 1-800-638-0510 TTY/Voice

203 N Main St • Toledo, OR 97391
(541) 336-2289 • (541) 336-8103 TTY/Voice • (800) 282-6194



Area Agency on Aging

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 23, 2017

TO: OCWCOG Board of Directors

FROM: Dave Toler, Senior and Disability Services Director

RE: **Senior and Disabilities Services 2017-2010 Area Plan Executive Summary**

Introduction

In accordance with the Older Americans Act, the Oregon State Unit on Aging (SUA) requires every Area Agency on Aging & Disabilities in Oregon to develop and submit a four-year *Area Plan*. The *Area Plan* is intended to provide a compass for program direction and prioritization for the next four years. Once a plan largely generated by local issues and concerns, the content of today's *Area Plans* are primarily defined and driven by the SUA.

OCWCOG's Senior and Disabilities Service Department is requesting that the Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments' Board of Directors accept the OCWCOG's *2017-2020 Area Plan*, which has been accepted by the SUA.

Given that the *Area Plan* is 150-200 pages, below is an Executive Summary. For those who would like to see the *Area Plan* in its entirety, a full edition of the *Area Plan* is available here: www.ocwcoq.org/seniors-disability.

Mission, Vision, Values

Mission: Senior and Disability Services (SDS) has a mission to enhance the independence, dignity, choice, and individual well-being for all aging individuals and people with disabilities in the Benton, Lincoln, and Linn County Region.

Vision: SDS holds a vision of serving as the regional experts in aging and disability services, and supporting the regional population to maintain health, wellness, and access to programs when needed.

Values:

- Service Equity
- High Quality Services
- Innovation
- Community Collaboration
- Combatting Adult Abuse

Planning and Review Process

The planning process used for the development of this *Area Plan* has been underway since the completion of the last *Plan* in 2013. The needs assessment for this *Plan*, conducted over the last four years, is based on a combination of community outreach, input from SDS direct services staff, the Senior Services Advisory Council, Disability Services Advisory Council, management, and statistical analysis of our Region's older and disabled population.

Three surveys have been conducted during the planning process including a Family Caregiver Survey, a Consumer survey, and a Community Partner survey. In addition, with this *Plan* we are emphasizing two underserved populations: Siletz tribal members and the LGBT community. Focus Groups were held with both groups to gather input on service gaps.

Prioritization of Discretionary Funding

A small amount of funding received by SDS is discretionary. SDS looks to our Advisory Councils to help determine the priorities for this limited funding. The following priorities are being proposed for the 2017-2020 *Area Plan*:

- *Meals on Wheels*: current service level, along with restoration of frozen meals on weekends
- *Family Caregiver Support Program*: respite, supplemental services, and training for caregivers
- Behavioral health supports
- Expansion of the *Money Management Program*
- Care Transitions: *Hospital to Home Program*
- Options Counseling

Service Area Profile

From a socio-economic perspective, the prevalence of poverty for the tri-County Region's 65+ years old population runs slightly below the Oregon average.

Probably the most significant demographic note is that according to the 2015 U.S. Census estimates, there were 62,849 older adults age 60+ in the three Counties combined. This accounts for 25% of the total population of these Counties. Population trends continue to point to a relatively fast increase in the proportion of older residents in the region. **While total population grew by approximately 2,100 residents in the last five years, in the same period the older population in the Region has increased by nearly 10,000.**

Issue Areas

The heart of the *Area Plan* focuses on the six Issue Areas specified by the Oregon SUA. The following is a summary of each area for our Region:

1. *Information & Assistance* - Information & Assistance is primarily delivered through the Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) call center. This past year, OCWCOG has averaged approximately 800-900 calls each month.

The goal for this next four years is to better ensure our consumers that they truly have a No Wrong Door (NWD) experience when they contact SDS. NWD assures the consumer that once they contact SDS for anything, SDS will either provide them what they need at that time, or SDS will reach out to them for further assistance or guidance. With NWD, the frustrating search for the consumer to find the precise person or resource they need is over once they enter the SDS system.

2. *Nutrition Services* - The *Meals on Wheels (MOW)* is a critical program for our older adults and people with disabilities. This *Area Plan* focuses primarily on making the program sustainable. The identified problem is a \$225,000 deficit, which cannot be sustained for much longer.

The *Area Plan* spells out several goals to strengthen the viability of the *MOW* program including:

- Increasing individual contribution
- Increasing business sponsorships
- Increasing local government investment
- Stabilize the volunteer base

Another goal is to look at ways to reverse what has been a downward trend in dining participation at meal sites over the last ten years. This will primarily involve working with community partners to add other activities before and after meal times.

3. *Health Promotion* - SDS receives a relatively small amount of funding specifically tied to health promotion programs. However, SDS administers Medicare programs to ensure low income households have health coverage, SNAP food benefits, and Long-Term Care funding, which all play a key role in stabilizing a person's mental and physical health. With guidance from both the Senior Services Advisory Council and Disability Services Advisory Council, for the next four years SDS will be putting a stronger emphasis on mental health support for our communities. The goal is to expand the availability of the Program to Encourage Active and Rewarding Lives (PEARLS), an in-home program for people suffering from mild to moderate depression. Another related goal will be to address a serious service gap for those individuals and their families confronted with a dementia disease. These diseases represent a fast-growing epidemic in our nation and yet effective treatments and services are sorely lacking.
4. *Family Caregiver Support Program* - Supporting family caregivers ensures that people can live in their homes longer and protects one of the most valuable assets in our Long-Term Services and Supports system: the unpaid caregiver. Guided by our overall goal to better serve Siletz tribe and LGBT communities, this *Area Plan* calls for more emphasis on providing these supports to family caregivers in these communities.
5. *Elder Rights and Legal Assistance* - Efforts to stop or prevent elder abuse and abuse of younger adults with disabilities is a high priority for OCWCOG. The Adult Protective Services (APS) unit is currently averaging approximately 50 investigations each month. One goal will be to ensure that investigations are completed in a timely manner to ensure that funding for the program is secured.

Although the funding for education and prevention is extremely limited, a second goal will be to target a specific media campaign that addresses the issue of abuse and promotes the awareness that abuse of our elders and people with disabilities is simply never okay. Similar campaigns in the domestic violence arena proved effective in the 1980s and 1990s.

6. *Native American Elders* - A focus group was held at the Siletz Community Clinic to inform SDS on the service gaps that tribal members are confronting. This *Plan's* goals include establishing on-going quarterly meetings with Siletz staff and tribal members, co-hosting semi-annual elder abuse prevention forums in the Siletz community, and ensuring that ADRC information is well placed in locations throughout the Siletz community. One elder rights forum has already been held at Siletz and APS has been able to assist some individuals who were in vulnerable situations.



Senior and Disability Services

1400 Queen Ave SE • Suite 206 • Albany, OR 97322
(541) 967-8630 TTY/Voice • 1-800-638-0510 TTY/Voice

203 N Main St • Toledo, OR 97391
(541) 336-2289 • (541) 336-8103 TTY/Voice • (800) 282-6194



Area Agency on Aging

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 23, 2017
TO: OCWCOG Executive Committee
FROM: Dave Toler, Senior and Disability Services Director
RE: **Senior & Disabilities (SDS) Program Report**

Veterans Service Office (Benton County)

OCWCOG's Veterans Service Office (VSO) serving Benton County is expanding the depth of services it provides our Benton County veterans. Most our veterans are either over 60 years old, or are younger adults with disabilities. Therefore, there are many programs under the SDS umbrella that might benefit our veterans or their families. In addition to working with veterans to ensure they are receiving all appropriate Veterans Administration (VA) programs, VSO staff are also assisting veterans with Medicaid and other Long-Term Support Services. Referrals are made to our Information & Assistance Specialist who then reaches out to offer additional assistance, as applicable.

Along with expanding our assistance to veterans, VSO staff are also exploring ways to more effectively reach veterans who may be uncomfortable or unable to come to the office. The VSO is partnering with the Corvallis Library to co-locate staff at this location for eight hours per week. This concept has shown success in other areas and has proven effective in reaching the homeless community, as well as others who may have barriers to reaching out for social services.

State Budget and Service Reductions

Two State budgets have been released – the Co-Chair's Budget and the Governor's Budget. The latest release was the Co-Chair's, and like the Governor's budget, it proposes serious cuts to Oregon Project Independence (OPI). Notably, it eliminates the pilot program within OPI for younger adults with disabilities. For SDS, the Co-Chair's Budget is a worst-case scenario. Unlike the Governor's budget, it provides for no additional revenue other than increased income tax receipts. Additionally, the Co-Chair's Budget freezes caseload growth for Medicaid funding for the first year of the biennium. The Budget does fund caseload growth for the second year of the biennium.

Related to the budget, Oregon Aging & People with Disabilities (APD) is in the process of implementing changes to Medicaid Long-Term Care eligibility. Two goals will be achieved with these changes. First, rules regarding eligibility will be made more clear and definitive. This will lead to more consistent interpretations from case managers across the State. Second, this will achieve a desired cost savings. APD estimates that the changes will result in 5-10% of our

current caseload being deemed now ineligible for services. Of most concern to SDS are individuals who are now in community-based facilities, such as Assisted Living Facilities (ALFs), and may no longer be eligible for services. If these individuals had planned that they would live the rest of their lives at the ALF, they may now have nowhere to go and thus could end up homeless in our communities. SDS will be watching this proposal closely to try to mitigate any negative repercussions as much as possible. APD is projecting an implementation date of April 1, 2017; however, it is possible that this date will be extended.

Food Security

The Oregon Hunger Task Force recently convened a Listening Session at the Lebanon Hospital to hear about food security issues. SDS was invited to present on both panels and brought a new perspective on food security to the Task Force. While food security around children and younger families is typically an outcome of economic challenges, food security for older adults and those with disabilities often arises from very different factors.

An individual can have the economic means but may be physically unable to get to a grocery store, or not have transportation. Additionally, an individual may have the means to acquire groceries, but due to debilitating factors, preparing food may not be safe or possible. For these folks, the lack of food security is less of an economic issue and more about their abilities. For the SDS population, different solutions are required to ensure that individuals get the nutrition they need. That's why *Meals on Wheels* is such a valuable program, as it addresses these unique barriers for older adults and people with disabilities.



1400 Queen Ave SE • Suite 201 • Albany, OR 97322
(541) 967-8720 • FAX (541) 967-6123

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 23, 2017
TO: OCWCOG Executive Committee
FROM: Phil Warnock, Community and Economic Development Director
RE: **Community and Economic Development (CED) Program Report**

Cascades West Area Commission on Transportation

The Cascades West Area Commission on Transportation (CWACT) and staff from the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) hosted an Open House at the CWACT Full Commission meeting on January 26, 2017, during which members of the public commented on the proposed slate of infrastructure projects to be funded by the 2018-2021 *State Transportation Improvement Program*.

Also at the January 26 meeting, CWACT members confirmed their 2017 Executive Committee membership. The Executive Committee consists of one County Commissioner from each County within the CWACT region (Linn, Benton, and Lincoln), the ODOT Area Manager, and one additional representative from each County. The 2017 Executive Committee members are:

- Roger Nyquist, Linn County Commissioner and CWACT Vice Chair
- Annabelle Jaramillo, Benton County Commissioner
- Doug Hunt, Lincoln County Commissioner and CWACT Chair
- Frannie Brindle, ODOT Region 2 South Area Manager
- Bob Elliott, Linn County (Lebanon City Council Member and OCWCOG Board Member)
- Barbara Bull, Benton County (Corvallis City Council Member)
- Bill Bain, Lincoln County (Private Sector member)

Safe Routes to School

OCWCOG received a grant from the ODOT Transportation Safety Division, to implement *Safe Routes to School* projects in five local school districts: Albany, Harrisburg, Jefferson, Lebanon, and Sweet Home. In January, OCWCOG staff provided a railroad safety presentation to the full student body at Harrisburg Elementary School, including a video from *Operation LifeSaver*, a leader in railroad safety education for youth (<https://oli.org>). Also in January, OCWCOG staff met with Albany's Sunrise Elementary School staff to discuss project ideas. The projects in all school districts are being developed in collaboration with the participating schools and communities, and will include bike and pedestrian safety education, coalition-building, and strategic planning. The grant runs through October 2019.

Regional Park and Ride Plan

OCWCOG is working on a two-year *Regional Park and Ride Plan* that will support and advance Transportation Demand Management in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties. The *Plan* will foster a multi-modal transportation system, connecting communities and local/regional transit, while supporting economic development. The need for new and expanded park and ride sites has been identified in many local transportation planning documents in our Region, as well as the need to coordinate with adjacent areas.

An initial stakeholder meeting for Linn and Benton Counties will be held at OCWCOG's Cascade West Center in Albany on Thursday, March 30th, 2017. A Lincoln County meeting will be announced soon. More information is available at www.ocwco.org/transportation/park-and-ride.

Community Development Planning

OCWCOG will be providing planning support to the City of Monroe, through an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA). Planning services will include development code review and adherence, permit assistance, facility and infrastructure issues, and general planning support. Additional activities may be identified by the Planning Commission and City Manager; OCWCOG will provide support on a flexible, as-needed basis.

Community Bike-Share: *Pedal Corvallis*

OCWCOG recently signed an IGA with Oregon State University (OSU) to bring bike-share stations and bicycles to campus in spring of 2017. Bike-sharing is a network of bicycles available for short-term use. The addition of two stations and eight bicycles on the OSU campus will bring the total *Pedal Corvallis* system up to eight stations and 43 bicycles. Additional stations are expected to be added to grow the OSU portion of the system later in the year.

As of February 6, *Pedal Corvallis* has 90 active members, and 215 all-time members, who have taken a combined 1,136 bike-share trips. Total registrations are slightly lower than comparable cities, however utilization by members is higher. About 1/3 of participants are Medicaid members. A neighborhood-focused outreach campaign is in planning for spring/summer 2017, to further increase participation by Medicaid members and the community as a whole.

Cascades West Economic Development District

As previously reported, on behalf of Cascades West Economic Development District (CWEDD) and other local and regional partners, the Community Service Center (CSC) at University of Oregon submitted an Economic Resilience Grant Application to the Oregon Office of Emergency Management through the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. It has recently been reported that the application will be submitted to FEMA by the State Review Board as the priority planning project in the State.

Historically, FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Programs have required funds to be used for updating an existing Hazard Mitigation Plan relating specifically to emergency preparedness and disaster response. However, the grant's post-disaster planning funds have been newly changed to include a range of other activities, such as enhanced regional risk assessment and recovery planning, provided there is nexus back to the original mitigation plans. The FEMA Grant proposal submitted by CSC would be the first in Oregon to enhance, integrate, and leverage both local hazard mitigation and economic development planning activities, focusing specifically on economic recovery in a post-disaster situation.



Cascades West Center
1400 Queen Avenue, SE Suite 201
Albany, OR 97322
541.967.8720