



Board of Directors Meeting Packet

September 18, 2025
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Attend In Person at

Toledo Cascades West Center
203 N Main St, Toledo, OR 97391

Or Attend Virtually:

[Click to Join Teams Meeting](#)

**Next Board of Directors
Meeting: December 4, 2025
at 2:00 pm**

OCWCOG strives to host inclusive, accessible events that enable all individuals, including individuals with disabilities, to engage fully. To request an accommodation or for inquiries about accessibility please contact Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments at 541-936-9006 or adminGA@ocwcog.org, forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting.



VISION

To promote a thriving region through service, connectivity, and innovation.

MISSION

We are a regional leader and partner providing inclusive services to meet individual and community needs.

OREGON CASCADES WEST COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' AGENDA

September 18, 2025

2:00 – 4:00 pm

203 N Main St, Toledo, OR 97391

[Join Teams Meeting](#)

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

NOTE: Please contact Angelykah Light at 541.936.9006 or alight@ocwcog.org no later than noon on Wednesday, September 17, 2025, to confirm your attendance.

1. **Welcome and Introductions** (Chair, Pat Malone)
(2:00 pm – 2:05 pm)

2. **Public Comment** (Chair, Pat Malone)
(2:05 pm – 2:10 pm)

The floor will be open to the public for comment.

3. **Consent Calendar** (Chair, Pat Malone)
(2:10 pm - 2:15 pm)

Approve meeting minutes from June 17, 2025 ([Page 6](#))
Financial Report YTD ([Page 18](#))

ACTION: Motion to approve Consent Calendar items.

4. **Cascades West Regional Consortium Wetland Mitigation Bank** (*Transportation and Planning Manager, Matt Lehman*)
(2:15 – 2:25 pm)

Wetland Resolution Document ([Page 22](#))

ACTION: Motion to approve the resolution to apply for a grant to develop a Linn- Benton Wetland Mitigation Bank Strategic and Business Plan.

5. **Bylaws Updates to Reflect CWACT Changes** (*Executive Director, Ryan Vogt*)
(2:25 pm – 2:35 pm)

Proposed Bylaw Changes Draft Document ([Page 23](#))

ACTION: Motion to approve the changes proposed to the Bylaws as reflected in the draft document.

6. **Cascades West Business Lending (CWBL) Resolution** (*Loan Officer, Didi Aho*)
(2:35 – 2:40 pm)

Lending Resolution ([Page 29](#))

ACTION: Motion to approve the Cascades West Business Lending Resolution.

7. **Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) Program Highlight** (*Program Supervisor Amy Peer and ADRC Specialist Sara Keys*)
(2:40 – 2:55 pm)

ACTION: Information only, no action needed.

8. OCWCOG Program Updates

(2:55 pm – 3:00 pm)

Community and Economic Development Agency Director Paul Egbert ([Page 30](#))

Chief Information Officer Jason Sele ([Page 34](#))

Human Resources Director Ryan Schulze ([Page 35](#))

Senior, Disability, and Community Services Program Director Randi Moore ([Page 36](#))

ACTION: Information only, no action needed.

9. Subcommittee Reports

(3:00 pm – 3:05 pm)

Transportation Brokerage Advisory Committee (TBAC)- No update

Cascades West Economic Development District (CWEDD)- No update

Loan Program Advisory Committee (LPAC)- No update

Senior Services Advisory Council (SSAC)& Disability Services Advisory Council (DSAC)([Page 38](#))

ACTION: Information only, no action needed.

10. Executive Director Update (*Executive Director, Ryan Vogt*)

(3:05 pm – 3:25 pm)

- Community Services Consortium (CSC) update
- Financial and grants update

ACTION: Information only, no action needed.

11. Executive Session (*Human Resources Manager Ryan Schulze*)

(3:25 pm – 3:55 pm)

Per ORS 192.660(2)(d) – To conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations.

Resume Public Meeting

12. Other Business
(3:55 pm – 4:00 pm)

13. Adjournment
(4:00 pm)



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We are a regional leader and partner providing inclusive services to meet individual and community needs.

OREGON CASCADES WEST COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES

July 17, 2025
2:00 – 4:00 pm

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

Attendees: **Chair** Commissioner Pat Malone, Benton County; **Vice Chair** Commissioner Claire Hall, Lincoln County; **Treasurer** Commissioner Sherrie Sprenger, Linn County; Mayor Alex Johnson II, Albany; Mayor Charles Maughn, Corvallis; Mayor Jan Kaplin, Newport; Mayor Christopher McMorran, Philomath; Councilor Debbie Poland, Depoe Bay; Councilor Joseph Parsons, Sodaville; and Councilor Mike Caughey, Harrisburg.

Absent: Mayor Scott Cowan, Millersburg; Mayor Rod Cross, Toledo; Councilor Kevin Hohnbaum, Lincoln City; Councilor Ken Bronson, Sweet Home; Councilor Carol Korn, Tangent; Councilor Jeanni Cuthbertson, Monroe; Commissioner Gil Sylvia, Port of Newport; Councilor Rick Booth, Waldport; and Member Robert Kenta, Confederated Tribe of Siletz Indians.

Staff: Agency Director Paul Egbert; Finance Director Marit Nelson; Chief Information Officer (CIO) Jason Sele; Human Resources (HR) Director Ryan Schulze; Senior and Disability Services (SDS) Director Randi Moore, Community Services Programs (CSP) Manager Alicia Lucke; Planning and Transportation Program Manager Matt Lehman; SDS Program Manager Rachel Sine; SDS program Manager Heather Schermerhorn; Loan Officer Didi Aho; Organizational Development and Training Specialist Vanessa Rusch; Executive Assistant Celina Franklin and Executive Assistant Angelykah Light.

Public: None

Welcome and Introductions

The Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments (OCWCOG) Board of Directors Meeting was called to order by Chair Malone on July 17, 2025, at 2:02 pm Via Teams

Video and Audio Conferencing, and in-person attendees. Introductions were completed by the attendees. Upon beginning the meeting, quorum was not met.

Public Comment

No Comments from the Public.

Consent Calendar

Approval of the Consent Calendar was moved to later in the meeting when Quorum was met.

Cascades West Business Lending Programmatic Update

Loan Officer Didi Aho presented information on Cascades West Business Lending (CWBL) program to the meeting attendees. Loan Officer Aho provided information on the program's conception and growth through time at OCWCOG. Through a variety of partnerships, networks, and funding, the program can continue to provide service to the region.

Chair Malone asked how CWBL gets word out to the community.

Loan Officer Aho listed the variety of events and communications CWBL is involved in including: the website, newsletters, chamber events, table events, and the new marketing plan.

At this time, Quorum was met.

Consent Calendar

Councilor Parsons moved to approve the consent calendar including the May 15, 2025, meeting minutes, and the Year-to-Date Financial Report July 2025. Vice Chair Hall seconded the motion. Chair Malone, Vice Chair Hall, Treasure Sprenger, Mayor Johnson, Mayor Maughan, Mayor Kaplin, Mayor McMorran, Councilor Poland, Councilor Parsons, and Councilor Caughey voted in favor. With no opposition, the consent calendar items were approved.

SSAC & DSAC Membership Renewal Approval and New Membership Approval

SDS Director Randi Moore stated that as an Area Agency on Aging, OCWCOG is required to facilitate advisory councils for Senior and Disability Services. SSAC and DSAC are requesting the Board of Directors approve the renewal of the current members and the new membership of Naomi Hirsch to DSAC. Each member is reviewed by the advisory councils prior to approval by the Board of Directors.

Mayor Johnson moved to approve the SSAC and DSAC membership renewals. Mayor Maughan seconded the motion. Chair Malone, Vice Chair Hall, Treasure Sprenger,

Mayor Johnson, Mayor Maughan, Mayor Kaplin, Mayor McMorrان, Councilor Poland, Councilor Parsons, and Councilor Caughey voted in favor. With no opposition, the consent calendar items were approved.

Councilor Parsons moved to approve the DSAC membership of Naomi Hirsch. Vice Chair Hall seconded the motion. Chair Malone, Vice Chair Hall, Treasure Sprenger, Mayor Johnson, Mayor Maughan, Mayor Kaplin, Mayor McMorrان, Councilor Poland, Councilor Parsons, and Councilor Caughey voted in favor. With no opposition, the consent calendar items were approved.

Financial Policy Updates

Finance Director Nelson stated OCWCOG has experienced organizational and department structure changes that indicated need for policy updates. Finance Director Nelson directed attention to the memo included in the packet. The memo provides an outline of the policy changes and was reviewed by the Finance Committee. The last update to the financial policies took place in 2022. Many of the changes are language updates to reflect the structural changes in the agency and updates to OCWCOG contract limits. Finance Director Nelson outlined presented the changes provided in the memo including the addition of a Per Diem policy.

Councilor Parsons asked the volume of OCWCOG staff that travel.

Finance Director Nelson stated that programs budget projected travel for staff. Many positions in the agency travel for varying occasions such as training and conferences.

Vice Chair Hall moved to approve the updates to the finance policies. Mayor Johnson seconded the motion. Chair Malone, Vice Chair Hall, Treasure Sprenger, Mayor Johnson, Mayor Maughan, Mayor Kaplin, Mayor McMorrان, Councilor Poland, Councilor Parsons, and Councilor Caughey voted in favor. With no opposition, the consent calendar items were approved.

Contracts Policy Updates

Finance Director Nelson stated the State of Oregon has updated the limit amounts concerning small, medium, and large procurements. The contract changes requesting approval are to align with the changes to the OARS.

Chair Malone asked if OCWCOG would default to State policy if agency specific policies were not outlined.

Finance Director Nelson stated that has a government agency, OCWCOG, would default to state policy. In adopting policies specific to OCWCOG, some processes

become less cumbersome. OCWCOG does partner with the state for the use of Oregon Buys to make purchasing more streamline.

Councilor Parsons asked for examples of purchases large enough to reach the cap amount.

Finance Director Nelson provided examples, including software and refrigerated trucks for meals on wheels.

Chair Malone and CIO Sele discussed the budgetary changes when software companies transition to a subscription model for licensing.

Councilor Parsons moved to approve the contracts policy updates. Mayor Maughan seconded the motion. Chair Malone, Vice Chair Hall, Treasure Sprenger, Mayor Johnson, Mayor Maughan, Mayor Kaplin, Mayor McMorran, Councilor Poland, Councilor Parsons, and Councilor Caughey voted in favor. With no opposition, the consent calendar items were approved.

Area Plan

SDS Director Moore, Program Manager Sine, and Program Manager Schermerhorn provided a presentation on the 2025-2029 Area Plan Developed for the region of Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties.

2025-2029 AREA PLAN

Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments
Senior, Disability and Community Services Programs

July 17, 2025

What we will talk about today

What the Area Plan is and
why it's required

How the Plan was
developed

The Focus Areas

Goals and Objectives

Implementation and
impact in the communities

First a Word of Gratitude

Thank you to all the people who made the
creation of this plan possible!



Why an Area Plan?

OCWCOG is the State designated Area Agency on Aging for Linn Benton and Lincoln Counties and contracts with ODHS to manage Medicaid, Older (OAA) Americans Act, and other programs funded by State general funds that support older adults and people with disabilities.

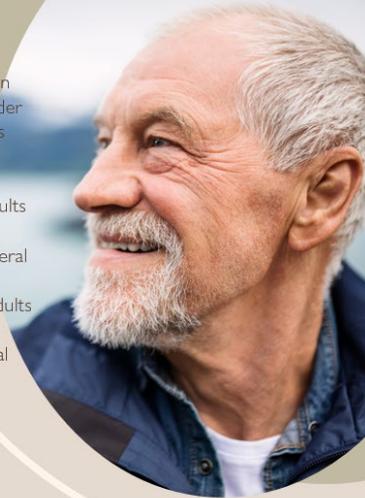
Purpose: To outline the strategic goals and objectives for serving older adults in the community.

Compliance: Required by the Older Americans Act (OAA) to receive federal funding.

Community Needs: Identifies and addresses the specific needs of older adults and people with disabilities in the region.

Resource Allocation: Ensures efficient use of resources to provide essential services.

Collaboration: Facilitates partnerships with local organizations and stakeholders.



The Lens We Use for Service

Older Americans Act programming prioritizes identifying and providing services to targeted populations, including those in greatest social and economic need.

Hearing Community Input

- **Community feedback sessions:** three in-person listening sessions were held across the counties and one virtual listening session.
- **Engagement in community events:** OCWCOG staff attended fairs and celebrations.
- **Advisory council activities:** regular meetings and forums allowed for discussions on various topics.
- **Ongoing and future surveys:** multiple surveys targeting community partners and specific underserved groups were and are planned.

Mandated Focus Areas

The State CSSU determines Focus Areas that all AAAs in Oregon must address in their plan

- Information and Referral – ADRC Activities.
- Nutrition Services.
- Health Promotion.
- Family and Unpaid Caregivers.
- Legal Assistance and Elder Rights Protection.
- Older Native Americans.

Focus Areas That Were Added Based On Regional Input

Financial wellness and
Emergency planning and response

Community members, staff, and agency experience, have emphasized that these two areas affect older adults and people with disabilities disproportionately.

Information and Referral and Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) Activities

- **Accessibility Enhancement:** The plan includes reducing wait times for consumers.
- **Long-Term Care Outreach:** Community outreach will be expanded.
- **Staff Support:** Annual training for Options Counselors and ADRC call center staff.
- **Program Sustainability:** The Plan emphasizes bringing in more revenue and contracts.



Nutrition Services

- **Increase Nutrition Access:** The plan includes providing shelf-stable meals to food insecure individuals.

- **Advocacy for Meals on Wheels:** Reestablishing the Meals on Wheels Advisory Committee (MOWAC) is a key objective.

- **Financial Sustainability:** Enhancements to volunteer engagement and fundraising efforts.

- **Community Engagement:** Fully opening Congregate Dining Sites and organizing community activities to enhance social interaction at those sites.



Health Promotion Programming

- **Promoting Preventative Programs:** The Plan emphasizes enhancing support for health promotion programming.
- **Increasing Outreach Efforts:** It includes objectives for outreach to community.
- **Enhancing Programming Sustainability:** The goals also focus increasing the number of class sessions and reassessing community needs.



Family and Unpaid Caregiver Support

- **Program Assessment:** The plan includes assessing the current family caregiver support program at the agency.
- **Support and Awareness:** Strengthen community outreach through caregiver appreciation events and resource guides.
- **Education and Training:** Improving caregiver knowledge through training programs, especially in underserved areas.
- **Grandfamilies Support:** The plan proposes the establishment of a Kinship Navigator program.

Legal Assistance and Elder Rights Protection

- **Partnership with Legal Aid:** The plan emphasizes increasing staff awareness of Legal Aid Services.
- **Tenant Rights and Housing Stability:** Enhance tenant rights by providing legal assistance to seniors facing housing challenges and ensuring ADRC agents have relevant resource information.
- **Community Education:** Provide community education regarding housing-related supports, aiming to empower seniors by informing them of their rights and available resources through partnerships with housing authorities and legal organizations.

Older Native Americans

- **Support for Tribal Elders:** The plan includes establishing a dedicated unit of coordinators to enhance relationships and support tribal requests.
- **Recruitment of SHIBA Counselors:** Recruiting at least one tribal member as a SHIBA counselor.
- **Building Community Relationships:** The plan emphasizes implementing onsite support and coordinating with tribal leadership to tailor services according to community needs. Regular engagement and feedback tracking are also highlighted.
- **Enhancing Adult Protective Services:** The document outlines strategies for improving education and reporting for elder abuse.



Financial Wellness

- **Support for benefit access:** the plan includes creating a coordinator role for benefit application assistance.
- **Affordable housing advocacy:** raise awareness of housing issues, support homeless older adults, and advocate for policies promoting affordable housing.
- **Training improvements:** empowering seniors through financial coaching.

Emergency Planning and Response

- **Crisis Preparedness:** The department aims to finalize an emergency preparedness plan, assess risks, and develop clear emergency response protocols by the end of 2026.
- **Emergency Communication System:** A new communication system will be developed to efficiently reach consumers during disasters.
- **Community Resource Allocation:** The department will provide emergency supplies to high-risk individuals and establish sustainable funding through grants for ongoing support.
- **Post-Disaster Support:** The strategy includes conducting after-action reviews following disasters, providing post-trauma care for staff, and collaborating with local resources to support affected consumers.



Next Steps

- The Plan is a four-year plan with goals assigned across the years.
- Goals are tracked for success and barriers are identified for ones that are not successfully reached.
- Regular report outs are provided to the Senior and Disability Services Advisory Councils on the work being done.
- Annual reporting to the State happens at the end of each Fiscal Year (June).

Thank You!

A full version of the Area Plan can be found at:
[OCWCOG 2025-2029 AREA PLAN](#)

Randi Moore
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Budget/program Updates CWACT and Bylaws Updates

Transportation and Planning Manager Lehman informed the Board of Directors that Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) will now manage all Area Commissions on Transportation (ACT) throughout Oregon. Historically, OCWCOG has managed Cascades West Area Commission on Transportation (CWACT). ODOT managing CWACT is effective immediately.

Chair Malone and Transportation and Planning Manager Lehman discussed Oregon Legislature not passing a transportation package and history of the development of ACTs.

Agency Director Egbert added that CWACT is currently a subcommittee to the OCWCOG Board of Directors. Because CWACT is outlined in the OCWCOG Bylaws, an updated document reflecting the change will be circulated for review and approval at the next meeting.

OCWCOG Program Updates

Chair Malone encouraged meeting attendees to review the program updates included in the meeting packet.

Subcommittee Reports

Chair Malone encouraged meeting attendees to review the program updates included in the meeting packet.

Agency Director Update

Agency Director Egbert introduced Celina Franklin who is the newest admin team member. Celina's role is Executive Administrative Assistant to the Agency Director. OCWCOG Social Committee has scheduled the Annual Staff BBQ to take place on August 20th. Members of the Board of Directors are invited to attend.

Agency Director Egbert stated CED management is spread thin operating with three managers instead of the usual seven. Recruitments for the open positions will be underway. Due to a variety of costs and safety concerns, the Senior Leadership Team has decided to move forward with demolition of the house in the back of the Corvallis office property.

Other Business

SDS Director Moore had the opportunity to speak on the local radio show 'Think Out Loud' from Oregon public Broadcasting (OPB) with one a Senior Companion and Foster Grandparent Jan Molner-Fitzgerald.

Adjournment

Chair Malone adjourned the meeting at 3:29 pm.

Meeting minutes taken by Angelykah Light.



Quarterly Actuals v Annual Budget
 Total Department
 Total Fund
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	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Adopted Budget	
	Q1	Jul	Aug	Sep	Q2	Q3	Q4	Year Total	Year Total	Balance
Net Income/(Loss)	620,666	101,970	518,697	-	-	-	-	620,666	13,562,741	12,942,075
Total Revenues	4,853,703	3,594,327	1,259,377	-	-	-	-	4,853,703	76,971,637	72,117,933
Revenues	4,853,703	3,594,327	1,259,377	-	-	-	-	4,853,703	76,322,737	71,469,033
40000 - Beginning Balance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24,833,642	24,833,642
Total 42000 - Fees & Dues	1,175,423	998,092	177,331	-	-	-	-	1,175,423	7,476,710	6,301,286
42000 - Fees & Dues	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,338	4,338
42100 - Dues	391,816	391,816	-	-	-	-	-	391,816	391,816	0
42200 - Program revenue (including Fees)	433,699	256,368	177,331	-	-	-	-	433,699	2,742,765	2,309,066
42800 - Internal service charges revenue	349,909	349,909	-	-	-	-	-	349,909	4,337,791	3,987,882
Total 43000 - Intergovernmental	3,535,843	2,479,613	1,056,229	-	-	-	-	3,535,843	42,326,545	38,790,702
43000 - Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,779,960	1,779,960
43100 - Contracts	2,019,256	1,013,273	1,005,983	-	-	-	-	2,019,256	14,050,600	12,031,344
43200 - FedDir	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	753,970	753,970
43300 - FedInd	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	808,740	808,740
43400 - State	1,391,900	1,391,900	-	-	-	-	-	1,391,900	23,229,240	21,837,340
43500 - Local	124,687	74,441	50,246	-	-	-	-	124,687	1,704,035	1,579,348
44100 - Rents	18,856	14,234	4,622	-	-	-	-	18,856	114,537	95,681
Total 46000 - Interest & Misc & Donations	123,582	102,387	21,194	-	-	-	-	123,582	1,571,303	1,447,721
46100 - Interest Revenue	74,191	74,191	-	-	-	-	-	74,191	614,659	540,468
46110 - Lending Program Interest revenue	20,737	10,929	9,808	-	-	-	-	20,737	122,417	101,680
46200 - Donations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	300	300
46210 - Donations Received: Money	23,478	12,491	10,987	-	-	-	-	23,478	143,500	120,022
46240 - Donations Received: Private Grants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,000	7,000
46700 - Matching Contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	680,936	680,936
46900 - Misc Revenue	5,176	4,776	400	-	-	-	-	5,176	2,491	-2,685
Other Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	648,900	648,900
Total 48000 - Transfers In	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	648,900	648,900
48000 - Transfers In	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	648,900	648,900
Total Expenses	-4,233,037	-3,492,357	-740,680	-	-	-	-	-4,233,037	-63,408,896	-59,175,859
Expense	4,228,168	3,489,982	738,187	-	-	-	-	4,228,168	61,794,761	57,566,592
Personnel	1,895,079	1,895,079	-	-	-	-	-	1,895,079	32,906,557	31,011,478
51000 - Wages	1,176,364	1,176,364	-	-	-	-	-	1,176,364	19,407,015	18,230,651
52000 - Benefits	718,716	718,716	-	-	-	-	-	718,716	13,499,543	12,780,827



Quarterly Actuals v Annual Budget

Total Department

Total Fund

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	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Adopted Budget	
	Q1	Jul	Aug	Sep	Q2	Q3	Q4	YearTotal	YearTotal	Balance
Supplies & Services	2,320,761	1,583,173	737,588	-	-	-	-	2,320,761	28,541,219	26,220,458
Total 61100 - Supplies	6,769	6,236	533	-	-	-	-	6,769	180,200	173,431
61100 - Supplies	5,944	5,411	533	-	-	-	-	5,944	135,200	129,256
61200 - Supplies: Volunteer recognition	793	793	-	-	-	-	-	793	30,000	29,207
61250 - Supplies: Food MOW	32	32	-	-	-	-	-	32	15,000	14,968
Total 61300 - Equipment (non-capitalized)	472	472	-	-	-	-	-	472	175,730	175,258
61300 - Equipment (non-capitalized)	472	472	-	-	-	-	-	472	175,730	175,258
61400 - Furniture	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,700	12,700
Total 62000 - Services	2,313,520	1,576,465	737,055	-	-	-	-	2,313,520	28,170,721	25,857,201
62000 - Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	231,859	231,859
62100 - Professional Services	1,776,830	1,059,269	717,561	-	-	-	-	1,776,830	15,721,535	13,944,705
62110 - Legal services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	51,450	51,450
62120 - Marketing services	3,922	3,922	-	-	-	-	-	3,922	35,113	31,191
62130 - Insurance services	17,308	17,308	-	-	-	-	-	17,308	152,200	134,892
62140 - Banking services	210	210	-	-	-	-	-	210	12,775	12,565
62150 - Grants to subrecipients	73,009	73,009	-	-	-	-	-	73,009	6,476,753	6,403,744
62210 - Printing/copying	10,335	10,188	147	-	-	-	-	10,335	109,138	98,803
62220 - Postage	4,911	4,270	641	-	-	-	-	4,911	45,096	40,185
62300 - Software	3,907	3,657	250	-	-	-	-	3,907	281,520	277,613
62400 - Telephone/internet	2,322	2,323	-1	-	-	-	-	2,322	70,584	68,262
62500 - Memberships/Dues	3,441	2,676	765	-	-	-	-	3,441	78,200	74,759
62600 - Travel and training	18,056	16,197	1,859	-	-	-	-	18,056	118,708	100,652
62610 - Trainers	15,822	-	15,822	-	-	-	-	15,822	22,700	6,878
62621 - Employee mileage	14,512	14,512	-	-	-	-	-	14,512	146,400	131,888
62622 - Company automobile	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,000	6,000
62630 - Volunteer travel	3,367	3,355	11	-	-	-	-	3,367	42,000	38,633
62640 - Employee travel meals	231	231	-	-	-	-	-	231	2,500	2,269
62650 - Employee lodging	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,000	2,000
62700 - Facility and Utilities	11,956	11,956	-	-	-	-	-	11,956	131,792	119,836
62710 - Rent expense	72,601	72,601	-	-	-	-	-	72,601	884,583	811,982
62720 - Facility maintenance svcs	773	773	-	-	-	-	-	773	50,000	49,227
62721 - Janitorial Service	9,266	9,266	-	-	-	-	-	9,266	93,060	83,794
62731 - Electricity	910	910	-	-	-	-	-	910	50,000	49,090
62800 - Internal service charges expenditure	269,833	269,833	-	-	-	-	-	269,833	3,354,755	3,084,922



Quarterly Actuals v Annual Budget

Total Department

Total Fund

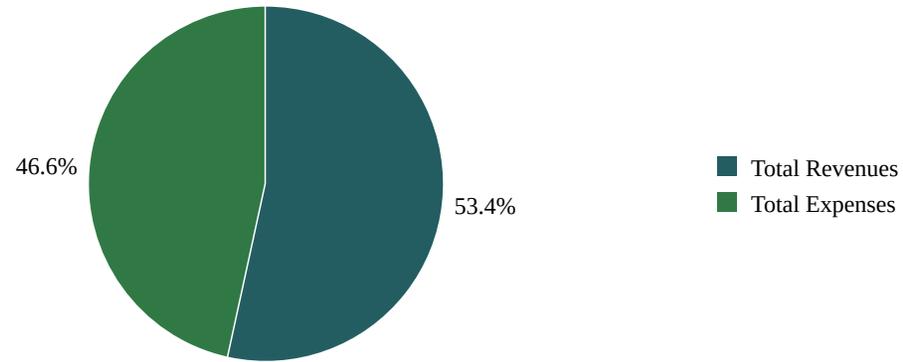
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	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Adopted Budget	
	Q1	Jul	Aug	Sep	Q2	Q3	Q4	YearTotal	YearTotal	Balance
62900 - Miscellaneous Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,869	1,869
Total 64000 - Client Assistance	12,328	11,729	599	-	-	-	-	12,328	273,984	261,656
64000 - Client Assistance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	47,000	47,000
64300 - Client Assist: Program wages	3,818	3,818	-	-	-	-	-	3,818	176,984	173,166
64400 - Client Assist: Support services	8,510	7,911	599	-	-	-	-	8,510	50,000	41,490
67000 - Resource Reserves	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	48,000	48,000
70000 - Capital	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25,000	25,000
Other Expense	4,869	2,375	2,494	-	-	-	-	4,869	1,614,135	1,609,266
71000 - Equipment	-2,291	-2,291	-	-	-	-	-	-2,291	-	2,291
74000 - Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	235,000	235,000
77000 - Software (multi-year)	7,160	4,666	2,494	-	-	-	-	7,160	177,248	170,088
Debt, Transfers & Contingency	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,201,887	1,201,887
95000 - Contingency	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	552,987	552,987
Total 98000 - Transfers Out	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	648,900	648,900
98000 - Transfers Out	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	648,900	648,900

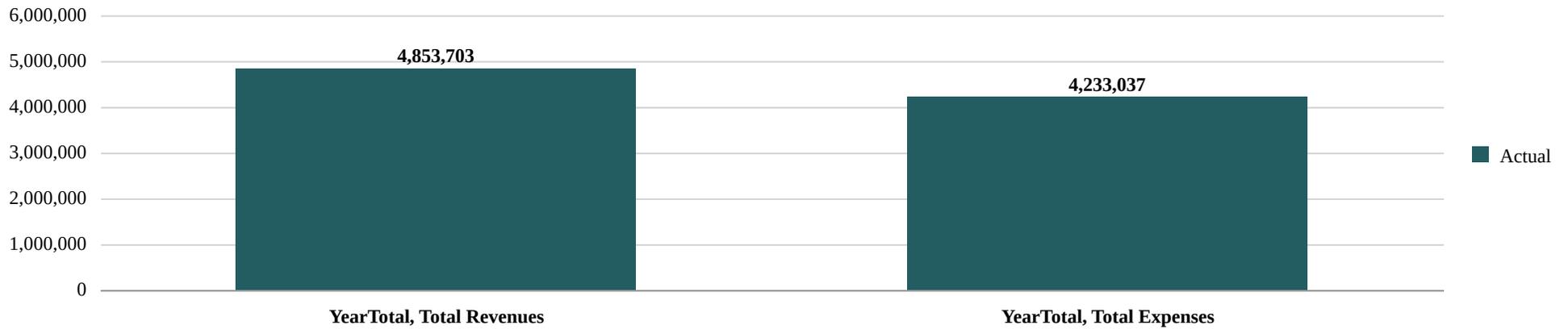


Quarterly Actuals v Annual Budget
Total Department
Total Fund
Generated on: September 10, 2025 10:04 AM

Year to Date Total Actuals



Year to Date Actuals to Total Budget



RESOLUTION NO. 2025-09-01

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE OREGON CASCADES WEST COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS TO APPLY FOR A GRANT TO DEVELOP A LINN-BENTON WETLAND MITIGATION BANK STRATEGIC AND BUSINESS PLAN

WHEREAS, wetland mitigation and land use constraints are longstanding barriers for housing production,

WHEREAS, grant funding for a local government is available for housing production, planning, and support,

WHEREAS, a solicitation is now open for a local government to apply for housing production planning, and support,

WHEREAS, the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development is accepting grant proposals to support housing production,

WHEREAS, on behalf of the Cascades West Regional Consortium, the Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments desires to submit a grant application to support housing production for Linn and Benton counties, and

WHEREAS, the Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments will submit the application, and if awarded, manage the project and procure a wetlands mitigation consultant. Cash or in-kind match are not required for this grant program.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE OREGON CASCADES WEST COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS BOARD OF DIRECTORS RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments formally requests grant funding from the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development to develop a Wetland Mitigation Bank Strategic and Business Plan.

PASSED by the Board of Directors on this
this

_____ day of _____, 2025.

APPROVED by the Chair

_____ day of _____, 2025.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Patrick Malone, OCWCOG Board Chair

Ryan Vogt, OCWCOG Executive Director



OCWCOG Bylaws

Adopted March 15, 2001
Amended March 18, 2010
Amended December 8, 2022
Amended March 16, 2023
Amended July 17, 2025

ARTICLE I- Organization

The Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments is an intergovernmental entity established by parties to an intergovernmental agreement under the authority of the State of Oregon's Intergovernmental Cooperation Statutes ORS 190.003 to 190.110 generally, and specifically ORS 190.010 (5), and formalized by Articles of Agreement most recently adopted March 15, 2001.

ARTICLE II- Purpose and Objectives

These Bylaws are adopted by the Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments (OCWCOG) to facilitate the business of OCWCOG and to assist OCWCOG in meeting those purposes set forth in the Articles of Agreement. In the case of any conflict between the Articles of Agreement and these Bylaws, the Articles of Agreement shall prevail.

ARTICLE III- Membership

The OCWCOG Board membership is established according to the Articles of Agreement, Article V, section B through E.

a) OCWCOG Representatives

1. Each member shall be entitled to one representative selected by and from members of its elected governing board to serve on the OCWCOG governing board, hereinafter referred to as " Board";
2. Each member shall be entitled to one alternate to represent the member in the

absence of the representative on the governing board and any board or committee of the OCWCOG;

3. The intent of the OCWCOG is to be a forum for elected representatives. However, if no elected official is available for a specific meeting, the representative or chief elected official in the absence of that representative of the member may assign a staff of that unit of local government to attend that meeting. Such appointed representative shall have all rights and responsibilities of the regular representative for that meeting. The delegation shall be made in writing for each meeting, and be presented to the Chair of the meeting; and,
4. Representatives and alternates shall hold office until their successors are appointed by the governing board of the member.

ARTICLE IV- Officers

Pursuant to the Articles of Agreement the officers of the Board shall consist of a Chair, Vice-Chair, and Treasurer elected from among its members.

a) Duties:

1. Chair: The Chair shall preside at all Board meetings, shall appoint the Members and Chairs of all Committees, except as otherwise provided herein, and shall be a non-voting ex-officio Member of all Committees of OCWCOG. The Chair is the sole official spokesperson of the Board on all matters of policy and position, unless this responsibility is delegated, in writing, to another Member of the Board, a Member of a Committee appointed by the Board, or a member of the Staff of OCWCOG;
2. Vice-Chair: In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair shall execute all the powers of the Chair;
3. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall preside at the Finance and Budget Committee meetings. The Treasurer shall review with the Executive Director and Financial Manager the financial statements of the OCWCOG prior to each Board meeting.

b) The Chair, Vice-Chair, and Treasurer shall be residents of different Counties.

c) Election of Officers:

1. An election for Chair, Vice-Chair, and Treasurer shall be held at the January meeting of the Board in odd numbered years.
2. In November or December of each even-numbered year, the Chair shall appoint a Nominating Committee to propose candidates for Chair, Vice-Chair, and Treasure.

3. Nominations for Chair, Vice-Chair, or Treasurer may be made from the floor. Candidates receiving at least fifty-one (51%) positive votes of those Members present at the meeting shall be declared elected. Persons elected as Chair, Vice-Chair, or Treasurer may hold these offices for two consecutive two-year terms. At-large Representatives may succeed themselves for any number of terms.
4. Persons nominated for office may not represent a member government located in the same County as the current holder of that office, with the exception of a current office holder who is eligible for re-election to that office. For example: if the current Chair is from Linn County, those nominated to replace the current Chair must not represent a Linn County member government.
5. The Vice-Chair shall complete the unexpired term of the Chair when a vacancy in the office of Chair occurs. A vacancy in either the office of Vice-Chair or Treasurer shall be filled by election at the next regular meeting of the Board.

ARTICLE V- Committees

Pursuant to the Articles of Agreement, the Executive Committee shall be composed of the Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, and three (3) at-large Representatives of Board Members, one from each County.

a) Executive Committee

1. In odd-numbered years at the January meeting, Members shall caucus by County to nominate and elect at-large Representatives. At-large Representatives may succeed themselves for any number of terms. If a County At-large Representative is no longer available to serve on the Executive Committee for any reason, a caucus of that County's members present shall be held at the next regular meeting of the Board to select a new At-large Representative from that County. Since time is of the essence, a notice period is not required for this action, however, when possible, a thirty (30) day notice shall be provided of the need to select a new County At-large Representative.
2. Pursuant to the Articles of Agreement the purpose of the Executive Committee shall be to act on administrative matters on behalf of the Board between meetings of the Board. Administrative matters may include, but not be limited to, review and/or approval of financial matters, contracts, agreements, and grants and program reports presented by Staff. The Executive Committee may also review and comment on lobbying plans presented by OCWCOG Committees, develop Board agendas, and take similar action of a non-policy-making nature.
3. Pursuant to the Articles of Agreement, regular Executive Committee

meetings shall be held in the months a regular Board meeting is not scheduled and a schedule of meetings for the year shall be adopted at the first meeting of the Executive Committee in a calendar year. Pursuant to the Articles of Agreement, special meetings may be called as deemed necessary by the Chair or by any member of the Executive Committee.

4. A quorum shall consist of four (4) members. In the event of a tie vote on any matter, the Executive Committee shall refer the matter to the Board without recommendation.
5. Three members of the Executive Board voting in the affirmative are required to approve a motion of the Executive Board.
6. In the event the Executive Committee wishes to poll the membership on specific issue, it may hold a mail or email poll for this purpose. If sent by mail, members shall be sent poll materials by certified mail and shall have fifteen (15) days to return the poll information.

b) Standing Committees

1. In order to carry out the work of the Board, the standing Committees set forth in section 4 are created by the Board Pursuant to the Articles of Agreement.
2. All standing Committees created by the Board shall facilitate the work of the Board and are advisory to the Board.
3. No Standing Committee may take any action independent of the authority granted in writing to the Committee by the Board, however, should a special circumstance occur requiring immediate action, the Chair of a standing Committee may request the Executive Committee's approval for waving this provision. If such approval is granted, the Standing Committee's Chair shall report on the action taken at the next Full Board meeting. If the Full Board does not concur with the action taken, every effort will be made to reverse the action.

4. Standing Committees are:

~~i. Cascades West Area Commission on Transportation (CWACT)~~

- ~~ii. Senior Service Advisory Committee (SSAC)~~
- ~~iii. Disability Services Advisory Committee (DSAC)~~
- ~~iv. Finance Committee~~
- ~~v. Budget Committee~~
- ~~vi. Loan Program Advisory Committee (LPAC)~~
- ~~vii. Transportation Brokerage Advisory Committee (TBAC)~~

5. Each Standing Committee shall develop Bylaws for their operation.

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Committee Bylaws and any amended thereto must be approved by the Board to become effective.

6. When deemed appropriate, the Board may create or dissolve a Standing Committee.
- c) Special Committees and Task Forces
1. The Board may, from time to time, authorize, and appoint special committees or task forces. Committees and task forces shall exist at the pleasure of the Board and may establish a mission, rules, and/or bylaws for action to be approved by the Board.

ARTICLE VI- Organizational Procedures

- a) Pursuant to the Articles of Agreement the Board shall generally meet at least every other month and a calendar of meetings for the year shall be distributed in January of each year. Regular meetings of the Board shall be held in the Albany office known as Cascades West Center. However, by decision of the Chair or Board, a meeting may be held elsewhere. If the meeting is to be held at another location a notice indicating the location shall be emailed or mailed to each representative at least 20 days in advance of the meeting.
- b) A quorum shall consist of thirty-three percent (33%) of the members of the Board. A quorum is required for official action at any regularly scheduled meeting.
- c) Special meetings may be called by the Chair or by three members of the Board. At least seven (7) calendar days' notice shall be given to the membership for special meetings. A quorum, consisting of a simple majority of the members of the Board, shall be required for official action at special meetings.
- d) Each Representative, alternate or appointed Representative, shall be entitled to one vote on matters before the Board. Proxy voting will not be allowed.
- e) Meetings shall be held in compliance with State public meeting requirements.
- f) Except as otherwise provided in the Bylaws, at least fifty-one percent (51%) of the Representatives must be present, and voting shall be sufficient to decide a question before the Board.
- g) Unless otherwise specified, *Roberts Rules of Order Revised* shall govern the proceedings of the meetings of the Board; the Chair shall have the privilege of determining proper procedures.
- h) If a Representative requests a written ballot vote on any issue before the Board, such request shall be granted.

- i) In all cases, Board meetings shall be held in accordance with the Oregon Public Meetings Law.

ARTICLE VII-Amendments

Amendments to the Bylaws may be made at any meeting of the Board. A copy of the proposed amendment and the reason for the amendment shall be presented to the Chair not less than sixty (60) days prior to the meeting at which the amendment is proposed to be adopted. The Chair shall provide a copy of the proposal to each Representative at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to the meeting. Any amendment to the Bylaws must be approved by a vote equal to one vote greater than fifty-one percent (51%) of the current membership of OCWCOG.

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
OREGON CASCADES WEST COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
ANNUAL PLAN CERTIFICATION OF THE RLF MANAGEMENT PLAN**

RESOLUTION 25-09-02

Authorizing the Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments Annual Plan Certification of the RLF Management Plan for Cascades West Business Lending.

WHEREAS the Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments Board of Directors is responsible for the RLF's performance in relation to the area's adjustment strategy and the RLF Management Plan.

WHEREAS, the Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments Board of Directors has determined that the RLF Management Plan is consistent with and supportive of the area's current economic adjustment strategy; and

The RLF is being operated in accordance with the policies and procedures contained in the RLF Management Plan and the loan portfolio meets the standards contained therein; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments Board of Directors does hereby certify that RLF Management Plan.

ADOPTED this 18th day of September 2025, at Toledo, Oregon.

Patrick Malone
OCWCOG Board Chair

Ryan Vogt
OCWCOG Executive Director



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Community and Economic Development

OCWCOG Board Updates

September 18, 2025

Introduction to the Community and Economic Development (CED) Department:

CED is a diverse department with a wide range of programs, projects, and goals. Currently the CED department has 36 staff. Recently our department has seen a few different transitions. Jesus Jara is now serving as interim Ride Line Manager, Nick Andrews, OCWCOG's Project Manager, now serves 50% of his time in Ride Line coordinating quality assurance, compliance, and reporting in the interim. Additionally, a few Ride Line staff have taken on Work out of Class and interim roles to support the department and provide stability to the Team. CED's primary focus areas cover: Cascades West Business Lending, Cascades West Ride Line, Transportation Planning, GIS Services, Community/ Economic Development Planning, and Grant Writing.

Cascades West Business Lending:

- CWBL did not get approved for the EDA FY 2025 Disaster Supplemental Funding that was applied for. We had planned to use the funding to rebrand and expand the lending program, create a comprehensive marketing and outreach plan, create new promotional materials and purchase a static display, and update all program workplans. Much of the work would be completed by a temporary hire. Current leadership changes within CED will allow us to begin on this work without the funding.
- Two SBA loans are in an active underwriting stage, the veterinarian in Corvallis and a new loan for a physical therapist to purchase a building in Corvallis. The diesel and auto mechanic in Philomath is expected to start progressing again soon. One additional prospect is in early stages of eligibility.
- A few "local loan" prospects are currently active.

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Cascades West Ride Line:

Quarter 2 Highlights

- Ride Line was subcontracted with 23 Transportation Provider Companies
 - 169 Active Vehicles
 - 174 Certified Drivers
- Total number of Calls Received 30,181
- Total Trips Requested 71,809
 - 13,136 were Mileage Reimbursement
 - 9,346 were Wheelchair Transport
- Total Trips Completed in 52,758
 - 11,748 were Mileage Reimbursement
 - 6,935 were Wheelchair Transports

Transportation Planning:

- The CED department was successful in applying for an Innovative Mobility grant and will be developing programming around this grant in Q2. Programming may include K-12 Bike Education, small-scale safety projects and promotion of transit, vanpool and other alternative transportation methods.
- The CED department is preparing to onboard a new Assistant Planner in September. The Assistant Planner will be working on Parks Master Planning for two of our jurisdictions, programming our Innovative Mobility grant and MPO administration.
- CED will continue to staff the two MPO's in our region. Year end reporting has been submitted to ODOT.

Community and Economic Development Planning:

- The Cascades West Economic Development District (CWEDD) Board of Directors will be reviewing the 2025-2030 Draft Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for final approval at the September 11th Board meeting. To view this draft document, [CLICK HERE](#).
- Staff started discussions with the CWEDD Executive Committee on updating the membership structure to better represent the economic interests in the region.
- Staff are working on a Regional Marketing Video to highlight the CEDS and 4-County EDD region.

- Staff are working with the Cascades West Regional Consortium (CWRC) on Phase II of a Business Plan for a regional wetland bank. Staff submitted a grant application to the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD).

Grants Services and Support

Staff provided some degree of project scoping, scaling, writing, and support for the following applications:

Year to Date 2025: January 1 to 9-9-2025						
Type	Number of Grants Submitted	Applicants	Grant Request	Match (Cash and/or In-Kind)	Total Project Cost	Status
Business Development	2	2=OCWCOG	\$ 291,290	\$ 75,576	\$ 366,866	1=Pending, 1=Not Funded
Housing and Land Use	4	1=Lincoln City, 1=Philomath, 1=OCWCOG, 1=Lebanon	\$ 570,000	\$ -	\$ 570,000	3=Pending, 1=Funded
Infrastructure	3	1=Halsey, 1=Toledo, 1=Sodaville	\$ 450,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 500,000	2=Pending, 1=Funded
Parks and Recreation	3	2=Tangent, 1=Lincoln City	\$ 632,000	\$ 5,048,000	\$5,680,000	2=Funded, 1=Not Funded
Transportation	1	1=OCWCOG	\$ 387,383	\$ 99,360	\$ 486,743	1=Pending
CWEDD	1	1=OCWCOG	\$ 195,368	\$ 49,429	\$ 244,797	1=Pending
Running Total	14		\$ 2,526,041	\$ 5,322,365	\$7,848,406	8=Pending, 4=Funded, 2=Not Funded

Highlight and Update: The OCWCOG wrote, assisted, and helped successfully secured two Oregon Parks Grants for the City of Tangent. The first will fund the construction of a new covered pavilion at Bass Estate Community Park. The other grant will support an update of the City's Parks Master Plan. That plan will guide long-term planning, thoughtfully allocate resources for facility improvements and/or property acquisitions, and provide a vision for the City's public recreation facilities. Both grant projects represent \$180,000 in Oregon Parks funding and a City of Tangent cash match. Another grant that demonstrates significant collaboration is the Federal Highway Administration Safe Streets and Roads for All for Linn County. Partners include the cities of Albany, Lebanon, Sweet Home, Millersburg, and Tangent, and Linn County. The City of Tangent is the fiscal agent. That grant was funded in late 2024 to support the development of a regional safety action plan to reduce fatalities and injuries on our roads. The total project cost \$496,793 with funds from the FHWA grant and a cash/in-kind match from each city and Linn County. We are still waiting for the contract.

- Staff will also be holding a Mass Timber Webinar which is being held on Thursday, September 11th

MASS TIMBER & HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

WEBINAR

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2025

2:00PM TO 3:30PM

Purposes of this workshop are to 1) provide a brief orientation to mass, cross laminated timber, and engineered wood, 2) construction and housing development use, and 3) permitting, building, and planning code requirements.

Featured agencies and speakers:

- Tallwood Design Institute, Iain Macdonald, Oregon State University and University of Oregon
- Freres Lumber, Justin Harries, Freres Engineered Wood
- Timberlab, Jared M. Revay, Director of Manufacturing
- Housing Development: Mass Timber and the Housing Innovation Campus at Terminal 2, Port of Portland: Rachel Thieme, Economic Development Business Manager and Brian Gunn, Real Estate Development & Leasing Manager
- Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development, Leigh McIlvaine, Economic Development Specialist
- Oregon Building Codes Division, Tony Rocco, Housing and Building Safety Manager & Structural Program Chief

CEUs are available upon request from the Oregon Homebuilders Association.

Contact: Susan Patterson, OCWCOG.
Phone: 503-666-4160
Email: spatterson@ocwcog.org



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Technology Services Board Updates

September 18, 2025

COG Intranet Site

The COG Intranet site development is in progress. The senior leadership team created a list of contents and a site with the initial pages has been created. Meetings are underway with key personnel from each program group to customize their specific areas.

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Office of Human Resources Board of Directors Memo

September 11, 2025

HR staff are demonstrating flexibility, commitment to task, and resilience as we support two agencies and shifting priorities as they arise. The learning curve for the team has been fast and furious and HR staff continue to demonstrate they are up to the challenge:

Staffing Updates:

- HR Manager Jesus Jara is filling the RideLine Program Manager position on an interim basis while the position is being recruited for
- Reina Avila is working out of class to fill the HR Manager role
- Shelby Draper is working out of class as an HR Generalist 2

Program Outcomes:

- Employee Engagement Survey closed on September 12, this being the second run it's too early to confidently identify trends but is helping to form baseline data.
- HR is taking a more active role presently supporting CSC, specifically in the Finance dept.
- Collective Bargaining with SEIU is ongoing, barring anything unexpected should be closed before the expiration of the current CBA.

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Senior, Disability, and Community Services Programs Board of Director Updates

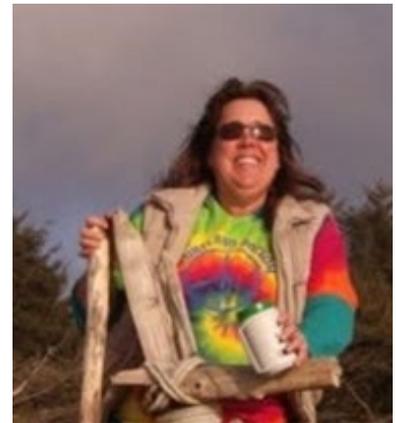
September 18, 2025

Norene Dennis - In Remembrance

It is with heavy hearts that we share the news of the passing of Norene Dennis, the longtime Meal Site Manager for the Meals on Wheels program in Sweet Home.

Norene was a deeply valued member of our team and a steady, compassionate presence in the Sweet Home community. Her dedication to serving older adults went far beyond providing them a daily meal—she brought warmth, dignity, and genuine care to everyone she encountered.

Through her 19 years of service, Norene helped build a strong, supportive environment at the meal site and played an essential role in the success of our Meals on Wheels program. Her absence will be profoundly felt by her colleagues, volunteers, and the many clients whose lives she touched.



We extend our deepest condolences to Norene's family, friends, and the Sweet Home team.

Thank you to the rest of the Meals on Wheels staff and supervisors who hosted a lovely celebration of life for Norene and have been covering the meal site operations as well as supporting the volunteers and consumers of the Sweet Home community.

Advocacy Leads to Increased Funding for Medicaid Programs

Good news - our concerted efforts in advocating for additional positions have yielded positive results. The State Legislature has approved an increase in our funding allocation for Medicaid programs for the 2025-2027 biennium, enabling us to expand our staffing. This significant achievement underscores the impact of our advocacy and the dedication of our team. Their hard work and compelling stories have not gone unnoticed.

SDS team leadership and staff have worked to identify the areas with the greatest staffing needs, based on our current workload and the priorities outlined in our Area Plan and have

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begun the process of hiring additional Case Managers and Eligibility Workers to reduce workload and better serve consumers.

While this news is certainly exciting, we approach this new hiring cautiously. The federal budget and landscape remain uncertain, and we plan to stay flexible as these factors evolve. We may need to manage positions through attrition if funding concerns arise.

If you have a chance to interact with State Legislators soon, please take time to thank them for the additional funding on behalf of our staff, consumers, and communities.

OCWCOG Staff Serves as Secretary to Supports “Live Longer Lebanon”

OCWCOG’s AmeriCorps programs have been active participants of the “Live Longer Lebanon (LLL)” group, the multi-disciplinary, grass-roots community health improvement coalition. Live Longer Lebanon is comprised of a diverse group of stakeholders who are leaders and members of the coalition. Starting in September 2025, OCWCOG’s Taylor Thorn will serve in a secretary role for the group. Live Longer Lebanon facilitates connections between existing partner organizations and individuals across Lebanon and East-Linn County to create a web of resources, services, and supports focusing on community health.

New Program Advisory Council Established for Stand By Me Oregon

The Stand By Me Program, a free financial coaching pilot, has developed an Advisory Council in the last quarter to help implement its Strategic Plan, increase community visibility, and bolster fundraising. The board will meet bi-monthly, and is comprised of the following members:

Xan Augerot, Community Volunteer

Viviana Oquendo, P., Ph.D., Strengthening Rural Families/Stand By Me Coach

Krista Burke, Instructor, Oregon State University’s College of Business/SBM Client

Stephanie Koehne- Executive Director KidCo Head Start

Anita Lengacher – Albany Small Business/Veteran

Molly Murphy-Oregon State University’s Counseling and Psychological Services/Past coach

Veronica Murray, Oregon Dept of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) Equity Officer

Ashley Wilson, Oregon State Credit Union’s Community Education Director /OR Treasurer’s Office Financial Empowerment Advisory Team

Greg Roe-Community Volunteer

Joey Running (Ex-officio)–GAPS Financial Ed

James Sink (Ex-officio)–Oregon Treasurers Office



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Senior & Disability Services SSAC & DSAC Board Updates

Sept 18, 2025

On Tuesday, August 5, 2025 the Senior Services Advisory Council (SSAC) and Disability Services Advisory Council (DSAC) met where they received updates and heard from:

SDS Program Manager Heather Schermerhorn:

- SDS Program Manager Schermerhorn gave an update on the Eligibility for Vulnerable Populations (EVP) Project.
 - The ONE System, with its one-stop no-wrong-door application process, created gaps and barriers for long-term care (LTC) applicants.
 - This was due to the lack of knowledge from workers across the State who were determining eligibility for services without having the same work experience as offices who have been determining eligibility for many years (eligibility determination is complex work).
 - This information was taken to the State which resulted in the following changes:
 - Offer Options - Honor Choice – LTC applicants have the choice of talking with who they called or speaking with someone who has been trained and an expert in LTC eligibility..
 - State moved toward a network of LTC workers which consists of workers in any office across the State if they put in for it.
 - Only people who have trained and practiced in LTC eligibility can authorize LTC requests.
 - Soft Case Holds were created - One person who holds the determination of eligibility of complex cases from start to finish.
 - The Statewide model would still operate for less complex cases.

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- General System Updates - Looking at ways to enhance the system that staff work in and the tools that folks interact with to better improve the process of accessing eligibility for LTC.
- The Statewide 800 number for eligibility will start offering choices to those that call as to whether they wish to speak to an expert or just anyone.

Care Planning Committee (CPC):

- The Care Planning Committee did not meet in July.

Meals on Wheels (MOW):

- MOW is in the process of developing one-, three-, and five-year plans on the direction MOW is heading.
- MOW is adjusting their menus to include more culture-appropriate meals to help diversify their consumer base.
- MOW has increase their social media marketing to Facebook and Instagram, sending the message that MOW is excited to be in the communities and serving those in the communities.
- MOW is trying to revamp the Meals on Wheels Advisory Committee (MOVAC) and get it up and going again this year.
 - MOVAC would be made up of:
 - Community Ambassadors who are people in the communities MOW serves who are boots on the ground people and connectors to all the people in the community they live in.
 - Members of the SSAC/DSAC, one from each county.
 - Revamping of MOWAC would require an amendment to the bylaws with a new job description.

Issues and Advocacy Committee (IAC):

Tabled to the Joint SSAC-DSAC October 7, 2025 meeting.

Monitor and Review Committee (MRC)

- The Last MRC Older Americans Act (OAA) contract review for the 2025FY was held on June 4th, with North Ends Senior Solutions (NESS), an adult daycare center.

- OAA funding awarded: \$7,000.
- Programs funded: Matter of Balance, Savvy Caregiver Training, and Transportation for older adults to services in Lincoln County.
- NESS is doing great work and will receive OAA grant money for the next fiscal year.
- The MRC approved refunding the current recipients of the OAA grant money with the same dollar amount they received for FY2025 with the exception of three agencies who will receive a bit more due to the number of classes being offered. The additional money came from the Oregon Wellness Network (OWN) grant.

Program Director Moore - Program Updates:

- Oregon State Legislature gave the AAAs and APD offices an increase in funding for the next biennium allowing for SDS to add additional Case Managers and Eligibility Specialists to help meet the needs of the communities.
- OCWCOG is in the process of bargaining, which takes place every two years.
- SDS Program Manager Heather Schermerhorn, SDS Program Supervisor Joyclynn Potter, and Program Director Moore attended this year's USAging conference in Chicago.
 - Keynote Speaker Ken Dychtwald, Founder and CEO of Age Wave gave a presentation outlining the five grand "challenges" we face when it comes to our nation's aging population. The message was that AAAs should not only focus on serving the most vulnerable people in the community but to also serving older adults who need purpose and engagement.

For more detailed information please see the [August Joint SSAC-DSAC Meeting Minutes](#).