

Agenda Item Number 9.A

LEC Response to Subcommittee Recommendations

Presenter: Steve Dignam

Action Recommended: Approve the following Lane Economic Committee action plan to address the recommendations of the LCOG subcommittee

Build a closer partnership between the Lane Economic Committee and the Lane County Economic Development Standing Committee.

1. Take advantage of the LEC's independence, geographic diversity and varied representation from business, finance, government, labor and education.
2. Minimize any functional overlap between the committees.
3. Hold at least one joint meeting and perhaps quarterly meetings with EDSC.
4. Discuss areas of mutual interest regarding funding options and technical assistance.

Background:

A subcommittee consisting of Mayor Sue Bond, Commissioner Anna Morrison and Mayor Warren Weathers submitted a report to the LCOG Board dated September 12, 2006. This report addressed a "Report on Economic Development Committees purpose and effectiveness." The report contained the following five recommendations:

1. The LEC, rather than acting as an advisory group to LCOG, serves as an advisory committee to the Lane County EDSC.
2. This new LEC meet on a quarterly basis with EDSC to share ideas and get direction on funding options and technical assistance.
3. The meeting should be attended by County ED staff, LCOG project staff and LMP project staff so that project referrals can be made by the EDSC.

4. There (should) be a reporting mechanism from the LCOG Board to the EDSC in order to assure that requests from EDSC to LCOG for technical assistance on behalf of LEC members are followed up on.
5. The Cascades West funds currently used to support LEC functions (should) be used to support the functions of the new LEC.

The LEC approved its 2007 workplan during its January 22, 2007 meeting. A copy of the workplan is attached. The four steps listed in the above “Action Recommended” are part of this workplan. The LEC believes that its four action steps address the five recommendations of the subcommittee. These initial LEC actions may lead to further actions and potential restructuring.