

Agenda Item Number 6

Information from the Executive Director

Presenter: George Kloeppe

Action Recommended: None. Information Only

Background:

1. Board Meeting Schedule

Our thanks to Mayor Petitti and the City of Creswell for hosting our meeting this month. Attached is a revised schedule for the remainder of the year. Please note that, thanks to Junction City's kind offer last month to host the December 11 meeting, we are "fully subscribed" for 2003. The schedule reflects the "switch" that was outlined last month between Florence and Oakridge. Florence is now slated to host on September 25 and Oakridge will host the Board at a special Saturday meeting on October 18. With the affirmation of the Board last month, we will conduct a goals session at our July 24 meeting in Cottage Grove.

2. NARC Policy Conference

While it could be addressed under item 13, let me say that I attended the Washington Policy Conference of the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) earlier this week. It was a short, but very informative, trip for me—I traveled east on Saturday and returned home Tuesday night. A great deal of ground was covered in a very well organized and tightly packed agenda. On a personal note, it was interesting to be in Washington talking with federal officials at a time when so much of historic import is happening. Of course, my professional interest was focused on those places where federal policy intersects with the interests and needs of this organization. However, international issues were certainly the subject of a good deal of the conversations. Attendees were privileged to hear from, and have opportunity to question, a rich array of decision makers from both the

Congress and the administration including the Director of Intergovernmental Affairs at the White House, the Secretary of the Interior, Assistant Secretaries in Transportation and Commerce, the Associate Director of OMB, modal administrators in USDOT, professional staff members in key positions on the Hill and well-placed and knowledgeable worker bees from a number of pertinent agencies. It was also useful to interact with and learn from my colleagues who were in attendance. In addition to the conference itself, as one of two members from the Northwest on the association's Executive Directors Committee, I participated in a meeting of that body on Sunday.

3. **“Centerline” Project Given Green Light**

Lane County, Springfield and Eugene have agreed to a new GIS project that will be carried out jointly with LCOG over the next year and will result in an important countywide asset. A “street centerline layer” and address range information will be added to the Regional Land Information Data System. I recognize that some of the wrinkles that have been added to the regional system over the past 30 years may seem somewhat arcane—indeed, the centerline project may fit in that category. But it is noteworthy, I think, that even in a difficult fiscal era, there is a commitment to making investments in the efficient use of the technology and finding ways of maximizing limited public dollars. The beneficiaries of this effort will be primarily the community safety services and the public works and transportation programs of local government. The new data layer, which will portray the ranges of addresses in digital form against all of the streets and highways of Lane County, will substantially serve and augment the computer-aided dispatch tools that first responders will rely upon. The total cost of the project will be approximately \$200,000, half of which will be utilized by the jurisdictions and the other half by LCOG.