

Agenda Item Number 7. B.

FY 2006-07 Area Plan for Senior and Disabled Services

Presenter: Kay Metzger

Action Recommended: Approve FY 2006-07 Area Plan for S&DS

Background:

Currently, S&DS is in the third year of a four-year Area Plan cycle. To prepare for the current cycle, in 2002 S&DS completed an assessment of the needs of seniors and people with disabilities who live in Lane County. Since then, there have been dramatic reductions in the availability of services for both populations. In recognition of this fact, S&DS updated portions of its 2002 assessment in the summer of 2004. The contents of the Program Year 2006-07 Component to S&DS' 2003-07 Area Plan on Aging and Disability Services are guided by the findings and recommendations of the 2004 update to the 2002 assessment.

The development of the 2006-07 Component to the Area Plan was a joint effort involving staff and members of S&DS' Planning and Budget Committee, a standing committee of LCOG's two advisory councils. Work started in October 2005. First, the Committee was briefed on the findings and recommendations of the 2002 needs assessment and its 2004 update. Second, it received preliminary information from staff on the availability of federal and State revenues for the 2006-07 program year. Staff also reported on findings from two surveys. The result of a survey of how other Area Agencies on Aging in Oregon use Title III-D funds was presented. Additionally, the result of a survey of S&DS staff regarding potential use of Title III-D funds was offered to the Committee. Based on all the information presented, the Planning and Budget Committee developed recommendations covering the key policy elements of the 2006-07 Component to the Area Plan, notably the budget and objectives for the year. The Committee concluded its work in January 2006.

In accordance with State and federal requirements, a summary of the proposed 2006-07 Plan Update and a notice of a February 21, 2006 public hearing on the document were prepared, duplicated and circulated broadly throughout the county. In addition to the publication of a legal notice of the hearing and the distribution of hard copies of both documents, they were posted on S&DS' website for those with access to the internet. The proposed Plan Update was available for public review and comment between February 1 and February 21, 2006.

Public Hearing:

As announced, the public hearing was held on February 21st at the Hilyard Community Center in Eugene. The hearing was chaired by Jane Boren, Planning and Budget Committee Chairperson. In addition to LCOG staff and members of LCOG's Senior and Disability Services Advisory Councils (Jane Boren, Kevin O'Reilly, Joe Xavier, Murray Petitt, Dianne Burch, and Mae Westfall Cook) one person attended the hearing.

The agenda for the hearing addressed the following topics:

- Review of the purpose of the hearing;
- Explanation of the processes used to develop the Area Plan Update;
- Review of the contents of the draft Plan Update;
- Response to questions from the audience regarding the draft Plan;
- Acceptance of comments from the public on the draft Plan; and
- Closing comments.

During the hearing, there was one question and one comment offered by a Planning and Budget Committee member. First, there was a question about the funding level for Older Americans Act (OAA) programs in the past, and whether or not it had varied much. The answer, offered by an S&DS staff person, was that OAA programs have had low but stable funding in the past. Second, there was a comment noting appreciation for the work of S&DS staff in compiling the draft Area Plan Update. With that, the public hearing was adjourned.

Planning and Budget Committee Action on the draft 2006-07 Area Plan Update:

The Planning and Budget Committee met immediately after the conclusion of the public hearing. Given there were no objections to the draft 2006-07 Area Plan Update, the committee voted unanimously to recommend to the Advisory Councils

that they recommend to LCOG the adoption and submission to DHS of the Plan Update as drafted.

Advisory Councils' Action on the Plan Update:

Following the Planning and Budget Committee action on the Plan Update, it was reviewed by the Senior Services and Disability Services Advisory Councils. Both approved it, as presented by the Planning and Budget Committee.

LCOG Approval:

The 2006-07 Area Plan Update is now available for consideration by the LCOG Board, based on the Executive Committee's recommendation.

A copy of the Plan Update is attached for Board members' review. Questions regarding the document and the process leading to the development may be posed to Kay Metzger.

Requested Action:

Based on the LCOG Executive Committee's approval, it is recommended:

1. That LCOG adopt the 2006-07 Update to S&DS' 2003-07 Area Plan on Aging and Disability Services, as drafted; and
2. That S&DS staff be authorized to submit the Plan Update to the Oregon Department of Human Services.