

Agenda Item Number 6.

Comments from the Executive Director

Presenter: George Kloeppel

Action Recommended: None. Information Only

Background:

1. **Board Meeting Schedule**

Our thanks to the City of Oakridge for its hospitality this month. For the last meeting of the current the fiscal year, we will be hosted by the Port of Siuslaw on **Saturday, June 26**. At present, a 10:00 a.m. meeting is planned at the Port office (1499 Bay Street in Florence). There will be coffee, juice, doughnuts, etc. provided. After the meeting—about noon—the LCOG Board will enjoy a cruise (between one and two hours) aboard the *Westward Ho* with lunch catered by Mo's Restaurant, one of the Port's tenants on the waterfront. LCOG's six-meeting-per-year schedule will begin in July with a meeting on the 22nd in Cottage Grove.

2. **Insurance Coverage for Community Festivals**

At the April Board meeting there was some discussion about the cost of insurance to cities for special events and community festivals. LCOG's insurance agent informs us that, if a CIS (City County Insurance Services) member has special events/festivals that the City organizes and controls with its staff, the event is considered "usual business" and is included in the premium rate, except when there is alcohol at the event. The CIS questionnaire that is part of the application for insurance includes a list of events, ranging from rodeos to festivals to fireworks that may or may not add to an agency's annual premium. As there are so many variations of

events, each agency should consult with its insurance agent to review insurance options.

3. Western COGs Conference in San Diego, July 27-30

The Internet link for the 2004 Western COGs Conference to be held July 27-30 in San Diego at the Shelter Pointe Hotel was sent to all members of the Board. I would like to nail down the arrangements as early as possible, so Board members interested in representing LCOG at this event are encouraged to let Jerry or myself know tonight.

4. Walkable Community Workshops

Earlier this month on the 10th, 11th and 12th, four “Walkable Community Workshops were held in Eugene and Springfield with financial support from a grant from the National Center for Bicycling and Walking and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. LCOG was one of ten MPOs in the nation to receive the support. The Workshops were sponsored here by LCOG, the Cities of Eugene and Springfield, LTD and ODOT. The four-hour workshops, led by experienced trainers from the National Center, encouraged attendees to identify opportunities to eliminate barriers and enhance walkability within our community. In total, 130 people participated. The Workshops allowed participants to specifically consider four areas—Springfield’s Main St/South A from Mill to 10th, the Gateway area, Eugene’s Willamette Street from 24th to 29th, and the vicinity of LTD’s Eugene Downtown Station. A report is being prepared to convey the recommendations from the Workshops to all of the partners, with the expectation that plans for implementation will be put in place.

5. Older Americans Month Celebration—“Aging Well, Living Well”

A reception was held on May 16 at the Campbell Senior Center in recognition of Older Americans Month. Ten of Lane County’s Outstanding Seniors were honored at the event, which was sponsored by the Coalition of Senior Programs. LCOG’s S&DS director, Ted Stevens, served as master of ceremonies. In addition to the reception, the five City Councils of the honorees’ communities have adopted proclamations recognizing the Older Americans Month and the contributions of the honorees. The recipients are: Charmaine Coleman, Herb Ball, Dr. Kay Porter, Anna Mae Herbert, Viola

Thompson, Dr. Thomas Kerns, Alice Plymell, Louis Young, Wilma Crowe, and Delight Fisher.

6. Meals on Wheels Fundraiser

On behalf of the clients and the staff of the Senior Meals Program, we thank those who participated in the May 3 fundraiser at McMenamins North Bank. Meals on Wheels has received a much-appreciated check from the restaurant for \$2,900. Another opportunity to support the program is right around the corner. The 12th Annual Vitality Walk-Run is on June 19 at Alton Baker Park. The \$15 registration will enable you to not only work up some steam for a good cause that morning (8:30 a.m.), but will provide a two-week guest pass to the Downtown Athletic Club as well. Call Paul at the DAC (484-4011) or Stephanie on our staff (682-4483) to participate.

7. Disability Services Advisory Council Recognized

LCOG's DSAC, one of the Board's two major advisory bodies for our AAA functions, was recently nominated for an Oregon Housing and Community Services Excellence in Housing award for its work on the "visitability" legislation in the 1003 legislative session. While the Council did not receive the award—it was one of 37 nominated throughout the state—it did receive a congratulatory letter and a Certificate of Recognition from Bob Repine, OHCS Director.