

## **Summary of Planning Session By Sylvia Rose Taylor, Facilitator**

### **Lane Council of Governments' Board of Directors ANNUAL PLANNING SESSION SUMMARY**

**Board Members:** Vice Chair Patrick Lanning, Carol Campbell, Darrell Carman, Mike Fleck, Keyte Hladky, Susie Johnston, Alan Laisure, Gary Pape, Judy Volta, Helen Wagner Nola Xavier

**LCOG Staff:** George Kloeppel, Kay Metzger, Ann Mortenson, Bob Swank, Byron Vanderpool

**Recorder:** C. Daniel Lindstrom

**Other Guests:** Ric Ingham, Joe Xavier

**Facilitator:** Sylvia Rose Taylor

Following a buffet dinner, Vice Chair Lanning convened the meeting at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, July 27, 2006, at the City of Cottage Grove Community Center (700 East Gibbs). On behalf of the City of Cottage Grove, Councilor Fleck welcomed the group.

Facilitator Sylvia Rose Taylor reviewed the purpose and objectives of the meeting, which were to participate in LCOG Board's annual planning session, to explore future opportunities that are aligned with LCOG mission and supported by the collective membership, and to identify and select regional issues of common interest to the membership, and that will be presented and discussed in more depth at Board meetings throughout the year. The facilitator also reviewed the meeting agenda and ground rules with the participants. The warm-up consisted of two exercises. For the first exercise, attendees formed pairs and interviewed one another. Then, each pair introduced his or her neighbor to the entire group by 1) name, 2) position, and 3) profession. The fourth interview question was, "What LCOG attribute, service or program do you most value?" The responses to this question follow:

- Senior & Disabled Services (S&DS)
- Planning and Facilitation
- Planning Services
- Transportation
- S&DS
- Old folks stuff (S&DS)
- Flexibility
- Facilitate cooperation among the various jurisdictions
- All services – particularly City Attorney services; interim services
- Planning and Mapping
- RLID – mapping
- Ability to facilitate cooperation and problem solving

- Training on how to write and obtain grants
- GIS – mapping
- Planning
- Venue for organizations/jurisdictions to work together
- Role in coordination
- S&DS
- GIS
- S&DS
- Transportation

The second exercise engaged the group in visioning 15-20 years into the future. Participants were asked to identify one major accomplishment that they would hope their successor Board of Directors would be able to attribute to the efforts of LCOG. Responses were shared following the recap of the June orientation.

Executive Director George Kloeppe provided a brief recap of the orientation presented at the June Board Meeting. The purpose of the mini-orientation was to prepare the Board to actively participate in this evening's meeting, by providing adequate background, including LCOG's mission, objectives, its array of programs, services and diverse client base, as well as the role of the Board and staff. Five handouts were generated from the June meeting:

- *LCOG Mission Statement*
- *Future Issues and Challenges*
- *Board Planning Session: LCOG Orientation – Q&A*
- *LCOG Membership Survey Responses*
- *Organizational Chart*

Returning to the Visioning Exercise, Board members clearly identified how LCOG could have a positive impact on local jurisdictions and the quality of life in the Lane County region in 15-20 years:

- Establish a metro-County law enforcement format to improve public safety (less costly; more effective)
- Facilitate the establishment of county-wide public library services for all Lane County citizens
- LCOG is made up of 2050 members; there is no MPC, but several vital, vibrant sub-committees that do the heavy lifting!
- LCOG facilitated the cooperation between members to create a viable and useful 2050 Plan (maintained the quality of life we enjoyed in 2006).
- Link all land use data bases of County and Cities to know (real time) a parcel's use and zoning.
- Keeping and maintaining services for Lane County's most vulnerable citizens.
- A dependable, permanent funding source to help Seniors with services that help them be independent as long as possible.
- LCOG has helped bring many partners together to find solutions to many transportation issues.
- Coordinated Transportation.
- Florence connected to the Valley with regular, reliable Public Transportation.
- I-5 between Eugene and Cottage Grove expanded to 6 lanes.
- A new scenic and efficient transportation system between Veneta and Eugene.

Viewed as a whole, the hopes for the future clearly echoes a "quality of life" message.

### Exploring Future Opportunities

Next, Board members challenged to explore future opportunities. To focus the conversation, the facilitator asked, “With an eye towards the future, what are the opportunities and outcomes that will require interjurisdictional cooperation and collaboration? Given LCOG’s mission, assets and the world in which we find ourselves, consider both programs and services that benefit the collective membership, as well as LCOG’s service relationship with individual members and contractual relationships with other clients and customers (i.e., S&DS).

After brainstorming and discussing many possible opportunity areas, Board members developed a short list. The numbers indicate the areas this group favored.

- **Transportation – Valley-wide (7)**  
Including the ability to help seniors and disabled to be more self sufficient by providing transportation to access medical, educational, and recreational services.
- **Reliable funding (6)**
- **Coordinate, link, network, plan and streamline regional services, especially for smaller jurisdictions** (reduce duplication and minimize re-inventing the wheel). (6)
- **Coordinate major infrastructure for use by multiple jurisdictions** (i.e. sewer and water) (3)
- **Coordinate county-wide library services (2)**
- **Technology services (2)**
- **Coordinate of county-wide law enforcement (2)**
- **Pool insurance (1)**
- **Animal control (1)**
- **Park acquisition (0)**

After the list was developed, two areas were emphasized and added:

- **Water Rights** (a time sensitive “window of opportunity” was emphasized)
- **Promote and strengthen regional partnerships**

Since there was not a quorum, this list will be considered, discussed and refined further, at a future Board Meeting.

### Identification of Shared Regional Issues

The final portion of the agenda was used to identify shared regional issues that would be presented and discussed at future Board meetings, throughout the year. The following topics will be forwarded to the Executive Committee, which will be responsible for refining and scheduling the monthly programs.

1. **Regional Approach to Transportation** (a series of 2-3 meetings)
  - Reliable, timely, doable, practical public transportation (to access medical, educational, jobs, recreation, entertainment, etc. – valley-wide and locally)

- Political and technical roadblocks and opportunities
  - Presentations on creative regional transportation systems and models from outside the region, as well as from LTD.
  - Infrastructure and funding
2. Water Rights and Regional Opportunities (1 meeting)
  3. Enriching Opportunities in Small Communities: Enhancing a Sense of Place (1 meeting) (include jurisdictional identify and revitalization through economic development, libraries, etc.)
  4. Impact of Education on Economy: What is coming down the pike? (K-12 and LCC) (1 meeting)

A fifth topic was proposed, “Multi-cultural awareness/training”; however, it was not discussed by the entire group.

Having achieved the objectives of the meeting, Vice Chair Lanning adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.