

Agenda Item Number 13.

Regional Issues

Presenter: George Kloeppel

Background:

Because this Saturday Board meeting poses both opportunities and limitations not generally present at regular Thursday evening meetings, it is suggested that the Special Discussion topic for this month focus on the Board's "regional issues" exploration over the past several years. The Board is scheduled to devote a portion of the February meeting to planning and goal-setting, and a discussion this month of the regional "targets of opportunity" for the agency's work would be a good prelude to that February session.

It is suggested that the Board revisit the exploration of "regional issues," and confirm or refute the assumption that it is a constructive use of time. The strategy of devoting an hour or so of Board meetings to a focused consideration of a specific topic seems to be good and beneficial. But that assumption should be periodically tested. Identifying those topics that are best suited for such intergovernmental exploration is key to the usefulness of this approach. We have had some very good discussions—the June conversation about regional transportation issues being an excellent example. But the continuing engagement of elected policy makers in selecting topics is vital.

Since this type of communication is one of the most important things that the Board of Directors does, it is important to "get it right." Clearly, we should have appropriate topics, knowledgeable catalyst presenters and suitable follow-up when needed. Under this agenda item Board members are asked to discuss this aspect of our meeting tradition.

To "prime the pump," the table on the reverse side of this memo reflects the topics that we have had on our LCOG Board agendas over the last few years. Please take a look at this list, particularly with an eye toward any subjects that you would like reprised or topics that should have staff work done to update information for the Board. Ideally, four topics could be flagged for consideration in 2008.

2004

Region 2050 Status Report
Downtown Plan: Three Cities
Partners in Economic Development
LTD Changes
LEC Work Plan
Walkable Community Workshops
Lane County Public Safety
Legislative Dialogue

Mike Dean, Coburg
Megan Banks, LCOG
Tim Craig, LCC
Ken Hamm, LTD
Steve Dignam, LCOG
Jeff Krueger, LCOG
B. Green, J. Clements, BVV
State Legislators

2005

Public Infrastructure
Opportunities for Cooperation
Education and Lifelong Learning
Regional Economic Development
Lane County Public Safety Task Force
Local Government Finance

Dave Barta, UO
Ron Hitchcock, LESD
Bob Warren, ODCED
Jim Johnson
Jim Carlson, C of E

2006

Transportation Planning – MPC
Education and Workforce Dev. Panel
LCOG Services – Planning Session
Lane County Public Safety Finance
Water Rights

Bobby Green
C. Forster, J. Roberts, J. Lindly
Kloeppel, Vanderpool, Metzger
Bill Van Vactor, Lane County
Brad Taylor, EWEB

2007

Opportunities for Small Communities
Education and the Economy
Regional Transportation

Mark Shrives, Gordon Zimmerman
Sonya Christian, George Russell
Jane Lee, ODOT