

# **Agenda Item Number 9.B.**

## **Coordinated Population Forecasts**

**Presenter:** George Kloeppe

**Action Recommended:** Authorize Development of Revised Forecast

### **Introduction:**

The cities of Oakridge, Lowell, Veneta, and Junction City have requested that the coordinated population forecast allocations adopted by the LCOG Board in February of 2005 be re-examined.

Three of the cities making the request have experienced larger growth than projected in the 2005 Coordinated Population Forecast. Each of the cities were participants in the 2050 process and suggest that a review of the 2050 population forecast and the 2005 adopted forecast be re-evaluated to better reflect their current population increase.

While no formal amendment process was adopted in 2005 during the initial allocation process, it is clear that the jurisdictions requesting a change must carry the burden of proof of justifying a modification to the existing population allocations.

The LCOG Board must now determine whether LCOG staff should re-examine the existing Coordinated Population Forecast adopted in 2005.

### **Background**

By state statute, ORS 195.036, urban growth boundary (UGB) population projections are required to be coordinated within counties. The Lane Council of Governments' Board of Directors is responsible for coordinating population in Lane County.

Lane County's population forecast was last coordinated in 2004–2005. Consistent with Oregon Administrative Rule 660–024–0030(1), the forecast was developed by allocating OEA's 2025 and 2030 forecasts for Lane County among all the UGBs and the rural county. To accomplish the population allocation, existing sources of population projections and historic trends were used. Population figures and historic trends of the proportion of the UGB populations to the total Lane County population were reviewed. Projections from comprehensive plans and transportation system plans were also reviewed. For the population outside of UGBs, Lane County staff provided information. Based on this analysis, a preliminary allocation was prepared.

A meeting of staff from all jurisdictions in Lane County was convened to review and comment on the preliminary allocation. Comments were obtained and the allocations for 2025 and 2030 were modified. In addition, the county projections were updated and adjusted to the 2004 population estimate produced by OEA. To better reflect the precision of the county projection, a population range was created around the Lane County projection.

Lane County jurisdictional staff then reviewed and commented on the revised allocation, finalized the county population allocation, and presented the population allocation to their governing bodies. The ratified allocations were forwarded to the LCOG Board for adoption in February of 2005.