

Agenda Item Number 10.A.

Lane County Coordinated Population Forecasts

Presenter: Bob Swank

Action Recommended: Public Hearing; Adopt Resolution 2007-04

Background:

By state statute, ORS 195.036, urban growth boundary (UGB) population projections are required to be coordinated within counties.

“ 195.036 Area population forecast; coordination. The coordinating body under ORS 195.025 (1) shall establish and maintain a population forecast for the entire area within its boundary for use in maintaining and updating comprehensive plans, and shall coordinate the forecast with the local governments within its boundary. [1995 c.547 §7 (enacted in lieu of 195.035)]”

In Lane County, the role of coordinating body was transferred from Lane County to the Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) in 1974. The coordination effort requires that the population of all UGBs in Lane County, plus the population outside UGBs, coordinate with a county-wide projected population total prepared by the Oregon Office of Economic Analysis (OEA).

The most recent coordinated population forecasts were adopted in February, 2005, by the LCOG Board. This spring, four cities requested that the coordinated population forecasts be recalculated using the two new years of population estimates that have become available. Since February, LCOG staff has worked with all the cities and Lane County to develop revised forecasts that are acceptable to all the jurisdictions. We now have acceptance or no comment from all the jurisdictions in Lane County. The Lane County Coordinated Population Forecasts for 2030 and 2035 are contained in the attached spreadsheet.

The forecasts were developed using historical trend information for a 15-year period and a five-year period. The jurisdictions were asked to choose between those

two new options, the existing forecasts that were adopted in 2005, or submit documentation for a different forecast. If a jurisdiction did not respond with a choice, it was assumed that the 2005 forecast should be used. Four cities selected a forecast option. One chose to submit its own forecast with documentation, and the remaining jurisdictions have the same forecast as adopted in 2005.

One forecast will probably change within the next two years. The forecasts are for Urban Growth Boundaries, so there is a forecast for the Metro Area rather than separate forecasts for Eugene and Springfield. New legislation requires that Eugene and Springfield have individual UGBs, so population forecasts for the two cities will be developed when requested.

After a public hearing is conducted, Board action to adopt the Resolution and thereby the Lane County Coordinated Population Projections for 2030 and 2035 is recommended.