

February 5, 2008

To: Executive Committee

From: Kay Metzger

Subject: Senior & Disabled Services Area Plan Public Hearing

As an Area Agency on Aging, Senior & Disabled Services receives funding through the Older Americans Act to help individuals over the age of 60 remain in their own home for as long as possible. While this comprises only about 20% of the S&DS budget, it is the funding stream that offers the most flexibility. Each year S&DS embarks on a process to evaluate the community's needs and determine funding levels for critical services.

The Role of the Planning and Budget Committee

Consistent with LCOG's mission, S&DS seeks to coordinate services through collaboration with citizens and partners. The Planning and Budget Committee, a standing committee of the Senior Services and Disability Services Advisory Councils, plays an important role in the decision making process regarding use of these Older Americans Act funds. The Planning and Budget Committee meets several times to carefully review pertinent information regarding community trends, needs, budget information, and contractor's performance. In late January, the Committee makes a recommendation regarding use of Older Americans Act funds. Using that recommendation as a basis, S&DS staff creates a proposed Area Plan and budget for the upcoming year.

Area Plan Public Hearing

Once the proposed Area Plan and budget has been created, a public hearing is required per Older American Act guidelines. **The public hearing for the FY2008-09 Area Plan for Seniors and People with Disabilities in Lane County will be held on Tuesday, February 26th at the Hilyard Community Center from 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.** Notification of the hearing will be distributed widely. Once the hearing is complete, the Planning and Budget Committee will convene to consider public comment. If warranted, changes will be made to the proposed plan. After review and approval by both the Disability Services and Senior Services Advisory Councils, the Area Plan will be presented to the LCOG Board for final approval. Once the LCOG Board approves the Area Plan, it will be submitted to the State of Oregon State Unit on Aging.