

March 31, 2008

**To:** LCOG Executive Committee

**From:** Senior & Disability Services Advisory Councils

**Subject:** Action on the 2008-09 Update to the 2008-011 Area Plan on Aging and Disability Services for Lane County

Program Year 2008-09 (July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009) represents the first full year of the new Area Plan cycle, which began in January 2008 and runs through December 2011. To prepare for the multi-year plan, an assessment of the needs of seniors and people with disabilities who live in Lane County was completed by S&DS during the fall of 2006. Additionally, other studies of local needs, such as the United Way 2007 Community Assessment and the Lane Coordinated Public Transit Human Services Transportation Plan, were evaluated. The multi-year Area Plan for Seniors and People with Disabilities in Lane County was submitted to the State of Oregon in October 2007 and has received approval from the Department of Human Services State Unit on Aging.

The development of the 2008-09 component to the 2008-2011 Area Plan was a joint effort involving staff and members of S&DS' Planning & Budget Committee, a standing committee of LCOG's two advisory councils. Work started in November 2007. First, in order to help the Committee make informed choices, significant time was spent educating members on the various funding sources, the services provided during Program Year 2007-08, the effectiveness of current services, the unmet needs of the senior community, and potential new service models. The Committee concluded this first phase by agreeing upon eight basic principles for decision-making. Second, the Committee received preliminary information from staff on the availability of federal and state revenues for the 2008-09 program year. Last, based on all of the above information and using the eight principles for decision-making, the Committee developed recommendations covering the key policy elements of the 2008-09 Component to the Area Plan, notably, the budget and objectives for the year.

In accordance with state and federal requirements, a summary of the proposed 2008-09 Plan Update and a notice of a February 26, 2008, public hearing on the document were prepared, duplicated and circulated broadly throughout the county. In addition to the publication of a legal notice of the hearing and the distribution of hard copies of both

documents, they were posted on S&DS' website for those with access to the internet. The proposed Plan Update was available for public review and comment between February 11 and February 26, 2008.

### **Public Hearing:**

As announced, the public hearing was held on February 26th at the Hilyard Community Center in Eugene. The agenda for the hearing addressed the following topics:

- Review of the purpose of the hearing;
- Explanation of the processes used to develop the Area Plan Update;
- Review of the contents of the draft Plan Update;
- Response to questions from the audience regarding the draft Plan;
- Acceptance of comments from the public on the draft Plan; and
- Closing comments.

Once the hearing was held, the Planning and Budget Committee met immediately afterward to review the input received from the public. During the public hearing, no negative or opposing comments were given and one positive comment was received from an attendee. The Planning and Budget Committee determined that no adjustments were needed to the proposed 2008-09 Area Plan Update, and unanimously voted to make a recommendation to the two Advisory Councils (Disability Services and Senior Services) for approval. The DSAC took action at its March 14, 2008, meeting. At the April 8<sup>th</sup> meeting, the SSAC will hear a report on the Public Hearing and be asked to take action on the recommendation of the Planning and Budget Committee.

### **Requested Action:**

Contingent on approval from the Senior Services Advisory Council at its April 8<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Advisory Councils of Senior & Disabled Services recommend to the LCOG Executive Committee the following:

1. That the Executive Committee recommend to the LCOG Board adoption of the 2008-09 Update to S&DS' 2008-11 Area Plan on Aging and Disability Services; and,
2. That S&DS staff be authorized to submit the Plan Update to the Oregon Department of Human Services.