

# MINUTES

## Lane Economic Committee

Lane Council of Governments – 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Large Conference Room  
99 E. Broadway, Suite 400 – Eugene

August 21, 2006 – 11:30 A.M.

PRESENT: John Tamulonis, Chair; Tim Black, Mike Blommé, DeAnn Cherbas, Chuck Forster, Anna Morrison, Glenda Poling, Rob Scoggin, John Sullivan, Lynnette Wikstrom, members; Jay Bozievich, *ex officio* members; Mike Galvin (for Hal Reed), alternate member.

Steve Dignam (LCOG); Bob Warren (Oregon Economic & Community Development Department).

ABSENT: Denny Braud, Jim Ramseyer, Hal Reed, Ellen Teninty, Jenny Ulum, members; Philip Hudspeth, Deb Schmidt, Kari Westlund, *ex officio* members.

GUESTS: Sid Leiken, Mike McKenzie, Don Schuessler, Judy Volta, Diane Wiley.

Mr. Tamulonis called the meeting of the Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) Lane Economic Committee (LEC) to order at 11:35 a.m. He invited those who were present to introduce themselves. He determined there were no planned comments from the public, chair, or staff.

### 1. Approval of Minutes

*Ms. Cherbas moved, seconded by Ms. Poling, to accept the minutes of the July 17, 2006, meeting. The motion was adopted unanimously, 11:0.*

### 2. Needs and Issues Inventory

Mr. Dignam distributed copies of a document entitled “2006 Needs and Issues Inventory – Final Rankings.” He noted application information was included for two projects recommended for first ranking in three of the categories of the Inventory – Community Infrastructure Projects, Community Facilities Projects, and Community Readiness Projects.

Mr. Dignam provided background information on the preparation of project ranking recommendations by an assigned subcommittee and reviewed scoring criteria used. He noted that projects not recommended for ranking were not listed in priority order.

Mr. Tamulonis invited discussion of the ranking recommendations.

Mr. Bozievich said he believed the City of Eugene “West Eugene Wetlands Education Center” project had been ranked third in the Community Facilities List because of an immoderately high Community Impact score in comparison to the Northwest Youth Corps (NYC) “Health and Safety Campus Upgrades” project. He recommended that the score of the Eugene project be

lowered two points and that of the NYC project be raised one point because of their relative significance and the importance of the project to continuation of NYC services.

Ms. Morrison asked if any federal funds included as Leverage Match in the Eugene project in question had been investigated for their continued availability. Mr. Dignam replied that the application had only listed local funds in its identified matching resources for the project.

Mr. Sullivan said that his experience led him to consider public well being/safety and job creation as significant factors favoring the NYC project over the Eugene project.

Mr. Tamulonis reported that Community Impact of the Eugene project had been more discussed than any other by members of the subcommittee in developing its recommendations.

Ms. Poling said she agreed that the NYC project held high priority because of its public safety elements.

Ms. Wikstrom reported that that the Local Priority order of projects submitted by the City of Florence had not been set until after consideration of its application by the subcommittee. She proposed that the "Utility and Corridor Improvements" project be ranked sixth in the Community Infrastructure Projects list recommendations and the "North Florence LID – Sewer Trunk Bypass" project be unranked on the basis of project priorities set by its City Council.

Ms. Wikstrom noted that the Local Priority score of the unranked "Downtown Green Improvements" project of the City of Florence in the Community Facilities Projects list should be changed from seven to five on the basis of project priorities set by its City Council.

***Ms. Morrison moved, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, to accept the recommendations of the 2006 Needs and Issues Inventory Subcommittee – changing the Community Facilities Projects rankings of the Northwest Youth Corps project from sixth to third and the City of Eugene project from third to tenth; and changing the Community Infrastructure Projects rankings of the City of Florence "North Florence LID – Sewer Trunk Bypass" project from sixth to not ranked and its "Utility and Corridor Improvements" project from not ranked to sixth. The motion was adopted, 10:1, with Mr. Forster voting no.***

Mr. Dignam reported that a representative of the Economic Development Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce had recommended that a preferential ordering of the top-ranked projects of the three categories of the Needs and Issues Inventory be created to facilitate choices between them in applications that might be made for support from identical federal funding sources. He said Project Readiness was suggested to be a prime criterion in the prioritization.

Mr. Tamulonis invited project representatives to make presentations.

Diane Wiley stated that she represented the University of Oregon Riverfront Research Park and its "Technology Incubator and Tenant Improvements" project ranked first in the Community Facilities Projects category. She distributed copies of a document entitled "Readiness of UO Technology Incubator Project" and reviewed information it contained – the University is experienced in managing a successful tech incubator, market feasibility study and business plan have been completed, construction proposal has been accepted by the State, and next steps are in place.

Members discussed the project.

Mayor Judy Volta stated that she represented the City of Coburg and its "Wastewater Collection System" project ranked first in the Community Infrastructure Projects category. She noted that

Springfield Mayor Sid Leiken and Coburg City Administrator Don Schuessler were present and would offer additional supportive testimony for the project. She reviewed the planning, development, and critical nature of the project. She emphasized its regional economic and public safety/health impacts. She described pending decisions and construction progress.

Members discussed the project.

Mr. Dignam presented information regarding the LCOG “Revolving Loan Fund Program” project ranked first in the Community Readiness Projects category. He emphasized the historically successful nature of the program, its source of local matching funds, its job creation component, and its lack of administrative cost.

Members discussed the project.

***Mr. Bozievich moved, seconded by Ms. Morrison, to identify a Preferential Order for top-ranked 2006 Needs and Issues Inventory projects, as follows: #1 Coburg “Wastewater Collection System” project, #2 LCOG “Revolving Loan Fund Program” project, #3 Port of Siuslaw “Maple Street Landing and Transient Dock” project (currently ranked second in the Community Infrastructure Projects category), and #4 University of Oregon Riverfront Research Park “Technology Incubator and Tenant Improvements” project.***

Members discussed the motion, especially its proposal to add the Port of Siuslaw project to those receiving top ranking.

***The motion was defeated, 5:6, with Mr. Bozievich, Mr. Galvin, Ms. Morrison, Ms. Poling, and Ms. Wikstrom voting yes.***

***Mr. Galvin moved, seconded by Mr. Forster, to identify an overall top-ranked 2006 Needs and Issues Inventory project, as follows: #1 Coburg “Wastewater Collection System” . The motion was adopted unanimously, 11:0.***

Mr. Tamulonis announced that the next LEC meeting was scheduled for October 16.

The meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

*(Recorded by Dan Lindstrom)*

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*Last Saved: August 22, 2006*