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August 15, 2002

Ken Keim, Oregon 9-1-1 Program Manager
595 Cottage Street N.E.
Salem, Oregon 97301

Regarding: Submission of "Preliminary 9-1-1 Consolidation Plan for the Lane County Area"

Dear Ken,

Attached please find the Preliminary 9-1-1 Consolidation Plan for the Lane County Area with Addendum Statements jointly submitted by the four Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) User Boards of Lane County to meet State of Oregon HB 3977 requirements. Based on service impacts and cost, the PSAP User Boards of Lane County do not support consolidation of 9-1-1 call taking in Lane County and request careful consideration be given to the Addendum Statements in opposition.

The approval and submittal of this Preliminary Plan does not commit or bind the User Boards, special and general units of government to funding implementation and ongoing operational costs or agreeing to the governance element. The funding and governance of a single PSAP to serve all of Lane County will require development of a detailed implementation plan with funding and governance elements. Only general and special units of government with budgeting and planning authority can commit to an implementation plan through intergovernmental agreement. This Preliminary Plan with Addendum is being submitted as our best estimate of service impacts and costs for legislative review.

Recognizing there would be significant costs associated with the consolidation mandate, the Oregon Legislature created the PSAP Consolidation Incentive Fund utilizing revenue from a dedicated tax on circuits capable of accessing 9-1-1 services. Historically, these dedicated funds would have been available to pay for the ongoing costs of providing Enhanced 9-1-1 services to the citizens and visitors of Oregon. If consolidation is required, the PSAP User Boards, Lane area special and general purpose governments will look to this legislatively dedicated PSAP Consolidation Incentive Fund to pay for the implementation and ongoing costs associated with consolidation.

The four Primary PSAP User Boards of Lane County find that each PSAP has a service area well defined by geography, population centers, transportation and recreational corridors. The Oregon Legislature is asked to recognize the service and cost impacts of consolidation and allow the current Lane area four Primary PSAP configuration to continue providing Enhanced 9-1-1 services to their citizens and visitors.

Sincerely,

Galen Howard, Principal Planner
Lane Area 9-1-1 Coordinator

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