



REGION 2050

Sustaining Quality of Life in the Southern Willamette Valley

**You Are Invited
to a
Regional Livability Conference**

Thursday, June 20, 2002

6:00-9:00 P.M.

Studio I, Hult Center for the Performing Arts, Eugene

Light refreshments will be provided.

Staff Contact: Carol Heinkel, 682-4107; cheinkel@lane.cog.or.us

It is my pleasure to invite you to the Regional Livability Conference, the first gathering of people from throughout the Southern Willamette Valley to discuss the future livability of the region. The purpose of the conference is to share information, ideas, and perspectives on improving and sustaining quality of life in the region over the next 50 years.

PREPARATION

To ensure a richer, more informed discussion, we ask that you do the following to prepare for the conference.

1. Read the enclosed booklet, *Help Shape the Future of the Southern Willamette Valley: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow Scenarios*, complete the survey on page 15, and bring your completed survey to the conference.
2. Respond to the questions in the attached form, *Discussion Questions*, and bring your completed form to the conference.

(Over)

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE AND REGION 2050

The Regional Livability Conference is hosted by the Regional Policy Advisory Board - 24 elected officials from the Lane County Board of Commissioners and the Cities of Coburg, Cottage Grove, Creswell, Eugene, Junction City, Lowell, Oakridge, Springfield, Veneta, and Westfir. A member of the Governor's Community Development Office also sits on the Board, as a liaison to the many state agencies involved in the process. This Board has been meeting for the past two years to guide the Region 2050 process.

Region 2050 is an effort to sustain quality of life in the Southern Willamette Valley through regional collaboration while retaining the autonomy of the local jurisdictions. An important product of the Policy Board's work to date is the enclosed booklet, *Help Shape the Future of the Southern Willamette Valley, Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow Scenarios*. This booklet contains a set of preliminary goals and objectives unanimously agreed-to by the Policy Board and two "growth scenarios" to start the discussion about the region's future.

A growth scenario is a *what if* set of conditions to help us see where we may be headed and the choices we face. The scenarios in the booklet are not endorsed by anyone as a desired future. The intent is to use the scenarios as a "jumping off place" to start the discussion of desired futures for the region. *Tomorrow Scenarios* will be developed over the next two years, based on the discussion at the conference and input from the general public.

At the conference, people reflecting a broad spectrum of interests from throughout the region will sit across small tables from one another and share what is most important about their community and the region. Collective visions for a livable future will begin to emerge from these discussions.

I look forward to seeing you at the conference!

Sincerely,

George Kloeppe
Executive Director, Lane Council of Governments