

Agenda Item Number 11.a

Cancellation of July Planning Session Preliminary Design of September 24 Session

Presenter: George Kloeppe

Action Recommended: Discuss and Provide Input to Staff

Background:

At the recommendation of the Director, the Executive Committee cancelled the July 23 Board meeting. When the idea of holding a meeting in July was raised by the Board in April, there was a mixed response from Board members. It was clear that a number of people would not be available to attend, and the issue was left that those who could attend would be asked to lay groundwork for the more substantial September Planning Session. Because a July Board meeting would have been “extra,” based upon LCOG’s annual schedule of meetings, and because it did not appear likely to have a substantial attendance, it seemed appropriate to cancel.

On September 24, the Board will meet at Willamalane’s Community Recreation Center (off Main on 32nd) in Springfield. There will be food available beginning at 5:00 with the formal meeting scheduled to begin at 6:00. There will be a short business meeting, but most of the two-hour session will be devoted to identifying regional issues for which LCOG support would be constructive and to strategize the steps needed to make a positive contribution. The Executive Committee has discussed the Planning Session and has offered several recommendations for its design. The objective is to emerge with tangible results, having made good use of Board members time.

Executive Committee and management team recommendations Include:

- Provide the background material and meeting notes from the February Planning Session to Board members well in advance of the September meeting.

- Ask the staff to conduct a one-on-one phone poll with all Board members in advance of the meeting, asking about the most important issues facing member jurisdictions.
- We do not plan to engage a professional facilitator; rather, we will utilize LCOG staff as scribes and, as needed, table facilitators.
- At the beginning of the Session, staff will report to the entire group (possibly in summary form) the results of the phone polling. Key issues will be identified. They would then be grouped and prioritized.
- Subgroups would be formed, each assigned an issue area, to refine the issues and to identify steps that the Board and the organization could take to bring about improvement.
- Prior to the end of the Session, subgroups will have had the opportunity to report back to the “committee of the whole,” and as time allows, the Board will be asked to provide direction to staff regarding additional information or outside resources needed and next steps.
- The possibility of utilizing some of the December Board meeting to finalize and polish the action plan was also supported by the Executive Committee.