

March 5, 2009

To: LCOG Executive Committee
From: George Kloeppe, Executive Director
Subject: Board Planning Session, Follow-Up—Regional Issues

My sense is that the Board's Planning Session on February 26 went reasonably well. The time available was probably too short. But the level of participation and the creativity and thoughtfulness of the Board members lead me to conclude that it was time well spent. The Committee's judgment on the event itself, for future reference, would be most welcome.

Attached is the draft of Andrea Riner's summary of the discussion and conclusions. Remembering that the focus question was "*What can the LCOG Board do to improve the well being of the region?*" three topics rose to the top:

- Public Safety Improvement
- Communication of Information, Translation, Coordination, Planning
- Improvement of Capacity for Local Investment, Additional Business Capital

Each represents an area for which elected official (Board of Directors) effort could yield improvements. As to the strategies which might be applied to these topics, there was a consensus around the value of five key activities or tools—both of the Board and the agency itself:

- Communication
- Coordination
- Advocacy
- Planning
- Convener

Substantially related to these preferred strategies was the vision shared by Jim Torrey and discussed by the Board that an assessment be developed after July regarding the region's status *vis a vis* the economic down-turn, the federal stimulus funding, and the budgeting of the Oregon Legislature (Communication). Such an assessment would provide the basis for a county-wide discussion of systemic modifications that could lead to an improved future (Convener and Planning). Jim stressed the need to better listen and respond to the citizenry.

With the conclusions of the Planning Session in hand, the Committee is asked to work with management staff to create action steps that, when taken, can breathe life into the priority topics.

In so doing, the Board's "tools" are the five key activities noted above. The questions before the Committee are:

Which tools can best applied to the priority tasks?

In what timeframe?

By whom?