

May 6, 2010

TO: LCOG Executive Committee

FROM: George Kloeppe, Byron Vanderpool

SUBJECT: LCOG Regional Voice

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During the Communications Subcommittee's work, Brenda Wilson, Eugene's Intergovernmental Relations Manager, suggested it would be valuable to know LCOG members' positions on various subjects before the Oregon Legislature so that, in those areas where members are in concurrence, the region could speak with a single voice, hopefully countering the powerful Portland lobby.

The Communications Subcommittee proposed development of a *Regional Voice*, to address items before the legislature.

It is suggested that this idea be considered on two fronts:

First, with the help of the IGR staffs of the larger jurisdictions, LCOG can look at anticipated legislation, discuss it at the Board and determine where we are in strong agreement, both for and against various measures. The Lane County Legislative Delegation might then be invited to meet with the Board at its September meeting, and specifically discuss those issues.

Then, assuming that there is agreement in the first round of discussions, LCOG could continue the process through the next legislative session, providing the Intergovernmental Relations representatives of member agencies, as well as the members of the county's delegation, with statements of support for positions taken by the Board.