

November 4, 2004

Representative Bruce Hanna
612 NW Cecil Avenue
Roseburg, OR 97470

Dear Representative Hanna:

Congratulations on your election.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Lane Council of Governments (LCOG), I write to invite your participation in a *Legislative Dialogue* with our Board on the evening of Thursday, December 9. We are inviting all twelve members of the Lane County delegation to the House and Senate to participate in an interactive discussion concerning the upcoming session and, specifically, the relationship between the state and local units of government.

The *Legislative Dialogue* will be held as a component of a regular meeting of the LCOG Board of Directors. While the normal business of the agency will be addressed by the Board beginning at 7:00 p.m., the *Dialogue* will be the sole agenda item from 8:00 to adjournment at 9:00. The LCOG Board is comprised of elected officials from our 26 member governments. The County, cities, school districts and other special districts are represented. Although they serve different types of local governments, Board members share a sense of regional community and they have given a high priority to an exploration of the issue of local control *vis a vis* the State of Oregon and the federal government.

We plan to begin the *Dialogue* by having each member of the LCOG Board share a concern, hope or question regarding the Legislature's task in 2005. When the issues have been raised "around the table," you and your fellow members of the delegation will be given opportunity to individually respond—sharing your own expectations and intentions relative to the topics raised by the Board. After comments and responses have been offered by our Representatives and Senators on the topics raised by the Board, we expect that the *Dialogue* will become more interactive with an unstructured chance to exchange views. The elected officials of

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our organization are acutely aware of the many relationships that link state and local governments in Oregon. LCOG's Board members view themselves as partners with the State. It is toward the objective of strengthening such a partnership that next month's *Dialogue* has been planned.

LCOG's December 9 Board meeting will be held at Bethel School District's Kalapuya High School, 1200 North Terry Street, Eugene. The meeting will convene at 7:00 p.m. But, as indicated, the *Dialogue* with the legislative delegation will start at 8:00 p.m. You are certainly welcome and invited to attend the entire meeting, as you wish. For your background, I enclose an informational brochure describing the Lane Council of Governments and also a one-page summary of issues affecting local government, developed by our Board as part of a planning session last July. Both of these items are offered in the hope that they might be of assistance.

Before, during and after the legislative session, LCOG and its member governments stand ready to serve as constructive partners with you. Please feel free to call upon us for information, public policy opinions or reaction to legislative initiatives. We look forward to your participation in the December 9 *Dialogue* and, on the longer term, to having the opportunity to work with you toward the betterment of our state and region. Please contact me by calling 682-4395 or <gkloeppe@lane.cog.or.us> if you have any questions or if I can provide additional information.

Sincerely,

George Kloeppe
Executive Director

[letter body...just elected legislator]

Congratulations on your election. [or... “your re-election”] [delete this
congratulatory paragraph for Sens. Morrisette and Walker