

Lane Economic Committee – October 20, 2003
Agenda Item #9

Minutes of 10/01/03 LEC subcommittee meeting to prepare a response to Lane County regarding the "Vision for Lane County Job Creation."

Present: John Tamulonis, Deb Schmidt, John Sullivan, Rob Scoggin, Peter Thurston, Steve Dignam

We had a long discussion regarding the Draft memo prepared by the County. We had a hard time getting our arms around this document and its intended scope: Did the County want the LEC to prepare a complete economic development strategy or was their request for something less than that?

Staff recommended that the LEC subcommittee tackle a more narrow and easily definable project: How should we measure and evaluate economic development proposals which claim projected job creation? Peter Thurston confirmed that this would certainly address at least a portion of the County's intended objective.

The following questions were raised by staff as potential discussion items:

- Should we differentiate between metro and rural jobs?
- Do we want a "family wage" criteria?
- Will we target job creation, job retention or both?
- Will we target new businesses, existing businesses or both?
- Should we also focus on technical assistance and capacity building which may be preconditions to job creation?
- When should the job impact of a proposal be measured?
- Should there be consequences for proposals which do not meet projected job impact?
- Do we want to establish a target dollars per job criteria?

The chair of the subcommittee decided that we could solicit additional feedback and discussion from the full LEC and from County Commissioners before we can tackle this project.