



Agenda Item Number 9 b. Advisory Council Reports

Date: June 22, 2023

Presenter: Brenda Wilson

Action Recommended: None. Information Only

Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC)

February 2, 2023

- Elected Springfield Councilor Moe as Chair and Lane County Commissioner Loveall as Vice Chair of MPC for 2023.
- Appointed Councilor Moe and LTD Board Member Susan Cox as MPC representatives to the Oregon MPO Consortium (OMPOC) for 2023.
- Heard a presentation, held a public hearing, discussed, and provided input on project proposals for MPO redistribution funding.
- Heard a presentation on, and reviewed, the MPO's annual listing of obligated projects for 2022.
- Heard a presentation on the Safe Lane Coalition.
- Heard a preview of transportation related legislation anticipated during the 2023 Oregon legislative session.

Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC)

March 2, 2023

- Unanimously approved MPO redistribution funding.
- Heard a report and provided direction on OMPOC's legislative priorities for 2023.

Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC)

April 6, 2023

- Heard a presentation, held a public hearing, discussed, and provided input on the draft 2024-2027 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) and Air Quality Conformity Determination (AQCD).
- Heard a presentation, held a public hearing, discussed, and provided input on the MPO's draft FY24/FY25 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).
- Heard an update on Oregon's 2023 legislative session.

Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC)

May 4, 2023

- Unanimously approved the 2024-2027 MTIP and AQCD.
- Unanimously approved the FY24/FY25 UPWP.
- Heard a report on the implementation of the Climate Friendly Equitable Communities (CFEC) rulemaking.
- Heard a report on May is Bike Month.
- Heard a report on the MPO's Youth Council.
- Heard an update on Oregon's 2023 legislative session.

Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC)

June 1, 2023

- Heard a presentation on the proposed amendments to the MPC Bylaws to incorporate Coburg into the governance structure for the CFEC scenario planning work.
- Heard an overview of the MPO's long-range Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and a report on the upcoming update of the plan.
- Heard a report on the current update of the MPO's Public Participation Plan (PPP).

Lane Economic Committee (LEC)

December 12, 2022

- Elected Greg Ervin will be the Chair and Anne Fifield will be the Co-Chair for 2023.
- Heard a presentation from Dr. Stephanie Bulger, President of Lane Community College. Dr. Bulger is the eighth President of LCC. She talked about how she has spent time meeting people in the community and wanted to get to know the LEC members too. Her three priorities she would focus on during her first year: Fiscal conditions, Enrollment, and Institutional culture. Creating LCC as a

workforce education for Lane County is also a big vision. Dr. Bulger also talked about how funds from the bond measure that Lane County in May, 2020 have been allocated.

Lane Economic Committee (LEC)

January 9, 2023

- Heard a presentation from Holly Mar-Conte, Lane County Childcare Strategist at Onward Eugene on the current childcare crisis facing families, not just locally but across the state and nation as well. She noted access and options for childcare were very limited in Lane County, with one slot for every four children ages 0-5; there was one slot for every seven infants and toddlers and for employees in the childcare sector it was a labor-intensive work with low pay and little to no benefits.

She stated that a number of community partners including United Way, Chambers of Commerce, Onward Eugene, LCC and the Early Learning Hub had begun discussions about how to address the problem using the model of Next Generations Sector Strategy. The model would bring together childcare providers, families, and stakeholders to identify resources and explore solutions.

- Held discussion regarding LEC Membership composition was made. Overview of membership and representations gaps were reviewed and a recommendation of forming a committee to review the LEC's mission, including membership and bylaws was made.

Lane Economic Committee (LEC)

February 13, 2023

- Heard a presentation from Marissa Zarate, Executive Director for Huerta de la Familia shared about their Cambios Program successes and challenges and opportunities. Huerta de la Familia merged a few years ago with two other non-profits in Lane County: Centro Latino Americano and Downtown Languages

They provide an expanded range of services to Latino and immigrant families, including internal referrals. For their new organization they have selected a Shared Leadership model, and their new name will be releasing this spring. The program serves those who want to launch a new business and those who want to formalize an existing business or scale-up an existing one.

- Heard a presentation from Erick Garman, Trade Development Manager within

Oregon Department of Agriculture's Market Access and Certification program discussed the ups and downs of the agriculture sector over the past several years:

- COVID-19
- Diseases
- Labor Shortage
- Housing Shortage
- Delays to markets that brought significant challenges to a sector well use to weathering storms.
- Resilience that can bring new opportunities

Lane Economic Committee (LEC)

March 13, 2023

- Heard a presentation from Laura Engstrom, Regional Development Officer for Business Oregon. Business Oregon's mission includes investing in Oregon Businesses, communities, and people to promote a globally competitive, diverse, and inclusive economy. They work to leverage business expertise through the following partner organizations:
 - The Oregon Manufacturing Extension Partnership (OMEP)
 - The Oregon Small Business Development Center Network (OSBDCN)
 - The Government Contract Assistance Program (GCAP)
- Heard that Jude Anderson, the New Community and Economic Development Manager for Lane County was hired and would most likely become the primary representative for Lane County to attend the LEC meetings after his onboarding was complete.

Lane Economic Committee (LEC)

April 10, 2023

- Heard a presentation from Brian Rooney, Regional Economist for the Oregon Employment Department, who discussed the regional economic trends, forecasts and data/information sources for topics that included employment, unemployment, population, and housing affordability.

He noted that Lane County had not yet reached pre-COVID employment levels. The COVID pandemic recession hit hard and fast, and Lane County lost 26,100 jobs, which equals 16 percent, during the spring of 2020. Lane County gained back 20,800, or 80% of those jobs by February 2023. Statewide, Oregon experienced a 14% job loss in 2020 with 106% of those jobs gained back by February 2023.

Recession recovery occurred at a fast rate initially, but that trend recently slowed down. The percentage of employment was relatively high throughout Lane County in February 2023, but lagging numbers in both the education and health care industries was the reason numbers were below 100%.

Unemployment rates throughout the State of Oregon and Lane County have increased since the summer of 2022. However in recent months, unemployment in the U.S. decreased. In 2023 unemployment rate in Lane County as at 5%, up from roughly 4% in February 2022, and down from 14% in April 2020. Statewide, the unemployment rate was roughly 4.5% in February 2023, while the U.S. unemployment rate was roughly 3.5%.

Mr. Rooney stated that it took roughly 1,400 new housing units to keep up with the population growth in Lane County, and that residential construction in Lane County had increased since 2021. He added that roughly 1,600 new building permits were issued in Lane County for residential construction in 2023. Most permits were for multi-family and student housing. According to the most recent quarterly revenue forecast, the odds of a soft-landing recession ad increased due to the decrease in inflation. Accounting to the long-term forecast, Lane County jobs were projected to increase by 12% by 2031, and 15% statewide.

- Heard a presentation from Clifton Harrold, Lane County Sheriff spoke about the public safety infrastructure component and the role the proposed levy Measure 20-340 plays in addressing system and community's needs. The Board of County Commissioners recently voted to put another Public Safety Levy on the May 16, 2023 ballot. If the voters approve the levy the Lane County Sheriff's Office will use the money to maintain the 255 jail beds and fund 8 beds for youth detention and 8 beds for youth treatment in Lane County Youth Services.

Senior & Disability Services – Disability Services Advisory Council (DSAC) **May 19, 2023**

- Heard report that there were 232 people on Oregon Project Independence (OPI) 60+ and 26 people on OPI Pilot. ADRC received 547 calls in March and 408 calls in April. The Oregon Money Management program has served 148 consumers to date. Oregon Legal Services has served 560 consumers for a collective 3,052 hours to date. The Family Caregiver Respite program has provided 5,660 traditional respite hours fiscal year to date.
- Discussed the In-Home Care Services contract which provides Oregon Project Independence in home services and Older Americans Act respite services to consumers.

Addus & New Horizons are the current contractors and collectively have served 15,769 hours of personal care and home care, and 4,877 hours of respite to consumers FY23 to date. The Council recommended the continuation of the contract at the hourly rate of \$32.92 per service hour for FY24 for OPI and OAA Respite services.

Senior & Disability Services – Senior Services Advisory Council (SSAC)
May 19, 2023

- Discussed the Lane County Legal Aid/Oregon Law Center contract which provides civil legal services to Lane County residents, age 60 or older. Lane County Legal Aid is funded through Title III-B funds which makes it so most of their services are free to the community. Lane County Legal Aid had requested a rate change from \$25.44/hour to \$25.45/hour for FY24. The Council recommended continuation of the contract with an hourly rate increase to \$25.45 that will allow up to 3,536 hours of service with a budget of \$90,000.
- Discussed the FOOD for Lane County (FFLC) contract regarding the provision of Meals on Wheels in the city of Eugene. In FY22, FFLC served over 107,000 meals through Meals on Wheels in Eugene. The FY24 per unit meal rate scale was calculated on the following anticipated service levels: hot meals 72,000 and frozen meals 40,000 for a total of 112,000 meals. Based on the meal rate scale, hot meals cost \$6.23/per meal (\$0.34 Eugene kitchen fee included) for a total of \$448,560 in FY24, frozen meals cost \$5.59/per meal (\$0.21 Salem kitchen fee included) for a total of \$223,600; the total for FY24 will be \$672,160. The Council recommended the continuation of the contract for FY24 at the rates listed above.
- Senior Meals - MOW/Café 60. 42,823 meals have been served at Café 60 locations and Meals on Wheels has served 176,076 meals this fiscal year.
- Nominating Committee interviewed four applicants for the SSAC. The Committee met with the SSAC to identify which candidates to recommend to the Council. All four applicants were recommended for membership.

Senior & Disability Services – DSAC & SSAC Joint Advisory Council Meeting
May 19, 2023

- Heard presentation on the Eligibility Unit at S&DS. The Eligibility Unit, which consists of 44 staff, in the first quarter of CY23 processed 10% of all Long-Term Care financial eligibility cases in the state. They provide eligibility services to all of Oregon for SNAP, Employment Related Day Care, and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families.

Senior & Disability Services – Procurement and Monitoring Committee
May 16, 2023

- Committee reviewed and discussed the FY24 contract rate proposals for FOOD for Lane County, Lane County Legal Aid/Oregon Law Center, In-Home Services provided by Addus HealthCare and New Horizons In-Home Care.