

LANE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

October 9, 2023

(LEC meetings are held on the **2nd Monday** of each month)

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87619209920?pwd=NJPORbdGSoQbbGxkZe3KSioE3ZWxhc.1>

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Meeting ID: 876 1920 9920 Passcode: 755193

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All individuals are expected to observe respectful behavior and decorum during this public meeting. Please be courteous and respectful.

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| 1. Welcome / Introductions / Changes to the Agenda
Presenter: Greg Ervin | 11:30 |
| 2. Public Comment
Presenter: Greg Ervin | 11:35 |
| 3. Comments from Members, Chair, and Staff
Presenter: Greg Ervin | 11:40 |
| 4. Review Minutes from September 11, 2023
Presenter: Greg Ervin
Action item: Approve minutes. | 11:50 |
| 5. LEC Officer Nominating Committee
Presenter: Denise Walters, LEC Staff
CEDS Priorities: All
Action item (potential): Establish Nominating Committee | 11:55 |
| 6. Travel Lane County
Presenter(s): Natalie Inouye, Stephen Hoshaw – Travel Lane County
CEDS Priorities: 1 – Regional Collaboration & Partnerships, 2 – Sector
Diversification Through Business Development, 5 – Rural Vitality | 12:05 |

Next Meeting Dates:

- November 13, 2023
- December 11, 2023
- January 8, 2024

October 9, 2023
Lane Economic Committee (LEC)
Agenda Item Summaries

ITEM 5: LEC Officer Nominating Committee

Presenter(s): Denise Walters, LEC Staff

CEDS Priorities: All

Annual process to establish Nominating Committee.

ITEM 6: Travel Lane County

Presenter(s): Natalie Inouye, Stephen Hoshaw – Travel Lane County

CEDS Priorities: 1 – Regional Collaboration & Partnerships, 2 – Sector Diversification Through Business Development, 5 – Rural Vitality

Travel Lane County will brief the LEC on the research and business intelligence tools they use to market Lane County as a destination. Travel Lane County is sharing access to these tools with community partners, who may use them for tourism strategies or broader economic development work to support business recruitment and expansion.

Lane Economic Committee (LEC)
Lane Council of Governments (LCOG), Fifth Floor Conference Room
859 Willamette Street -- Eugene (Hybrid meeting via Zoom)

September 11, 2023
11:30 AM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Greg Ervin, Chair (City of Cottage Grove/Government); Anne Fifield, Vice Chair (City of Eugene); Mark Bodie (Business/Finance); Jude Anderson (Lane County / Government); Matt Michel (City of Veneta/Government); Allie Camp (City of Springfield/Government); Jake Clifton (Business); Karen Hyatt (for Vanessa Ringgold, University of Oregon).

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jeremy Caudle (City of Lowell/Government); Chantelle Meyer (Economic Development); Faye Stewart (Economic Development); Cindy Perry (Business/Labor); Mike Eyster (LCC); Paul Berger (Business); Faye Stewart (City of Cottage Grove/Government); Kari Westlund Travel Lane County).

STAFF: Paula Taylor; Denise Walters, Sandra Easdale, Diana Pamir Tisdale.

GUESTS: Jacob Thode (City of Veneta/Government); Sarah Means (State of Oregon Staff) Nicole Desch (Onward Eugene); Anne Whittington (Oregon Cascades West); Justin Peterson (Oregon Cascades West).

1. Welcome/Introductions/Changes to the Agenda

Chair Ervin called the LEC meeting to order at 11:30 AM. Introductions were made, and a quorum was established. There were no changes made to the agenda.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Comments from the Members, Chair, & Staff

Mr. Michel said he attended the Cascades West Economic Development District (CWEDD) meeting on September 7, 2023, and heard Sarah Means speak about the semiconductor industry in Oregon. Oregon Cascades West provided an update on broadband studies in the Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties and shared information about ongoing Economic Development Administration-funded (EDA) projects in their region. LCOG provided an update on broadband studies in Lane County. Data from their studies would be used to fund broadband projects in areas with no broadband services using grant money. An update on the Recompete Pilot Program in Lane County was also provided by Jude Anderson.

4. Review Minutes from July 10, 2023

MOTION: Ms. Fifield moved, seconded by Mr. Michel to approve the July 10, 2023, LEC meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Discuss Loan Administration Committee (LAC) Membership

Presenter: Sandra Easdale, LCOG Staff

Ms. Easdale stated that the LAC was the committee who approved USDA and EDA loan requests underwritten and submitted by LCOG. Per the bylaws, initial LAC membership nominations would first be presented to existing LAC members, who would then make nominee recommendations to the LEC. The LEC would then decide whether to forward such nominee recommendations to the LCOG Board of Directors (BOD). The following nominations were presented to the LEC for LAC membership:

- Troy Reichenberger, Oregon Pacific Bank
- Kevin Riley, First Interstate Bank
- Jude Anderson, Lane County

Request that the LEC forward the nominees listed above to the LCOG BOD for their approval was made.

MOTION: Mr. Michel moved, seconded by Ms. Fifield to forward the LAC nominees listed above to the LCOG BOD. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Letter of Support Request – EDA Recompete Program

Presenter: Denise Walters, LEC Staff

Ms. Walters said the LEC needed to decide whether or not they would make a recommendation to the LCOG BOD, requesting a letter of support from them for the EDA Recompete Program. She stated that Jude Anderson was the main person working on the Recompete Program in Lane County and asked him to share some information about progress that had been made.

Mr. Anderson said the EDA's Recompete Pilot Program was focused on connecting people to jobs in targeted areas where prime-age (25-54 years) employment significantly trailed the national average. He said the Recompete Program was a two-phase competition; the first phase primarily being developing a strategy to address the prime-age employment gap, and the second phase being funding implementation. In phase one, strategy development grants, or Recompete Plans could be submitted to address the prime-age employment gap. Under the program's guidelines, Lane County was bound by eligible communities within the region. Lane County as a whole would not be eligible. Lane County would collaborate with local government partners and community-based organizations to ensure that target populations were reached, and a clear understanding of needs was obtained. This would help define solution-based strategies to address low employment rates among unemployed people in the prime-age group. Implementation of the Recompete Program would span five to ten years and invest 200 million dollars toward projects that spur economic activity in geographically diverse and persistently distressed communities across the country. If plans were approved on a community level in phase one, communities could be eligible for between 30 to 50 million dollars of additional EDA funds in phase two. Mr. Anderson noted that there would be a match requirement to receive those funds and said that would be a big part of the implementation planning process. Intervention plans for Lane County communities would need to be shovel-ready upon submitting them to the EDA for approval. The Lane County Coalition Leadership Council was comprised of a team of local governments and community-based organizations who would collaborate together on this project. Lane County was currently in the process of identifying as many local partners as possible for the coalition. Mr. Anderson expressed his excitement for this project and the possibility of receiving 50 million dollars to benefit the region.

Ms. Fifield asked if Mr. Anderson needed or wanted anything from the City of Eugene or the City of Springfield.

Mr. Anderson said Lane County would be contacting the Chambers of Commerce in both cities, to get recommendations on large employers who may be willing to make hiring commitments. He added that letters of support from both cities stating the will to help make connections with local partners would be beneficial.

MOTION: Mr. Michel moved, seconded by Ms. Fifield to recommend that the LCOG BOD approve a letter of support for the EDA Recompete Pilot Program. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Oregon Semiconductor and the CHIPS Act

Presenter: Sarah Means, State of Oregon Staff

Ms. Means said her primary responsibility was the implementation of the Oregon CHIPS Act of Senate Bill 4 (SB4). Oregon legislatures approved 190 million dollars in funding to help leverage Federal CHIPS funding that was recently passed to boost economic development and national security. Businesses applying for federal CHIPS grant money would be required to have financial support from the state in which their business was located. SB4 was created in response to that federal requirement, and the Oregon Governor signed the bill in April 2023. The program was being jointly administered by the Oregon Governor's Office and Business Oregon. The governor's office would be responsible for much of the upfront work. Once awards were distributed, Business Oregon would administer the ongoing program. SB4 would provide direct funding for eligible semiconductor-related projects, with an emphasis on business that promote the creation, expansion, and preservation of the semiconductor industry in Oregon. Statements of interest were requested by the governor's office to determine who would be interested in applying for funds. The data was provided to legislative leadership, who then added an additional 50 million dollars to the original 190 million dollars in funding. The additional funds were being held in a special purpose appropriation account until the next legislative session, which would take place in February 2024. The application period opened on June 20, 2023, and closed on June 28, 2023. The short timeframe was driven by the Federal program. A total of 16 applications were received by the governor's office, all of which had existing connections to seven counties within the state of Oregon, one being in Lane County. The governor's office decided that diversity among the segmented supply chain should be a factor in determining which applications would move forward. Top priority would also be given to companies who were committed to having a diversified workforce. Ms. Means noted that most of the companies who applied were utilizing apprenticeship and internship opportunities, which would be beneficial in extending the workforce pipeline. Companies who engaged underrepresented communities in their procurement processes were also of special interest. SB4 required the governor's office to convene a semiconductor advisory panel made up of individuals in the semiconductor industry. This panel created the prioritization process for the governor's office to consider and also recommended that they take an investment portfolio approach to ensure that the supply chain and geographic diversity was well represented. Oregon legislation also required a return on investment (ROI), meaning for every million dollars of SB4 funding provided, companies would need to make a return of 125 percent, if it was a five-year project, or 150 percent, if the project lasted five to ten years. Companies could choose to forego the ROI requirement by committing to the creation of new jobs. Ms. Means acknowledged that many people throughout the state wanted more details about this program, but due to the sensitivity of information, i.e., nondisclosure agreements, and trade secrets, the governor's office could not share more information at this time. However, Ms. Means noted that thousands of jobs would be created. Strategies were being developed to address the construction workforce that would be needed once investments were made. The governor's office had already issued a few notices of intent of award. All awardees would be notified by the end of September 2023, and the governor's office would present a list of awardees to Oregon legislatures and make a public announcement at that time. Contract negotiations would take place through October and November of 2023, and funding would likely begin in the early months of 2024. In addition

to SB4, Ms. Means highlighted the following investments made to the semi-conductor industry in Oregon this year:

- Research and Development Tax Credit – 255 million dollars
- Direct Investments Made to Portland Community-based Organizations – Between One and Two million dollars each
- The Continuation of Future Ready Oregon
- Supercomputer Donation to Oregon State University (OSU) from OSU Alumni
- 73 million dollars from Oregon Legislature to Build Infrastructure for OSU Supercomputer

8. LEC Officer Nominating Committee

Presenter: Denise Walters, LEC Staff

Ms. Walters said the nominating committee usually consisted of three people and required committee members to be present at two or three meetings. She noted that LEC officers were defined as the Chair and Vice Chair. This topic would be included on the October 2023, LEC meeting agenda.

9. October Meeting – Potential Reschedule

LEC members decided not to reschedule the October meeting. The next LEC meeting would take place on October 9, 2023.

10. Adjournment

Chair Ervin adjourned the meeting at 12:30 PM.

(Minutes recorded by Diana Pamir Tisdale)

LANE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE - 2023

MEMBER	Phone	Email	EMPLOYER	REPRESENTING	Term Began	Term Ends	Alternate	Phone	Email
TBD				Business	2019	N/A	Jake Clifton	541 912-6371	jake.clifton@gmail.com
TBD				Government	2020	12/23			
TBD				Government	7/1	12/23			
Allie Camp*	541-726-3700	acamp@springfield-or.gov	City of Springfield Economic Development	Government	3/23	12/24	Nancy Newton		
Anne Field*	541-682-5451	anne.e.fifield@ci.eugene.or.us	City of Eugene	Government	12/21	12/24	TBD		
Chantelle Meyer	541-590-4019	chantelle.meyer@ci.florence.or-us	City of Florence Economic Development	Government	2/23	12/23			
Cindy Perry	541 255-8116	cindy@laneworkforce.org	Lane Workforce Partnership	Business / Labor	2018	12/23	Ashley Espinoza	541-913-2284	ashley@laneworkforce.org
Faye Stewart	541-942-3340	pwdirector@cottagegrove.org	City of Cottage Grove Public Works/ED Director	Economic Development / Government	2020	12/23	Robert Scoggin	541-942-8711	scogginrob@msn.com
Greg Ervin**	541-556-8953	greg@ervinitconsulting.com councilorervin@cottagegrove.org	City of Cottage Grove Councilor	Government	12/21	12/24	Len Blackstone	541-501-53967	len@blackstoneinc.net
Jeremy Caudle	541-937-2157	jcaudle@ci.lowell.or.us	City of Lowell City Administer	Government	7/12	12/23	Mike Galvin	541-937-2393	mgalvin@pacbell.net
Jude Anderson*	541-682-3741	jude.anderson@lanecountyor.gov	Lane County Economic Development	Government	12/21	12/24	Jenna Cusimano		jenna.cusimano@lanecountyor.gov
Kari Westlund	541-743-8750	kari@travellanecounty.org	Travel Lane County	Ex-Officio	2017	N/A	Andy Vobora	541-743-8770	andy@travellanecounty.org
Mark Bodie	541-913-5564	mark.bodie1@usbank.com	U.S. Bank	Business / Finance	2020	12/23	Gary Collins	541-334-4121	gary.collins@fib.com
Matt Michel	541-935-2191	mmichel@ci.veneta.or.us	City of Veneta City Administer	Government	2020	12/23	Jacob Thode	541-935-2191	jthode@ci.veneta.or.us
Mike Eyster	541-954-6451	salsamike@comcast.net	Lane Community College Board Member	Education	12/21	12/24			
Paul Berger	541-357-8236	paulberger@saavsus.com	Saavsus	Business	12/21	12/24	Larry Brice	541-954-2619	ldbrice@comcast.net
Vanessa Ringgold	541-346-8912	vrr@uoregon.edu	Economic Development	Education	12/21	12/24	Karen Hyatt	541-346-5351	khvatt@uoregon.edu

* These positions are appointed by their respective elected bodies.

** This position is appointed by the LCOG Board.

Changes are indicated in **Bold**

Last updated: 09/12/2023