



LANE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

OCTOBER 2020 LCOG - NEWSLETTER



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HOW ARE YOU DOING?

Our region has undergone significant challenges over the past several months, with the pandemic and the fire at the forefront, but the resulting issues from those emergencies are daunting as well. Today, someone asked how I was doing? I am not sure how to answer that question anymore and I think many of you are having the same dilemma. We resort to "I am doing good, thank you. How are you doing?"

I think there are other questions that one could ask, even ask yourself. For instance:

How are you taking care of yourself today?

What is the best thing that happened to you today?

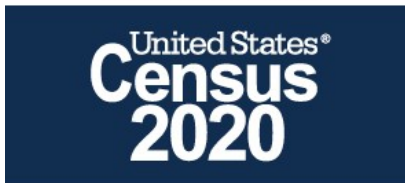
What is giving you hope right now?

I think questions like these are more relevant to the situations everyone is experiencing right now. Just a thought. In any case, I would like to thank all of you for what you have done to weather these crisis and to get our region

prepared to move forward. If there is anything you need or anything LCOG or I can assist you with, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

CENSUS DEADLINE - OCTOBER 31

Together, we can ensure that our community receives the resources it needs.



Learn more at 2020census.gov.

While "Census Day - April 1" has passed, the Census count is still continuing.

People can still respond online here: [CENSUS](#)

US Census workers are in our communities checking in with residences that have not responded.

WHAT TO EXPECT:

In keeping with COVID-19 social distancing best practices, Census employees will be provided with Personal Protective Equipment, including face masks, gloves and hand sanitizer. Employees will also be wearing their Census ID Badge, have their Census logo laptop bag, and a Census laptop.

If you have questions - please let me know! Email me: [Brenda Wilson](#)

LINK LANE RECEIVES GRANT TO DEVELOP TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Link Lane, LCOG's transit service providing service from Eugene to Florence and Florence to Yachats, has received a Transportation and Growth Management (TGM) Program to develop a Transit Development Plan.

We will work with DLCD staff to prepare the scope of work and hire a consultant over the next few months and work on the plan itself will begin early summer 2021. Stay Tuned!



SAFE LANE

TRANSPORTATION COALITION



SAFE LANE TRANSPORTATION COALITION URGES LANE COUNTY DRIVERS TO “SAVE A LIFE, DON'T TEXT AND DRIVE”

In an effort to make our roads safer, the Safe Lane Transportation Coalition has announced a new safety awareness campaign to stop distracted driving in Lane County. The “Save a Life, Don't Text and Drive,” campaign is running from October 5-12, 2020 to coincide with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Distracted Driving Awareness Week.

Safe Lane Transportation Coalition's goal is to make all drivers aware that, once they get behind the wheel, their actions affect every other person using the road.

“We all know that talking on our cell phones while driving is distracting, but that doesn't stop most people from continuing to do it,” said Drew Pfefferle, Safe Lane Transportation Coalition Coordinator. “Looking at a cell phone while driving is reckless and endangers other people on the roadways. We hope that once people see the statistics and realize the danger involved, they will change their driving habits to not just protect themselves, but other families, and community members using the road.”

In Oregon, from 2014-2018, there were 13,603 distracted driving related crashes, resulting in 137 fatalities and 20,992 injuries, according to the Oregon Department of Transportation. During that same period, there were 1,193 crashes involving a driver reportedly using a cell phone at the time of the crash, resulting in 18 fatalities and 1,752 injuries in Oregon.

“Every driver in Lane County has a role in this effort,” Pfefferle said. “However, we especially want to reach out to parents with teen drivers because we know that statistically, the under-20 age group had the highest proportion of distracted drivers involved in fatal crashes.”

Although texting while driving is commonly seen as an issue only facing younger drivers, drivers of all ages are continuing to use electronic devices behind the wheel at steady rates.

There are several things drivers can do to help them not use their cell phone while driving:

- **Designate your passenger as the “designated texter.”** Allow them access to your phone to respond to calls or messages.
- **Activate your phone’s “Do Not Disturb” feature**, or put your cell phone in the trunk, glove box, or back seat of your vehicle until you arrive at your destination.
- **Install a distracted driving app.** You can find a list of those on the website <https://safelanecoalition.org/distracted-driving>

About Safe Lane Transportation Coalition

Safe Lane Transportation Coalition, a program of Lane Council of Governments, is comprised of government agencies, public organizations, and community members that are committed to reducing and eliminating severe and fatal crashes in Lane County. Learn more at our website:

<https://safelanecoalition.org>.

Questions regarding these programs may be directed to Drew Pfefferle, Safe Lane Transportation Coalition Coordinator, [email](#), 208-404-3607

2020 LOCAL DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD



The Oregon Transit Association awarded Eugene resident, **Ken Rivernider**, as the co-recipient of their 2020 Local Distinguished Service Award.

Councilor Syrett, on behalf of Lane ACT and Rob Zeko, on behalf of BEST, nominated Mr. Rivernider for this award in recognition of his tireless advocacy to start a public transit route between Eugene and Florence. His advocacy was instrumental in bringing the importance of this route to light and in directing funding for first a feasibility study and then route operations. He was very involved throughout the planning for and implementation of this route, which began service in February 2020.

We offer sincere gratitude towards Mr. Rivernider and his uncompromising contribution to making transportation more accessible within and beyond Lane County!

INFORMATION LINKS

COVID-19 Information - Find updates and information in English and Español: [Here](#)

Latest Holiday Farm Fire Updates from Lane County: [Here](#)

Sign Up for Lane County Emergency Notifications: [Here](#)



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