

REGIONAL FOCUS

\$8.3 Million Grant Awarded for Broadband Improvements



The school system in Oakridge will soon have a high speed connection with Eugene that will allow multiple classrooms to access distance learning programs at the same time. School buildings in the Bethel district in Eugene will be receiving the same high speed connections, as will the hospital in Cottage Grove, the Lowell City Hall and over a hundred other critical institutions – schools, medical facilities, state and local government offices – in Lane County and in parts of Douglas and Klamath counties. The improvements in service will be occurring over the next two-and-a-half years because of an LCOG grant.

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LCOG Receives Pat Clark Memorial Award

LCOG has received a broadband improvement grant of \$8.3 million from the US Department of Commerce Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP). The grant will be matched by a local contribution of \$2.3 million, primarily from the Regional Fiber Consortium. The City of Eugene, the City of Oakridge and LCOG also contributed matching funds. The funds will be used to install fiber optic cable and optical equipment. The LCOG grant will also finance the development of an inter-connection facility that will allow providers to locate equipment in the same facility, allowing better internet access and improved opportunities for local connectivity throughout the three county area.

See **\$8.3 Million** page 12



George Kloeppel
LCOG EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MEMBER AGENCIES

- CITY OF COBURG
- CITY OF COTTAGE GROVE
- CITY OF CRESWELL
- CITY OF EUGENE
- CITY OF FLORENCE
- CITY OF JUNCTION CITY
- CITY OF LOWELL
- CITY OF OAKRIDGE
- CITY OF SPRINGFIELD
- CITY OF VENETA
- CITY OF WESTFIR
- EMERALD PEOPLE'S UTILITY DISTRICT
- EUGENE WATER & ELECTRIC BOARD
- FERN RIDGE LIBRARY DISTRICT
- LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
- LANE COUNTY
- LANE EDUCATION SERVICE DISTRICT
- LANE LIBRARY DISTRICT
- LANE TRANSIT DISTRICT
- PORT OF SIUSLAW
- RIVER ROAD PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT
- SCHOOL DISTRICT 19
- SCHOOL DISTRICT 4J
- SCHOOL DISTRICT 52
- SCHOOL DISTRICT 68
- SIUSLAW VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT
- WESTERN LANE AMBULANCE DISTRICT
- WILLAMALANE PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT

Director's Desk — Climate of Prosperity

The Task: To Establish a Climate of Prosperity

Can any of us remember the good old days, before the Recession, before the economic dislocations, the bail-outs, the stock market decline, and the double-digit unemployment happened? Ah, those were the days. . .when people had jobs, were secure in their housing, were spending money, optimistic about the future for themselves and their families. It was also a time when public entities were focused on designing new, creative mechanisms for meeting the needs of the citizenry, rather than frantically trying to dig out of impossibly deep revenue holes. It does seem like a long time ago, doesn't it?

The elected officials comprising the LCOG Board of Directors remember, and they want those days back. The Board has actively pursued a bottoms-up strategic planning process that has yielded a series of "regional issues" that could potentially be addressed by this council of governments improving the climate of the regional community. A September planning session boiled down the universe of issues that had been raised by the COG's membership and produced a handful of topics that both crossed jurisdictional lines and involved multiple layers of public and private sector stakeholders. While important topics had to be left on the table in the process, three were called out for concentrated treatment by a short-duration Task Force, to be comprised of government and non-government leaders. The charge to the group was to identify steps that the COG organization could take that would complement the work of others to integrate economic enhancement/job creation, human services coordination, and communication to "establish a climate of prosperity and well-

being in the region. . ." OK. Perhaps the "climate of prosperity" language was a bit ambitious, but it has served as a call-to-arms and rallying cry, not only for LCOG's Board members but for a dozen appointed members of the 22-member Task Force.

As the group came together at the end of March, there was a spirit of guarded optimism. Of course the national economy was creeping back in the right direction, but perhaps more importantly to the task at hand, the group had a finite purpose, a clear statement of expectations and a short timeline. The Task Force's role was not to spend months and years in saving the world. Rather, it was to take a month, maybe two, working in subcommittees to report out steps that the agency could take in three inter-related areas. The Task Force members thrust themselves into the assignment and in quick order produced recommendations for the consideration of the full LCOG Board of Directors.

At his writing, the wheel has not fully turned through the approval process, so a bottom line report cannot be made. However, a sampling of considerations included in the report of the Task Force includes: support of the implementation of "2-1-1" services to county residents; increased non-metro participation in the Human Services Commission; the addition of a regional perspective to job development efforts; the identification of barriers to development with follow-up attention paid to their removal; the establishment of a "Regional Voice" process to communicate with the State Legislature; and the establishment of an information program—perhaps

See **DIRECTOR'S DESK** page 3



Creswell's First Earth Day Celebration at Garden Lake Park

On April, 22 the City of Creswell held its first ever Earth Day Celebration at Garden Lake Park. The event was a joint collaboration among the City, Creswell School District, Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council, and a number of other regional organizations. Thanks to a grant from the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department and the hard work by the City's previous Resource Assistance



Creslane Elementary Students getting ready to participate in the trail restoration activity at Creswell's Earth Day Celebration.

for Rural Environments (RARE) participant Raja Shah, the City had the new Ron Petitti Memorial Pavilion in which to base the Earth Day Celebration. Building on the City's RARE momentum, current RARE participant Titus Tomlinson coordinated all the partners and logistics for Creswell's first Earth Day Celebration. The event was an all-volunteer effort with no budget.

Nearly 300 students from Creswell School District attended the Celebration, most of whom walked to and from Garden Lake Park. With wonderful support from the large array of participating organizations, there were more than enough activities for Creswell's youth. During the Celebration all youth were required to participate in a number of mandatory activities, which included: nature walks with Camas Educational Network, trail rehabilitation work with Northwest

Youth Corps, water quality sampling with Creswell High School, and electric car demonstrations with Thurston and Willamette High School. Once all mandatory activities had been attended, students had their choice of visiting additional booths and activities provided by organizations, such as: Emerald People's Utility District, Walama Restoration Project, and the Coastal Conservation Association.

Based on the success of this year's event, organizers are planning to make Creswell's Earth Day Celebration an annual event with extended hours and broadened appeal to the community.

From **DIRECTOR'S DESK** page 2

utilizing an information officer position—at the COG to move communications forward and to help “brand” the organization.

The report of the Task Force and its recommendations to the LCOG Board in no way mark the end of the process. Implementation steps will be agreed upon and taken based upon the Board's assessment of their viability and prospective value. Improvements will be made in the identified areas because there has been genuine positive energy applied to the cause. Indeed, it is possible to create a climate of prosperity, or at least significantly improve the weather report in our micro

climate, with many hearts, minds and voices making contributions. Change the world? Maybe not. But the Climate of Prosperity Task Force has already contributed to enhancing the well-being of this regional community. By focusing their energies and intellects its members have identified the barriers to the climate that we seek and have suggested practical means by which those barriers might be overcome. Profound thanks are due to those that participated in this enterprise.

George Kloppel

STAFF PROFILE



Judy Wolf

AGING AND DISABILITY
RESOURCE SPECIALIST
SENIOR & DISABLED
SERVICES

Judy was hired in 1986 as a Case Manager for Senior & Disabled Services. She was promoted to Adult Protective Services Supervisor and she also served as an Adult Protective Services Specialist.

Currently, Judy is a Resource Specialist, providing in-depth tasks including client situation intake, option identification for both short-term and long-term needs, and

See **JUDY WOLF** page 6

Grant Funds Aging and Disability Resource Center

As of April 1, people with questions about aging and disability issues now have access to more help and information, thanks to special grant funding received by Senior & Disabled Services. In the fall of 2008, the U.S. Administration on Aging and Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services approved grant funding to the State of Oregon to pilot a local Aging and Disability Resource Center. Because of its great local partnerships and sophisticated technology, Lane Council of Governments' Senior & Disabled Services was chosen as the project site. On April 1, with eighteen months of intense planning and preparation

underway, Senior & Disabled Services officially began offering enhanced information, assistance, consultation on care options, and help accessing services. Two full-time Resource Specialists are available to listen, offer options for care, and problem-solve through the unique situations that face those who are aging or with a disability, their families, loved ones, or caregivers. All it takes is one call to (541) 682-4038 or e-mail to sds@lco.org. Ask for a Resource Specialist. They are ready to help.

S&DS Adult Protective Services Staff Expand into Park Place Building

In August 2009, S&DS received the 2009-11 fund allocation to administer the Medicaid and Food Stamp programs for seniors and people with disabilities in Lane County. These funds come from the State of Oregon. Due to significant caseload growth, the allocation was greater than had been anticipated. The economic crisis paired with the aging baby boomers have resulted in a distinct and visible rise in caseload numbers. For example, between August 2009 and April 2010, the number of clients served through the Medicaid and Food Stamp programs that S&DS administers has grown by over 1,100 people.

As a result of the increase in State allocation, S&DS began the planning process for new staff. It was quickly apparent that the downtown Eugene location at the Schaefer's Building would not adequately accommodate all the new positions needed. Staff and management collaborated on a plan for additional staff space to be located at the Park Place Building, home of LCOG's Administrative and Local Government Services. Ground floor space was available and, with a little remodeling, became home to the S&DS Adult Protective Services unit on February 1. This expansion will meet the needs of the S&DS division for the remainder of this biennium. Once a clearer budget is available for 2011-13 and beyond, additional planning and expansion will take place if needed.



Senior & Disabled Services to Expand and Integrate Transportation Coordination

Under contract with Lane Transit District (LTD), Senior & Disabled Services is expanding its work with transportation coordinators. LTD is highly committed to establishing a coordinated network of transportation services for seniors and people with disabilities. This partnership between Senior Connections staff of Senior & Disabled Services and LTD has shown a strong commitment to providing transportation services

that are better integrated and easier to access for seniors and people with disabilities. Transportation is one of the critical ingredients to maintaining independence and helping people remain at home.

Through this contract with LTD, Senior Connections staff can determine eligibility for Ride-Source services or a number of other transportation options available to seniors and those with a disability.

S&DS Senior Connections staff help connect people with the services they need. That service may be a volunteer to help with mail or bill paying, a hot meal home delivery, or money to pay a heating bill.



Jan Carrigan

AGING AND DISABILITY
RESOURCE SPECIALIST
SENIOR & DISABLED
SERVICES

Jan was hired in 1990 as a Case Manager for Senior & Disabled Services. After six years, she was promoted to Eligibility Case Management Supervisor where she served for four years. Jan also worked as an Adult Protective Services Abuse Investigator for nine years.

See **JAN CARRIGAN** page 7



From **JUDY WOLF** page 4

care option education. She spends her time in the office, on the telephone, and in client homes.

Judy enjoys working with the various individuals who contact Senior & Disabled Services. She says that the longevity of her employment at LCOG is in direct correlation to the satisfaction that she gets from working with people. Judy Wolf can be reached at (541) 682-2350, jwolf@lco.org.

LCOG Geographic Information Systems Continues Critical Statewide Mapping for USGS

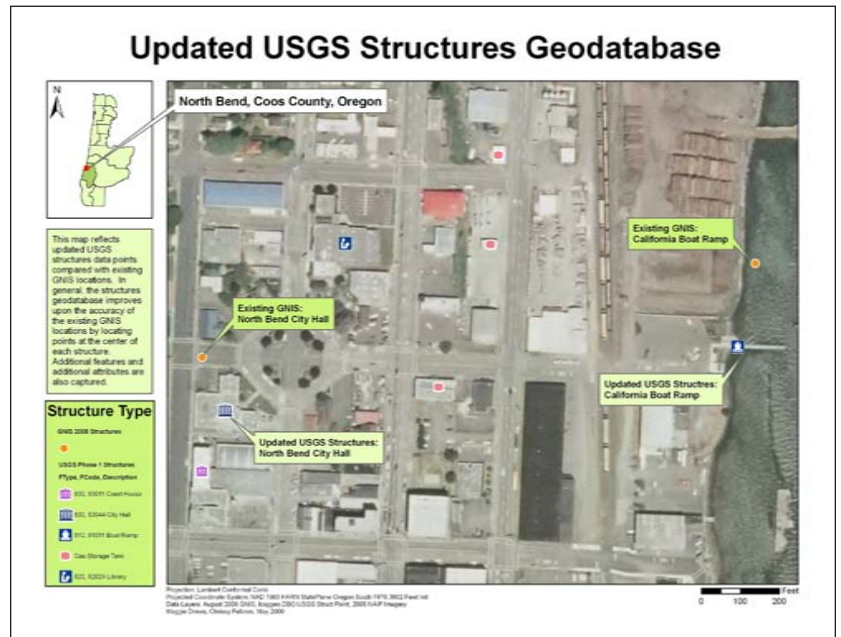
LCOG Geographic Information Systems has been awarded Phase 2 and 3 funding from federal and state partners to continue its highly successful Oregon Structures Data Collection work through 2011. The Phase 1 contract began in September 2008 with LCOG collecting a diverse array of 33 types of high priority structures and facilities data points (e.g., boat ramps, wastewater treatment plants, oil/gas facilities, court houses) within the 13 western-most counties in Oregon. Phases 2 and 3 extend the data collection efforts across all 36 Oregon counties to create a consistent and complete statewide seamless structures dataset.

LCOG's project partners include the United States Geological Survey (USGS), Western Region Oregon National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) Partnership Office, and the Oregon Department of Administrative Services' Geospatial Enterprise Office (GEO). The project will help USGS meet The National Map (<http://national-map.gov/>) goals for structures in Oregon as well as implement NSDI and National Geospatial Program Office objectives. It will also provide state

and local jurisdictions throughout Oregon with an ongoing, comprehensive and authoritative source of critical facility information.

In addition to updating federal, state and local databases with precise geographic locations and high-quality facilities information, the project also includes development of a statewide stewardship plan for the Oregon Geographic Names Information System to ensure standard structures data are shared and maintained on an ongoing basis in the state of Oregon. Total funding for all phases of the project amounts to \$200K.

The National Map website also provides more information about USGS' collaborative efforts to improve and deliver topographic information and exciting new mapping products for the nation. For more information, please contact Eric Brandt at (541) 682-4338 or ebrandt@lco.org.



Coburg Plans for its Future Land Use Needs

The City of Coburg has completed a final draft of a comprehensive Urbanization Study to update an estimate of the land needed to accommodate residential and employment growth over the next 20 years. The purpose of the Study is to: (1) evaluate growth forecasts; (2) inventory how much buildable land the City has; (3) identify housing needs; (4) identify economic development strategies; and (5) determine how much land the City will need to accommodate growth between 2010 and 2030. LCOG was contracted to assist the City in this process.

The City of Coburg last evaluated its land needs in 2003-2004 as part of the Coburg Crossroads Vision project and previous Urbanization Study (2004), but was unable to implement many of the recommendations or meet state requirements without a wastewater system. After years of planning, the Coburg wastewater system is

currently under construction. This has allowed the City to proceed with the Study update in order to prepare the City for future growth that merges the current state and local forecasts and land use analysis requirements with the community's vision for the future.

This Study emphasized and built upon the extensive public input and ideas that have been collected over the past six years including the Coburg Crossroads Vision and the completion of the Department of Land Conservation and Development's Periodic Review (2006). The results of the Study closely reflect Coburg's desire to establish sustainability by balancing housing, economy, schools, parks and transportation. For more information on this project, go to: www.lcog.org/coburgurbanization or contact Petra Schuetz at pschuetz@lcog.org or (541) 682-7858.

Prior to LCOG, Jan worked for the American Red Cross Meals on Wheels Program and Marquis Rehab. She has a Bachelor of Science from the University of Oregon in gerontology.

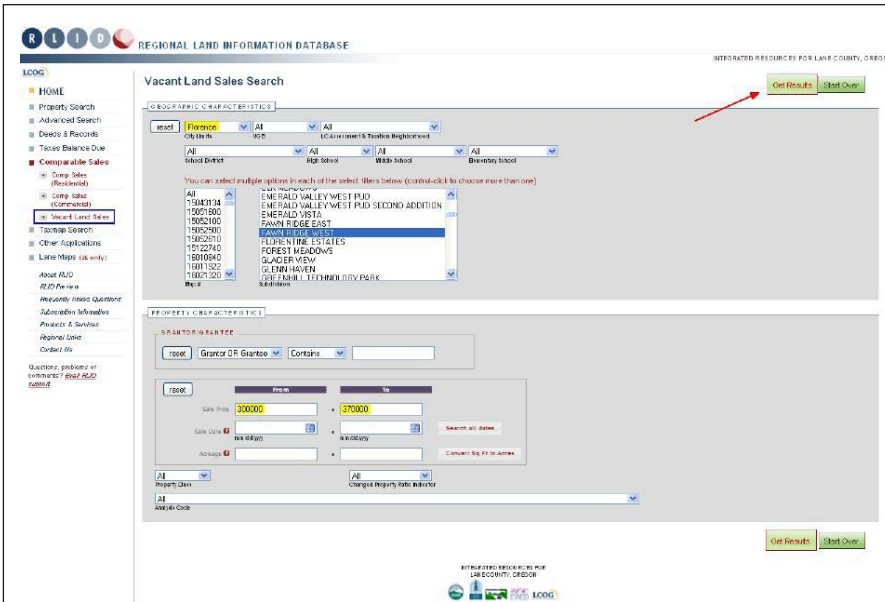
In March, Jan became a Resource Specialist, assisting community clients as they navigate through a very complicated social service system. She also works with clients to connect and educate them about community resources that may help them to stay as independent for as long as possible. Jan Carrigan can be reached at (541) 682-2332 or jcarrigan@lcog.org.



Bioswale near Canterbury Slough in Northwest Coburg — Among the sustainability goals and policies, Coburg aims to encourage infill development, preserve its open space, and protect adjacent agricultural lands.



RLID v2 News



The new vacant land sales search allows users to filter properties by multiple criteria.

Now that the original Regional Land Information Database (RLID) site has officially “retired” (Fall 2009), the RLID development team has been hard at work with exciting new features that users have requested. Here is just a sampling of what can be found in RLID:

VACANT LAND SALES—RLID has developed a new Vacant Land Sales Search tool. With an easy-to-use interface and the best available data refreshed weekly, this specialized tool complements the existing residential and commercial properties comp sales tools. Vacant land sales records are available for property sales from the last five years. Users have the ability to filter by multiple search criteria. Context-sensitive help is

built into the application; it may be accessed at any time while using the tool for instructions on filtering the data and generating reports.

Also available are the “2009” **COMMERCIAL SALES!** Commercial sales records can now be accessed for property sales between 1999 and 2009. The Commercial Comp Sales tool no longer displays a default list of all commercial property sales. A user may now refine or filter the list by one or more search criteria to view the sales data.

Projects and plans for upcoming features are currently underway. The RLID development team is focused on several new applications; one of the most significant is the redevelopment of the Property Search tool. This tool will support property selection and filtering using property and geographic characteristics, along with, mapping spatial criteria. Another new feature being explored is an electronic billing system so that RLID subscription payment can be made through an automatic credit card billing, checking or savings account withdrawal.

Please contact Stacy Salladay at (541) 682-4495 or ssalladay@lcog.org if you would like more information about these exciting new features and check the RLID home page for scheduled workshops and announcements of coming attractions.



www.rlid.org

Transportation Update

LCOG's Transportation staff has always been busy, but the past two years of changing local, state, federal and even global issues have resulted in unprecedented levels of activity.

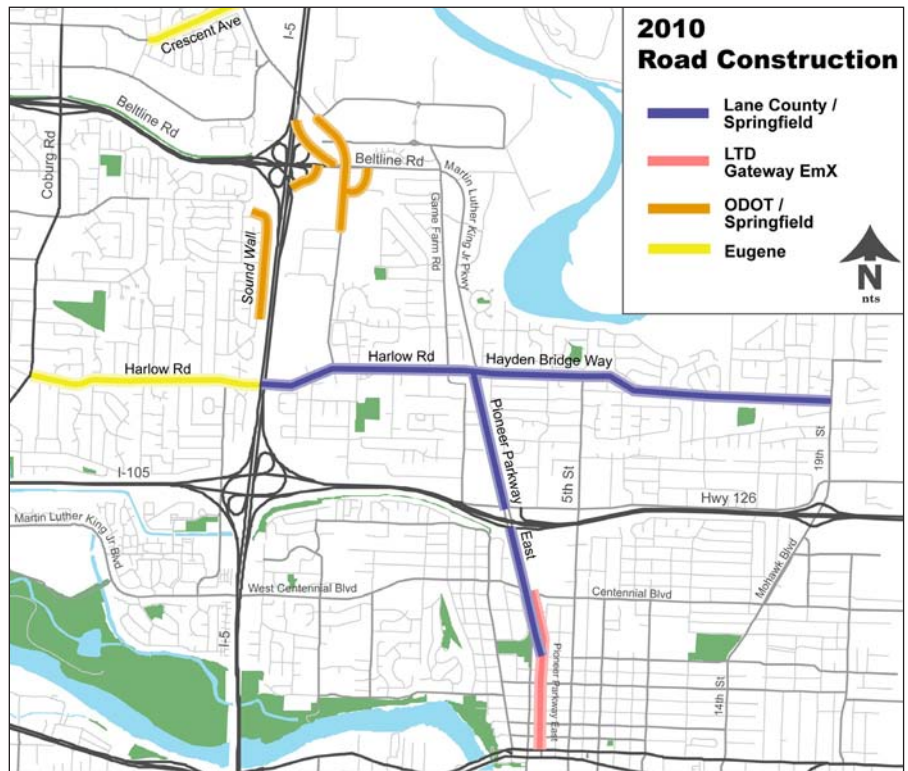
LCOG provides technical assistance on local transportation projects. Recent projects include the Beltline Facility Study in Eugene, Lane Transit District's West Eugene EmX Extension, Highway 126 East Expressway Management Plan in Springfield and the Coburg Interchange Area Management Plan.

Having adequate data and conducting thorough analysis is a critical part of planning the area's future transportation system. Currently, the cities of Coburg, Eugene, Springfield, Junction City and Florence are updating their transportation system plans, all of which rely upon output from the regional transportation model developed and maintained by LCOG.

Over the past year, economic stimulus funds were made available to help create jobs through a variety of programs. In the Eugene-Springfield-Coburg metropolitan area, LCOG helped to secure over \$15 million in federal funds through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to fund a variety of transit, roadway preservation projects, and bicycle and pedestrian improvements.

The 2009 Oregon Legislature passed two bills aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) in the transportation sector. LCOG staff has been participating with the Oregon Department of Transportation and the Department of Land Conservation and Development and other Oregon communities to respond to this legislation, and to develop affordable yet effective strategies to meet GHG planning requirements.

LCOG's Transportation Program provides regional transportation planning, coordination, project development, public involvement, air quality, and data/modeling services relating to all modes of transportation. In addition, LCOG serves as the federally-designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Central Lane area.



Example of construction information available on www.keepusmoving.info



One ongoing MPO planning effort includes coordinating regional projects, and pairing public outreach for road and path construction with promotion of alternative modes of transportation.



Community Leaders Honored at LCOG Appreciation Dinner

Lane Council of Governments presented Cottage Grove Mayor Gary Williams with its Outstanding Elected Official award at LCOG's 2009 Appreciation Dinner on January 28, 2010. The Dinner and awards program were held at LCC's Center for Meeting and Learning. More than 100 elected and appointed officials and active citizens from across Lane County attended the Dinner, marking LCOG's 64th year of service. Also honored were Milo Mecham, an LCOG program manager; Dave Jacobson, Chair of the Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization Citizens Advisory Committee; Bulk Handling Systems, Inc.; the Regional Fiber Consortium; and Springfield and Eugene Fire Chiefs Dennis Murphy and Randy Groves.

The annual award for Outstanding Elected Official was given to Mayor Gary Williams of the City of Cottage Grove. Making the presentation, 4J School Board Member Jim Torrey praised Williams not only for his public service on the regional, state and national levels, but for the "genuine leadership he has provided to his beloved home town."

Oakridge Mayor Don Hampton presented LCOG's Planning Services Program Manager, Milo Mecham, with the 2009 Outstanding Public Employee Award. Mayor Don Hampton noted Mecham's work on Coburg's Wastewater System Project, the Regional Fiber Consortium, and the Metropolitan Cable Commission.

Dave Jacobson was recognized as LCOG's 2009 Outstanding Citizen by Coburg Mayor Judy Volta. Jacobson was praised for leadership to the Metropolitan Planning Organization's Citizen Advisory Committee. Particularly noted were his commitment to the goal of improved citizen involvement in regional transportation planning.

Also a recipient of recognition at the LCOG Appreciation Dinner was Bulk Handling Systems, Inc., which received the Regional Award of Merit for Economic Enhancement from Jack Roberts, Executive Director of Lane Metro Partnership. The award recognized the company's contributions to the community. Roberts cited Bulk Handling Systems as an example of a

successful, environmentally sensitive business in its innovative recycling efforts. Roy Miller, Vice President of Engineering, accepted the award on behalf of the company.

The Regional Fiber Consortium, a ten-year consortium of 14 participating governments, was honored as the year's Outstanding Intergovernmental Team. The participants comprising the Consortium were praised for a collaborative and highly coordinated approach to managing a vital public service. The award was presented by Greg James, Williamalane Parks and Recreation District Board member. He noted that this joint-venture was successful in making significant progress toward bringing broadband services to parts of the Consortia area. Lane County Commissioner Faye Stewart, the Consortium's current chair, received the award on behalf of the jurisdictions.

Springfield City Manager Gino Grimaldi presented a special award to Springfield Fire Chief Dennis Murphy and Eugene Fire Chief Randy Groves for "improving the safety and well-being of the citizens of Eugene and Springfield." The Award of Merit for Intergovernmental Cooperation recognized the chiefs' work in making service improvements by realigning ambulance response, operationally joining the two fire and EMS departments, and charting a vision of a merger of the two departments.

LCOG's Appreciation Dinner, presided over by Chris Pryor, Eugene Councilor and LCOG Chair, also included the presentation of the agency's 2009 Annual Report.



City Managers Gino Grimaldi and Jon Ruiz present the Regional Award of Merit for Intergovernmental Cooperation to Chiefs Randy Groves and Dennis Murphy.



Lane County Mayors Come Together to Promote Census 2010

It's rare to get all the mayors of Lane County towns and cities together publicly. For the historic once-a-decade American census, eight Lane County mayors came together to raise awareness of the critical importance of the census to their communities. They understand better than most how an accurate count will affect the economic health and future of Lane County's cities and towns and the county as a whole.

"It's staggering, really, when you think about the importance of the 2010 Census," said Mayor Kitty Piercy of Eugene. "Lane County's population has grown significantly since 2000. However, federal funds for roads, hospitals, senior centers and more are based on ten-year old data from the last census. Given shrinking timber dollars for our region, getting an accurate census could be one of the most important economic development opportunities we've got."

Official Census Day was April 1. These mayors are committed to getting their citizens counted so that maximum federal funding may be directed to their communities for schools, roads, public works projects, social and emergency services, and more.

Rural Lane County communities could see some of the greatest gains in federal dollars based on an accurate census. Creswell's population, for example, has grown approximately 30% since the last census making the 2010 count particularly important in terms of economic growth, infrastructure development, and political representation.

IT'S IMPORTANT

Over \$435 billion in federal funding gets distributed based on Census counts. That amounts to \$1,400 per person, per year for the next ten years. For every 100 people not counted, a community loses \$1.4 million in important federal funding.

IT'S SHORT, SIMPLE AND SAFE

This year's Census form is the shortest yet — one page, 10 questions, a time commitment of 10 minutes. It is completely confidential and only the most basic information is gathered.

For more information, please contact Ann Mortenson, Lane Council of Governments, (541) 682-4373 or at amortenson@lcog.org.



(Left to right) Mayor Warren Weathers (Lowell), Mayor Don Hampton (Oakridge), Mayor Bob Hooker (Creswell), Mayor Sid Leiken (Springfield), Mayor Kitty Piercy (Eugene), Mayor Judy Volta (Coburg), Commissioner Rob Handy (Lane County)

LCOG Receives Pat Clark Memorial Award



LCOG Board Chair Chris Pryor with Pat Clark Memorial Award

At the April 22, 2010, LCOG Board meeting, Siuslaw Valley Fire Service District Chief John Buchanan and District Board Chair Steve Olienyk, presented the “Pat Clark Memorial Award” to Lane Council of Governments. This award is given to the person or agency who has done most to help the District over the past year.

and most recently, securing \$1.2M in grant funding to improve the District’s emergency communications facilities on Herman Peak. Past recipients of the award include LCOG Board member Florence Mayor Phil Brubaker.

This year, the Siuslaw Valley Fire Service District presented the award for LCOG’s long-standing support,



Oregon Planning Institute
SAVE THE DATE

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LCOG members who will be affected by the grant funds include the Eugene 4J District, Springfield School District, Bethel School District, Coburg, Cottage Grove, Creswell, Eugene, Florence, Junction City, Lane County, Lowell, Oakridge, Springfield, Veneta, Lane Community College, and the Fern Ridge and Lane Library districts.



The BTOP program is designed to fund improvements for broadband infrastructure that meets the classification of a critical institution. Schools, medical providers, police and fire services are in this classification. LCOG’s grant application included all incorporated communities in Lane County with one or more critical institutions. This program will provide the connectivity and the equipment necessary to bring high speed connectivity to these institutions. The grant will allow installation of additional broadband capacity that will be made available for private telecommunications providers to establish services for businesses and residents in these communities. The federal funds were made available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the “stimulus bill,” designed to improve employment and help end the recession. As the *Register-Guard* noted in its March 17 editorial, “An important goal of the [LCOG] plan is not only to spend money in ways that reduce unemployment, but to make investments that will build a foundation for lasting recovery.”

View the LCOG meeting schedule online at www.lcog.org/calendar.cfm