

## SIGNIFICANT CHALLENGES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2012

### CHRIS PRYOR - 2012 BOARD CHAIR

2012 was a challenging year for LCOG. It was also the year where we committed to reinforcing the value and importance of our relationship with our partners and members. Difficult financial times force us to examine every part of our operation, not just as an exercise in efficiency, but as a matter of survival. I learned first hand, visiting the budget committees for several of our member jurisdictions, that our relevance to their work is the basis for our value in their funding. The re-focusing of LCOG through the LIFT initiative is a clear signal that we are working to maintain that value.

The appointment of Brenda Wilson as our new Executive Director demonstrates this commitment to effectiveness, responsiveness, and accountability. The Board of Directors is already seeing new structures in financial reporting and operational management which demonstrate the organization has the staff and people in place to do good work, and also has the leadership and vision to do it right. It has been a pleasure to serve as Chair of the Board during a time when every board member has shown the ability to participate in the work of building the organization and focusing its mission.



**Chris Pryor**

### BRENDA WILSON - LCOG EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Well, this past year has been interesting to say the least. LCOG experienced significant challenges in my first six months as Executive Director – an unexpected budget deficit, layoffs, operational cuts, and reorganization. Painful, yes – but those actions have put LCOG back on track and we continue to make progress and move forward.

The coming year, though, does present some continuing challenges. LCOG will need to be innovative in finding new ways to be relevant, vibrant, and sustainable. My goal for this coming year is to make sure LCOG does not lose momentum and is able to stay focused on finding ways to address the challenges ahead in a positive and productive manner.



**Brenda Wilson**

My thanks to LCOG staff for doing such fine and important work. And thank you to the LCOG Board and our membership for your support. I look forward to a productive year!

### MEMBER AGENCIES

CITY OF COBURG  
CITY OF COTTAGE GROVE  
CITY OF CRESWELL  
CITY OF DUNES CITY  
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 AND RESCUE  
WESTERN LANE AMBULANCE DISTRICT  
WILLAMALANE PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT

## GOVERNMENT SERVICES - 2012 HIGHLIGHTS

*LCOG Government Services worked with our members and partners to accomplish many things in 2012 including:*

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - *Business Loans*

LCOG funded 22 small business loans during 2012 for a total amount of \$9 million. These loans are expected to help small businesses create over 300 new jobs.

### TELECOMMUNICATIONS

#### *Broadband Technology Opportunities Program*

Work on the BTOP grant continued with a focus on schools. Other recipients included libraries, police, fire, and low income housing. The new lines are up to 600 times faster than the prior service.

### WEB DEVELOPMENT

The City of Coburg now has a new website that streamlines access to city information and access to online utility bill and court payments. LTD's new point-2point solutions website features online tools to sign up for commuting programs sponsored by LTD. The Senior Meals Program new website provides more direct access to varied program information.

### RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

**Grant Writing** - During 2012, LCOG staff worked with partner agencies to write \$2,368,986 in successful grant applications. For example, LCOG wrote grants for the Quality Child Care of Florence Child Care and Learning Center, which currently serves 45 infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.

#### *Building Safer Communities Grant*

The City of Creswell, Creswell School District and Lane County Sheriff's Office received a Building Safer Communities grant for school safety programming that includes bicycle safety trainings, patrols, "Thanks for being a Helmet Head!" recognition, and the Every 15 Minutes Program, a program teaching teens about the dangers of driving while impaired and/or texting.

#### *Community Development Block Grants*

Three member agencies needed assistance ranging from grant writing, environmental reviews, labor standards monitoring, and grant administration for their CDBGs: 1) Oakridge's Municipal Library; 2) Fern Ridge Service Center; and 3) City of Westfir Water System Master Plan Update environmental review.

### RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS

#### *Census Geographic Programs*

Local GIS data managed by LCOG have been selected as one of 27 areas nationally for early testing of the new Geographic Support Systems Initiative that aims to improve and streamline the way that census updates are made.

### REGIONAL GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS

#### *Regional Public Safety and E9-1-1 Support*

LCOG supports jurisdictions, agencies, and emergency

responders through maintenance and coordination of critical shared data and the Master Street Address Guide. LCOG also assists the Oregon Office of Emergency Management, regional Record Management System/Computer Aided Dispatch systems, and does custom mapping and data support for the three Lane County Public Safety Answering Points.

#### *Regional Land Information Database (RLID)*

New content and features in 2012 included A&T Description Cards, owner occupancy indicator, "What's My Zoning?" look-up, and user account management.

#### *Geographic Names Information System Enhancements for Oregon*

A multi-year project is underway to improve Oregon Names information in Geographic Names Information System, or GNIS, associated federal and state databases, and mapping systems.

### WATER RESOURCES

#### *The Multi-City/County Water Resource Assessment*

LCOG coordinated a project for eight rural cities in three Willamette Valley counties to prevent impacts to vital water resources as the cities grow. Multiple jurisdictions worked together to inventory, assess, and prioritize wetland and riparian areas.

#### *Southern Willamette Valley GMA*

LCOG has supported the 230-square mile, three-county, five-city Southern Willamette Valley Groundwater Management Area to heighten awareness of and encourage drinking water nitrate contamination reduction. LCOG coordinated a 15-member state-appointed stakeholder committee that developed a voluntary-based Action Plan to address nitrates. State and local agencies are implementing the Plan.

### NATURAL RESOURCES - *Willamalane NRAM*

Willamalane completed a Natural Resource Areas Management Plan that assesses existing natural resource areas, and lists goals and strategies for long-term management of District-owned properties.

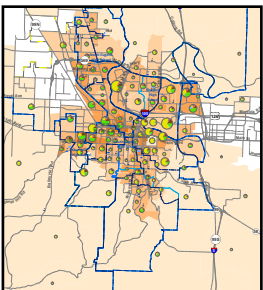
### TRANSPORTATION

#### *Regional Bicycle Count Program*

The Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization began a Regional Bicycle Count Program in fall 2012. Data collection, data storage, and processing protocols were established that will make ongoing data collection more efficient and seamless.

#### *LTD West Eugene EmX Extension*

The Federal Transit Administration recently issued an Environmental Assessment Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the West Eugene EmX Extension. This allows LTD to move forward on the project.



## SENIOR & DISABLED SERVICES - 2012 HIGHLIGHTS

*In 2012, our highly committed S&DS staff provided many services to our communities, including:*

### Senior Meals Program (Café 60 & Meals on Wheels)

- Demand for home delivered meals continues to increase.
- 29% of program recipients are over 85 years old; 60% are female.

### Medicaid and Title XIX Programs

In-home service caseloads rose 9%.

### Eligibility Services

Between 2009 and 2012, there was an increase of 30% for assistance with SNAP (food stamps) medical assistance.

### Diversion & Transition

Together with the long-term care case managers, the Diversion & Transition team experienced almost \$8 million in savings of government funds, and positively impacted the quality of life for many of our in Lane County residents. Our local success rate of 94% is attributed to customized attention by experienced Transition Coordinators.

### At-Home and Community Based Care

Senior In-Home manages various services and provides resources for people age 65 years and older. The Disability Unit is entrusted with the same objectives, but specializes in serving a diverse population of individuals 18 through 64 years who have physical disabilities. Senior & Disabled Services have case managers and case manager assistants who provide information and resource assistance, and through plans of care, arrange for services to individuals who wish to remain living in their own homes or Adult Foster Homes. Each case manager carries 125+ cases and in many cases, people just need a little assistance to be empowered to remain living in their own homes. This promotes quality of life for individuals while providing care at a lower cost than nursing home placement.

### Medicaid Screening & Service Intakes

Home visits to assess customer personal care needs and Medicaid eligibility are called "intakes." In Fiscal Year 2012, the intake unit had seven intake workers. They complete five intakes per week. Since FY13 began, the demand for intakes has expanded with an average of 100 additional intakes per month.

### Outcomes from Calls for Assistance

There were 2,128 calls requesting an intake. Of these, 1,599 requested service. Case Managers made 1,468 intake visits and 724 cases were opened. The number of those who changed their minds or were ineligible is 744. The average wait time for an intake in Fiscal Year

2012 was five working days. There has since been a distinct increase in service requests since July 2012 without additional staffing.

### Florence & Cottage Grove Offices

Eligibility caseloads in both Cottage Grove and Florence increased by 10%.

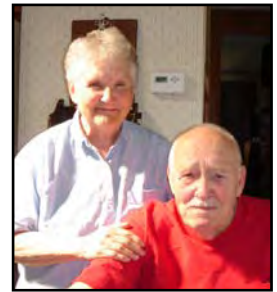
### Licensing and Monitoring Adult Foster Homes

S&DS licenses and monitors Adult Foster Homes (AFH) in Lane County using three staff members and three part-time volunteers. The Licensing and Monitoring Unit also provided the background/criminal history checks for all AFH providers, family members, care givers and resident managers. For commercial AFH's 1,361 background checks were completed; 592 background checks for Relative foster homes; and 108 Limited licensed homes.

### Adult Protective Services

Adult Protective Services (APS) is responsible for ensuring that Lane County's seniors and people with disabilities are free from abuse, financial exploitation, neglect, and self-neglect. Together with the background checks conducted on potential Home Care Workers and Volunteers, a total of 3,450 background checks were conducted in fiscal year 2012. Within each report there is often more than one type of allegation. A total of 1,577 separate allegations were investigated. The 1,577 investigations fell into the following categories:

- 22 were for potential abandonment and 4 of those were substantiated.
- 449 were potential financial exploitation and 133 were substantiated.
- 261 were for emotional/mental and verbal abuse; 79 were substantiated.
- 513 were for neglect of care by a caregiver and 160 were substantiated.
- 120 were physical abuse and 36 were substantiated.
- 161 were self-neglect (no reported perpetrator); 38 were substantiated.
- 22 were sexual abuse and 4 were substantiated.
- 31 were for other reasons, and 10 were substantiated.



## WHAT IS A COG?

A Council of Governments is a voluntary association of cities, counties, and special purpose districts within a region. COGs serve as regional planning, coordination, program development and service delivery organizations in local communities across the nation. Local issues often cross jurisdictional boundaries and can be most effectively addressed by communities working together within a regional forum. Councils of Governments differ in size and range of activities from one region to another, but their common purpose and function is solving area-wide problems. COGs are designed to help the public sector operate more efficiently and effectively through the pooling of resources so that communities accomplish more than they could individually.

In Lane County, Oregon, the advantages of cooperation and joint ventures between local governments were recognized in the mid-1940s. Since 1945, Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) has served the jurisdictions in this community. LCOG has no taxing or ordinance authority; rather, it conducts its work at the direction and with the voluntary participation of its member agencies. Twenty-nine governments and agencies are members of LCOG, and as of December 31, 2012, LCOG employed 143 full time and 28 part time employees. Brenda Wilson is LCOG's sixth Executive Director.

## LCOG'S ACTIVITIES

In 2012, an agency review process entitled Leadership and Innovation for Transformation, or LIFT, made recommendations to achieve the vision of a relevant, vibrant, and sustainable organization. LIFT was designed for maximum staff participation and a Core Team represented a cross-section of the agency. More than sixty short-term and twenty-one longer term recommendations were proposed. Twenty specific recommendations were identified to be carried out through June 30, 2013, many of which have already been implemented.

This year, LCOG staff gave over \$8,700 to the United Way campaign and during the annual Day of Caring, LCOG staff went to the Lane County GrassRoots farm to harvest celery and pack it for Food for Lane County and the Mission.

## LCOG FINANCES

Financial support for LCOG's work is provided through annual dues paid by member agencies, by charges for special services, and by specific project-oriented federal and state grants. LCOG's FY2012-2013 budget is \$31.9 million; local revenues make up 25% of total revenues; member dues total \$196K or 0.6%. While the member dues component of LCOG's revenue totals only a fraction of the overall budget, payment of annually adopted dues by units of local governments in Lane County provides for services to all members and the "leverage" by which LCOG is able to tap state and federal resources.

**FY2012-2013 Budget  
by Revenue Type:**

