



LANE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

LCOG - SEPTEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER



Back-to-school already! Here are a few things going on at LCOG and around the region.

[Visit Our Website](#)

Recruiting for Senior and Disability Services Director

Jody Cline, the current S&DS Division Director, has decided to retire, effective December 31, 2018. We are working with an outside recruiter to conduct a nation-wide search for this very important position. The position is open until filled, with first review on September 18. Interviews will take place the week of October 8. A copy of the recruitment can be found here: [Job Announcement](#)

LCOG Helps Rural Businesses

LCOG recently used \$190,000 in USDA funding to assist the start-up and expansion of two small businesses located in rural Lane County areas. The first project was the renovation of a historic building in Coburg for a new daycare business. The daycare is certified for 12 children 3 months to 5 years old and will create 4 new jobs. The second project is the purchase of a small medical office building in Cottage Grove. The physician was interested in personalized service in a rural setting. She will retain 3 existing jobs and create one additional job.

Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) uses multiple government loan programs for small businesses to help boost local economic development efforts. These loan programs include federal, state and local options such as the US Small Business Administration 504 program and the U.S. Economic Development Administration revolving loan fund.

Have a business that needs financing? Email our Business Loan Program Manager, [Dan Betschart](#) or call him at 541-682-3359.

A Few Things Going on at LCOG

TELECOM REPLACEMENT PROJECT - LCOG is in the final stages of deploying a new *state-of-the-art* shared VoIP (voice over internet protocol) telephone system, supporting 7 agencies across 30 locations. Go-live for the first sites is scheduled for the week of September 24. Over the past year, participating agencies embarked on a major transformation of the legacy telephone system, which is no longer supportable by the manufacturer after December 31, 2018. This new system will deliver a low-cost, feature-rich, user friendly telephony environment. Members interested in lowering their carrier costs and adding electronic fax capability are invited to take advantage of the benefits of LCOG's contract. Please contact [Howard Schussler](#) or [Heidi Leyba](#) for more information, or to schedule a demo.

GIS STRATEGIC PLANNING INITIATIVE - LCOG is the principal service provider to the regional geographic information system partnership, called the GIS Cooperative Project Agreement (CPA) which includes the City of Eugene, City of Springfield, Eugene Water and Electric Board (EWEB), Lane County, and Lane Council of Governments (LCOG). LCOG is the administrator that pools funding, staffing, and creates an annual work program and includes the Regional Land Information Database (RLID). The GIS Coordinators Committee, made up of GIS leads from the five Partners, oversees subcommittees and regularly reports to a Steering Committee.

Last year, LCOG with the CPA embarked on a GIS strategic planning initiative to examine, define, and restructure the long-standing multi-jurisdictional CPA. To accomplish this, LCOG issued an RFP for a consultant to walk the partners through this process. GTG Consultants, a national Architectural and Engineering consulting firm with a highly regarded professional reputation, was chosen after a rigorous process conducted by partner representatives.

The first step in this process has been to document and describe the regional LCOG GIS ecosystem. This report will identify stakeholders in the strategic planning process, describe Partner Agency structure, goals and objectives as detailed in strategic plans and other documentation, and detail the databases of the Regional GIS Ecosystem, including partner and other regional agencies. The next step will be to evaluate the technology being used for the partnership and individual agencies, identify the current and future needs of the partners, and to explore how the partnership should be funded and governed into the future. We will soon be scheduling agency-based workshops for October.

Statewide Framework Data Funding - Framework data are fundamental geospatial data sets intended to serve the purposes of a broad range of users and are organized into Framework themes. Statewide Framework data, sustainably maintained, will enable consistent provision of government services across the state. The objective of the statewide data funding initiative is to eliminate the fees public bodies charge each other for sharing data, and to fill the gap between the current landscape and what is needed to develop and maintain Framework data. LCOG is working with the State and other COG's to develop this important program for Oregon's residents.

OTHER NEWS -

LCOG, as staff for the Metropolitan Cable Commission, is nearing the end of

negotiations with Comcast to renew a 10-year cable franchise for Springfield, Eugene, and Lane County.

LCOG is assisting the City of Coburg with a comprehensive plan update, focusing on housing, land use, and transportation elements of the plan.

Job Openings at LCOG:

[Minutes Recorder](#) - Open Until Filled

[Network Supervisor](#) - Open Until Filled

Things Going on in the Region

Ninth Circuit Issues Decision on City's Camping and Disorderly Conduct Ordinance Impacting the Homeless

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals issued a decision yesterday in a case brought by several homeless individuals in Boise, Idaho. The Court held that the Eighth Amendment's prohibition of Cruel and Unusual Punishment precluded the City's enforcement of a statute prohibiting sleeping outside against homeless individuals who have no access to alternative shelter. The opinion starts out with the following quote from Anatole France: "The law, in its majestic equality, forbids rich and poor alike to sleep under bridges, to beg in the streets, and to steal their bread." The decision is [HERE](#) for anyone who might be interested in a good read. ~ Anne Davis, LCOG Attorney

Lane County's Unemployment Rate Remains Low at 4.2 Percent in July

Over the year, the largest gain in the private sector came in private education and health services (+1,800), partly due to the reclassification of home health care workers from state government. Additional gains occurred in professional and business services (+800), leisure and hospitality (+700), construction (+500), and manufacturing (+500). There was a private-sector over-the-year loss in information (-100). Government lost 500 jobs over the year due to the reclassification of home health care workers from state government to private health care and social assistance that was countered by a gain of 1,300 in local government. [Read More Here](#)

Member Updates:

Coburg: Fire Department gets a new rig! See more [here](#)

Cottage Grove: Too close to call on getting World Record on Toga Party. See more [here](#)

Eugene / Springfield: Rideshare coming! See more [here](#)

EPUD: First Electric Utility To Capitalize On The Oregon Clean Fuels Program. See more [here](#)

Lane Community College: Is now offering a new hands-on course teaching food truck basics. See more [here](#)

Port of Siuslaw: Receives \$837,000 from Rep. DeFazio supported bill to dredge. See more [here](#)

South Lane School District: Opens brand new Harrison Elementary School. See

more [here](#).

Springfield: PacificSource to buy Symantec building in Springfield's Gateway area. See more [here](#)



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