



## LCOG - JULY 2019 NEWSLETTER



[Visit Our Website](#)

### BROADBAND SESSIONS



LCOG, with support from the Public Agency Network (PAN), Regional Fiber Consortium, and the City of Eugene coordinated six half-day work sessions to hear from stakeholders regarding concerns, issues, opportunities, and threats to beginning a broadband/fiber planning effort for the Eugene-Springfield area and ultimately all of Lane County. In LCOG's work and conversations with IT,

economic development and other staff, as well as leadership and elected officials in the region, it became clear that there are a number of perspectives that motivate interest in the topic of fiber and broadband. Individuals from each of these areas (both public and private sector) were invited to participate.

The work sessions were seeking broad feedback for the development of a *Request for Proposals* for an eventual "regional" broadband plan. For the purposes of this most immediate effort the "region" is defined as the Eugene-Springfield metropolitan area. Though this effort will not directly address the clearly pressing issues of rural broadband connectivity, it will inevitably promote connectivity progress benefitting rural areas. There is also every intention that this process will create an effective template and springboard for future efforts with a different focus (e.g. rural broadband).

### DOWNTOWN EUGENE SHUTTLE IS COMING!

LCOG is working with our

partners at the Lane Transit District, City of Eugene, Lane County and EWEB to start a one year on-demand pilot project in downtown Eugene. Similar to the program LTD is testing in Cottage Gove, this service will provide a Point A to Point B ride within downtown Eugene using a downloaded app.



The vehicles used will be zero-emissions, electric, six seater vans. The goal with this project is to alleviate parking issues and to encourage use of public transportation to and from downtown Eugene. The service is anticipated to launch in August.

## INTER-COMMUNITY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ROUTES

In February, LCOG submitted grant applications to fund two pilot public transportation routes: Florence-Yachats Connector and Eugene to Florence. Lane Transit District is currently managing the Florence-Yachats Connector as a one year pilot. If funded, LCOG will assume management of the Florence-Yachats Connector pilot for a two year extension and will implement a route between Eugene and Florence.

The Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF) Selection Committee has reviewed these and other applications from around the state and has ranked the Florence-Yachats Connector and Eugene to Florence routes as the first and second highest priority projects respectively to receive STIF Intercommunity Discretionary Funds. A full list of the ranked projects can be found [here](#).

The project selection process will continue with the ODOT Public Transportation Advisory Committee (PTAC) which will review the list of prioritized projects and all public comments during a public hearing July 1. At that public hearing, PTAC will make a funding recommendation to the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC). The OTC is then scheduled to review and take action on the funding recommendation during its August 15 meeting. If LCOG's grants are awarded, procurement for an operator of the Eugene to Florence route will begin in the Fall and the service is anticipated to start in January, 2020.

## STONEWALL EVENT AND NATIONAL PRIDE MONTH

Last month, Senior and Disability Services (S&DS) hosted a community event at Spectrum to honor the Stonewall Generation\* and National PRIDE



month. Data shows that aging LGBTQ+ individuals, who were alive during the Stonewall Riots and contribute various experiences to the community, are more likely to be at risk as they age due to their historical experiences with social isolation.

With this event, we brought together members of the LGBTQ+ aging population

within the community to provide an opportunity for socialization and sharing of resources. The event was well-received, and participants were able to complete surveys that will be reflected in the 2020 Community Needs Assessment and Area Plan. We look forward to tabling at Eugene PRIDE in August, and hosting future outreach events such as this one, in which we will be able to further engage with underrepresented members of our community.

\*50 years ago, the Stonewall Inn and other LGBT friendly clubs across the country were places of refuge where people could express themselves openly. On June 28, 1969, the Stonewall Inn was raided by law enforcement and patrons were hauled out of the club and arrested. The Stonewall raid sparked a riot that led to six days of protests and clashes with law enforcement in New York City, and was a primary catalyst for the Gay Rights movement both in the US and throughout the world. In 2016, the Stonewall Inn and surrounding streets were designated a National Monument in honor of the area's contribution to LGBTQ+ and human rights.

**A big thank you to Walter Carell, III; Judith Moman; Bill Winkley; Trans\*ponder; the Alzheimer's Association; HIV Alliance; and AARP for their raffle donations and support in getting word out to the community!**

## OAKRIDGE RECRUITS NEW CITY ADMINISTRATOR

LCOG provided assistance to the City of Oakridge to help with their transition following the retirement of their City Administrator. LCOG staff supported the recruitment process for the new City Administrator, helping with everything from screening applications, reviewing interview questions, providing IT support for Skype interviews, and facilitating the debrief from the interviews and the ultimate decision process. Due to some additional staff turnover, LCOG has also provided assistance for budget and payroll. The new Administrator will start later this month and we will provide information in our August Newsletter.

LCOG also provided an Interim Administrator, Marsha Miller, retired Lane County Public Works Director, to help with the transition. Based on feedback from Council, staff, and the public at Marsha's last Council meeting, her stint as an interim was a success.

# NEW BUSINESS IN LCOG'S PARK PLACE BUILDING IS OPENING!

**PUBLIC Streetwear will hold their Grand Opening on July 12 from 4 to 8 pm.**

This exciting new downtown Eugene business carries a fantastic selection of youthful attire from brands including Levis Premium, Adidas Originals, Champion, Daydreamer, Rain, The Laundry Room, and many, many more! New Brands and new drops every month!

Hours are 11 to 7 M - TR; 11 to 8 F & S; 10 to 6 Su

Check out this exciting new business on First Friday's Art Walk this Friday!

Mural and Studio Art talk @ 6:30 w/VRGNZ

Live Screen printing starts @ 5

Snacks/drinks/music

873 Willamette Street



Check them out on Facebook: @publiceugene [here](#)

## THE 2020 CENSUS - COMPLETE COUNT COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED

LCOG is currently coordinating with the US Census Bureau to set up "Complete Count Committees". The Census Bureau wants local jurisdictions to involve community groups that can help bring in response from everyone but especially from hard-to-reach segments of the community: elderly shut-ins, Hispanic and non-white communities, homeless and transitional-shelter population, remote rural population, university students, etc.

### **THIS IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE:**

More than \$675 Billion in federal funds are distributed based on population - so a complete count matters!

In addition, Oregon stands to gain a 6th Congressional District UNLESS we do a poor job of getting a complete count. The last thing we want is for some other state to do a better job at getting a complete count and steal our seat from us.

If you are interested in assisting with getting a complete count in Lane County - please let me know! Email me: [Brenda Wilson](#)

# THINGS GOING ON IN THE REGION

**Bethel School District:** Kalapuya Sets Graduation Record. [Learn more here](#)

**Coburg:** Coburg Golden Years July 19-20. [Learn more here](#)

**Cottage Grove:** Mayor's Golf Tournament to benefit H2O program from Community Sharing – July 27. [Learn more here](#)

**Creswell:** 4th of July Celebration and Parade. [Learn more here](#)

**Creswell School District:** District Welcomes New Superintendent. [Learn more here](#)

**Emerald People's Utility District:** EPUD Hosts Public Electric Vehicle Test Drive Day. [Learn more here](#)

**Eugene:** United Airlines begins air service between Eugene and Chicago O'Hare International Airport. [Learn more here](#)

**Eugene 4J School District:** 4J Officials Seek Input on New Edison Elementary Design. [Learn more here](#)

**EWEB:** EWEB to upgrade water lines along Willamette Street at night for next several weeks. [Learn more here](#)

**Florence:** Community Block Party July 19. [Learn more here](#)

**Lane Community College:** Leadership Academy Accepts Three LCC Administrators. [Learn more here](#)

**Lane Library District:** Remodeled library reopens. [Learn more here](#)

**Lowell:** Blackberry Jam Festival – July 26-28. [Learn more here](#)

**LTD:** New electric buses. [Learn more here](#)

**Port of Siuslaw:** Port Ready for Fireworks. [Learn more here](#)

**River Road Park and Recreation District:** Superintendent Dale Weigandt Retires. [Learn more here](#)

**Siuslaw Library District:** Library adds \$10,000 of new books to collection. [Learn more here](#)

**Springfield:** Library a site for free summer lunch program for kids and teens. [Learn more here](#)

**Veneta:** Planning Commission vacancy. [Learn more here](#)

**Willamalane Park and Recreation District:** Dorris Ranch Construction Improvements Began July 1. [Learn more here](#)



## Lane Council of Governments

Phone: +1 541-682-4283

Email: [bwilson@lcog.org](mailto:bwilson@lcog.org)

Want to stop receiving these emails?

[Send email here.](#)

[Website](#)

[About](#)

[Programs](#)