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EUGENE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

June 30, 2021

12:00 p.m. CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Due to Governor Kate Brown's Stay Home, Save Lives Executive Order to combat the spread of Covid-19, this meeting will be held remotely using virtual meeting technology. Information about online or other options for access and participation will be available at https://www.eugene-or.gov/3360/Webcasts-and-Meeting-Materials

Meeting of June 30, 2021; Her Honor Mayor Lucy Vinis Presiding

Councilors

Jennifer Yeh, President Claire Syrett, Vice President

Mike ClarkGreg EvansRandy GrovesMatt KeatingEmily SempleAlan Zelenka

12:00 p.m. CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

1. WORK SESSION: City of Eugene Naming Policy

2. WORK SESSION: Intergovernmental Relations and 2021 Legislative Update

For the hearing impaired, an interpreter can be provided with 48 hours' notice prior to the meeting. Spanish-language interpretation will also be provided with 48 hours' notice. To arrange for these services, contact the receptionist at 541-682-5010. City Council meetings are telecast live on Metro Television, Comcast channel 21, and rebroadcast later in the week.

El consejo de la Ciudad de Eugene agradece su interés en estos asuntos de la agenda. El lugar de la reunión tiene acceso para sillas de ruedas. Se puede proveer a un intérprete para las personas con discapacidad auditiva si avisa con 48 horas de anticipación. También se puede proveer interpretación para español si avisa con 48 horas de anticipación. Para reservar estos servicios llame al 541-682-5010. Las reuniones del consejo de la ciudad se transmiten en vivo por Metro Television, Canal 21 de Comcast y son retransmitidas durante la semana.

For more information, contact the Council Coordinator at 541-682-5010 or visit us online at www.eugene-or.gov.

EUGENE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY



Work Session: City of Eugene Naming Policy

Meeting Date: June 30, 2021 Agenda Item Number: 1
Department: Central Services Staff Contact: Jason Dedrick

www.eugene-or.gov Contact Telephone Number: 541-682-5033

ISSUE STATEMENT

The City's Naming Policy provides guidance on the naming of City-owned facilities. This work session provides City Council with an opportunity to receive an update on relevant staff efforts and continue review of the City's Naming Policy.

BACKGROUND

The City's current naming policy was initially adopted on September 27, 2010 and amended on April 11, 2018. The policy serves to guide the naming of City-owned facilities in an equitable, objective and consistent manner, and to aid in the selection of names that are suitable to the property or facility, respectful of the site or area, useful to the public in locating the facility, and reflect prevailing or emerging community culture. The naming policy consists of a broad set of guidelines that are then further detailed with specific policies and guidelines for naming opportunities associated with streets, libraries and parks (Attachment A). City Council last utilized the naming policy in April of 2018, when names were approved for the Dr. Edwin Coleman Jr. Community Center and Andrea Ortiz park.

At the January 20, 2021 Work Session on this topic, Council directed staff to research other jurisdictions' naming policies. Staff will present the results of this research at the work session, which may inform Council direction on future changes to the policy.

There are also several concurrent efforts within the City that have a connection to the naming policy and relate to Council's expressed desire to bring an equity lens to this work. These include work on Council Resolution 5274 Section 3 (Attachment B) related to 'Sites of Memory' as well as the Cultural Narrative work underway with The Felt Hat design group, both of which span multiple program areas. In addition, the Human Rights Commission FY 2021 Work Plan has an item assigned to the Whole Eugene Community United (WeCU) Work Group that is related to the naming policy and Council Resolution 5274 (Attachment C). Staff will provide a brief update on these related efforts at the work session.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION

January 20, 2021 City Council Work Session

Discussion at the January 20, 2021 work session indicated that councilors desired an additional work session to continue their discussion, which included a desire to bring an equity lens to this work as well as address "living legends". Council directed staff to return with information on other jurisdictions' naming policies as well as updates on other related staff efforts.

April 11, 2018 City Council Work Session

Discussion at the April 11, 2018 work session indicated that councilors desired a separate work session to discuss the policy where no specific naming proposals were also being considered. At that same work session, the policy was amended to included changes to the waiting period for naming after an individual has passed away (change from two years to one year) and adding the word "clearly" to the following provision: "the council will not rename facilities or existing facility spaces which *clearly* have been previously dedicated in honor of an individual, unless such individual no longer represents a lasting legacy to the mission of the City of Eugene or the community it serves."

COUNCIL OPTIONS

This work session is an opportunity for City Council to consider information presented by staff, to continue to review the existing policy and potentially request additional information from staff.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. City of Eugene Naming Policy
- B. Council Resolution 5274
- C. Excerpt from Human Rights Commission FY 2021 Work Plan

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Staff Contact: Jason Dedrick Telephone: 541-682-5033

Staff E-Mail: jdedrick@eugene-or.gov



OBJECTIVE

The intent of the City of Eugene naming policy is to guide the naming of City-owned facilities in a fair, objective and consistent manner, and aid in the selection of names that are suitable to the property or facility, respectful of the history of the site or area, useful to the public in locating the facility and reflect prevailing or emerging community culture. For the purposes of this policy, "facility" shall be used to mean any building, park, street, natural area, bridge, or other City- owned structure.

GENERAL

The establishment of formal legal names of permanent real property owned by the City of Eugene requires administrative action. Only the Eugene City Council retains the authority to establish formal legal names for City-owned facilities.

It will be the general policy of the City of Eugene when naming facilities to incorporate a geographic, natural, historic, or geological feature as part of the name to assist the public in recognizing the location. The use of geographic areas or neighborhood locations for naming promotes community identification, thus creating a sense of ownership by citizens.

As an alternative, the council may consider honoring individuals whose achievements represent a lasting legacy to the mission of the City of Eugene and the community it serves, or donors making significant financial contributions to the construction of or ongoing operation of the facility by incorporating that individual's name in the name of the facility. Whenever practicable, the individual's name will be incorporated into the existing geographic name. In the event that an individual's name is considered, the City Council will take great care to ensure that the individual is of such character and integrity that the name will endure as an honor in the present and into the future. At no time will a facility be named after a business.

It is the policy of the City Council not to rename existing facilities which have been dedicated in honor of an individual, unless such individual no longer represents a lasting legacy to the mission of the City of Eugene or the community it serves.

All naming proposals for major City-owned facilities will be subject to a public comment process during which objections to the proposal may be raised. The council may choose to empower an appropriate existing committee or create an ad-hoc naming committee, appointed by the Mayor, to ensure the integrity and completeness of the naming process. In general, members of an ad hoc Naming Committee will possess a public service background and have a working knowledge of state and local history.

Existing naming policies shall remain in effect unless the application of the following procedures is warranted. Factors used in determining which policy shall be applied may include size and scope of the facility, level of public interest, and significant historical event.

CRITERIA FOR CONSIDERING INDIVIDUAL'S NAME FOR BOTH NEW AND EXISTING CITY FACILITIES

The City Council may consider naming a facility after an individual who has been deceased for a minimum of one (1) year as of the date of the submission of the proposed name and who meets at least one of the following criteria:

- Regional or local leader with strong, identifiable ties to the community or, specifically, to the facility being named.
- City resident who has distinguished himself/herself in public service as an elected or appointed official or volunteer with strong, identifiable ties to the City organization.
- Individual nominated for dedication of a specific facility by a donor who gives:
 - ✓ At least 50 percent of the total cost of the facility donated at the time of construction;
 - ✓ At least 50 percent of the total cost of major renovation or upgrade donated at the time of renovation or upgrade; or
 - ✓ The land comprising the building site or the cost of the land donated at the time of purchase.
- Individual nominated for dedication of a space/room in the facility by a donor who makes a significant financial contribution to the facility.

I. PROCEDURE FOR SELECTING NAMES FOR NEW FACILITIES

The following procedures shall be used in selecting names for new City-owned facilities.

A. City-Owned Facilities

- Staff will notify the council about a naming opportunity at least 12 months prior to the
 scheduled opening of a new facility or at the earliest opportunity. The council may choose
 to designate an appropriate committee or convene an ad hoc naming committee to
 recommend a geographic name for that facility and to identify and analyze any real costs
 associated with the proposal. The proposed name will be based on the location served by
 the facility or its history.
 - a) Individual or groups who wish to submit a recommendation to the City Council will provide the following information in writing (see Attachment D):
 - ✓ Description of facility to be named
 - ✓ Proposed name
 - ✓ Description of how the naming proposal meets the criteria contained within this policy

If the proposed name recognizes a living or deceased person, the proposal must also contain the following:

- ✓ Compelling evidence of the extraordinary contribution of the individual to the community
- ✓ Biographical information, including date of the death, if applicable
- Explanation of how naming facility would improve community awareness and historical perspective
- A name for the new facility will be proposed to the City Council at a regular council
 meeting. This meeting will initiate a public comment period, the purpose of which is to
 ensure that the proposed geographic name and/or any individual names proposed by
 stakeholders or citizens are accepted by the community.

- 3. During the public comment period, staff will notify the public of the proposed name through press releases, public service announcements, the City's website, or other effective means of communication. Any notification will contain the following information:
 - (a) A description of the facility to be named, its location, and its proposed name
 - (b) The deadline for submitting comments (either in writing or in person
 - (c) The address to which citizens may send their comments
 - (d) The dates, times, and locations of the council meetings to be held during the public comment period, at which citizens may comment on the proposed name.
- 4. If public response suggests the need for an alternate name, the Naming Committee will consider other names and make an appropriate recommendation to the council. The recommendation will include the rationale for the committee's choice.
- 5. The council will hear the final recommendation and, unless further deliberation is needed, will vote on the recommendation at a regular council meeting.

B. Streets

The process for naming streets is prescribed in planning laws and regulations (see Attachment A.)

C. Library Amenities

The criteria for the naming of features and amenities at the Eugene Public Library were set by a council-appointed committee, and are maintained by a three-member City of Eugene/Eugene Public Library Foundation (EPLF) committee and coordinated by the EPLF (see Attachment B).

D. Parks and Open Spaces

The Parks and Open Space Division oversees the naming of park lands and features within the Eugene parks and open space system, with the exception of large buildings such as community centers and aquatic facilities. To ensure fair and consistent application of naming, all park lands and features requiring naming, or for which formal naming is requested, are evaluated and processed in accordance with established guidelines (see Attachment C).

II. PROCEDURE FOR SELECTING NAMES OF INDIVIDUALS FOR EXISTING FACILITIES AND SPACES

In most cases, renaming an existing facility will occur only when a facility has a generic name or in recognition of and response to evolving political/social perspectives and sensitivities.

At any time, citizens or other stakeholders may suggest names for an existing facility or for spaces in and around City-owned facilities to the City Council in writing; however, the council will not rename facilities or existing facility spaces which clearly have been previously dedicated in honor of an individual, unless such individual no longer represents a lasting legacy to the mission of the City of Eugene or the community it serves.

A. Renaming City-Owned Facilities

- 1. When submitting a proposal to rename an existing facility, the person(s) requesting the change will provide the following information (see Attachment D):
 - ✓ Description of feature to be renamed
 - ✓ Proposed name
 - ✓ Concise description of reason(s) for the name change
 - ✓ Description of how the renaming request meets the criteria contained within this policy

If the proposed name recognizes a living or deceased person, the proposal must also contain the following:

- ✓ Compelling evidence of the extraordinary contribution of the individual to the community.
- ✓ Biographical information, including date of the death, if applicable
- Explanation of how renaming a park or feature would improve community awareness and historical perspective
- The City Council may refer a suggested name(s) to an appropriate existing committee or ad hoc Naming Committee. The Naming Committee will meet to review any suggestions and will make a recommendation to the council. During its review, the committee will identify and analyze potential consequences and any financial implications associated with the proposed name.
- 3. When a name is suggested for an existing facility, the council will initiate a public comment period and will notify the public of the proposed name through press releases, public service announcements, the City's website, or other effective means of communication. Any notification will contain:
 - ✓ A description of the facility to be named, its location, and its proposed name
 - ✓ The deadline for submitting comments (either in writing or in person)
 - ✓ The address to which citizens may send their comments
 - ✓ The dates and times of at least one public forum to be held during the public comment period at which citizens may comment on the proposed name
- 4. If multiple suggestions are made for the same facility or space, the Naming Committee will select one name to recommend for approval, but may recommend the other suggested names for other spaces in the facility.
- 5. The council will hear the Naming Committee's recommendation and, unless further deliberation is needed, will vote on the recommended name at a regular council meeting.
- If additional deliberation is needed, the vote will be postponed until a subsequent council meeting. The Naming Committee will clarify its recommendation before that council meeting.

B. Renaming Streets

The process for renaming streets is currently set forth in Eugene Code sections 9.8475 – 9.8490. Applications for street name changes are submitted to the Eugene Planning Division and vetted by the Planning Commission (see Attachment A).

III. STAFF-INITIATED REQUESTS

Naming/renaming of public meeting rooms and subsections of City facilities will be made by the City Manager or his designee, but may come to the City Council for approval at a regular council meeting, or, in situations of lower public interest, via council memo at least four weeks prior to formalization of the proposed name.

ENDORSING PROPOSALS FROM OTHER JURISDICTIONS

In the event the Mayor and City Council are asked to endorse a proposal for naming or renaming a facility not under the City's jurisdictional authority, the following information shall be required:

- ✓ Written letter or statement of request
- ✓ Description of public process for vetting the proposed name
- ✓ Impact analysis, including financial implications, community impact, potential negative impacts, associated with the naming or renaming.

A minimum of six councilors voting in the affirmative is required for the City Council to officially endorse a naming proposal. In the event this threshold cannot be met, a formal notice will be sent to the requesting agency stating that the City Council has no position on the request.

COUNCIL-INITIATED PROPOSALS TO OTHER JURISDICTIONS

Individuals, advisory groups, organizations, individual councilors, or the council as a body may wish to recommend a name for a facility not under the City of Eugene's jurisdiction. In these cases, the following procedure will be used to develop a formal recommendation:

- 1. Individual or group submits recommendation in writing to City Council via letter or nomination form.
- 2. Recommendation is placed on Consent Calendar for initiation of public comment period.
- 3. Notification about the public comment period will occur on the City's website or by other effective means of communication and will consist of:
 - ✓ A description of the facility to be named, its location, and its proposed name
 - ✓ The deadline for submitting comments (either in writing or in person)
 - ✓ The address to which citizens may send their comments
 - ✓ The dates and times of at least one public forum to be held during the public comment period at which citizens may comment on the proposed name
- 5. Staff identifies any potential impacts associated with the proposal, including financial implications.
- 6. Following the public comment period, the proposal is scheduled for action by the City Council.
- 7. Official letter of recommendation is prepared and sent to governing agency.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Street Naming Policy (including relevant code provisions)
- B. Library Naming Policy
- C. Parks and Open Space Naming Policy
- D. Application for Naming/Renaming Facilities

Suggested Road Naming Guidelines Lane County, Oregon

Recently, many new road names became problematic for address and road name users. Developers have proposed road names that are identical or too similar to existing road names in Lane County. There have also been problems with road names containing road types, alpha/numeric, etc. This results in difficulties for many public agencies, private companies, the U.S. Postal Service, E9-1-1, residents, and the public at large.

Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) facilitated a meeting with local governments and the U.S. Postal Service to create guidelines to accommodate the needs of Planners, Addressing, Public Safety, and U.S. Postal Service staff when reviewing new road names and proposed road name changes. The guidelines apply to both public and private road names.

Generally, each jurisdiction involved in reviewing subdivision plats and proposed road name changes already has an existing review process. In addition to these existing review processes, it was concluded that it would be beneficial to have the U.S. Postal Service, E9-1-1, and LCOG review proposed road names. In an effort to reduce the amount of paper involved with this additional step, correspondence will be sent via e-mail. An e-mail group list has been created and can be found on the RIS network as *LCOG Roadnames. Another benefit of the group list is that it may help prohibit identical or too similar road names from being approved by two different entities simultaneously. Those who send proposed road names to the e-mail group list should give reply deadlines. Recipients should reply that the proposed road name is acceptable or unacceptable before the deadline.

Guidelines:

These guidelines do not conflict with any existing regulations within Lane County. Road names can be checked by using www.rlid.org. This site contains all road names within Lane County where building permits have been issued.

Do not accept:

- Road names without a valid road type;*
- Road names with post-directionals (ex: Woodlake Way South);
- Road names with pre-directionals contained within the *road name* field (instead of in the pre-direction field). Pre-directionals that are attached to another word in the road name (no space between words) are acceptable (ex: South Ridge Dr is not acceptable, Southridge Dr acceptable);
- Road names with punctuation (ex: St. Ives PI, Be-ell PI, or Hooton's Corners Rd);
- Road names with potentially confusing foreign names (ex: Soufreiere Ct);
- Road names that are alpha/numeric (ex: Bonners Lane 1);
- Road names that sound like existing road names (ex: Cortland/Portland);
- Road names that contain more than 20 characters (ex: Goodpasture Lakes Loop Rd);
- Road names that contain a road type within the road name (ex: Woodway PI);*
- Road names that contain a sound-alike of a road type within the road name (ex: Brenelain Ave);*

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Do not accept (cont'd)

- Road names that are identical to an existing mailing or incorporated city;
- Road names that are in general confusing, or have unusual spellings (ex: Acres on Taylor Ave or Hodsdonsdale Ln);
- Road names that contain abbreviated MT (mount/mountain) or ST (saint) without another word following (ex: Shasta MT Rd not acceptable, MT Shasta Rd is acceptable). There will be no punctuation but it must contain a valid road type;
- Road names with TRL as a road type. "Trail" in the road name is acceptable with a valid road type (ex: Deer TRL not acceptable, Deer Trail Rd is acceptable).

Proposed road names that already exist in Lane County will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Because the Master Street Address Guide (MSAG) is maintained at a county-wide level, it would be less confusing to avoid duplication of road names in Lane County.

Additional guidelines:

Naming cul-de-sacs:

- A new road name is preferable
- For short cul-de-sacs which can be addressed between the lowest and highest addresses of the "root" road where it connects with the cul-de-sac, it is acceptable to use the same road name and type as the root road. Do not use a different road type. (ex: a cul-de-sac off of Teralee Ln should be named either Teralee Ln or an entirely different road name)

If you have any questions regarding these guidelines, please contact Carolyn Housdorf at (541) 682-6437 or chousdorf@lcog.org.

*Valid road types are: Aly, Ave, Blvd, Cir, Ct, Dr, Hall, Hwy, Ln, Lp, Pike, Pkwy, Pl, Rd, St, Ter, and Way.

Relevant Code Sections

Standards for Streets, Alleys, and Other Public Ways

9.6855 <u>Street Names</u>. Wherever practical, streets that are in alignment with existing named streets shall bear the names of such existing streets. Names for streets that are not in alignment with existing streets are subject to approval by the planning director and shall not unnecessarily duplicate or resemble the name of any existing or platted street in Lane County.

(Section 9.6855, see chart at front of Chapter 9 for legislative history from 2/26/01 through 6/1/02.)

Street Name Change

9.8475 Purpose of Street Name Changes. Requests to rename an existing street may be generated by a variety of circumstances. In many cases, there are other existing streets in the city that have similar sounding names resulting in confusion for the postal service, emergency response services and the general public. Applications to rename a street are subject to state law that requires the planning commission to review the request and make a recommendation to the city council for final action. (Section 9.8475, see chart at front of Chapter 9 for legislative history from 2/26/01 through 6/1/02.)

Applicability. Any existing street or highway, other than a county or state road or highway, may be renamed by the city council provided it is within six miles of the limits of the city and within the Eugene Urban Growth Boundary. Street name changes are subject to the Type IV procedural requirements beginning at EC 9.7400.

(Section 9.8480, see chart at front of Chapter 9 for legislative history from 2/26/01 through 6/1/02.)

- 9.8485 Street Name Change Approval Criteria. The planning commission shall recommend, and the city council shall approve an application for a street name change upon determining that a proposed renaming is in the best interest of the city. (Section 9.8485, see chart at front of Chapter 9 for legislative history from 2/26/01 through 6/1/02.)
- **General Requirements.** The city council by ordinance shall rename a street or highway in accordance with the recommendation of the planning commission, or by resolution shall reject the recommendation. A certified copy of the ordinance shall be filed for record with the county clerk or recorder, and a like copy shall be filed with the county assessor and county surveyor. The county surveyor shall enter the new names of the streets and roads as required by state law.

(Section 9.8490, see chart at front of Chapter 9 for legislative history from 2/26/01 through 6/1/02.)



A three- person committee decides all deletions and additions to the named gift opportunities list, which was originally created by the City Council-appointed "Named Gifts Committee." That committee is currently comprised of Library Services Director Connie Bennett, Eugene Public Library Foundation (EPLF) Board President Connie Regali (to be replaced next month by incoming president Larry Deckman), and EPLF Executive Director Jim Olney.

Once a named gift opportunity is identified and approved by this committee, EPLF handles all donations and naming. The list of current gift opportunities is listed below and is available on the EPLF website.

Over \$250,000	
Children's Center	\$1,000,000
Grand Staircase	\$1,000,000
Over \$50,000 and under \$250,000	
Children's Center Courtyard	\$250,000
Electronic Resources Room	\$100,000
Eugene Skinner sculpture	\$75,000
Over \$5,000 and under \$50,000	
Billy Goats Gruff sculpture	\$50,000
Conference Center Breakout Area	\$35,000
Carnegie Table	\$10,000
\$5,000 and under	
Study Tables	each \$5,000
Study Carrels	each \$5,000
Rotunda Steps	each \$2,500
Computer Stations	each \$2,500
Upholstered Chairs	each \$2,000
New Library Chairs	each \$1,000
Buy a Library Book Stack	each \$1,000
Buy a Library Book Shelf	each \$100

Donation Guidelines City of Eugene Parks and Open Space

APPENDIX A

NAMING POLICY FOR PARK LANDS AND FEATURES

1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

The Parks and Open Space Division shall oversee the naming of park lands and features within the Eugene parks and open space system, with the exception of certain large buildings such as community centers and aquatic facilities. To ensure fair and consistent application of naming, all park lands and features requiring naming, or for which formal naming is requested, shall be evaluated and processed in accordance with these guidelines. Approved naming or renaming shall not constitute an obligation to provide a sign or other indication of the name.

2. JURISDICTION

The establishment of formal legal names of permanent real property owned by the City of Eugene, including parks, requires legislative action and cannot be accomplished through administrative action. Only the Eugene City Council retains the authority to carry out legislative action to establish legal names. Features or distinct areas within parks, however, such as picnic structures or gardens, can be named through administrative action.

3. COMMON NAME VS. LEGAL NAME

For operational and public identification purposes, the Parks and Open Space Division frequently refers to park property by a particular name which has not been legally defined or assigned by the City Council. Such names are called "common" or "use" names. In many cases, common names are used for long periods of time, and subsequently appear in documents and printed materials. Names may only achieve a legal standing by one of two means:

- 1. Eugene City Council resolution adopting the name
- 2. Eugene City Council adoption of a plan or document in which the common or use name is clearly used to identify the property or facility

4. NEW PROPERTY AND FEATURES

As new property is acquired and new features are constructed, the City of Eugene Parks and Open Space Division typically establishes a name based on one or more of the source criteria listed below. Similarly, the Division may establish a name for existing parks property or features which have not been named.

Adjacent Street - Names referencing an adjacent street.

<u>Geography</u> – Names referencing geographical characteristics of an area near the park or facility, with consideration being given to archeological, geological, topographical, botanical, zoological, or human-made geographical characteristics. Geographical names shall reference features expressing timeless qualities likely to maintain name appropriateness over time.

<u>History</u> - Names referencing a historic person, place, culture, or event associated with the land or facility.

<u>Subdivision/Neighborhood</u> - Names referencing the surrounding neighborhood or subdivision comprising a significant portion of the park service area.

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Donation Guidelines City of Eugene Parks and Open Space

5. RECOGNITION NAMING

Naming park land or features in recognition of a person, group or entity shall be considered based on the following criteria:

<u>Donor</u> - Names referencing a donor, or a name suggested by a donor, may be considered in exchange for significant contributions. Naming of land, where the land itself is donated, may be considered where the appraised value of the donated land is \$500,000 or greater, and where the donated land represents at least 51% of the area of a particular park. Naming of donated features constructed using donated funds, may be considered for donations of 51% of the feature construction or acquisition cost, or \$100,000, whichever is greater. Long-term gifts and endowments are encouraged and may also be considered for naming opportunities.

<u>Honoring a Living Person</u> - Park land and features may be named to honor a living person whose gift or service to the community is of a most extraordinary nature.

<u>Honoring a Deceased Person</u> – Park lands and features may be named to honor a deceased person to recognize an extraordinary service or gift to the community. Requests for naming in honor of a deceased person shall be considered after one (1) year from the date of death.

<u>Group Recognition</u> - Park lands and features may be named to recognize an organization or group for extraordinary gifts or service to the community.

6. RENAMING PROCEDURES

In order to respect past community values, a commonly- or legally-named park or feature shall not be renamed in its entirety under most circumstances. The following procedures describe the process for renaming park lands and features in a variety of circumstances:

Renaming Through Public Process

During public discussions within a park or open space resources plan update process, a general consensus may be reached to rename park land or features to better reflect current community values or the area's special characteristics, or for similar reasons deemed significant by participating members of the community. Public discussions of naming shall be directed to address the criteria outlined herein.

Legal change of the name for a park does not occur unless or until formally adopted by the City of Eugene Council. Name change for a feature or area within a park will take place when the plan is adopted by administrative order.

(continued next page)

Donation Guidelines City of Eugene Parks and Open Space

Renaming Features Outside of Public Process

Requests for renaming outside of a public process may originate from members of the community, organizations, or elsewhere. An official written request for renaming must be sent to the Parks & Open Space Division containing the following information:

- Description of feature to be renamed
- The proposed name
- Concise description of reason(s) for the name change
- A description of how the renaming request meets the criteria contained within this policy

If the proposed name recognizes a living or deceased person, the proposal must also contain the following:

- Compelling evidence of the extraordinary contribution of the individual to the community
- Date of the death, if applicable
- Explanation of how renaming a park or feature would improve community awareness and historical perspective

Renaming a Park Outside of Public Process

Typically such requests will need the individual support of the Mayor or a City Councilor in order for staff to be instructed by the City Council process the request. Such requests will generally need the same types of information as indicated above for renaming a feature.

7. NAMING APPROVAL PROCEDURES

All naming requests and proposals shall be reviewed by the Parks and Open Space Division. Requests shall be reviewed by Parks and Open Space Division staff, who shall forward a recommendation to the Director, who may elect to accept or reject the request. The Director may elect to forward the naming request to the Eugene City Council for action if the request is judged to have a high level of controversy, or to change names with prior legal standing. The Director may decline to forward the request to the Eugene City Council for naming of subordinate areas or features within a park.

On receipt of a request from the City Council to consider renaming a park, staff will evaluate the information provided and return a recommendation to the City Council regarding the request. The Council would then make the decision.

The naming of facilities follows City of Eugene policy. The Eugene City Council has sole responsibility for establishing formal legal names for City-owned facilities.

I/We	request that the name of
(Name of applicant)	be considered for the
(proposed name)	
(current or functional facility name)	facility located at
(current or junctional facility name)	
(address or description of location)	
 If proposed name recognizes a living or de Compelling evidence of the extraordina Date of the death, if applicable 	al documents may be attached to this form) ceased person, please include the following: ary contribution of the individual to the community vould improve community awareness and historical
Person(s) submitting this proposal (please	e print):
Address:	
Phone:	Email:
Date submitted:	

COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 5274

>000000000

A RESOLUTION CONDEMNING WHITE NATIONALISM AND ALTRIGHT ACTIVITIES AND GROUPS.

PASSED: 7:0

REJECTED:

OPPOSED:

ABSENT: Evans

CONSIDERED: July 24, 2019



RESOLUTION NO. 5274

A RESOLUTION CONDEMNING WHITE NATIONALISM AND ALT-RIGHT ACTIVITIES AND GROUPS.

The City Council of the City of Eugene finds that:

- **A.** The Mayor and City Council of the City of Eugene are proud to support policies and efforts that uphold our commitment to protect an individual's ability to experience a safe, welcoming and inclusive community in Eugene.
- **B.** In alignment with City Council's goal of creating a safe and welcoming community, we value human rights, peace, respect, inclusivity and equity, and recognize that we derive strength from our diversity.
- C. We acknowledge that scholars consistently define white nationalism as the promotion of the idea that national identity should be built around white ethnicity, and that white people should therefore maintain both a demographic majority and dominance of the nation's culture and public life across the country.
- **D.** We recognize that there has been a rise of white nationalist and white supremacist groups in the United States and that the national political dialogue reflects this racial tension.
- **E.** Our community is committed to a just and inclusive Republic. White nationalism places the interests of white people over those of other racial groups, and is an ideology focused on maintaining white political, economic, and demographic dominance, and it is at odds with our vision for Eugene.
- **F.** The Oregon Constitution states, "No law shall be passed restraining the free expression of opinion, or restricting the right to speak, write, or print freely on any subject whatsoever; but every person shall be responsible for the abuse of this right." (Emphasis added.)
- **G.** Free speech is a core principle of an American Republic. The agenda of white nationalist groups seeks to destabilize the American Republic, use fear as a control tactic, divide our community, and promote and ignite social animosities.
- H. We understand that the City of Eugene exists within the historical context of our nation and state. Marginalized communities have experienced generational oppression and traumas related to the decisions made by people and governments in both the past and present. White supremacy groups have a history of advocating for the marginalization of communities of color through government policies. For example, extreme racial prejudice resulted in the deportation of Japanese-Americans following Pearl Harbor, leading to government action that resulted in their forced relocation to incarceration camps with deplorable living conditions. Today, groups are advocating for the apprehension, detention and deportation of Central American

refugees legally seeking asylum in the United States. The State of Oregon also has a history of enacting racist policies that have left lasting harm on communities of color, including entering the Union as a "whites-only" state in 1859, refusing to ratify the 14th and 15th amendments to the United States Constitution, and enacting black exclusion laws. The City of Eugene had de facto enforcement of its status as a 'Sundown Town,' an extended presence of the Ku Klux Klan, whites-only housing covenants, and unequal access to government services, all of which led to gentrification and decimation and demolition of historic communities of color.

- I. We have seen a recent surge of white nationalist activity and hostility here, in our home, conjuring painful memories of our City's past and causing harm to current residents. The trauma inflicted on Black people, people of color, Muslim and Jewish people, religious minorities, the LGBTQ community and other marginalized groups by white supremacists results in generational and psychological harm affecting health, educational, economic and social outcomes.
- **J.** The City of Eugene has a longstanding history and commitment of celebrating and supporting people of all races, national origins, immigration and refugee statuses, religions, gender, gender identities, sexual orientations, abilities, ages, and economic statuses. The City Council has adopted Ordinances and Resolutions that demonstrate this commitment, including:
 - 1. Human Rights Municipal Code provisions, EC 4.613 4.655 (adopted in 1971, with the most recent amendment adopted in 2014 which made it unlawful to discriminate based on gender (Ord. 20523)).
 - **2.** Resolution 5073 (adopted 2012) in Support of a Statement of Principles for Immigrant Integration.
 - **3.** Resolution 5142 (adopted in 2015) Declaring the Urgency of the Housing and Homelessness Crisis.
 - **4.** Resolution 5148 (adopted in 2016) Declaring the Second Monday of October as Indigenous Peoples' Day.
 - **5.** Resolution 5150 (adopted in 2016) Supporting the Oregon Convention on Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women.
 - **6.** Resolution 5154 (adopted in 2016) Declaring the City of Eugene's Commitment in Protecting Refugees.
 - 7. Resolution 5174 (adopted in 2016) Declaring the City of Eugene's Commitment to Being a Welcoming, Inclusive and Safe Community for Everyone.
 - **8.** Council Ordinance No. 20579 (adopted 2017) Concerning Protections for Individuals and Adding Sections 2.495 and 2.497 to the Eugene Code, 1971.
 - **9.** Resolution No. 5190 (adopted 2017) Declaring the City of Eugene's Opposition to Anti-Semitic Hate and Bias Crimes.

10. Resolution No. 5206 (adopted 2017) Supporting the Continuation of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EUGENE, a Municipal Corporation of the State of Oregon, as follows:

<u>Section 1</u>. The City Council is committed to making Eugene a welcoming, inclusive, and safe community for everyone. We condemn hate, xenophobia, racism, white supremacy, Anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, homophobia, transphobia, ableism, sexism and other forms of bigotry.

<u>Section 2</u>. The City Council is committed to standing in solidarity with the people of Eugene in opposing white supremacy and creating a community where all people can safely, freely and fully engage in our democracy. We will not tolerate hate in any form and will pursue policies to ensure civil and human rights to all individuals.

<u>Section 3</u>. The City Council requests that the City Manager explore convening public historians to identify 'Sites of Memory' and memorialize them, in collaboration with Eugene's diverse artist community, to begin a process of reconciliation with Eugene's past, to actively acknowledge and address the remnants of Eugene's historical legacy, and to commemorate unsung heroes who have acted to counter white supremacy and discrimination.

<u>Section 4</u>. This Resolution is effective immediately upon its passage by the City Council.

The foregoing Resolution adopted the 24th day of July, 2019.

Deputy City Recorder

Attachment C

Human Rights Commission FY 2021 Work Plan Excerpt

In complement with Section 3. of Council Resolution 5274, dated July 24, 2019 (A Resolution Condemning White Nationalism and Alt-Right Activities and Groups), conduct research and engage the Eugene community in identifying place names and monuments, etc., in Eugene that honor or glorify white supremacy. Prepare a report on the results for HRC and City Council, with recommendations for place names to be considered for renaming, and monuments, etc., to be considered for removal/replacement.

EUGENE CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY



Work Session: Intergovernmental Relations and 2021 Legislative Update

Meeting Date: June 30, 2021

Department: Central Services

Agenda Item Number: 2

Staff Contact: Ethan Nelson

www.eugene-or.gov Contact Telephone Number: 541-682-5245

ISSUE STATEMENT

This work session will provide the City Council an overview of the City's 2021 legislative process and accomplishments from the 2021 Oregon State Assembly and federal legislative efforts, as well as a proposed Intergovernmental Relations (IGR) Committee effort.

BACKGROUND

In 2013, the City Council passed a resolution calling for a more efficient process to establish and implement legislative policy (Attachment A). The process focuses City resources on high priority items to be reviewed and approved by the Council's IGR Committee rather than staff bringing all City-related legislation to the committee.

In previous legislative sessions, the IGR Manager provided regular updates on Priority 1 bills to the IGR Committee and updates as needed to the full City Council. Current IGR Committee members include: Councilor Syrett (Chair), Councilor Evans, and Councilor Keating. Mayor Vinis regularly attends IGR Committee meetings as a non-voting member.

2021 Activities

In preparation for the 2021 Oregon Assembly, staff from across the organization contributed to the updated *COE State and Federal Legislative Policy* document. The update reflects a culmination of technical expertise in specific areas, staff experience implementing City Code and Rules, and as members of statewide and national professional associations. This document was approved by the IGR Committee at its January 27, 2021 meeting, shared with City Council via memo on February 13, 2021, and an amended version that included a new section on *Equity and Inclusion* was adopted by the IGR Committee on March 10, 2021. The updated version is included as Attachment B.

Throughout the winter and spring, the IGR Committee met regularly, on an every-other-week schedule, with the IGR Manager and IGR Chair meeting on the off weeks to discuss agenda and critical items. As necessary, the IGR Chair brought items to City Council for discussion and input. IGR Committee meetings are posted on the City's website and open to the public via Zoom. More information on the IGR Committee and testimony provided on priority bills can be found at the

IGR Program webpage here: https://www.eugene-or.gov/368/Intergovernmental-Relations.
At the June 30th Work Session, the IGR Manager will be joined by the City's contract lobbyists from CFM Advocates for an overview of the 2021 Legislative Assembly accomplishments. The session's Sine Die (statutory closing date) is set for June 27, and a wrap up summary will be completed after Sine Die to present to Council.

2021 United Front

The United Front Partners of Lane County completed a virtual federal delegation trip the week of April 12-16, 2021. Attachment C is a copy of the United Front Policy Book outlining our regional priorities. Since 1985, Smith Dawson Andrews has provided federal lobbying services to the City of Eugene and United Front partners. These United Front meetings, which included multiple agencies, meetings with our federal delegation, and with White House Intergovernmental Affairs staff, were productive and focused on local priorities related to housing, homelessness, transportation and infrastructure, brownfields support, and telecommunications policy. Staff continue to hold follow-up meetings with agency personnel to advance the City's priorities.

IGR Committee Strategy

Recognizing the need for ongoing IGR Committee engagement to meet the opportunity related to state and federal policy and funding activities, the IGR Committee developed a proposed framework for future engagement and staff focus. The IGR Committee identified the following areas of focus to work on over the course of the next year:

<u>Proposed Areas of Focus</u> (including policy engagement and pursuing additional funding opportunities)

- 1. Shelter and Homelessness Responses
- 2. Affordable Housing
- 3. Transportation and Infrastructure (including broadband)
- 4. Climate and Resiliency
- 5. Sustainable Funding including one-time (e.g. ARPA and future federal act) and on-going (e.g. federal right of way policy, statewide property tax reform, local tax authority)
- 6. IGR function including but not limited to administrative updates, resource assessment (e.g. LOC, NLC, USCM), strategic engagements

Proposed Council Engagement Approach

- Monthly update from IGR Committee Chair during City Council Items of Interest
- Regular emails from IGR Manager related to Areas of Focus updates
- Annual pre-session IGR Council Work Session

At this Work Session, IGR Chair Syrett will share an overview and insight with Council for deliberation and input on the proposed areas of focus, as well as proposed methods for keeping the Council engaged and informed over the course of the next 12 months.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION

City Council Resolution 5081 (Attachment A), passed unanimously on February 11, 2013, created

the current process for establishing and lobbying the City's legislative priorities.

ATTACHMENTS

A. Resolution 5081

B. 2021 COE State and Federal Legislative Policy

C. 2021 United Front Policy Book

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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IGR Webpage: https://www.eugene-or.gov/368/Intergovernmental-Relations

COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 5081

A RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE 2013 OREGON LEGISLATURE AND THE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS OPERATING AGREEMENTS ADOPTED BY RESOLUTION NO. 5043.

PASSED: 8:0

REJECTED:

OPPOSED:

ABSENT:

CONSIDERED: February 11, 2013

RESOLUTION NO. 5081

A RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE 2013 OREGON LEGISLATURE AND THE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS OPERATING AGREEMENTS ADOPTED BY RESOLUTION NO. 5043.

The City Council of the City of Eugene finds that:

- A. Section 2.007 of the Eugene Code, 1971, contains provisions regarding Council meetings and the establishment of Council groundrules.
- **B.** The Eugene City Council Operating Agreements (referred to as groundrules in the Eugene Code, 1971) were adopted by Resolution No. 4588 on April 12, 1999, and have subsequently been amended, most recently by Resolution No. 5043 on October 11, 2011.
- C. Included in the Operating Agreements is the document titled "City Council Committee on Intergovernmental Relations Operating Agreements" which contains the process for the City's participation in sessions of the Oregon Legislature. The City intends to pilot an alternate process for the 2013 Oregon Legislative Session as set forth in Exhibit A to this Resolution, and Resolution No. 5043 should be temporarily amended to enable the City to try the pilot process.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EUGENE, a Municipal Corporation of the State of Oregon, as follows:

- <u>Section 1</u>. Based on the above findings, the process for review, prioritization and lobbying of legislation for the 2013 Oregon Legislative Session shall be as described in Exhibit A to this Resolution, rather than the process set forth in Resolution No. 5043.
 - **Section 2.** A copy of this Resolution shall be appended to Resolution No. 5043.
 - **Section 3.** This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

The foregoing Resolution adopted the 11th day of February, 2013.

City Recorder

Resolution - Page I of 1

Exhibit A

PROCESS FOR REVIEW AND PRIORITIZATION OF LEGISLATION FOR THE 2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The 2013 session will start on February 4, 2013. The Legislature convenes annually in February at the State Capitol in Salem. Sessions may not exceed 160 days in odd-numbered years and 35 days in even-numbered years. Five-day extensions are allowed by a two-thirds vote in each house. In odd-numbered years, the Legislative Assembly convenes on the second Monday in January, to swear-in newly elected officials, elect legislative leaders, adopt rules, organize and appoint committees, and begin introducing bills.

REVIEW OF LEGISLATION BY CITY STAFF LEGISLATIVE COORDINATORS

In past years, bills have been assigned by the IGR staff to appropriate staff throughout the city. This has resulted in the generation of a tremendous amount of work, both for staff, as well as for the IGR committee, often with limited or no tangible benefit. Very few bills that we take positions on merit targeted lobbying efforts on behalf of the city of Eugene. This year, we will be approaching the legislative session in a much more targeted way, with the goal of being more efficient, and effective in our lobbying efforts.

The most obvious change in the process will be that IGR staff will no longer routinely assign bills to legislative coordinators for comments and positions. Instead, we will rely primarily on departments to identify significant legislative issues/bills that merit taking a position on and actively lobbying. Department/division staff will be asked to rely on professional affiliations and jurisdictional counterparts across the state to stay in touch with legislative issues arising in their area of expertise. In addition to bills identified by departments, bills will be identified in a two other primary ways, through the League of Oregon Cities, and through paid lobbyists. The League of Oregon Cities has recently implemented a new bill tracking software system, which will be a significant new resource this session. Additionally, the city council or city manager may identify issues that come to their attention for IGR staff. It is strongly believed that all significant legislation of potential impact to the city will be identified through this approach.

Once an issue/bill is identified by department staff, legislative coordinators will assess consistency of the issue with adopted City policies and past legislative positions, and will provide comments and a recommended position and priority for referral to the IGR committee. Bills/legislative issues brought to IGR staff should be limited to those determined to be high priority; that is, the bill would have significant impact on City operations, services, or finances in such ways as to fundamentally impact department administration, organization, personnel, allocation of City resources, or local decision-making, either negatively or positively. Examples of legislative issues that have already been identified for this session include PERS reform, telecom, and public safety. Legislation related to these issue areas could have significant

financial or operational impact on the City – therefore we plan to actively lobby the city's interests in these areas.

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

As described in the previous section, advocacy efforts will be narrowed and targeted to focus on a very few, high priority issues of potential impact to the City. In the past, this was done on the basis of the priority assignment and recommendation system. Because only bills of potential impact will be referred to the CELEG system, the priority assignment system will be modified. Staff will be asked to provide a "support," or "oppose," recommendation for all bills to be reviewed on which we want to take a position. In rare cases, there may be a need to "monitor" a bill. In that case, specific information will be provided to explain the merits of tracking such a bill.

Position Recommendations:

Support: From the City's perspective, we are in favor of the bill and the impacts. Legislative Coordinators should note why we are in favor of the bill and note any amendments that would make the bill better.

Oppose: From the City's perspective, we are opposed to the bill and the impacts. Legislative Coordinators should note why we are opposed and make any recommendations that would make the bill better, if applicable.

Priority Recommendations:

- High Priority Bills: We will be highly selective in identifying priority bills to be forwarded to the Intergovernmental Relations Committee (IGR). For a bill to be recommended as a high priority bill to be actively lobbied, either in support or in opposition, the bill would have a significant impact on City operations, services, or finances in such ways as to fundamentally impact department administration, organization, personnel, allocation of City resources, or local decision-making, either negatively or positively. The issues addressed by the bill are of significant interest to the City even if they do not directly impact the operations, services, or finances of the City. Examples of high priority bills could include Telecom/local pre-emption efforts, PERS reform, Public Safety, and transportation funding.
- In addition to be bills identified as high priority, other bills and legislative issues may be forwarded to the IGR committee to enable staff to provide supportive or opposing written or oral testimony. Examples of issues that may require supporting testimony (as opposed to active lobbying) include support for the Oregon Cultural Trust, support for

Exhibit A - Page 2 of 3

one of our partner agencies lobbying efforts (University of Oregon, City of Springfield, EWEB), etc.

Voting on bills:

The IGR Committee votes on all bill priorities and recommendations.

All unanimous positions are presented on the full City Council's agenda for review and approval. The minutes of the IGR Committee are ratified by the City Council. Any bill that has been reviewed by the IGR Committee may be pulled for discussion at the request of any Councilor or by the Mayor.

If a position the IGR Committee has taken on a bill is not unanimous, the position on that bill will be Neutral until the full City Council weighs in and directs a position. If possible, the bill will then be placed on the next available City Council agenda. If time makes placing the bill on the City council agenda impossible, City council members will be emailed with the details of the bill and asked for their direction.



2021 State and Federal Legislative Policy

Adopted by the Intergovernmental Relations Committee on April 21, 2021

In Response to the Coronavirus Pandemic

- 1. Eugene supports state-wide legislation that provides financial stability and equity for commercial and residential renters throughout the state of emergency and recovery, while considering the financial needs of landlords.
- 2. Eugene supports state-wide legislation that aids local governments during the state of emergency and recovery, including, but not limited to, financial assistance, regulatory discretion, and public process flexibility.

Support Housing Opportunities and Financial Stability for Eugene Residents, and Addressing the Homelessness Crisis.

- 1. Eugene supports the preservation and expansion of programs and tools to fund the development and preservation of housing affordable to low-income persons.
- 2. Eugene supports the preservation and expansion of funding for human services, emergency housing assistance, and other programs to meet the needs of homeless persons and those at risk of homelessness.
- 3. Eugene supports the preservation and expansion of land use and community planning tools that enable the development of affordable housing.
- 4. Eugene supports the preservation and expansion of tools to support financial stability, savings, and asset development for low-income persons.
- 5. Eugene supports the establishment of stronger linkages between the housing, land use, education, and health systems at the state level to expand housing opportunities. Eugene also supports additional opportunities for state/local coordination and collaboration.
- 6. Eugene supports increased state funding for addiction treatment and recovery, including sobering and detox, in order to increase Eugene community members access to wrap around services and continuity of care as they transition from homeless to stably housed.
- 7. Eugene supports State funding for mental health outreach, services, and treatment designed to transition persistently homeless individuals with mental health conditions to housing and treatment.
- 8. Eugene supports State funding for publicly operated emergency shelters and permanent supportive housing investments designed to transition homeless individuals and families into stable housing situations.
- 9. Eugene supports efforts to ensure Oregon residents do not experience discrimination in housing and may access appropriate information and complaint systems.
- 10. Eugene supports efforts to create a balanced set of landlord-tenant laws to increase the stability of renter households and maintain appropriate protections for landlords.
- 11. Eugene supports State funding that improves energy efficiency in housing, reducing the energy burden and overall cost of housing.

Securing Local Finance Options

- 1. Proposals to restructure or change the State's tax and revenue system must allow local government's continued authority to finance the level of services needed by their residents.
- 2. City governments are the most practical and effective providers of urban municipal services, and State or County tax policies should avoid raising revenues for duplication of city services by other jurisdictions.
- 3. Eugene opposes the levying of property taxes by the State to fund services that are deemed the responsibility of the State.
- 4. Eugene supports the ability to maintain local flexibility over revenue systems, retain local apportionment of revenue from State gas, liquor, beer and wine taxes, marijuana taxes and other State imposed taxes and fees, and the preservation and enhancement of state shared revenues.
- 5. Eugene opposes the granting of new exemptions, deferrals or forgiveness of property taxes by the Legislature without reimbursement of the revenue forgone by cities.
- 6. Eugene supports the repeal of local government preemptions created by state or federal agencies or legislation and opposes federal or state pre-emption of local taxation authority.
- 7. Eugene opposes subsidizing through taxes, services, or changes to revenue sharing formulas those businesses or households in unincorporated areas.
- 8. Eugene supports maintaining current tax and fee authority regarding System Development Charges (SDCs) and Urban Renewal Districts.

General Government

- 1. Eugene supports the exemption from disclosure of attorney-client privileged records under the Public Records Law.
- 2. Eugene opposes changes in state public records laws that place undue financial burden on municipalities to comply or restrict a municipality's ability to represent its interest throughout an appeal process.

Economic Development

- 1. Eugene will look for opportunities to strengthen and fund the local entrepreneurial ecosystem.
- 2. Support local authority to develop infrastructure that provides new economic development opportunities, especially in the area of emerging technology industries. Eugene supports the inclusion of high-speed broadband telecommunications network funding in state-funded infrastructure projects.
- 3. Eugene supports bioscience as a primary economic driver and supports funding for physical spaces and programs to connect the University of Oregon's Knight Campus to existing and future bioscience firms.
- 4. Eugene supports the Cultural Arts sector as a primary economic driver.
- 5. Eugene supports the existing ability of cities and municipal utilities to own, operate, construct and provide telecommunications services, including high-speed broadband.

Land Use

- 1. Eugene opposes legislation that eliminates or weakens existing methods of annexation.
- 2. Eugene opposes state or federal legislative or regulatory pre-emption of local land use laws and authorities.
- 3. To the extent the legislature establishes mandates that require Eugene to take certain actions, Eugene supports legislation that provides clarity, and incorporates flexibility to the extent possible. Eugene also supports timely and efficient state technical support and funding to provide assistance in implementation of such mandates.
- 4. Eugene supports legislation that streamlines the Urban Growth Boundary expansion and the Urban Reserves establishment processes, providing clarity, and incorporating flexibility to the extent possible. In addition, Eugene supports allowing the adoption of Rural Reserves outside of the Metro area.
- 5. Eugene supports the removal of regulatory barriers to housing affordability, availability, and diversity and to mixed-use development without sacrificing local control.
- 6. Eugene supports actions that incentivize multi-family and mixed-use development along transit corridors.

Information Technology, Telecommunications, and Municipal Right of Way (ROW) Authority.

- 1. Eugene broadly defines telecommunications activities, services, and facilities to include wireless and wireline voice (including VOIP-voice over internet protocol), data, and video, including cable system communications, and high-speed broadband services such as IPTV (Internet Protocol TV), OTT (Over the Top Programming), and Internet Access.
- 2. Eugene supports City Ordinance 20083 authority and responsibility to manage the public rights of way (ROW), especially for issuing Permits for installations and City pole use contracts for wireless facilities.
- 3. Eugene supports the City Ordinance 20083 authority to determine and collect fair and reasonable compensation, including in-kind services, for use of public infrastructure and public rights of way.
- 4. Eugene supports the existing ability of cities and municipal utilities to own, operate, construct and provide telecommunications services, including high-speed broadband.
- 5. Eugene supports the 2015 net neutrality provisions and opposes actions that would decrease open access to the Internet through tiered pricing structures or other strategies.
- 6. Eugene supports improvements and funding for ensuring effective cyber-security systems at state and local government levels.
- 7. Eugene supports the preservation and expansion of funding for affordable and accessible broadband services.

Public Safety

Includes Fire/EMS, Courts, Law Enforcement, and Prosecution.

- 1. Eugene opposes efforts to increase supervisor representation.
- 2. Eugene supports the narrow use of polygraph testing for pre-employment screening for sworn police officials.
- 3. Eugene supports Alcohol Impact Area legislation or administrative rules.
- 4. Eugene supports increased funding and training for Special Teams/Hazardous Materials Response Team for oil trains and confined space rescue.

- 5. Eugene opposes efforts to remove fire department authority to provide input concerning fire department access and water supply on proposed development projects, and to administer all provisions of the Fire Code for maintenance of the built environment.
- 6. Eugene supports enhancing the effectiveness of the state's emergency communications system through an increase in the 9-1-1 tax and prohibition of legislative "sweeps" from accounts managed by the Oregon Office of Emergency Management.
- 7. Eugene supports afterschool funding for youth that contributes to the prevention and reduction of juvenile crime, including early childhood literacy programs, such as the Imagination Library program.
- 8. Eugene supports funding for state-wide Teen Courts or Peer Courts that provide early intervention into first time juvenile offenders, reducing recidivism.
- 9. Eugene supports state and federal funding for local government public safety emergency operations, disaster preparedness, and capital facilities.
- 10. Eugene supports state and federal funding and policy support for local government community justice style programs.
- 11. Eugene supports state-wide efforts that increase police accountability through application of consistent professional standards, implementation of 21st Century Policing-including the reduction of use of force and increased use of de-escalation techniques, and transparency of disciplinary actions.
- 12. Eugene supports the creation of a crime of intimidation by display of a noose.
- 13. Eugene supports increased funding and training for Hazardous Materials Response and Special Teams to include Urban Search and Rescue (USAR).
- 14. Eugene supports funding to neighborhoods or areas susceptible to wildland fire, commonly known as the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI), through prevention, education, mitigation efforts such as but not limited to fuels reduction and building codes.

Transportation

- 1. Eugene opposes federal or state pre-emption of local permitting and trip fee collection authority of Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) and/or Mobile Service Providers (MSPs).
- 2. Eugene supports legislation that ensures the greatest possible flexibility for the use of funds to meet local needs.
- 3. Eugene supports local option transportation system funding alternatives, including local option fuel taxes and local transportation system maintenance fees.
- 4. Eugene supports policies that grant priority funding for projects when a local match is available.
- 5. Eugene will continue to seek right of way and construction funding for the Beltline Hwy Project from River Road to Coburg Road
- 6. Eugene supports funding opportunities to address safety on local and state roadways.
- 7. Eugene supports legislation that allows local governments to establish (designate) speed limits on all locally controlled streets.
- 8. Eugene supports legislation that allows broader use of fixed automated speed enforcement cameras.
- 9. Eugene supports state funding for intercity rail service, and more frequent and more reliable, higher-speed, customer-friendly passenger rail between Eugene and Portland.
- 10. Eugene supports additional planning and construction funds for local communities to establish railroad quiet zones, improve safety at grade crossings, upgrade rail beds and acquire rights-of-way to facilitate "passing" areas for passenger trains and freight trains.

City of Eugene Page **4** of **6**June 30, 2021 Work Session - Item 2

Environment and Natural Resources

- 1. Eugene supports measures that protect or improve surface water and groundwater quality, including potential drinking water sources.
- 2. Eugene supports funding, programs, and land use planning tools that protect native ecosystems, preserve intact habitats for migratory species, and protect against invasive species.
- 3. Eugene supports continuation of funding for the implementation of place-based water resources planning projects by the Oregon Water Resources Board and its implementing partners.
- 4. Eugene supports appropriate limitations on fill and/or removal of wetlands.
- 5. Eugene supports funding for constructing, maintaining, evaluating and renovating "green" stormwater infrastructure such as bioswales, green roofs and porous pavement.
- 6. Eugene supports a science-based approach to waterway and wetland protections under the federal Clean Water Act and related state statutes.
- 7. Eugene supports practical exclusions from regulation under the federal Clean Water Act and any related state statutes for constructed green infrastructure stormwater management facilities.
- 8. Eugene supports fair and equitable water quality permit fees and accountability for demonstrating progress toward meeting commitments made by regulatory agencies collecting the fees.
- 9. Eugene supports initiatives that assist designated management agencies in meeting their TMDL obligations related to temperature, bacteria, turbidity, and mercury.
- 10. Eugene supports measures that facilitate economical and environmentally sound practices for managing wastewater and stormwater infrastructure, including maintaining minimum flows to protect infrastructure and reduce the risk of corrosive gas formation.
- 11. Eugene supports funding and programs to implement measures identified in the regional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan such as street tree planting programs, enhanced fuels reduction programs, restoration of riparian systems and other efforts to reduce the impact of flood, fires, landslides, and extreme storm events.
- 12. Eugene supports a statewide prescription drug 'take-back' program.

Climate Recovery

- 1. Eugene supports state and federal measures to place a price on carbon emissions through mechanisms such as a carbon tax/fee or a cap and trade program.
- 2. Eugene supports all implementation aspects of Department of Environmental Quality's 2050 Vision for Materials Management.
- 3. Eugene supports state funding for electric vehicles and small electric vehicles, electric vehicle infrastructure, fleet incentives, and electric vehicle education programs.
- 4. Eugene supports State funding for walking, biking and transit infrastructure projects.
- 5. Eugene support funding that improves public transportation efficiency.
- 6. Eugene supports legislation that improves energy efficiency in the State building code in alignment with Executive Order 17-20.
- 7. Eugene supports legislation that calls for Extended Producer Responsibility in an effort to reduce lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions.
- 8. Eugene supports legislation that allows for changes to the State building codes to allow for greater use of reused materials in building construction and incentives for adaptive reuse of existing buildings.

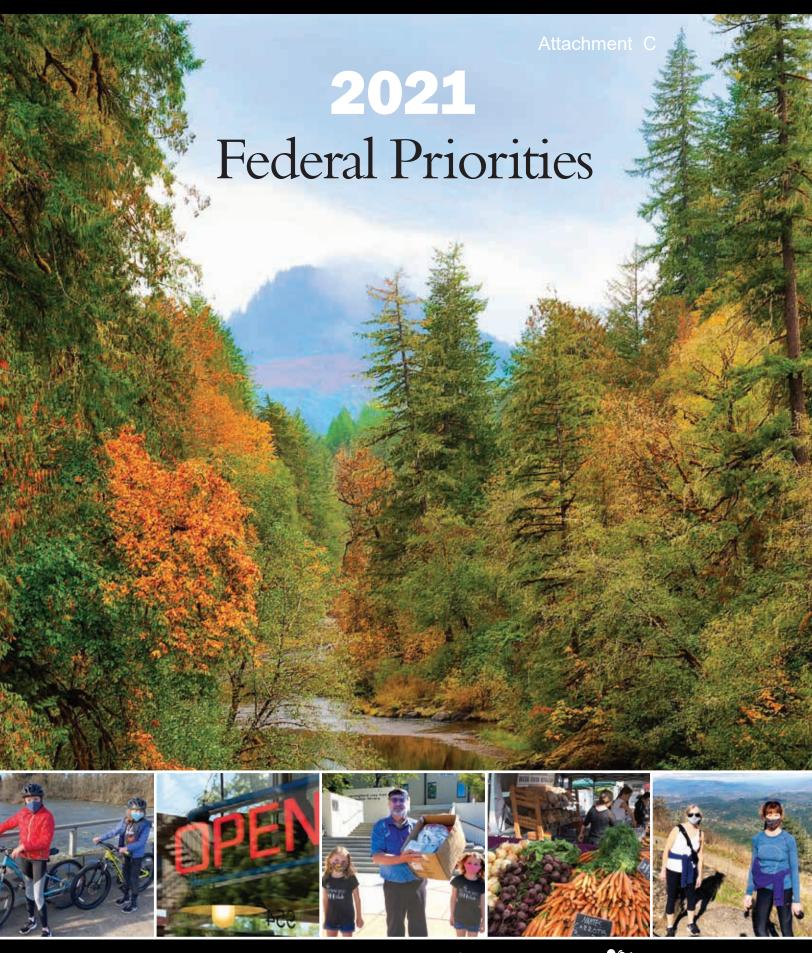
9. Eugene supports "Right to Repair" legislation, which requires manufacturers to share information necessary for repairs.

Public Health & Wellness

- 1. Eugene supports Oregon initiatives that connect youth and families to nature, such as Outdoor School and Oregon's Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights.
- 2. Eugene supports legislation that allows local parks agencies to receive OWEB grant dollars.
- 3. Eugene supports initiatives that promote active, healthy lifestyles through Park and Recreation services.

Equity and Inclusion

- 1. Eugene supports initiatives that affirm the promotion of rights included in the International Declaration of Human Rights.
- 2. Eugene supports legislation that condemns all forms of hate, xenophobia, racism, white supremacy, Anti- Semitism, Islamophobia, homophobia, transphobia, ableism, sexism and other forms of bigotry. This includes timely condemnation of actions against certain groups in relation to specific events (i.e. discrimination against Asians and Asian-Americans in connection to the origins of COVID-19).
- 3. Eugene supports legislation that protects refugees, regardless of citizenship status.
- 4. Eugene supports legislation that affirm our practices of not collecting or maintaining information about the political, religious or social views, associations or activities of any individual, group, association, organization, corporation, business or partnership unless such information directly relates to an investigation of criminal activities.
- 5. Eugene supports legislation that recognizes and celebrates the heritage of the Kalapuya people as original caretakers of the land in which Eugene is located.
- 6. Eugene supports legislation that includes consideration of equity in the distribution of public resources aimed at removing barriers or correcting historic inequities towards marginalized groups.
- 7. Eugene supports state and federal legislation that expands protections for people based on source of income, familial status, sexual orientation, and gender identity; regardless of citizenship status.













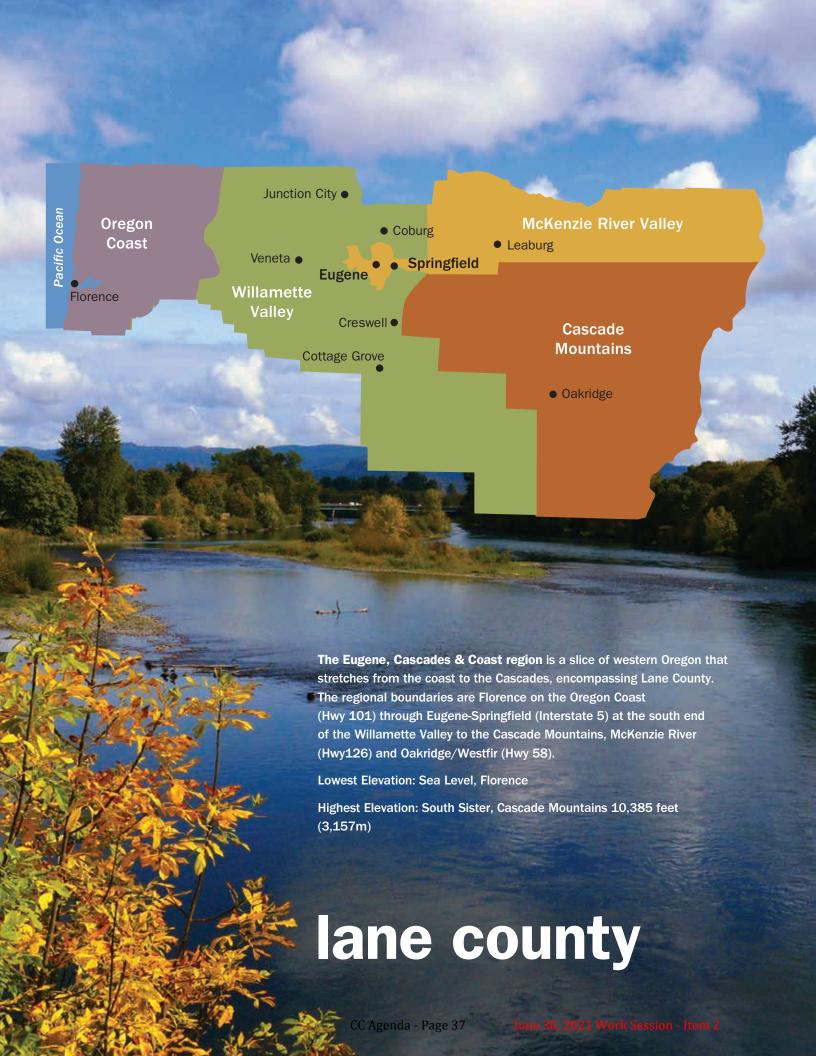


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UNITED FRONT 2020 | LANE COUNTY, OREGON















To the Oregon Congressional Delegation:

The United Front partners of Lane County are pleased to present our federal priorities for 2021.

The United Front priorities for 2021 reflect the challenges and triumphs from the past year to reflect our shared vision for a stronger, more resilient, region. As always, we are grateful for your leadership and service to Oregon and especially to the United Front Partners of Lane County.

This past year has been full of challenges from the Coronavirus pandemic to the wildfires. Despite these challenges, our community has come together; because of these challenges, we need federal assistance more than ever before. Our shared theme this year is "resiliency." Our priorities reflect the need for economic recovery, thorough transportation investments, stronger public health programs, affordable housing and combating homelessness, inclusive public safety, robust education and career training, and a more equitable community. Our commitment to these goals can be seen in our work to expand mental and behavioral health community based treatment, establish new affordable housing and lodging projects to reduce homelessness, develop infrastructure improvements along Franklin Boulevard and along Interstate 5, promote economic competitiveness, and safely reopen schools.

Our region's goal of resiliency is driven by the continued stream of innovative projects evolving from community collaborations. As such, we are working together to seek additional federal, state, and local resources necessary to further achieve resiliency. We have divided our federal priorities into eight key sections ranging from education to fiscal priorities that underscore our region's daily needs that continue attention.

You and your local offices continue to reach out to us and tirelessly represent our interests. We appreciate the delegation's thorough responsiveness to our local needs, and we remain your partners by providing information and recommendations valuable to your efforts and Congress. Please reach out if we can assist you or if we can answer any questions you may have about our federal priorities.

Heather Buch, Immediate Past Chair, Board of Lane County Commissioners

Lucy Vinis, Mayor, City of Eugene

Sean VanGordon, *Mayor*, City of Springfield

Caitlin Vargas, President
Lane Transit District Board
of Directors

Zach Bessett, Chair, Springfield School Board

Greg James, President, Willamalane Park and Recreation Board of Directors



High-quality, generalized education is vital for 21st

century workplace readiness. The landscape of pre-kindergarten through college (P-20) education has changed significantly in the past year because of the Coronavirus pandemic. Our commitment to comprehensive education investments has remained a constant and continues to be a significant draw for attracting high-paying employers to the region.

Vocational training and apprenticeship opportunities have been the cornerstone of our education priorities. The demands of the American workforce continue to evolve, but the importance of such education remains constant. As our current education system has experienced significant changes over the past year, we have had to adapt how we are preparing our students for the workforce.

The Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act provides federal funds to improve technical education and better prepare Americans for successes in the workforce. The Act was reauthorized in 2018. Key changes were made relating to the implementation of Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs and administrative processes. The reauthorization also prioritized efforts on creating opportunities to low income and rural areas. We are optimistic that the reauthorization will help businesses in Oregon and across the United States fill vacant technical jobs by increasing the number of qualified applicants. Springfield Public Schools (SPS) is developing limited cohorts of smaller groups of students who can get hands-on experience with equipment and simulations necessary for comprehensive vocational training.

The United Front partners were pleased to see comprehensive funding for schools included in the American Rescue Plan. As we return to in-person learning, this funding will enable schools to do so safely and provide comprehensive support to students.

We are concerned that as public schools reopen, the prepandemic trend where the overall ability of schools to maintain nurses as full time employees, could result in situations that threaten the ability of schools to be successful in their goals to remain open. We seek funding assistance to allow school districts to gain capacity with respect to school nursing staff.

Equally important to our communities is the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). This law eliminates many federal mandates in the areas of assessment, accountability, and evaluation. The State of Oregon has worked with local stakeholders and school districts to improve assessments and accountability systems and is working diligently to close opportunity gaps. In the remote learning environment, these conversations are of critical importance and we must be thoughtful about how to measure outcomes and assess testing results. It is too soon to understand if ESSA is better policy,

and what the implications of remote learning could have across the country. States are burdened as it is, and although we supported swinging the pendulum away from No Child Left Behind (NCLB), it remains unclear whether states will have the funding and resources to make their budgets sufficient and implement the new law successfully.

The 2020/2021 school year will be the third post-transition year of the ESSA implementation of the new law. We continue to have concerns about the unintended consequences of the law, which have been exacerbated in recent months, including:

Vulnerable Populations

The United Front partners are concerned that the accountability provisions of the new law will not support nor adequately protect those most in need of better schoolsstudents from low income families, English Language Learners, and students with disabilities. Furthermore, these groups are experiencing greater impacts related to the Coronavirus and the virtual learning environment. It is critical we identify solutions to ensure these groups are adequately served and do not fall behind.

Distribution and Funding of Title Funds

The School Improvement Grants (SIG) program has been consolidated into the bigger Title I pot, which helps districts educate low-income students. Under the new law, states shall set aside either 7 percent of all their Title I, Part A funds for school turnarounds, up from 4 percent in NCLB, or the amount the state reserved for SIG in 2016, whichever is greater. (That would give states roughly the same number of resources for school improvement as they get now through SIG.) It would be up to states to decide whether to send that money out by formula, to everyone, or competitively, as they do now with SIG dollars. Alternatively, the state educational agency may directly provide those activities.

Allowing competitive grants for at-risk populations, even at a state level, may leave out many small, medium, or underfunded districts that do not have the capacity to apply for funds. Formula based funding has provided greater access to support Springfield students. Title I funding supports elementary schools in high-poverty areas to meet important state content and performance standards developed through the Oregon Education Act for the 21st Century and Goals 2000.

Educators across the country adapted quickly to the needs of virtual learning and digital classrooms in 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Springfield Public Schools established twelve WiFi bus hotspots throughout the community where students could connect to the internet to complete distance learning schoolwork. Additionally, Springfield Public School, Eugene 4J, and Bethel School

Districts were able to continue to provide hot meals to school-aged children through a partnership with nutrition services and the transportation team. Through a USDA waiver, we had the ability to serve all children throughout school closure, which was exceptionally impactful to our underserved populations. This was especially impactful for the students who qualify for free or reduced meals as well as families impacted by the Holiday Farm Fire. The expansion of allowing reimbursable transportation funds

for meal delivery was monumental in our ability to deliver meals to families who would not have otherwise had access.

As schools look to reopen and introduce larger cohorts of students physically present, it is critical that there is enough PPE to ensure students, educators, and staff are well protected. We also support additional funding for meal programs, technology, and teacher training to develop best practices for the virtual learning environment.



We urge the Oregon delegation to support:

to assist the U.S. teaching profession to become more resilient as many teachers could utilize additional training

Fully funding the authorized level of \$1.6 billion per year include those offered after school or offered in partnership with a special service district or park and recreation healthy. This program was only funded at \$1.22 billion for district, investments are very targeted and limited to a

Fully funding the cost of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)—considered part of Title I Part A—

programs, including physical education, Advanced

agency programs that provide technology infrastructure for supplemental funding for technology infrastructure.

and Technical Education Act focused on increasing years, would be incredibly helpful to growing national apprenticeship programs and would have a real impact in

Oregon's Counties, and reverting to actual timber

Priority Projects

Technical Education (CTE) programs. Work to align relevant pathways with programs and workforce opportunities is

In consultation with the local medical professional industry, during the 2019-2020 academic year SPS expanded the robust health occupations career pathway to launch the first medical assistance certification program graduates to support the need for additional health care

transportation through the purchase of 13 additional

As technology continues to play an ever-expanding role in 21St century education, SPS invested in additional devices to support equitable access to all students and is

SPS will be working on capital improvements such as



The Lane County region's economic security and

resiliency is centered in our ability to attract and retain businesses and investments that create local jobs and support regional growth, diversification and stability. The cities of Eugene and Springfield and Lane County continue to work diligently to grow these opportunities and assist local businesses in realizing their potential.

Our region is home to over 500 diverse and advanced manufacturing companies, a thriving technology industry, and a vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem. Lane County companies are involved in all stages of the value-add supply chain, from the important resource-based raw material supplier through to the point of consumer interface. This robust and integrated economy has taken intentional partnerships, efforts, and investments in critical infrastructure and is responsible for much of the regional economic stability that has remained throughout the Coronavirus pandemic. As we begin to recover from the economic impacts of the Coronavirus pandemic, we see our region positioned strongly for success through maintaining our desirability as a destination for trade-sector industries and the talent critical to those industries.

Situated along Interstate 5 and directly between the primary metro areas of Seattle and the Bay Area, Lane County offers a central location with an affordable high quality of life, a skilled and energized work force, multi-modal interstate infrastructure including access to port infrastructure, and robust health care services. Our regional partners are focused on building and sustaining our economy and embarking on partnerships and projects necessary for realizing future opportunities, particularly for those most impacted by the pandemic and regional wildfires.

Despite the vast opportunities for economic prosperity, local businesses across Lane County have been impacted by the Coronavirus pandemic and the necessary safety measures curtailing business operation—the most impacted industries include accommodations, food and beverage services, and arts and entertainment. These changes will have lasting effects on the economic trends, vibrancy and general quality of life in our region. We are thankful for the support provided for these local industries in the American Rescue Plan. The United Front Partners remain dedicated to supporting local businesses and support federal assistance, such as the Paycheck Protection Act, temporary payment relief programs and tax assistance to help these businesses remain operational throughout this time.

Our collective vision for a strong economy combines existing regional, traded-sector clusters:

- Advanced materials and wood products manufacturing;
- Biosciences and medical technologies;
- Food and beverage manufacturing; and
- Technology and tech-enabled businesses.

These clusters benefit greatly from the increase in workforce training opportunities throughout Springfield, Bethel, and Eugene 4J School Districts, as well as the University of Oregon, Lane Community College, and Oregon State University. All of these institutions receive federal support and create a strong economic base and draw for the region.

In addition to these critical traded-sector clusters, our region benefits from a strong network of locally owned businesses and valued, long-standing, regional partnerships, and a growing entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Advanced Materials and Wood Products Manufacturing

Investments in innovative timber uses are especially pertinent for the region as Lane County is home to a large number of timber landowners and wood products manufacturers. This industry includes leaders in both the commodities and specialty markets, acting as a robust base to the regional economy and setting best practices in harvest, multiple stages of value-add manufacturing, supply chain and utilization of pacific northwest timber locally and globally. These companies represent a significant and diverse cross section of the industry, leading the state in advanced wood manufacturing including stud mills, plywood, engineered beams and mass timbers as well as chip processing for pulp, paper and char products.

The significance of the industry is tied to numerous factors, but significantly by proximity to raw material. Lane County is over 3 million acres in total and 90% of that is forestland. Federal timberlands make up well over half of all acreage and nearly 65% of all harvestable forested land. This overwhelming geographic and economic variable makes federal forest management and supply a priority topic in Lane County and in discussions with the local wood products manufacturers.

This is especially the case as the local industry and impacted supply chain industries begins the task of recovery from the unprecedented 2020 wildfire season. Our private forestland owners and companies will begin the important task of clearing the sensitive, at risk, and valuable charred log supply currently on the forest floor. It will be critical that the federal lands are similarly made available for salvage timber sales to ensure the future health not only of the forest land but also the local manufacturers dependent on those lands. Federal timber harvest and now fire impacted salvage and restoration, has never been so critical.

Biosciences and Medical Technologies

The Eugene-Springfield metro area has long been home to startup bioscience companies. With more than 100 local firms already established, the industry is poised to become much more important to the regional, state, and national economies, with the recent opening of the University of Oregon's Phil and Penny

Knight Campus for Accelerating Scientific Impact. The Knight Campus is a bold new effort designed to accelerate the cycle of translating life science discoveries into the private sector. The initiative was led by the largest private sector financial gift ever to a public flagship institution. The first building, which opened in the fall of 2020, is 160,000 square-feet, and will serve as a hub of innovation for the community and state. The full vision for the campus calls for around 700 employees to be hired.

Our local governments are partnering with the University and private partners to leverage this unique and timely opportunity to create new jobs to replace those lost that may never come back. One of our key strategies is to grow and expand our entrepreneurial ecosystem. This is priority for the Knight Campus, and the work is particularly important as we emerge from the economic downturn caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The University has partnered with Onward Eugene, a non-profit economic development organization, to implement the Eugene Regional Business Accelerator. The Accelerator is a core component of our local innovation ecosystem. It offers entrepreneurial services which aim to accelerate the growth of new life science and technology companies that can offer new high-wage jobs locally.

Another key strategy to support the growing bioscience sector is to connect the unemployed workforce with emerging industry opportunities. We are working to connect local traded sector companies who are hiring, directly with job seekers, including those with transferable skills from industries that sustained the greatest economic injury due to COVID-19. We are also working to connect job seekers who are looking to "skill-up" with training for careers in the life science industry.

The residents of Lane County have access to two regional hospitals in the metro region, and smaller hospitals in Cottage Grove and Florence. Health care jobs are responsible for moving average wages upwards, and employers include hospitals, clinics, rehabilitation and research centers, and public health and behavioral health practitioners. Lane County and other employers continue to face challenges in filling available positions. Federal resources for enhancing telehealth opportunities have created new opportunities as well as access, but other tools such as student loan forgiveness and waivers, and increased graduate medical education opportunities continue to be a priority for the United Front partners.

Food and Beverage Manufacturing

Lane County is a leader in food and beverage manufacturing with a local industry constantly innovating to meet the evolving and specialty consumer demands. The vibrancy of the industry can be attributed to a number of benefits including proximity to fertile agricultural lands and farms and the clean-lifestyle brand that is synonymous with our region.

The region's companies have established leadership in the manufacturing of healthy specialty food options including non-dairy frozen desserts utilizing almond, coconut and soymilk products and manufacturers specializing in 'clean' and fresh ingredients: granola, honey, yogurt, and wheat alternatives.

Home to more than 20 wineries, most notably King Estate Winery, Lane County is known for temperate climates where crops like pinot grapes, blueberries, truffles and hazelnuts thrive. The region is also known for the craft beverage industry, with more than 35 breweries, cideries and distilleries, many utilizing local grains, honey and herbs and ultra-pure water from Lane County's McKenzie River and groundwater wells. We are home to globally renowned names like Ninkasi and Hop Valley—two breweries born in Lane County and illustrating the region's ability to support business from start-up to scale-up.

Downtown Eugene is home to a seasonal farmers market that showcases local produce and small businesses. The City is looking for funds to create a permanent structure to establish a year round farmers market that will also have a larger capacity to support more local businesses.

Technology and Tech-Enabled Businesses

The Eugene Springfield region continues as a leader state for the technology sector and tech-enabled businesses. Due to our geographical proximity to major tech hubs, quality of life, and skilled workforce, we are often seen as a hub for tech startups, scaleups, and big tech satellite offices. Since 2018, the region has been a partner with US Ignite and a member of a close community of Smart Gigabit Cities across the nation. We are positioned alongside a network of two-dozen other communities nationwide addressing modern-day challenges through tech innovation, advanced networking technologies, data-driven strategies, and extensive industry partnerships.

The physical heart of the region's tech sector is downtown Eugene, supported by the construction of EUGNet, an openaccess fiber network. Generously supported by a US EDA grant, the network has played a key role in the growth of existing firms, the creation of new firms, and the location of secondary offices from out-of-state firms. Our local tech sector has continued to thrive during the pandemic, as they have successfully pivoted to expand virtual reality products and e-learning platforms.

The robust public/private relationships that have grown out of these efforts has improved our resiliency during the challenges of 2020. The devastating wildfire in the eastern portion of Lane County eliminated telecommunications infrastructure. Our region's Internet Service Providers and telecommunications firms collaborated with the public sector to bring connectivity to the area, quickly and at a low financial cost. The wildfires triggered a different approach to business resiliency, one based on

collaboration, making the region better prepared to meet whatever next disaster emerges.

Our region expects the tech sector and tech-enabled businesses to continue to grow. The primary challenge will be for the firms to find a skilled workforce, at both entry and more advanced skills levels. For our region to remain competitive at a global level, our companies will need a workforce with advanced technological skills. Investing in our workforce is a priority, from K-12, to Lane Community College, to the University of Oregon.

Additionally, the 'last mile' build-out of fiber in Springfield and into rural Lane County will support the affordable and high-speed internet access for thousands of working families, beginning to create equity within access to the critical infrastructure necessary for all generations to learn, thrive, and innovate. These early stage infrastructure investments are only the beginning and the resources for wide-scale backbone infrastructure construction are still needed.

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The Blue River Community and surrounding region was devasted by the Holiday Farm Fire in 2020. Telecommunications infrastructure in the McKenzie Canyon was totally destroyed. Providers continue to repair phone lines, emergency communications, and broadband infrastructure to the region. It was made clear by this disaster that robust federal funding for rural and fire resilient broadband infrastructure is critical to ensure vulnerable populations in rural areas can access emergency services and restore and enhance rural economies.



Regional Partnerships

Regional partnerships are diverse and broad. The regional Smart Cities steering committee includes representation from Eugene, Springfield, Lane Transit District, Lane County, the University of Oregon and many other public and private partners. The group convenes regularly with US Ignite, aiming to address modernday challenges through tech innovation, advanced networking technologies, data-driven strategies. One shining example of this group's work is the Willamette Internet Exchange, an emerging Internet peering site in the Northwest.

The City of Springfield in partnership with the Springfield Community Development Corporation, Willamalane Park and Recreation District and Lane County is developing an Indoor Track and Events Center in the Glenwood Region. The facility will provide year round fitness and recreation activities for all ages and serve as innovative events space. It is positioned to make a clear economic impact adjacent to the Willamette River in Springfield. The project will be a draw for enthusiasts from a wide variety of sports locally, regionally

and nationally. Community events and shows will gain much needed space. The project is designed to support an active and healthy community, build civic pride and ensure a robust year-round tourism economy.

The partnership with the TallWood Design Institute (TDI) is another stand-out example. TDI is a partnership between the University of Oregon and Oregon State University, playing a key role in the development, adoption, and implementation of mass timber technologies and urban development across the region and nation. The Brownfields Coalition, including Lane County, Eugene and Springfield, has also been working with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) since 2012 to critically assess and clean-up highly valuable opportunity sites within our urban areas. With the region's FY17 USEPA Community-Wide Assessment Coalition Grant, partners worked with local businesses and property owners to complete 34 environmental assessments These projects are anticipated to create over \$155M in future public and private investments.



We urge the Oregon delegation to support:

Programs and goals of the American Innovation and Competitiveness Act, a bipartisan successor to the America COMPETES Acts of 2007 and 2010, which supports STEM education, research, technology, and collaboration between community colleges, universities and technical schools.

Maintaining and expanding availability and promotion of incentive programs and resources like the Opportunity Zones, encouraging investment choices that encourage community partnerships and public-private investments in meaningful and community defined projects focused on job growth, equitable access, and sustainable building types for distressed communities.

Sustainable funding for the U.S. Department of Education, the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and the Department of Energy's Office of Science. This research funding brings millions of dollars into the local economy and functions as a long-term economic engine within the community.

Federal partnerships and support for higher education research facilities like the University of Oregon, Oregon State University, and the TallWood Design Institute.

Funding for the Workforce Investment programs authorized in the Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act.

Programs increasing access to infrastructure resources supporting the build-out of fiber based broadband infrastructure across communities, both rural and urban, which will help bring resiliency to our economy and ensure that all Americans can operate in a more virtual environment.

Continued emphasis on federal timber policies with special emphasis of federal timber sales on wildfire impacted acreage and expanding fire resiliency programs like Firewise.

Priority Projects

Continued funding through, and support of, the EPA Brownfields Grant program and support of the Eugene-Springfield Brownfield Coalition's application to the 2021 Brownfields Community-Wide Assessments Grant. Continued utilization of this program is critical to the communities as is federal resourcing of federal staff to implement. Increasing the resourcing of this program will better assist local communities in meeting critical deadlines for expending funds.

Enhance and make more resilient the telecommunications infrastructure in the McKenzie River canyon that was impacted by the 2020 Wildfires.

Investments in telecommunications infrastructure regionwide to support affordable and accessible expansion into business and residential neighborhoods.

United Front partners continue to evaluate and invest in several infrastructure projects using cross-laminated timber (CLT). Many of these projects have private partners dedicated to making significant personal investments.

Lane County's Goshen Region Employment and Transition (GREAT) Plan now includes a wastewater pipeline that has advanced into the design and engineering phase and is seeking federal resources to begin construction phasing. There may also be potential for a renewable natural gas (RNG) project tied into the Goshen wastewater pipeline that would help the County implement its climate action plan and provide more clean energy workforce opportunities.

Constructing infrastructure critical to the Glenwood riverfront areas and available opportunity sites, including local and backbone multi-mode transportation systems, sustainable on-site stormwater management facilities, and publicly owned backbone and last mile fiber to and through this rare river frontage Strategic infrastructure investments will be critical to the viability and successful redevelopment of available redevelopment land.



enhancing transportation resiliency

Infrastructure Priorities, Surface Transportation Reauthorization and Other Infrastructure Packages—

Federal infrastructure policy was expected to be front and center in 2020 with the 2015 federal surface transportation law, Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, having expired on September 30. While significant work was done by several House committees with jurisdiction over infrastructure policy and investment, most notably the House Transportation & Infrastructure (T&I) Committee, the Coronavirus pandemic and 2020 Presidential Election complicated efforts to enact meaningful infrastructure laws that would bring new federal investments and policies.

The United Front partners expected 2020 would bring large federal infrastructure investments from a potential infrastructure package that had been discussed since 2018 to the reauthorization of the FAST Act. Unfortunately, neither developed, but the House did pass the Moving Forward Act, H.R. 2, on July 1, 2020, which provided roughly \$1.5 trillion in federal infrastructure investment in surface transportation, education, clean energy, water infrastructure, and several other areas of infrastructure policy.

Robust funding of surface transportation programs is necessary if the United States is going to effectively move past the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic. While the Moving Forward Act did not address the sustainability issues that have required the regular infusion of general fund dollars into the Highway Trust Fund (HTF) to keep it solvent, an important priority for the United Front partners, it did provide roughly \$500 billion in funding for surface transportation programs and included several innovative policy solutions.

Future economic prosperity in the Lane County region is tied to efficient movement of goods, which in turn plays into the resilience of the region's overall infrastructure system. The United Front partners were heartened to see the Moving Forward Act included significantly more funding for the National Highway Freight Program as well as for the Projects of National & Regional Significance, formerly known as INFRA, the federal discretionary freight project program. Within the freight funding programs, the United Front partners were also supportive of more dollars being allocated to both urban and rural freight corridors and the removal of the cap on funding multimodal freight projects, and the ability to identify new freight corridors. Should freight programs receive funding at these levels, and with these policy changes, in either an infrastructure/ economic stimulus package or the authorization of the surface transportation law, our region would be well positioned because of freight congestion in Lane County and along I-5.

The Coronavirus pandemic has changed the way people travel locally, regionally, nationally, and globally. The United Front

partners understand there may be some changes to how people commute to work, get to medical appointments, and move around for leisure as a result of the pandemic. However, there is confidence that our region has adapted to these required changes, will continue to move forward on infrastructure priorities that have been put in place, while also recognizing that we must plan for a future infrastructure system that utilizes best practices to ensure that our community remains resilient in the face of whatever dynamic challenges we may encounter.

The House-passed Moving Forward Act elevated the issue of climate change and more federal surface transportation dollars getting allocated to local governments, a major priority of our communities, by raising the share of federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) dollars from the current 55% share to 60% over the authorization period. More of the federal dollars that flow to the state or are available through federal discretionary programs need to get allocated to the local level, so projects like improvements to Franklin Boulevard in Eugene and Springfield can quickly receive adequate funding.

The United Front Partners commend the House for passing the Moving Forward Act that includes language requiring the Department of Transportation (DOT) to establish a new greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions performance measure, as well as for including billions of dollars in funding that supports carbon pollution reduction and resilience and emergency evacuation needs. Further supporting these efforts, in 2020, the Lane Transit District's Board of Directors adopted a Climate Action Policy, setting aggressive goals to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 75% over the next 10 years and eliminate the District's use of fossil fuels within 15 years.

Lane Transit District (LTD) and the other coalition partners have seen the impact the pandemic has had on public transit ridership, Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) and other mobility on demand technologies like electric scooters and bicycles. We appreciate the incredible amount of funding included in the Moving Forward Act for public transportation, and policy language establishing new flexible Federal rules for Mobility on Demand that integrates new technologies with public transportation as the backbone.

The region needs federal resources for rail-related investments, so the United Front partners were strongly supportive of the funding and policy advanced through the inclusion of the Transforming Rail by Accelerating Investment Nationwide (TRAIN) Act within H.R. 2. Amtrak operates and subsidizes the Coast Starlight train which travels once per day in each direction from Los Angeles to Seattle, making a stop in Eugene. Amtrak operates and the State of Oregon subsidizes the Amtrak Cascades passenger rail service between Eugene and Vancouver, BC. There are two daily round trips between Eugene and Portland. The state also contracts for Thruway Bus

service between Eugene and Portland that is ticketed by Amtrak, as is the Diamond Express from Oakridge to Eugene. In order to have viable passenger rail service in Eugene, it is vital that Amtrak continues to fund and provide the Coast Starlight service. The Coast Starlight accounts for a significant amount of our ridership, the only connection to California, and it helps to pay for Amtrak's cost to operate and maintain its station at the Eugene Depot. If the Coast Starlight service went away, then ODOT would have to pay the full cost to operate our Amtrak station and this would threaten its viability. In almost every budget cycle, the legislature struggles to come up with operating subsidy for the Cascades service as it is not gas tax eligible, and anything that will make it significantly more expensive is problematic.

The Eugene Depot is the southern terminus of the Amtrak Cascades service. As a result of there being no railway sidings at the Depot, the Cascades trains must be hauled to the Union Pacific (UP) yard between runs. This is costly, inefficient and often causes delays. The city has been working with Amtrak and ODOT Rail to develop a project that will provide two sidings at the Depot, a new passenger platform and ADA improvements. Unfortunately, this project is expensive with a cost estimate of around \$30 million. The preliminary design and environmental documentation (NEPA) have been completed and we now seek funding for construction of the project.

The United Front partners are hopeful that the surface transportation reauthorization bill can influence the rules around how freight rail lines have to treat passenger rail. Amtrak relies on the use of the Union Pacific (UP) freight rail lines for service and are dependent on UP minimizing interactions and delays due to freight. It is important that passenger rail be prioritized in the corridor as it is more time sensitive, yet many times finds itself delayed because of freight shipping issues.

We also want to prioritize federal transportation investments that will result in a more efficient transportation system, lower greenhouse gas emissions, and connect to affordable housing. Federal funds to preserve existing system assets, expand the system to support economic success, and provide a resilient backbone to our community's infrastructure, which was prominent in the Moving Forward Act, must be included in any potential infrastructure/economic stimulus package and surface

transportation bill to augment and leverage the \$5.3 billion in state transportation funding that was part of the Keep Oregon Moving legislation.

Lane County continues to work closely with the Port of Coos Bay to rehabilitate the Coos Bay Rail Link, the short line railroad that provides a connection from the Class A rail network in the Eugene Springfield metropolitan area with the deep water Port of Coos Bay. Almost 70% of the rail line is located within Lane County, and there are numerous upgrades to bridges, trestles, and tunnels that will contribute to allowing their trains to operate at higher speeds and with greater capacity.

The United Front partners continue to be hard at work developing innovative and integrated transit systems that connect more people to local businesses in light of the impacts of the Coronavirus pandemic. One key element of this vision is the transformation of Franklin Boulevard in both Eugene and Springfield into a multimodal street that supports walkable redevelopment. The City of Springfield constructed the first phase of Franklin Boulevard improvements in Glenwood but was unable to secure a 2015 TIGER (now BUILD) grant for phase two. Currently, the City of Springfield has NEPA completed for all phases, Phase 2 design in progress, and phase one constructed. The City of Eugene is refining an earlier multimodal street design on Franklin and is entering the NEPA process. Springfield and Eugene submitted a joint BUILD application in 2020 to complete the project but fell short even though their application included local overmatch, a focus on safety and multi-modal transportation movement, and the entire project was located within several opportunity zones. The two cities are exploring options to complete this project and are preparing to submit this application in the upcoming BUILD grant cycle.

In 2017, Lane County adopted its first ever Transportation Safety Action Plan, in response to year after year state rankings that place Lane County at or near the top in terms of roadway fatalities. The Fatal Crash Investigation Team was subsequently created, and this team reviews each fatal crash event to continually seek ways to make roadways safer through improved education, engineering, and enforcement. Lane County supports efforts to improve funding for Driving While Intoxicated investigators and Drivers Education Programming in local schools.

We urge the Oregon delegation to support:

Significant funding increases in federal surface transportation programs, like what was included in the Moving Forward Act, that make impacts on the nationwide backlog of surface transportation projects, including but not limited to the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG), Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ), Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), Federal Land Access Program (FLAP), discretionary multimodal programs similar to BUILD, INFRA and the freight formula program, Capital Investment Grant (CIG) program, Bus & Bus Facilities formula and discretionary, as well as some of the more traditional formula programs that get sub-allocated to local governmental entities like cities and counties.

Addressing the solvency of the Highway Trust Fund (HTF) by transitioning to a stable funding source through examination of the current user fee structure and incorporating future user fee sources such as electric vehicles, vehicle miles traveled (VMT), the downstream taxing of fuel/electricity power or other potential revenue avenues—the United Front Partners strongly supported the doubling of funding for VMT pilots and the establishment of a national VMT pilot program that was included in the Moving Forward Act.

Finding resources or flexibilities in existing federal surface transportation programs to help local governments bring their street projects up to Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards.

Require FTA to issue a new rule with input from the public transportation industry to create more flexibility in spare-ratio requirements. Under current regulations, the number of spare buses in the active fleet for recipients operating 50 or more fixed-route revenue vehicles cannot exceed 20 percent of the number of vehicles

operated in maximum fixed-route service. We would propose that, at the end of 49 U.S.C. § 5339, a new section be added as follows: (d): "The Federal Transit Administration shall amend the Grant Management Requirements Circular 5010.1 (a) to not consider vehicles operating beyond the minimum useful life in the spare ratio calculation; and (b) to not consider low- or no emission vehicles in the spare ratio calculation."

Provide the U.S. DOT with sufficient funding to implement discretionary programs like Mobility on Demand Sandbox that allow transit operators to develop unique strategies to assist with delivering services to their users, which is important because of the rapidly changing environment of transportation options coupled with the shifts in travel modes resulting from the pandemic.

Assistance in dealing with Buy America funding constraints, which recently became an issue when the City of Springfield had to find alternative funds to purchase a new PM10 certified street sweeper and school bus because CMAQ funds were unable to be used as a result of the stringency of Buy America requirements.

Holistic approaches to federal transportation spending decisions that seek to address affordable housing issues, reducing homelessness and rapidly changing technology needs and uses while focusing on how communities should think about greenhouse gas emissions and the impact of extreme events such as pandemics and wildfires.

Funding critical regional projects such as Franklin Boulevard in Eugene and Springfield, Territorial Highway in Lane County, Beltline Delta Interchange, Highway 126 improvements, 42nd Street Levee, expansion of the enhanced transit network, improved active transportation connectivity through shared use paths, protected bikeways, connecting Glenwood Bridge, and critical seismic retrofits to area bridges.

Upgrades and increased frequency on the existing Union Pacific (UP) rail corridor between Eugene and Portland, which was recommended under the Draft EIS for the Oregon Passenger Rail Study.

Dedicated federal project funding to build the Eugene Train Depot Siding project in support of increased passenger rail in the region. Federal funding should be part of the solution.

Comprehensive investment in the Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP). This program is a viable source of funding that provides transportation improvements like multiuse paths and bike lanes that connect local lands to federal lands. For Willamalane Park and Recreation District, this is a critical source of funding that can be used to develop another trailhead at Thurston Hills Natural Area in conjunction with the eventual development of a trail system on the adjacent federal Bureau of Land Management land.

The STBG TAP set-aside program, also known as Transportation Alternatives Program, and Recreational Trails Program (RTP) should receive significantly more funding, which was included in the Moving Forward Act, to address the trail connectivity issues and backlog of trail projects throughout the United Front partner's region.

Allowing state DOTs and/or project sponsors the flexibility to approve of local governmental agencies applying RTP management standards to projects funded by STBG and CMAQ, if those projects would have qualified for RTP funding, which will help with expediting trail projects; language addressing this issue is included in *Section 1214 Recreational Trails* of the Moving Forward Act and the United Front partners strongly support including the same language in future infrastructure packages or surface transportation authorization.

Continued funding for Safe Routes to School program. This program serves

approximately 9,000 children and utilizes PE classes across Springfield Public School District. Program funds combine state and local Metropolitan Planning Organization grants which are executed through partnerships with Willamalane, City of Eugene River House, and Springfield Public Schools.

Increase in the passenger facility charge (PFC), which directly benefits maintenance and upkeep of airports. The Eugene Airport Master Plan includes \$227 million in Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) over 20 years. More than half of the program's funding is anticipated through the FAA Airport Improvement Program.

Provide additional federal funding to Lane Transit District (LTD) and the Eugene Airport to assist with the revenue impacts that occurred as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic.

Priority Projects

Supported by Federal Transportation Investments:

Redesigning Franklin Boulevard between Eugene and Springfield to create enhanced pedestrian and bicycle facilities, add a second EmX lane in Eugene for simultaneous two-way movement, and support much needed redevelopment in Glenwood. This is a River Districts priority.

Completing build-out of LTD's frequent transit network including recommendations from Moving Ahead in Eugene and Main Street transit enhancements in Springfield. This is also a River Districts Priority. These projects will likely recommend either EmX or Enhanced Bus service and investments on six corridors in Springfield and Eugene.

Additional funding for electric bus upgrades. LTD's goal is to have 20-30% of its fleet electric buses by 2024 in order to implement an environmentally and financially sustainable Fleet Replacement Program that will transition away from fossil fuels through the purchase of electric vehicles. In 2020, LTD was awarded a Bus & Bus Facilities grant to purchase 5 new electric buses and is on track to electrify 30% of its fleet by 2023.

Building Glenwood Riverfront Linear Park and Path and designing and constructing pedestrian and bicycle bridge between Glenwood and Downtown Springfield, both of which are River Districts priorities.

Building and constructing McVay Highway to support economic development and improve multimodal safety. City of Springfield is allocating existing funding to start design in 2021.

Constructing a bicycle/pedestrian bridge across the Middle Fork of the Willamette River to connect the Middle Fork Path with the 2300-acre Howard Buford Recreation Area (Mt. Pisgah), which is a priority for the Willamalane Park and Recreation District (WPRD), City of Springfield and Lane County. This project still requires resources to complete the initial feasibility study.

Constructing a bicycle/pedestrian bridge across the Willamette River to connect the Eugene's eastern edge of the Ridgeline Trail at Coryell Ridge to Springfield, potentially at Dorris Ranch. A connection between Eugene and Springfield is a key concept in the Rivers to Ridges Regional Parks and Open Space Plan.

Engineering study to examine siting, design, and environmental issues for a new siding at the western end of the Coos Bay Rail Link, with appropriate linkages to the privately operated Greenhill Reload facility. Eugene Depot enhancements to update this important regional facility. On a

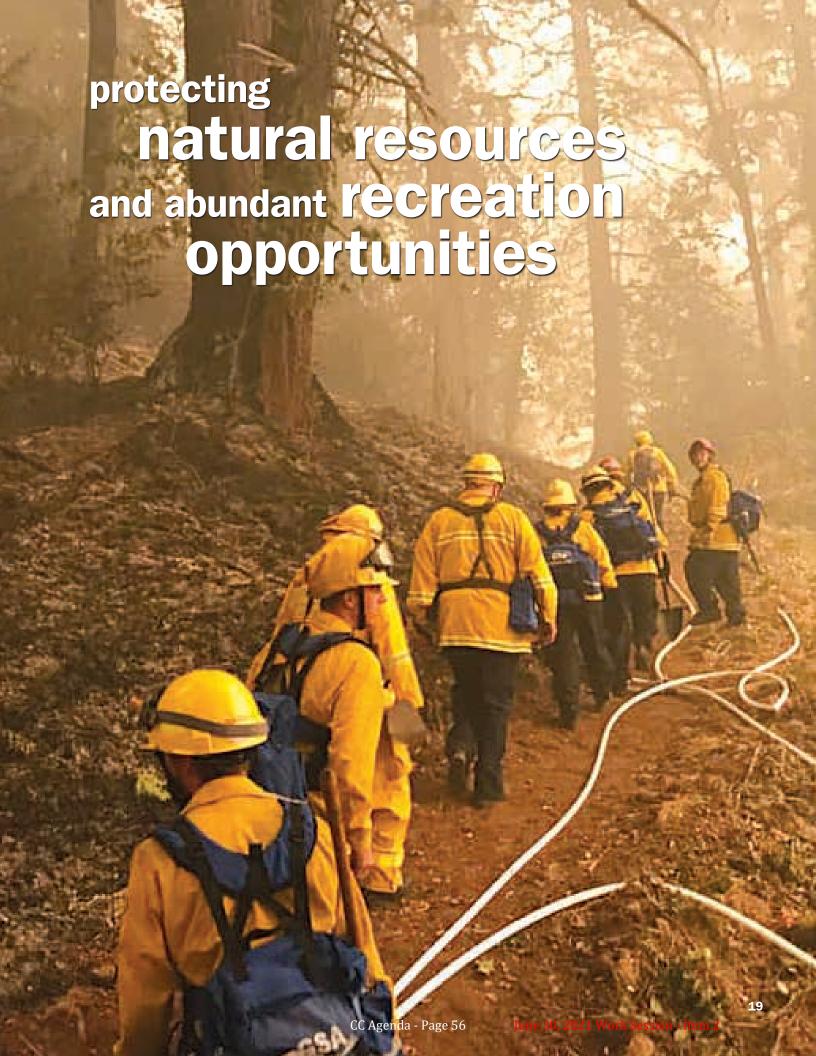
separate but related project, we have been working with ODOT and Amtrak on a project to enhance the Eugene Depot with two new sidings and a passenger platform. This is an expansive project of around \$30 million and minimum first phase of \$15 million but it would significantly improve passenger rail service out of Eugene. Currently, the Cascades Amtrak trains have to be brought to the UP yard between runs which adds costs and time. There is currently a final design and environmental documentation for this project.

Continued advocacy for the Willamette Confluence project which will provide convenient access to approximately 1,300 acres of river corridor, floodplain forest, wetlands, upland oak woodlands, and native prairie for all Eugene/Springfield residents.

Projects to reduce congestion and delays while improving safety along Oregon Route 569, the Randy Papé Beltline. The interchange at Delta Highway is a key transportation route and has an outdated interchange design that creates merging and on the location of the interchange on Randy Pape Beltline. This area has been identified as a high crash location by ODOT's Safety Priority Index System (SPIS). This project was identified through the 2014 Beltline Facility Plan and will be designed to work with improvements outlined in the plan.

Territorial Highway slide repair, widening and bridge raising, roundabout additions where the Highway passes through Veneta, and a bike ped path to connect Veneta to Elmira. Each of these projects are separate, but all would serve to improve safety along this important north-south highway at the eastern base of the Coast Range.

The Interstate 5 interchange at Dillard Road (and the Short Mountain landfill) is inadequate to serve direct access to the landfill and the planned for industrial development in Goshen. Lane County seeks funding for an interchange management plan to begin the planning process to improve the interchange.



The United Front partners recognize the value of the

outdoor experiences available to our residents and visitors and seek to enhance access to these recreation opportunities while protecting natural resources.

Overall public health, safety, and recreation is also dependent on the health and safety of our forestland. This concept became very real in 2020 with the Holiday Farm Fire, as well as previous fires in 2017 and 2018 devastated the region. We support the efforts of the delegation to ensure FEMA disaster relief funds can help rebuild communities as well as increase the federal cost share for disaster funding (including H.R. 8266 and S. 4627, which may need to be revisited in the 117th Congress). We appreciate that the FY2020 and FY2021 spending bills allocate more resources towards wildfires, but strongly recommend that the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management take more action to prevent and suppress future wildfires. We also support increased funding to address wildland—urban interface fuels reduction that has been helpful in the Thurston area of the region.

The connection between public health and access to parks and open spaces took on a new significance throughout 2020. As people sought nearby outlets for recreation, physical, and mental health support, it greatly increased demands on natural areas, parks, and rivers in Eugene and Springfield. The availability, convenience, and concentration of these resources at the regional scale has influenced the perceived desirability of communities across the country, resulting in an out-migration from higher population metropolitan regions to those less populated with more available open space. This places even greater burden on communities like ours, and drives the need to acquire, develop, and maintain spaces for people to use. To the extent that federal funding programs—including the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), Outdoor Recreation and Legacy Partnership (ORLP), Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), and more—can contribute toward meeting those needs, these programs must be protected.

As we plan for the 2022 World Athletics Championships, we are cognizant that our global visitors will seek easy access to the Willamette and McKenzie Rivers, as well as the abundant recreation opportunities during their visit to Lane County and Oregon. Ongoing local efforts to develop and improve recreation infrastructure are focused on walking, hiking, running, bicycling, water sports, and overall pedestrian safety. Our River Districts vision depends on local collaboration, and we seek to leverage federal investments through legislation like the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) to bolster local resources for infrastructure improvements necessary for 2022.

Willamalane Park & Recreation District is looking to expand trail and recreation opportunities throughout the district, particularly in Thurston Hills. In October 2020, the Coalition for Recreational Trails (CRT) awarded Willamalane Park &

Recreation District with the Tom Petri Recreational Trails Program Annual Achievement Award for the Thurston Hills Natural Area Trail Project. The City of Eugene will be expanding trails in the coming years to complete the eastern portion of the Ridgeline Trail system adding a mountain bike facility. With a nod to the continued recognition of Eugene as Tracktown USA and the arrival of thousands for the 2022 World Championships, Eugene recently completed a resurfacing of the much-loved Amazon Running Trail and added wildlife friendly lighting.

These and other trail projects are part of the regional Rivers to Ridges Partnership Vision endorsed by local governments in 2003. Lane County, Willamalane, and the City of Eugene are all partners. This vision seeks to provide vital habitat and trail connections across the region. The vision and plan were intended to have a 20-year life span; and as a partnership, we have completed or made progress on 35 of 48 projects. The Rivers to Ridges Partnership, comprised of 19 federal, state and local governments and NGOs, has embarked on a phased "refresh" of the vision. This refresh seeks to look at where we've been, where we've come to, and where we're going. We are looking at what voices are not at the table for local conservation and recreation conversations and making a conscious effort to include those previously excluded. The Partnership has applied to the National Park Service's Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) program for help with this process. We will also be examining how to continue to build a network of healthy landscapes with connections to a healthy community. Implementation of this new vision will likely require funding from a variety of sources including the federal government.

In 2018, Eugene adopted a new long-term vision for Parks and Recreation which focuses on four guiding principles: care for and make the most of what we have, serve the entire community, create more connections, and build better partnerships. Eugene voters showed their support for this vision by overwhelmingly approving a bond measure (\$39.35M) and operations and maintenance levy (\$3.15M) to fund new facility and renovation projects as well as boosting ongoing maintenance and operations. With this local investment in place, federal and state matching funds can be leveraged to help us realize our goals. For example, Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) dollars were used to augment the budget for the Amazon Park playground renovation. With a \$250,000 grant, the City was able to bring the idea of an accessible playground into the future and create fully accessible surfacing. Additionally, approximately \$750,000 from the Bureau of Land Management has been matched with over \$300,000 from the City of Eugene over the last five years to conduct critical work to reduce wildfire fuel loads, improve habitat and create opportunities for public access across our park system. This work and the need continue.

With the scheduled completion of the urban Riverfront Park scheduled for later this spring, the City of Eugene is shifting some of its focus across the river to Alton Baker Park, a large metropolitan park. The City of Eugene through its 2018 local parks bond and local stormwater capital funding is getting ready to embark on a detailed planning effort for this park. Previous planning efforts identified the possibility of a river beach access point and amenities in this park. The Canoe Canal which flows through Alton Baker Park serves as another exciting opportunity for enhancement of natural and recreational values. Local bond funding could be used to leverage federal funding to see the vision become a reality.

The United Front Partners were heartened to see LWCF permanently authorized in 2019 and fully appropriated at the \$900 million level annually in 2020 through passage of the Great American Outdoors Act. Since its inception, the LWCF has provided over \$3.9 million in grant funds to 83 projects throughout Lane County, not including the \$12 million of LWCF earmark funds used to acquire the West Eugene Wetlands. The permanent funding of the LWCF at the \$900 million level was an incredible achievement and will mean more resources for the region.

2020 marked the 25th anniversary of the City of Eugene's wetland mitigation bank program, a successful model of triple bottom line benefits since its inception. Recognized as a leader in successful wetland restoration work by state and federal regulators, Eugene's wetland mitigation bank creates large-scale functional wetland systems that facilitate the permitted development of smaller wetland sites within the south Willamette Valley. In 2021, working with federal, state, and local partners, Eugene will be breaking ground on its next wetland mitigation bank. When fully restored, it will include 329 acres of wet prairie, vernal pools, and upland prairie.

Investing in natural resources and recreation opportunities is also an investment in economic development, environmental health and resilient communities. The development of a four-acre park along Eugene's downtown riverfront will be a catalyst for private investment on the remainder of this former industrial site. And the multi-jurisdiction collaboration of the Rivers to Ridges Partnership has combined to preserve approximately 6,200 acres of land in the region since 2003. The Partners also coordinate on habitat restoration, recreational trail projects, education and outreach. This highly effective Partnership includes 17 organizations, including the following federal agencies: US Bureau of Land Management, Army Corp of Engineers, and US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Lane County is also focused on the nexus between recreation and economic development. The Leaburg Fish Hatchery has provided economic opportunities to the region for numerous years. While the Fish Hatchery is an economic way of life for many residents in the County, the upkeep and maintenance costs associated with its operation have increased. As a result, Lane County utilized the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) authorization of 2020 toto transfer ownership of the Leaburg Fish Hatchery from the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife (ODFW). The County hopes to add language to future appropriations bills to increase fish hatchery funding through the Mitchell Act. Importantly, the Leaburg Fish hatchery rears Chinook Salmon, the preferred food of the southern-resident Orca pod of Puget Sound that is threatened by decreasing runs of Chinook Salmon.

The City of Springfield is hopeful that the Army Corps of Engineers will approve the request for Section 205 assistance for the 42nd Street Levee. Language expediting this study was also included in the WRDA authorization of 2020. The Levee is 0.98 miles long and needs to be raised roughly 3 feet to adequately protect 1/3 of the City's residents and over \$4 billion in assets (including the National Guard Armory, Bureau of Land Management Offices, several schools, a hospital, and major industrial and commercial users) from a 100-year flood event.

While we are keeping an eye on the reauthorization of the National Flood Insurance Program, which needs to be modernized, one specific area we are concerned with is striking a balance between mitigating flood risk in Oregon and economic recovery. An on-going Endangered Species Act consultation of the National Flood Insurance Program in Oregon, along with changes to the rules for federal investments within regulated flood plains, has added significant agency process and financial uncertainty to public and private interests attempting to invest in areas associated with flood plains. Local jurisdictions need acknowledgement that differing locations, waterways, and community needs are not served by a one-size fits all regulatory scheme.



We urge the Oregon delegation to support:

Provide financial resources to special districts, including Park and Recreation Districts, that are seeing significant financial impacts as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, so their workforces remain stable, and their facilities stay in good condition.

Reform forestland management and funding under the U.S. Forest Service so that additional resources can be dedicated to suppressing wildfires and adding resilience to the hardest hit regions. These wildfire disasters take away funding from other forest management programs, which are also desperately in need of updating and reforms. Wildfires in 2017, 2018, and 2020 made a disastrous impact on the public health, wellness, safety, recreation, transportation and overall economy in Oregon as they did in Montana and California.

Continued funding through FEMA for federal reimbursement for emergency response and community grants to improve community recovery.

Bureau of Land Management Community Assistance Funding, which supports important fuels reduction work in the Ridgeline. This is a component of the City of Eugene's emergency management plan for wildfire risk reduction.

Grant opportunities including: U.S. Department of Agriculture programs for Rural Development, Forest Legacy, and Community Forests; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers funding for inland waterway restoration; and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency programs, such as Brownfields, to protect our natural water supplies.

Continued passage of a Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) every two years. The United Front partners believe that the next WRDA legislation could provide some new or existing authorities for the Rivers to Ridges Regional Parks and Open Space Plan and were thrilled that the 2020 WRDA bill included legislative language to transfer the Leaburg Fish Hatchery from the USACE to the ODFW and authorization assistance to modernize the 42nd Street McKenzie Levee in the City of Springfield. Provide significant increases in funding to the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), including the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) and Safe Routes to Schools program.

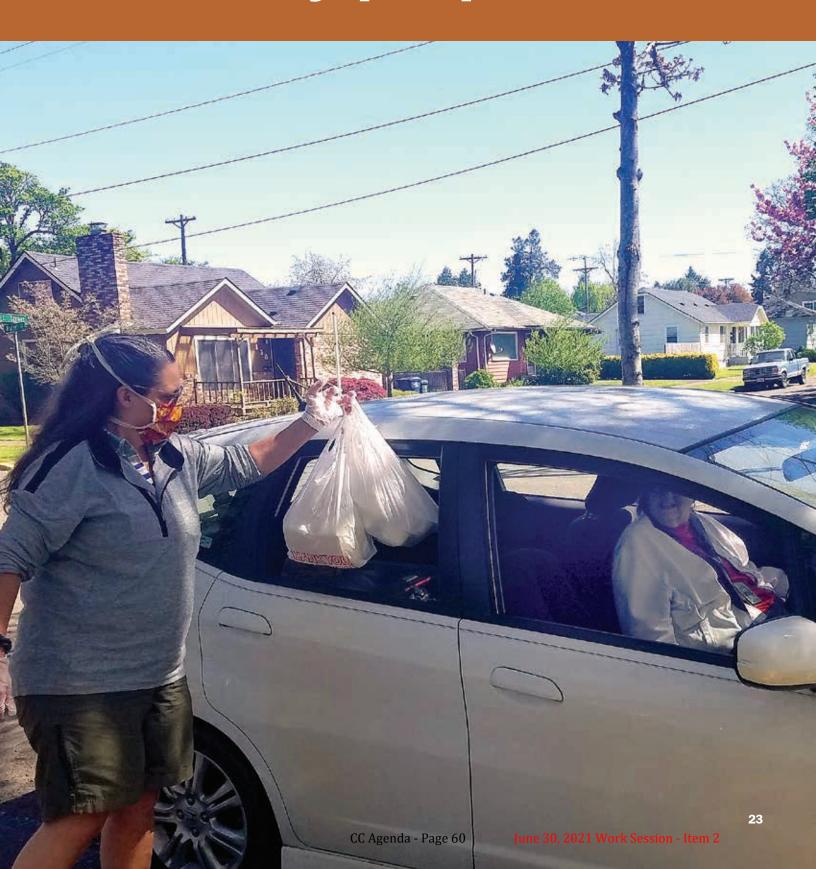
Construct necessary improvements to the 42nd Street McKenzie Levee in the City of Springfield. The 1-mile-long levee needs to be raised by 3 feet to protect over a third of residents, federal offices, national guard buildings, primary fueling stations, and over \$4 billion in infrastructure from a 100-year flood event.

Improving access for small ports—like the Port of Siuslaw- is critical. Funds from the Harbor Maintenance Tax Trust Fund should support maintenance of ports as designed. The United Front Partners were heartened to see the House pass Full Utilization of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund Act (HR 2440) in October 2019 and are hopeful this legislation be taken up again in the 117th Congress.

Keeping GOMESA funds as an addition to state assistance allocation. The Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA) funds have helped increase local funding through the State Assistance Program, which has been vital in light of the historical underfunding of LWCF's state assistance allocation. The United Front partners support maintaining GOMESA funds as an addition to a fully funded state assistance allocation and opposes using these funds as a replacement for the state assistance allocation.

Continuing the Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP) urban competitive grant program that is funded through the LWCF State and Local Assistance Program, and which delivers funding to urban areas with a priority given to projects located in economically disadvantaged areas and lacking in outdoor recreation opportunities.

investing in healthy people



The role of public health has changed significantly

in response to the Coronavirus pandemic. Communities everywhere have invested in personal protective equipment (PPE), contact tracing, comprehensive testing infrastructure, and vaccine distribution strategies. The CARES Act and other federal legislation has provided critical assistance to support communities to enhance public health and safety measures, as well as support local economies. As we continue to move further into COVID-19 response, we support additional federal assistance to expand our ability to provide PPE, testing and resources to protect our communities, but emphasize our top priority is to see adequate and timely delivery of vaccines to our community.

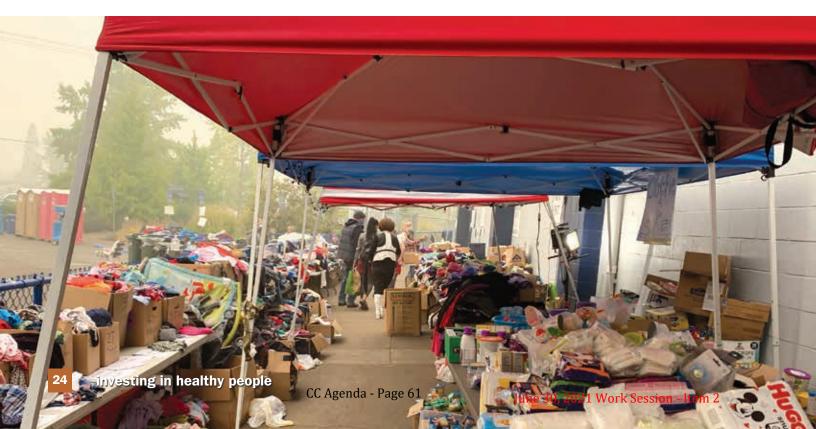
Lane County has recently been formally recognized for its work at standing up a mass vaccination site at the Lane County Fairgrounds. This recognition will ensure that it receives at least 1500 vaccines each week. Lane County is working to set up a second site at Lane Community College, but this work is constrained by the limited nationwide supply chain. Lane County pre-registers those wishing to gain a vaccine through an online registration, and that model is proving to be an excellent tool for scheduling vaccinations in light of limited supplies.

The Coronavirus pandemic has exacerbated the mental health and substance use issues challenging our communities. The federal government should focus relief to help address these issues, which will undoubtedly be present in many parts of the U.S., because of the economic and emotional strains resulting from the pandemic. Addressing both the short-term and long-term mental health impacts of the pandemic will help our country and region become more resilient.

Resources for community based mental health and substance use abuse treatment continue to be a need. Lane County has all too often experienced a dynamic where federal assistance does not adequately flow into local jurisdictions. Particularly with federal policies that are seeking less of reliance on institutionalization and incarceration, additional federal support to address mental health issues, especially when they intersect with the criminal justice system, would enhance local efforts such as development of mental health crisis centers, and mobile crisis teams. Workforce development is also critical to ensure that treatment providers can be confident that they can find the necessary human resources to provide for both behavioral and mental health needs which increasingly exist in our communities.

We remain concerned with the increase in use of e-cigarettes and the health implications of use. The CDC estimates over 3,000 deaths have been reported due to e-cigarette, or vaping, product use-associated lung injury (EVALI). An estimated 20% of U.S. middle and high school students have used or currently used e-cigarettes. These numbers are shocking. The youth appeal of these products is of significant concern. Further, the long-term health consequences have yet to be fully understood. We support legislation to tax e-cigarettes and related products at levels of traditional cigarettes as well as establishing federal safety standards.

Oregonians have benefited from better access to health care since the passage of the Affordable Care Act. Lane County has seven community health clinics and now two regional Coordinated Care Organizations—Trillium Health Plan and PacificSource—that continues to integrate primary care, dental care, and mental health care to maximize each Medicaid dollar.



We urge the Oregon delegation to support:

Increased and renewed funding and longer authorization periods for federally qualified health centers (FQHCs), the Community Health Clinic fund, and programs that waive student loans for health care professionals serving under-represented regions.

Additional federal resources that complement the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act of 2018.

Continued efforts to limit the e-cigarette crisis. We are thankful to the congressional delegation for introducing and support legislation to tax e-cigarettes at the level of traditional cigarettes (S.2463, 116th Congress) and creating federal safety standards (S. 2536, 116th Congress). We are hopeful this legislation will be taken up in the 117th Congress.

Patient access to critical ground ambulance transport services through ambulance relief. Medicare ambulance relief is essential for our citizens, and we request a long-term solution like the Medicare Ambulance Access Preservation Act of 2011 (MAPPA).

Removing the cap on residency limits, the addition of 15,000 Medicare-funded residency positions, and permanent funding for the Teaching Health Center GME program.

Opportunities to increase our local food exports through partnerships with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Economic Development Administration within the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Opportunities to increase funds for parks, trails, and open spaces to support public health.

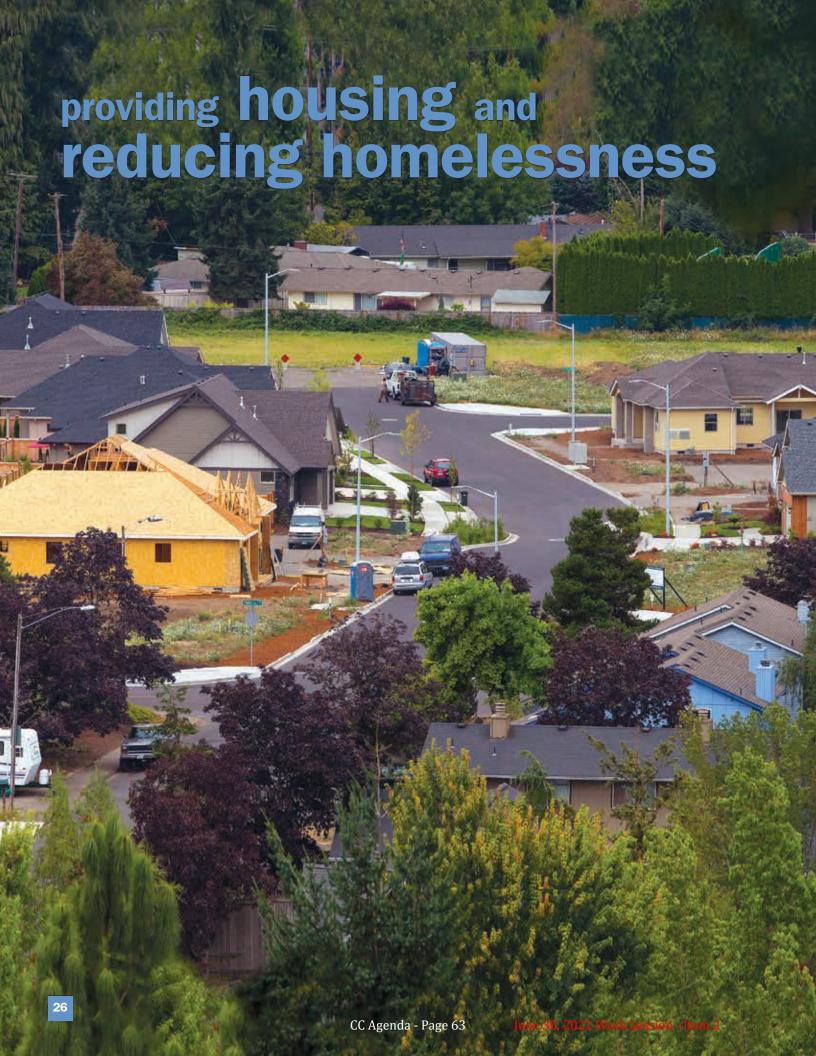
Ensure risk mitigation models and tools exist for public and private providers as behavioral and mental health programming moves further and further into the criminal justice system.

Oregon's Medicaid Demonstration renewal was initially approved in 2012 and renewed in 2017. In Autumn 2021, the Oregon Health Authority will begin work on Oregon's 2022 waiver. Work will include policy research and outreach and engagement with diverse communities. Lane County's experiences with both the spread of COVID-19 and the recovery from the Holiday Farm Fire point to the prevalence of disproportionate impacts to our most vulnerable populations, particularly in the realm of behavioral health issues. When COVID-19 was declared a national emergency, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) stood up an emergency rule allowing for new waivers to be applied for and which will be retroactive to March 1, 2020 and last until 2025. Lane County supports the Oregon Health Authorities efforts to gain a section 1115 waiver in 2020 for two issues related to substance use disorder. The first is an "IMD" waiver (the Medicaid rule which prohibits institutions with greater than 15 beds from being Medicaid eligible) and the second is a proposed expansion for community-based benefits. This waiver application is still listed as "pending" and any outreach the federal delegation can undertake to ensure it is approved would improve behavioral health service delivery in Lane County.

Recruiting primary care providers remains to be a priority. Lane County is taking concrete steps to bring new service providers to the region. However, the lack of a hospital-based physician residency program within the County has proved an obstacle to recruitment. We thank the delegation for supporting the Teaching Health Clinic Graduate Medical Education Program.

The United Front Partners support continued funding for on-going programs that enhance early childhood health, education, and safety. Earlier investments in people have long-term benefits that create a more resilient community by reducing the severity of need for social services in the future. While these investments are critical, our communities continue to face a homelessness crisis that impacts quality of life for all residents and appears to be getting worse.

Furthermore, the health of our community directly correlates with the impact our local food and beverage cluster has on enhancing community wellness through partnerships, job training, and increased access to healthy foods. Willamalane Park and Recreation District partnered with Springfield Public Schools to provide a Summer Food Service Program to children and teenagers in low-income areas. Willamalane also partnered with Lane Council of Governments to provide meals to senior citizens in Lane County. Similarly, Eugene Recreation Services partnered with Eugene 4J and Bethel School Districts to provide meals to children and teenagers across the region.



The United Front Partners understand the significance

of creating cross-jurisdictional solutions to address homelessness. It is critical to consider a multifaceted approach to address the long-term factors that contribute to homelessness such as behavioral services, substance abuse treatment, social services, and affordable housing. The United Front partners understand that a housing secure region is a resilient region, so decisions have been made to prioritize efforts to help the homeless population and other individuals and families feeling housing insecurity.

Affordable housing continues to be an important issue for communities across Lane County and the nation. In December 2020, the Lane County Human Services division identified 3,615 people experiencing homelessness. Of those, 1,730 individuals experienced a disability, 1,261 were chronically homelessness, and 261 were veterans. The Oregon Department of Education reported 2,264 homeless students attended Lane County Public School Districts during the 2019–2020 school year. Lane County has one of the highest densities of homelessness unsheltered people in the country.

Since 2010, US Department of Housing and Urban (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME) funding has seen cuts, which has resulted in diminished capacity and resources for continuing critical programs. West Coast communities, including those in Lane County, have experienced increases in homelessness, especially among our most vulnerable populations. The coronavirus pandemic has exacerbated these housing issues as the economic and health impacts of the pandemic have hit our community's most vulnerable populations, the same populations that often have affordable housing and homelessness issues. We have growing populations, low vacancy rates, and, as a result, housing costs are rising significantly faster than incomes. This trend is impacting all households, most significantly our lowest-income households.

The United Front and our regional partners have developed a multi-jurisdictional approach to respond to the homelessness crisis and issue of affordable housing. We have committed millions of additional dollars to such efforts including expanded shelter options, reducing regulatory barriers, and engaging our local non-profit, business, and philanthropic partners in a range of innovative responses. Lane County has partnered with Eugene to fund a housing strategist, the County is working to bring 500 to 1000 new shelter beds to the region this winter through the purchase of pallet shelters and the new homeless center facility at 100 River Avenue in Eugene that will be converted to a shelter. In addition, Lane County has benefited from a recent hotel purchase and will be converting it into a new supported housing facility. Even with that acquisition, our region will still be 200 beds shy of what is considered an adequate inventory of supported housing beds for our region. To truly be successful

in responding to this crisis, we need the federal government's full partnership in this effort. Affordable housing includes components that support an affordable community, including access to comprehensive childcare, accessible transportation, affordable food, and high quality education.

We are confronted with the shortage of available and affordable homes especially in the aftermath of the Holiday Farm Fire. Nearly 600 homes in Lane County were damaged, and as a result, over hundreds of households are displaced. FEMA Individual Assistance as well as the Direct Temporary Housing Assistance have been approved. These resources will enable households and those impacted by the Oregon Wildfires in 2020 to receive necessary help, but it is important to note that the direct housing benefit only applies to a relatively small group of individuals deemed eligible by FEMA.

The 15th Night Initiative, a partnership consisting of Eugene, Springfield, Lane County and Springfield Public Schools, has been successful in helping students facing homelessness connect with existing resources to reduce the likelihood they experience chronic homelessness. Utilizing a collective impact model, the collaborative effort incorporates voices of stakeholders from across the spectrum, including youth. This program has helped stabilize school attendance and create safe havens for community youth.

Earlier this year, Lane County's housing agency, Homes for Good, opened *The Commons on MLK*, a 51-unit housing-first complex on Martin Luther King Blvd in Eugene next to the Lane County Behavioral Health and Community Health Center primary health care. The community utilizes a Housing First Supported Housing model with behavioral and mental health support available 24 hours a day through an array of on-site providers. This project is the culmination of a multisector approach to addressing homelessness. Project funding includes a variety of sources including tax credits, federal and local funding and private grants.

Lastly, homelessness impacts regional natural resources and parks and open spaces in a variety of ways. In 2019 and 2020, the Rivers to Ridges partners identified the funding diverted from parks and open space maintenance to mitigate effects of homelessness. The total each year exceeded \$900,000. Dispersed illicit camping in our open spaces damages park assets and degrades habitat and water quality. Local governments recognize the issue of homelessness is multi-faceted and requires inputs of funding, policy and expertise to find long-lasting, meaningful solutions. We support efforts of our colleagues in social services, housing, and development to find answers to this difficult problem made worse in 2020 by the pandemic and subsequent economic hardships. The highlights of the dire need to address this issue as it also has great financial impacts to the United Front Members.

We urge the Oregon delegation to support:

Increased federal investment in housing affordable to extremely low-income households, including full funding of the National Housing Trust Fund, the HOME program, the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), and a doubling of the per capita allocation of Low-Income Housing Tax Credits to the states.

Comprehensive Federal assistance for the families and households that were impacted by the Holiday Farm Fire.

Increased funding for the McKinney Vento homelessness program, and increased VASH funding and \$500M for Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program. Full funding of the Grant Per Diem program, to serve homeless veterans in our cities.

Increased funding for the supply of permanent, supportive housing for chronically homeless people, and increased rapid re-housing resources for homeless families and youth. Increased funding to support transitional housing options for youth and people in recovery.

Supporting legislation in the 117th Congress that align with homelessness and affordable housing priorities. We support the reintroduction of the following bills from the 116th Congress: the Housing is Infrastructure Act of 2019 (S. 2951/H.R. 5187), the Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act (S. 1703/H.R. 3077) and the American Housing and Economic Mobility Act (S. 787/H.R. 1737).

Tax credits or other incentives for communities that convert vacant or foreclosed properties into sustainable housing for veterans.

Services targeted towards homeless people through federal departments other than HUD—including the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the

Department of Labor, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Veterans Administration.

Regulatory flexibility and equitable allocation of resources for communities to utilize private market housing, which would make the use of federal and local resources more effective, and reduce local inefficiencies created by incompatible federal practices.

Expanding support for local communities in: seeking waivers to increase flexible use of ending homelessness funding, expanding access to Moving to Work authority for our local housing authorities, and amending program rules to allow effective integration of local and federal transitional and rapid re-housing programs with long-term voucher programs.

Support the capacity of federal agencies to complete required consultations for environmental reviews (particularly related to Endangered Species and Historic Preservation) to help us to expedite projects and meet CDBG and HOME expenditure deadlines.

Remove locally generated CDBG program income from HUD's calculation of CDBG timeliness for entitlement jurisdictions. This will remove a barrier to local use of CDBG funds as loans and increase the impact of federal investments over time.

Lane County seeks a waiver from the Internal Revenue Service such that tax credit-financed housing (i.e. Low-Income Housing Tax Credit) may be used to provide housing for those working for, or affiliated with, a designated national special security event.

Increase the 5% cap on direct administrative costs allowed for use of federal funds by local service providers. Lane County passes federal funds on to non-profit agencies without taking a cut of any of those funds, but the 5% available to the non-profits for administration does not cover their costs, and ignores the reality of how organizations budget for indirect cost supports.

























improving public safety



Comprehensive public safety is critical for an equitable,

thriving, and resilient community. As the role of public safety and policing continues to evolve, it is necessary that communities have the resources to best tailor approaches that enhance equity and best serve their populations.

There has been a steady rise in the number of mental health and opioid-related cases which has challenged our public safety operations. An overall lack of adequate funding to support mental health programs, exacerbated by the Coronavirus pandemic, has directly impacted the work of our local law enforcement officers, who now need to spend more time responding to mental health crises, instead of addressing personal or property crimes.

For over thirty years the City of Eugene has partnered with the White Bird Clinic to implement the Crisis Assistance Helping Out On The Streets (CAHOOTS) Program. This community-based public safety system prioritizes mental health services for individuals experiencing mental health challenges, homelessness or substance abuse disorders. An estimated 20% of emergency calls have been redirected to the CAHOOTS team. The United Front partners are encouraged by the inclusion with the American Rescue Plan for national funding to support similar mobile crisis intervention programs, as well as the CAHOOTS bill sponsored by Senator Wyden. The investment by our federal partners to support this innovative approach is encouraging and showcases how local, state, and federal partners can collaborate in meaningful approaches.

Starting in 2021, the City of Eugene is initiating a Community Safety Payroll Tax to bring additional resources to the Community Safety System conversation. The Community Safety System includes police, fire, 911, municipal court, prevention and social services, which are interdependent and work together to maximize community resources. Based on the national wave of racial justice protest and recognizing that long standing institutional racism exists, the Eugene City Council initiated an Ad Hoc Committee on Police Policy to engage a broad range of representatives from underserved and historically marginalized groups to provide input on changes to the Community Safety System and investments.

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By creating community-based interventions, we are able to target vulnerable populations and reduce the burden on our public safety infrastructure. These methods need to be adapted on a larger scale to create widespread impacts. The Lane County Sheriff's Office has developed two programs to provide treatment to individuals experiencing mental health or drug abuse problems to reduce the number of times they cycle in and out of the jail system. While the County has been awarded a two-year, \$2.5 million impact grant that will fund a program wrapped around mental health liaisons and a \$300,000 federal medically assisted treatment (MAT) grant that aims to assist the hardest hit populations, the continued challenge is ensuring that adequate community resources are available to these individuals when they transition out of these relatively short term programs.

Community-based interventions and jail diversion programs are increasingly relied upon to treat nonviolent offenders who have a history of mental illness. If an individual, ordered by the Court to participate in such a program within a Federally Qualified Health Center, commits a criminal act during the duration of their program, counties are unclear if their employees at these facilities are granted federal protection under the Federal Tort Claims Act. We seek clarification from the Department of Health and Human Services as to the intent of such federal protections: that counties are not exposed to excessive litigation or forced to bring suit against the federal government for protections which exist under the Federal Tort Claims Act.

Current federal law denies federal health care benefits (Medicaid, Medicare, Veterans' Affairs services and Children's Health Insurance Program) to individuals held in pre-trial detention. Known as the Medicaid Inmate Exclusion Policy (MIEP), this policy strips individuals of their rights to critical services related to chronic illnesses, mental illnesses and substance abuse treatment. Losing coverage of these benefits, even for a short period of time, creates weeks and months long delays in reinstatement, even longer if individuals are frequently interacting with the criminal justice system. This exacerbates their situations, creates a revolving door with County Jails. Changing MIEP to allow for Medicaid services to pre-trial detainees would help individuals, relieve the strain on the system and reduce the strain on taxpayer funds.

County communities also face significant vulnerability from the prospect of a significant seismic event. The University of Oregon, in partnership with other universities in the Pacific Northwest, is developing "ShakeAlert," an upgraded West Coast Earthquake Early Warning System. The construction of an earthquake early warning system can provide vital minutes of advance warning that allows for the rapid evacuation of high-risk structures, low-lying territories at risk of tsunami, and the protection of safety-sensitive infrastructure, including bridge lifts and freight rail.

We urge the Oregon delegation to support:

Full funding for the Department of Justice's COPS program. Resident Deputies have proven to be popular and effective in Lane County, so we would utilize COPS dollars to fund more of these positions.

Sustained or increased funding for the Byrne JAG program. Lane County plans to target funding for offering at-risk youth programs, reducing recidivism, and providing safe neighborhood programs.

Funding for a multidisciplinary response team, like CAHOOTS, made up of qualified mental health and police professionals. This team could provide a follow up response for all people with multiple police contacts in mental health crises, starting with developing a response team for veterans. Research suggests that sending multidisciplinary teams reduces costly criminal justice responses, provides improved access to treatment and crisis aversion, and reduces hospitalization and jail time. It also greatly improves the timely sharing of sensitive mental health and criminal justice information, which is needed to successfully respond to crises.

Expanding Medicaid dollars to be used for mental health support for inmates. By further incorporating mental health services in response teams and jails, individuals can get the help and services they need to best help themselves.

Clarifying that the Federal Tort Claims Act protects counties from excessive litigation related to any criminal acts a participant of a court ordered jail diversion program may commit against a third party.

Including report language that encourages planning for the Cascadia subduction zone to ensure maximum effectiveness of earthquake early warning.

Supporting the Cities of Springfield and Eugene in its pursuit of public safety grant funds through the U.S. Department of Justice.

Passage of the Crisis Assistance Helping Out On The Streets (CAHOOTS) Act in the 117th Congress. We are thankful for Senator Wyden and Senator Merkley's support of this legislation in the Senate as well as Representative DeFazio's support in the House.





The United Front partners' region, like much of the United States, faced significant financial and community challenges in 2020. The importance placed on fiscal resiliency and sustainability has become heightened during the dual disasters of the coronavirus pandemic and the massive wildfires because local government budgets have been stretched in unpredictable ways. Our communities have a strong history of utilizing local funding sources to leverage private investment and federal funding. This practice means constituents receive the best services available and help build growing and vibrant communities. We are optimistic that the American Rescue Plan will bring much needed assistance to the region and are prepared to support the smooth implementation of these funds.

Reductions in federal assistance through decreased appropriations, delayed federal budgets and bureaucratic roadblocks to delivering necessary federal assistance during disasters has a serious impact on the United Front partners' ability to deliver their high standard of services. Cutbacks of federal assistance through programs such as Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), HOME Investments Partnership program, Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, Land and Water Conservation Fund, education programs, and justice programs, public health and wellness programs means we face reductions in service. The United Front partners are grateful for the federal resources included in legislation to address the impacts from the pandemic such as the CARES Act, but the economy continues to face challenges.

The coalition is thankful that the American Rescue Plan included direct funding to local governments. We are hopeful this funding will complement the resilient processes that our regional partners and economies have developed over time to ensure that we can appropriately handle disasters and we can make sure the hardest hit groups of people in our region stay healthy and continue to actively participate in the community.

Our communities have worked hard since the Great Recession to reduce the costs associated with services, create new funding sources, and expand existing revenues as much as possible, but we are still falling short and the coronavirus pandemic has exacerbated these shortfalls. We seek increased levels and year-to-year stability in federal funding available for local jurisdictions for transportation, housing, health and human services, education and workforce development and the criminal justice system. Additionally, government shutdowns of any duration hinder our ability to provide services, put stress on our operational systems, and crate anxiety and uncertainty to the public.

Lane County urges our delegation to continue to work on federal forest policy to reform public lands management in order to produce healthy and productive forests which should help with combatting wildfires which will make our communities more resilient. We are appreciative for the inclusion of direct

funding to public lands counties, led by Senator Wyden, in the American Rescue Plan.

Federal revenue from both the National Forests and the Bureau of Land Management's O&C forests has been replaced with periodic renewals of the Secure Rural Schools (SRS) Act. These renewals come with an annual reduction of 5% which combined with an increase in the value of timber harvested from these lands, is leading to a dynamic whereby the value of Secure Rural Schools may dip below actual harvest revenue, particularly on the O&C. O&C revenues accrue to the County's General Fund and are fully discretional. They are typically dedicated to desperately needed public safety services. SRS was reauthorized in December of 2019 for FYs 2019 and 2020. The SRS program was funded at \$243 million in FY2019 (down from \$262 million in FY2018). The last authorized SRS payments will be made to counties in spring 2021 if Congress does not reauthorize. While Lane County is grateful for every dollar of funding under this program and is a good steward of the SRS payments, the County has spent years working to be more resilient and ready in case the SRS payments pause for long periods of time or become significantly reduced.

Lane County seeks realistic annual timber harvest goals for each forest. While the harvest levels of the NW Forest Plan have never been met, they still stand as an important benchmark. With respect to the O&C lands, Lane County believes an



annual harvest of 450-500 mmbf/yr would generate almost \$9M annually for Lane County's general fund. Lane County looks forward to providing input on the rewrite of the Western Oregon Resource Management Plan.

Devastating wildfires have swept across the region in recent years. In September 2020, Lane County experienced more devastating wildfires with the Holiday Farm wildfire that ripped through the region destroying 463 homes and 365 other structures. We need land management policies that both manage timber harvest levels and promote responsible Wildland Urban Interface Fuel Reductions. The County will also look to bring more resiliency to the impacted areas, through telecommunication investments, specifically along Highways 126 and 58, as it was made clear that a lack of communication infrastructure and other critical needs made this disaster more difficult to manage.

The United Front Partners recognize that the development of a robust 5G network is crucial for the future economic development and connectivity of our communities. However, the United Front Partners seek support in protecting control of our public rights-of-way and reverse recent federal actions that preempt local control of deploying 5G small cell towers. In January 2019, the Federal Communications Commission's Streamlining Deployment of Next Generation Wireless Infrastructure Declaratory Rule went into effect. This rule limits the fees local government can issue for the installation of towers and use of the public's rights-of-way and places restrictive timelines for reviewing their applications. The FCC's ruling is a clear usurpation of our local authority and we support H.R. 530, the Accelerating Broadband Development by Empowering Local Communities Act of 2019, or S.2012, the Restoring Local Control Over Public Infrastructure Act of 2019. The United Front Partners are thankful for the recent activities under

President Biden to reverse the 'anti-local government' approach of the previous administrations FCC, we are hopeful that President Biden will appoint a fifth FCC Commissioner who will support local governments and will support overturning FCC actions taken towards local governments in recent years.

Recent action by the FCC has hindered local government's ability to provide broadband services to constituents. The FCC's orders in its *Implementation of Section 621(a)(1) of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 as Amended by the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992* proceeding and its *Accelerating Wireless and Wireline Broadband Deployment by removing Barriers to Infrastructure Investment* proceeding, will cost local governments millions of dollars in reduced franchise and other right-of-way fees as well as place new burdensome obligations on local governments and further constrain their ability to review applications to enlarge or modify wireless facilities. Overturning these orders would preserve the respect for municipal authority found in the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the United Front partners support legislative action in this direction.

The coronavirus pandemic and wildfires have shown the progress our region has made in providing resilient broadband service to our communities, but we also learned there still is a gap for many of the disadvantaged populations. If Congress and the Biden Administration provide the right federal resources to build out broadband infrastructure for schools and communities where telecommunication gaps persist, real strides will be made in our region. Couple new and targeted federal funding for broadband deployment to projects like Highways 126 and 58 and schools in need, with a supportive broadband policy towards local governments from the Administration, and the United States will increase its resiliency in communities and provide a better economic climate for everyone.



We urge the Oregon delegation to support:

A balanced approach to federal deficit reduction solutions taking into account the historic impacts of the coronavirus pandemic on local governments. Federal assistance to state and local governments can mitigate job losses and local budget shortfalls. Federal investments in state and local infrastructure projects help produce private sector jobs and improve our competitiveness.

Opposing deficit reduction actions that shift costs to localities, impose unfunded mandates, or pre-empt local programs and taxing authority.

Legislation repealing the FCC's January 2019 ruling limiting local autonomy, for example S.2012 and H.R.530 from the 116th Congress.

Significant federal investment in telecommunication (broadband) infrastructure to assist the neediest families that lack internet access at home which has a specifically detrimental impact on school aged children, and the most rural parts of the region that learned how poor the telecommunication coverage was during the Holiday Farm wildfire. While it will be key to focus on the broadband infrastructure gap first, it is also important that federal resources are available for catalytic investments in the urban centers as well to assist with economic growth following the pandemic which will help bring more resilience to the United Front partners' communities.



Tax Policy Priorities to Ensure a More Resilient Region:

Congress passed the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) in 2017. The United Front partners are grateful that the tax-exempt treatment of municipal bonds and the low-income housing tax credit (LIHTC) are preserved. It will be important for Congress and the Biden Administration to not only fund new affordable housing, but to look into ways the LIHTC can be improved so that disadvantaged communities have more housing options.

The United Front partners appreciate the retention of key programs such as Private Activity Bonds, New Market Tax Credit, Electric Vehicle Credit, and key parts of the Affordable Care Act. We believe these tax programs make the United States and our local communities more resilient and would support legislative or executive changes to make these programs more robust.

While we understand it is difficult to rewrite the tax code, especially when its impacts can diverge based on the location of an individual or company, the United critical programs that should be reinstalled. The United Front partners request your help to preserve and reinstate important tax provisions and programs. These programs include:

Historic Tax Credit: The repeal of the 10-percent credit of the Historic Tax Credit Program eliminates a critical tool, which has helped governmental entities, and local non-profits preserve historic landmarks while creating jobs.

Advanced Refunding Bonds: The termination of preferential tax treatment of advanced refunding bonds interest is harmful as it is a financing tool, which allows local governments to finance their debt at lower costs and increase investment in municipal capital projects and other local programs.



UNITED FRONT PARTNERS OF LANE COUNTY OREGON



CITY OF EUGENE | CITY OF SPRINGFIELD | LANE COUNTY | LANE TRANSIT DISTRICT SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS | WILLAMALANE PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICT