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Connecting Southern Oregon's COG With Its Members

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RVCOG MEMBERS

- Jackson County
- Josephine County
- City of Ashland
- Town of Butte Falls
- City of Cave Junction
- City of Central Point
- City of Eagle Point
- City of Gold Hill
- City of Grants Pass
- City of Jacksonville
- City of Medford
- City of Phoenix
- City of Rogue River
- City of Shady Cove
- City of Talent
- Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District
- Rogue Community College
- Rogue Valley Sewer Services
- Rogue Valley Transportation District
- Southern Oregon Regional Communications
- Southern Oregon Regional Economic Development, Inc.
- Southern Oregon University

DHS Honors Southern Oregon Living Well

In southern Oregon there has been a 40% increase in the older adult population since the 2000 census, with half of all older adults expected to live to age ninety or beyond. The projected cost of health care for an elderly, chronically ill population challenges communities to explore new approaches. One approach that has shown promise recently in the United States is chronic disease self-management, which is being implemented in Oregon, and in our region, as the Living Well program.

On March 4-5 in Bend, the Oregon Department of Human Services Public Health Division hosted its 3rd Annual Living Well Leader Forum, bringing leaders and organizers from Living Well programs together to share experiences, network with other groups, and learn new and different ways to enhance the Living Well program in Oregon. This year, the *Southern Oregon Living Well* organization was recognized with one of two "Living Well Outstanding Practice" awards. Sharon Johnson, Assistant Professor at OSU Extension (left) and Bernadette Maziarski, Living Well Coordinator for southern Oregon (middle) received the award on behalf of all Trainers and Leaders in the program.



Berta Varble, Operations Manager for RVCOG's Senior and Disability Services (right) also attended the event. RVCOG holds the Living Well license with Stanford University to offer the *Stanford Chronic Disease Self-Management Program* in Jackson and Josephine counties. Both Sharon and Bernadette graciously acknowledged the COG's participation in the program.

To learn about how the Living Well program is helping to improve quality of life for chronically ill individuals and their families right here in southern Oregon, please visit them on the Web at www.sohealthyoregon.com.

Foundations Fund New Van for Food & Friends

Thanks to three grants from the Carpenter, Chaney and West Family foundations, in the amount of \$10,000 each, the Food & Friends program has a new Ford 350 van to deliver food and supplies for its Senior Meals Program. This new van, with its larger cargo capacity, was necessary to meet the increasing need among seniors—our families, friends and neighbors—throughout Jackson County.

The van was delivered to RVCOG in early March and, with its new artwork in place, is already in service. Should you see the van around the valley, please note that our gratitude to the Carpenter, Chaney and West Family foundations for their generosity is written large for all to see.



Food & Friends is hosting its 7th Annual Fun Walk on Saturday, May 16, 2009, and all proceeds will benefit our Meals on Wheels and Senior Meals Program for Jackson & Josephine Counties. For more information or to get involved, please contact Food & Friends at 734-9505.

CP-2B Project Team Sends Four Alternatives to TPAU



Central Point residents gathered at City Hall on March 2, 2009, to participate in a community design workshop for one of Central Point's future growth areas selected as part of the [Regional Problem Solving](#) process (CP-2B). The workshop's goal was to develop several alternative maps for testing to determine which one most effectively integrates land uses and transportation systems in the Wilson Road area.

Workshop participants mapped five alternatives, and the project advisory committee later chose four for review by the ODOT Transportation Analysis Unit (TPAU). The analysis will assess how land uses and transportation improvements affect each other. The advisory committee will review the results and ultimately recommend one

scenario for the City to consider. The project does not legally bind the City to a particular outcome, but the results will be used in future master planning for this growth area, and the process itself will become a template for other cities to use as they master plan their future growth areas.

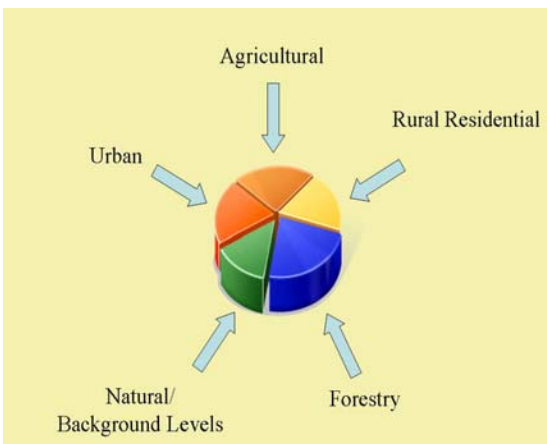
The project team expects to complete design work by the end of June, and the proposed development code updates by mid-summer. For more information, contact [Dick Converse](#) at 423-1373.

TMDL Program Will Lead to Cleaner Water for Oregonians

What is a TMDL? Under the federal [Clean Water Act](#), administered by the [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)](#) and [Oregon's Department of Environmental Quality \(DEQ\)](#), Oregon is required to identify its polluted waterbodies. For each of the waterbodies identified, Oregon must then develop **Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)** for each pollutant. **TMDLs** define the amount of pollution that can be present in a stream, river, lake or estuary without causing impairments to beneficial uses such as contact recreation or fish and wildlife habitat.



Pollutants enter streams from both point and nonpoint sources. Point sources generally drain through pipes into streams, while nonpoint sources flow overland. **Nonpoint sources** come from a variety of land uses including urban, agricultural, forestry, and rural residential. To manage these uses to meet the TMDLs, cities, counties, land management agencies, and irrigation districts are identified as Designated Management Agencies (DMAs), and are expected to assume responsibility for **TMDL implementation**.



What does it mean for Rogue Basin DMAs? In the Rogue Basin, temperature and bacteria are the primary pollutants. All Rogue Basin communities and irrigation districts except for those in the Bear Creek and Applegate watersheds, which have their own TMDLs, are required to develop and submit TMDL Implementation Plans by June 2010. These plans identify strategies for DMAs to reduce the amount of pollution in the Rogue River, leading to cleaner water and compliance with regulations. Plans contain management measures to reduce temperatures and bacteria levels through increased streamside shading; water conservation; efficiency of irrigation water delivery; control and treatment of urban stormwater; reduction or elimination of septic inputs; and education.

RVCOG is partnering with the [Rogue Basin DMAs](#) to develop a regional plan that will not only be effective at reducing pollution in the Rogue River, but will be cost effective as well. For more information about the Rogue Basin's TMDL Program contact [Greg Stabach](#) at 423-1370 or [Craig Harper](#) at 423-1369.

RVCOG Wins 12th Consecutive GFOA Award



The Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting has been awarded to the Rogue Valley Council of Governments by the [Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada \(GFOA\)](#) for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR). The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

[Alan Hudson](#), Finance Manager, and the individual designated by RVCOG as primarily responsible for preparing the award-winning CAFR has received this recognition on behalf of RVCOG each of the past 12 years. Not surprisingly, Alan also won another

GFOA award for the Rogue Valley Transportation District this year —his 5th since becoming RVTD's Finance Manager five years ago.

Rapid One-Stop Funding Session Held at RVCOG

With the [American Recovery Act](#) as the driving force, federal and state agencies are taking their One-Stop Funding on the road. Typically held in Salem, these rapid one-stop sessions are on the move, travelling across the Beaver State to help ensure Oregon utilizes as much stimulus money as possible.

Our region's Rapid One-Stop meeting was held on April 24, 2009, in RVCOG's Jefferson Conference Room. Southwest Oregon jurisdictions, special districts, and interested parties with planned water or wastewater projects from Coos, Curry, Douglas, Jackson and Josephine counties were invited to attend the outreach forum to discuss American Recovery Act stimulus funding and other funding avenues with federal, state and other participating agencies. The one-stop format is designed to help applicants learn about available funds along with their next steps for their projects. No funds are committed during the one-stop meeting. Representatives from each participating agency gave an overview of their funding programs and associated stimulus funding, while seven jurisdictions presented eleven water or wastewater projects for review by the funding agencies listed below.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 provides \$4 billion of stimulus funds to states through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund Loan Program.

U.S. Department of Agriculture-Rural Development: www.rurdev.usda.gov

Water and Wastewater Loans: Guaranteed loans may be made to develop water and wastewater systems, including solid waste disposal and storm drainage, in rural areas and to cities and towns of 10,000 or less.

Water and Waste Disposal Loans and Grants: Rural Development is authorized to provide financial assistance for water and waste disposal facilities in rural areas and towns up to 10,000 people.

Community Facility (CF) Guaranteed Loans, Direct Loans, and Grants: Encourages commercial financing of essential community development services in rural communities and towns of not more than 20,000 people.

USDA-RD Area Contact: Clem Singer, Area Director (Roseburg), 541-673-0136 x110

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality: www.deq.state.or.us

Clean Water State Revolving Fund loan program: CWSRF offers below market interest rate loans to public agencies for planning, design and construction for water pollution abatement projects.

CWSRF Area Contacts: Jaime Isaza (Eugene), 541-687-7341; Bob Haberman (Eugene), 541-687-7359

Oregon Economic and Community Development Department: econ.oregon.gov

Community Development Block Grant program: CDBG offers grants for infrastructure projects to entities that meet the national objective for low/moderate income.

Special Public Works Funds program: SPWF provides funding for municipally owned facilities that support economic and community development in Oregon.

Safe Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund: SDWRLF is a low-interest loan program to finance drinking water system improvements needed to maintain compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act.

CDBG/SPWF Area Contact: Fumi Schaadt, Regional Coordinator (Salem), 503-986-0027

SDWRLF Area Contact: Karen Homolac, Regional Coordinator (Salem), 503-986-0191

Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC): www.rcac.org

RCAC is a nonprofit organization dedicated to assisting rural communities to achieve their goals and visions by providing training, technical assistance and access to resources.

RCAC Area Contact: Chris Marco (Salem), 503-228-1780

Please contact Pat Foley at 423-1372 with any questions about One-Stop Funding.

DID YOU KNOW?

Jurisdictions that accept stimulus funding must comply with the Buy American (H.R. 1, Pg. 189, Sec. 1605) and Davis-Bacon (H.R. 1, Pg. 31, Sec. 406c) provisions of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

RVCOG

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VISIT US ON THE WEB

www.rvco.org



Founded in 1968, RVCOG is a voluntary association of local governments and special districts in southern Oregon.

OUR MISSION

We shall act as a catalyst to promote quality of life, effective and efficient services, and leadership in regional communication, cooperation, planning, and action in southern Oregon.

STAFF

Michael Cavallaro
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Director of Senior and Disability Services

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MPO Coordinator

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Planning Coordinator

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Natural Resources Program Manager

Alan Hudson
Finance Manager

Evelyn Kinsella
Nutrition Program Manager

Sandi Morton
Asst to Exec Dir / Human Resources Manager

RVPSA Hosts LGPI Training in Central Point

RVCOG provides the organizational umbrella for the **Rogue Valley Public Service Academy (RVPSA)**, which is dedicated to bringing affordable, high-quality, and relevant training home to our region. On Thursday, April 30th, the RVPSA kicked off its 2009 program with a training presented by **Local Government Personnel Institute** Trainer, Frank Forbes. With over 30 years of experience in public-sector labor relations and human resource management, LGPI's Frank Forbes was a good choice to teach the Academy's Spring 2009 course: *Keys to Effective Documentation and Discipline*.

The topic proved to be a popular one. Sixty public managers, supervisors and leads from nine local jurisdictions attended the training, held in Central Point. After initially scheduling just a morning session, the Academy added an afternoon session to accommodate all who had registered.

The goal of Forbes' training was to provide detailed information about documentation and discipline, including both theoretical and practical tools for success. Topics included: 1) When to document; 2) How to document; 3) How to conduct an investigation; 4) The importance of documentation; 5) How to maximize the odds to win grievance arbitrations on discipline; and 6) What is "just cause."

At the end of each session, trainees were asked to evaluate the course and suggest topics for future training. The RVPSA



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Executive Director, RVCOG

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City of Grants Pass

Sandi Morton, HR Manager
RVCOG

Board will use this data to make improvements and help to ensure that its course offerings continue to meet the training needs and budgets of local public and nonprofit organizations.

Should you have any training ideas you would like to share, please call your local Board Member or the Academy's liaison, **Rene' Sjothun**, at 423-1332.

