



**CORVALLIS
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION**

**MARCH 22, 2016
3:30 pm – 5:30 pm**

**Madison Avenue Meeting Room
500 SW Madison Avenue**

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- I. Call to Order
 - II. Imagine Corvallis 2040 Focus Areas Review (Attachment)
 - III. Annexation Legislation Discussion (Attachment)
 - IV. Community Comments (*Accepted on agenda items for this work session only. Members of the community wishing to offer advance written comments are encouraged to use the public input form at www.corvallisoregon.gov/publicinput.*)
 - V. Adjournment

If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Recorder at (541) 766-6901 (for TTY services, dial 7-1-1). Notification at least two business days prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to the meeting. (In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, 28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title I and ORS 192.630(5)).

A Community That Honors Diversity

TO: City Council for March 22, 2016 Council Work Session
FROM: Mark W. Shepard, P.E., City Manager *MWS*
DATE: March 14, 2016
SUBJECT: Imagine Corvallis 2040 – Focus Area Review



Action Requested:

Staff recommends Council review and discuss the Imagine Corvallis 2040 focus areas and provide feedback.

Discussion:

As one of its six goals for this term, Council adopted a Vision and Action Plan goal. The goal was stated in the following terms:

Using an engaged community process, create a new Corvallis Vision and Action Plan 2040 by December 2016. The resulting plan will include an aspirational vision, an action plan for the city and community partners that is achievable and measurable using a livability index, and a method for regular evaluation and necessary revisions. The vision and action plan will be the foundation for necessary work on other City plans.

The work on this goal has progressed to the Imagine Corvallis 2040 effort that is being guided by a steering committee.

As you are aware, public outreach efforts for Imagine Corvallis 2040 are underway. Community workshops were held on March 5 and March 12. The third and final workshop is scheduled for Saturday, March 19. These workshops represent the most visible outreach efforts that are part of Imagine Corvallis 2040. There are other outreach and engagement efforts planned such as an online survey, email feedback, and a "Meeting in a Box" that community members can take to their networks.

Imagine Corvallis 2040 is centered on six focus areas. It is understood that issues and ideas do not necessarily fit neatly into one focus area. Some issues will cross over multiple focus areas. The focus areas are meant to provide some structure to the community conversations as well as the development of our aspirational vision and action plan. You will find a summary document that provides an outline of the six focus areas attached. Council is asked to review this material and provide feedback at the March 8 Work Session. The Council's feedback can be incorporated into ongoing Imagine Corvallis 2040 efforts.

Budget Impact:

None

Attachment:

Imagine Corvallis 2040 Vision Focus Areas

VISION FOCUS AREAS

HOW WE ENGAGE & SUPPORT – Involvement, Equity & Diversity

(Diversity, Social Equity, Income Equality, Civic Engagement, Community Involvement, Volunteerism, Resources)

HOW WE INNOVATE & PROSPER – Economy, Employment & Innovation

(Economy, Employment, Prosperity, Economic Development, Technology, Innovation)

HOW WE LEARN & THRIVE – Education, Health & Human Services, & Personal Growth

(Schools, Education, Higher Education, Training & Skill Development, Lifelong Learning, Health & Human Services, Wellness, Human Development, Early Childhood Development, Recreation)

HOW WE CREATE & CELEBRATE – Arts, Culture & Creativity

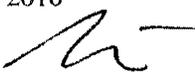
(Arts, Music, History, Culture, Creative Expression, Festivals & Celebrations, Tourism, Theatre, Dance, Poetry)

HOW WE PLAN & CHANGE – Planning, Development, Housing & Livability

(Land Use Planning, Growth & Development, Infrastructure, Urban Design, Housing, Transportation & Mobility, Connectivity, Neighborhoods, Livability)

HOW WE STEWARD & SUSTAIN – Environment, Sustainability & Community Safety

(Environment, Emergency Management, Community Safety, Natural Resources, Natural Environment, Environmental Stewardship, Sustainability, Climate Action)

TO: City Council for March 22, 2016
FROM: Jim Brewer, City Attorney 
DATE: March 15, 2016
THROUGH: Mark W. Shepard, P.E., City Manager 
SUBJECT: SB 1573 Background



Action Requested:

This memorandum provides background information and identifies some considerations to prepare the Council to make the policy decisions required by SB 1573. No action is required at this time.

Discussion:

SB 1573 requires the legislative bodies of cities to annex territory adjacent to the City limits without submitting the annexation proposal to the electors of the city, notwithstanding local charter provisions or ordinances requiring a vote.

On March 9, 2016, the Speaker of the House signed SB 1573. While this memorandum was being prepared, the Governor signed the bill into law. SB 1573 includes an emergency clause making the statute effective immediately and preventing referendum on the statute. The City Attorney's office has received inquiries from property owners about the process to annex properties that fall under the terms of SB 1573. The City Council's policy decisions should address how the City will proceed with annexation proposals that fall under SB1573.

Assuming that SB 1573 is a valid law, as long as all the owners of a territory proposed for annexation agree, and the territory abuts the City limits within the urban growth boundary, the decision to annex the property would be made by the City Council, and not submitted to the voters. The City Council could do this through enacting an ordinance. The City Council would need to initiate text amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Code, so that the City's annexation procedures follow the new statutory process.

Good policy arguments both support and oppose voter approved annexation. In our opinion, regardless of the policy decision the City Council makes regarding following SB 1573, eventually annexation decisions in Corvallis are likely to lead to litigation on this issue. Whether the Council follows the requirements of SB 1573 and does not submit the proposal to the voters, or whether the Council follows the requirements of the Charter and submits the proposal to the voters, the decision is likely to be challenged.

In deciding how to proceed with annexations under SB 1573, the Council should consider competing policy perspectives: The legislature packaged SB1573 with other bills intended to address affordable housing concerns. The Governor explained her rationale for signing the bill in a letter to Mayor Traber. The Housing Development Task Force has also shared with the Council some perspective on removing the voter approval requirement. The voters made a

different policy decision by enacting Section 53 of the Corvallis City Charter. The Council will need to address this conflict, either before or as part of an annexation proposal. One proposal is currently in staff review, and the process for approval would not fall under the “goal post” rule.

In addition to practical process questions, SB 1573 raises a number of legal issues about how local enactments relate to legislative actions and Oregon constitutional provisions. The following points are a general summary of some of the fairly complicated legal issues the legislation raises regarding the voter approved charter language in Corvallis. The summary statements, considerations and opposing views that follow are intended to give the Council a quick exposure to some of the issues, but should not be seen as weighing the merits or recommending any particular policy decision.

- 1) Section 53 of the Corvallis City Charter includes language requiring a vote on annexations “unless mandated by state law.” Corvallis Land Development Code Chapter 2.6 sets out procedures on annexation to implement Section 53 of the City Charter. Section 53 was the result of a citizen’s initiative, and the Corvallis City Charter was adopted by the voters. Voter approval of annexation is described by the Oregon Supreme Court as a legislative action subject to referendum. *Heritage Enterprises v. City of Corvallis*, 300 Or. 168, 708 P.2d 601 (1985).

Consideration:

SB 1573 doesn’t mandate approval of an annexation, but can be viewed as mandating a process for annexations. Arguably, this does not conflict with Section 53 of the Charter.

Opposing view: Section 53 of the Charter requires a vote unless the annexation itself is mandated by state law, not the process for annexation. In the case of declared health hazards, the annexation was mandated, not the process. In this view, SB 1573 conflicts with Section 53.

- 2) The Oregon Constitution reserves the right of local voters to amend local charters, as part of the home rule authority. The Oregon Constitutional grant of authority to the legislature is subject to the power of initiative and referendum. Similarly, the right of initiative and referendum for municipal legislation is reserved for the voters of the municipality. Attachment B.

Consideration:

If SB 1573 is an unconstitutional infringement on home rule or the reservation of the power of initiative and referendum, then SB 1573 is void as a matter of law. Determining the corporate boundaries and what territory to include in a municipal corporation is fundamental to local governance.

Opposing view: SB 1573 preempts local governments from using the voter approval process in certain situations. It cannot be unconstitutional because it does not concern

local governance issues, as housing development and land use planning is a statewide concern.

- 3) SB 1573 allows the governing body of a city to approve an annexation through a city ordinance.

Consideration:

If a council approves annexations by Ordinance, SB 1573 doesn't expressly prevent voters seeking a referendum on the Ordinance, so the right to initiative and referendum on legislative matters is preserved.

Opposing view: A referendum frustrates the legislative purpose and is implicitly prohibited by SB 1573.

- 4) The Oregon Supreme Court has interpreted the home rule provisions of the Constitution to require the legislature to either include an express and unambiguous statement of the legislative intent to preempt local legislation in an area or a complete occupation of the field.

Consideration:

State law, including SB 1573, preempts and occupies the field for annexation processes.

Opposing view: SB 1573 does not contain an express preemption nor can it occupy the field, as its plain language only applies to a limited set of territories and annexations.

Staff and the City Attorney are available to answer any questions you might have.

Attachments:

Text of SB 1573 (Attachment A)
Oregon Constitution Provisions (Attachment B)
Corvallis City Charter Provisions (Attachment C)
Comprehensive Plan Provisions (Attachment D)
Corvallis Land Development Code Provisions (Attachment E)
Map of City Limits and Urban Growth Boundary (Attachment F)
Governor Brown letter to Mayor Traber 3/15/16 (Attachment G)

SB 1573

Attachment A

78th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY--2016 Regular Session

**Enrolled
Senate Bill 1573**

Sponsored by Senator BEYER (Pre-session filed.)

CHAPTER

AN ACT

Relating to boundary changes; and declaring an emergency.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2016 Act is added to and made a part of ORS 222.111 to 222.180.

SECTION 2. (1) This section applies to a city whose laws require a petition proposing annexation of territory to be submitted to the electors of the city.

(2) Notwithstanding a contrary provision of the city charter or a city ordinance, upon receipt of a petition proposing annexation of territory submitted by all owners of land in the territory, the legislative body of the city shall annex the territory without submitting the proposal to the electors of the city if:

(a) The territory is included within an urban growth boundary adopted by the city or Metro, as defined in ORS 197.015;

(b) The territory is, or upon annexation of the territory into the city will be, subject to the acknowledged comprehensive plan of the city;

(c) At least one lot or parcel within the territory is contiguous to the city limits or is separated from the city limits only by a public right of way or a body of water; and

(d) The proposal conforms to all other requirements of the city's ordinances.

(3) The territory to be annexed under this section includes any additional territory described in ORS 222.111 (1) that must be annexed in order to locate infrastructure and right of way access for services necessary for development of the territory described in subsection (2) of this section at a density equal to the average residential density within the annexing city.

(4) When the legislative body of the city determines that the criteria described in subsection (2) of this section apply to territory proposed for annexation, the legislative body may declare that the territory described in subsections (2) and (3) of this section is annexed to the city by an ordinance that contains a description of the territory annexed.

SECTION 3. This 2016 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2016 Act takes effect on its passage.

Passed by Senate March 1, 2016

.....
Lori L. Brocker, Secretary of Senate

.....
Peter Courtney, President of Senate

Passed by House March 3, 2016

.....
Tina Kotek, Speaker of House

Received by Governor:

.....M.,....., 2016

Approved:

.....M.,....., 2016

.....
Kate Brown, Governor

Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

.....M.,....., 2016

.....
Jeanne P. Atkins, Secretary of State

SB1573

Attachment B

OREGON CONSTITUTION Article XI, § 2**§ 2. Formation of corporations; municipal powers regarding charter and regulation of intoxicating liquor**

Corporations may be formed under general laws, but shall not be created by the Legislative Assembly by special laws. The Legislative Assembly shall not enact, amend or repeal any charter or act of incorporation for any municipality, city or town. The legal voters of every city and town are hereby granted power to enact and amend their municipal charter, subject to the Constitution and criminal laws of the State of Oregon, and the exclusive power to license, regulate, control, or to suppress or prohibit, the sale of intoxicating liquors therein is vested in such municipality; but such municipality shall within its limits be subject to the provisions of the local option law of the State of Oregon.

OREGON CONSTITUTION Article IV, § 1**§ 1. Legislative, initiative, and referendum powers**

(1) The legislative power of the state, except for the initiative and referendum powers reserved to the people, is vested in a Legislative Assembly, consisting of a Senate and a House of Representatives.

(5) The initiative and referendum powers reserved to the people by subsections (2) and (3) of this section are further reserved to the qualified voters of each municipality and district as to all local, special and municipal legislation of every character in or for their municipality or district. The manner of exercising those powers shall be provided by general laws, but cities may provide the manner of exercising those powers as to their municipal legislation. In a city, not more than 15 percent of the qualified voters may be required to propose legislation by the initiative, and not more than 10 percent of the qualified voters may be required to order a referendum on legislation.

SB 1573

Attachment C

CITY OF CORVALLIS CHARTER 2006

CHAPTER 2**Powers**

Section 3. Powers of the City. The City shall have all the rights, powers, privileges, and immunities which the constitutions, statutes, and common law of the United States and of this State expressly or impliedly grant or allow municipalities, including those rights, powers, privileges, and immunities which a City can exercise upon specifically accepting them or upon being granted the power to exercise them by the people of the City or the legislature of the State, as fully as though this Charter expressly stated each of those rights, powers, privileges, and immunities and as though each of them had been specifically accepted by the City or granted to it by the people of the City or by the legislature of the State. The powers contained herein from previously enacted Charters shall be deemed a part of the powers of the City. The City is further empowered to assess, levy, and collect taxes of all types for any and all lawful municipal purposes.

Section 4. Responsibility to All People. The City shall exercise its power to ensure the equal protection, treatment, and representation of all persons without discrimination including, but not limited to, age, citizenship status, color, familial status, gender identity or expression, marital status, mental disability, national origin, physical disability, race, religion, religious observance, sex, sexual orientation, and source or level of income. Corvallis is a community that honors diversity and diverse interests, and aspires to be free of prejudice, bigotry, and hate.

Section 5. Construction of the Charter. In this Charter no mention of a particular power, right, privilege, or immunity shall be construed to be exclusive or to restrict the scope of the powers, rights, privileges, or immunities which the City would have if the particular power was not mentioned. The Charter shall be liberally construed to the end that the City may have all powers necessary or convenient for the conduct of its municipal affairs, including all powers that cities may assume pursuant to the laws and to the municipal home-rule provisions of the constitution of the State of Oregon.

CHAPTER 10**Miscellaneous**

Section 53. Vote on Annexations. Unless mandated by State law, annexation, delayed or otherwise, to the City of Corvallis may only be approved by a prior majority vote among the electorate.

SB 1753

Attachment D

CITY OF CORVALLIS COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Article 14. Urbanization / Annexation*Findings:*

- 14.1.b** *Existing elements of a growth management system for Corvallis include: annexation charter amendment; services outside City Limits charter amendment; Comprehensive Plan; Land Development Code; Master Facility Plans; Capital Improvement Program; Corvallis Urban Fringe Management Agreement; Benton County zoning for the Urban Fringe; Land Development Information Report; Buildable Land Inventory and Land Need Analysis for Corvallis; and systems development charge ordinance.*

- 14.3.b** *The citizens of Corvallis have adopted mechanisms to control the extension of City services outside the corporate City Limits as well as mechanisms for voter approval of annexations. Specific elements of the City Charter state:*
- i. The City shall furnish no services (or enter into any agreement or contract to furnish such services) to property outside the corporate limits of the City unless the City Council shall have first adopted an ordinance approving the same.*
 - ii. Unless mandated by State law, annexation (delayed or otherwise) to the City of Corvallis may only be approved by a prior majority vote among the electorate.*

- 14.3.1** Annexations can only be recommended to the voters where the following findings are made:
- A. There is a demonstrated public need for the annexation.
 - B. The advantages to the community resulting from the annexation shall outweigh the disadvantages.
 - C. The City and other jurisdictions are capable of providing urban services and facilities required by the annexed area, when developed.

SB1573

Attachment E

City of Corvallis Land Development Code**CHAPTER 2.6
ANNEXATIONS****Section 2.6.10 - BACKGROUND**

The process of land Annexation allows for the orderly expansion of the City and adequate provision for public facilities and services. The City Charter requires voter approval of an Annexation unless an Annexation is mandated by state law. For example, Health Hazard Annexations are mandated by state law and do not require voter approval.

Section 2.6.20 - PURPOSES

The procedures and review criteria for proposed Annexations are established for the following purposes:

- a. Maximize citizen involvement in the Annexation review process;
- b. Establish a methodology to evaluate need, serviceability, and the economic, environmental, and related social effects of proposed Annexations;
- c. Provide adequate public information and sufficient time for public review before an Annexation election;
- d. Ensure adequate time for City staff review; and
- e. Allow for simultaneous review of multiple Annexation proposals.

2.6.30.11 - Effective Date of Zoning Designation

Unless an appeal has been filed, the decision of the Planning Commission regarding establishment of the zoning designation shall become effective 12 days after the Notice of Disposition is signed.

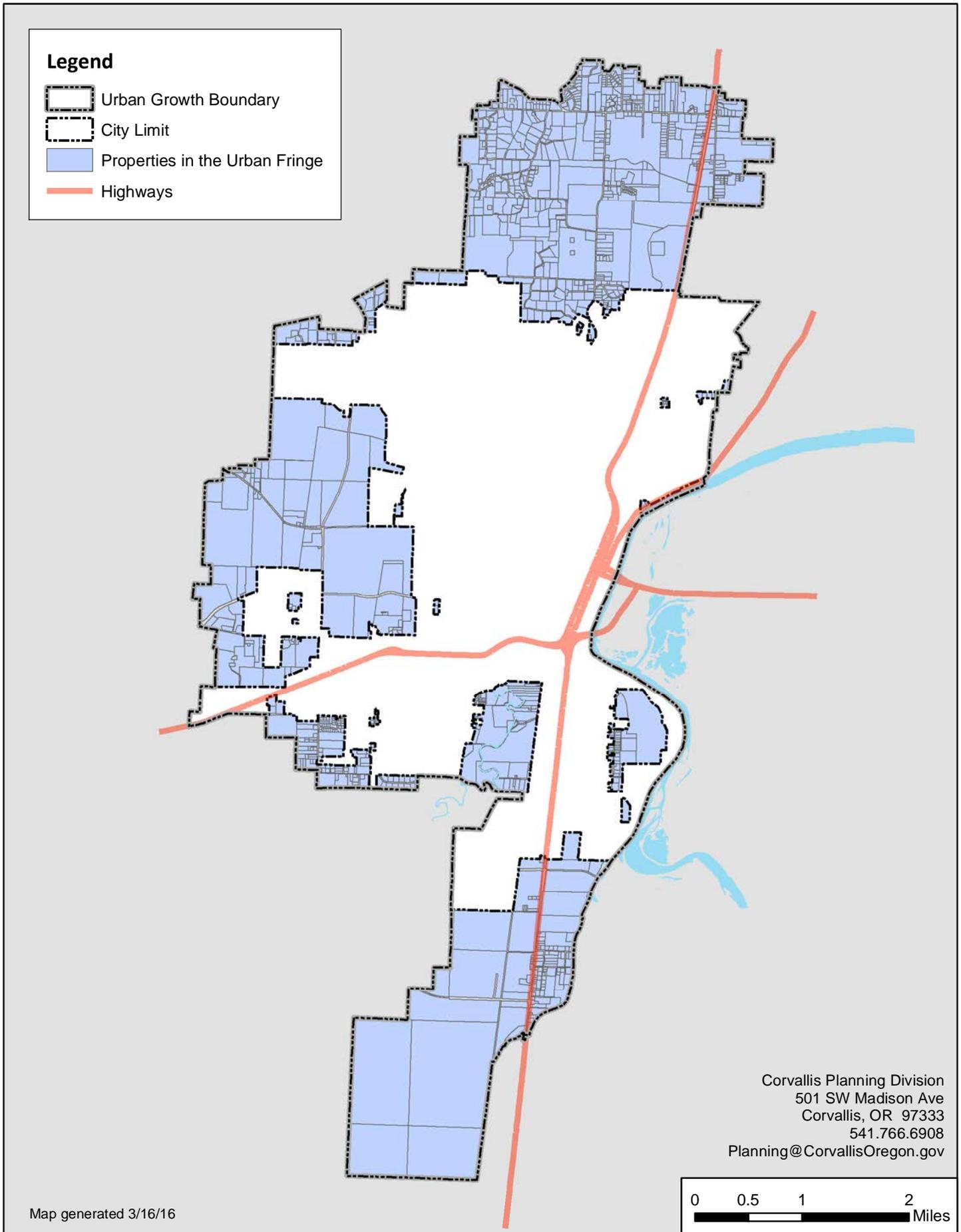
If the Annexation is not forwarded to the voters by the City Council, or the electorate does not approve the Annexation, then the newly established zoning designation shall become null and void.

2.6.30.12 - Action by the City Council

Upon receipt of the Planning Commission's recommendation the proposed Annexation shall be set for a public hearing before the City Council in accordance with Chapter 2.0 - Public Hearings. The Council shall review all proposals in time to comply with county or state deadlines for submitting measures to the voters in May or November. The Council shall set an Annexation for an election only when it finds that the Annexation is consistent with the review criteria in Sections 2.6.30.06 and 2.6.30.07.

Note: The City Council's decision to submit an Annexation to the electorate is the last discretionary decision in the process. Certifying the election after votes are counted is not a discretionary decision.

Properties in the Corvallis Urban Fringe





KATE BROWN
Governor

March 15, 2016

Biff Traber, Mayor
City of Corvallis
PO Box 1083
Corvallis, OR 97339-1083

Dear Mayor Traber:

Thank you for taking the time to write to me and provide feedback on SB 1573, legislation related to annexation of land within urban growth boundaries or the Metro boundary.

As you know, throughout Oregon, hardworking families are struggling to find and maintain the stabilizing anchor that housing provides because rents are increasing faster than wages, vacancy rates are at historic lows and more and more people are experiencing homelessness. We know how to address this issue: we need to increase our supply of safe, affordable and decent homes for Oregonians. Together with the legislature I championed a \$40 million investment in a new housing program: Local Innovation and Fast Track Housing (LIFT). This investment will provide much needed funding to increase our housing supply in Oregon with an emphasis on rural communities, people of color and families in services at DHS.

During the 2016 legislative session, advocates and legislators worked together to pass a package of legislation aimed at addressing the housing needs in Oregon. Local governments need more tools to address the development need for workforce housing. Our economy cannot thrive if the workforce doesn't have a place to live. SB 1533 lifts the preemption on inclusionary zoning and creates a new revenue source for housing through the construction excise tax. Landlords, tenants and advocates came to the negotiation table to discuss productive ways to protect seniors and families in this housing market and passed HB 4143 which gives tenants additional notice when their rent is increased and protects tenants on month to month leases from rent increases in their first year of tenancy.

Throughout the negotiation on these bills, industry partners urged policy makers to address land use issues which might assist in addressing affordable housing. SB 1573 was one of the bills identified and was passed along with HB 4079 in the larger housing package.

March 15, 2016

Page Two

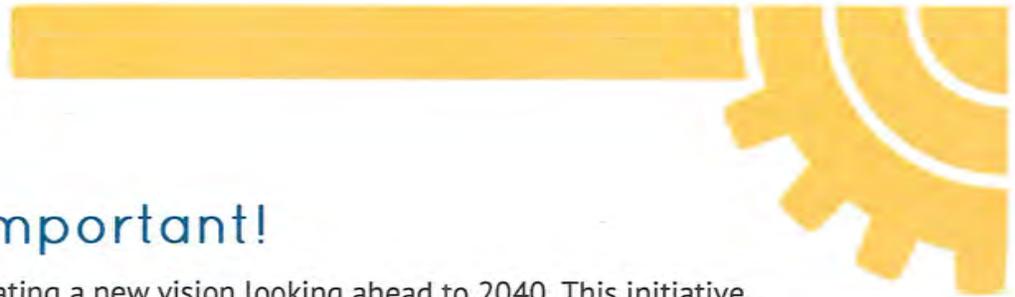
As you know, in the past we have seen a number of situations where a city and county have approved the urbanization of an area, only to see a subsequent action that prevents the area from being added to the city. Existing state policy provides that urban areas generally should be within a city. One reason for this policy is to encourage development to occur in ways that makes housing more affordable. This bill is consistent with that existing policy, and is targeted in terms of its applicability. Given the thoughtful approach to limiting the application of the bill and the larger goals of increasing opportunities for affordable housing, I will sign this bill, as part of the 2016 housing package.

Thank you for your thoughtful letter and feedback. I am confident we can continue to work together to address the land use and housing needs in Oregon in complementary strategies.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate Brown" with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sincerely,
Governor Kate Brown

GKB:ks



Your input is important!

The Corvallis community is creating a new vision looking ahead to 2040. This initiative, sponsored by the City of Corvallis, will develop a vision, which will outline a preferred destination for the city in 2040, and an action plan, outlining specific activities to help move the vision toward reality.

Go online to weigh in on the future of Corvallis. Visit the web address below to take the online survey.

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ImagineCorvallis2040>

Corvallis' Vision and Action Plan includes topics such as:

HOW WE ENGAGE & SUPPORT - *Involvement, Equity & Diversity*

HOW WE INNOVATE & PROSPER - *Economy, Employment & Innovation*

HOW WE LEARN & THRIVE - *Education, Health & Human Services, Personal Growth*

HOW WE CREATE & CELEBRATE - *Arts, Culture & Creativity*

HOW WE PLAN & CHANGE - *Livability, Development & Housing*

HOW WE STEWARD & SUSTAIN - *Environment, Sustainability & Community Safety*

Contact us



www.corvallisoregon.gov/visiongoal



Cassie.Davis@hdrinc.com



503.727.3922

What is Imagine Corvallis?

Sponsored by the City of Corvallis, *Imagine Corvallis* invites the community to look ahead to the next 20 years.

This vision project relies on community collaboration to craft Corvallis' future Vision, which will outline a preferred destination for the city in 2040. Through a series of activities, the community will define and vet this vision then identify measurable strategies to bring this vision to life.

How will we create a Corvallis vision?

In the upcoming months, The *Imagine Corvallis* project team is engaging the community around several basic questions:

1. Where are we now?
2. Where are we going?
3. Where do we want to be?
4. How do we get there?

Activities and events will center around six focus areas (right).



We need you!

Community input and support is vital to this project. *For project news, public events, opportunities to provide input, or volunteer, visit the project webpage at www.corvallisoregon.gov/visiongoal.*

More information

If you have questions, would like to volunteer, or for more information about the project, please contact: **Cassie Davis, *Imagine Corvallis***, at the email address or phone number below.



COMMENT CARD

FOCUS AREA: _____

Thinking about the above Focus Area...

1.) What do you most appreciate about Corvallis?

2.) What is the biggest challenge for Corvallis now or in the future?

3.) What is your vision for the future of Corvallis?

4.) What is one strategy for achieving your vision?

5.) How would you know your vision was being accomplished?

Optional:

NAME _____ EMAIL _____ PHONE _____

Please use back of page for additional comments



VISION FOCUS AREAS

HOW WE ENGAGE & SUPPORT – Involvement, Equity & Diversity

(Diversity, Social Equity, Income Equality, Civic Engagement, Community Involvement, Volunteerism, Resources)

HOW WE INNOVATE & PROSPER – Economy, Employment & Innovation

(Economy, Employment, Prosperity, Economic Development, Technology, Innovation)

HOW WE LEARN & THRIVE – Education, Health & Human Services, & Personal Growth

(Schools, Education, Higher Education, Training & Skill Development, Lifelong Learning, Health & Human Services, Wellness, Human Development, Early Childhood Development, Recreation)

HOW WE CREATE & CELEBRATE – Arts, Culture & Creativity

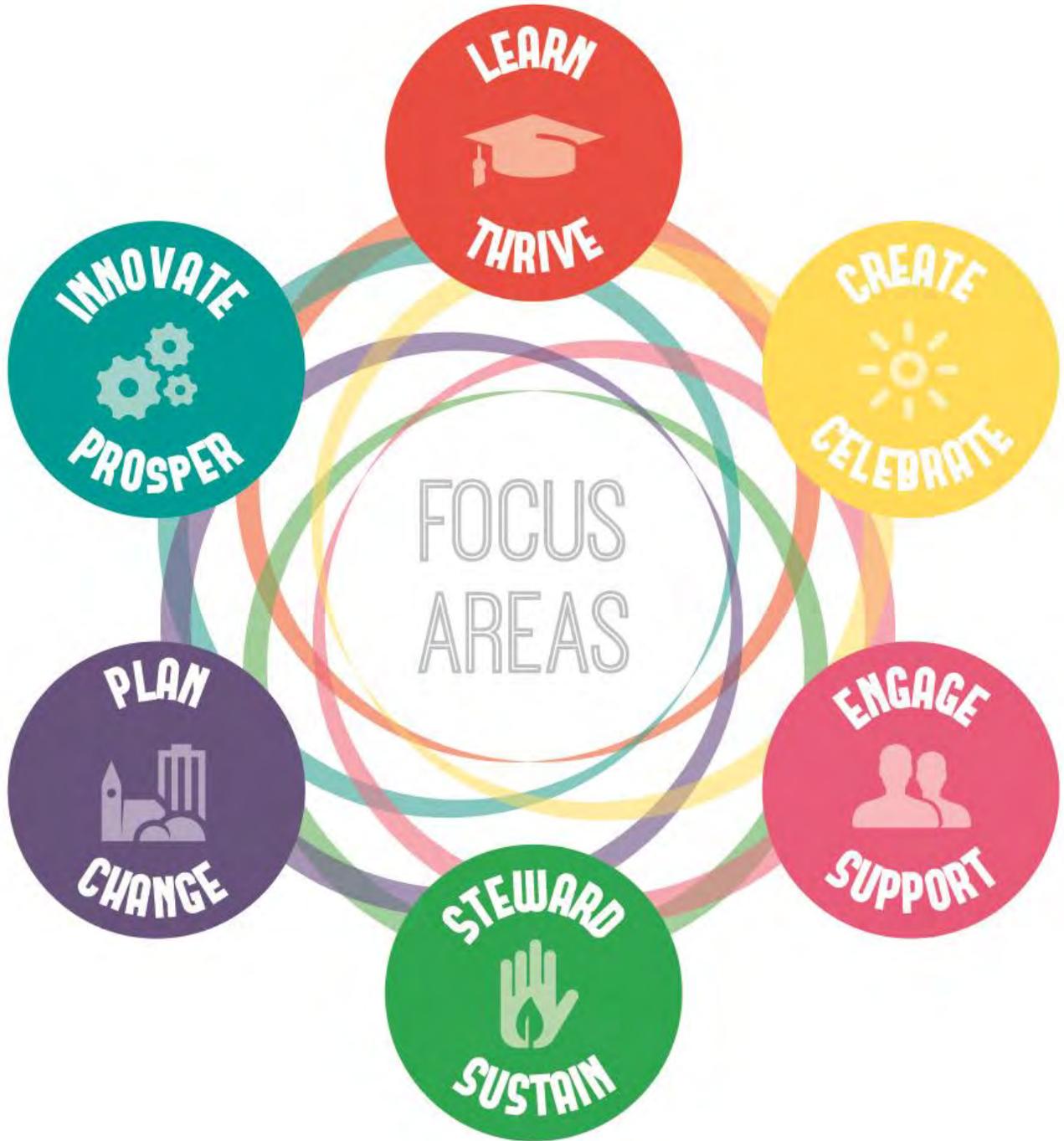
(Arts, Music, History, Culture, Creative Expression, Festivals & Celebrations, Tourism, Theatre, Dance, Poetry)

HOW WE PLAN & CHANGE – Livability, Development & Housing

(Land Use Planning, Growth & Development, Infrastructure, Urban Design, Housing, Transportation & Mobility, Connectivity, Neighborhoods, Livability)

HOW WE STEWARD & SUSTAIN – Environment, Sustainability & Community Safety

(Environment, Emergency Management, Community Safety, Natural Resources, Natural Environment, Environmental Stewardship, Sustainability, Climate Action)





This snapshot provides highlights about topics such as: arts, music, history, culture, creative expression, tourism, festivals, celebrations, theatre, dance, and poetry. Corvallis has a vibrant local arts and culture scene for a community of its size.

Theater, arts, music, dance, lectures, galleries and festivals, along with arts programs and classes for students, low income groups, and individuals with physical and mental disabilities, fill the calendar and draw the entire community and its visitors into a culturally rich range of offerings.

OSU students, programs and venues expand and amplify the impact of the arts on community life. Like arts everywhere, there are also challenges to support, fund and sustain Corvallis' arts scene and to give it a stronger voice in civic affairs and economic development.

WHERE ARE WE NOW? Key facts about Corvallis today:

Corvallis enjoys a wide range of arts events, festivals and venues. Corvallis has many arts events, festivals and venues, including its long-running annual summer arts festival da Vinci Days (now in the process of being reinvented), Fall Festival, and the monthly Corvallis Arts Walk. Several galleries in town, along with groups such as the Corvallis Folklore Society, Community Theater, Community Band, Farmers Market, Corvallis Library and others continue to promote artistic and cultural activities throughout the community.

Visitor spending has a local economic impact in Corvallis. The 2015 City of Corvallis Arts & Culture Study revealed that in 2013:

- It took \$66,850 of visitor spending to support one job in Benton County.
- \$27 in employee earnings was generated by every \$100 visitor spending.
- \$5.20 in local and state tax revenues was generated by every \$100 in visitor spending.

Corvallis features numerous historical landmarks. Approximately 150 resources are listed on the Corvallis Register of Historic Landmarks. The area also features three National Register Historic Districts: Avery-Helm, College Hill West, and Oregon State University.

OSU has seven cultural resource centers. The University is home to seven cultural resource centers serving all members of the OSU community: Asian & Pacific Cultural Center; Centro Cultural Cesar Chavez; Etihad Cultural Center; Lonnie B Harris Black Cultural Center; Native American Longhouse Eena Haws; Pride Center; and Women's Center.

OSU and Linn-Benton Community College offer a vast array of performance and visual arts resources. OSU boasts a vast array of performance and visual arts events and resources, including Corvallis-OSU Symphony, Corvallis Repertory Singers, Music a la Carte Concert Series, Music@OSU, OSU Theatre, SAC Presents, and the Steinway Piano Concert Series, as well as many visiting artists and scholars. Linn-Benton Community College also offers numerous arts programs at the Benton Center in Corvallis.

Downtown Theaters add to cultural offerings. In 2015, the Corvallis Parks and Recreation Department began operating the Majestic Theatre, a restored theatre, concert venue and art gallery. The Whiteside Theatre is a historic theatre building that supports numerous events and promotes cultural diversity in downtown Corvallis.

The Arts Center is a part of Corvallis' Community Life. The Arts Center is dedicated to integrating the arts into daily community life in Corvallis through collaboration, outreach, classes, camps, exhibitions and cultural events. Its ArtsCare program brings arts to patients in healing environments, and its At-Risk Youth Art Education program serves children who might not otherwise have art opportunities.





Corvallis Schools offer arts, music and theater programs. The Corvallis School District offers music classes in their K-12 programs, as well as theater programs at the high schools. The School District has three performance spaces for use by students and available to rent by the community. The arts education programming for K-5 is arranged and supported by The Arts Center and various parent teacher organizations. Youth music education and experience opportunities are also provided various private and not-for-profit community organizations, such as the highly active and successful Corvallis Youth Symphony and Heart of the Valley Children’s Choir programs.

Madison Avenue offers an arts and history experience. Starting at the Riverfront Commemorative Park, a westward walk along Madison Avenue features art of all types (sculpture, ceramics, paintings, photography, poetry) and nearly two dozen historical panels that tell of the history and development of Corvallis (the “Heart of the Valley”).

Events drive OSU-related tourism in Corvallis. OSU has a major impact on tourism and visitor-affiliated revenues in Corvallis such as hotels and restaurants, through its major PAC12 sporting events, homecoming, parents’ weekends, conferences and more.

One-third of hotel taxes are put back into tourism and conventions. One third of the hotel tax in Corvallis is used to support Visit Corvallis, the local convention and visitor’s bureau, for tourism promotion.

WHERE ARE WE GOING? *Trends or developments that may influence the future of Corvallis:*

A new Corvallis Museum operated by the Benton County Historical Society is scheduled to open in 2018-19. The opening of the museum will bring additional opportunities for arts and culture for both residents and visitors.

County leaders are planning for an Oregon Creative Corridor. In January 2016, arts and tourism organization representatives from four counties (Linn, Benton, Lincoln and Lane) convened to plan for a future Oregon Creative Corridor aimed at developing a viable, sustainable and connected community of art in the Mid-Willamette Valley.

Downturn in Arts Education has a long-term impact. A generation and a half of students in the public school system have not had consistent access to arts education in their formative school years, and are less likely to choose to experience the arts over other entertainment options.

OSU offers arts career opportunities. The OSU College of Liberal Arts, School of Arts & Communication provides opportunities to leverage career training and entrepreneurship programs in the arts.

WHAT ISSUES DO WE FACE? *Frequent comments we have heard from Corvallis citizens during interviews and conversations:*

- *Corvallis supports rich cultural lifestyles through many cultural outlets.*
- *The community has been supportive of the local theatres in town, but the support is at times inconsistent.*
- *While the arts and cultural organizations in Corvallis generally work well together, they could be more cohesive and collaborative in their activities.*
- *Cultural tourism has the potential to be a more significant contributor to downtown and the local economy.*
- *The community values and supports the local farmers market and surrounding agriculture in the area.*
- *A lack of low cost housing and studio space is a problem for keeping young creative people in Corvallis who wish to stay and start new businesses.*
- *Some of the arts facilities in Corvallis had deferred maintenance for 5-10 years beyond schedule.*





This snapshot provides highlights about topics such as: emergency management, public safety, community resiliency, natural resources, environmental stewardship, sustainability, and climate action. Because a safe, clean and healthy environment is integral to livability and quality of life – not to mention the future of the planet – Corvallis is committed to stewarding and sustaining its natural resources. It is also committed to ensuring a safer, more resilient community in the face of emergencies or natural disasters. The City of Corvallis’ involvement in climate action signifies a growing commitment to leadership in defining the environmental challenges of our time.

WHERE ARE WE NOW? *Key facts about Corvallis today:*

One in three Corvallis residents has prepared for emergencies. In 2015, 34% of people in Corvallis stocked supplies for an emergency.

Water quality in Corvallis and Benton County is uniformly high. In 2013, 98% of Benton County water systems met or exceeded quality standards.

Air quality in Benton County is uniformly high. In 2013, Benton County had one day when the air quality was unhealthy for sensitive groups and no days when it was unhealthy for all groups.

There are areas of known or potential contamination in Benton County. In 2013, there were seven environmental cleanup sites with known or potential contamination from hazardous substances in Benton County, and 75 leaking underground storage tanks in active cleanup.

Per capita waste generation in Benton County is somewhat higher than in the state of Oregon. In 2013, the per capita waste landfilled was 1,324 pounds for Benton County compared to 1,232 pounds for Oregon as a whole.

Corvallis has mutual aid agreements with other law enforcement and Fire Departments in the region. These agreements provide for sharing of resources when emergencies beyond a single jurisdiction’s capacity occur. The Corvallis Police Department has 1.01 officers per 1,000 population – lower than comparable Oregon cities, which average 1.25 officers per 1,000. Nationally, comparator cities with a major university average 1.55 officers per 1,000 population.

Corvallis is committed to preserving and protecting its riparian resources. Between 1995 and 2012, \$295,389 was invested in watershed restoration in Corvallis.

Corvallis values and protects its natural features. In 2006, the City adopted the Natural Hazards and Natural Features inventories and corresponding protections and land use standards for development in areas on public and private properties that contain natural features.

Corvallis Parks. The City, through the Parks and Recreation Department, manages 1,200 acres of natural areas and 47 developed parks including over 22 miles of trails. It provides volunteer opportunities through its Parks Volunteer Program, Neighborhood Trees Program and Natural Areas Stewardship Program.



Far more people bicycle or walk in Corvallis than in Oregon or the nation, but fewer people carpool or ride public transit. About 34% of commuters in Corvallis used environmentally friendly modes of transportation between 2010 and 2014.

	<u>Corvallis</u>	<u>Oregon</u>	<u>U.S.</u>
Carpooled	6.9%	10.4%	9.6%
Rode public transit (CTS)	3.2 %	4.3%	5.1%
Bicycled	11.7%	2.4%	0.6%
Walked	12%	4.1%	2.8%

Corvallis ranks high nationally for the percentage of bicycle commuters. Corvallis received a gold rating from the League of American Bicyclists as a bicycle-friendly community in 2011. The city is ranked third highest among U.S. cities for bicycle commuting behind Key West, Florida and Davis, California.

WHERE ARE WE GOING? *Trends or developments that may influence the future of Corvallis:*

Citizens rate the community’s environmental performance highly. In 2015, more than 75% of residents rated Corvallis’ recycling services, yard waste pick up, drinking water, and natural areas preservation as excellent or good.

In Corvallis, protecting the environment is a personal commitment for a majority of the community. In 2015, Corvallis residents did the following:

- 98% recycled
- 80% rated the natural environment and air quality as excellent or good
- 75% reported actively conserving water always or sometimes
- 68% worked to make their homes more energy efficient

Corvallis is among the top cities in the nation in purchasing electricity produced from renewable sources. Corvallis purchases more than 126 million kilowatt-hours of green power annually, which amounts to 21 percent of the city’s total purchased electricity.

Corvallis aspires to be a national leader in the use of green energy sources. Corvallis Environmental Center initiatives are working to help Corvallis become one of the nation’s most energy efficient cities.

WHAT ISSUES DO WE FACE? *Frequent comments we have heard from Corvallis citizens during our interviews and conversations:*

- *Corvallis values its surrounding natural resources and works hard to preserve them.*
- *Improved collaboration between the City and County would accelerate efficiency and progress with the Climate Action Plan.*
- *Corvallis values safety and livability – voters passed a local levy to fund a livability officers program to promote safety and address criminal behavior.*
- *The community values sustainability and takes pride in actively improving the environment.*
- *The city is vulnerable to any natural disaster and climate change. Systems may not be in place to react to a disaster. Natural disasters the community is vulnerable to include seismic events, flooding, landslides, and wildfires.*



This snapshot provides highlights about topics such as: land use planning, growth and development, infrastructure, urban design, housing, connectivity, neighborhoods, safety, livability, transportation and mobility. Growth and urban development offer two very different scenarios for the future of Corvallis. On one hand, new growth and development bring economic vitality, more jobs, better shopping, cultural and entertainment options, as well as additional tax revenues to fund government and pay for urban services. On the other hand, growth can place stresses on the cost of living, aging urban infrastructure, existing neighborhood cohesion, the natural environment and, in some instances, the quality of life. As Corvallis plans for the future, the community faces key choices as it plans for, guides and manages growth to promote maximum benefit for the community and its economy, environment and social fabric. These decisions will affect future housing, transportation, commercial and institutional development. They also need to be considered in the context of surrounding rural areas, the Corvallis Metropolitan Planning Area, and the Willamette Valley.

WHERE ARE WE NOW? *Key facts about Corvallis today:*

Corvallis continued growing in the last decade and half, with significant slowing in the mid-late 2000s. In 2015, 57,390 people lived in Corvallis. Between 2000 and 2010, the population of both Corvallis and Benton County increased 12%, or slightly more than 1% annually. Population growth was higher at the beginning of the decade, increasing 3.2% between 2000 and 2001. Between 2003 and 2010, the population increased only 1% most years, with the exception of 2003-2004 when it actually declined. Growth in the coming decades is projected to be around 1% annually through 2020.

OSU continues to grow but future growth is expected to be slower than the city. Oregon State’s overall enrollment was 30,592 students as of fall term 2015, and 24,466 students were enrolled at the Corvallis campus, an increase of 3/10ths of one percent, or 83 students, from fall 2014.

Land availability and uses within the City limits. The City of Corvallis currently contains roughly 7,791 acres within the City Limits for all residential, commercial, industrial, and open space and OSU uses. There are currently approximately 1,398 acres of vacant lands within the City. The current amount and percentage of each land use type within the City is below.

Land Use	Total Acres	% of Total Land Area	Vacant Acres	% of Vacant Land Area by Use
Residential	4,822.62	62%	693.74	14%
Commercial	514.77	6%	38.16	7%
Industrial	1,233.83	16%	627.37	51%
Other (Open Space and OSU)	1219.91	16%	38.57	3%

Many Corvallis workers commute from outside the City. In 2014, jobs in Corvallis employed 29, 003 people. For these jobs, 18,467 workers commuted into Corvallis to work from outside the city; 10,536 live and work in Corvallis. About 9,316 workers live in Corvallis, but work outside the city.

Relatively low local vacancy rates in Corvallis. Based on local data, housing vacancy rates in Corvallis tend to range between 1.0 and 2.5 percent.



Corvallis has more renters than owner occupants, fewer single units than multi-unit properties, and relatively high levels of housing cost burden. Between 2010 and 2014, Corvallis had a lower percentage of owner-occupied, single-unit detached homes but more cost-burdened renters (*families paying more than 30% of their income for rent*) than Benton County or Oregon as a whole.

	Corvallis	Benton	Oregon
Owner-occupied housing	44%	57%	61.5%
Single-unit detached homes	48%	59%	63.7%
Cost-burdened owners	22%	24%	24.5%
Cost-burdened renters	63%	60.7%	54.4%

Corvallis values access to parks, trails, open space, and natural resources. Community members place a high value on access to the natural environment, trail systems, parks, open space, and recreational programming. The Parks and Recreation Department operates and maintains parks and natural areas, recreational trail systems, and other facilities, such as the Chintimini Senior and Community Center and the Majestic Theater. In 2015 the City Council adopted an updated Parks and Recreation Master Plan and Trails Plan to guide land use and operational decisions for the City’s recreational facilities.

There is a community desire to reduce single occupancy vehicle trips and impacts on the City’s transportation system. The community values efforts to reduce vehicle traffic impacts on the transportation system, available land use resources, and the environment. The City currently charges no fare for use of the transit system. The City is currently in the process of updating its Transportation System Plan to guide future decisions on transportation facilities and capacity, transit system maintenance, and other operational considerations to respond to the needs of the community.

WHERE ARE WE GOING? *Trends or developments that may influence the future of Corvallis:*

According to population forecasts, Benton County will grow steadily in coming decades, but slower than Oregon as a whole. The population of Benton County is expected to grow to 111,666 by 2050, representing an increase of about 3% every five years between 2015 and 2050. Forecasted growth in Benton County is smaller than forecasted growth in Oregon. Oregon’s population is expected to increase about 6% every five years between 2015 and 2030, then begin to gradually slow to 3.5% between 2045 and 2050.

WHAT ISSUES DO WE FACE? *Frequent comments we have heard from Corvallis citizens from interviews and conversations:*

- Corvallis values its small-town charm, parks, trails, green spaces, and outdoor recreational areas.
- Preservation of neighborhood and community livability is a high priority for Corvallis residents.
- Corvallis has a “town/ gown issue.” There continue to be tensions between the community and the University.
- Parking and housing are ongoing issues.
- Corvallis has an active and vibrant bike community and infrastructure.
- Corvallis needs more safe, available and affordable housing.
- Corvallis needs to be a city where there is synergy amongst the different enterprises (i.e., City, University, and leading organizations); there is a need for a more unified vision and effort to make decisions more collaboratively with consideration of the whole of the community.





This snapshot provides highlights about such topics as schools, education, higher education, training and skill development, lifelong learning, health, wellness, human development, early childhood development, human services and recreation. Education in Corvallis shapes the community. The presence of a large university offers many opportunities for positive “town-gown” interactions, including campus lectures, and professional and continuing education. Corvallis schools excel in many ways but face enrollment and equity challenges. Corvallis and Benton County perform well as measured by many health indicators, but not all.

WHERE ARE WE NOW? Key facts about Corvallis today:

Corvallis residents over 25 have significantly higher levels of educational attainment. Corvallis’ educational attainment levels by age 25 are: high school graduate or higher (without attaining college or professional degree) - 31%; bachelor’s degree - 31%; and college or professional degree - 27%. This compares to Oregon as whole: high school graduate or higher - 51%; bachelor’s degree - 19%; college or professional degree - 11%.

OSU brings exceptional knowledge, resources and economic benefit to the Corvallis community. Oregon State University offers more than 200 undergraduate, graduate and doctoral program degrees. It is one of just two universities in the U.S. with four combined designations as a land grant, sea-grant, space-grant and sun-grant institution. OSU received more than \$285 million in research grants in 2014, more than all other public universities in Oregon combined.

Corvallis School District student enrollment is approximately 6,615. K-12 enrollment has grown slowly in the last three years after a decade of steady decline. School district facilities include 13 schools with an average age of 53 years. Two of the newest schools, Linus Pauling Middle School and Corvallis High School, were built in 2004 and 2005.

The K-12 student population is increasingly economically disadvantaged and ethnically and racially diverse. 35% of Corvallis students are enrolled in the federally funded free and reduced meal program. About 265 students are identified as homeless. 31% of Corvallis students identify as non-white, and 15.9% speak a language other than English at home. The top three languages (other than English) are Spanish, Arabic, and Chinese.

Corvallis students score above average in statewide testing. Ninety-eight percent of students in Corvallis participated in statewide testing. They scored above statewide averages in every grade level in English, Math, and Science, in most areas by double-digit percentage points.

Benton County has a significantly lower rate of smokers than the state as a whole. In 2014, 9,900 adults in Benton County regularly smoked cigarettes. (Based on an estimated population for Benton County of 86,316 in 2014, this would mean approximately 11.8% of adults smoke cigarettes. This would be significantly lower than the rest of Oregon, where 19% of adults smoke cigarettes.) In 2014, \$18.9 million was spent in Benton County on tobacco-related medical care. In 2014, \$1.4 billion was spent in Oregon on tobacco-related medical care.





Corvallis residents have higher rates of health insurance than in Oregon as a whole. In 2014, 10% of Corvallis residents were uninsured compared with 14% statewide. Adults age 18 to 34 were the least likely to have health insurance coverage.

Parks, park programs and park facilities are well used in Corvallis. In 2014, Corvallis Parks & Recreation had 1,734 total park acres, and offered 2,508 programs. The number of registrations for these programs was 88,912. The number of facilities reservations for Corvallis Parks & Recreation programs was 1,724. In 2015, more than 60% of Corvallis residents used a city recreation facility.

WHERE ARE WE GOING? *Trends or developments that may influence the future of Corvallis:*

The OSU School of Public Health provides a new resource. OSU's new School of Public Health provides a significant new resource to the community to track and understand local health and provide input into City and County health policy and health education and prevention programs.

More students are studying engineering than any other discipline at OSU . The College of Engineering has a total of 8,265 undergraduate and graduate students enrolled this fall. The next largest programs are the College of Liberal Arts, 3,905 students; the College of Science, 3,526; and the College of Business, 3,487.

Corvallis student graduation rates are increasing. For the third consecutive year Corvallis School District students are showing positive growth in high school graduation rates and fifth-year completion. The four-year graduation rate has jumped from 67.5% in 2012 to 86% in 2015 (compared to the state average of 73.8%). The five-year completion rate of 92.8% also represents a 9.7% increase since 2012 and is significantly higher than the state's average of 81.6%.

WHAT ISSUES DO WE FACE? *Frequent comments we have heard from Corvallis citizens in our interviews and conversations:*

- *There is uneven educational support across different groups.*
- *Corvallis schools are moving in the right direction, but need to keep making progress.*
- *Corvallis is a smart community overall, and supports people in being intellectually lively.*
- *Corvallis needs to improve student engagement and relationship building between the community and student body.*
- *Corvallis needs to improve upon its "ethic of care" to ensure better access to services related to healthcare, homelessness, vulnerable youth, mental health, food insecurities, housing, and educational progress.*
- *Mental health is an area that needs more attention, support and community awareness.*
- *Homelessness needs to be approached in a more caring way.*
- *The community values healthy-food choices and is supportive and helpful in providing access to healthy food.*
- *Corvallis needs to provide resources that support a family-oriented community.*
- *Corvallis needs a community center.*
- *Addressing human services needs requires a broader network of support and collaboration. This is an important topic for discussion.*





This snapshot provides highlights about topics such as the economy, employment, prosperity, economic development, technology, and innovation.

Like most Oregon communities, Corvallis suffered significant economic setbacks during the Great Recession of the late 2000s. However, with its unique mix of higher education resources, intellectual capital, and tech-based entrepreneurs and companies, the community anticipates a more robust and diversified economic future. At the same time, the community continues to face basic economic challenges that challenge other cities, including unemployment, income inequality and poverty.

WHERE ARE WE NOW? Key facts about Corvallis today:

Unemployment in Corvallis is slightly below the state averages (ages 16 and over 2010-2014)

Adults in the Labor force	Corvallis: 58.7%	Oregon 65.2%
Unemployed	Corvallis: 5.1%	Oregon 6.1%

Benton County unemployment currently sits at 4.4 percent as of December 2015, compared with Oregon’s 5.4 percent. Benton County’s recent growth has been outpaced by the state and the nation. Oregon has shown job growth of 3.0 percent and the U.S. grew 1.9 percent. Benton County’s private sector added 80 jobs over the past year, growing 0.3 percent; the public sector shed 350 jobs, down 2.4 percent.

Government, education and health services industries are Corvallis’ largest employers. *In September 2015, residents in Corvallis were employed in the following industries (compared with the state of Oregon):*

	<u>Corvallis</u>	<u>Oregon</u>
Government (includes OSU and school district employees)	35.1%	16.2%
Private educational and health services	15.5%	14.5%
Trade, transportation, and utilities	11.5%	19%
Professional and business services	10.3%	10.6%
Manufacturing	7.1%	10.6%
Mining, logging, and construction	2.9%	5.3%

Oregon State University is Corvallis’ largest employer. Other top five employers include Samaritan Health Services, Hewlett Packard, Corvallis Clinic and Corvallis School District.

Lower levels of public assistance and poverty levels than in Oregon (2010-2014)

• Residents receiving Supplemental Social Security Income	Corvallis 3.3%	Oregon 4.5%
• Residents receiving SNAP benefits	Corvallis 15%	Oregon 19.1%
• Families with children under 18 living below the poverty line	Corvallis 15.7%	Oregon 18.9%





Wages are higher than state average (2014)

Ten percent of jobs in Corvallis paid more than \$97,760 compared with \$86,610 or more for the top 10 percent within the entire state.

Annual median wage for workers

Corvallis	\$38,210
Oregon	\$36,400

Median family income

Corvallis	\$77,071
Benton County	\$77,725
Oregon	\$61,890

WHERE ARE WE GOING? *Trends or developments that may influence the future of Corvallis:*

Employment in Corvallis industries (November 2014-November 2015)

- | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| • Total non-farm employment | up 0.6% | • Information | down 7.9% |
| • Financial services | up 0.6% | • Leisure and hospitality | down 3.2% |
| • Mining, logging and construction | up 5.4% | • Durable goods manufacturing | down 4.1% |
| • Federal government | up 4.1% | | |

City Enterprise Zones. The City of Corvallis has three Enterprise Zones: South Corvallis, Sunset Research Park, and the Hewlett-Packard campus. An enterprise zone exempts new property that a job-creating business might build or at some future time. This exemption is temporary, usually three years.

Innovation and Research. Corvallis’ economy has a significant concentration of technology, research- and innovation-based enterprises, bolstered by the presence of OSU, a highly trained workforce, and the community’s high quality of life. It was named as the fifth “smartest” city in America by Forbes in 2008.

Economic Diversity. The City of Corvallis continues to seek ways to further diversify its economic base including exploring opportunities for the creative class.

RAIN (Regional Accelerator & Innovation Network) Accelerator. OSU Advantage Accelerator RAIN Corvallis provides disciplined mentored business acceleration programs to help local startups take root.

WHAT ISSUES DO WE FACE? *Frequent comments we have heard from Corvallis citizens during interviews and conversations:*

- *Economic vitality is a priority for the City. City staff and steering committees have reflected this priority over the last several years.*
- *The community’s continued livability remains an important priority and is a big consideration as economic growth initiatives are considered.*
- *Collaboration with OSU helps leverage the University’s position as a regional economic driver.*
- *The economic strengths of the region with such prominent employers as OSU, the hospital and Hewlett Packard sometimes hide income inequity that exists in Corvallis.*
- *Corvallis will need more family-wage jobs if it is to reduce the gap between the haves and have-nots.*
- *Corvallis should continue supporting the role local entrepreneurs and start-ups play in diversifying the city’s economic growth. The City should help encourage students and local community members to invest in the local economy.*
- *In the future, Corvallis would be a community that is influenced by equity, where strategies for employment and prosperity are inclusive of the vulnerable and disadvantaged.*





This snapshot provides highlights about topics such as: diversity, social

equity, income equality, civic engagement, community involvement, and

volunteerism. *Corvallis is often seen as a highly affluent, engaged and involved*

community, but other measures reveal a different facet of its community profile.

Predominantly white and well-educated, Corvallis is comprised of close to one-fifth of

minority group populations and has significant levels of poverty (i.e., including Benton County).

Also, nearly one in 10 residents reporting some form of disability. At the same time, Corvallis stands out when it

comes to consistently high levels of civic and community engagement, including everything from library use,

neighborhood involvement and volunteerism, to voting and attendance at civic events. Engagement of the

entire Corvallis community is seen as a key asset in achieving a better future.

WHERE ARE WE NOW? Key facts about Corvallis today:

As of December 2014, Corvallis' certified population estimate was 56,535 (source: Portland State University)

The Corvallis population is more white and Asian, and less Hispanic and Black than the state of Oregon.

Population rates between 2010 and 2014 were approximately:

	<u>Corvallis</u>	<u>State of Oregon</u>
White	79.5%	77.6%
Asian	8.6%	3.8%
Hispanic	7.7%	12.1%
Black or African American	1%	1.7%
Two or more races	2.5%	3.2%
American Indian, Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian, other Pacific Islander, or other race.	less than 1%	1%

Nearly one in five people in Benton County live in poverty. In 2014, the percentage of people living in poverty was approximately:

<u>Benton County</u>	<u>State of Oregon</u>
18.9% (individuals)	16.4% (individuals)
12.6% (families with children ages 5-17)	19.3% (families with children ages 5-17)

Corvallis has a lower housing cost burden than Oregon as a whole, and about the same as the national average. Between 2010 and 2014, percentage of households that paid more than 30% of their income for housing was 30.7% in Corvallis, 34.8% in Oregon and 30.5% in United States.

Nearly one in 10 people in Corvallis reported having a disability. Between 2010 and 2014, 9.2% of the civilian, non-institutionalized population in Corvallis had a disability.

Corvallis has a large number of library patrons, and significantly more books in circulation per person. In 2013, the per capita circulation was 20 for the Corvallis Library compared with seven for all U.S. public libraries. **Note: Corvallis Library had 718,984 patron visits and a circulation of 1,706,953 library materials.*



High library use and attendance at civic events. In 2015, more than half of residents reported using Corvallis public libraries and attending a City sponsored event.

Fire, Parks and Library top City's community volunteer hours. In 2014, volunteer hours at city departments were:

Fire: 44,273	City Manager's Office: 2,870
Parks & Recreation: 22,012	Public Works: 748
Library: 14,825	Community Development: 618
Police: 4,100	Finance: 150

WHERE ARE WE GOING? *Trends or developments that may influence the future of Corvallis:*

Nine out of ten people rate Corvallis' quality of life as "good to excellent." In 2015, the percentage of Corvallis residents surveyed said their city's *quality of life* was:

Excellent 38%	Good 51%	Fair 10%	Poor 0%
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Seven out of ten people rate Corvallis' sense of community as "good to excellent." In 2015, the percentage of Corvallis residents surveyed said their city's *sense of community* was:

Excellent 19%	Good 50%	Fair 26%	Poor 5%
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Corvallis demonstrates exceptionally high measures of civic engagement for some indicators. In 2015, percentage of Corvallis residents reported that they:

Voted in local elections: 88%	Talked with neighbors: 84%
Watched the local news: 74%	Did a favor for a neighbor: 72%
Volunteered: 51%	Campaigned for a cause/candidate: 21%
Attended a public meeting: 16%	Watched a local public meeting: 11%
Participated in a club: 36%	Contacted Corvallis electeds: 15%

WHAT ISSUES DO WE FACE? *Frequent comments we have heard from Corvallis citizens during interviews and conversations:*

- Corvallis citizens are very engaged and have an active citizen involvement base.
- Corvallis is a very giving community with many volunteers and philanthropists.
- There is a regressive element to Corvallis' community and society. Many people do not recognize that social equity increases well-being both for the community and for most individuals. This dynamic creates tension around some issues and influences decision-making. It stunts the city's progress in diversity.
- There is divisiveness between no-growth and business-friendly groups in Corvallis.
- Parts of the community are not accepting of the university student population. Corvallis needs to improve student engagement and relationship building between the community and student body.
- Corvallis needs to improve its approach to diversity and inclusion so that minority, youth and other under-represented communities have a voice and opportunity to weigh in.
- We need to ensure and that there are equal opportunities to resources, services and education.
- We need adequate resources to engage in different ways and languages.



LWV Corvallis

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To: Mayor, City Council and City Attorney Brewer
From: League of Women Voters of Corvallis, Laura Lahm Evenson, President
Date: March 22, 2016
Subject: SB1573 Background and Comments

The League of Women Voters of Corvallis has questions about the memo to the Council from Mr. Brewer dated March 15, 2016, included below, and comments about the whole annexation issue before us now. We are submitting letters opposing any negation of our Charter Amendment 53. These letters exemplify how well Corvallis has fared with the annexation Charter Amendment. They include former Mayor Helen Berg, former State Senator Cliff Trow, former LWVOR president Paula Krane and current LWVOR president Norman Turrill.

The League both locally and statewide has long supported the right of citizens to vote on annexations. Our Corvallis Urbanization Position, from which we can lobby, states: Support for citizens' right to determine by ballot the expansion of municipal limits resulting from proposed annexations, delayed or otherwise, excepting only state-mandated annexations.

Will the City Council defend our Home Rule authorization and our right to vote on annexations? These rights are inviolable.

This new legislation was designed to increase the availability of affordable housing. However, SB 1573 has no direct nexus with affordable housing issues. SB 1573 does NOT say that the annexed land must consist of or include affordable housing.

As you know, affordable housing is a very complex issue. Even its definition is in question. Many types of subsidies are needed to achieve affordability. Even the new lifting of the ban on inclusionary zoning does not address truly "affordable" housing. We do look forward to the Land Conservation and Development rulemaking under HB 4079 where Goal 10, Housing, may have more clarity on this issue.

Adopting a Construction Excise Tax seems a beginning approach to finding money for truly affordable housing. Corvallis wants affordable housing for all types—families, singles, seniors and students with a range of income levels. We hope the bonds that will be made available next spring under the LIFT program will help affordable housing issues and that Corvallis can find projects that would qualify under that program.

We expect to submit testimony on this subject as it evolves. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these vital issues before you.

TO: City Council for March 22, 2016
FROM: Jim Brewer, City Attorney
DATE: March 15, 2016
THROUGH: Mark W. Shepard, P.E., City Manager
SUBJECT: SB 1573 Background

Action Requested:

This memorandum provides background information and identifies some considerations to prepare the Council to make the policy decisions required by SB 1573. No action is required at this time.

Discussion:

SB 1573 *requires* the legislative bodies of cities to annex territory adjacent to the City limits without submitting the annexation proposal to the electors of the city, notwithstanding local charter provisions or ordinances requiring a vote.

• *We believe that the word "requires" is incorrect. It does NOT require—annexation requests can still be denied under the City's policies. It does say that, under certain circumstances (i.e. request from all property owners) that they don't have to send it out for a vote.*

On March 9, 2016, the Speaker of the House signed SB 1573. While this memorandum was being prepared, the Governor signed the bill into law. SB 1573 includes an emergency clause making the statute effective immediately and preventing referendum on the statute.

• *We think this should not have been treated as an emergency, with the annexation section included.*

The City Attorney's office has received inquiries from property owners about the process to annex properties that fall under the terms of SB 1573. The City Council's policy decisions should address how the City will proceed with annexation proposals that fall under SB 1573.

Assuming that SB 1573 is a valid law, as long as all the owners of a territory proposed for annexation agree, and the territory abuts the City limits within the urban growth boundary, the decision to annex the property would be made by the City Council, and not submitted to the voters. The City Council could do this through enacting an ordinance. The City Council would need to initiate text amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Code, so that the City's annexation procedures follow the new statutory process.

• *It is important that this new process only narrowly follow the law. It's critical that Corvallis keep its many processes and criteria for making annexation decisions. All annexations, other than health hazards, have had willing owners, so this is not new.*

• *What happens if the new process is taken to court?*

• *Will the city declare an annexation moratorium while they initiate and approve new text amendments?*

• *Will the city keep the Charter Amendment in place? (This should be the case, since this applies to all annexations that are not just by property owner.)*

Good policy arguments both support and oppose voter approved annexation. In our opinion, regardless of the policy decision the City Council makes regarding following SB 1573, eventually annexation decisions in Corvallis are likely to lead to litigation on this issue. Whether the Council follows the requirements of SB 1573 and does not submit the proposal to the voters, or whether the Council follows the requirements of the Charter and submits the proposal to the voters, the decision is likely to be challenged.

In deciding how to proceed with annexations under SB 1573, the Council should consider competing policy perspectives: The legislature packaged SB 1573 with other bills intended to address affordable housing concerns. *•This is irrelevant to the enactment of SB1573. Each bill stands on its own with its own set of laws.* The Governor explained her rationale for signing the bill in a letter to Mayor Traber. The Housing Development Task Force has also shared with the Council some perspective on removing the voter approval requirement. The voters made a different policy decision by enacting Section 53 of the Corvallis City Charter. The Council will need to address this conflict, either before or as part of an annexation proposal. One proposal is currently in staff review, and the process for approval would not fall under the "goal post" rule.

•Does this "goal post" mean that an annexation proposal came to the city before the Governor signed the bill so it does not apply to the proposal under review? The voters approved Section 53 in 1976, long before the Governor signed SB 1573.

In addition to practical process questions, SB 1573 raises a number of legal issues about how local enactments relate to legislative actions and Oregon constitutional provisions. The following points are a general summary of some of the fairly complicated legal issues the legislation raises regarding the voter approved charter language in Corvallis. The summary statements, considerations and opposing views that follow are intended to give the Council a quick exposure to some of the issues, but should not be seen as weighing the merits or recommending any particular policy decision.

- 1) Section 53 of the Corvallis City Charter includes language requiring a vote on annexations "unless mandated by state law." Corvallis Land Development Code Chapter 2.6 sets out procedures on annexation to implement Section 53 of the City Charter. Section 53 was the result of a citizen's initiative, and the Corvallis City Charter was adopted by the voters. Voter approval of annexation is described by the Oregon Supreme Court as a legislative action subject to referendum. *Heritage Enterprises v. City of Corvallis*, 300 Or. 168, 708 P.2d 601 (1985).

Consideration:

SB 1573 doesn't mandate approval of an annexation, but can be viewed as mandating a process for annexations. Arguably, this does not conflict with Section 53 of the Charter. Opposing view: Section 53 of the Charter requires a vote unless the annexation itself is mandated by state law, not the process for annexation. In the case of declared health hazards, the annexation was mandated, not the process. In this view, SB 1573 conflicts with Section 53.

- 2) The Oregon Constitution reserves the right of local voters to amend local charters, as part of the home rule authority. The Oregon Constitutional grant of authority to the legislature is subject to the power of initiative and referendum. Similarly, the right of initiative and referendum for municipal legislation is reserved for the voters of the municipality. Attachment B.

Consideration:

If SB 1573 is an unconstitutional infringement on home rule or the reservation of the power of initiative and referendum, then SB 1573 is void as a matter of law. Determining the corporate boundaries and what territory to include in a municipal corporation is fundamental to local governance.

Opposing view: SB 1573 preempts local governments from using the voter approval process in certain situations. It cannot be unconstitutional because it does not concern local governance issues, as housing development and land use planning is a statewide concern.

- 3) SB 1573 allows the governing body of a city to approve an annexation through a city ordinance.

Consideration:

If a council approves annexations by Ordinance, SB 1573 doesn't expressly prevent voters seeking a referendum on the Ordinance, so the right to initiative and referendum on legislative matters is preserved.

- *Does this mean that in order to vote on annexations, citizens would have to use the initiative process, or could the city also put the annexation up for vote since our Charter Amendment will still exist?*

Opposing view: A referendum frustrates the legislative purpose and is implicitly prohibited by SB 1573.

- 4) The Oregon Supreme Court has interpreted the home rule provisions of the Constitution to require the legislature to either include an express and unambiguous statement of the legislative intent to preempt local legislation in an area or a complete occupation of the field.

- *It seems as if neither is the case here. The bill will be challenged under several considerations.*

Consideration:

State law, including SB 1573, preempts and occupies the field for annexation processes.

Opposing view: SB 1573 does not contain an express preemption nor can it occupy the field, as its plain language only applies to a limited set of territories and annexations.

- *How are the territories and annexations limited? We can think of no annexation request in the past that would not have had the agreement of the owners of the property.*

Staff and the City Attorney are available to answer any questions you might have.

- *What are the attorneys for the other cities affected by SB1573 saying?*

Attachments:

- Text of SB 1573 (Attachment A)
- Oregon Constitution Provisions (Attachment B)
- Corvallis City Charter Provisions (Attachment C)
- Comprehensive Plan Provisions (Attachment D)
- Corvallis Land Development Code Provisions (Attachment E)
- Map of City Limits and Urban Growth Boundary (Attachment F)
- Governor Brown letter to Mayor Traber 3/15/16 (Attachment G)



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF OREGON

TO: Senate Water & Land Use Committee
Senator Veral Tarno, Chair

April 8, 1997

RE: Testimony on SB 1137

The League of Women Voters opposes SB 1137 which would prohibit any city from voting on annexations. The right of citizens to vote on annexations is supported by our position that "assures opportunities for citizen participation in government decision making".

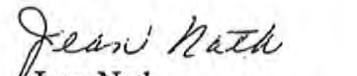
The argument that annexation votes serve only as an obstruction to development is refuted by statistics drawn from the Corvallis experience. Since 1976, 36 annexations totalling 2684.31 acres have been passed by voters. Five parcels totaling 753.37 acres have failed to be approved. Thirteen annexations totalling 1831.98 acres, initially rejected by voters, were resubmitted and approved by voters either because of changes requested by residents or better information being available for voters. There have been five health hazard annexations totaling 379.29 acres that have been mandated by the State and not voted upon. Four requests for annexations were denied by the City Council; one was passed after resubmittal and four requests were withdrawn by the applicants.

A public vote on annexations, a political choice, cannot occur without the proposed annexation having successfully completed the land use planning process. The public vote would be in addition to, not in substitution for, the land use planning process.

We support the right of citizens in any city to choose whether or not to vote on annexations.

Thank you.


Mary Krahn
President


Jean Nath
LWVOR Land Use Chair



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF OREGON

TO: Senate Rules and Elections Committee
Sen. Randy Miller, Chair

DATE: April 8, 1997

RE: TESTIMONY ON SB 638

The League of Women Voters of Oregon appreciates this opportunity to comment on SB 638 which repeals specific provisions of Ballot measure #9 (1994). Members of the League support the principles of campaign finance reform which provide better access to the political process for citizens and encourage citizen participation. The League is a non-partisan, non-profit political organization whose purpose is to educate citizens about government and to promote citizen involvement with government.

We speak in opposition to SB 638. The measure eliminates the voluntary spending limits enacted by Oregon voters in 1994 as part of Ballot measure #9. In its recent ruling, the Oregon Supreme Court left intact the sections relating to voluntary spending limits and the tax credit allowed for support of candidates who agreed to such limits. This provision significantly reduced the expenditures of candidates in the 1996 elections. Data indicates that legislative races were particularly impacted, and one of the goals of campaign finance reform has been to create a more equitable climate for political participation. The reward for taxpayers was the credit for supporting candidates who support campaign finance reform. Simply adding more reporting requirements, while commendable, does not amount to serious campaign finance reform.

Oregonians spoke clearly about their concerns regarding the excesses of campaign spending when they passed #9 by 72 percent. Since mandatory contribution limits apparently are not viable, voluntary expenditure limits at least give support to campaign finance reform which a majority of citizens favor. SB 638 should not be moved forward.

Mary Krahn
President

Kappy Eaton
Government Chair

The League of Women Voters of Oregon say

**NO to SB 500B
with the "annexation" amendment**

SB 500B, a "Christmas Tree" bill, includes a spoiler amendment for cities which under their Home Rule Charters have the right to vote on annexation measures.

- This amendment [SECTION 2. Subsection (11)] would subject an annexation vote by the citizens of these cities to review by the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC).
- This amendment would change a political decision by the voters (i.e. an annexation vote) to a land use decision, subject to the authority of the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC).
- This amendment could be used by either displeased developers or citizen groups to further complicate or delay the annexation process by appealing (either denials or approvals) to the Land Conservation and Development Commission.
- This amendment would acutely politicize Oregon's land use planning process.
- This amendment is bad public policy.

The League of Women Voters of Oregon opposed SB 1137 in the Senate. We now oppose SB 500B and ask for your help in protecting cities' right to vote meaningfully on annexations.

Thank you.

Paula Krane
President

CLIFF TROW
POLK AND BENTON COUNTIES
DISTRICT 18

REPLY TO ADDRESS INDICATED:

- Senate Chamber
Salem, OR 97310
(503) 986-1718
- 1835 NW Juniper Place
Corvallis, OR 97330
(503) 752-5395



OREGON STATE SENATE
SALEM, OREGON
97310

LEGISLATIVE ASSIGNMENTS

Member:
Education Committee 1995
Government Finance & Tax
Policy 1995

Chair:
Ways & Means 1993

Ways & Means Subcommittees:
Natural Resources 1991
Public Safety 1989
Transportation 1987

Interim Executive Appointments 1991
1985

Education 1989, 1987, 1983, 1977
Revenue 1982
Labor 1981
Intergovernmental Relations 1980
President Pro Tempore 1981, 1983

June 18, 1997

Representative Bob Montgomery
Chair, House Committee on Transportation
H-454 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97310

Dear Representative Montgomery and Committee Members:

I am testifying today against Senate Bill 1137-A, which would take away the right of voters to decide annexation questions. This so-called compromise is still bad public policy, and I urge the Committee not to approve it.

Mr. Chairman, Committee Members, there are a number of good reasons to oppose this bill. It does not take place within the context of a statewide debate over the costs and benefits of growth. Furthermore, the annexation process in Corvallis has worked well because it deepens public understanding of and support for the statewide land use planning process. In the last twenty years, Corvallis voters have approved an overwhelming majority of proposed annexations.

But the main reason I oppose this bill is because it takes away the people's right to vote. Oregonians treasure this precious right, which many states do not allow their citizens. We see it on other issues, statewide and local. Our public participation process is what makes Oregon different. We hear from our constituents over and over again that they do not want their right to vote to be taken away.

Citizens have as much right to participate in the future of their communities as do the developers and realtors who promote development to make money. It also seems that this bill creates an imbalance of power between the DLCD and the average voter in our communities. Land use planning ultimately belongs to the people and the voters, not the developers and planners, and this bill would take away power from the voters. I urge you to vote against this bill.

Thank you very much, and I'd be happy to answer any questions you might have.



Office of the Mayor
501 SW Madison
P.O. Box 1083
Corvallis, OR 97339-1083
(503) 757-6985
FAX (503) 757-6780

May 21, 1997

The Honorable Veral Tarno, Chair
Senate Water and Land Use Committee
State Capitol, Room 332
Salem, OR 97310

Dear Senator Tarno and Committee Members:

Thank you for your past and continued careful consideration of testimony concerning SB 1137. I will not take more of your time in oral testimony, but did want to highlight in writing a few points about growth. Corvallis does not oppose growth; what we oppose is growth directed by a State agency and builders association which dilutes our self-governance and community livability. My key points are:

Goal #1 - Citizen Involvement. The annexation history on the back of this sheet is testimony to citizen involvement. Our history is that annexations are approved. Sometimes annexation requests need to be adjusted or reduced in size to address community concerns, but the reductions and adjustments are due to direction and information resulting from citizen involvement and a community-wide evaluation of the project as it relates to DLCDC-approved Comprehensive Plan policies. Goal #1 mandates citizen involvement.

Fair Share of State Growth. Our State approved Comprehensive Plan targeted a 1.2% growth rate. The last six years we have grown at 1.62% and our annual growth rate since 1970 is 1.32%. We are in compliance and have accepted our share of growth with our voter-approved annexations.

Facilitating Growth. Corvallis does not limit growth. Corvallis facilitates growth based on community values rather than homebuilders or State agency values. We do it in compliance with State land use laws. Annexations approved since 1976 provide for an estimated 13,650 housing units. We construct on average 145 single family and 175 multi-family units annually. Clearly, the record shows that Corvallis is not using voter-approved annexations to stop growth.

Supply. Twenty-three percent of all land within the City limits is undeveloped. Corvallis has 1,340 acres of undeveloped residential land and 660 acres of undeveloped non-residential land. Corvallis has more undeveloped land in the City today than we had prior to voter-approved annexations.

Corvallis is not the poster child for "no growth." We are a good example of a community that chooses to grow in compliance with State land use laws, but also according to our community values.

Sincerely,

Helen M. Berg
Helen M. Berg
Mayor

2047

City of Corvallis
Annexations Referred to Voters Since November 1, 1976

21-May-97

Application Name	Case #	Acres	Initially or Eventually Passed	Never Passed
Timberhill	76-6	454.04	454.04	
Walnut Park/Kinderman/Nored	76-5-7-8	121.86	121.86	
Hewlett Packard	77-2	61.14	61.14	
Harrison Heights	77-1a	141.18		
Harrison Heights	77-1b	141.18		
OSU Heritage	82-7	359.11		359.11
OSU Heritage	83-4	357.96		
Frager	96-3	139.29		
Sequoia Creek	77-3	76.74		
Sequoia Creek	80-5	80.60		
Conser & Dawson	78-3	36.00		
Seavy Ave. (Stewart)	81-5	49.00	49.00	
Davis (Circle Blvd)	81-7	9.00	9.00	
Pederson (Seavy Avenue)	83-2	4.70		4.70
Allen Bros (Circle/NE Conser)	87-3	14.12	14.12	
Remaining acres not annexed from largest request (80.60)				3.78
Chorak	77-2	46.23		
Chorak	87-4	45.33	45.33	
Starker	78-4	268.03		
Sunset Park	79-1	255.80	255.80	
Valley View Reservoir Park	78-6	43.96		43.96
Island Annex ROW	78-5	5.50	5.50	
Banks	79-2	2.12	2.12	
Four Square Gospel Church	79-3	35.92	35.92	
Summy (NW Highland Terrace)	80-1	14.60	14.60	
S Corvallis	80-2	58.59	58.59	
Glenridge	80-3	54.49	54.49	
Crystal Lake (Lilly Square)	80-4	12.88	12.88	
First Congregational Church	80-6	5.95	5.95	
Dyer/Smith (53rd/Hwy 20/34)	81-2	2.00	2.00	
Boertje (Hwy 99)	81-3	37.09	37.09	
OSU Research Facilities	81-4	50.00	50.00	
Hewlett Packard	81-6	85.40	85.40	
State Highway	82-1	22.00	22.00	
Hutley (SW 53/Hwy 20/34)	82-2	1.56	1.56	
Neer Avenue	82-4	21.00	21.00	
SW 35th Street	82-5	20.00	20.00	
McKee High Tech Park	82-3	143.40		
McKee	83-1	147.36		
McKee	84-2	134.00	134.00	
South (Ponderosa Ave)	82-6	143.17		
South	84-1	139.00	139.00	
Chavez	83-3	2.10	2.10	
Riverpark South	85-1	369.56	369.56	
SE Riverfront (Evanite)	87-1	197.24	197.24	
McFadden (Circle/Walnut)	89-1	64.37		
McFadden	90-1	64.37	64.37	
Alberti	90-2	30.40	30.40	
Barley Hill	91-1	10.00	10.00	
Brookside Meadows	93-1	14.63	14.63	
Owens Farms	94-2	265.00		265.00
Rivergreen Estates	94-3	134.00		
Rivergreen Estates	95-1	140.30	140.30	
Pleasant View	96-1	41.35	41.35	
Meredith	96-2	1.82	1.82	
Highland Dell	96-4	26.17		26.17
Totals			2,584.16	702.72

Above list are only those annexations referred to voters. Health hazard annexations are not included.

Denotes annexations approved.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF OREGON

March 10, 2016

To: Governor Kate Brown

Email to: ivo.trummer@oregon.gov

Re: **REQUEST FOR VETO of Senate Bill 1573, Voter and Local Charter Preemption**

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, grassroots political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. The League has numerous positions related to citizen participation and access. **We support city and county home rule** and have always advocated that local citizens have the right to bring matters before their local constituents on a variety of issues. We have also long supported our statewide land use planning system **with local implementation**. It is because of these long-standing positions that we ask that you **VETO SB 1573A**.

The League understands that there may be some **perceived** conflict between our current land use planning program and the 20-year land supply requirement and voter annexation. But voter annexation has been upheld in the courts (See **Heritage Enterprises vs Corvallis** (708 P.2d 601 (OR. 1985))

“The separate decision of the electorate whether to annex, as opposed to the determination whether the proposed annexation would comply with the comprehensive plan, was not a ‘land use decision’ within the meaning of ORS chapter 197.”).

Since the first voter annexation charter amendment in 1976, a few cities have used this citizen tool to have a thorough conversation in these cities around whether a particular piece of land was ready to be added and who would pay for the infrastructure (not all cities have systems development charges, nor do they fully pay for the costs associated with addition into the city). **The bill does not require the property owner(s) to fund the needed infrastructure nor other important public services such as police and fire.**

We believe the bill **requires** a city to annex territory under certain circumstances **whether or not they have the services to support that annexation or whether or not the city’s long-term annexation plans fit into this particular property’s annexation at this time.**

Special districts are often the service provider of choice for areas within Metro’s Urban Growth Boundary. But that is not true in much of the state. Cities themselves more commonly provide basic services and there are only county-level services in these urban growth boundary areas. Cities have differing urban growth boundary sizes meaning that there can be choices as to which land should be annexed under what timeline. The current system **does not require** that properties come into cities at the whim of developers or property owners. The current system assumes that local governments and their citizens have **local control** to determine their destiny.

It is because of the above concerns that the League asks that you **VETO SB 1573A** and reject this usurpation of local control.

Sincerely,

Norman Turrill
LWV of Oregon President

Peggy Lynch
Natural Resources Coordinator

cc: Richard M. Whitman, Governor’s Natural Resources Policy Director

To the Corvallis City Council,

Please uphold the right of voters in Corvallis to determine what land can be annexed to the City.

I do understand that some of you probably think it would be wonderful to not have to listen to hours of testimony when annexations are proposed. However, this is the rule in Corvallis and I ask that you defend that ordinance.

Jim Brewer's summary was very well done and that is appreciated.

I do not really care how you proceed in opposing HB1573, just that you do that. I know that several groups are looking into possible ways of approaching the issues.

Three questions I ask you to clarify as you move forward.

1. How will it be determined if this is a valid law or not? Will one side or the other have to file a lawsuit?
2. Home Rule Authority. If the state legislature can so easily remove one law on Home Rule, how easy will it be for them to follow this precedent take away many more areas of local control? That would be so wrong.
3. What about a temporary moratorium until the Home Rule Authority has been determined. HB1573 is immediately effective? How many annexations decisions can be made in a local community before the validity of HB1573 is determined?

Louise Marquering

Corvallis, 97330



Oregon Communities

For a Voice In Annexations

Promoting and Protecting Citizen Involvement in Land Use Issues

PO Box 1388, North Plains, OR 97133 • (541) 747-3144 • www.ocva.org

Voting on Annexations is Goal 1

As we keep saying, it's all about citizen involvement.

In 1993, Oregon's legislature passed Senate Bill 122, (now ORS 195). A key purpose of this law was to provide a mechanism by which cities could annex some, most or all of their urban growth boundaries (UGBs) in one fell swoop.

But all sense of fairness and equity in the ORS-195 process was destroyed by its final step: **a vote of the city residents and those in the area(s) targeted for annexation** to approve or deny the plan.

Follow the story of OCVA's efforts to reform ORS 195, starting from its roots in SB 122 through its reform in 2005 via HB 2484, which restored the voice of the citizens in ORS 195 annexation elections.

Download or read "[Hostile Takeover](#)", OCVA's updated history of ORS 195 and its reform.

Our 2007 legislative campaign to reform island annexation helped make Oregon's annexation statutes fair and democratic.

Download or read "[Islands In The Storm](#)", The history of OCVA's involvement in the successful effort to reform ORS 222.750, Oregon's "Island Annexation" statute. (PDF, 60KB)

We welcome any opportunity to assist in correcting problems SB 1573 has created for Oregon cities and their citizens.

Sincerely, the Officers and Directors of Oregon Communities for a Voice in Annexations

Officers

Co-Chair: Richard Reid, Salem

Co-Chair: Jeffrey R. Lamb, Philomath

Secretary: [Jerry Ritter](#), Springfield UGB

Treasurer: [Brian Beinlich](#), North Plains

Board of Directors

[Bill Bodden](#), Redmond

[Francis Gilbert](#), Rogue River

[Kathy Sayles](#), Washington County

[Michael Sheehan](#), Scappoose

[Don Smith](#), Clackamas

Oregon Communities that obtained the right to vote on annexations

CITY:	DATE OBTAINED:	POPULATION est.	CONTACT:
1) Albany	03/98	50,720	cityofalbany.net
2) Banks	11/981	775	cityofbanks.org
4) Corvallis	05/77	55,345	ci.corvallis.or.us
5) Culver	11/98	1,370	cityofculver.net
6) Grants Pass	11/01	34,855	grantspassoregon.gov
7) Happy Valley	09/98	15,575	ci.happy-valleyor.gov
8) Jefferson	11/95	3,150	city.jeffersonoregon.us
9) Lake Oswego	11/98	36,990	<u>ci.oswego.or.us</u>
10) McMinnville	05/96	32,510	ci.mcminnville.or.us
11) Monmouth	03/99	9,720	ci.monmouth.or.us
12) Mt. Angel	09/05	3,310	
13) Newberg	07/99	22,580	
14) North Plains	09/97	2,015	
15) Oregon City	05/99	33,390	
16) Philomath	05/954,	625	
17) Phoenix	08/98	4,570	
18) Rivergrove	03/99	445	
19) Rogue River	09/96	2,145	
20) Salem	05/00	157,770	cityofsalem.net
21) Sandy	11/989,	990	
22) Scappoose	05/996,	700	

Oregon Communities that obtained the right to vote on annexations

23) Sherwood	03/98	8,575
24) Sisters	11/96	2,115
25) St. Helens	03/99	12,895
26) St. Paul	11/97	420
27) Talent	07/98	6,170
28) Turner	11/98	1,865
29) West Linn	05/98	25,425
30) Wheeler	3/08	415
Total Population		576,240