

History

Intergovernmental cooperation in the Mid Valley began in July, 1957, with the establishment of the Mid Willamette Valley Planning Council, an organization created to provide planning services to Marion and Polk Counties, the city of Salem, and the Salem School District. In December, 1959, a Compact of Voluntary Intergovernmental Cooperation was adopted by these same four parties and the State of Oregon.

The compact was reviewed by President Dwight Eisenhower. In a letter sent to the Oregon Governor, President Eisenhower stated, "Your Intergovernmental Cooperation Council (ICC) could well bring the kind of lasting results that can only come from agreement on the part of the people back home who must live with the situation created by our tremendous nationwide urban growth...I would hope that we may see the Oregon concept spread-and quickly-to the other states in our Union."

In 1961, "Look" magazine publisher Vernon C. Meyers congratulated the Salem area for an All-America City award. The award was based on the fact that the people brought together five government bodies together in the ICC to solve area-wide problems.

In 1967, the Intergovernmental Cooperation Council and the Mid Willamette Valley Planning Council joined together to become the Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments (MWVCOG). In 1968 Yamhill County joined to make the COG a tri-county organization.

The first issue of Cog Notes, the COG's first newsletter, was published in February 1971. The importance of communication with the public that the COG served was the basis for the creation of the newsletter. Initial distribution included member governments and planning commissions served by the COG, committees served by the COG, and mayors of non-member cities in the tri-county area. Quarterly newsletters are currently distributed to the public and a wide variety of interested parties as well as posted on the MWVCOG website.

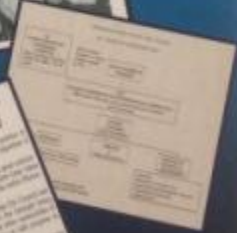
1957 with the establishment of the Mid-Willamette Valley Planning Council. It was an organization created to provide planning services to Marion and Polk Counties, the City of Salem, and Metropolitan School District 24CJ. In 1959, a 200-person Citizens Conference for Governmental Cooperation made recommendations that included the establishment of the Compact of Voluntary Intergovernmental Cooperation. It included representatives from the four local governments and the State of Oregon. The compact led to the establishment of the Intergovernmental Cooperation Council. This Council and the Mid-Willamette Planning Council merged in 1967 under the Charter and Agreement of the Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments.



Intergovernmental Cooperation Committee as of July 1964 (12 of 12)
 Standing: Chairman, Mayor of Salem, Ben Swenson, Judge of Marion County, David H. Smith, Governor of Oregon, Robert B. McCall, Mayor of Polk County, Ben Swenson, Chairman of Salem School District.



CITIZENS CONFERENCE



Salem Charter Approves New Plans for Mid-Willamette Planning Council

The City of Salem has approved a new plan for the Mid-Willamette Planning Council, which will provide planning services to Marion and Polk Counties, the City of Salem, and Metropolitan School District 24CJ. The plan was approved by the City Council on July 1, 1964.

The plan provides for the establishment of a new planning council, which will be composed of representatives from the City of Salem, Marion and Polk Counties, and Metropolitan School District 24CJ. The council will be responsible for providing planning services to the four local governments and the State of Oregon.

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"Massive Cooperation" as evolved and administered, through this compact, is the Mid-Willamette Valley of Oregon's testimony to an awareness of the counsel enunciated by the thirty-fourth President of the United States in his message at the 1957 Conference of Governors at Williamsburg, Virginia.

"Unless action is prompt and effective, urban problems will soon almost defy solution. Metropolitan areas have ranged far beyond city boundaries, but in every instance the centers and the peripheries are interdependent for survival and growth."

Dwight D. Eisenhower.

- > Current Planning Division
- > Development Division
- > Governmental Coordination Division
- > Creation of Regional Parks and Recreation Agency
- > Metropolitan Sewage Collection and Disposal System Program
- > Development of renewed interest in library facilities and regional cooperation among libraries (CCRLS)
- > Cooperation with Planning Council for regional transportation study (SATS)
- > Community Action Agency



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