



# COG Works

*A newsletter published by the  
Mid-Willamette Valley  
Council of Governments*

## Membership

### CITIES:

Amity	Lafayette
Aumsville	McMinnville
Aurora	Monmouth
Carlton	Mt. Angel
Dallas	Newberg
Dayton	St. Paul
Detroit	Salem
Donald	Scotts Mills
Dundee	Sheridan
Falls City	Silverton
Gates	Stayton
Gervais	Sublimity
Hubbard	Turner
Idanha	Willamina
Independence	Woodburn
Jefferson	Yamhill
Keizer	

### COUNTIES:

Marion County  
Polk County  
Yamhill County

### TRIBAL GOVERNMENT:

The Confederated Tribes of  
Grand Ronde

### SPECIAL DISTRICTS:

Chehalem Park & Recreation  
District  
Chemeketa Community College  
Salem-Keizer School District  
Salem-Keizer Transit District  
Willamette Education Service  
District

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Sean O'Day  
503-540-1601

### WEBSITE:

[www.mwvcog.org](http://www.mwvcog.org)

## From the Executive Director...

### Your "COG Works" to Position our Region for Prosperity for 2019 and Beyond — A brief recap of 2018, and a look into what 2019 will bring.

2018 saw several new services and enhancements at the Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments (COG) and more changes are on the horizon for 2019.

Earlier this year, on the heels of a successful annual awards banquet, the COG established its first ever social media presence with the development of a **Facebook Page**. Nearing 300 followers, the COG has been using its Facebook page to promote the region, its members accomplishments, and engage the public in transportation planning. If you haven't already, please search for us @MWVCOG and follow our page, and encourage others to do so as well.

Mid-summer we launched a new publication: **COG Connections**. This bi-weekly electronic newsletter is intended to connect you, local government officials, with news and information you need to help you lead your communities. Each edition of COG Connections is packed with news articles related to developments in the region and changes in state and federal policy, grant opportunities, and a training calendar. The feedback we have received has been overwhelmingly positive. If you are not receiving your copy, send us an email at [mwvcog@mwvcog.org](mailto:mwvcog@mwvcog.org) and ask

to be added to our subscription list (or go to <http://www.mwvcog.org/contact-us/> and sign up). If you are receiving it, please let us know how we are doing by sending an email with your ideas, suggestions, critiques to that same email address.

Starting last spring, the Board embarked on an effort to establish our first ever coordinated **advocacy** program to give our region a voice on important state and federal policy development. After seeking input from members, the Board adopted its first ever set of policy priorities in October, which you can access on our Governing Documents webpage (<http://www.mwvcog.org/about/governing-documents/>). At the same time, the COG contracted with Perseverance Strategies to represent our interests before state and federal governments.

In the fall, the COG began offering **enhanced grant writing services** to help connect communities in need with grant funding opportunities. Finally, for the first time in its history, in 2018 the COG began offering **attorney services** to members on a fee for service basis. In partnership with Bill Monahan—who has decades of city attorney, community development, and city management experience—the COG is now contracting

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## Census Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS) Training Workshop



Each year, the Census Bureau conducts the Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS) program for tribal and local governments. This is an

opportunity for tribal, state and local governments to submit changes to legal boundaries, names, and governmental status of their jurisdictions to the Census Bureau.

Although the survey occurs every year, the 2019 BAS will be particularly important. Boundaries collected through BAS are used for tabulating data from censuses and surveys, including the American Community Survey, an annual sample survey, and each decennial census. With the 2020 Census right around the corner, the 2019 BAS is the last opportunity to submit changes or corrections to boundaries prior to the decennial census. In order for cities and tribal governments to have an accurate census count, it is essential that their boundaries on file with the Census Bureau are correct.

MWVCOG is hosting a BAS training workshop on Wednesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 from 9 am to 1 pm in the MWVCOG conference room. The workshop will

be conducted by Census Bureau staff from their Washington D.C. headquarters. Members are encouraged to attend to find out more information about BAS and how to participate.

To register, go to: <http://www.mwvcog.org/event/census-boundary-and-annexation-file-bas-training-workshop/>.

### 2019 BAS Schedule

- ◆ January 2019: Annual response letters will be sent to BAS contacts and Highest Elected Officials
- ◆ January 23, 2019: BAS training workshop at MWVCOG
- ◆ February 2019: Webinar trainings begin
- ◆ March 1, 2019: Submission deadline for inclusion in the American Community Survey and Population Estimate Program
- ◆ May 31: Submission deadline for all boundary changes

For more information about BAS or other census programs, please contact Lesley Hegewald at [lhegewald@mwvcog.org](mailto:lhegewald@mwvcog.org) or (503)540-1622.

## Save the Date for the MWVCOG Annual Meeting & Awards Dinner

The **Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments' Annual Meeting and Dinner** is scheduled for February 20, 2019, at the **Keizer Community Center** (930 Chemawa Road NE, Keizer). The evening will begin at 6:00 p.m. with a social hour, and will include a buffet dinner, awards presentations, and the presentation of the Annual Report.

The Annual Meeting is for everyone - spouses and friends are encouraged to attend. Pre-registration is required, and online registration details will be available soon.

Questions? Contact Denise VanDyke at 503-540-1602 or [dvandyke@mwvcog.org](mailto:dvandyke@mwvcog.org).



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## Community Development Updates

COG planning staff provide assistance with current and long-range planning work for 20 member jurisdictions in Marion, Polk, and Yamhill Counties, serving over 48,000 residents. In addition to current planning work, Community Development staff are working on the following longer-range projects:

**Economic Development** The Mid-Willamette Valley 2018-2022 **Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies** (CEDS) 30-day public comment period has been completed and was submitted to the Economic Development Administration (EDA) for final approval this month. MWVCOG also received confirmation of award of our annual \$75,000 **Planning Assistance** grant from the **EDA**, which is used to support our various EDA eligible programs, including general planning technical assistance, grant applications/ administration, and economic development programs.

The city of **Silverton** recently received word of a \$1.15 million **Public Works** grant award from the **EDA** related to needed water improvements/ upgrades to serve their industrial park (see newsletter article on page 4).

Staff continues to work with the **University of Oregon** and five other **Economic Development Districts** within the Eclipse "path of totality" on a best-practices report and upcoming training and economic resiliency planning efforts focused upon to disaster resiliency. The project is supported by a \$87,000 grant award from the **EDA** and was matched with \$89,000 in local funding. COG also continues to assist the **Chehalem Valley Innovation Accelerator** and **University of Oregon** in continued "Strategic Doing" and economic development planning efforts in Yamhill County. The project is supported by a \$86,000 two-year grant from **The Ford Family Foundation** (TFFF), with the support of the city of **Newberg** and **Yamhill County**.

**Land Use Planning** – Our planners continue to support communities through draft code amendments, zone and comprehensive plan map updates, and new overlay zones and design standards, in addition to a large number of new development and subdivision applications in the area. To support the recent increase in development activity, the cities of **Independence** and **Jefferson** have requested additional assistance from COG planners, including the provision of in-house staff office hours.

The city of **Donald** and **Sublimity** Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) expansions have been approved locally and acknowledged by **Marion County**. COG staff assisted with both projects, as well as with the land need justifications and findings to support the UGB expansions.

**Grant Administration** COG staff is supporting the city of **Willamina** on a new Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application to relocate their water intake. Staff is also working with **Business Oregon** and **SEDCOR** on the **Dayton** pedestrian footbridge repair/replacement and identifying funding options for identified water and sewer improvements for the city of **Yamhill**.

COG continues to assist **Amity** with a \$5 million water improvements project comprised of USDA-Rural Development and CDBG funding, the city of **Idanha** with a \$1.7 million CDBG for water improvements, and the city of **Falls City** with a \$350,000 CDBG to aid in final design engineering related to a future wastewater improvements project.

We continue to support the city of **Dayton** on their Davis-Bacon wage monitoring requirements related to a Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF).

For more information about these projects or questions on potential projects, contact Renata Wakeley at 503-540-1618 or [renatac@mwvcog.org](mailto:renatac@mwvcog.org).

## US Department of Commerce Invests \$1.15 Million to Support Business Growth in Silverton, Oregon

We are pleased to announce a \$1.15 million Economic Development Administration (EDA) grant award to the City of **Silverton** to make critical water infrastructure improvements needed to support the construction of a water line and pump station to provide service to a local industrial park. The improved water service will help attract new enterprises to the area while supporting the region's established business community. According to the city of Silverton, the project is expected to create 150 jobs and spur \$2 million in private investment.

"These investments in infrastructure improvements are critical for communities like the city of Silverton," said Governor Kate Brown. "This is another step to ensuring communities like Silverton continue to grow and expand family wage jobs."

### US Economic Development Administration (EDA)

The mission of the EDA is to lead the federal economic development agenda by promoting competitiveness and preparing the nation's regions for growth and success in the worldwide economy. An agency within the U.S. Department of Commerce, EDA makes investments in economically distressed communities in order to create jobs for U.S. workers, promote American innovation, and accelerate long-term sustainable economic growth. More information about the EDA can be found by visiting [www.eda.gov](http://www.eda.gov).

### Mid-Willamette Valley Community Development Partnership

The MWVCOG serves as the Economic Development District (EDD) for Marion, Polk and Yamhill Counties through the Mid-Willamette Valley Community Development Partnership. Created in 1984 by the local governments in Marion, Polk and Yamhill counties, the MWVCOG is also one of twelve EDD's designated and funded by the EDA and we provide comprehensive coverage throughout Oregon.

As are part of a nationwide network of over 520 regional development organizations and districts nationwide that have been designated and funded by the EDA, we are focused on strengthening local governments and communities through regional collaboration, identifying development needs and priorities through our comprehensive economic development strategies, and more effectively communicating needs with state and federal agencies and program funding opportunities.

Looking back, some of the major accomplishments and activities of the Partnership over the years include:

- ◆ \$692,400 EDA Public Works grant for the Northwest Viticulture Center in **Polk County**.
- ◆ EDA Technical Assistance grant to complete a feasibility study for the **Salem** Conference Center.
- ◆ \$125,000 EDA grant award to assist with storm recovery and mitigation needs in the cities of **Yamhill, Sheridan and Dallas**.
- ◆ \$1.1 million EDA Public Works grant award for wetland mitigation assistance associated with the Mill Creek Corporate Center project in **Salem**.
- ◆ Staffing to match federal and private foundation investments to support the **AGORA Investment Platform** – an online marketplace to advance community needs and projects with public, private and philanthropic sector funding.
- ◆ \$1.5 million to support the Garten Services, Inc. recycling facility expansion in **Salem** which provides 160 jobs at the facility, including 120 for people with disabilities. The expansion allowed Garten to increase the efficiency and volume of materials process and also allowed for the hiring of an additional 14 workers.
- ◆ Award of \$80,000 toward the **Oregon Eclipse Economic Resilience and Disaster Preparedness Planning Project**, in partnership with five other Districts and the University of

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## 2019 MWVCOG Regional Awards Call for Nominations

MWVCOG is accepting nominations for three annual awards to recognize elected officials, staff, and innovative projects supporting and enhancing the principles of intergovernmental cooperation.

### Nomination Process

Anyone may nominate a person or group to be considered for any of the three awards. Nominations may be submitted by completing the nomination entry form (a fillable pdf), which is available online at <http://www.mwvcog.org/2019-mwvcog-regional-awards-call-for-nominations/>, as is a list of previous award recipients. Nominations must be received or postmarked by **Friday, January 18, 2019**, and may be mailed, emailed or faxed to our offices.

### Selection Process

The MWVCOG Executive Committee, consisting of four elected officials representing Marion, Polk, and Yamhill counties, will select the recipients for each award from the nominations.

### Awards Presentation

Award recipients will remain confidential and will be announced at the Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments' Annual Dinner on Wednesday, February 20, 2019.

### The Awards

**The Gwen VanDenBosch Regional Leadership Award** recognizes an elected official in Marion, Polk, or Yamhill County who demonstrates outstanding leadership in regional, intergovernmental affairs.

**The Wes Kvarsten Professional Service Award** recognizes a staff person or volunteer working for or on behalf of one or more member governments within the region who has exhibited sustained commitment in support of regional, intergovernmental cooperation.

**The Regional Cooperative Project Award** recognizes a partnership of local governments within the region for a project or initiative that enhances intergovernmental cooperation.

## Silverton EDA Grant cont.

Oregon, to assess economic resilience plans, networks and systems to help improve overall statewide economic resilience and planning.

With funding assistance from the EDA and an annual EDD assessment, our staff are also able to participate and help ensure our region is represented at various state and federal economic development events.

For more information about the Partnership Board, or to learn more about how MWVCOG might be able to assist with regional economic development efforts, please contact Renata Wakeley at the COG, 503-540-1618 or [renatac@mwvcog.org](mailto:renatac@mwvcog.org).

## Changes in the MWVCOG Region

With the November elections behind us, many of our counties, cities, and special districts are preparing for changes in 2019. Some came as the result of a leader choosing to move on to a new and/or different life adventure, and others after a contentious round of campaigning. In either case, the Council of Governments is here to assist our members to the best of our abilities, and staff look forward to working with our newly elected officials.

There will be a Governance 101 and Planning Commissioner Training in late January. Watch for details coming to your mailbox.

An orientation session will be scheduled in January for the new COG Board members—of which there will be several. The 19-member Board will be seeing roughly a third of its members being replaced, including representatives for **Yamhill County, the cities of Newberg, Monmouth, Woodburn, and the Small Cities of Yamhill County.**

The Regional Directory will be as fully updated as possible in early January, and will be posted on the MWVCOG website.

As for non-elected changes, those include the following:

- ◆ Laura Tschabold, Yamhill County Administrator, will retire on January 1st. Ken Huffer has been selected as her successor.
- ◆ The City of Willamina has appointed four new Planning Commission members: Debra Jo Summers, Ila Schunter, Erick Wagner, and Sheryl Christi Hansen.
- ◆ David Clyne retired from the City of Independence in early December. Tom Pessemier is the new Independence City Manager.
- ◆ Chad Olsen is the Interim City Administrator in Amity, replacing Justin Hogue.
- ◆ Kevin Perkins is the Assistant City Manager for the city of Lafayette.

## Executive Director cont.

with Lafayette, Amity, Detroit, and Aurora as either primary or secondary legal counsel.

As the COG staff works to build upon and improve those new offerings, we anticipate several other significant developments in 2019 for both the COG and the region. Among them:

- ◆ Redesign and publishing of COG Works, this quarterly newsletter, with an emphasis on providing an in-depth exploration of regional issues, celebrating our members' accomplishments, and stories of how our programs and services are serving our members.
- ◆ New educational opportunities, to include courses for newly elected officials and new managers.
- ◆ An exciting and engaging annual dinner program with the roll out of a new online registration system that will be used for all of our training events.
- ◆ The Board will be undertaking a review of our current dues structure and expenses.
- ◆ A remodel of the COG offices to add additional workspace as the COG looks to enhance the quality of its existing services and position itself to add new services to meet member needs when they arise.
- ◆ A renewed partnership with new executive leadership at SEDCOR and Regional solutions.

As many of you know, the 2018 elections resulted in a large turn over in people holding elected office. That change affected the COG Board as well, with a record seven new board members set to join the COG Board in 2019. As with any turnover, the loss in experience is offset by the gain of fresh perspectives and new ideas, and already the incoming Board members are brimming with excitement and ideas on how to enhance your membership in the COG as we collectively work to position our region for prosperity in 2019 and the years to come thereafter.

## Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program

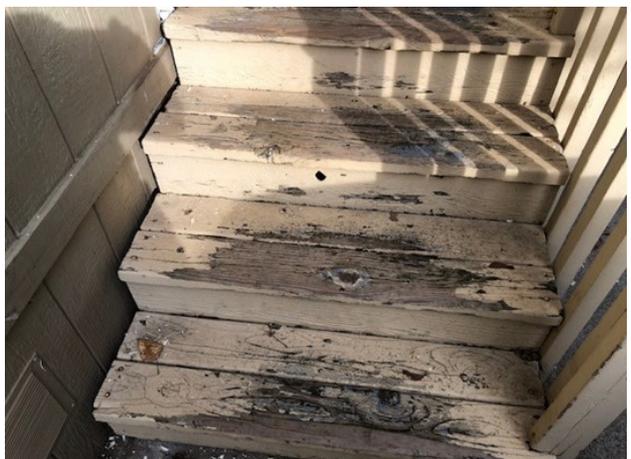
Communities in Marion County contract with the Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments (COG) to manage a regional Housing Rehabilitation Program through Valley Development Initiatives (VDI). The low-interest, deferred payment program provides economically disadvantaged populations access to capital to make necessary home repairs and improvements in 15 cities and unincorporated areas throughout Marion County. As clients repay loans, the money is then re-lent to other eligible property owners in the region.

Since our last report, VDI kicked-off our new Housing Rehabilitation Grant program and award from Business Oregon. The \$400,000 housing rehabilitation grant will serve eligible persons in manufactured home parks and those who have no equity in their home and are ineligible under the current VDI housing rehabilitation program rules.

Business Oregon rules for the program require communities to partner on CDBG funding applications. For this round, the City of Stayton agreed to be the application lead and partnered with the communities of Aumsville, Mt. Angel, Turner, and unincorporated Marion County in the submission of a competitive Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application for the funding.

To date, we have completed the environmental assessment for the project, completed initial outreach, and we are currently working with eight applicants in Stayton, two in Mt. Angel, and two in Aumsville. Seven of these homes have been inspected and some of the proposed work includes dry rot repair, water leak and water drainage repair, furnace replacement, new roofs, and new windows.

**Caption: Pictured at right are some photos taken from our initial inspections with eligible applicants, including: a leaking roof in need of replacement (top), dry rot and evidence of a roof leak in a bathroom (center), and access stairs in need of structural and safety repairs (bottom).**



**COG Works** is also available on our website ([www.mwvcog.org](http://www.mwvcog.org)).

### MWVCOG Board Meeting Schedule for 2019

**Notes:**

Board meetings are scheduled to begin promptly at 3:30 p.m., except for the annual meeting, which is an evening affair.

Executive Committee meetings are scheduled to begin promptly at 3:30 p.m., unless specifically noted.

The Budget Committee meets at 3 p.m. and is followed by the Executive Committee meeting.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>
February 20 6 p.m. Annual Meeting	Keizer Community Center 930 Chemawa Road NE Keizer, Oregon
March 6 Executive Committee	COG Offices 100 High Street SE, Suite 200 Salem, Oregon
March 19 Board of Directors	COG Offices
June 5 – 3 p.m. Budget Committee	COG Offices
June 5 – 4 p.m. Executive Committee	COG Offices
June 18 Board of Directors/Budget Hearing	COG Offices
October 2 Executive Committee	COG Offices
October 15 Board of Directors	COG Offices
December 4 Executive Committee	COG Offices
December 17 Board of Directors	COG Offices