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# Regional Solutions

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# Regional Solutions

Regional Solutions is a community and economic development program embedded in the Governor's office that brings together state and local governments, sovereign Tribal nations, business, philanthropy, and community-based organizations to identify local priorities, advance projects, solve problems, seize opportunities, and respond to emerging needs throughout the state.

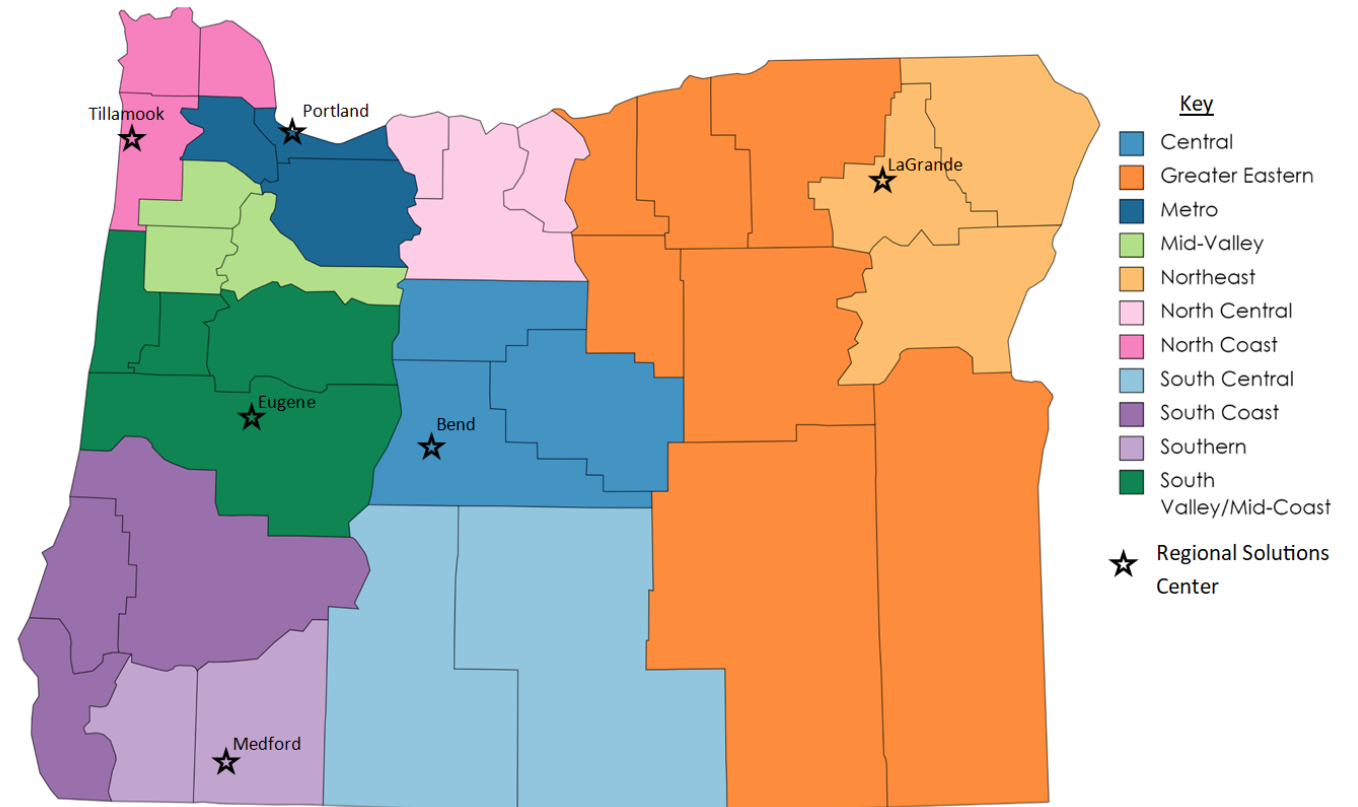


# Regions

Regional Solutions is organized into 11 regions that align with Oregon's Economic Development Districts.

Each region has an Advisory Committee that identifies Regional Priorities and a Team of state agency staff that works together to move projects forward.

6 Regional Solutions Centers located around the state serve as community convening spaces and collaborative workplaces for team members.





# Regional Solutions Teams

Cross-functional teams of state agency staff work collaboratively together to solve problems, work on multi-agency projects, advance regional priorities, and streamline access to state government.

Regional Solutions agencies include:

- Business Oregon (OBDD)
- Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
- Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD)
- Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS)
- Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
- Other agencies and partners join as needed to address local issues



# Regional Solutions Teams

- **Interagency Coordination**
  - Multiple agencies work as a collaborative team with regional knowledge and relationships to problem-solve and move projects forward
- **Connection to Resources**
  - Serve as a connector to local, state and federal resources and key leaders
- **Outreach Meetings**
  - Opportunity for multiple agencies to meet with a community at the same time to provide feedback, brainstorm solutions, etc.
- **First Stop and One Stop funding resources**
  - Getting projects ready and identifying available funding
- **Disaster Recovery**
  - Key link to assistance through disaster recovery challenges



# Wastewater regionalization in Lane County

- Creswell and Junction City cannot meet their current permit requirements and need new wastewater treatment solutions. Both cities are under a building moratorium.
- Lane County has an interest in bringing sewer service to the unincorporated community of Goshen to create new economic opportunity.
- MWMC treats wastewater for Eugene and Springfield and is jointly governed by the two cities and Lane County.

Is it possible to extend MWMC wastewater service south through Goshen to Creswell and north to Junction City?



# The conundrum(s)

## **Different drivers, different timelines, different tools**

- Creswell and JC under obligation to meet permit requirements on specific timeframe
- Lane County would like to serve Goshen with wastewater but is not compelled
- Creswell and JC have ratepayer base
- Lane County has no identified source of funding for this project
- Lane County doesn't need Creswell, but Creswell needs Lane County
- What is in MWMC's interest?

## **Governance**

- MWMC: jointly governed by Lane County, Eugene, Springfield
- Lane County: decision making body for a county the size of CT
- Creswell and JC: small cities with limited authority



# Role of Regional Solutions

## **Convener and connector**

### Work Groups

- Land use and Metro Plan amendment
- Funding
- Route coordination

Technical assistance and subject matter expertise



# Regional Solutions Advisory Committees

Within each of the 11 regions, which are tied to Oregon's federally designated Economic Development Districts, an advisory committee is appointed by the Governor.

Each committee is placed-based and holds public meetings to encourage critical conversations around community and economic development in each region.



# Roles and Responsibilities of RSACs

- The committees provide a forum to discuss the leveraging of public and private resources to advance priorities and related projects
- The committees provide sector-specific statewide perspective for the Governor's consideration
- The committees collaborate with Regional Solutions Coordinators as a conduit to the Governor and state agencies about community and economic development issues, opportunities, and how various policies affect the region
- Perhaps most importantly, RSACs identify and adopt and update regional priorities for community and economic development



# Committee Work

Each committee member represents a specific sector which generates broad conversations and considerations across diverse networks to better inform both the priority setting and the project work.

- Business Representative
- Tribal Representative
- County Representative (from AOC)
- City Representative (from LOC)
- Community-Based Organization Representative
- Philanthropy Representative
- And each committee is chaired by a Convener who works with Regional Solutions Coordinators to schedule meetings and set agendas



# Priority Setting

With regionally specific representatives from public, private, and civic organizations, the priorities vary across the state, in focus, number, and specificity.

There are some statewide priorities: Housing Production, Infrastructure, and Resilience, which are further defined by region; and other overlapping priorities based on shared experiences and concerns: natural resource management, workforce development, and childcare accessibility.



# Statewide Priorities

While each committee was asked to adopt priorities in three shared areas, they were able to define the focus with a local lens.

Within 'Housing Production' The Northeast and Mid-Valley regions specified they wanted to focus on middle market housing and workforce housing while the South Valley/Mid-Coast adopted a focus on land availability and development readiness as well as innovative production models.



# Localized Priorities

The Mid-Valley RSAC adopted priorities of:

- Workforce Housing Development
- Capacity Building Water, Wastewater, and Transportation Infrastructure
- Wildfire Prevention and Recovery
- Economic Vitality Through Workforce and Entrepreneurship Development
- Responsible Stewardship of Natural Resources
- Longterm Solid Waste Management Planning



# Learning About Priorities

Over the last 18 months, RSACs have been working to advance local priorities, some with policy discussions and others with project alignment work or educational conversations to understand the current landscape(s) in each area.

And now RSACs, RSTs, and Coordinators are leaning in on the Roadmap to Prosperity work, the Governor's approach to economic development intended to improve several key metrics that reflect Oregon's business environment

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# Questions?

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