



Image by Karen Odenthal

Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments 2019 Annual Report

2019 Member Governments & Districts

Marion County
Polk County
Yamhill County
Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
City of Amity
City of Aumsville
City of Aurora
City of Carlton
City of Dallas
City of Dayton
City of Detroit
City of Donald
City of Dundee
City of Falls City
City of Gates
City of Gervais
City of Hubbard
City of Idanha
City of Independence
City of Jefferson
City of Keizer
City of Lafayette
City of McMinnville
City of Monmouth
City of Mt. Angel
City of Newberg
City of St. Paul
City of Salem
City of Scotts Mills
City of Sheridan
City of Silverton
City of Stayton
City of Sublimity
City of Turner
City of Willamina
City of Woodburn
City of Yamhill
Chehalem Park & Recreation District
Chemeketa Community College
Marion Soil & Water Conservation District
Salem-Keizer School District
Salem Area Mass Transit District (Cherriots)
Willamette Education Service District

History & Mission of the Mid-Willamette Valley COG

The Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments is a voluntary association of 42 local governments. Members include Marion, Polk, and Yamhill counties, 33 cities, five special districts, and the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.

The Council of Governments traces its origins back to 1957 with the formation of the Mid-Willamette Valley Planning Council. In 1959, the Mid-Willamette Valley Intergovernmental Cooperation Council was formed to achieve greater coordination among local governments and with the state to solve common problems. In 1967, both organizations were merged to form the Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments through an ORS 190 Intergovernmental agreement.

The Council of Governments today has the following primary functions:

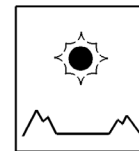
1. To facilitate intergovernmental communication and issue resolution for member governments.
2. To provide technical and administrative support services to member governments or others as may be directed by the Council Board of Directors.
3. To initiate, conduct, or cause to be conducted, studies of regional issues.
4. To recommend action by public and private agencies for purposes of solving or alleviating regional problems.
5. To conduct and administer programs which, by law, must be administered by a regional agency, or at the request of the member government or governments who would otherwise be responsible for their administration.
6. To contract or subcontract with public and private agencies for performance of the foregoing functions.

The success of the Council of Governments is dependent upon the active participation and support of its members.

The MWVCOG logo over the years:



The 1960s



Mid-Willamette
Valley Council of
Governments

1980s



2015 – present

Our Mission:

- Expanding interaction and improving dialogue among local units of government.
- “Convenership” - enhancing collective awareness of major regional issues through seminars and workshops.
- Coordinating regional planning and development activities.
- Providing technical assistance and local services tailored to individual needs of member governments.

A Message from the Chair: Keizer Mayor Cathy Clark



2019 has been a year of incredible accomplishments for our Council of Governments (COG). We began the year with a record seven new Board members. After an orientation, those new members and the existing

board members went right to work. Working together, along with the extraordinarily talented staff, the Board put its attention on improving the organization's finances, increasing value for members, and enhancing programs and services. Among our accomplishments, we:

- Conducted a holistic review of the method used to calculate membership dues to ensure fairness across the membership in how the COG funds its operations.
- Achieved a higher than ever reserve fund balance that will enable the COG to respond to opportunities and remain financially stable in unforeseen situations.
- Increased our presence at the Legislature and provided more legislative updates to our members.
- Obtained a new member! Welcome Marion Soil and Water Conservation District!
- Launched a new goal setting and facilitation service that will bring a higher level of expertise in assisting local governments set and achieve their vision.
- Launched new trainings for elected and appointed officials on governance and leadership.
- Renewed partnerships with new executive leadership at SEDCOR and Regional Solutions, including entering into an agreement to provide financial services to SEDCOR.
- Completed a remodel of the COG offices to add workspace for current and future services.

- Implemented a new online registration system for our trainings and events.
- Hosted over 20 events for the Mayors Coalition, Polk and Yamhill County government officials.
- Added three members to the City Attorney Services.
- Hosted an intergovernmental coalition, the Mid-Willamette Homeless Initiative, now the Mid-Willamette Valley Homeless Alliance, that successfully achieved federal status as a continuum of care to address and eliminate homelessness and housing insecurity in our region.

As you can see, 2019 was indeed a busy and successful year. And there is still more to come. During 2020 the Board will be focused on continuing to provide quality services that bring value to the local and tribal governments in the Mid-Willamette Valley. And with our executive director taking his considerable skills to the Oregon Department of Veteran's Affairs, the Board will also undertake a nation-wide search to find the best suitable candidate who, with the Board's leadership and support, can continue the MWVCOG's work to position our region for prosperity.

It has truly been an honor serving as your Chair for 2018 and 2019. We have overcome many challenges and taken advantage of many opportunities. During my term as Chair, I have had the pleasure of working with you all to build a Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments that is helping us all achieve more, both individually and together as a region. I know that we will continue to thrive as a region and the MWVCOG will continue to excel in our good work under the leadership of 2020 Chair Jackie Franke.

In Service to Our Region,

Cathy Clark
Cathy Clark, Keizer Mayor

A Message from the Executive Director:

Sean E. O'Day



2019 was another year of continued growth and advancement of the Council of Governments' mission to support local governments and position the Mid-Willamette Valley for

prosperity. The pages of this report outline the COG's specific accomplishments during 2019. To put those in context requires an understanding of what we do:

Support Regionally Significant Transportation Policy and Systems

As a Council of Governments, we provide direct staff support to two intergovernmental transportation initiatives that ensures our region is served by safe, reliable and efficient transportation systems. The first initiative is that we serve as the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the greater Salem-Keizer area, the Salem-Keizer Area Transportation Study (SKATS). As an MPO we are responsible for developing a multi-modal, financially constrained transportation plan that funds regionally significant transportation projects and services.

The other is that the Council of Governments staffs the Mid-Willamette Area Commission on Transportation (MWACT), an advisory body chartered by the Oregon Transportation Commission that collaborates to determine transportation priorities in the Marion, Polk, and Yamhill County area; and work with ODOT on transportation issues, including development of the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), which schedules funded transportation projects.

Engage in Community and Economic Development

The Council of Governments plays several roles and has numerous programs that help to support the region's communities and grow our region's economy. We serve as the federally designated Economic Development District (EDD), which

provides local governments access to federal economic development dollars and ensures regional representation before various state and federal economic development agencies. We also administer several small business lending programs on behalf of federal, state and local governments to help businesses grow jobs for our region. We also provide technical assistance in grant and loan applications to ensure access to state and federal funding sources, such as by preserving our region's housing inventory by administering the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funded Housing Rehabilitation loan funds for 14 jurisdictions, and providing application and administration assistance with various other grant and loan fund sources. We also provide current and long-range planning services for 20 jurisdictions, and provide geographic information services to aid local governments with land use, as well as assessment, emergency response, and with school district boundary information.

Strengthen Local Government

As a Council of Governments, we help strengthen units of government and empower local government leaders. Among our services in this area we provide training and technical assistance to local governments on general governance matters, such as public meetings, records, and ethics. We provide training to planning commissioners and elected officials on their responsibilities under Oregon's land use laws. To help governing bodies function more effectively and to ensure legal compliance, we offer city attorney services, assist with goal setting, facilitate executive level recruitments and evaluations services, and staff charter review and revision efforts. Finally, to ensure an accurate Census count so that our region obtains its share of federal resources, the Council of Governments assists local governments in meeting federal census requirements.

Advocate on our Region's Behalf

As a Council of Governments, we advocate for policies that recognize, empower, and respect the grassroots priorities and projects of local and

regional governments; create programs that foster greater local government cooperation, innovation, and efficiency; and equitably allocate resources across all regions of the state based on a variety of factors to include need, service demands, economic indicators, and not just population.

Facilitating Intergovernmental Collaboration and Coordination

As a Council of Governments, we bring units of local government together in the interest of intergovernmental cooperation and coordination. Specifically, we staff the Mid-Willamette Valley Mayors Coalition, Yamhill County quarterly local government dinner, and Polk County monthly local government breakfast meetings. We annually host an awards banquet celebrating the achievements of entities, projects, and individuals who have embodied and advanced intergovernmental cooperation. We also publish a bi-weekly e-newsletter – *COG Connections* – and a quarterly publication – *COG Works* – to help keep local government leaders informed of important news and opportunities.

Return On Your Investment

With your investment of approximately \$230,000 in membership dues (and an additional \$75,000 in matching money for the EDD, which allows our members to be eligible for federal and state economic development programs), we were able to obtain nearly \$70 million in federal and state dollars to improve our transportation infrastructure, economy, and communities. A return of approximately \$225 for every \$1 of dues and EDA assessment collected. Specifically, in 2019 we obtained:

- Over \$51 million in federal transportation funding, to include regionally significant surface transportation improvements and transit service;
- Over \$11.5 million in grants to local governments for facility improvements, land use planning, and economic development;

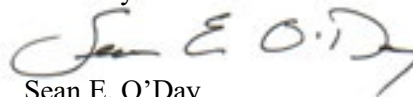
- Over \$6.5 million in small business lending, which has/will create 73 new jobs for our region; and
- \$102,000 in housing rehabilitation loans and over \$200,000 in new grant dollars toward eligible persons in manufactured home parks. The programs improved the quality of life for the residents of those homes while improving the value of our region's housing stock.

Our region continues to grow and evolve as does the Council of Governments. Over the last three years, we have been seeking more ways to bring local government officials together to support the vitality of our region and to position it for prosperity. Our staff continues to explore and implement new initiatives to provide services and increase the value of your membership while continuing to provide the existing services you rely upon.

As I leave the COG to join the leadership team at the Oregon Department of Veteran's Affairs, I am proud of all we have accomplished together to put the COG on path towards success. As the COG moves into 2020, with the Board's excellent leadership and vision, I know the staff will continue to search for ways to leverage your membership dollars while providing you the top notch services you have come to rely upon.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the COG for the last three years. It has truly been an honor and a pleasure.

Sincerely



Sean E. O'Day
Executive Director

Member Services

Convening and Collaboration – Developing Partnerships

In 2019, the COG continued its support and assistance to a variety of regional events that promote information sharing and partnership development among local governments, including the Mid-Willamette Valley Mayors Coalition, City/County Administrators lunch meetings, Polk County breakfast, Yamhill County Local Government dinners, and the Willamette Valley GIS Users Group.



Above: Local elected officials attend a training workshop.

Intergovernmental Cooperation – Demonstrating Leadership on Regional Matters

COG staff served on the Chemeketa Cooperative Regional Library Service Board of Directors, Regional Solutions Advisory Committee, the Oregon City/County Managers Association Board of Directors, Oregon Transportation Modeling Committee, Board of Directors for the Oregon/SW Washington Chapter of URISA (an organization dedicated to the development, enhancement, and accessibility of Geographic Information Systems), Marion County Economic Development Advisory Board, Oregon City Planning Directors Association Board, Oregon Economic Development Districts Board, and Oregon Rural Development Council.

Mid-Willamette Valley Homeless Initiative Partnership – Facilitating a Regional Approach to an Increasing Regional Issue
In 2019, the COG continued to facilitate the pooling of resources from Marion County and the Cities

of Salem, Keizer, Independence and Monmouth to build towards the re-establishment of a continuum of care organization to address homelessness in the region. 2019 saw the formal creation of the Mid-Willamette Homeless Alliance and its acceptance by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as a continuum of care organization.

Training/Education – Developing Local Leaders

The COG trained well over 100 officials on leadership, governance, and land use planning in 2019.

Goal Setting/Strategic Planning Facilitation – Building Communities

The COG facilitated goal setting and strategic planning sessions for Carlton, Falls City, Gervais, Silverton, and the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.

Executive Recruitments – Attracting Talent to the Region

The COG assisted Dallas with the recruitment of its city manager, and provided technical assistance and training to Monmouth, Mt. Angel, and Newberg, on the means and methods of hiring a city manager.

Executive Performance Evaluation – Promoting Professional Standards

In 2019, the COG facilitated performance evaluations for Dundee, McMinnville, and the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.

Attorney Services – Filling a Critical Shortage

In 2019, the COG provided attorney services, and currently serves as the City Attorney for Amity, Detroit, Gates, Idanha, Lafayette, and St. Paul, while also providing additional legal support to the Cities of Aurora and Newberg.

Advocacy – Giving a Voice to the Region

In 2019 the COG adopted legislative positions on issues of regional significance and affecting the COG as a government entity. Among our successes we were able to prevent unfunded mandates on the COG and its members while

preserving local control over building officials and rights of way.

Fiscal Agent – Helping Non-Profits

The COG served as the fiscal agent for two non-profits that secured dollars for cultural and economic development activities. Specifically, the COG assisted the Marion Cultural Development Corporation, which is an affiliate of the Oregon Cultural Trust, in the administration of trust dollars to enhance arts, culture, and heritage activities throughout the county.

Communications – Keeping Members Informed

The COG continued to publish *COG Connections*, a bi-weekly e-newsletter that connects local officials with useful news and information to enable better decisions. The COG also maintained its quarterly publication *COG Works* with articles that highlight the COG's programs and services and celebrates the regions success.

Transportation Planning

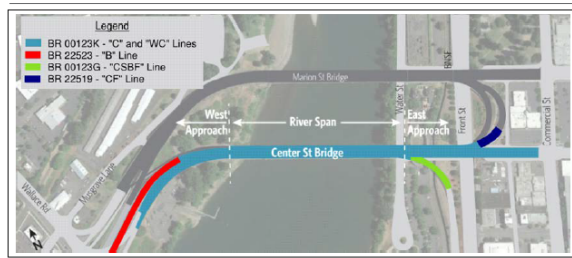
Salem-Keizer Area Transportation Study (SKATS)

As the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Salem-Keizer urbanized area, the Salem-Keizer Area Transportation Study (SKATS) continues its role in coordinating and supporting comprehensive, multi-jurisdictional and multi-modal transportation planning in the Salem-Keizer-Turner area. COG staff are responsible for the operation of the SKATS MPO.

SKATS Highlights for 2019

- SKATS updated its long-range 20-year *Regional Transportation System Plan (RTSP)*. Work in 2019 included a project prioritization and selection process, updates to all the chapters, updated financial forecasts, impacts of the proposed system, outstanding issues to be addressed in the future, etc. Public review of the draft RTSP followed the process outlined in the adopted *SKATS Public Participation Plan* and included presentations at public events and neighborhood/citizen groups, public comments submitted to an online map of the proposed RTSP projects, use of social media, brochures, and an Open House and public hearing. Public comments were provided to the SKATS Policy Committee for their consideration. The SKATS Policy Committee adopted the new SKATS 2019-2043 RTSP in May.
- The SKATS *Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)* update started in 2019, with a call for project pre-applications in February. About \$15 million in transportation funds was available. Local agencies within SKATS submitted 21 pre-applications, which went through an initial review by the SKATS committees. In June, 14 full applications for new projects were submitted for consideration. After reviews and rankings by the SKATS Technical Advisory Committee, as well as public input, recommendations went to the Policy Committee. In November the SKATS Policy Committee discussed two funding scenarios and recommended that supplemental funds be awarded to four projects (which are in the TIP and currently under development), plus funds to 12 new projects or programs. This recommendation is being put in the *draft 2021-2026 SKATS TIP* which will go out for public review in February 2020.
- SKATS and City of Salem staff collaborated on writing a 100+ page report for the Salem City Council about the proposed Preferred Alternative for Salem River Crossing. This report was reviewed by the Salem City Council during a two-hour work session on January 30, 2019. After significant public testimony (over two hours) for either supporting or opposing a third bridge, the Salem City Council voted 6-3 to support “No Build” as the Preferred Alternative for the *River Crossing Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) project*.

Center Street Bridge Seismic Retrofit Project
HB2017 Project Cost = \$100M



Completion of Center Street Bridge Seismic Retrofit Study

- COG staff participated in the review of ODOT's *OR22 Center Street Bridge Seismic Study* (for the Center St. bridge over the Willamette River in downtown Salem). The study concluded the full cost of the seismic upgrade will be \$100 million. The Oregon Legislature has provided \$60 million for a seismic upgrade as part of HB2017 (Keep Oregon Moving), and ODOT's Region 2 manager has committed to complete this project. Design work will start in 2023, with construction in 2025.
- During all of 2019, SKATS staff worked with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the two other large MPOs (Portland Metro and Eugene/Springfield) on a process to improve project programming and obligation. (Obligation is the point when the Federal Highway Administration approves the funding for a project or project phase.) The complex proposal identifies obligation targets for future years and rewards or penalties to MPOs depending on whether they meet these targets. The final agreement should be done by mid-2020.
- In 2019, SKATS staff participated in two City of Salem committees: The Safer Crossings Advisory Committee (developing a process to prioritize pedestrian crossing improvements), and the "Our Salem" planning project (assisting with consultant selection and on a technical committee). SKATS staff also assisted cities of Salem and Keizer, and the Salem Area Mass Transit District (Cherriots) in other capacities (such as review of draft RFPs).
- The COG applied for and was awarded a \$300,000 grant from ODOT to create a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program for the

Salem-Keizer area. The COG hired a SRTS Coordinator in January 2020, McRae Carmichael, who will work with the Salem-Keizer School District principals, administrators, and parents to develop SRTS Action Plans at five elementary schools. The SKATS MPO is also contributing funds to the program.

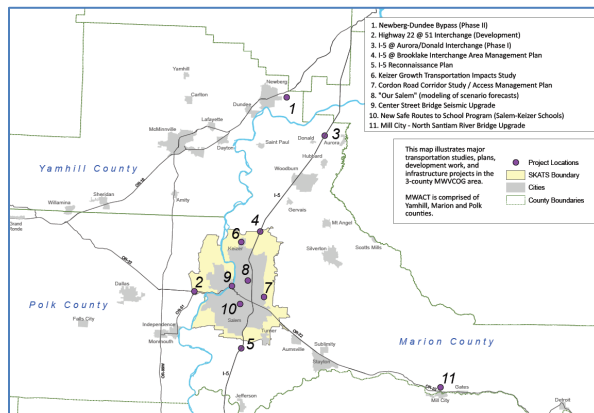
- SKATS continues to collect, update and summarize crash information within the SKATS area on our website. The data includes all crashes from 2007 to 2017. The annual number of crashes increased by 46% over the decade, and the number of fatal and serious-injury crashes increased 77% in the years from 2012 to 2017. Alcohol-related crashes doubled from 72 (in 2007) to 144 (in 2017). Maps and graphs show the causes, severity (fatal, serious, etc.), mode (vehicle, bike, pedestrian) and location of crashes. Discussions will occur in 2020 about starting a regional Transportation Safety Action Plan that has been completed in other regions in Oregon.
- As part of federal requirements to adopt performance-based transportation planning, ODOT has been adopting performance targets. The SKATS Policy Committee decided to support the ODOT adopted targets for safety, bridge and pavement condition, congestion mitigation and air quality (CMAQ), as well as Cherriots' targets for transit asset management.
- During 2019, elected officials from SKATS and the other MPOs meet periodically as a group called the Oregon MPO Consortium (OMPOC).

Mid-Willamette Area Commission on Transportation (MWACT)

The Mid-Willamette Valley Area Commission on Transportation (MWACT) is a 17-member advisory body chartered by the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC). Its purpose is to apply the statewide transportation goals to the specific needs of the Mid-Willamette Valley area as identified by the local jurisdictions.

During the year, MWACT had five full committee meetings plus two meetings with the OTC. COG and ODOT staff prepared the

MWACT agendas, meeting summaries, and draft letters from the MWACT to the OTC as needed.



Transportation Projects and Studies in the MWACT area

Highlights of MWACT activities by month included:

- **March** – Presentation of the I-5 @ Aurora-Donald Interchange upgrade project. Upgrades are needed to address increasing congestion issues (particularly, escalating truck traffic at the interchange) which is predicted to increase approximately 40% in the future. In 2017, the Oregon Legislature approved an additional \$25 million in funding for additional design and an initial construction phase. However, a significant increase in funding will be needed to construct the other projects identified in the Interchange Area Management Plan (IAMP). MWACT members were also asked to comment and decide on support for applications for the Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF) discretionary program and Statewide Transit Network program.
- **April** – Updates about the following: I-5: Woodburn to Salem paving project and Work Zone Safety Plan; ODOT's process for developing new guidance for setting posted speeds in Oregon for streets currently posted between 30 mph and 50 mph.
- **June** - Presentation and discussion about the Center Street Bridge (over the Willamette River) Seismic Retrofit. ODOT Region 2 Manager Sonny Chickering committed ODOT to completing this project, starting with the \$60 million available from HB2017

plus savings that may come from other projects, the STIP, or federal redistribution funds; update of design work for I-5 @ Aurora-Donald Interchange; annual update of construction projects within the MWACT area.



ODOT Design for I-5 Aurora-Donald Interchange

- **September** – update of ODOT's Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) program as it ends its second year of implementation. Update on the design choices for the I-5: Aurora/Donald Interchange: The Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI) design was selected as the preferred alternative. Updates on projects on Highway 22 W (at Doaks Ferry and at Highway 51); Update on the Highway 99W: Clow Corner roundabout project (design in 2019 and construction in 2021); updated list of MWACT's project priorities.
- **November** – MWACT Chair Ken Woods and other MWACT members attended the OTC meeting at the Spirit Mountain Casino Event Center to talk with the commission about project needs and safety issues. The OTC approved MWACT's charter for another two years. The OTC also heard from supporters of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass project to request OTC find additional funds for Phase 2. MWACT wrote a lengthy letter of support for this topic.
- **December** - MWACT Chair Ken Woods and SKATS MPO Chair Cathy Clark attended the OTC Workshop in Lebanon as the OTC

discussed the next Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

COG and ODOT staff also supported chair Ken Woods, Jr. in preparation for meetings, preparing draft letters and other activities as MWACT's chair; and provided letters of support as needed.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Census Services

COG staff utilize GIS technology for projects in many varied projects in transportation, land use, utilities, natural resource management, and demographic analyses. Projects in 2019 included:

- COG's land use planners often need GIS staff to prepare maps of zoning, comprehensive plans and other maps for COG member cities;
- assisting the City of Jefferson with participation in the Census Bureau's annual Boundary and Annexation Survey (BAS), to ensure that population within the city limits is correctly tabulated;

- Participated in the Census Bureau's Participant Statistical Areas Program (PSAP) on behalf of the three-county region, a geographic program to review and provide feedback regarding census boundary changes prior to the 2020 Decennial Census;
- Completed the first draft of a sidewalk inventory for the Salem-Keizer area;
- Completed an update of address points for the city of Dundee and preparation of address map

The MWVCOG Census Data Center assists agencies in Marion, Polk, and Yamhill Counties with the analysis of Census (and Census-related) information and custom demographics studies. The COG warehouses electronic Census information, population estimates, population projections, and other related demographic data. COG staff are able to combine Census expertise and data access with GIS mapping techniques for special project requests.

Community Development

Community Investment Projects

In 2019, COG staff assisted member governments with more than \$11.5 million in community development projects involving public infrastructure, engineering studies and community facilities. COG services range from preparing grant/loan applications, project management and administration, environmental assessments, property acquisition, to compliance with state and federal regulatory requirements. An overview of community development projects is provided below.

- *Amity*: COG is assisting in the environmental review and administration of a water improvements project that will increase treatment capacity, replace the water intake which can no longer draw sufficient water to meet the needs of the community, and improve the distribution system for the city. The project is funded with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and USDA-Rural Development funding.

- *Carlton*: Staff provided assistance with wage monitoring requirements related to a water line improvements project funded by the Safe Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund (SDWRLF) program to increase fire flows and capacity in the central business district, as well as developing a new emergency intertie to the City of McMinnville's water system.
- *Dayton*: Staff provided assistance with wage monitoring requirements related to a wastewater improvements project funded by the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund (CWRLF) program.
- *Detroit*: Staff is assisting the city in acquisition of a new easement to loop their water system as part of a current Safe Drinking Water Loan and Grant project.
- *Falls City*: A \$350,000 CDBG award will aid in final design engineering needed for future construction of the city's expanded wastewater system. COG staff assisted with the funding application and is currently

providing grant administration and property acquisition assistance in conformation with Federal Uniform Relocation Act (URA) rules.

- **Idanha:** COG staff assisted in securing a \$1.7 million grant for final design and construction of a water improvements project aimed at improving treatment at the plant and reducing water losses in the distribution system, along with assistance in wage monitoring, grant administration and completion of the environmental review and approval. COG previously assisted the city with an income survey to prove eligibility for grant funding.
- **Willamina:** The City secured \$500,000 in CDBG funding assistance to help in final design of a much-needed water improvements project to help move the existing water intake.

Land Use Planning

In 2019, the COG provided land use planning services to 22 communities in the Mid-Willamette Valley region including Amity, Aumsville, Aurora, Dayton, Detroit, Donald, Dundee, Falls City, Gates, Gervais, Hubbard, Idanha, Independence, Jefferson, Lafayette, Mt. Angel, Scotts Mills, Sheridan, St. Paul, Sublimity, Turner, and Willamina.

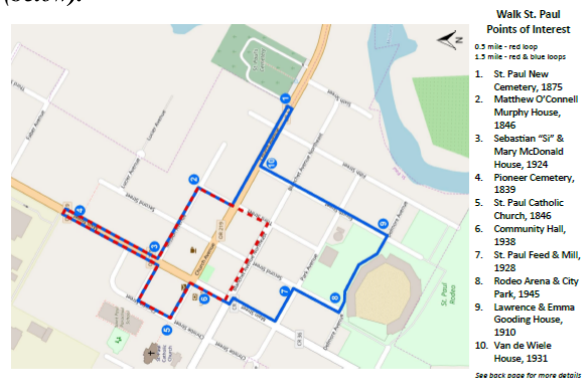
In addition to providing current land use planning services, COG planning staff assisted with the following long-range economic development and planning projects in 2019:

- **Carlton Parks Plan Update** – COG staff completed the first Parks Plan for the City of Carlton in 2014. In 2019, the City requested COG assistance in updating the previous park inventory, population projections, and add the new Oregon State Parks Department (OSPD) standards in addition to the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) standards.
- **Development Code Amendments** – The COG helped the cities of Aurora, Dayton, Donald, Detroit, Hubbard, Lafayette, Scotts Mills and Willamina prepare amendments to local development codes to address a variety of development issues, including higher housing densities, accessory dwelling units, expanding

permitted uses in the commercial and industrial zones, and sign code update.



Examples of walking maps for Dallas (above) and St. Paul (below).



- **Walking Maps** – Recognizing that community engagement and tourism can be important economic drivers, COG staff continues to provide assistance to member communities in the development of walking maps and brochures to encourage residents toward a more active lifestyle and get to know their community better. Residents also see the maps and brochures as opportunities to attract visitors and provide educational, cultural, and historical information on their communities and the Willamette Valley. To date, we have completed or are in the process of creating maps for the communities of Dallas, Detroit, Gervais, Independence, Lafayette, and Willamina
- **Other** – The COG provided two Planning Commission trainings in the region for 2019. Staff also serves on the Oregon City Planning Director's Association (OCPDA), an affiliate organization of the League of Oregon Cities (LOC); the Mid-Valley Regional Solutions Team; and the Oregon Rural Development Council (ORDC).

Additional Community and Economic Development Activities

- *Economic Development Administration* - The City of Silverton received a \$1.4 million award from the Economic Development Administration (EDA) Public Works program for funding assistance with a new water line and pump station to serve their industrial park and companies looking into water needs related to their expansion efforts. COG staff assisted the City with the application and continues to provide administration support related to the final design and eventual construction.
- *Economic Resiliency Planning*- Staff continues to work with the University of Oregon and five other Economic Development Districts (EDDs) within the Eclipse “path of totality” related to a best-practices report and future training and economic resiliency planning efforts to deal with future natural disasters. The project is supported by a \$87,000 grant award from the EDA and was matched with \$89,000 in local funding.
- *Keizer ADA Transition Plan* – The COG has supported the city in the creation of an *ADA Transition Plan* to identify accessibility barriers within public rights-of-way, public facilities and parks. To date, we have assisted with development of methodology for data collection and inventory of public facilities, park, curb ramps and sidewalks in order to help identify needed modifications moving forward. COG staff will also create a final report and data collection methodology and mapping that can aid other interested members in the Mid-Valley in the development of their own ADA Transition Plans.
- *Regional Economic Development Planning* – The COG continues to partner with Marion County and the North Santiam Joint Sewer Task Group (NSJSTG) in meetings and workshops on the Santiam River Canyon to help support development, economic opportunities, and jobs in this distressed area. Staff also assisted Marion County and the NSJSTG in the successful procurement of a project engineer via a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process and has entered into a contract with the selected firm on preliminary planning for sewer services within the region.
- *Regional Solutions Team* – The COG continues to participate with the Oregon Regional Solution Team (RST) and Advisory Committees appointed by the Governor’s Office. The RST boundaries are aligned with the eleven federally designated Economic Development Districts (EDDs) in Oregon and include state agency representation along with representation from the Governor’s office.
- *“Strategic Doing”* - As requested by the City of Newberg and Yamhill County, COG assisted with and submitted a \$86,000 grant application to The Ford Family Foundation (TFFF) for program funding to support the Chehalem Valley Innovation Accelerator (CVIA) and University of Oregon in continued “Strategic Doing” and economic development planning efforts in Yamhill County and COG is serving as the fiscal agent on the award. The project supports efforts by CVIA and Yamhill County to build an economic development collaborative and identify and implement key actions in the following community development areas: Transportation; Workforce and Talent Development; Housing; Infrastructure; and Land Availability/Use.

Housing Rehabilitation Services

COG assists with administration and management of housing rehabilitation services in rural Marion County and the following cities: Aumsville, Aurora, Detroit, Gates, Gervais,

Hubbard, Idanha, Jefferson, Mt. Angel, Scotts Mills, Silverton, Stayton, Turner, and Woodburn. Valley Development Initiatives

(VDI), a non-profit affiliate of COG, manages the program on behalf of our members.

The program provides financial assistance to income qualifying property owners in need of home repairs via a low-interest, deferred payment loan program to mitigate health and safety concerns, improve deficiencies, increase efficiency and improve accessibility. As clients repay loans, the money can then be re-lent to other eligible property owners in the county.

Since creation of the program in 1999, VDI has helped over 400 households maintain/repair their homes and has brought in over \$1.2 million in new funds to serve the region.

Program highlights from 2019 include the following:

Location	Services Provided	Loan amount
Aurora	Roof & furnace replacement	\$15,000
Gervais	Roof, windows & siding replacement	\$25,000
Jefferson	Windows, flooring & roof replacement	\$25,000
Marion County	Main Water Line Replacement	\$3,000
Marion County	Windows & furnace replacement	\$8,988
Woodburn	Roof, front porch, bath/shower & front door replacement. Widen bedroom & bathroom doors for ADA Accessibility	\$25,000
Total		\$101,988

COG has also expended approximately 45% of the City of Stayton \$400,000 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) award to service eligible persons in manufactured home parks or persons ineligible under current housing rehabilitation program rules. The project, in partnership with Aumsville, Marion County, Mt. Angel, and Turner, is estimated to serve over thirty (30) area residents with maintenance and repair of their homes. To date we have completed assistance to ten (10) clients in Stayton, six (6) clients in Aumsville, four (4) clients in Mt. Angel, and three (3) clients in Marion County.



Before (Above) and after picture (Below) of a new kitchen window for a manufactured home in Mt. Angel.



COG Staff Milestones

New Hires

Ed Howard, Loan Officer, started at the COG in February.

McRae Carmichael, Safe Routes to School Coordinator/Associate Planner, began at the COG in January 2020.

Retirements

Alison Boswell, Loan Officer, left the COG in April.

Anniversaries

Lesley Hegewald, Associate GIS Specialist/Data Analyst, achieved 25 years with the COG in April.

Small Business Financing

COG lending staff received approvals and funding for \$2.5 million of loans. The total of COG loans was matched with \$5.9 million of private investment, and 41 new jobs are to be created.

Additional loan program highlights include:

- The COG's nonprofit entity, Valley Development Initiatives (VDI), approved and funded the first Community Advantage loan.
- COG lending staff received US Small Business Administration (SBA) approval to be a Loan Service Provider to banks in the region for the SBA 7a loan program applications and loan servicing.

- Staff has participated in regular Federal agencies' training webinars as policies and procedures, including portfolio reporting.



One of the businesses assisted by the Small Business Financing Department.

SMALL BUSINESS LOAN PROGRAM ACTIVITY IN 2019

	Location	Loan Program	Loan Amount	Total Project	Jobs
Approved and Funded 2019					
Brewery	Silverton	EDA/RLF	\$ 120,000	\$ 325,000	3
Appliance Repair	Albany	Comm Advantage	\$ 250,000	\$ 325,000	6
Restaurant	Woodburn	ILP	\$ 200,000	\$ 290,000	2
Restaurant	Woodburn	EDA/RLF	\$ 40,000	\$ 50,000	2
Landromat	Willamina	VDI	\$ 200,000	\$ 281,657	2
Food Processing	Dayton	EDA/RLF	\$ 32,000	\$ 80,000	2
Equipment Resale	Salem	OBDF	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 2,935,000	8
Manufacturing	Canby	OBDF	\$ 651,040	\$ 1,627,600	16
		Totals:	\$ 2,493,040	\$ 5,914,257	41
Funded in 2019/Approved 2018					
Hotel	Newport	SBA 504	\$ 2,448,000	\$ 6,796,686	15
Dentist	Keizer	SBA 504	\$ 578,000	\$ 1,595,848	13
		Totals:	\$ 3,026,000	\$ 8,392,534	28
Fundings in 2020/Approved 2018					
Food Processing	Salem	SBA 504	\$ 830,000	\$ 2,418,300	5
Commercial Contractor	Salem	SBA 504	\$ 499,000	\$ 1,281,680	13
Fitness Facility	Silverton	SBA 504	\$ 470,000	\$ 1,290,000	2
		Totals:	\$ 1,799,000	\$ 4,989,980	20

** Loan Programs Used: EDA/RLF-- Economic Development Administration Revolving Loan Fund; SBA 504-- U.S. Small Business Administration 504 Debenture Loan Program; Comm Advantage—SBA 7a Community Advantage; IRP/VDI—Rural Development Intermediary Relending Program; RLF/Marion—Marion County Businesses*

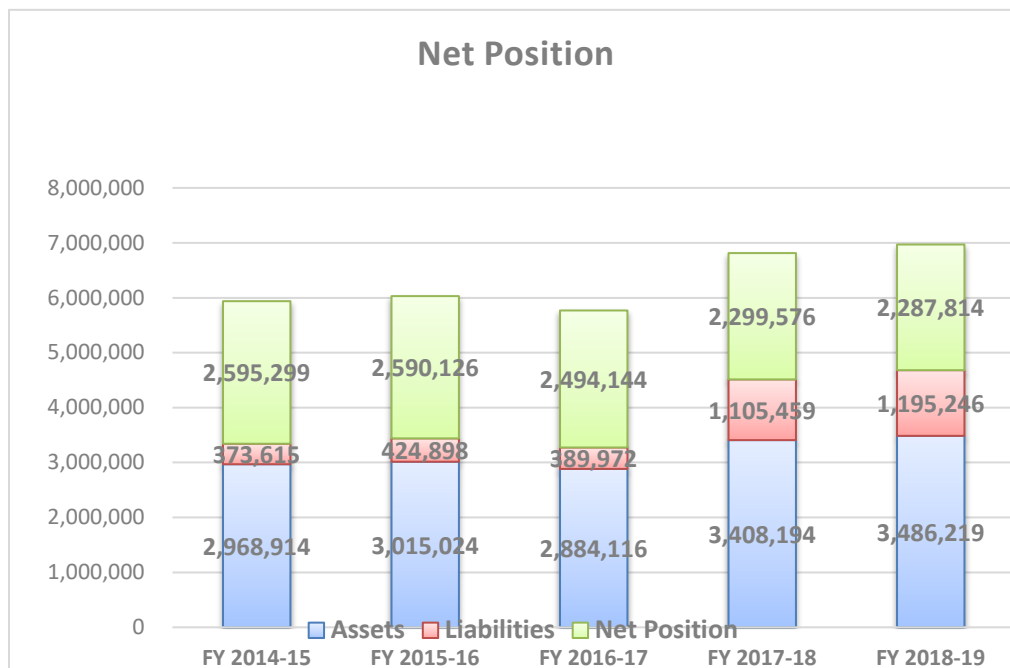
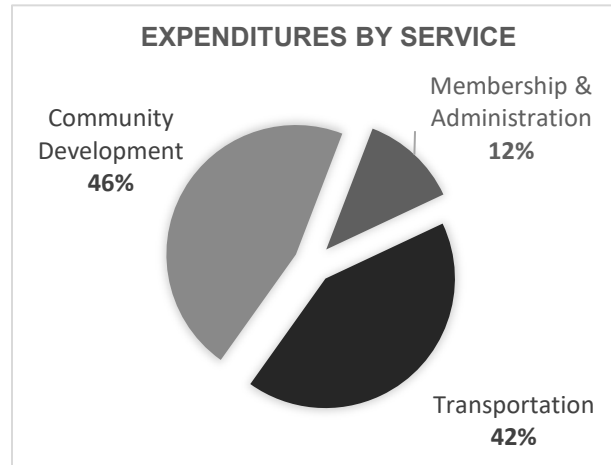
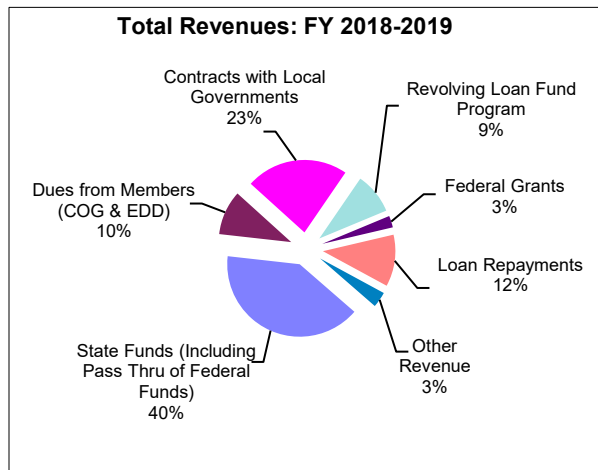
Financial Services

The COG operated with a budget of \$5.57 million and an FTE staff of 20.8 during the past year. Actual expenditures were \$2.94 million.

Major sources of revenue include dues from member governments, contracts with member governments for services, grants or contracts with state and federal agencies for a variety of services, pass-through money from state and

federal programs that is distributed to others, and fees earned from small businesses for loans.

The chart below illustrates in summary form the various sources of COG funds. The single most important source of revenue to the COG is dues from member governments. It is this revenue that provides for basic operating costs with a portion used to match federal grants.





100 High Street SE, Suite 200
Salem, Oregon 97301
Phone: 503-588-6177
Fax: 503-588-6094
Email: mwvcog@mwvcog.org
Website: www.mwvcog.org

2019 Board of Directors

Chair – Mayor Cathy Clark, Keizer*

Vice Chair – Jackie Franke, Board of Education, Chemeketa Community College*

Commissioner Sam Brentano, Marion County

Commissioner Mike Ainsworth, Polk County*

Commissioner Casey Kulla, Yamhill County

Mayor Brian Dalton, Dallas

Councilor Sal Peralta, McMinnville*

Councilor Roxanne Beltz, Monmouth

Mayor Rick Rogers, Newberg

Mayor Chuck Bennett, Salem

Mayor Eric Swenson, Woodburn

Mayor Shanti Platt, Gervais; Small Cities of Marion County (Aumsville, Aurora, Detroit, Donald, Gates, Gervais, Hubbard, Idanha, Jefferson, Mt. Angel, Scotts Mills, Silverton, St. Paul, Stayton, Sublimity, and Turner)

Mayor John McArdle, Independence; Small Cities of Polk County (Falls City, and Independence)

Mayor Michael Cape, Amity; Small Cities of Yamhill County (Amity, Carlton, Dayton, Dundee, Lafayette, Sheridan, Willamina and Yamhill)

Lisa Leno, Tribal Council, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde

Lisa Rogers, Board of Directors, Chehalem Park and Recreation District

Terry Hsu, Board of Directors, Marion Soil & Water Conservation District

Robert Krebs/Ian Davidson, Board of Directors, Salem Area Mass Transit District (Cherriots)

Sheronne Blasi, School Board, Salem-Keizer School District

Frank W. Pender, Jr., Board of Directors, Willamette Education Service District

** members of the Executive Committee*