

March 25, 2016

Sia Lindstrom  
Senior Deputy County Administrator  
Washington County  
155 N. First Ave., Suite 300  
Hillsboro, Oregon 97124

Dear Sia,

Happy Spring! CPO leaders are very interested in enhancing the program's budget to become more effective in fulfilling the mission of encouraging and empowering public involvement by providing a capacity for growth.

Increased funding from previous years is essential beyond simply supporting the program's transition of administrative duties. It has been recognized that Washington County has benefitted from both a "unique" approach and "good deal" from Oregon State University administering the CPO program for the past four decades.

The last time the CPO budget increased in proportion to the County's population growth was 1995. Since then, population growth has kept increasing. Now, following recent CCI planning efforts and the Transition Planning Team's report suggesting areas for improvement, we have identified areas of inadequate funding and the need for increased CPO program budget line items:

- Administrative office support — website updates, data entry, newsletters and meeting notices, minutes, posting digests of Commissioner work sessions, and logistical support of meetings,
- Promotion and marketing of all public involvement opportunities,
- Information Technology support for social media,
- Website development and maintenance,
- Creating wide-ranging civic education tools,
- Providing leadership training including training in diversity and outreach for all CPO leaders,
- Ongoing program evaluation, and support and coordination for related countywide programs. (e.g. Quake Up!, increased space for public information and materials on land use and livability at libraries, etc.)

CCI members look forward to dialog with you to explain our above requests and hear from you about how these could be addressed in the budget proposal. We know time is of the essence leading up to the May Budget Committee meetings, and you've been working hard and fast. Thank you for your attention and efforts.

Sincerely,



Jim Long  
Chair, CCI Steering Committee

cc: Philip Bransford, Communications Officer, Washington County  
Washington County Board of Commissioners