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January 9, 2002

TO: Oregon Progress Board

FROM: Jeffrey Tryens
Executive Director

SUBJECT: Executive Director's Report

Highlights

- State Senator Steve Harper and State Representative Max Williams join the Progress Board
- Board prepares for Oregon Benchmark updates 2003
- OSU dean leads effort to develop “ecologically optimal values” for environment benchmarks
- U of O team to develop sustainability index for Oregon
- Board to consider proposed agency guidelines for performance measurement

Administration

Board and Staff

Senate President Gene Derfler appointed Senator Steve Harper of Klamath Falls as the Senate member of the Progress Board. House Speaker Mark Simmons appointed Representative Max Williams of Tigard to represent the House of Representatives on the Progress Board. Both are respected leaders in the Legislative Assembly. The appointments were made pursuant to the provisions of HB 3358 of the 2001 legislative session.

The Board has hired Thomas Endicott to fill in for Robin Peterson during her pregnancy leave. Thomas is on a job rotation for the Economic and Community Development Department. Bradley Basson, a Willamette University MBA/MPA student, has been an intern with the Board since mid-December. Bradley will work part-time until May when he will graduate and return to his home in South Africa. His main project will be to complete a race and ethnicity report similar to the ones the Board has published in the past.

Budget

The Progress Board would experience a cut of approximately seven percent if the Governor's “all cuts” budget were adopted by the legislature.

Program

(Goals and objectives listed below are from the Board's 2001 - 03 work plan adopted in September.)

Goal 1: Maintain and Enhance *Oregon Shines* as the State's Strategic Vision

Objective 1.1: Improve the quality and accessibility of benchmarks.

Project 1.1A - Biennial Benchmark Performance Report

As part of its biennial reporting requirement, the Board is currently considering possible changes to the Oregon Benchmarks. The Board will review 32 developmental benchmarks and at least three suggestions for new benchmarks at its January meeting. At its March meeting, the Board will hear recommendations for changes to existing benchmarks. An item-by-item breakdown of possible changes is enclosed for Board use along with copies of relevant correspondence. As part of the Benchmark update process 3,000 notices were mailed to interested Oregonians.

Project 1.1B & 1.1C - 2002 Oregon Population Survey

The Population Survey agency sponsors' group meets January 16, 2002 to discuss the parameters of the 2002 survey and consider any changes that might be necessary to accommodate budget revisions triggered by the budget rebalance. The project should go out to bid in February.

Project 1.1D & 1.1E - Race & Ethnicity Report and Health Data

Intern Bradley Basson is preparing to send out the statewide survey to city recorders and county clerks to determine the current racial, ethnic and gender make-up of Oregon's elected officials. This is one of the issues addressed in the race and ethnicity report.

Project 1.1F - 2002 Ready-to-Learn Survey

Oregon Department of Education spokesperson Anita McClanahan will attend the January Progress Board to address the Governor's interest in fielding a yearly, mandatory ready-to-learn survey.

Project 1.1G - SOER Data and Targets

A group of scientists, convened by Oregon State University (OSU) School of Forestry Dean Hal Salwasser, will meet on January 22 to develop their best estimate of ecologically optimal values for SOER environment benchmarks. This exercise will give Oregonians and the Progress Board an understanding of how large a gap exists between existing trends in these benchmarks and where Oregon should be to attain ecological health. The Board will consider this information when developing short-term targets at its March meeting. Also at the March meeting, the Board will consider agency recommended targets for the environmental benchmarks not being addressed by Dean Salwasser's group.

Objective 1.2: Develop action agendas for selected benchmarks.

Project 1.2A - Action Agendas

No real change in this area. Workforce is still an item of interest. The Board's economic well-being dynamics model (formerly poverty dynamics) has stalled in its development. Consideration of additional work on health related issues will be discussed at the March Progress Board meeting.

Objective 1.3: Improve Oregon's ability to measure sustainability.

Project 1.3A - Sustainability Index

The agreement with University of Oregon Assistant Professor Marc Schlossberg to develop a

proposal for a sustainability index has been completed. Dr. Schlossberg and his students should have a proposal for Board consideration at its March meeting. Jeff will be in a work group sponsored by the Fordham Institute for Innovation in Social Policy to “nationalize” the social well-being index that was featured in Oregon Shines II. This is a two dimension version of the three dimensional index (social, economic and environmental) envisioned for Oregon. Jeff has also been invited to participate in another national group looking to develop a national set of indicators on “sustainable development.” All of these efforts inform the Board’s work in Oregon.

Other:

Nothing new to report regarding possible changes to benchmarks in the areas of volunteerism, sustainability and racial profiling in response to 2001 legislation. Criminal Justice Commission Director Phil Lemman has provided the Board with a memo regarding plans for the Law Enforcement Contacts Policy and Data Review Committee that is dealing with the issue of racial profiling. (See enclosed.)

Similarly, little has changed regarding a statewide literacy survey. The amount of money needed to mount such a survey has proved daunting to potential public and private partners alike. Oregon Business Council Vice President (and former Progress Board staffer) Deirdre Molander and Jeff are investigating additional possibilities.

Goal 2: Mobilize Partners to Help Achieve Benchmark Targets
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Objective 2.1: Increase state agency use of benchmarks.

Project 2.1 - Performance Guidelines

The second meeting of the Progress Board’s Performance Measures Advisory Group focused on best practices from agencies from within Oregon and across the nation. The departments of Corrections, Transportation and Economic and Community Development all presented their performance measure systems. Previously, staff to the Advisory Group completed a study on other states that are in the lead with performance measures, according to *Governing* magazine. Rita presented this study and its conclusions and recommendations at this meeting. Pat Payne for Department of Administrative Services (DAS) discussed how a performance measure system might interface with Oregon’s new budget software. Jeff presented and facilitated a discussion of an overall performance measure system for Oregon state government.

Based on the Advisory Group comments at this meeting, staff completed a draft of *Performance Measure Guidelines for Oregon State Agencies*, enclosed is this report. Staff asked for and received comments back from several members of the Advisory Group. Feedback has been generally positive so far, though there are several issues that will likely be debated at the January 14th meeting. These include: how slowly/quickly to require all agencies to meet all criteria; whether or not to provide incentives to state agency managers for meeting targets; how to best engage the legislature with performance measures. Because of timing issues associated with the budget rebalance, the Board will have to consider and change the guidelines at its January meeting. Board members should come prepared with any questions or comments.

Projects 2.1B & 2.1C - Agency Performance Frameworks

Department of Land Conservation and Development project: Despite the fact that this project is on a fast track, the department does not yet have a permanent director, and staff has just completed a major move to reduce floor space (to accommodate budget cuts), this project remains on schedule. It

continues to require a good portion of Rita's time but staff, partners, stakeholders and the commission are all engaged and tracking with it. At its December meeting, the commission settled on 15 priorities; the top six for which staff are developing strategies and performance measures. Commissioner Chair Randy Franke will suggest at the January 24-25 meeting that a subcommittee be formed to shepherd the final phases of the plan, including performance measures, to its targeted approval at the commission's March 15 meeting.

SB 555 – Local Comprehensive, Coordinated Planning for Children and Families: Our consultant, Mady Kimmich of the Human Services Research Institute, is helping state partners to prepare for reviewing county Phase II plans, due this month. She participated in two orientation sessions for counties, one in Salem and one in Bend, and got further comments on timelines and expectations around measurement. State partners are refining criteria with which to review the plans. Mady's focus has been on evaluability of the plans so the Progress Board can fulfill its mandate to report to the Legislature on progress towards outcomes. Funding for Mady to continue providing critical technical assistance and training to state agencies and counties is tenuous at the moment. Discussions are underway with the Commission on Children and Families to find additional resources. Rita presented at the Governor's Children's Plan kick-off this month, focusing on the relationship between outcomes between the Children's Plan and SB 555.

Staff continue to respond to requests for assistance in this area from state agencies including the Construction Contractors' Board, the state Public Policy Alternative Dispute Resolution Team. Also Jeff continues to serve on Economic and Community Development Department's work group that approves performance measurements developed by regional and rural strategies boards.

Project 2.1C - Performance Training for Agencies

If DAS accepts the Board's recommendations regarding performance measurement guidelines, Board staff will have to prepare training materials for agency staff and analysts. These trainings will occur soon after the budget instructions are released.

Project 2.1D - 2003 Benchmark Blue Book

No change.

Project 2.1E and 2.1F - Legislative Requests

No change.

Objective 2.2: Broaden benchmark usage by partners.

Project 2.2A - 2002 County Data Book

Individual county benchmark sheets will be completed in January. These sheets will be incorporated into *the County Data Book* and will be published on the Oregon Progress Board's (OPB) website in PDF and Excel formats.

Project 2.2B - SB555 Reports

The Juvenile Crime Prevention Advisory Council (JCPAC) received the final version of the Juvenile Crime Prevention Review on December 21. This version incorporated many of the concerns expressed by JCPAC in a previous meeting.

Project 2.2C - Oregon State of the Environment Report 2000 Outreach

Nothing new to report.

Project 2.2D - Library Consortium Project

Nothing new to report.

Project 2.2E - Local Partner Requests

Nothing new to report.

Project 2.2F - Oregon Solutions Network Requests

Governor's Policy Team Leader Greg Wolf has left state service and taken the Oregon Solutions Network with him. As the director of a new organization devoted to consensus building, Greg will manage the state's interests in the solutions network from his new post. Any additional involvement by the Progress Board will be up to Greg.

Project 2.2G - SB555 Technical Assistance

Members of the SB 555 Steering Committee requested Rita's assistance in facilitating their development of a vision statement. This is currently rescheduled for the January 16th meeting. Along with staff from the Department of Human Services and the Commission on Children and Families, Rita is also providing training on outcomes at the Governor's Children's Plan Kick-off on January 10th.

Goal 3: Build More Public Awareness of Oregon Shines and Benchmarks

Objective 3.1 Increase public knowledge of Oregon Shines and benchmarks.

Project 3.1A - Periodic Reports

Press events:

Nothing new to report.

Media coverage during the past two months includes:

"Wallowa County tops state's education index benchmark," *The Observer*, La Grande; "Crook County awarded for improvements," *The Bulletin*, Bend; "Oregon lags in support for parents," *The Oregonian* and "District happy with student progress," *Baker City Herald*, Baker City.

Project 3.1B - County Data and Benchmark Trend Presentations

Jeff made presentations to the: Medford Rotary Club, Medford; Commission on Children and Families, The Dalles; and Ontario Chamber of Commerce, Ontario.

Project 3.1C - Website Upgrade

Two interactive forms have been added to the web site to: 1) encourage visitors to sign our guest book; and 2) facilitate feedback on benchmark changes. The *2001 County Benchmark Data Book* has also been posted.

Website hits:

December 2002 website use data is not yet available from the server administrator.

October 2001	7,930	October 2000	22,300
November 2001	8,129	November 2000	19,645

Objective 3.2: Provide advice and guidance to others.

Project 3.2A – Health Outcomes Study

Jeff distributed copies of Howard Leichter’s recommendations that were presented at the November Progress Board meeting. The Board will discuss possible future actions on Dr. Leichter’s recommendations at the March Board meeting. A copy of Dr. Leichter’s recommendations is enclosed.

Project 3.2B – Assist Visiting Delegations

As a result of the September visit from the Norwegian delegation, Jeff has been invited to be a keynote speaker at a national local government conference in Oslo. The Board has also been approached, informally, about hosting a visit from the current governor of Guanajuato, Mexico. (Mexican President Vicente Fox adopted Oregon’s benchmark monitoring system when he was governor of Guanajuato.) On December 12, Rita presented a slide show to a visiting delegation from Shinagawa City, Japan. Jeff also hosted a visitor from Japan in his home as part of a three-week visit to the International Division of the Economic and Community Development Department.

Project 3.2C – Cooperate with Oregon Shines’ Researchers

As a result of a study commissioned by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) to study lead states in the area of performance measurement, Jeff participated in a GASB task force on communicating performance measurement.

Other:

During the past two months, staff made the following presentations:
Oregon Children’s Plan Kick-off; Oregon Perspectives, Southern Oregon Public TV, Medford; Senate Economic and Job Stimulus Committee, Senators Atkinson and Metsger; Shinagawa City Assembly Overseas Inquiry Committee; Marys River Watershed Council, Philomath; and State Government Committee, House of Representatives, Olympia, WA

Staff also participated in the following meetings:

Oregon’s vision, Ted Kulongoski; The Oregon Agreement, Darrell Kenops; Oregon Benchmark concerns, Ray Guenther; Association of Oregon Counties, County Administrators - new county benchmark forms; New benchmarks, Metro Councilor William, Lake Oswego; Rural/regional performance, Ethan Seltzer, Portland; New faculty seminar, hosted for University of Oregon, Portland; Update on Professional Services, Sandra Suran, Portland; and Emergency Preparedness Benchmark, Sue Hildick, American Red Cross.

Goal 4: Provide high quality services to all stakeholders.

Objective 4.1 Communicate regularly with stakeholders regarding quality

Project 4.1A: Participate in customer satisfaction survey

No change.

Project 4.1B: Survey Legislators and Staff

No change.

Project 4.1C: Survey Meeting Participants

No change.

Enclosures