

# OYA *In the Loop*

April 14, 2009

## **Budget Hearing Update**

Last Thursday was the first day of our four-day budget hearing schedule. Our budget is heard by the Public Safety Subcommittee of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.

Most members of the Cabinet and I traveled to the Capitol to present OYA's budget for the 2009-11 as recommended by the Governor to the Legislature in December. Others, along with a team of official "watchers," remained in the office to make sure to capture legislators' questions and begin to research responses.

Most of Thursday, I presented the agency overview. You can find the presentation document on the Web at [http://www.oregon.gov/OYA/reports/2009\\_BudgetPresentation.pdf](http://www.oregon.gov/OYA/reports/2009_BudgetPresentation.pdf).

Since December, a lot has changed. The fluidity of our state's economy right now makes presenting an obsolete budget more than a bit confusing.

Working with Legislative Fiscal Officer Laurie Byerly, we decided that our presentation would cover not only the Governor's Recommended Budget, but also some of the intermediate proposals that have an effect on 2009-11, such as the 2007-09 rebalance. As you likely remember, to help with the current budget shortfall, our agency is making cuts this year that will carry over into the next biennium.

Layered onto that is the fact that revenue coming into the state from taxes, fees and the Lottery are forecasted to drop dramatically. At the request of the Legislature, earlier this month we created a budget scenario that anticipates reductions up to 30 percent. We will present that scenario to the committee on the last day of testimony.

Yesterday was public testimony day – a day set aside for the committee to hear what members of the public think about OYA's budget. Because of the 30 percent reduction scenario, the turnout was huge. More than 36 people signed up to testify, and they ran the gamut from youth to staff to community partners to parents to tribes. When we talk about the balanced juvenile justice system, you just had to listen to the testimony to understand the continuum that we hold in such esteem. I was also impressed that almost every single presenter focused on the connection between services to youth and public safety, with the sound bite of the day going to Jeff Hames of RYCF who said: "We have no throwaway youth in Oregon."

Our budget presentation continues today and tomorrow, and will feature our assistant directors who will each present their division's budget. The order is Community, Facilities, Budget/Business Services and Program Support. If you have video or audio streaming capabilities and would like to have a front-row seat, tune in at <http://www.leg.state.or.us/listn/asx/HR170.asx>. Of course, if you are at work, please check with your supervisor.

## **Co-Chairs Take Budget Hearings on the Road**

Senator Margaret Carter and Representative Peter Buckley -- co-chairs of the Legislature's Joint Ways and Means Committee -- announced yesterday that they will hold eight public budget hearings around the state during the last two weeks of April.

The hearings will begin in Lincoln City on April 20 and will include stops in Pendleton, Ontario, Portland, Bend, Eugene and Ashland, as well as a hearing at the State Capitol.

Members of the committee will also stop in Klamath Falls during their drive from the Bend hearing on April 29 on their way to Jackson County the following day. While there, they intend to fan out across Klamath Falls and meet individually with local citizens as they go about their day.

At each one of the public hearing, attendees will also receive a survey instrument, allowing them to make choices about proposed service cuts, potential revenue increases and other critical budget issues.

Also this week, Co-Chairs Buckley and Carter unveiled [www.oregonbudget.gov](http://www.oregonbudget.gov), a new simplified Internet address where Oregonians can find information on the state budget. The budget information includes the 30 percent reduction scenarios provided by each state agency.

The schedule is:

### **Monday, April 20**

Lincoln City Cultural Center  
540 NE Hwy 101  
Lincoln City  
5:30 to 8 p.m.

### **Tuesday, April 21**

Portland Community College - Cascade Campus  
Auditorium, Moriory Building  
705 N. Killingsworth Street  
6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

### **Thursday, April 23**

Oregon State Capitol  
Hearing Room F (Including Hood River via video link)  
900 Court Street NE, Salem  
5:30 to 8 p.m.

### **Saturday, April 25**

Pendleton Oregon National Guard Armory  
2100 N.W. 56th Drive  
10 a.m. to noon

### **Saturday, April 25**

Ontario Treasure Valley Community College  
650 College Boulevard  
3 to 5 p.m. (Mountain Savings Time)

### **Wednesday, April 29**

Central Oregon Community College, Bend  
Cascades Hall Room 117  
5:30 to 8 p.m.

**Thursday, April 30**

Southern Oregon University, Ashland  
Rogue River Room  
Stevenson Union  
1250 Siskiyou Boulevard  
5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Friday, May 1**

University of Oregon, Eugene  
Prince Lucien Campbell Hall (PLC 180)  
1415 Kincaid Street  
1 to 4 p.m.