Eastern Oregon Economic Development Planning Project
Presentation to the House Agriculture and Land Use Committee

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Palmer Mason, Senior Policy Advisor
Kirstin Greene, Deputy Director
Jon Jinings, Rural Specialist
2018 – HB 5201
The bill allocates $300,000 “for the purpose of providing technical assistance grants to eastern Oregon counties for economic opportunity analyses (EOAs).”

**Purpose**
Provide assistance to Eastern Oregon communities for economic development planning

**Objectives**
Effectively invest $300,000 in 11 months
EOA Basics

Establish Land Supply

- Review Employment Trends
- Identification of Site Types
- Land Inventory
- Community Economic Development Potential
- Community Visioning
EOAs ensure 20-year land supply
- Right type
- Right location

EOAs help in the expansion and recruitment of business
Who was eligible?
All cities and counties in Eastern Oregon

How did we prioritize?
Counties with population < 20,000 in a distressed area*

Distressed area* – As defined by Business Oregon
32 cities in eight counties (27 adoption-ready EOAs)

**BAKER**
- Baker City
- Haines
- Halfway
- Huntington*
- Richland
- Sumpter
- Unity

**HARNEY**
- Burns
- Hines

**LAKE**
- Lakeview
- Paisley

**GILLIAM**
- Arlington*
- Condon
- Lonerock*

**GRANT**
- Canyon City*
- Dayville
- Granite*
- John Day
- Long Creek*
- Monument
- Mt. Vernon
- Prairie City
- Seneca

**WHEELER**
- Fossil
- Mitchell
- Spray

**SHERMAN**
- Grass Valley
- Moro
- Rufus
- Wasco

*CITIES in WALLOWA COUNTY
- Lostine
- Joseph

* Buildable Land Inventory (BLI) and qualitative assessment only.
Investment Outcomes

32
Buildable Lands Inventories

Digitized data

Nimble for future use

Provides updated factual information base

City of Mitchell old Comprehensive Plan map

City of Mitchell buildable lands map

Students from Mitchell School help clear the roadway on Saturday, April 20, 2019. (Photo courtesy of Patrick Farrell)
Investment Outcomes

27

Economic Opportunity Analyses

Addresses infrastructure deficiency

20-year land supply; can serve as information base for UGB

Paisley, Oregon

City of Grass Valley buildable lands map

1000s

Volunteer hours, dozens of community conversations
Key Findings

Assumes Adequate Land Supply and Infrastructure

- EOA reports project the employment base of the participating cities to grow by **3,755 jobs** across all industries in the next 20 years. This graphic shows growth in the larger cities.

- Land supply not the overriding constraint.
High Local Variability

Target Industries

Agriculture

Construction

Renewables

Manufacturing

Warehousing

Professional

Resident Services

Retirement

Health Care

Tourism & Rec

*Note graph is not to scale
Lessons Learned

- **Good first step**
  - Seven counties now have baseline data for their cities
  - 32 digitized inventories of buildable land

- **Communities want more**
  - Deeper dive
  - Customized economic development strategies
  - More capacity
Next Steps

- Undertake targeted work to implement strategies with other agencies and local partners such as:
  
  o Main Street program / investments
  
  o Re-zoning
  
  o Marketing

- Pursue additional infrastructure + modernization projects

- Help communities adopt EOAs

- Increase boots on the ground capacity
Thank You!