

Oregon Futures

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News from the University of Oregon Community Planning Workshop

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CPW Study Examines Willamette Valley's Future

According to the U.S. Census, approximately 70 percent of Oregon's population lived within the Willamette Valley in 1990. A large portion of the state's best agricultural land and much of Oregon's economy is driven by activities that take place in the counties that comprise the Valley. Because of the Valley's importance to our state, great care must be taken in planning its future. Such planning requires gaining an understanding of past trends, current conditions, and possible futures.

In 1972, Lawrence Halprin and Associates, working with the state Executive Department, considered the impacts humans had on the livability of the Willamette Valley and published *Willamette Valley—Choices for the Future*. Halprin's report was described as an "environmental primer" for the residents of the Valley and offered a discussion of several indicators of livability such as air and water quality, parks and open space, and traffic congestion.

Twenty-two years have passed since Halprin's work was published and development within the Willamette Valley has continued—in some cases, as Halprin had forecast, in other cases, not.

The Oregon Progress Board, which produced *Oregon Benchmarks*, is interested in the Valley's future based on current trends in development. In the Fall of 1994 the Progress Board contracted with two University of Oregon Programs—Community



Planning Workshop (CPW) and The Institute for a Sustainable Environment (ISE))—to evaluate trends affecting livability in the Valley. The resulting document and accompanying video serve as both an update to Halprin's report, as well as a new look into the Valley's future.

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Willamette Valley Futures, produced by the University of Oregon's Community Planning Workshop, presents a look at the affects development have had on livability in the Willamette Valley over the past 20 years, as well as what future development may bring to the Valley

Questions about CPW?

If you have questions about how CPW can help you, please call David Povey, at (503) 346-3812.

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CPW Currently Involved in 11 Planning Projects

CPW seeks to provide educational opportunities for graduate planning students while at the same time providing planning assistance to communities, agencies, and organizations across Oregon. In ad-

dition to overseeing the RARE program, Workshop is currently conducting 11 planning projects for a diverse range of clients across the state. A brief description of those projects is found below.

Current Community Planning Workshop Projects:

Bandon Comprehensive Plan Review	A complete revision of the Bandon Comprehensive Plan which will address deficiencies in the current Plan that have been identified both by DLCD and by the City of Bandon.
Benton County Housing Needs Assessment	Examines the need for low-income housing in the rural areas of Benton County. CPW will develop a profile of the County and assess current and future housing conditions and needs.
Emerald People's Utility District Energy Services Assessment	An identification of emerging energy technologies, as well as an assessment of possible impacts of those technologies on the District's customers. CPW will recommend the role EPUD should take in providing energy services.
Eugene Riverfront Research Park Marketing	CPW is identifying high-tech firms in California which might be interested in expanding or relocating to the Riverfront Research Park. Also included are marketing strategies the Research Park might employ.
Grants Pass Solar Access Ordinance Review	A review of Grants Pass development standards and regulations with the intention of recommending changes to those relating to the city's solar access ordinance.
Lincoln County Housing Needs Assessment	An assessment of the need for low-income housing in Lincoln County. CPW will develop a profile of the County and assess current and future housing conditions and needs.
McKenzie River Strategic Plan	CPW is assisting in the drafting of a strategic plan which will serve as a guide for development along the main stem of the McKenzie River.
ODOT Potential Development Impact Analysis	An analysis of maximum potential buildout in several counties and small cities in southern Oregon. The analysis is based on the idea that ODOT's transportation planning should take into account possible future development scenarios.
Prospect Master Plan	CPW is developing a Master Plan for the unincorporated community of Prospect, focusing on economic development, eco-tourism, and infrastructure.
Springfield Strategic Tourism Plan	CPW is contracted to create a strategic plan to promote Springfield's cultural, natural, and recreational resources to visitors and local citizens.
University of Oregon Environmental Assessment	An assessment of energy and water consumption and the production of solid waste on the University campus, with the goal of decreasing consumption and increasing recycling.

Test Drive a CPW Today...

Living in the Pacific Northwest you need the ability to power through deep drifts of public dissatisfaction, cross rushing streams of rapidly melting government programs, climb mountains of unmet public service needs and explore the "new terrain" of how things might work better. **You need to test-drive a CPW today.**

CPW is the University of Oregon's equivalent of an all-terrain, service utility vehicle designed to allow your community to safely explore "new territory". CPW is the Community Planning Workshop at the University of Oregon; a group of faculty with planning experience who work with students to help communities and organizations in Oregon.

The New CPW

Fifteen years ago the Community Planning Workshop was designed and developed to engage university faculty and students in research and service-learning activities which provide help to communities and organizations while teaching students how to do planning and public policy analysis. The CPW staff has grown to include eight planners who each year work with over 100 students, helping organizations develop and implement projects designed to improve current situations. In the past year the Community Planning Workshop has introduced new approaches to helping communities and training students. We thought you might be interested in hearing about these new "models" and how you can try them out.

Community Planning Projects : Our standard model is the planning assistance team. Communities or organizations contract with the CPW to conduct projects designed to improve economic and environmental conditions. Projects usually last for six months and cost between \$10,000 to \$20,000. CPW has completed over 250 projects, receiving state and national recognition for excellence and high praise from client groups. A brief description of projects currently in progress is found on Page 5. If you are

interested in retaining a research team of graduate students with an experienced planner/manager to help your community or organization please call Matt Malone at (503) 346-3801.

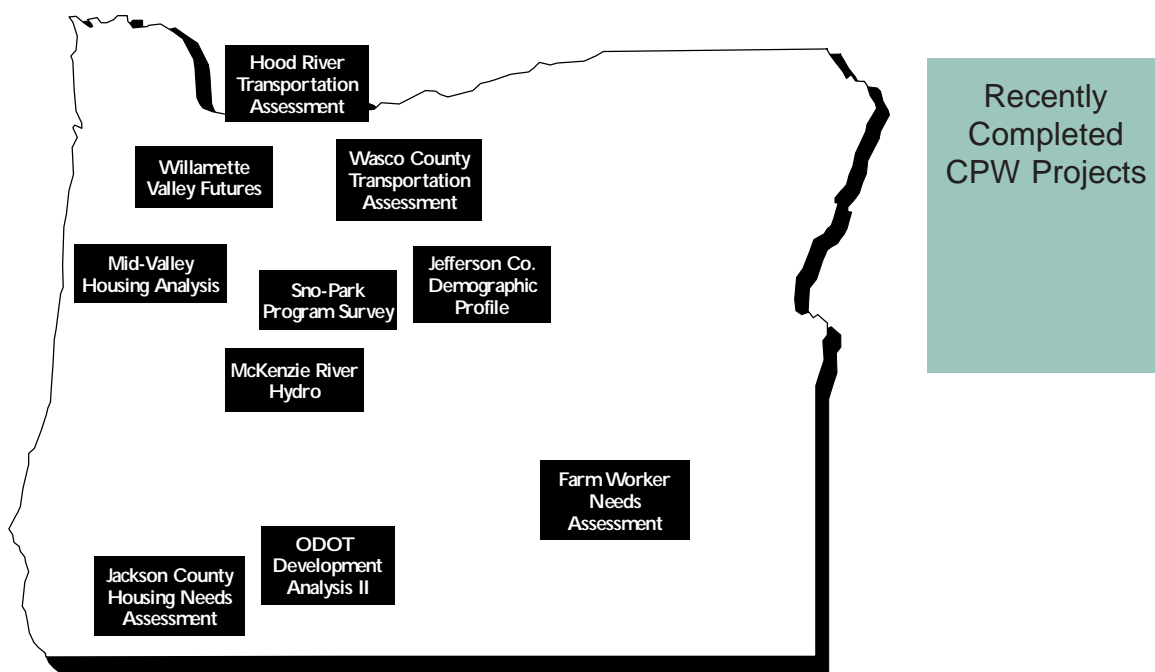
Community Courses : CPW has developed a number of courses and workshops designed to assist communities and organizations take a more active role in shaping the future. These courses, delivered through one-day workshops in the community, include topics such as grant writing, project management, computer applications, and an introduction to the Internet. CPW has offered short courses in a number of communities, receiving high ratings for the practical application of the subject matter and the usefulness of the materials distributed to participants. Workshops for up to 25 participants cost between \$300 and \$500. If you are interested in having a short course offered in your community please call David Povey at (503) 346-3812.

Resource Assistance for Rural Environments (RARE) : Through CPW we have attracted and trained a number of highly skilled community development assistants. In 1994-95, with financial assistance from AmeriCorps, CPW placed 14 Resource Assistants in 13 communities where they are living and working to help improve economic and environmental conditions. The RARE workers receive planning and technical assistance support from CPW. Their work is supervised by a representative of the local community. Participating communities need to have a strategic plan, evidence of a willingness to get things done, the cooperation of nearby rural communities and \$12,000. The money is used to cover a portion of the annual cost of an assistant, as well as a computer and software to stay connected with the University, the Internet and other rural communities.

CPW has requested AmeriCorps support for the placement of 20 resource assistant in 1995-96 and has applications from over 30 highly qualified assistants, a number of whom have several years of community development assistance. If you are interested in applying for a RARE worker to begin assistance in your community in June 1995 or October 1995 please call Scott Craig or Mark Fancy at 503-346-3889.

...you'll be glad you did tomorrow.

Community Planning Workshop Working Across Oregon



The University of Oregon Community Planning Workshop (CPW) offers planning and public policy assistance to a wide variety of Oregon communities, agencies, and organizations. Since 1978, Workshop has completed approximately 200 projects throughout the state. *CPW is currently identifying projects to*

complete during the summer and fall of 1995. If you are interested in discussing how we may be able to help meet your needs, call David Povey, Director (346-3812), or Matt Malone, Operations Director (346-3801), or complete and return the enclosed *Oregon Futures Reply Card*.

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