

Oregon Rural Development Council (ORDC)

Overview and Background

January 2016



ORDC was established in 1991 as one of nine (9) Pilot State Rural Development Councils (SRDCs)

State Rural Development Councils (SRDCs) were created by U.S. Presidential Executive Order and functioned under the National Rural Development Partnership (NRDP)



State Rural Development Councils (SRDC)

- * State, federal, tribal, non profit, education, business framework to coordinate rural programs and policy
- * Outlined in Farm Bill in 1990, reauthorized in 2008
- * Required certification at the national level
- * Quasi Agency, Non profit options



SRDCs Nationally

- * State and federal rural program and policy coordination
- * National Rural Development Partnership (NRDP)
- * Key federal agencies:
 - * USDA Rural Development (RD)
 - * U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
 - * Veteran's Affairs (VA), U.S. Department of Transportation
 - * U.S. Health and Human Services (HHS)
 - * U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA)



SRDCs Nationally

- * Partners for Rural America (PRA) non profit association for SRDC's
- * SRDC's serve as neutral conveners around rural issues, problem solving, projects, policy, and resources
- * Currently 28 recognized SRDC's nationally

ORDC Values

- * Neutral, open, and inclusive
- * Everyone is a “member” of ORDC
- * Collaboration, community, culture, and diversity
- * Address rural community and economic development
- * Leverage federal, state, and other program resources
- * Does not compete with partners for funding in state
- * Maintains a strong partnership at the national level



ORDC – Early Focus Areas

- * ORDC State Community Economic Revitalization Team (SCERT) funding for infrastructure and more
- * Ecosystem Workforce Jobs in the Woods
- * Oregon Department of Agriculture - Ag alternatives
- * Western Rural Development Center – Ed resources
- * Arts, Nature, and Business Development – Oregon Arts Commission, economic development



ORDC Work Plan Elements

- * Community forums to address needs and issues
- * Economic Development – renewable energy forum, Oregon Business Plan, economic summits
- * Rural Policy – Northwest Economic Adjustment Initiative, listening forums, Eastern Oregon Rural Alliance, Governor's Office of Rural Policy
- * Coordination, Communication, and Collaboration – Share Best Practices across States, National Rural Development Partnership, Rural Oregon Day



ORDC has conducted a local forum in every County in the State

Needs and Issues, Project Successes,
Challenges, Federal, State, Local,
Organizational, Educational, Business,
Tribes



Community Forums and Topics

- * Cornelius - Urban Growth Boundaries
- * Condon - Ag Economy and impact of salmon
- * Gold Beach - Business Recruitment programs
- * Cow Creek - Tribal projects/programs
- * Umatilla County at Tamastlikt – local strategic planning
- * Sunriver Rural Health Forum – economic engine
- * Madras Rural Housing Forum – public private partnerships
- * La Grande – telecommunications
- * Mt. Vernon – downtown revitalization



Rural Advocacy

- * Rural Oregon Day 2002 – 2009 advocacy training, key messages, highlighted Legislative proposals for housing, health, entrepreneurship, workforce, and water which moved forward
- * Governor's Office of Rural Policy created April, 2004 (eliminated 2009) included 18 state agency rural liaisons for coordination
- * Oregon Rural Policy Forum 2006 led to water supply and conservation initiative/Oregon Integrated Water Resources Strategy
- * South Coast Rural Policy Forum – water quality and coastal lakes, septic tank replacement program created for Garrison Lake
- * Lake and Klamath Rural Policy Forum – renewable energy, outreach for agencies to follow up, projects in Lake County gained funding

