BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF LANE COUNTY, OREGON

ORDER NO: 15-10-20-05

IN THE MATTER OF DIRECTING THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE OREGON DEPARTMENT OF LAND CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT REQUESTING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MULTI COUNTY CODE UPDATE PROJECT TO SUPPORT UPDATING LANE CODE CHAPTER 16 FARM AND FOREST ZONING REGULATIONS.

WHEREAS, the Lane County Land Use and Development Code (Lane Code Chapter 16) is outdated and requires extensive revisions; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners prioritized the update and modernization of Lane Code Chapter 16 on the 2015/16 Long Range Planning Work Program on July 14, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development has resources available to assist up to six qualifying counties with Code modernization efforts specific to Farm and Forests zoning districts; and

WHEREAS, assistance provided by the State would reduce staff costs and expedite progress on elements of the Lane Code Chapter 16 modernization effort; and

WHEREAS, Prior to soliciting assistance from the Department of Land Conservation and Development a letter of support from the Board of County Commissioners is required.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of Lane County ORDERS as follows:

1. That the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners sign and submit a letter to the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development, included as Exhibit A to this Order requesting to participate of the Multi County Code Update Project.

ADOPTED this 20th day of October, 2015.

Jay Bozievich, Chair
Lane County Board of Commissioners

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Date [Signature]
LANE COUNTY OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL
October 20, 2015

Mr. Rob Hallyburton
Community Services Division
Oregon Dept. of Land Conservation and Development
635 Capitol Street NE, Suite 150
Salem, OR 97301-2540

RE: Request to Participate in the Multi County Code Update Project

Mr. Hallyburton:

This letter is to formally request that Lane County be chosen to participate in the second round of the Multi County Code Update Project to assist in the modernization of our Exclusive Farm Use and Forest Zoning Districts.

Lane County has a total land area of approximately 2,855,000 acres. Approximately 2,558,800 acres, or 90% of that land area is designated for forest use and approximately 198,000 acres (7%) of land is designated agricultural use in the County’s jurisdiction. It is very important for the County to have clear and up to date code provisions for these extensive resource zones.

Under the current approved long range planning work program, staff are actively updating and modernizing two of our land use related code elements; Lane Code Chapters 13-Land Divisions, and Chapter 14-Application Review and Appeals Procedures. On the same work program, staff has been tasked with scoping the modernization of Lane County’s Land Use Development Code (Chapter 16), which includes the Farm and Forest Zoning Districts. Unfortunately, with the current resources available to the County, preliminary scoping has shown that it will likely take as long as five years, before substantive updates to our Farm and Forest zones will be accomplished.

Lane Code Chapter 16 was, originally adopted in the 1984 to comply with state land use law. Lane is the only Oregon County where all 19 statewide planning goals apply. Lane Code Chapter 16 is correspondingly complex and comprises more than 680 pages, 82 chapters, and 44 zones, covering resource and nonresource lands, the coast, floodplains, the Willamette Greenway, transportation facilities, nonconforming uses, signs, parking, etc. The County has not systematically modernized or reformatted Chapter 16, including the Farm and Forest zones since 1984. Needless to say, the County’s farm and forest zones are exceedingly out-of-date, poorly formatted, riddled with inconsistencies, and difficult to navigate or interpret.
It is our hope that participation in this project would not only help Lane County establish more clear and user-friendly farm and forest zoning districts but would also help expedite the County's overall code modernization effort.

We thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Jay Bozievich, Chair
Lane County Board of Commissioners