



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 08-11

RESTRUCTURING OREGON ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

The continued vitality of Oregon's complex economic landscape requires thriving communities, a strong and well-educated workforce, a healthy environment and the establishment of diversified, progressive industries. Oregon must manage its assets and position itself today for continued economic success into the 21st Century.

Oregon faces the unprecedented challenges of population growth, aging community infrastructure and pressing climate change concerns. While there are opportunities in the global marketplace for Oregon companies, there is also intense competition from other states and nations. By aggressively taking advantage of economic development opportunities, particularly those presented by promoting industries fighting global warming with innovation and new technologies, Oregon can stimulate new businesses and jobs.

The Oregon Economic and Community Development Department (OECDD) is the state agency primarily responsible for job creation in Oregon. The OECDD's broad scope of work has created disparate expectations of OECDD's mission. Two of OECDD's three program divisions are focused on job retention, creation and recruitment. The primary focus of OECDD's third division, the Community Development Division, is to help Oregon communities meet their infrastructure goals, particularly in the areas of safe drinking water and water and wastewater systems. The absence of a clear and focused agency-wide mission has hindered OECDD's ability to successfully partner with stakeholder groups around the state to promote economic development.

OECDD's realignment will provide an essential, strategic framework to address the challenges facing Oregon and position the state for long-term success into the 21st Century and provide clarity, accountability and viability for the department's distinct missions. To this end, OECDD's community and business development functions will be separated.

OECDD's business development divisions should form a stand-alone department with the mission of serving as a catalyst of sustainable economic growth. This department will focus on the retention and expansion of Oregon companies, leveraging Oregon's innovation and strategic partnerships in the global economy, recruitment of new businesses to the state, creation of jobs by transferring innovative knowledge into the marketplace and raising real wages.



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OECD's community development programs are best served in an agency with a complementary structure and focus as the division's core functions. Community-based resources will be realigned to ensure the most efficient and effective delivery of services. At the same time, infrastructure-based activities will be focused to ensure a sustainable relationship between the natural and built environments, with an asset management model serving as its structural framework.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DIRECTED AND ORDERED:

1. OECD's Community Development Division shall be considered separate and distinct from all other activities and functions of OECD's Business and Trade Development Division and Innovation and Economic Strategies Division within OECD.

2. The OECD Director shall work with the OECD Commission to ensure that Community Development policies and programs be pursued, and oversight administered, in a manner that is separate and distinct from the oversight and administration of all other Business Development programs, activities and functions within OECD.

3. The OECD Director shall work with the OECD Commission to establish a framework that enables Community Development to more effectively focus its activities on infrastructure-related projects and other community-based resource programs.

4. The OECD Director shall work with the OECD Commission to ensure that staff from the Central Operations Division is assigned appropriately to provide direct support separately for Community Development activities and functions and for Business Development activities and functions.

5. The OECD Director shall seek and consider input from stakeholders and legislators throughout the state, particularly regarding policy and structural details to ensure the effective design and implementation of a strategic redesign of the department.

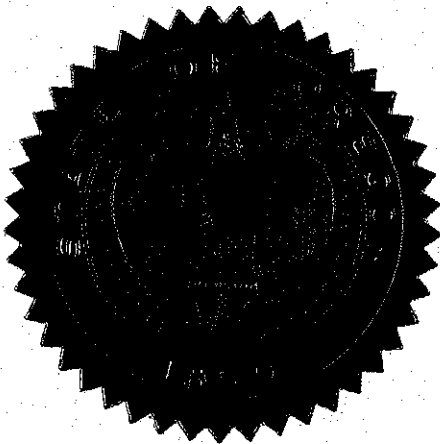
6. OECD and other appropriate state agencies shall identify areas of overlapping authority and coordinate activities and resources to facilitate the structural reorganization.

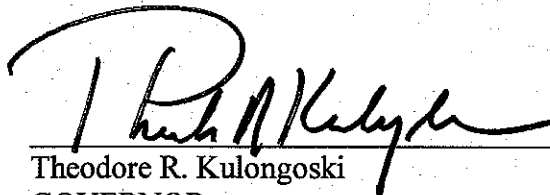


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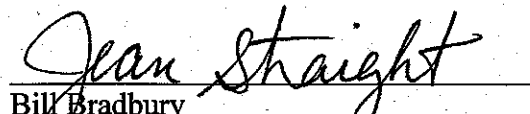
7. OECDD and other appropriate state agencies shall begin necessary planning to implement a proposed reorganization if legislation to restructure the agency is adopted by the Legislative Assembly.

Done at Salem, Oregon, this 12th day of May, 2008.




Theodore R. Kulongoski
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:


Bill Bradbury
SECRETARY OF STATE