Moving Forward... Improving Building Regulations in Rural Oregon

Ways & Mean Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development May 9, 2013

40 Years of State Building Code Administration in Oregon

1973 SB 73 Created Statewide Code Administration

- Uniform building codes across Oregon
- Single place to resolve issues
- Efficient, predictable construction environment
- Appeal process for controversies arising out of state building code
- Professional standards for building officials and inspectors
- Seven advisory boards reviewing agency's work
- Permit fees fund programs all fees dedicated

Local Administration in Oregon

- 130 City/County building departments
- Local government may assume administration of programs
- State provides services where local government does not
- Current law assumes state services operate independently
- Local building permit fees are dedicated
- Local governments must use state-certified inspection staff

Total Permit Revenue and Permit Count (FY 2007-2012)



\$80,000,000 \$75,000,000 \$70,000,000 \$65,000,000 \$60,000,000 \$55,000,000 \$50,000,000 \$45,000,000

---Permit Count

----Revenue



41% to 80% Decline 1% to 40% Decline 20% to 1% Growth



501 to 8000 500 to 0

SB 582A

- Allows state to assist counties when a partnership is requested or when programs are returned:
 - Establishes a new tool for state and local governments to combine resources through mutual agreement.
 - Partnership agreements may include any assistance requested by the county.
 - Allows state flexibility to assist a partnership agreement or if a program is returned.
 - Flexibility for entering a partnership agreement is predicated on available revenue and must operate within limitations authorized by legislature.

SB 582A

A new regional partnership provision is also created:

- Partnership agreement may establish new regional service areas including multiple local governments or may provide assistance for specific projects or address other local building inspection program needs.
- State can support regional agreement as necessary, including combining resources.
- Regional partnerships are based on mutual agreement of all parties and available revenue and must operate within limitations authorized by legislature.

SB 582A: Building Regulation Improvements

- Establishes policy directive for the state to make special consideration when adopting codes for structures built in rural Oregon.
- Clarifies that final decision regarding fire code matters pertaining to new construction (not maintenance) are made by the building official.
- Allows state and local government to provide typical plans for customers.
 - Expands state's ability to resolve disputes through appeal.

Thank you