



Our mission is to prevent deaths, injuries, property loss, and environmental damage resulting from wildfires in Deschutes County.

**December 20, 2022 – Steering Committee – Hybrid - in person and virtual – 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM
Meeting Minutes**

Steering Committee Members & Staff Present:

	Tom Mooney	Fire Rep 1	Redmond Fire
X	Gary Marshall	Fire Rep 2	Deschutes Rural Fire Dist. #2
	Dan Daugherty	Fire Rep 3	La Pine Fire Dept.
	Doug Green	Fire Rep 4	Bend / Sisters Fire
	Andy Meeuwsen	Insurance Industry	Country Insurance
	Chris Perry	911 Service District	Deschutes County
X	Kyle Collins	Community Development Dept.	Deschutes County
	Dan Galecki	Private Forestry	Spin Drift Forestry
X	Patti Gentiluomo	HOA Rep	Sunriver HOA
	Dave Gibson	HOA Rep	Black Butte Ranch HOA
X	Dean Richardson	HOA Rep	Upper Deschutes River Communities
	Nathan Garibay	Sheriff's Office - Emergency Mgmt.	Deschutes County
X	David Morman	Citizen Rep	At Large - Red Cross
X	Oliver Tatom	Citizen Rep	At Large
	Ben Duda for Gordon Foster	Oregon Dept. of Forestry	ODF - Unit Forester
	Shawn Jaca for Kevin Stock	COFMS US Forest Service	USFS
X	Ariel Cowan	OSU Extension Service	OSU Ext
	Paula Simone	Central Oregon Comm. College	COCC
X	Kevin Moriarty, Chair	County Forester	Deschutes County
	Patti Adair	Commissioner	Deschutes County
	Nick Ahnen	Marketing	At Large
	Brandon Fogelman	Business	
	Jessica Laberge	Business	
X	Robert Pohly	Citizen Rep	At Large Retired
X	Corinne Heiner	Director	Deschutes County

Public Present:

Lon Leneve – Awbrey Butte HOA
Kurt Brian - Deschutes River Woods
Heather Miller – Oregon State Fire Marshals
Jodie Barram – Oregon Living With Fire
Carl Jansen - Upper Deschutes River Communities
Joe Stutler - Deschutes County
Frank Ammirata - Tillicum Village HOA
Cameron Scott - ODF
Bob Madden - DCFP
Lauren Street - COIC
Diane Holmes Bridges HOA
Elizabeth Weide - The Parks HOA
Erin Kilcullen - Deschutes SWCD
Mike Mulligan - Ridge at Eagle Crest
Robin Church - Three Pines HOA
Boyd Turner - Eagle Crest Estates HOA
Georgia Hill - Ridge at Eagle Crest CWP
Jeffrey - Eagle Crest HOA
Raymond Miaw - Woodside Ranch HOA
Suzanne Holmes - Elkhig Woods Fractional HOA
Joyce Baker- Ridge at Eagle Crest
Boyd Turner - Eagle Crest estate
Emily Troisi - FAC net
Boone Zimmerlee- ODF
Chris Sutton - OSFM
Chad Hawkins - OSFM
Phil Chang – County Commissioner
Tony DeBone - County Commissioner
Mitch - Eagle Crest HOA
Sarah Worthington - Deschutes County
Emily Curtis - Discover your Forest

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Kevin - Welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave an introduction including some background on his career and then introduced Corinne who gave a brief overview of her background as well.

AGENDA

Kevin - Covered the agenda for the meeting and asked that anyone who is a steering committee member to please identify themselves as such and provide term dates to Corinne to determine any unfilled seats on the steering committee. Also asked for everyone to fill in the sign in sheets.

Robin Holmes - recommended asking someone from the city to join the committee due to homes being built in city limits that are close together and connected through wooden fences. Short discussion follows but is tabled due to time constraints.

Jodie Barram - Brings up guiding document for steering committee seats. (County Ordinance 8.24).

Kevin - Introduces Chad Hawkins Asst. Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal to update on Senate Bill 762. First of two presenters for this month's meeting.

Meeting Topic 1 - Chad Hawkins

Chad introduces himself and begins presenting his Power Point.

Defensible space standards were developed considering best practices and recommendations, while considering the ODF fire risk map. SB762 requires there be a defensible space code adopted by Dec. 2022. The ODF fire risk map is not out and ready yet. Timeline is now March 2023, for the fire risk map, and will then take comments and feedback from March - September 2023 to improve gaps. With the goal to complete by the end of 2023, and then the defensible space code to be codified at the end of 2023. A best practices group has drafted a defensible space code which is currently about 95% complete and available in draft form on the Oregon State Fire Marshal website.

<https://www.oregon.gov/osp/programs/sfm/pages/oregon-defensible-space-code.aspx>.

Chad thanked those who were involved in drafting the best practices on defensible space and what it is and isn't meant to be, through 17 town hall meetings and the several hundred people who contributed ideas and concepts to create it.

The Governor's Fire Service policy Council was concurrently developing an assessment tool that could be utilized prior to the defensible space code being available. 17 agency members were involved in creating the best practices and assessment tools that can be used statewide. Grants allocated through SB-762 provided to improve defensible space and home hardening is the big piece improving wildfire resiliency, have been allocated for various communities and fire departments including rural areas and those that may not have the resources currently for wildfire events. Fire Service capacity grant gives the opportunity for local fire districts to apply for full-time funding of firefighter positions and fire prevention positions. OSFM provides the larger portion of the cost for these positions over the course of three years. These grants are currently in the review process. The Community Wildfire Risk Reduction grant is open to cities or counties, local fire departments and non governmental organizations. These funds are for long-term strategic investments including chipper programs, fire free days and long term sustainability, this grant closes January 31, 2023. There is approximately 18 Million dollars to be distributed across the state.

Before opening up to questions Chad discussed that the OSFM received one time funding from the Strategic Community Risk Reduction grant and received additional staff, adding ten OSFM FTE positions, for large scale community wildfire planning, including the one-on-one assessments for communities using defensible space parameters that have been created, which are in draft form. You can always provide public comment on the draft available on the OSFM website.

House Bill 2927 passed separating OSFM from the State Police. In July of 2023 OSFM will then be their own agency and will be reporting directly to the governor rather than to the Oregon State Police. Chad then opened it up to questions and discussion.

1. During discussion Boone shared the following links:
<https://www.deschutes.org/cd/page/orientation-statewide-planning-goals>
2. <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe3OpRzPD5dFH8qqI8-sFgET7sSbVWX5kAAvbw9nju6st56SQ/viewform>
3. [www.oregon.gov/osp/programs/sfm/SiteAssets/pages/oregon-defensible-space-code/Defensible%20Space%20Code%20Public%20Meetings%20\(1\).pdf](http://www.oregon.gov/osp/programs/sfm/SiteAssets/pages/oregon-defensible-space-code/Defensible%20Space%20Code%20Public%20Meetings%20(1).pdf)

Kevin Thanked Chad and introduced Kyle Collins from Deschutes County Community Development.

Meeting Topic 2 - Kyle Collins

Kyle greeted the room and introduced the Deschutes County 2040 comprehensive plan, which was last updated in 2011. The main update during this round of updates is population growth, economic changes, housing, and natural hazards. He gave an overview of what goes into a comprehensive plan, which includes community input, data and analysis and legal requirements. Today Kyle covered topics such as housing, recreation, natural resources, natural hazards, zoning and zoning codes, environmental regulations and any changes that come about between the years of updating the plan.

Kyle showed a slide of the land ownership in Deschutes County, pointing out county lands (21.4%), city (2%), and federal ownership (76.6%). Then presented a population forecast chart showing growth in 2050 being projected at over 330,000, and in 2068 over 430,000. The county is expecting 90,000-100,000 people moving to Deschutes county in the next 20 years. There are 63 projects that have been completed since the 2010 plan, including wetland mapping and inventory, sage grouse habitat mapping, agricultural lands analysis, historic resource grants, childcare and nursery code amendments and many others not mentioned. Kyle states that we are between phase 2 and phase 3, the information gathering phase, likely completing the planning in 2024 which is the year of the formal adoption process.

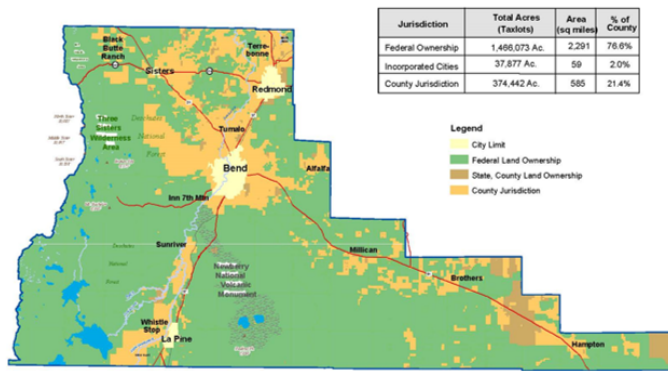
Challenges identified are how to plan for rural area growth including the urban interface areas, water availability, natural hazards such as wildfire, recreation and tourism, and transportation issues.

Kyle then asks the questions, where do you live in the county, what do you currently like about Deschutes county, and what would you like to see change or focus on over the next 20 years? Those in the room started and we went around hearing from everyone in the meeting in-person. Being low on time, once those in the room had shared, Kyle then informed those joining virtually to contact him with their answers and insights, He pointed out some open houses in 2023 for those who would like to share more comments, and gave contact information to everyone in a slide (included below). He then turned it back over to Kevin.

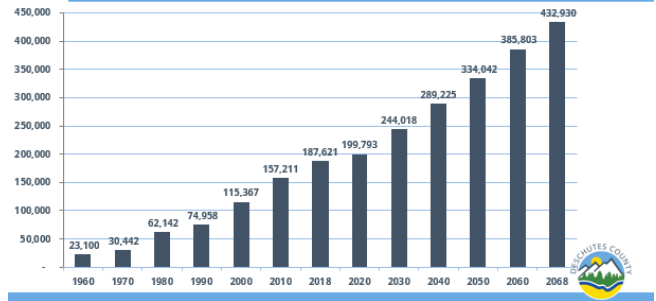
Presentation 2 Slides:

Deschutes County Comprehensive Plan

- Sets the direction for the County's growth and development over 20-years
- Last updated in 2011
- Needs updating to address:
 - Population growth
 - Changes in the economy, housing, natural hazards, and more
 - Smaller changes made since 2011



Population Forecast



We Are Just Getting Started!



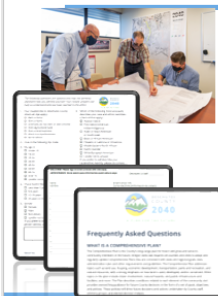
Key Issues, Goals & Challenges

2010 Plan – Resulting Projects

- 63 Projects Completed
 - Mapping of S. County Local Wetland Inventory
 - Central Oregon Large Lot Industrial Study and Rezoning
 - Sage Grouse Habitat Mapping and Requirements
 - UGB Amendments/Adjustments with Redmond and Bend
 - Agricultural Lands Analysis
 - Historic Resource Grants
 - Childcare and Nursery Code Amendments



Upcoming Community Engagement



- Open Houses - Late Winter/Spring 2023
- Digital Engagement
 - Email updates
 - Social media information sharing
 - Comments via Website
 - Project website: www.deschutes.org/2040



Questions about the Deschutes Comprehensive plan:

Project Website: www.deschutes.org/2040

Will Groves, Planning Manager: will.groves@deschutes.org

Nicole Mardell, AICP, Senior Planner - Long Range: nicole.mardell@deschutes.org

ROUNDTABLE

Kevin gave Bob Madden from Deschutes Forest Collaborative Project the floor for an update. Bob informed the group that Kevin would be taking a seat on the collaborative and asked for a letter of support from Project Wildfire, which Corinne has since completed and sent to Bob.

He also informed the group of the federal EPA coming out with new regulation on air particulate matter, causing tighter restrictions on Rx burning. He informs the group of a letter that has been signed by various people such as county commissioners and leaders from around the county and agencies to urge the EPA and DEQ to recognize the importance of Rx fire and allowing prescribed fire to continue under new regulations.

Kevin then asked if anyone had any updates for the good of the order.

Heather Miller - extended an invitation for those interested in the HIZ class to let her or Ariel know so that they could determine the need to hold another one for HOA's or community members. The class is offered free of charge and is a great informational course to learn more about the Home Ignition Zone, and how to prepare your home with defensible space in the event of a wildfire. A flyer on the HIZ class will be included in the upcoming Project Wildfire Newsletter.

Dean Richardson - Mentions the high risk in the city of Bend limits, where homes are closely built together and the risk of structure to structure ignition and rapid fire spread. Updated that the UDRC has trained property assessors for defensible space and home hardening, and stated they would have many people interested in the next HIZ class.

There was discussion of a master list for HOA's to meet together and start a sub-committee, Corinne announced that she is working on starting a Project Wildfire Sub-Committee to facilitate that purpose exactly, and to provide a space for community members to share insight and information about what is working in their communities. As well as for HOA's and communities to share information on home hardening between each other. This is a priority and goal of Corinne's to start the Sub-Committee, she states that she will be in contact with everyone through Project Wildfire on updates.

At this time, Kevin thanked everyone for joining and closed out the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.