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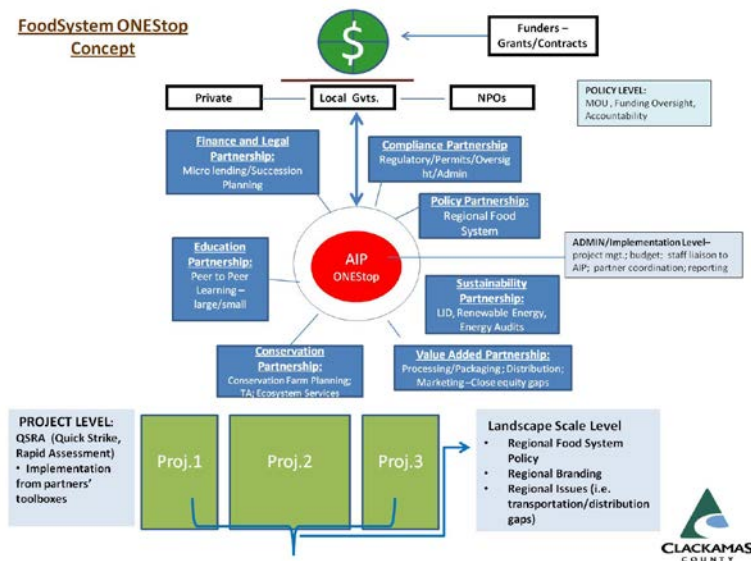
**TO: Oregon Solutions**  
**From: Rick Gruen, Business and Community Services**  
**(on behalf of Clackamas County Board of County Commissioners)**  
**RE: Clackamas County FoodSystem ONEStop Concept Proposal**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit an Oregon Solutions proposal for your review and consideration. The Clackamas County FoodSystem ONEStop is closely aligned with Oregon Solutions and Metro Region’s identified priorities that include: 1) growing the region’s distinctive industry clusters; 2) align workforce and economic development priorities; and 3) protect and enhance the region’s key strategic assets.

This FoodSystem ONEStop project supports these priorities by facilitating a stronger and more resilient local/regional food system infrastructure and economy that is less reliant on imports while providing greater levels of farmland protection through increased production capacity and job creation.

**OVERVIEW:**

The Clackamas County FoodSystem ONEStop has been conceived as a virtual public, private, non-profit and academic partnership in support of the Portland metropolitan region’s foodshed vision to advance economic development and job creation in the emerging food system cluster while fostering sustainability co-benefits such as public health, food equity and environmental stewardship. This innovative partnership draws from the FoodSystem ONEStop Partners’ diverse expertise, collaboratively implemented, to help producers, processors and distributors navigate and connect to a set of linked services and resources including finance, legal, regulatory, food policy, sustainable certification, production, marketing, conservation and education. **(See figure 1 below).**



The ONEStop builds on recently completed, regional food system strategic studies including:

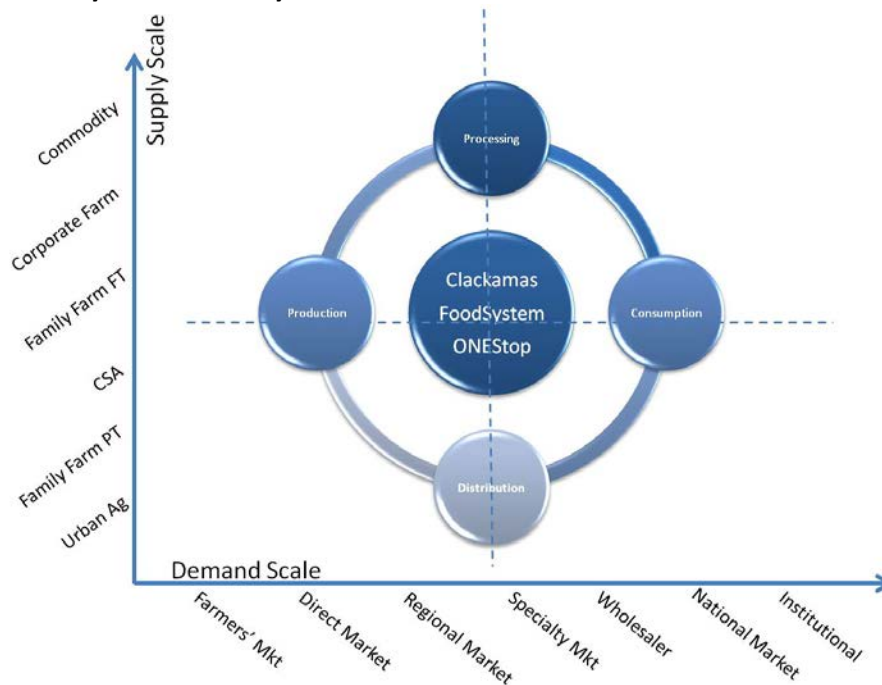
- Western Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) funded Portland Sustainable Foodshed Project (<http://smallfarms.oregonstate.edu/pdx-foodshed>)
- Clackamas County Business and Economic Development's Agriculture and Foodshed Strategic Plan ([http://www.clackamas.us/business/documents/CC\\_Foodshed\\_Strategy\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.clackamas.us/business/documents/CC_Foodshed_Strategy_FINAL.pdf)).
- Multnomah County Food Initiative ([http://multfood.org/files/PDFs/Dec2010\\_MFAP.pdf](http://multfood.org/files/PDFs/Dec2010_MFAP.pdf))

These complimentary strategic efforts identified major challenges and opportunities to advance sustainable regional and county-level foodshed economies and corollary co-benefits:

- \$4.8 billion is spent on the consumption of food and related inputs from outside the region
- 90-95 percent of our food is currently imported from outside the region
- Each 1% increase in local food consumption results in \$40 million in regional economic benefit
- Underutilized agricultural and nursery lands can provide increased production and certainty to meet a large portion of the regional food system's demand
- Oregon ranks 12<sup>th</sup> in the nation in hunger while 25% of Oregonians are considered obese

The FoodSystem ONEStop will be uniquely positioned to help connect food, health and economics with our agriculture producers, processors and distributors with the increasing level of consumer demand given the proximity to the Portland metropolitan region. **(See Figure 2 below).**

**FIGURE 2: FoodSystem Efficiency Matrix**



Once implemented, ONEStop partners can better assist producers and processors to meet the emerging regional demand for healthy, local food through more efficient and equitable access to diverse services and resources. FoodSystem partners will be able to reach underserved agriculture producers and consumers; catalyzed by increased agricultural production, capacity and demand. Closing the supply and demand gaps, increasing land utilization and leveraging of sustainable best management practices will positively impact producers and consumers.

The Clackamas FoodSystem ONEShop, under the leadership of Clackamas County Business and Economic Development Dept., has drawn considerable partnership interest and champions at varying levels of scale within the regional food system cluster. Key partners engaged include: Multnomah County Office of Sustainability, City of Portland, EcoTrust Food Hub, Mercy Corp Northwest, Organically Grown Company, 1000 Friends of Oregon, Friends of Family Farmers, Oregon Dept. of Agriculture, Oregon State University Extension, Soil and Water Conservation District, Thompson Farms, Pitkin-Winterowd Farms, Hansen Family Farms, Siri&Son Farms, Community by Design Farm and Oregon Food Bank.

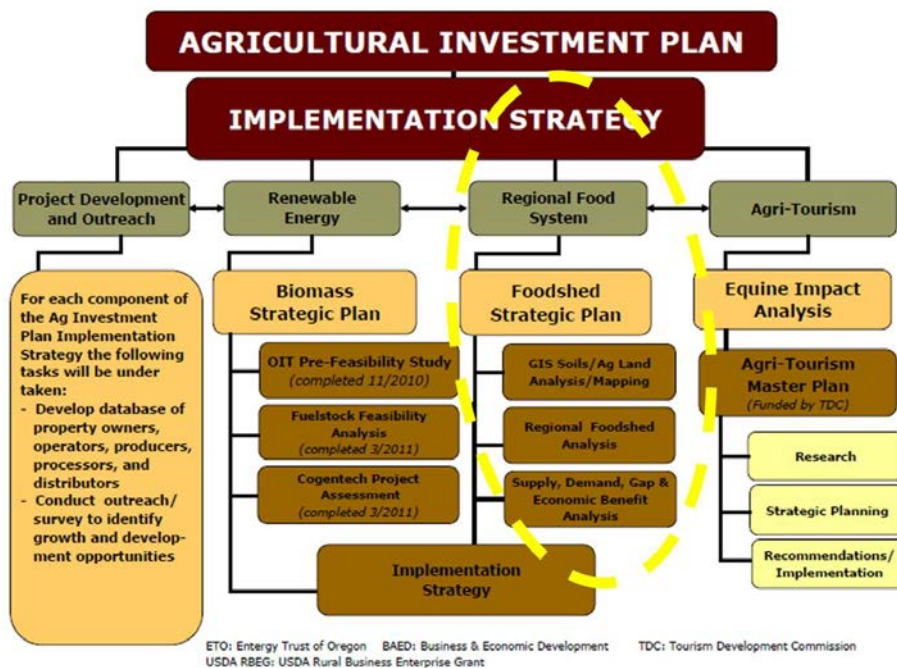
**BACKGROUND**

Clackamas County has the 3rd largest population of Oregon counties, yet ranks second in the state in agriculture production and gross farm sales of more than \$400 million from approximately 4,200 farms; 63 being certified organic.

Clackamas County’s Business and Economic Development Department, recognizing the County’s rich agriculture and natural resource landscape, from its productive capabilities to environmental amenities, developed the Agriculture Investment Plan (AIP) to serve as the framework and toolbox for fostering rural revitalization and economic sustainability of our agriculture and natural resource based industries. The AIP focuses on expanding economic growth by identifying and capturing emergent markets and business opportunities in the county’s agricultural, nursery and wood products sectors. These include the regional food system, agritourism; and biomass utilization.

Specific to the regional food system, the AIP and FoodShed Strategy is designed to better meet the needs of current and emerging clusters within the regional food system and ensure these clusters maintain its competitive advantage to be an economic driver and further support the quality of life our citizens highly value. (See Figure 3 below).

**Figure 3. Agriculture Investment Plan Overview**



Subsequent to the adoption of the AIP by the Board of County Commissioners, the Business and Economic Development Team updated the Clackamas County Economic Landscape to include the Agriculture and Food Production and Food and Beverage Clusters. The AIP has also emerged as a regional, strategic connector to complimentary foodshed efforts with Multnomah County, City of Portland, Lane County and Clark County, WA.

**ISSUE:**

The absence of an adequate agriculture and food system infrastructure can impede the growth and development of a resilient food system cluster that is less reliant on imports. The FoodSystem ONEStop can facilitate the creation of a stronger food system by:

- meeting the growing demand for increased access to diverse technical assistance (i.e. peer to peer education, finance, legal, transition/succession planning, labor, low impact development (LID) and energy efficiency, conservation planning, land use barriers, etc.)
- closing supply and demand gaps – aggregation, transportation and distribution to meet a year round, consistent supply of healthier, local foods
- development of a regional food system policy connecting the growing of healthy with the eating of healthy food that meets food access and equity challenges related to hunger and obesity

**OPPORTUNITIES:**

The FoodSystem ONEStop concept supports and further enhances an integrated, sustainable agriculture system by providing a collaborative partnership and resources among public, private, non-profit and academic organizations and agencies that agriculture producers and processors in the Portland metropolitan region. The unique feature of the FoodSystem ONEStop is that it does not require creating a new organization or administration; rather the ONEStop provides the catalyst, supported by a facilitating entity (Clackamas County) for existing agencies/organizations to collaborate, bringing their respective toolboxes, services and strengths to the table in support and benefit to regional agricultural food producers and processors.

Oregon Solutions can provide ONEStop Partners’ with the following outcomes and/or deliverables:

1. Concept Refinement- Concept refinement is critical for building the necessary level and type of details to foster producer support for long-term success and ONEStop utilization. Deliverable to include a detailed assessment of needed partners, services and skills for strengthening the framework to ensure relevancy, efficiency and effectiveness
2. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)- Drafting of a Partner MOU to define partners' roles and responsibilities to formalize participation in ONEStop
3. Optional Tasks Depending on Funding Available
  - a. Owners' Manual- Creation of an “Owner's Manual” that details the framework and service delivery mechanisms for accessing or implementing technical assistance, training, education, Research and Development, and other functions through the ONEStop.
  - b. Pilot Study Group- Oversee hands-on testing and evaluation of the ONEStop programming framework. This test-run will allow for adaptive refinements and benchmarking prior to full implementation

**SUMMARY BENEFITS AND IMPACTS:**

- The Clackamas FoodSystem ONEStop meets a critical need for access to technical assistance, a regional food system policy and implementation of the regional foodshed vision to expand the economic growth of the emerging food system cluster
- The FoodSystem ONEStop is critical to maintaining and/or enhancing the agriculture based traded sector by closing supply and demand gaps

- FoodSystem ONEStop Partners can more effectively and efficiently reach underserved producers and processors through collaborative cross-marketing of programs, services and resources
- FoodSystem ONEStop funding strategies can provide consistent and timely resources to advance regional foodshed vision objectives into successful on-the-ground projects
- The FoodSystem ONEStop will help connect the growing of local, healthy food with the eating of local, healthy food to meet food access challenges related to hunger and obesity