



## **McKenzie Rebuilds Community Input Workgroup**

**Wednesday, July 26, 3 - 5:00 pm**

*Hybrid: McKenzie School Administrative Office 51187 Blue River Dr., Vida OR*

*Zoom: <https://pdx.zoom.us/j/87377060756>*

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**Attendees:** Melanie Stanley, Cliff Richardson, Gerry Aster, Dana Burwell, Mandy Jones, Robert Woodard, Matt McRae, Jeffry Dehne, Chris LaVoie.

**Facilitators:** Kristen Wright, Sofia Castellanos (Oregon Solutions)

### **Agenda Review**

*Kristen Wright, Oregon Solutions*

The work group's purpose was reiterated: to review potential engagement practices, develop criteria for the level of community engagement required for each type of decision, identify suitable engagement methods for the McKenzie area, and learn from previous county-community collaborations.

In line with this purpose, the meeting had specific goals to achieve. The first goal was to establish clear and effective working agreements that outline how the workgroup would function together. The second goal was to gain a shared understanding of the various decisions that are expected to arise during the recovery process. Finally, the meeting aimed to uncover what is important to the community in terms of engaging with the County.

### **Overview of Working Agreements**

*Kristen Wright, Oregon Solutions, Workgroup*

*Attachment A: Draft Working Agreements*

The working agreements were reviewed, and participants were requested to express their level of agreement with these agreements. All participants raised their fingers to indicate that they were comfortable with the agreements as they were, signifying full acceptance.

## Characterizing Anticipated Recovery Decisions

*Kristen Wright, Oregon Solutions, Workgroup*

During the meeting, a decision-mapping exercise was conducted to anticipate the types of recovery decisions the McKenzie Valley community might encounter in the process. After listing the decisions on sticky notes, the group engaged in a constructive discussion to characterize each decision based on two key dimensions: the potential for social/environmental **risk** or impact and the **complexity** involved in understanding and managing trade-offs.

The group placed the sticky notes on a flipchart matrix, which had two axes: High/Low Risk (indicating the potential risk or impact) and High/Low Complexity (indicating the level of understanding and trade-offs required). See Table 1 below of the most important decisions that were identified, and Figure 1, in the Appendix section, shows the picture of the matrix.

### Group Discussion:

The group agreed that the majority of the anticipated decisions were complex and carried varying degrees of risk. Higher risk decisions frequently included longer-term considerations as well as more technical details or trade-offs. These higher-risk decisions also tended to have significant community consequences and may involve some degree of conflict.

Table 1: Decisions to be made from the discussion:

<b>High Risk / Low Complexity</b>	<b>High Risk / High Complexity</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Wastewater infrastructure</li> <li>- Transportation Growth Management Project (TGM)</li> <li>- Landslide Risk/mitigation risk</li> <li>- PIER funds</li> <li>- Climate disaster change</li> </ul>

	and resilience decisions
<p><b>Low Risk / Low Complexity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lane County Transit - public transit improvement</li> </ul>	<p><b>Low Risk / High Complexity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Broadband infrastructure</li> <li>- Improving cell service</li> <li>- Water infrastructure</li> <li>- Road development</li> </ul>

**Engagement: Understanding What is Important**

*Kristen Wright, Oregon Solutions, Workgroup*

During the meeting, participants discussed the significance of engagement for community members and Lane County in both the McKenzie Valley and Lane County.

For the McKenzie Valley community, the focus was on what aspects of engagement are important to acknowledge, and being responsive to their specific needs and aspirations. The main points expressed during the meeting were:

- Where people sit in the decision making process
- Broadened engagement scope
- Structure for involving diverse viewpoints and ideas, like community listening sessions
- A different approach: “with us rather than to us”
- A community that is better informed
- Genuine and meaningful engagement

Similarly, the meeting explored why engagement is important to Lane County, recognizing its role in making well-informed decisions. These main point expressed were:

- To exchange information with the community to evaluate the importance of the issues to made decisions on
- Building relationships with the community
- To have the community buy-in



- To expand the community representation, to include all voices
- To consider a better geographical fit, to assess what is best for the community and the McKenzie Valley area.
- To have durable decisions
- Transparency

Figures 2, 3 and 4, also included in the Appendix section, show the results of the conversation.

### **Next Steps**

*Public Observers; Kristen Wright, Oregon Solutions*  
Attachment B: Community Input Workgroup Process Map

- Building upon the previous discussions, to focus on the questions identified in Figure 4, delving deeper into its implications and potential solutions.

#### **Questions:**

- What are the most effective approaches for involving community members?
  - What serves as the **glue** for this community?
  - How can communication within the McKenzie Valley community be improved?
  - How can local organizations improve their actions and engagement with the community?
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- The upcoming meeting agenda needs to include an **overview of engagement practices**, to allow the members to gain valuable insights into different approaches and methods.

## Appendix

Figure 1

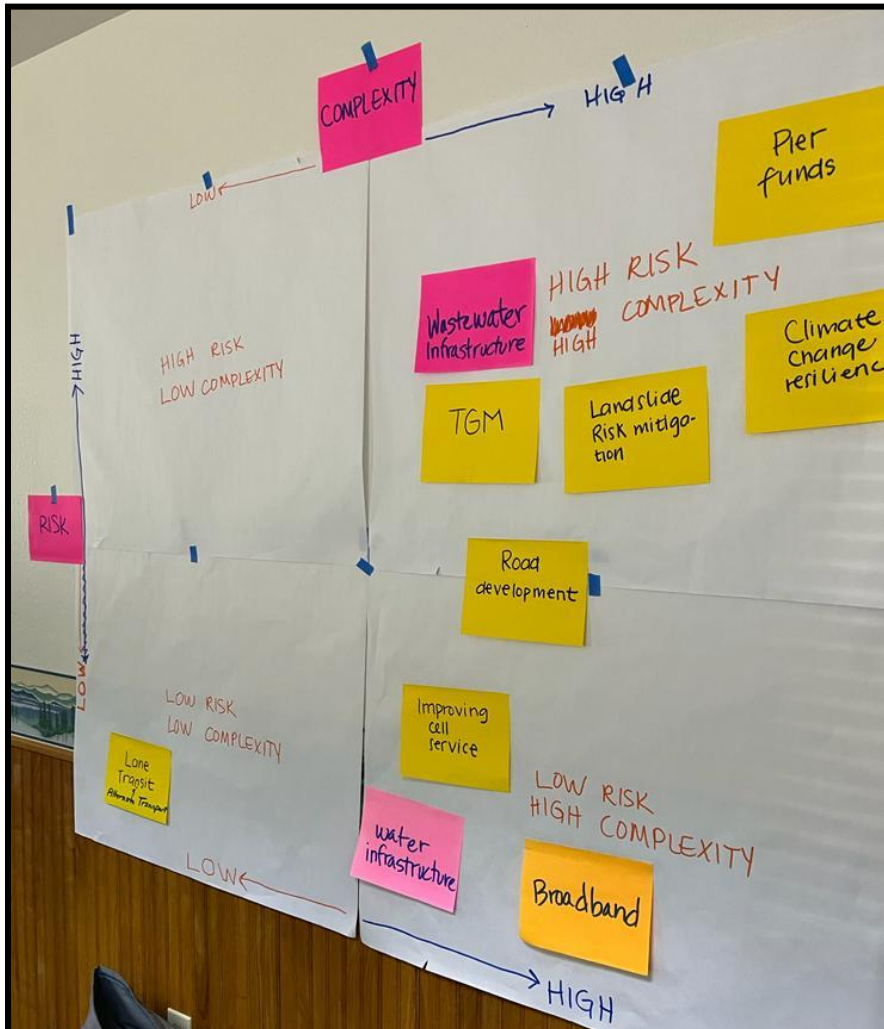


Figure 2

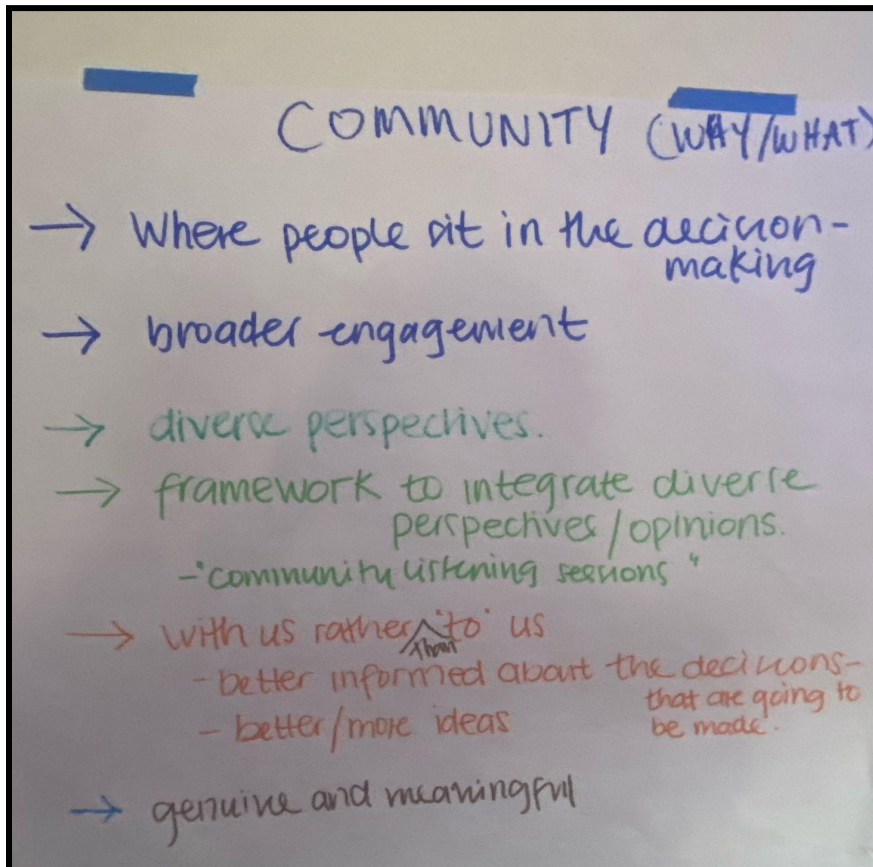


Figure 3

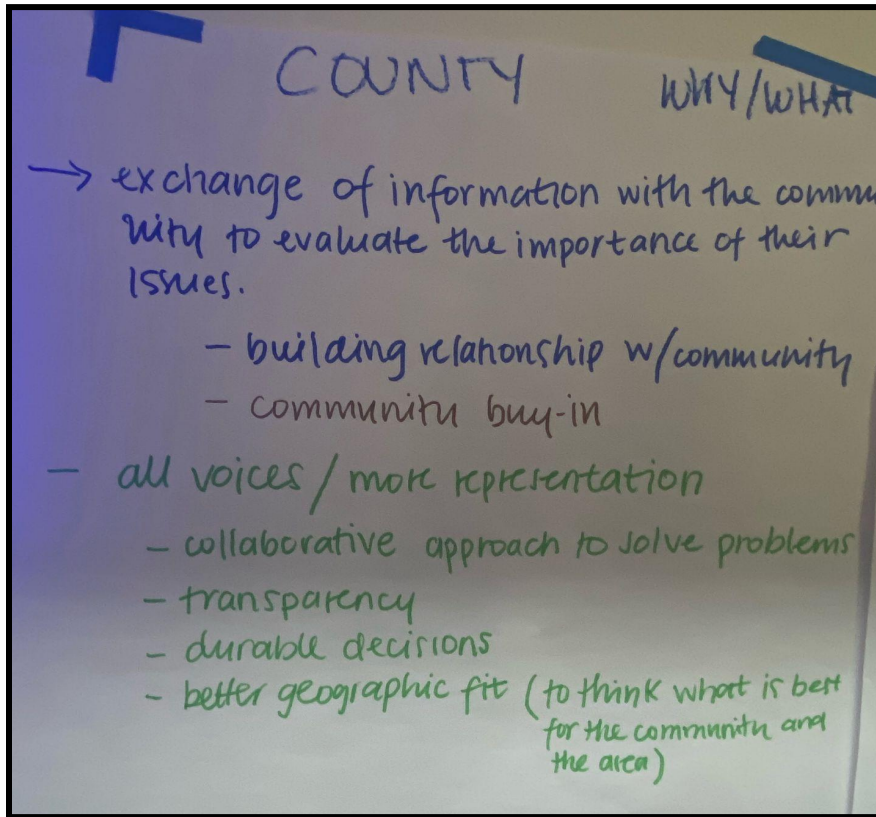


Figure 4

WHAT are the best methods for  
engaging community?  
- that are effective?

\*. WHAT is the glue?  
- for this community?

How to improve McKenzie valley community  
communication?

How local orgs. could be more active to  
engage the community?