

Developing a System to Prioritize Supported Activities

Background: During the August 2006 working session with the Board of Clackamas County Commissioners, Commissioner Martha Schrader made numerous appeals to the Villages Board to prioritize our communities' supported activities. Commissioner Schrader noted that with limited resources available, county leaders and staff cannot accurately determine where to employ resources if they do not know how the supported activities stack up with regard to Mt Hood area citizens' priorities.

Discussion:

1. How do we determine which projects should get administered and funded first if County resources cannot adequately serve/fund all of our projects?

Per Commissioner Schrader's directive, we must develop an orderly system to prioritize our local activities. I believe that the Villages BOD needs to determine the system to be used; however, actual prioritization of projects needs to be done by the local citizenry at the Town Hall.

2. How often should the Villages at Mt. Hood address supported activity prioritization?

I would think that annually is sufficient. We might have 2 categories of supported activities. Category 1 would be a prioritized list of activities based on the last annual community vote. Category 2 would be new supported activities that are waiting for the next annual vote. These activities have gained supported activity status but have are waiting for the annual Town Hall Meeting where they are integrated into our prioritized master list. While I believe that prioritizing supported activities is extremely important, I also believe that to reprioritize activities too often is not a good idea. Top priority activities need to be given enough time to gain traction with the county. Since our May Town Hall Meeting is our annual election of Directors, I would propose that we conduct prioritization of supported activities at either the November or the February Town Hall Meeting.

Recommendation(s):

The Villages Board draft and adopt a bylaw change to be voted on at the November 2006 Town Hall Meeting. This bylaw change would require that (1) supported activities be prioritized by the community annually at the November or Feb Town Hall Meeting; (2) the prioritization system be identified; and (3) articulate the status of supported activities that are approved by the community subsequent to the annual prioritization process.