



FIVE COUNTY NEWS FROM 'R' VIEW



VOLUME IX NUMBER 6

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER, 2009

Director's Dialogue

I'm pleased to report that the independent Audit Report for the Association of Governments was presented in November. For the second year running, no findings or questioned costs were noted. State and federal agency program monitors continue to compliment the efforts of Association staff and policy makers.

Here are some highlights of accomplishments during the 2009 fiscal year:

- 21,700 emergency food boxes were distributed
- More than 85,000 congregate meals and 128,000 home delivered meals were provided to seniors
- Bus passes were provided to about 329 low income households needing transportation
- More than 775 families received help finding child care
- 721 hours of child care training were provided
- 150 child care providers received more than \$175,000 for professional certification and grants for child care operations
- Planning staff was involved in more than 20 major local, regional and federal planning projects
- Community Development Block Grants totaling more than \$1,100,000 were awarded to nine projects across the region
- More than \$17 million in Community Impact Board financing was provided to 12 projects across the district
- 62 households received weatherization assistance
- 23 households obtained home rehabilitation and repairs
- 3,730 households received home energy assistance
- The AOG began to administer the St. George City down payment assistance program
- 546 clients were provided in-home case management services
- More than 1,500 senior volunteers provided thousands of hours of assistance in schools, libraries, hospitals, museums, food banks, and community events
- State Route 143, Utah's Patchwork Parkway, was designated as a National Scenic Byway

None of the accomplishments listed above occurred without extensive collaboration and partnering with federal, state and local agencies and groups. The Association continues to succeed by providing cost-effective, well-managed programming with minimal overhead costs. The complete Annual Report can be accessed on-line at:

<http://fcaog.state.ut.us/info/report/reports/annualreport2009HiRes.pdf>

As we enter into the Holiday Season, we at the Five County Association of Governments wish each of our partnering organizations and our member jurisdictions the best as we enter a new year of opportunities to serve the residents of southwest Utah. (Kenneth Sizemore, Executive Director)

Southern Parkway Receives Recognition as "Urban Project of the Year"



Earlier this year, the first phase of the Southern Parkway in Washington County opened to traffic. The 26 mile route is designed to provide a belt way similar to I-215 in Salt Lake County, with limited access and high speed travel capacity between I-15 and State Route 9 in Hurricane.

The project was recognized as the Urban Project of the Year at the recent UDOT engineering conference in Salt Lake City. The award was presented to the Southern Parkway Project Team: Tamra Maxwell, the UDOT project manager; Horrocks Engineers, lead design firm; Leif Condi, UDOT resident engineer and Wadsworth Brothers.

Construction on the second phase leading to the new St. George replacement airport is underway, and expected to be completed in late 2010. Three additional phases will eventually make the connection to State Route 9, although specific time frames for future construction depend upon funding availability and demand.

The project delivery method for this project was Construction Manager/General Contractor (CMGC). This was one of the first CMGC projects in the State. Bid items were set up to be a guaranteed maximum price (GMP). Some of the large risk

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items that were addressed during the CMGC process were materials and material sources, water sources, and bridge foundation types. This process resulted in change orders substantially lower than industry average.

This project provides the following benefits:

- Increased regional mobility in Washington County
- Additional access to the St George industrial area providing a route more compatible for heavy vehicles than through school zones and residential neighborhoods.
- Allowed UDOT to develop a set of standards for an expressway/grade separated arterials.

This segment of the project impacted two threatened and endangered plant resources requiring biological assessments, mitigation parcels to be located, and agreements made for the long term maintenance of the plants. Two washes were also relocated to minimize impacts to the surrounding environment. As part of these wash relocations an agreement was made with State and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA) allowing UDOT's contractor to use the material for the construction of this project. The Contractor was able to use this material for granular borrow and untreated base course. These wash relocations also required modifying the FEMA floodplain boundaries and obtain a conditional letter of map revision (CLOMR).

A set of expressway development standards were developed specific to this project. These standards address protocol for grade separated arterials and include criteria for the mainline, interchanges, access management, etc.

Extensive coordination and partnering occurred between UDOT and SITLA. This partnering included coordinating and using adjacent material sources, matching adjacent grading plans, coordinating drainage, developing compatible drainage and trail crossings, and partnering to obtain a source of construction water.

Five County AOG Announces new Web and E-mail Addresses



The Five County Association of Governments now has a new Internet domain: fivecounty.utah.gov

The Association's web site is now found at <http://fivecounty.utah.gov>

Our staff e-mail addresses have also changed to the new domain. Please see our web site's "Information" link button to view a staff directory with e-mail addresses.

FY 2010 Meeting Schedule

The Five County Association of Governments Steering Committee will meet in regular session in 2010 on the following schedule:

Meeting Date	Location
Wednesday, January 20, 2010 1:00 p.m.	Five County AOG Conference Room 1070 W.1600 S., Bldg. B St. George, UT
Wednesday, February 10, 2010 1:00 p.m.	Kane Co. Courthouse Commission Chambers 76 North Main Street Kanab, UT
Wednesday, March 10, 2010 1:00 p.m.	Beaver Co. Admin. Bldg. Conference Room 105 East Center Street Beaver, UT
Wednesday, April 14, 2010 1:00 p.m.	Parowan Library Meeting Room 16 South Main Street Parowan, UT
Wednesday, May 12, 2010 1:00 p.m.	Panguitch Library Council Chambers 15 South 200 East Panguitch, UT
Wednesday, June 9, 2010	Kane Co. Courthouse Commission Chambers 76 North Main Street Kanab, UT
Wednesday, August 11, 2010 1:00 p.m.	Panguitch Library Council Chambers 15 South 200 East Panguitch, UT
Wednesday, September 22, 2010 1:00 p.m.	Beaver Co. Admin. Bldg. Conference Room 105 East Center Street Beaver, UT
Wednesday, October 13, 2010 1:00 p.m.	Parowan Library Meeting Room 16 South Main Street Parowan, UT
Wednesday, November 17, 2010 1:00 p.m.	Five County AOG Conference Room 1070 W.1600 S., Bldg. B St. George, UT

Community Action Programs Change People's Lives and Improve Communities

Five County Association of Governments staff care about the entire community and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other. Five County Association of Governments Human Service programs partner with individuals, families, and community groups to assist low income consumers (less than 125% of poverty level) in becoming more self-sufficient. As the region's Community Action Agency, staff work with a network of human service providers to mitigate the causes and conditions of poverty through a variety of means.

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American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) provided funding for FCAOG and local food pantries with the opportunity to employ Support Services Case Managers. Support Services Case Managers and a network of community agencies work together to empower low-income families and individuals in the five county area to become more self-sufficient. Kristen, Bart and Maryann (not actual names) are just a few of the success stories of people improving their conditions related to poverty.

Kristen, a single mother, has a history struggling with barriers to employment including substance abuse and lack of training. Kristen's family had been visiting the local food pantry for several months and recently became aware of additional information and resources from the Support Services Case Manager. Kristen had begun an on line training course, but was not progressing because she lacked the needed computer equipment to complete her training. With support and encouragement she was able to find the necessary equipment and complete the employment training. She is currently employed working from home as a customer service representative with a reputable national company. What makes Kristen's story so special isn't just the final outcome, it's the steps of determination and strides of self confidence that have been made as this customer has successfully finished what she set out to do!

When Bart first came into the local food pantry he was struggling with mental illness, not on medication and unable to function in a job. Bart was feeling helpless and hopeless. Through collaboration with community partners, Bart's Support Services Case Manager was able to find the resources needed to get Bart's mental health diagnosed properly and stabilized on the right medications. Bart has learned to progress in spite of his illness, is currently enrolled in a trade school and is living a more productive life. Bart wanted a chance to do something with his life that would help him obtain gainful employment and independence from any social services or dependency on family members. What this young man has gained is more than just a chance at self-sufficiency but a different view about his disability.

His mental illness is no longer a barrier because he found with understanding and the right treatment, he can function independently. Through Support Services Case Management and community collaboration, Bart's discouragement is no longer holding him back and he now feels hopeful about the future.

Maryann was homeless, unemployed, and struggling with personal issues when she first met her Support Services Case Manager. Maryann's search for employment was unproductive no matter how many requirements were placed on her by the courts and social agencies. She lacked confidence, pre-employment job seeking skills, and transportation. Support Services Case Management provided encouragement, helped her structure a plan and execute action steps toward self reliance. Maryann learned skills to improve her resume, and access reliable transportation through bus passes. Within three days, Maryann found gainful employment and has been successfully retaining her job. With employment income she is no longer homeless, and has safe and stable housing sharing an apartment with room mates.

The Human Services Council has strongly influenced the use of funding coming to our region. FCAOG staff appreciate the cooperation and coordination between our agency and dedicated local providers helping hundreds of persons to become more self reliant.

Five County Region Consolidated Plan Public Comment - January 1, 2010 through January 31, 2010

One of the requirements placed on all agencies that receive funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is the preparation of a Consolidated Plan. The Plan consists of goals and policies directing community, economic and housing development. HUD also requires that an Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Plan be completed. The Plan identifies impediments to fair housing choice for all persons regardless of age, sex, source of income, age, disability, familial status or national origin.

The Consolidated Plan for the Five County Association of Governments non-entitlement jurisdictions will be available for public comment beginning January 1, 2010. This marks the 16th year of the consolidated planning process. The update includes a 2010 Action Plan along with updated Capital Improvements Lists, Community Assessments, FY 2010 Rating and Ranking Criteria and an analysis on focus communities and/or areas.

The plan includes all submitted capital improvements priorities in the Five County region for fiscal year 2010. These priorities are listed in the one-year list and five-year list. The one-year list includes community, economic and housing development priorities that local governments in the Five County region plan to achieve during the 2010 fiscal year. Communities, counties and other affected private/public agencies are encouraged to utilize this document in budgeting and other policy-making activities. The Plan encourages local coordination and describes community and regional priorities. All capital improvements projects that are submitted for CDBG funding consideration must be identified in the Plan by the sponsoring jurisdiction. The five-year list provides information and data regarding the needs of community, economic and housing development for the next five years (2010-2014).

A performance measures system is included which is intended to measure outcomes and benefits realized through completed projects.

The Draft 2010 Consolidated Plan will be available for review at the Five County Association of Governments offices located at 1070 West 1600 South, Building B., St. George, Utah, and 88 East Fiddlers Canyon Road, Suite H, Cedar City, Utah. The Plan will also be posted on the Five County AOG website at www.fcaog.state.ut.us/consolidatedplan.html

Comments will be accepted verbally or in writing from January 1 through January 31, 2010. For further information contact Diane Lamoreaux, CDBG Program Specialist at 435-673-3548, or dlamoreaux@fivecounty.utah.gov



**Alton Town Showcases new Fire Station
and Wildland Fire Truck**



Alton Town recently completed construction of a new fire station with funding received from the Permanent Community Impact Fund Board.

The Town was also a recipient of funding from the Community Development Block Grant program to procure a new wildland fire truck. The new wildland fire truck is equipped for search and rescue efforts with volunteer EMT's who respond around the clock to address life-hazard emergencies in the valley area.

Please submit articles to Diane Lamoreaux via e-mail dlamoreaux@fivecounty.utah.gov or in writing to: P.O. Box 1550; St. George, Utah 84771-1550. For other information or services, please call (435) 673-3548 or visit our web site at: www.fivecounty.utah.gov

**Steering Committee Meeting
Schedule:**

Wednesday, January 20, 2010 1:00PM
Five County Association of Governments
Conference Room - 1070 W. 1600 S.,
Building B, St. George, UT

Wednesday, February 10, 2010 1:00PM
Kane County Courthouse
Commission Chambers - 76 North Main
Kanab, UT

**FIVE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!