



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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## **City of Corvallis Receives Good Governance Award**

PORTLAND – The League of Oregon Cities (LOC) presented its 2004 Good Governance Award to the city of Corvallis during LOC's 79<sup>th</sup> annual conference, held November 4-6 in Portland.

The award, created in 1998, recognizes exceptional city programs that unite citizens within a community. Corvallis was honored for its "Financial Outreach Program."

### **Background – Corvallis' "Financial Outreach Program"**

Corvallis was recognized for an outreach effort intended to build "awareness and ownership" of the city's financial outlook, gather information about the community's desires for city government, and increase direct feedback to the City Council and Budget Commission. A major component of the project was a survey that presented facts about the city's financial situation and asked citizens for feedback on five different funding options.

From December 2003 to February 2004, the project generated input to the city's Budget Commission from over 400 people - many times the previous level of community interest and participation. In addition, attendance at regular Budget Commission meetings increased dramatically. In a short period of time, the city's efforts managed to solicit greater community participation and increase awareness of its financial situation.

### **About the Good Governance Award**

The League of Oregon Cities' Good Governance Award was created in 1998 by the League's Past Presidents Committee to inspire member cities to bring to the forefront city programs that "reconnect" citizens to their community. In selecting the winner of the *Good Governance Award*, the judges considered whether the event or program:

- Successfully engages citizens in the local government process;
- Enhances citizens' awareness of decision-making at the local level; and/or
- Fosters local leadership through hands-on education, planning efforts or volunteerism.

The *quality* of citizen involvement, not the size or publicity of the event or program, determines recognition.

### **About the League of Oregon Cities**

Founded in 1925, the League of Oregon Cities is a voluntary association representing 239 incorporated cities in Oregon. The League helps city governments provide service to citizens through policy setting, legislative services, intergovernmental relations, conferences and training, technical assistance and publications.

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