

# PROGRESS REPORT

## Visions Accomplished

The first draft of this plan was released in May of 2003. While the plan was meant to be long-term, we have achieved numerous successes in the first two years, and progress has been made on many of the strategies contained in the report. In just two years, a number of our proposals have been accomplished or are nearing completion.

- **Build a Downtown Conference Center:** With Mayor Taylor's leadership and perseverance, Salem's beautiful new conference center opened in February and has booked well over 100 events.
- **Develop the Mill Creek Site for Industrial Use:** After years of discussion and negotiations by Mayor Taylor and the city council and staff, the State of Oregon, and SEDCOR, the Mill Creek Industrial Park will be available for development in August of this year, with early interest from warehousing and distribution centers.
- **Develop the Oregon State Fairgrounds:** The Fair's new multi-purpose Pavilion opened last summer and has already hosted several large events that have brought visitors to Salem.
- **Increase the Amount of Federal Highway Funding Oregon Receives:** The transportation funding bill expected to be signed into law later this year would boost Oregon's highway funding by nearly half a billion dollars over six years.
- **Widen Interstate 5 Through South Salem:** With funding secured from state and federal sources, ODOT expects to begin widening I-5 from Mission Street to Kuebler next year.
- **Increase Tourism Promotion:** With Rep. Berger's support, the Legislature passed a 1% statewide lodging tax to fund tourism promotion, more than doubling the amount the state spends on this activity to \$8.5 million.
- **Reduce Water and Sewer Rate Increases:** With help from Congresswoman Hooley in keeping the EPA at bay, Mayor Taylor and the City of Salem were able to reach an agreement with the Department of Environmental Quality to approve new technology to eliminate wastewater overflows. This innovative new plan- the first in the nation to use a satellite treatment facility- will save ratepayers \$110 million.

These accomplishments have paid off by helping retain and expand existing firms and recruit new companies to the area. Mayor Taylor has been working closely with SEDCOR to facilitate job creation in the Salem area, and their efforts succeeded in wooing Wachovia to build a new customer service center in Salem. In addition, companies like Oregon Aero have moved into Salem, and Neilsen Manufacturing and Truitt Brothers have expanded their operations. With recruiting ongoing, especially as the Mill Creek Industrial Park comes online, Salem is well-positioned to attract new companies.

Action Item	Status & Recent Developments
<b>DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS</b>	
<p><i>Develop the Mill Creek Site for Industrial Use</i></p>	<p><b>SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS MADE.</b> Mayor Taylor and the Salem city council, in collaboration with the State of Oregon, approved a master plan for the development of the Mill Creek Industrial Park in October 2004. In April of this year the City completed a plan to create an urban renewal area that will allow tax increment financing to fund infrastructure at the site. Under the urban renewal area, property taxes resulting from growth in property value within the area will be used to finance improvement projects. With these plans completed, officials expect the site to be open for development in August of 2005, and warehousing/distribution centers have expressed an interest in locating at the site. Congresswoman Hooley and Oregon’s senators were able to secure \$121,250 in federal funding to develop infrastructure at the site so that the development can move forward. Congresswoman Hooley has also been working with Oregon’s senators to secure funding for transportation infrastructure on highways and major roads surrounding the site. Hooley has helped secure \$2.8 million for widening I-5 from Mission Street to Kuebler Boulevard to handle increased traffic generated by the development, as well as \$500,000 to begin study of an interchange at Highway 22 and Cordon Road that will facilitate the development. The transportation reauthorization bill, which is expected to be completed later this year, also includes \$1.5 million for widening Kuebler Boulevard near I-5 to ensure that it can handle the traffic generated by the site.</p>
<p><i>Build a Downtown Conference Center</i></p>	<p><b>COMPLETED.</b> After years of planning and negotiations by Mayor Taylor and others at the City of Salem and VIPS Industries, the new Salem Conference Center and Phoenix Grand Hotel complex opened in February, with thousands of Salem residents taking part in opening festivities. The Conference Center has had dozens of bookings for meetings, conferences, and events, with over 100 more booked through the end of the year. Congresswoman Hooley announced the inclusion of \$72,750 in economic development funding for the conference center in the FY 05 appropriations legislation, on top of \$200,000 secured in FY 04.</p>
<p><i>Implement Downtown Redevelopment Projects</i></p>	<p><b>SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS MADE.</b> In addition to the conference center, significant downtown improvement projects have been completed, including a boat dock at Riverfront Park, building improvement projects funded in part by a city grant and loan “tool box” program, and the relocation of MAPS Credit Union to the north downtown area. In addition, downtown housing projects are under construction, including the nearly-completed Salmon Run mixed-use project, the Metropolitan and Bishop buildings in the retail district, and the Meridian mixed-use building on the south end of downtown.</p>
<p><i>Develop the Oregon State Fairgrounds</i></p>	<p><b>SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS MADE.</b> The Oregon State Fair’s new Pavilion, a 110,000 square foot facility that can accommodate events from circuses and motor sports to trade shows, athletic events, and concerts, opened in August of 2004. Several major events, including the state wrestling meet, have helped bring visitors to Salem who have boosted hotel occupancy rates and helped business sales. The City of Salem plans to move forward later this year on a redevelopment project along Portland Road that will improve the image of the area surrounding the Fairgrounds and provide a more pleasant gateway to the site.</p>

<p><i>Develop the Fairview Training Center</i></p>	<p><b>PROGRESS MADE.</b> The City of Salem has approved the Sustainable Fairview Mixed-Use Zoning Ordinance and Master Plan that will guide development of this 275-acre property. On May 2, 2005, the Salem City Council also approved a "development district" for this property that will use fees generated from residential and commercial building and development at Fairview to fund public improvements in surrounding areas. Construction of the project's first phase on 32 acres on Fairview's north end is expected to begin next year. The development, known as the Pringle Creek Community, will include large amounts of green space as well as a group of "Net Zero" homes that are energy self-sufficient and will have the capacity to generate as much energy as they consume. Pringle Creek Community will feature a wide range of housing types and focus on green building techniques and a walkable environment.</p>
<p><b>TRANSPORTATION</b></p>	
<p><i>Increase the Amount of Federal Highway Funding Oregon Receives</i></p>	<p><b>NEARING COMPLETION.</b> The House version of the transportation reauthorization bill, known as TEA-LU, would increase Oregon's level of federal highway funding to \$2.6 billion over six years, a 27% increase and \$546 million more than under the predecessor legislation, TEA-21. The bill has passed both the House and the Senate, with final negotiations being completed by a conference committee in the near future. The bill is expected to be signed into law later this year.</p>
<p><i>Build an Interchange at Highway 22 and Cordon Road</i></p>	<p><b>PROGRESS MADE.</b> Congresswoman Hooley was able to secure \$500,000 in the FY 04 omnibus appropriations bill for an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) that will begin work on an interchange at Highway 22 and Cordon Road. This project will facilitate the development of the Mill Creek Industrial Park by providing improved access to major regional highways.</p>
<p><i>Widen Interstate 5 Through South Salem</i></p>	<p><b>NEARING COMPLETION.</b> With Rep. Berger's support, the Legislature passed the OTIA 3 transportation package, which will fund reconstruction of failing bridges on major highways throughout the State. ODOT is using this funding to move forward with a project that would seize the opportunity to widen I-5 from Mission Street to Kuebler Boulevard while reconstructing bridges on this stretch of freeway. The project has received over \$60 million in funding from a variety of sources, including \$2.8 million in federal funding secured by Congresswoman Hooley and the state's senators. With funding now in place, ODOT expects the project to go to bid in the fall of 2005 and construction to begin in 2006.</p>
<p><i>Build a Third Willamette Bridge</i></p>	<p><b>PROGRESS MADE.</b> Congresswoman Hooley secured an additional \$750,000 in funding in the FY 05 budget for an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) that will start the process of designing and building another bridge in Salem, in addition to \$400,000 in funding secured by Hooley in the FY 04 budget. The City of Salem has provided the required matching funds for the EIS, and with ODOT's approval secured, work will begin soon. The EIS will examine the potential of a new bridge at the end of Pine Street in north Salem and will begin work on finding the funding—estimated at \$180 million— to complete the project.</p>
<p><i>Modernize Highway 22 West of Salem</i></p>	<p><b>PROGRESS MADE.</b> ODOT has broken ground on the improved Highway 22/Highway 99 interchange in Rickreall. Congresswoman Hooley has set aside \$1 million in the transportation reauthorization bill that will be used to begin work on preliminary engineering for the Highway 51/Highway 22 interchange.</p>

<p><i>Develop Salem Airport's Capacity for Air Travel</i></p>	<p><b>PROGRESS MADE.</b> With assistance from Congresswoman Hooley and Senator Wyden, the efforts of Mayor Taylor and the City of Salem secured a \$500,000 federal grant designed to help lure Horizon Air to provide twice-daily service to Seattle. An additional federal grant has been secured to improve the airport's terminal to provide passenger service. However, Horizon Air has not yet committed to providing air service.</p>
<p><i>Enhance the Salem Area's Transit System</i></p>	<p><b>PROGRESS MADE.</b> Congresswoman Hooley secured \$550,000 in the FY 05 budget for the Salem Keizer Transit District to improve its service, including \$350,000 for the district to purchase improved buses and build bus facilities and has earmarked \$2 million in the transportation reauthorization bill for Cherriots. In addition, Hooley helped secure \$1.75 million for Salem-Keizer Transit in the FY 04 budget, including \$750,000 for a new neighborhood transit center and \$600,000 to replace buses.</p>
<p><i>Deepen the Columbia River Channel</i></p>	<p><b>PROGRESS MADE; CHALLENGES AHEAD.</b> Oregon's congressional delegation was able to secure \$9 million in the FY 05 federal budget for the Columbia River channel deepening, and the Army Corps of Engineers has put the initial phases of the project out to bid and expects work to begin later this year. Unfortunately, the Administration has included only \$15 million for the project in its FY 06 budget proposal, less than the \$40 million needed to keep the project on track.</p>
<p><b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b></p>	
<p><i>Continue the Fight Against Methamphetamine</i></p>	<p><b>PROGRESS MADE; SIGNIFICANT CHALLENGES AHEAD.</b> Methamphetamine has now been elevated to one of the public's top concerns, and the State Legislature and Congress are working to respond. The Legislature has created a package of bills that addresses the methamphetamine epidemic in Oregon by increasing jail sentences and penalties for possession and/or manufacturing of methamphetamine and penalties for selling or possessing large amounts of methamphetamine precursors, and Rep. Berger has introduced legislation to require that neighbors be notified when a convicted meth cook moves in nearby. Similarly, Congresswoman Hooley has introduced a package of meth-related legislation that would provide increased federal resources in the fight against meth and make it more difficult for meth manufacturers to get the chemicals needed to make the drug. The City of Salem also added eight police officers in the last year in order to fight meth, and at the federal level, Congresswoman Hooley was able to secure \$600,000 for the Marion County Sheriff's anti-meth initiative in the FY 05 budget. At the citizen level, No Meth-Not in MY Neighborhood, a broad grass-roots effort to fight the meth problem in the Salem-Keizer area, has made important progress in elevating public awareness of this problem and catalyzed a citizen response. The task force is working to implement several recommendations that came out of the community summit it held last year, and with the support of Mayor Taylor and the city council, the City of Salem has worked closely with the task force and asked all departments and employees to take part in the effort. Despite all these efforts, the meth epidemic continues, requiring additional effort by law enforcement, elected officials, and citizens.</p>

<p><i>Make Progress Against Identity Theft</i></p>	<p><b>PROGRESS MADE; SIGNIFICANT CHALLENGES AHEAD.</b> Under provisions of the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act written by Congresswoman Hooley, in December Oregonians became eligible for free credit reports, a crucial tool in helping people find and respond to identity theft. The No Meth task force has worked to prevent identity theft by asking merchants to check the identification of people using credit cards and get thumbprints on checks, but major national chain stores have refused to participate. Despite these efforts, identity theft continues to grow as a problem, with more and more Oregonians falling victim.</p>
<p><i>Continue Federal Funding for Local Public Safety Programs</i></p>	<p><b>PROGRESS MADE.</b> Although the Administration's budget for FY 06 once again proposes major cuts to programs that provide support to local public safety agencies, Congress continued to provide funding for many of these programs in FY 05, including \$606 million for the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) programs and \$634 million for the Byrne programs. Congresswoman Hooley has joined colleagues of both parties in urging appropriators to continue to provide funding for these important local law enforcement grants.</p>
<p><b>ENERGY</b></p>	
<p><i>Maintain BPA as a Northwest Resource</i></p>	<p><b>PROGRESS MADE.</b> A united and bipartisan effort by northwest lawmakers has so far been able to turn aside efforts by the Administration to force the Bonneville Power Administration and other regional power marketing authorities to sell the power they generate at market rates.</p>
<p><i>Hold Down Electricity Rate Increases</i></p>	<p><b>SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS MADE.</b> Although BPA's plans to reduce the amount of water spilled over dams in the summer to help migrating salmon, thereby reducing power generation and revenue from sales outside the region, did not achieve significant savings, the agency was able to implement a 7.5% cut in wholesale rates in October. This reduction, which will save ratepayers \$120 million, was due largely to cost-cutting efforts implemented at the urging of BPA's stakeholders, including the region's congressional delegation.</p>
<p><i>Protect Salem's Interests in PGE</i></p>	<p><b>CHALLENGES AHEAD.</b> PGE's future remains in doubt as Enron continues plans to distribute shares to creditors, which would keep PGE a privately-held corporation, while also considering an offer from the City of Portland to purchase the utility. Although acquisition of PGE by the Texas Pacific Group, which was opposed by groups representing consumer and industrial ratepayers, was blocked by the Public Utilities Commission, the City of Portland's efforts to acquire the utility continue to concern regional leaders. Mayor Taylor is serving on a 12-person board that represents PGE's stakeholders to the City of Portland to ensure that any Portland-owned public utility has a governance structure that protects the interests of the Mid-Valley and other parts of PGE's service territory. In an effort to protect not only Salem's interests but the interests of all PGE ratepayers in Oregon, Representative Berger, along with Senators Deckert and Nelson, sponsored Senate Bill 1008, which would create Oregon Community Power, a customer-owned electric utility that would purchase and operate PGE. The legislation envisions a utility formed as a public corporation like the Port of Portland and Oregon Public Broadcasting, giving Oregonians a business with a public mission.</p>

<b>EDUCATION &amp; WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT</b>	
<i>Provide Schools Adequate, Long-Term, Stable Funding</i>	<b>LITTLE PROGRESS MADE.</b> Efforts during the interim period between legislative sessions to come to agreement on stabilizing the state's finances did not produce agreement, and the Legislature has struggled during this session to come up with an education funding level that school advocates view as adequate.
<i>Fully Fund IDEA and No Child Left Behind</i>	<b>PROGRESS MADE.</b> Since 2003, funding for grants to school districts under No Child Left Behind's Title 1 has increased by \$1 billion; over the same period, funding for special education under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act has increased by \$1.7 billion, bring millions more into Oregon to fill these unfunded mandates. However, a significant funding shortage still remains in both programs.
<i>Build Stronger Connections with Oregon State University</i>	<b>LIMITED PROGRESS MADE.</b> Mayor Taylor and SEDCOR are planning discussions with Oregon State University about encouraging companies that spin off from OSU's nanotechnology research center, ONAMI, to locate in Salem at the Mill Creek Industrial Park.
<i>Capitalize on Willamette University's Presence in the Community</i>	<b>LIMITED PROGRESS MADE.</b> Willamette University has unveiled preliminary plans to convert an underutilized area of downtown on the west side of its campus into a community performing arts center that would provide art and cultural opportunities and aid in downtown redevelopment. The City is working with the University to move the project forward.
<i>Build on Chemeketa's Contributions to the Region</i>	<b>PROGRESS MADE.</b> Chemeketa continues to be a strong partner for economic development in the Mid-Valley. The community college has recently created two programs to aid important sectors of the region's economy: the Northwest Viticulture Center in the Eola Hills providing training for the region's vineyards and wineries, and the new Advanced Manufacturing and Technology Institute (AMTI) offers courses to benefit local manufacturers. In addition, Chemeketa is planning to develop a horticulture program that Congresswoman Hooley will be seeking to fund in the FY 06 budget. Chemeketa is also exploring an expansion of its downtown Training and Economic Development Center, including a possible business incubator that would provide development services for local entrepreneurs to help their businesses get on their feet.
<i>Fund Worker Training Programs</i>	<b>LITTLE PROGRESS MADE.</b> Over the last year and a half, 17 companies in the Mid-Valley have received over \$600,000 in funding from the Enterprise for Employment and Education's Employer Workforce Training Fund, which provides matching grants to local companies to increase the skills of those currently working. This investment, which will be matched by \$1.5 million from the companies, has helped over 1000 people receive training. Unfortunately, Congress has not yet reauthorized the Workforce Investment act, which funds worker training programs. Under the Administration's budget, vocational and adult education would be slashed by \$1.7 billion, a cut of 89% from FY05 levels. Oregon would have its vocational and adult education programs cut by \$67.3 million over the next five years, and the state would see its programs under the Workforce Investment Act cut by \$21 million over the next five years, hindering Oregon's ability to develop a workforce with the skills needed by employers. However, Congresswoman Hooley was able to obtain a \$210,000 appropriation to support expansion of Chemeketa Community College's nursing program, a crucial part of providing workers for the medical profession.

<p><i>Expand Manufacturing Training Programs</i></p>	<p><b>PROGRESS MADE.</b> With support from a \$2.8 million Department of Labor grant, Chemeketa's new Advanced Manufacturing and Technology Institute (AMTI) has begun offering courses in areas such as automation technology, Oracle and computer applications, and micro-electromechanical systems. Congresswoman Hooley has requested funding for the AMTI in this year's federal budget.</p>
<p><b>TOURISM</b></p>	
<p><i>Increase Tourism Promotion</i></p>	<p><b>COMPLETED.</b> With Representative Berger's support the Legislature passed HR 2267, which established a 1% statewide lodging tax to fund tourism promotion. The measure will more than double the amount the state spends on tourism promotion to \$8.5 million annually.</p>
<p><i>Create a Regional Tourism Strategy</i></p>	<p><b>PROGRESS MADE.</b> Mayor Taylor has led an effort to create a regional tourism strategy that would provide for better coordination between hotels, attractions, and local governments in promoting tourism in the Mid-Valley. The group plans to hold a summit this fall.</p>
<p><i>Continue Development of the Oregon Garden</i></p>	<p><b>SIGNIFICANT CHALLENGES AHEAD.</b> While the Oregon Garden opened a new entrance that included a café and gift shop, significant financial troubles now face the Garden. Operating expenses are higher than revenue, and a large debt load weighs down the Garden's long-term finances. However, the Garden has made efforts to reduce costs and increase revenues: Chemeketa Community College has assumed responsibility for its gift shop and café, reducing the Garden's costs, and the Garden recently received a \$240,000 grant from the Meyer Memorial Trust to increase marketing efforts to boost attendance. In addition, the Garden announced a possible deal that would build a hotel on site and produce additional revenue. Congresswoman Hooley was able to secure \$325,000 in the FY 05 budget to continue funding for SPROut, the Sustainable Plant Research Center at the Garden. The Center, which researches ways to use plant material to solve environmental problems, could provide Oregon's important nursery industry a boost as it helps find new uses for plants and expand markets for nursery products.</p>
<p><i>Improve Use of the Willamette River</i></p>	<p><b>PROGRESS MADE.</b> A new boat dock at Riverfront Park has given local residents and tourists the opportunity for easy access to the river, and the decision by Mayor Taylor and the city council to acquire the Union Pacific railroad bridge and seek grants to build a pedestrian/bicycle bridge to Minto-Brown Island Park will create a large complex of parks along the river. Moreover, significant funding has been lined up to purchase land for the Keizer Rapids Park, and the Mid-Willamette Water Trail will open this spring, providing additional recreational opportunities on the river. Congresswoman Hooley will be hosting a Willamette River summit to bring communities along the river together to find ways to cooperate in developing this important resource.</p>

<b>AGRICULTURE</b>	
<i>Promote Specialty Crops</i>	<b>PROGRESS MADE.</b> In fall of 2004 Congress passed the Specialty Crop Competitiveness Act. The bill, which Congresswoman Hooley co-sponsored, authorized annual funding of \$44.5 million for grants to promote specialty crops. Unfortunately, Congress appropriated no money for the grants. Congresswoman Hooley has helped lead an effort to fully fund this program, and she has also reintroduced legislation that would increase funding for federal programs that help specialty crop producers and processors compete on international markets through export promotion, marketing, and product development. The legislation also improves access to credit for farmers and provides greater opportunities for specialty crop producers to purchase crop insurance.
<i>Support Value-Added Agriculture</i>	<b>LIMITED PROGRESS MADE.</b> The Food Innovation Center, a joint project of OSU and the Oregon Department of Agriculture, helps Oregon's farmers and food processors develop and market new value-added products. Congresswoman Hooley secured \$357,000 in the FY04 appropriations bill for the Food Innovation Center's programs and \$356,000 in the FY05 budget. Hooley has introduced legislation that would increase funding for the USDA's Value Added Producer Grant program and improve the program by sending money directly to the states so they can implement their own agriculture promotion strategies. This legislation would also provide resources to help farmers and food processors get certifications that prove they produce or process their products according to certain standards, which increases marketing opportunities and product value.
<i>Promote Exports of Oregon Agricultural Products</i>	<b>LIMITED PROGRESS MADE.</b> Governor Kulongoski, Oregon Department of Agriculture Director Katy Coba, and leaders of commodity groups have led delegations to foreign countries promoting Oregon's agricultural products. The Oregon Association of Nurseries has even shipped products from Oregon nurseries to create a garden in Beijing designed to encourage the Chinese to purchase Oregon products. The trade provisions of Congresswoman Hooley's specialty crops legislation would contribute to expanded exports of Oregon products. In addition to providing marketing resources, this legislation directs the U.S. Trade Representative to establish a specialty crop trade position to promote these farm products, directs the Secretary of Agriculture to prepare a foreign market access strategy aimed at increasing specialty crop exports, and helps reduce sanitary and phytosanitary export barriers.
<i>Promote Oregon Agricultural Products At Home</i>	<b>LIMITED PROGRESS MADE.</b> As part of the State of Oregon's "Brand Oregon" effort, the Oregon Department of Agriculture has led an "Oregon Bounty" campaign that highlighted the state's wine, cheese, hazelnuts, and pears. Congresswoman Hooley continues to lead a bipartisan effort to implement country of origin labeling for produce and meat. Oregon cattlemen and many of our state's specialty crop growers strongly support these efforts because labeling offers them an opportunity to market their products.

<p><i>Fund Agricultural Research</i></p>	<p><b>PROGRESS MADE.</b> Congresswoman Hooley and other members of the Oregon congressional delegation were able to secure over \$3 million in funding earmarked for research at OSU that will benefit Oregon’s farmers and fishing industry. Included in this amount are funds for OSU’s Northwest Center for Small Fruits Research Program, the Food Innovation Center, which helps develop and market new food products, and research that will benefit a variety of other crops grown in the Mid-Valley. Unfortunately, the Administration’s budget proposes slashing funding for the Hatch Act, which provides millions of dollars for land-grant colleges like OSU to conduct agricultural research, by 50% and eliminating it entirely in 2007.</p>
<p><b>ADDITIONAL PROPOSALS</b></p>	
<p><i>Reduce Water and Sewer Rate Increases</i></p>	<p><b>COMPLETED.</b> After strong leadership by Mayor Taylor and intervention by Congresswoman Hooley, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has allowed the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality to implement a solution with the City of Salem that will protect the environment while significantly reducing anticipated wastewater rate increases. The agreement between DEQ and the city will cut the price tag for wastewater improvements by \$110 million, a reduction of 25% of the project’s total cost. The project was given its final stamp of approval in December 2004 when the City was issued a discharge permit for its new satellite wastewater treatment facility– the first in the nation to use such a satellite station to handle peak wastewater flows. Mayor Taylor and other city officials worked closely with the local business community, especially food processors, and Mayor Taylor was presented an award by the Northwest Food Processors Association for her efforts to preserve this important industry. Congresswoman Hooley was also able to secure \$150,000 in the FY 05 appropriations legislation to pay for portions of these upgrades and reduce costs for ratepayers.</p>
<p><i>Maintain the Oregon Manufacturing Extension Partnership</i></p>	<p><b>SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS MADE.</b> In 2003 Congress cut the Manufacturing Extension Partnership budget from \$106 million to just \$39 million in FY 04. While President Bush’s FY 05 budget proposed continuing this low level of funding for FY 05, efforts in Congress, led in the House Budget Committee by Congresswoman Hooley, were able to increase funding for the program. Congress provided \$109 million for this program in FY 05, restoring the program to its previous funding level.</p>
<p><i>Develop the Oregon Nanoscience and Microtechnologies Institute</i></p>	<p><b>SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS MADE.</b> With help from Oregon’s senators and Congresswoman Hooley, ONAMI was earmarked \$5 million in Department of Defense research and development funding for two of the center’s projects. ONAMI has also secured millions of dollars in additional federal grants that have helped develop the institute, including a \$100,000 grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration to help create a system that will more efficiently move its inventions out of the laboratory and into Oregon products, companies and jobs. Congresswoman Hooley recently promoted ONAMI to national policymakers by bringing a representative of the institute to testify at a hearing on the National Nanotechnology Initiative before the House Science Committee’s Research Subcommittee, of which Hooley is the ranking minority member.</p>

<i>Redevelop Brownfields</i>	<b>LIMITED PROGRESS MADE.</b> The City of Salem received an EPA Brownfields grant that will be used to clean up and redevelop a former gas station along Fairgrounds Road as part of the North Gateway Redevelopment project, which the City plans to move forward this year.
<i>Extend Unemployment Benefits</i>	<b>LIMITED PROGRESS MADE.</b> Although Congress has not passed any extensions of unemployment benefits, with Rep. Berger's support the Oregon Legislature unanimously passed House Bill 3305, which will provide an additional six and a half weeks of benefits to as many as 23,300 Oregonians who have used up their benefits but not yet found a job.

In the course of the past two years, this document has been modified significantly in response to comments from the public, opportunities that have arisen, and challenges that we have encountered. As a result, a number of the proposals in earlier drafts have been significantly modified, and the following proposals included in earlier drafts have been removed:

- **Provide Money to Modernize Schools.** This has proven infeasible and has been seen by education supporters as a lower priority than addressing funding for instructional programs.
- **Continue Development of the Oregon Garden.** While the Garden remains an important tourist attraction for the Mid-Willamette Valley, its current difficulties require a focus on shoring up its financial situation rather than continuing development.
- **Redevelop Brownfields.** While redeveloping brownfields remains a goal of the City, limited funding from all levels of government have hindered this goal.
- **Extend Unemployment Benefits.** Despite continuing problems with unemployed workers exhausting benefits in 2003 and 2004, Congress declined to offer a benefits extension. Although too many people remain out of work, the economy has recovered significantly, reducing the need for extending benefits.