



PROMISE

The Eugene, Cascades & Coast region has Oregon's greatest variety of adventures in easy to reach, uncrowded places.



MISSION

Grow overnight visitors for a vibrant, year-round and county-wide economy.



WHY

We believe our work inspires people to experience and appreciate Lane County, creating opportunities, a sense of place and stronger communities.



VISION

Travel Lane County is a recognized leader in achieving year-round economic growth throughout the Eugene, Cascades & Coast region through innovative destination marketing, product development and exceptional visitor experiences.

OUR KEY DIFFERENTIATORS



Uncongested nature paths, lakes and rivers

Fresh food and crafted beverages

Maker culture

Clean air, water and soil

Music, art and performances

Tech/intellectual capital

TrackTown USA Legacy

Active sports culture

Vibrant university town

Riverfront, parks and recreation

I-5 Interstate, highway connections

Easy air service

Affordable

No sales tax

Inclusive culture

OUR COMMUNITIES



EUGENE

A great city for the arts and outdoors, Eugene is a vibrant destination with plenty to offer. This culinary hub in the South Willamette Valley is a creative haven, a technology hub, a runner's paradise and a river town all in one. Eugene is a cultural hub with a strong network of paths and trails.



DUNES CITY

Nestled a few miles inland from the Oregon coast, Dunes City is a small community with plenty to offer outdoor enthusiasts. From RV and tent camping to vacation rentals, this is a great place to get away from it all. Venture out to Siltcoos and Woahink Lakes. Honeyman State Park is one of Oregon's most popular campgrounds. Siltcoos River Trail offers a peaceful kayak trip all the way to the beach.



SPRINGFIELD

Springfield, where new restaurants and shops line Main Street. Springfield has a lively downtown, is the official hometown of "The Simpsons," and you can find numerous murals dedicated to the famous show around town. Enjoy the nearby outdoor recreation opportunities at Dorris Ranch and Thurston Hills, which provide easy access to fun for the whole family.



COTTAGE GROVE

Cottage Grove is the Covered Bridge Capital of the West. Explore the town's historic downtown area, wander along Bohemia Mountain, or pedal the Row River Bike Trail. Tour six covered bridges, admire over 20 outdoor murals, and then settle into small-town Americana by grabbing a bite to eat in this town that was twice voted an All American City.



FLORENCE

Florence is Oregon's Coastal Playground and home to a charming Old Town, a river boardwalk and the iconic Heceta Head Lighthouse. Enjoy outdoor recreation on the Siuslaw River, the Oregon Dunes to the south, or take in the stunning views at Cape Perpetua or the Sea Lion Caves.



MCKENZIE RIVER

The McKenzie River valley features a crystal clear river, towering forests, charming small towns, and working agricultural landscapes. From fishing and rafting to forest bathing and waterfalls, outdoor adventurers will find what they're looking for here.

OUR COMMUNITIES



JUNCTION CITY

North of Eugene and Springfield, Junction City is a must-visit for those interested in agritourism experiences. This agricultural hub is known for its farming heritage and the popular Junction City Scandinavian Festival. Explore the surrounding farmlands or head west to discover the wineries of the Lower Long Tom AVA.



OAKRIDGE & WESTFIR

Nestled in the Cascade Mountains and surrounded by the Willamette National Forest, Oakridge is the perfect base camp for exploring worldclass mountain biking trails, hiking, paddle sports, wildlife viewing, and more. Nearby Westfir is a smaller community with additional recreation amenities, located at the southern end of Forest Road 19 / Aufderheide Scenic Drive.



LOWELL

Located in the foothills of the Cascade Mountains, Lowell is a perfect destination for water sports enthusiasts. With three nearby lakes, there's plenty of opportunity for boating, fishing, and swimming as well as covered bridges, hiking and mountain biking trails and wildlife viewing opportunities.



COBURG

A stone's throw from Eugene-Springfield, Interstate 5, and the McKenzie River area, Coburg is a charming small town with easy access to outdoor recreation. This delightful town boasts 1800s architecture and sits surrounded by farmland. Take a stroll through town and discover vintage items or head out to the great outdoors for a fun-filled adventure.



VENETA-FERN RIDGE

Discover the unique character of Veneta, a small town located west of Eugene that anchors several nearby unincorporated communities including Crow, Elmira, Noti, Vaughn, and Walton. Take some time to explore the local wineries and enjoy the serene beauty of Fern Ridge Reservoir, which offers multiple opportunities for outdoor recreation.



CRESWELL

Just outside of Eugene and Springfield, Creswell is a gateway to both outdoor recreation and Oregon wine country. Home to a local favorite bakery, parks and a golf course, this friendly town is known for its annual 4th of July parade.

OUR FILTERS FY24



Our work is guided by three filters within Travel Lane County's mission of growing overnight visitors for a vibrant, year-round county-wide economy.

Sustainability speaks to the value of careful place stewardship, including a sustainable visitor economy and meaningful live, work, play balance for residents along with a healthy natural environment — and to the stewardship dollars entrusted to us.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion is our conscious effort to ensure diverse visitors are inspired by our destination, feel welcome to visit, and are treated with warmth and dignity no matter their identity. This filter also speaks to intentionally celebrating our historic, indigenous culture respectfully. And this filter speaks to our commitment to ensure diverse identity perspectives are represented within our organization and throughout our program decision-making.

Accessibility A growing number of travelers require some kind of physical, cognitive or emotional accommodation. This is both an area of strength for our destination and an area of opportunity. As a very large body of work, we set specific targets in a given program year, while being open to opportunities as they arise if we have capacity to leverage them.

We want all visitors to feel welcome and have meaningful experiences throughout Lane County. These filters also serve resident needs and create a stronger and more resilient community.

OUR AUDIENCES

TRADE

Convention and meeting planners Primary state, national and regional planners hosting education, associations, independent/third

party, government and faith events.

Secondary state, national and regional planners hosting heathcare, tech, professional, agriculture and corporate events.

Sports event planners

Primary Local clubs, regional and national organizations in running, cycling, rowing, disc golf, golf, pickleball and skateboarding. TrackTown USA, University of Oregon **Athletics**

Travel trade

Domestic and international operators, receptive tour operators

CONSUMER

Age: 25-64

Drive markets: Medford, Portland, Bend, Boise, Seattle

Current direct flight markets:

Burbank, Dallas, Denver, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Mesa, Oakland, Palm Springs, Phoenix, Salt Lake City, San Diego, San Francisco, San Jose, Santa Ana and Seattle

Interests: Road trips, tours, biking, hiking, kayaking, fishing, boating, birding, wine and food travel, wine tasting, beer tasting, shopping, family vacations, road trips for families, local travel, adventure travel, sustainability, maker culture, art, track & field, running, cycling, college sports, Main Streets

Lane County residents

STAKEHOLDERS

Elected officials

Board of Directors

Partner businesses

Tourism industry (state/regional/local)

Chambers of Commerce

Civic and community groups

Local, State and County agencies

Local residents

Sports Advisory Council and those directly engaged in sports

MEDIA

Convention trade media

Sports trade media

Travel trade media

Local/regional media

Sport-specific enthusiast media

Regional lifestyle and travel media

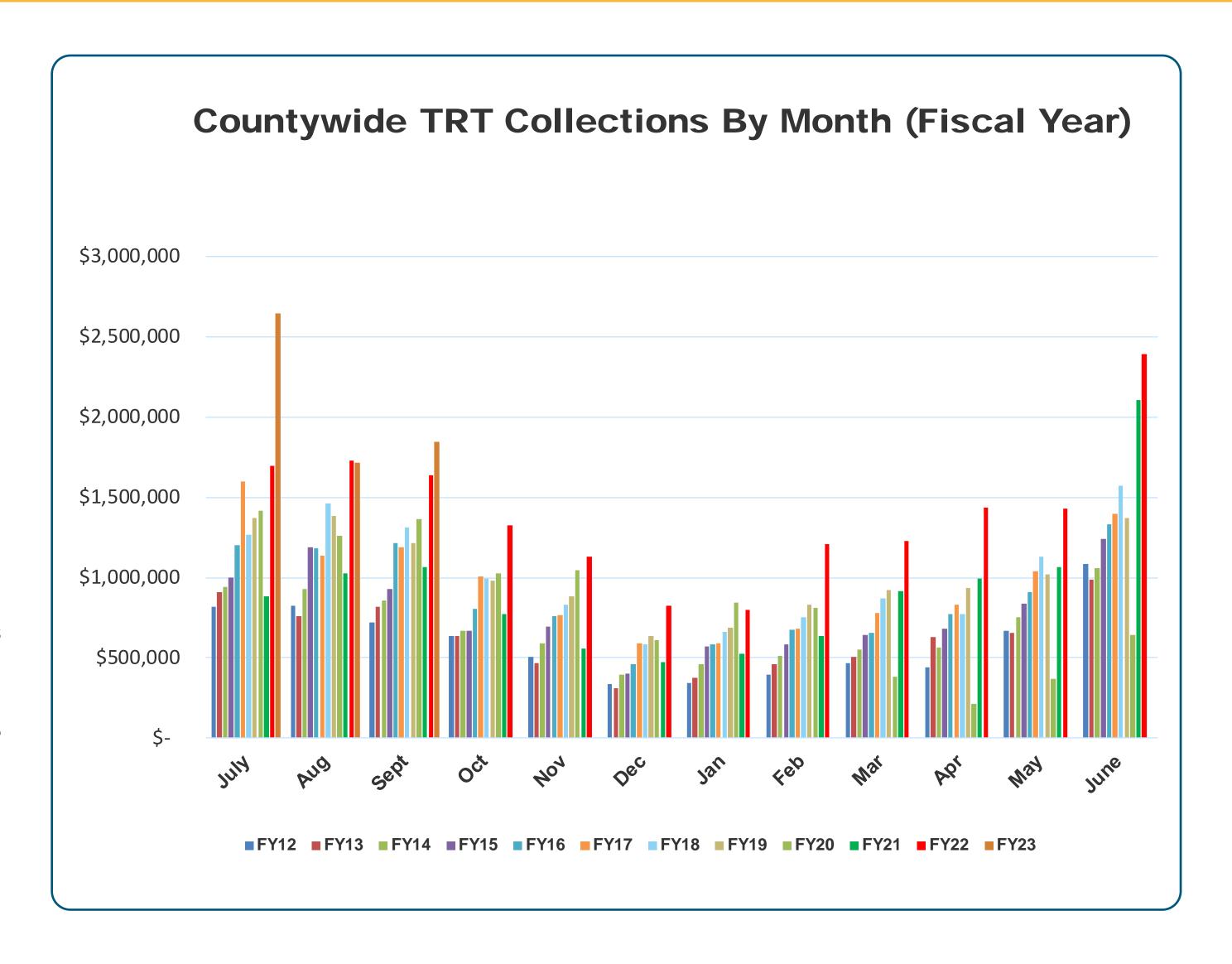
FY24 MARKETING PLAN SITUATION ANALYSIS

Lane County is over 4,700 square miles and is comprised of many small rural communities as well as the state's second largest metro area in Eugene-Springfield. Tourism is one of many important industry sectors in a diverse economy here.

FY22 and calendar year 2022 were strong for commercial lodging and transient lodging tax revenue, with many months reaching record levels based on strong demand from events, vacationers and also non-marketable demand from wildfire recovery and traveling nurses which has now diminished. The goal for FY24 is to maintain strong revenues through focused efforts to drive more demand from our three target markets of leisure, meeting planners and sports event planners.

Nationally, the economy may modify strong travel sentiment as inflation eats into savings. Depending on the length and severity of anticipated recessionary financial pressure, domestic travelers may not be able to fund all their travel goals for the year ahead.

Our highest consistent need period is December - February. We are positioned to leverage our business intelligence investments to make informed marketing investments, and winter facilities development remains an area of focus.

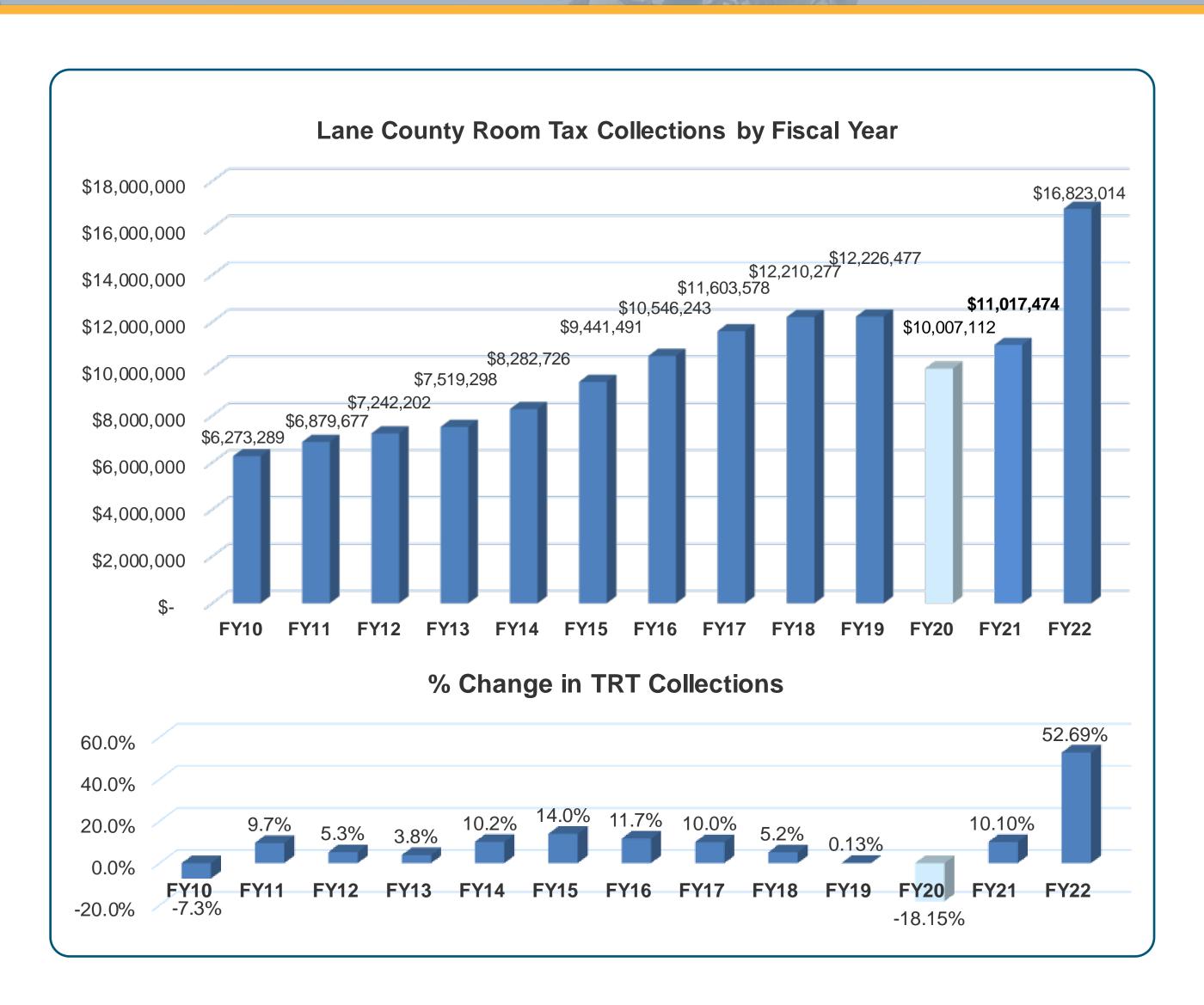


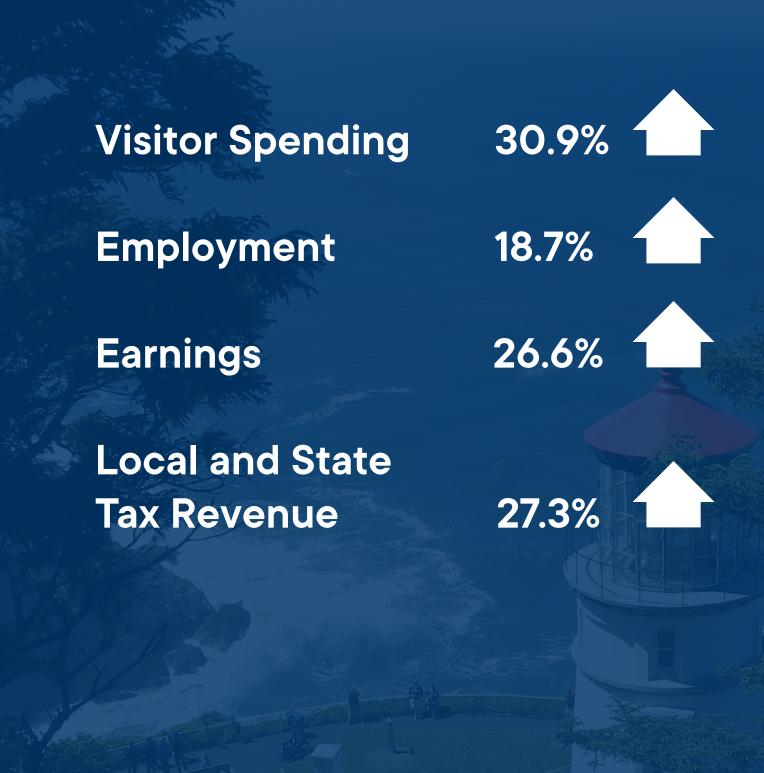
FY24 MARKETING PLAN SITUATION ANALYSIS

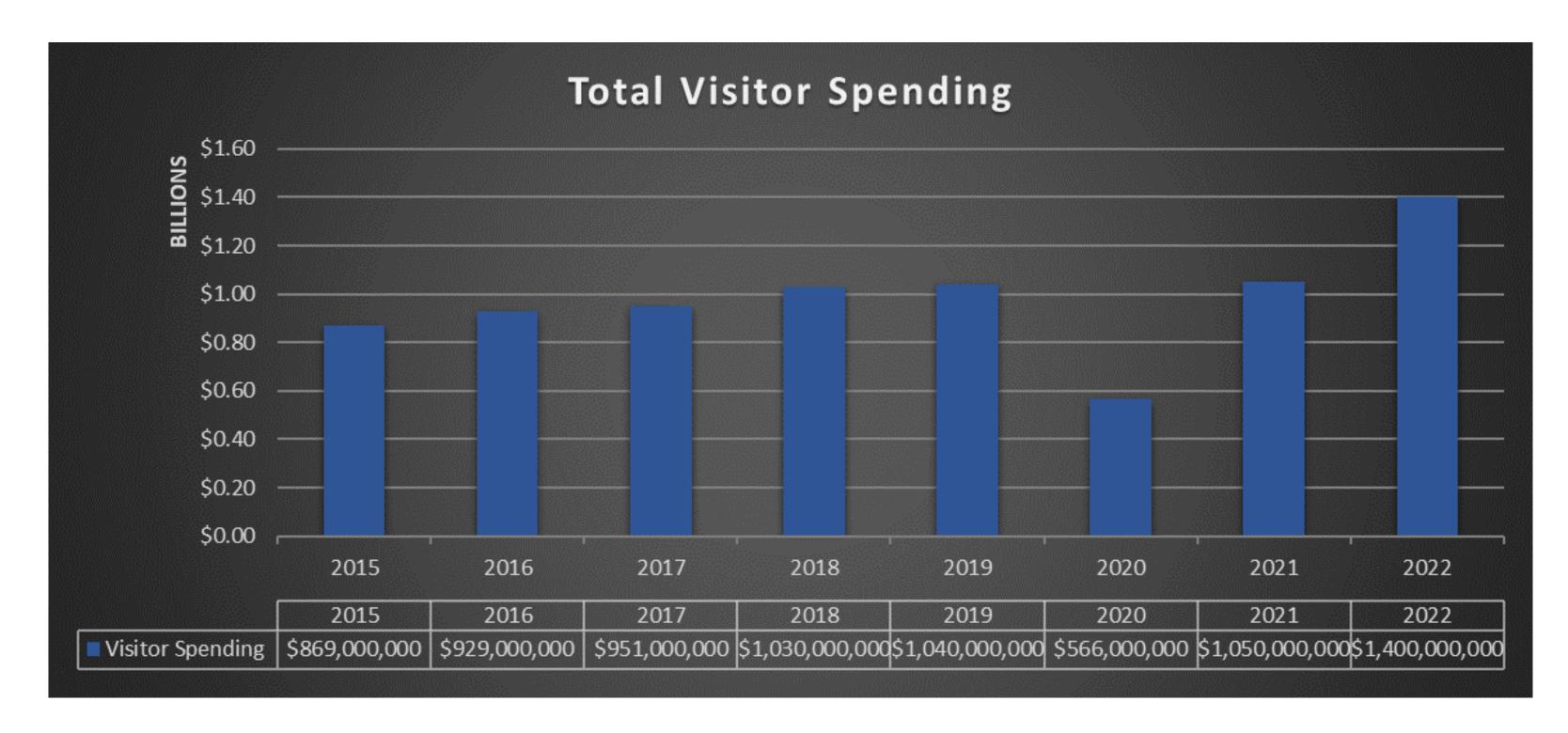
Supporting industry yield as businesses cover higher costs at higher price points will make strong customer service mandatory in helping to ensure overall high destination experience value. We will focus on service and workforce efforts. Large track events will bookend FY24 and help support visitor spending.

Strengthening the future of our hospitality economy through destination development is critically important as facility investment has lagged dramatically behind competing communities within and outside of Oregon. We must find a way to invest in sports and convention facilities that enhance our ability to draw overnight visitors and their spending during winter while also contributing to the quality of life for residents and enhancing emergency support services in times of crisis.

Travel Lane County's board of directors has adopted a three-year framework to approach all of these imperatives. This and future annual plans will include strategies and tactics to make substantial progress on a strategic level while also maintaining a focus on growing visitors aligned with our destination values and experience offerings.







Lane County enjoyed significant overall tourism economic impact gains in 2022. Visitor spending increased by 30.9% to nearly \$1.4 billion, ahead of the statewide growth rate of 25.5%, translating to \$13.9 billion in spending statewide. Employment climbed 18.7% here from 2021 to

2022 to employ 10,750 workers countywide. Earnings increased by 26.6% to reach a total of \$352.2 million. Total local and state tax revenue jumped 27.3% from \$42.3 million in 2021 to \$53.9 million in 2022. All of our growth rates exceeded the state average.

TOURISM MARKETING

Purpose

Drive destination awareness and demand to Lane County.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR FY24

Measure increased reach to target markets with billboards, digital mix and earned media strategies

Drive traffic to key areas of the new Eugene, Cascades & Coast website to encourage interest and visitation throughout the county

Launch a locally-focused "Explore" campaign to support in-market activations and resident engagement

TOURISM MARKETING

Goal #1

Drive targeted brand awareness, destination interest and visitation to build an attractive and resilient destination

Objectives

Measure efficiency of media spend

Strategies

Use data to identify opportunity markets to target in paid strategies

Operate always-on marketing program to reach and engage potential visitors in key markets

Additional campaign pulses in key markets and strategic placements add to always-on marketing visitor reach

Distribute Visitor Guide to reach visitors in key markets

Objectives

Earn 35 top tier stories that feature destination key messages and themes

Objectives

Increase first party data to 12,000 contacts

Strategies

Work with top-tier media to earn coverage of stories that align with key leisure messaging

Strategies

Use incentives to grow consumer email subscriber base

Objective

Collaborate on 3 storytelling projects with content creators

Objective

Collaborate on 3 influencer storytelling projects/collaborations

Objective

Create or refresh 3 key stories or editorial pages each month to support paid traffic to site

Objective

Reach 40 stakeholder Travel Trade operator referrals

Strategies

Engage in projects and collaborations to tell stories to key audiences from specific perspectives

Strategies

Engage in influencer projects and collaborations to tell stories to key audiences with an emphasis on better representation

Strategies

Build and reinforce our content marketing funnel with data to target content creation by identifying gaps, primary trip motivators and opportunity areas

Align paid content with tourism committees, engaged community members and sports themes, and integrate Sustainability, Accessibility and DEI lenses into content

Strategies

Leverage Oregon tourism industry collaborations to reach travel trade contacts who fit destination opportunities for international and group travel

TOURISM MARKETING

Goal #2

Gather and build destination product to drive business to stakeholders by fueling direct to consumer, trade and media target markets.

Objectives

Increase packages and/or bookable activities on our site by 10%

Strategies

Build on and leverage Travel Oregon's Why Guides program and integrate into relevant itineraries

Conduct routine audits of "destination motivator" themes, community highlights and products across Arts/Culture, Outdoor and Culinary themes to integrate in programming based on data

Objectives

Establish baseline measurement of economic return on tourism marketing efforts

Strategies

Use Zartico and other available data insights to create dashboard

Goal #3

Ensure visitors have relevant information and tools for planning and discovering meaningful and transformational experiences throughout the destination.

Objectives

Increased impressions from in-market placements

Objectives

Support 2 co-ops to engage residents to explore destination and become destination ambassadors

Strategies

Use key placements throughout destination to move residents and inmarket visitors to "Things-to-do" content

Strategies

Encourage destination exploration from residents to move throughout the county

CONVENTION SALES & MARKETING PLAN FY24

Purpose

Increase overnight stays in Lane County by marketing the Eugene, Cascades & Coast region.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR FY24

Identify our strengths, experts, thought leaders and intellectual capital

Build content and marketing materials to support this work and our filters of Accessibility, Sustainability and DEI

Focus on convention venue need dates (dates available for booking) to source and connect with planners

Work with local experts and thought leaders to identify and bid on their meetings and conferences

CONVENTION SALES & MARKETING PLAN FY24

Goal #1

Confirm meetings and conventions that will utilize **Eugene, Cascades & Coast venues and hotels**

Objectives

Book 11,050 room nights

Strategies

Analyze, maintain and monitor a healthy sales pipeline. Qualify prospect planners and move qualified prospects through the buyer journey until conclusion of the event

Target marketing and sales efforts to key event planners. Try to fill our current need dates (dates available for booking) with events that align with our filters of sustainability, accessibility and DEI

Build relationships in the local business community through participation in local business events

Goal #2

Drive planner destination awareness and interest

Objectives

Exceed 3,000 website impressions per month

Objectives

Exceed national average email open rate of 25% for planner newsletters

Objectives

Gain eight mentions/features in top-tier trade media

Strategies

Drive planner traffic to website

Strategies

Deliver compelling destination content directly to planners

Strategies

Work with top-tier trade publications to earn coverage of destination stories that align with key meetings messaging

CONVENTION SALES & MARKETING PLAN FY24

Goal #3

Provide exemplary services resulting in highly satisfied meeting planners and delegates

Objectives

Measure meeting planner satisfaction through a Planner Survey sent to every meeting planner who books room nights

Strategies

Collaborate with planners and assist in the planning and execution of the event

Welcome attendees to the destination and introduce them to activities in the immediate area as well as experiences throughout the county

Goal #4

Create strong collaborations and partnerships resulting in economic opportunity for local businesses

Objectives

Drive attendance to our events and trainings

Strategies

Hold highly valued events and trainings

Attend partner community events to develop relationships with key stakeholders

Take staff to visit new and renovated businesses

Purpose

Market the Eugene, Cascades & Coast region as a premier destination for sports events in an effort to drive overnight stays as well as create economic impact for all Lane County communities.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR FY24

Focusing on bringing in the right events at the right time

Supporting events, both large and small, by providing event organizers with customized service plans

Hosting community events to foster connection through sport and build awareness of the importance of sports tourism

Continued support for sports facility development, especially for venues that can help fill the winter demand gap

Goal #1

Attract new sporting events and grow existing opportunities that directly support demand.

Objective

Confirm 5,000 new room nights

Strategies

Work with events, clubs, organizers and individual stakeholders in our primary sports audiences

Continue to support local organizations, including TrackTown USA and UO Athletics, to bid on and host regional, national and international competitions

Identify tradeshows, sports festivals, and other opportunities to table at and/or network with key decision makers

Objective

Grow room nights for existing events by 5% or 1,250 room nights

Strategies

Work with local events, clubs, organizers, and individual stakeholders in our 7 key sports to understand what opportunities exist to grow room nights at existing events within the county

Goal #2

Drive planner destination awareness and interest.

Objective

Exceed 3,000 website impressions per month

Objective

Exceed national average email open rate of 25% for planner newsletters

Objective

Gain 8 mentions/features in top-tier trade/consumer media

Strategies

Drive planner traffic to website

Strategies

Deliver compelling destination content directly to planners

Strategies

Work with top-tier trade publications to earn coverage of destination stories that align with key sports messaging

Goal #3

Provide tailored support in an effective and efficient way to make the biggest impact on sporting events in Lane County.

Objective

Create a Sports Commission Service and Support Playbook

Objective

Provide tiered support (from basic level to custom service plans) to at least 5 marquee events, 10 annual events and 10 new or local events

Strategies

Draft a manual Playbook that acts as a guide to the service levels and support we can provide to events and partners

Create a distribution plan to share Playbook information to both existing and new events

Strategies

Qualify incoming events through consultation to determine service levels

Strategies with other departments and organizers on ways to improve participant and fan experiences and optimize pre-event operations

Goal #4

Grow the Sports Commission's reputation as a valued and understood leader in the community by using sports to connect stakeholders in an effort to address social and economic issues that impact local businesses and residents.

Objective

Host a minimum of one event per quarter that provides education around issues that affect the industry and residents

Objective

Sponsor one event per quarter that increases the local awareness of the Sports Commission with stakeholders who share similar values around social issues, accessibility, sustainability, and DEI

Strategies

Develop and execute community events that align with targeted sports segments and address local needs, while providing a platform for relationship building

Prioritize events that further organizational goals based on sports landscape within the county

Strategies

Build knowledge of community-based events, their target audiences or goals and how they align with our efforts to increase accessibility, sustainability, and DEI

Goal #4 (continued)

Objective

Increase community partnerships in the following sectors: Food and Beverage, Event Services, Sports Retail and Manufacturing

Objective

Create mechanisms to allow partners the opportunity to fund or sponsor local events, clubs and organizations

Objective

Exceed email open rate of 25% for stakeholder newsletters

Strategies

Utilize sports profiles and work with local associations and membership groups to determine opportunities within the identified segments

Strategies

Target new partnerships who care about sports and/or local clubs

Research options (and ability) to provide funds to local clubs

Strategies

Deliver content to stakeholders that supports Sports Commission initiatives and drives interest in sports tourism

Goal #5

Provide support for sport infrastructure growth for existing and future projects throughout Lane County.

Objective

Support the development and completion of four key sports infrastructure projects

Strategies

Indentify key facility improvement projects at local sports venues

Research the Sports Commission's opportunity in fundraising specific facility development projects

Understand all funding mechanisms to help pay for venue upgrades and infrastructure projects and connect organizations responsible for the work with the funding source

INTEGRATED MARKETING PLAN FY24

Purpose

Steward the organization's brand, assets and marketing platforms. As the centralized marketing hub of the organization, we strive to ensure both quality and proper usage of branding, creative assets, video, photography, print publications, website content and management of centralized technology platforms.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR FY24

Optimize newly launched website using the latest tools like Google Analytics 4, Zartico business intelligence and website conversion study data

Produce a variety of video formats to serve owned and paid channels across target markets

Add at least 500 new photo and video assets to our media library

INTEGRATED MARKETING PLAN FY24

Goal #1

Champion the Eugene, Cascades & Coast brand across all target markets to maximize consistency and awareness.

Objective

All staff are fully trained in the brand guidelines

Objective

All external-facing ads and marketing materials support the destination brand.

Strategies

Continually assess and develop brand guidelines

Strategies

Provide full creative services support

Produce visitor information publications

Goal #2

Position EugeneCascadesCoast.org as the trusted resource for Lane County destination information across target audiences.

Objective

Improve website traffic and engagement metrics by end of FY24

Strategies

Optimize redesigned website

Produce and manage all published website content

Goal #3

Provide staff, partners and media with high-quality image and video assets that sell the destination and directly support organization's marketing strategies.

Objective

Add a minimum of 500 new photo and video assets to our media library

Strategies

Provide high-quality images to staff and stakeholders

Provide high-quality video to staff and stakeholders

Objective

Fulfill a minimum of 50 photo and video requests

Strategies

Maintain organization's media library

Goal #4

Manage the organization's marketing tools and platforms to ensure efficient and effective use.

Objective

Provide staff trainings once annually and resolve 100% of platform issues.

Strategies

Manage all marketing tools and platforms

Purpose

Provide visitor, member and destination management programs to attract, retain and support communities and members throughout the region.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR FY24

Implement a county-wide hearing loop program. Working in partnership with the Loop Lane County Committee, we have initiated the program and nearly two dozen hotels and attractions are now looped, with more to come online as we implement a \$50,000 Travel Oregon grant to install additional systems

Goal #1

Create an engaged, diverse and supportive membership base that delivers the Oregon Experience to visitors and residents visiting the Eugene, Cascades & Coast region. Offer benefits, programs and opportunities that will drive visitor spending to local businesses.

Objective

Retain 90% of members who paid dues in FY23

Strategies

Implement member/stakeholder events that are engaging and educational

Connect with every new member through onboarding and follow-up

Follow up on all aged receivables over 60 days past due

Objective

Better represent the vast number and diversity of businesses throughout the region

Attract 200 new members and maintain revenues that have been generated from member dues (\$140,000)

Objective

Increase paid memberships by 60

Strategies

Redesign and implement new membership structure on January 1, 2024

Strategies

Prospect for new member businesses

Goal #2

Establish a clear understanding of the value of tourism and Travel Lane County's role in achieving a healthy industry and prosperous communities.

Objective

Increase the number of touchpoints for the industry and Travel Lane County through outreach to community, civic and elected groups

Strategies

Create awareness and advocates by providing timely and engaging industry content and presentations

Goal #3

Welcome visitors into our downtown Eugene, Cascades & Coast Visitor Center and provide resources to support visitors and locals attending events throughout the region.

Objective

Provide meaningful interactions with 3,000 visitors and locals

Objective

Increase community knowledge of the destination through an additional 500 email sign-ups.

Strategies

Assist visitors and raise awareness about Travel Lane County and the Eugene, Cascades & Coast region

Strategies

Reformat the front line email and make it available to the general public

Goal #4

Implement front line training programs to familiarize front line staff and community partners about the Eugene, Cascades & Coast region.

Objective

A minimum of 300 front line staff participate in training programs

Strategies

Update email training series to focus on metro area neighborhoods and countywide destination highlights

Provide signage assets to lodging partners directing visitors to our Explore page, and encouraging texting or calling our Visitor Center staff

Goal #5

Enhance the existing tourism products available to visitors to the Eugene, Cascades & Coast region while fostering an environment for the development of new experiences. Offer programs that will drive visitor spending to local businesses.

Objective

Identify and document priority tourism products and experiences in each community

Strategies

Assist local communities and stakeholder groups in developing new tourism products and experiences

Manage region-wide initiatives related to key drivers of tourism in Lane County

Goal #5 (Continued)

Support the development of outdoor sports facilities for local and tournament use

Advocate for additional conference/ meeting space in Eugene, Springfield or both communities

Support facility development and expansion for group events in rural Lane County

Advocate for the extension of the Eugene downtown urban renewal district

Goal #6

Support the development of built infrastructure to enhance the region's ability to host increasing numbers of indoor and outdoor sports tournaments and meetings and conventions that will drive spending in local businesses throughout the year but with an emphasis on the winter season.

Objective

Develop an indoor sports facility in the metro area by 2026

Strategies

Work with Lane County to site a facility on the Lane County Fairgrounds

Develop a private fundraising plan



ADMINISTRATION

Purpose

Provide efficient, ethical and professional direction of operational functions. Inspire outstanding team effort in achieving organizational mission and objectives.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR FY24

Implement a structured training program for both technical skills and supervision, management and leadership to ensure our team is supported to achieve its best

Guide discussions and ensure legal compliance in the formation of a 501(c)3 Foundation to diversify revenue and program potential

Support strong stakeholder scores of Travel Lane County for leadership, expertise and trust

Ensure the staff and board teams are well prepared for a **CEO transition in FY25**

ADMINISTRATION

Goal #1

Internal Stewardship: Provide efficient, ethical and professional direction of operational functions.

Objectives

Maintain excellent organization control and support systems

Objectives

Establish a 501(c)3 Foundation

Objectives

Achieve an excellent rating on annual Board of Directors survey

Objectives

Ensure a well-trained, motivated, efficient and well-respected professional staff

Strategies

Maintain IT hardware and software system

Achieve a clean third party financial audit

Strategies

Manage formation of Foundation

Ensure legal compliance

Strategies

Ensure board members are prepared and engaged in governance

Strategies

Manage a well-structured Human Resources program

Goal #2

External Stewardship: Inspire confidence and respect for Travel Lane County

Objectives

Stakeholders score Travel Lane County 80% or higher in leadership, expertise and trust

Strategies

Achieve industry and county alignment

Provide transparent reporting

Communicate openly

Serve destination stakeholders

EUGENE CASCADES COAST