**Vegetation Task Force – Lane County**.

The vegetation Task Force was appointed by the County Administrator to review and address public concerns regarding Lane County’s Roadside Vegetation Program. Task Force recommendations are to be presented to the County Administrator after a defined timeline of one year from appointment.

Task Force Charge: To review and recommend changes to Lane County’s current roadside integrated vegetation management plan.

Task Force Membership: Nine person membership representing academic, research, medical and public interest groups from across Lane County

* Arkin, Lisa – Beyond Toxics, Executive Director
* Grier, George – Farm Bureau Member
* Lackey, William – Oregon Department of Transportation, Statewide IVM Coordinator
* Lakehomer, James – Public Health Advisory Committee Member, MD.
* Miller, Joel – Northwest Center for Alternatives to Pesticides, Representative
* Miller, Glenn – Oregon Department of Agriculture, Weed Specialist
* Mooney, Ellen – Farmer, Chairperson
* Mough, James – University of Oregon, Researcher
* Roy, Bitty – Professor of Botany, University of Oregon

Task Force Meetings: The Task Force met nine times during a twelve month period. The meeting dates are listed below; all meetings were open to the public and held as public meetings.

* January 20th, 2015
* February 17th, 2015
* March 17th, 2015
* May 19th, 2015
* July 21st, 2015
* August 18th, 2015
* September 15th, 2015
* October 20th, 2015
* November 17th, 2015

Task Force Recommendations:

* Maintain a program with limited herbicide applications. Herbicide applications will be conflict focused and data driven. All decision making and process development will be transparent to the public and guided by human and environmental health considerations.
* Adopt revised policy drafted by the Vegetation Task Force
* Spray Moratorium – be removed in accordance with adoption of new Task Force drafted policy, replacing Last Resort Policy.
* Support increased data collection of roadside vegetation to guide transparent management decisions. This will require adequate staffing and funding to accomplish.
* Vegetation management shall be guided by a decision matrix that is adaptive and flexible to face maintenance concerns and/or challenges as they arise
* Lane County enter into agreements with State and Federal agencies to jointly manage vegetation conflicts and cost share in accordance with new policy
* Vegetation Task Force reconvene six months to a year after implementation of policy to review and consider and outstanding issues that have not been addressed.