Regional Rural Revitalization “R3”
A Model for Shared Prosperity
Participants

Nick Green, Former City Manager, City of John Day
Michele Parry, Town Manager, Town of Lakeview
Dan Brown, City Manager, City of Burns
Introduction

The cities of John Day (Grant County), Burns (Harney County), and Lakeview (Lake County) are all located along U.S. Highway 395, about 4 hours apart. Each of our cities share similar challenges, opportunities, and constraints for land, housing, and community/economic development.

All three of our cities are about the same size, all are natural resource communities, all are the economic centers for each county, all are stagnant or in population decline, and all want to innovate, scale, and reinvest in our communities through innovation and entrepreneurship.
Why is There a Need For This?
Rural Oregon has been in decline for decades.
What is Challenging

- Shuttered basic industries
- Lack of economic opportunity
- Aging Population
- Brain Drain
Why focus on growth?

To reverse the pattern of population and economic decline by achieving a modest and sustainable growth rate.
Attracting a **Workforce**

These needs must be met in order to attract a workforce.
Mission

To pursue new operating models, including shared: staffing, hardware/software; consulting/professional services; and capital equipment.

- John Day, Lakeview and Burns entered into an MOU to start this process.
ORS 190.010

Authority of local governments to make intergovernmental agreement

A unit of local government may enter into a written agreement with any other unit or units of local government for the performance of any or all functions and activities that a party to the agreement, its officers or agencies, have authority to perform. The agreement may provide for the performance of a function or activity:

(1) By a consolidated department;
(2) By jointly providing for administrative officers;
(3) By means of facilities or equipment jointly constructed, owned, leased or operated;
(4) By one of the parties for any other party;
(5) By an intergovernmental entity created by the agreement and governed by a board or commission appointed by, responsible to and acting on behalf of the units of local government that are parties to the agreement; or
(6) By a combination of the methods described in this section. [Amended by 1953 c.161 §2; 1963 c.189 §1; 1967 c.550 §4; 1991 c.583 §]
Shared

Grant County is ranked #1 and Harney/Lake Counties are tied for #5 most socioeconomically distressed counties in Oregon by the Oregon Secretary of State. All three cities face economic and social decline that is familiar in rural America.
Problem **Cost Burdened**

**Housing Needs Analyses**
All three cities lack quality, affordable housing

**Demand**
Each city is adopting URA’s with tailored incentive plans to address the cost-disconnect

**Lack**
R3 will use shared resources and processes to reduce barriers to housing.

**Poor Condition**
Existing housing will require rehabilitation or replacement

**Cost Burdened**
R3 shared staffing and processes will effectively reduce the price per square foot.
Urban Renewal Area

Innovate
R3 proposed innovate affordable housing at scale by bringing 3D printing housing technology.

Land Use
R3 will coordinate land use entitlement w/DLCD and DCBS Building Codes Division.

Concept/Design
R3 will refine concepts through preliminary engineering.

Manage
Expectations will be managed through contractual agreements.

2021-2023
R3 will gain efficiencies, economies of scale to provide the gold standard.
Middle Mile Network for the State of Oregon

Regional Challenge example - building broadband from Lakeview to Burns then Burns to Seneca, where it can tie into John Day’s build.
Shared Resources

Bringing Innovative Solutions to local government to save money, eliminate government layers, improve access to resources and skills offering better services, and creating sustainable futures for all our cities.

1. Administrative Functions
   Able to gain economies of scale and purchase power in the market: accounting, planning, attorney fees,

2. Asset Management & Operations
   Joint ownership, maintenance, construction, production and purchase.

3. Roads, Parks and Recreation
   Contracting with another municipality, creating a special district
Approach

Create greater social and cultural vitality in our partner communities aimed at improving people’s social, physical, and economic well-being.
Build local capacity

Engaging the community in meaningful ways

Capitalize on existing asset and opportunities

Developing new narratives
Matching investments to desired outcomes

Stabilizing municipal budgets

Development of new housing stock

Creation of new jobs
Meeting the Housing Challenges
Alquist 3D Printed Housing
Alquist 3D Printed Housing

Change Rural Housing with affordable 3D printed houses.

4 different housing plans will be offered.

DLCD approved R3 for a Rural Placemaking Grant
The Ridge
Oregon’s 1st 3-D Printed Homes
City of John Day
Three new housing developments are under way in John Day that could add 100 new homes to the local housing supply over the next few years.

The projects are being jumpstarted by funding from the city’s urban Renewal Agency as part of an effort to rebuild declining population, shore up the local tax base and address the city’s housing shortage.

Constructing Oregon’s first 3D-printed home is also a part of the plans for the three developments, known as The Ridge, Ironwood Estates, and Holmstrom Heights.
Miller Springs
City of Burns

BURNS
a Frontier for the Future
Entertainment Venues & Sports Fields

Create a natural amphitheater from the rolling hills, inspired by The Gorge, to host larger cultural events focused beyond Burns – along with adjacent Sports Fields for active play.

Outdoor Adventure

Year-round uses in the hills for hunting & fishing, archery & trap-shooting, ATV/UTV, Horseback, Biking, Hiking, Cross-country Skiing & Snowmobiling.

Miller Springs Community Center

Create a rustic themed Community Center with new buildings focused on gathering the community for Performing Arts and Public Events. Hosting smaller cultural events that are a local or regional focus.
MILLER SPRINGS

... is Creating More

**Housing for Jobs**
Employers need housing for their people, or they will pass to other markets

**Revenue for City**
Decades of tax base growth with minimal proportionate infrastructure needs

**Regional Prominence**
Hospitality and Tourism opportunities to position Burns as an attractive destination

**Revenue for County**
Destination attractions & larger home sites that will add to Harney County’s coffers

**Jobs for Families**
Shovel-ready sites to attract the expanding industries and employers already knocking on our door

**Stability for Generations**
The future of Burns relies on keeping our families and youth interested and invested locally

**Recreation for All**
Expanded outdoor activities tuned to the rugged culture of Eastern Oregon
Context

Create a better understanding of rural Oregon context by working on statewide planning efforts with State officials and representatives.
OHNA PROCESS AND THE MISSING MIDDLE HOUSE

BROADBAND INVESTMENTS

STATEWIDE INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS

REGIONAL TOURISM AND RECREATION
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# Example Street Maintenance

## Pavement Condition Assessment

- Pavement Management Plan
- Potholing, tar, striping, curb and gutter, mill and pave, new pavement, chip seal, etc.
- Project List
- Labor
- Budget (Capital and ORM)
THANK YOU

Questions??