EDUCATED PEOPLE/ LIFELONG LEARNERS

The Siuslaw Region is a community of life-long learners. From preschool through high school, community college to enrichment courses and workshops, education is valued and supported. Students feel confident they are prepared, modern, safe schools with state-of-the-art technology that allows them to take specialized, advanced coursework.

Multigenerational volunteers bring experience to classrooms, sharing expertise and mentoring youth. Partnerships between schools, non-governmental organizations, volunteers, public agencies and the business community enhance education. Technical training is offered at both agencies and the business community enhance governmental organizations, volunteers, public youth. Partnerships between schools, non-
to classrooms, sharing expertise and mentoring Multigenerational volunteers bring experience advanced coursework.

HOW DO WE GET THERE?

NEAR-TERM ACTION ITEMS

Residents of The Siuslaw Region participated in a series of meetings, focus groups, online surveys and gatherings to help identify the strengths of the Region and suggest specific areas that needed to be addressed to move us forward as a vibrant, energetic, vital Region. This list will serve as an initial roadmap to move us forward together.

- Establish affordable, reliable transportation for the Siuslaw Region connecting residents to local and regional services and to Eugene and Yachats.
- Increase available health and human services in the Region, including establishing a community health clinic in the upriver community.
- Support local workforce retention and development by setting up mentorship, work experience, and internship programs in local schools and other systems.
- Promote the creation of jobs through local business retention and expansion programs as well as marketing and business recruitment.
- Encourage private businesses to grow by fostering a culture of creativity and entrepreneurship through community partnerships, sponsored trainings and events, and creation of co-working space.
- Develop affordable, safe workforce housing.
- Work collaboratively with local government and service providers to create a fiber access network accessible to business and residents.
- Adopt zoning laws at both the county and city level to support innovation in housing and business development.
- Promote and support the Arts, including public art programs and spaces for public art throughout the Region.
- Provide quality, affordable infant and child care programs.
- Create a Community Calendar that includes all regional activities and announcements.
- Develop community centers that serve all ages and populations in the Siuslaw Region.
- Create a Siuslaw Region Parks and Recreation District unifying recreational opportunities throughout the Region.
- Promote understanding, accessibility, enjoyment, and stewardship of the Siuslaw River and its surrounding lands.
- Develop visitor maps that highlight outdoor recreation, arts, restaurants, and activities in the Siuslaw Region.

CREATIVE PEOPLE/ ARTS IN FOCUS

Arts and culture play an important role in the Siuslaw Region, serving to build community and bring people together. The Florence Events Center serves as an anchor for festivals, productions and performances. A new Arts Center adds to the abundance of art and cultural space. Theatre groups are inclusive and bring a variety of comedy, drama and musical performances to the stage. Public art is displayed throughout the region, celebrating regional artists. Students receive a quality arts education supported by multigenerational volunteers. Festivals in the Region support the arts. Regional authors are recognized and give voice to the Siuslaw experience. Studio and gallery tours are part of a regularly scheduled celebration of the arts. The Region is known for its quality and diversity of arts.

Sioulsaw Region Visioning supported by:

Florence Club

Ford Institute for Community Building

City of Florence: A City in Motion

Siuslaw Public Library

Siuslaw Region Education Foundation

IMAGINE for a moment it is the year 2025.

You are in the Siuslaw Region. The Siuslaw Region is defined by the communities within its boundary: Deadwood, Swisshome, Mapleton, Florence and Dunes City. It encompasses the areas served by the Siuslaw and Mapleton School districts.

This VISION describes what you will see.
Residents enjoy fishing, hunting, foraging and
Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area.

The beauty of the environment invites exploration of
beaches of the Pacific. We share a love of regional
heritage and history, and respect for the natural
beauty and resources found in our region. It is
where we work, live and play. We are a welcoming
community, attractive to both full time and part
time residents of all ages. Businesses choose to
operate in our region. People feel safe. Family
wage jobs are plentiful. Affordable housing of
type is available, providing for a diversity of
lifestyles and supporting those in need, including
the homeless. Both the Siuslaw and Mapleton
School Districts are known for quality educational
programs and high graduation rates. Education
is valued and schools are strengthened by coopera-
tive learning strategies and community support.
It is a place where our children grow up, find
careers, raise their families and grow old. People
expand their horizons there.

There is plenty to do in the Siuslaw Region. The
beauty of the environment invites exploration of
dunes and beaches, hiking to a waterfall or along
one of the many trails in the area, kayaking the
rivers and lakes, or riding an ATV through the
Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area. Residents enjoy fishing, hunting, foraging and
collecting edibles for their tables and freezers. Art
lovers enjoy public art and visiting local galleries
and shops. A variety of arts and cultural activities
are presented at venues throughout the region.
People meet friends at local restaurants, gather
for regional festivals, take children to local,
regional and state parks or take in a movie at the
cinema in Florence. Community centers in the
region offer classes, recreation programs and
meeting spaces.

The Siuslaw Region has a broad diversity of
residents. Many have grown up in the Region.
Families are proud of their heritage as members
of the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower
Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians or as descendants of
early homesteaders and settlers. Others moved to
the area and have chosen the Siuslaw Region as
a place to stay and make their homes because of
the attributes it offers, and the caring residents
who make them feel welcome. People from various backgrounds, cultures, races, ethnicities, lifestyles, income
levels, and ages make this an interesting, accepting
community to call home.

While each community within the Region has
its own character, personality and challenges, the
overall essence of the area is strengthened as citizens
work together in a Region where opportunities to
live, work and play are available to all.

WORKING PEOPLE/JOBS
A STRONG AND SUSTAINABLE year-round economy
provides living wage jobs throughout the region.
Repurposed abandoned spaces and mill sites
offer space for diverse businesses. Entrepreneurs
open and expand businesses, accessing high
speed fiber optics to expand their markets. Main
Street in Florence is healthy and vibrant. Anchor
businesses in Mapleton, Swisshome, Deadwood
and Dunes City support local economies and
employment. Zoning allows innovation in workforce
housing and business development. Internship
and mentoring programs are available for
students and job-seekers. Area festivals, local,
arts, and restaurants which feature Farm to Table
products, continue to attract visitors to the area.

HAPPY PEOPLE/HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
A FULL RANGE OF SERVICES support physical,
emotional and mental health of residents of all
ages. Peace Harbor Medical Center provides
emergency services in a state-of-the-art emergency
center and quality care in its hospital, clinic and
physicians’ offices. Health clinics are established
throughout the Region, providing easy access for
residents. A variety of health care professionals
work and live in the region for the long-term. The
homeless receive services to address basic needs,
including mental health counseling and assistance
in transitioning to more stable situations. Drug
abuse issues are addressed and reduced through
prevention services. There is quality, affordable
child care. Affordable transit and telemedicine
allow all residents to access medical care.

CONNECTED PEOPLE/ PUBLIC SERVICES
THE SIOUWLAW REGION BENEFITS from partnerships
and cooperative relationships between city, county,
state and federal officials that promote good
infrastructure. Affordable, reliable public trans-
portation operates throughout the Siuslaw Region
and there is daily, affordable transportation between
the coast, upriver communities and Eugene. High
speed fiber optic cable is available throughout the
Region. Emergency and law enforcement services,
particularly in the county jurisdictions, make people
feel safe. County and city zoning laws support
economic and housing development. A regional
Parks and Recreation District, community centers,
parks and trail systems are in place. The Port of
Siuslaw works collaboratively to enhance the
economic vitality of the Region.

ACTIVE PEOPLE/ THE OUTDOORS
A PRODUCTIVE, HEALTHY NATURAL ENVIRONMENT
supports healthy lifestyles and regional employ-
ment. Ecotourism programs introduce visitors to
the natural beauty of the area. Safe, accessible trail
systems, sidewalks and recreational resources lead
people to play on the river, lakes, dunes, ocean and
golf courses. Regional businesses serving tourists
entice and encourage responsible use of the
environment and contribute to economic vitality.
A Parks and Recreation district supports com-
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