

# **JOINT ELECTED OFFICIALS AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

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## **Cities - County Efficiencies**

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Meeting Date: February 24, 2011

Agenda Item Number: 3

Contact: Jon Ruiz, City Manager, Eugene

Gino Grimaldi, City Manager, Springfield

Liane Richardson, County Administrator, Lane County

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### **BACKGROUND**

Over the last several years, the Joint Elected Officials have had opportunities to discuss some challenging issues facing the region's fire and medical services. They have also played a role in the 2010 functional consolidation of Eugene and Springfield's Fire and Emergency Medical Services Departments. The first steps of the functional consolidation included the merging of a number of senior managers in the two departments, including a merged Chief's position which is currently filled by Eugene's Chief, Randy Groves. The efficiencies and savings found in positions, joint training, combined purchasing and consistent fleet specifications is one significant success of the functional consolidation. Equally important are the service improvements realized in the community by continuing to work together collaboratively and effectively as a team.

### **ISSUE STATEMENT**

While the fire merger is a current and important model of how our communities can work together to find new solutions to complex issues, there are many examples of the Cities and County working together to find efficiencies and deliver high quality services to the public. Those efforts and partnerships may have opportunities to expand and grow and new ones could emerge with a renewed focus on regional priorities and relationships.

On February 24, the Joint Elected Officials will engage in a discussion about other potential City and County efficiency strategies.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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