1000 FRIENDS OF OREGON

2021 ANNUAL REPORT
Dear Supporters and Friends,

What a pivotal year! We got the right plan, the right people, and an abundance of passion driving our organization. Below are a few of the highlights from 2021.

> In April, our board of directors and staff launched a bold 4-year strategic plan. This road map strengthens how we use litigation, legislation, and education to protect and improve our land use planning system.

> In June, we celebrated the retirement of our Executive Director, Russ Hoeflich. With his leadership, our net assets grew from $3.1 million to $5.1 million; his legacy will be felt for generations to come.

> In July, the staff celebrated several legislative and legal wins, including a policy that requires permanent remote options for public hearings and meetings – making civic engagement more accessible for all Oregonians. We successfully represented our affiliate, Thrive Hood River, in an appeal to end the 8-year threat posed by an ill-conceived, large-scale concert venue sited on the banks of the East Fork of the Hood River. We helped pass Oregon’s first comprehensive wildfire preparedness and resiliency bill, ensuring land use played a key role in how we plan to live with wildfire.

> In October, we hired Sam Diaz as our next Executive Director. His deep knowledge of Oregon’s land use planning system, his experience working in policy, and his ability to connect with a diverse set of personalities made him our number one choice (out of 100 applicants).

As board chair, I have the honor of working with a wide range of inspiring Oregonians across the state, and I’ve learned a lot this year from each of them. Here are some of my reflections from a key few:

> The founder of 1000 Friends of Oregon, Henry Richmond, passed away unexpectedly this spring. At his memorial, I learned that Henry was fond of gathering a cast of unlikely characters to discuss and act on a range of civic engagement opportunities. Bringing people together (who otherwise may never gather) is an enduring quality of 1000 Friends thanks to Henry.

> Jacque Duyck Jones, a blackberry farmer in Banks, invited me to her farm and showed me how the June heatwave devastated agricultural crops across the state. Her story highlights the fragility of our food systems and presses us to work with the agricultural community on utilizing land use policy to help mitigate the impacts of a rapidly changing climate.

> The board worked with Orlando Williams from Motus Recruiting to help us search for and hire Sam Diaz. During the process, I was struck by the quality and diversity of each candidate. Their stories reminded me that the strength of 1000 Friends rests with our long-standing friendships; and our opportunity rests in the friendships we have yet to make.

This year’s annual report demonstrates we are an organization rising, and it’s an honor to have you at our side. Our future is bright with Sam Diaz leading us forward.

With gratitude,

Eloise Grout Koehler
Board President
CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF HENRY RICHMOND (1943-2021)

1000 Friends of Oregon would not exist without Henry, who co-founded our organization in 1974 with then-governor Tom McCall. He served as our Executive Director until 1993, but his passion for land use planning and 1000 Friends did not end there — he was involved with 1000 Friends in many capacities up until his passing.

For nearly fifty years, Henry was an animating force for 1000 Friends, and in turn, the Oregon we all know and love. His groundbreaking work and spirit of perseverance will continue to shape Oregon’s land use planning system and the work of our organization for generations to come.

In so many ways, Oregon has Henry to thank for coming closer to the “livable and lovable” place Tom McCall envisioned. Henry’s work protected some of the best farm and forest lands in the world for growing food and trees, preserved iconic natural areas like the Oregon coast, and cultivated towns and cities with urban growth boundaries that have created walkable, more affordable, and climate-friendly places.

“Henry played a key role in my life, and in that of so many others who were privileged to work with him and for him. In many ways, Oregon is his legacy.”
- Mary Kyle McCurdy, Deputy Director of 1000 Friends
LAND USE IS A COMPASS THAT GUIDES OREGON TO A FUTURE WE ALL SHARE

Your support makes it possible.
You build livable communities.
You protect farms and forests.
You preserve natural areas.
You engage and inspire the next generation of leaders for Oregon.

STAND WITH US, FOR OREGON.

WAYS TO GIVE

BECOME A MEMBER
Give $35 or more and become a member of 1000 Friends of Oregon!

SIGN UP FOR MONTHLY GIVING
With options to give by credit card or through your bank, monthly giving is a great way to step up your support.

JOIN THE MCCALL SOCIETY
With your annual gifts of $1000 or more, you become a member of our McCall Society, receiving special invitations & recognition throughout the year.

GIVE THROUGH YOUR BUSINESS
Business Members enjoy year-round recognition and additional sponsorship and partnership opportunities.

SHARE 1000 FRIENDS WITH OTHERS
Give the gift of a 1-year membership with 1000 Friends of Oregon.

LEARN MORE AT FRIENDS.ORG/WAYS2GIVE
PROGRAM WORK

Protecting working lands • Improving transportation systems • Keeping housing affordable • Ensuring public participation • Reducing wildfire risk • Training new leaders • Managing urban growth • Maintaining rural economies • Creating healthy communities • Supporting clean energy • Mitigating climate change

On any given day, we do it all with our program work. Here’s a little bit of what we did in the past year.
For a third time — in early 2021 — the Port of Columbia County attempted to rezone 830 acres of prime farmland for heavy industrial development along the Columbia River. The Columbia County Board of Commissioners approved the rezone, and so we've mounted a legal challenge to stop the rezoning attempt in its tracks with our friends at Columbia Riverkeeper, jointly represented by Crag Law Center.

We've been tracking the case, submitting comments, and working with farmers and community members in Columbia County to stop the rezoning attempt — a project that would put valuable farmland at risk. Once farmland is gone, it's nearly impossible to get back.

What Columbia County is trying to do is at odds with protecting Oregon's working lands and mitigating climate change. The Port has had seven years to demonstrate that their proposed industrial uses would be compatible with existing uses, and they've failed to deliver. We will continue to fight for working lands in Columbia County — and the rest of Oregon — by challenging efforts that would harm Oregon's farms, ranches, and forestlands.

“Challenged: Port Westward rezone heading back to LUBA” | St. Helens Chronicle
“Local conservation groups appeal Port Westward rezone again” | The Daily News
“Green groups appealing Port Westward farm-to-industrial rezone decision” | Portland Business Journal

HERE ARE SOME OF OUR 2021 LEGAL VICTORIES
Applicants wanted the Polk County Commissioners to rezone over 200 acres of farmland from exclusive farm use to zoning that would allow small-acre residential developments. 1000 Friends of Oregon and Friends of Polk County defended the county’s decision to protect farmland at LUBA.

An ill-conceived, sizable concert venue was proposed on the banks of the East Fork of the Hood River. LUBA unanimously overturned the Hood River County Commission’s fourth extension of the DeeTour amphitheater development permit. 1000 Friends of Oregon was proud to represent our affiliate group Thrive Hood River in the appeal that ended this land use threat once and for all.

The Oregon Court of Appeals ruled that the Oregon Aviation Board’s plan to expand the Aurora Airport onto farmland must comply with state land use laws. The ruling is a huge win for transparency in agency decision-making in the land use context. Throughout the local proceedings, the Aviation Board went to great lengths to avoid public review of its decision, even claiming that it had adopted the airport master plan more than eight years earlier, but never told the public about it.

For over 30 years, Lane County ignored the habitat requirements for big game and instead allowed sprawling housing developments. Rather than direct housing development inside urban growth boundaries, it happened in areas at risk of wildfire that also degraded habitat for elk and other game species. LandWatch Lane County appealed the County’s approval of a conditional use dwelling outside the urban growth boundary to LUBA. 1000 Friends intervened on the side of LandWatch Lane County, which resulted in a ruling requiring the county to enact its promise to protect big game habitat.
One of our primary goals this session was to ensure land use decision-making is more equitable and inclusive. We developed two bills as significant first steps in that objective and we coauthored another to increase housing development within close proximity to transit stops.

1000 Friends of Oregon crafted and led the successful effort to pass the Equitable Access to Civic Engagement bill (HB 2560).

It’s a major first step to providing equitable access to decision-making to all Oregonians. HB 2560 makes the current COVID-related requirement that governments — city, county, and state — provide remote access to public meetings and hearings as a permanent option.

Goal 1 of Oregon’s land use program is public involvement; it represents a commitment that Oregon’s residents will be provided accessible, equitable, and meaningful opportunities to participate in their community’s land use decision-making, at all levels of government.

Our other bill, HB 2556, did not get a hearing this session, so we will be back in the future to advocate for it. The current minimum standards for local governments to give notice of land use proceedings are limited and inequitable. Renters are excluded from those required to receive notice of land use proceedings, even from land use changes that might be proposed for next door.

Most bills that would have been damaging to farmland never had a hearing. A few had hearings where we testified, but the bills did not proceed further. We also succeeded in getting several bills modified to where we no longer opposed them.

OTHER IMPORTANT PASSED/FUNDED LEGISLATION:

> SB 8: Easier paths to affordable housing approvals
> SB 555: DoubleUp Food Bucks
> SB 458: Promoting middle housing development
> HB 2583: Redefining what makes a family
> HB 2004 & HB 2006: Emergency housing shelters
> HB 3335: Grant money for accessory dwelling unit pilot programs
> HB 2785: Statewide meat inspection program
On the final day of the 2021 session, Oregon’s legislature passed the first comprehensive wildfire preparedness and resiliency bill, Senate Bill 762 — a key part of our legislative agenda.

Our advocacy on SB 762 was twofold: we worked with lawmakers and partner organizations to ensure the bill included land use elements, while our grassroots organizing efforts generated over 500 comment submissions to lawmakers in support of SB 762.

Land use is a critical component of a comprehensive approach to developing an Oregon that is prepared for worsening wildfire seasons and the challenges we face from climate change. Because of this framework, established almost 50 years ago, Oregon has suffered fewer deaths and less damage to structures from wildfires than other states.

Wildfire is a natural part of the western ecosystem; we need to learn to live with it while recognizing that humans have contributed to unnatural wildfire levels through climate change and sprawling of development into naturally wildfire-prone ecosystems.

SB 762 ADDRESSES THOSE CONCERNS BY UTILIZING LAND USE TOOLS. AMONG OTHER THINGS, IT REQUIRES THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS:

> Develop a comprehensive statewide map of wildfire risk. The map will include layers identifying vulnerable populations, locations of critical services such as hospitals, major infrastructure, and other important data.

> Incorporate the wildfire maps into land use planning. The Department of Land Conservation & Development must identify updates needed to the statewide land use planning program and local plans to incorporate the wildfire risk maps.

> Mitigate risks to existing and future development. The state must adopt wildfire hazard mitigation building code standards for new dwellings, accessory structures, and certain existing structures.

> Establish a wildfire emergency shelter program. The state will establish a program of clean air shelters, evacuation services, and grants for filtration systems to handle wildfire smoke.

SB 762 CONTAINS OTHER PROVISIONS CRITICAL TO A COMPREHENSIVE WILDFIRE PROGRAM; IT ALSO:

> Establishes policies for community-driven restoration of forests and rangelands.

> Establishes electric utility planning requirements for wildfire events.

> Increases firefighter capacity, including air defense resources.

> Funds youth and workforce training programs to help manage forest lands.

> Invests nearly $200 million to implement these policies.

Now that SB 762 has passed, the significant and detailed work to ensure it is implemented on the ground has begun. It must be done in a way that is responsive to the needs of all Oregonians and their communities.

1000 Friends is deeply engaged in this implementation. We serve on several advisory committees and are working to ensure that as state agencies carry out SB 762, the voices of Oregonians from every community and walk of life are heard.

Wildfires and wildfire smoke have impacted all of us: With SB 762, we now have a chance to create an Oregon that is resilient to the wildfires we all know so well.
For the past 47 years, 1000 Friends of Oregon has worked to defend, protect, and adjust as needed the urban growth boundaries that surround Oregon’s 241 cities and towns. Our state’s iconic natural treasures — rivers, lakes, forests, prairies, sagebrush, farms, deserts and woodlands — lie on one side of the line. The other side holds the promise for the most livable, climate-resilient cities in America.
Through his work at 1000 Friends, Dan uses land use laws to preserve Oregon’s farm and forest land. After hours, he ventures into the places he works so hard to protect, always documenting and sharing his adventures through his photography. Follow Dan on Instagram @dlaw_photos.
Over the last year, 1000 Friends has tracked and engaged with 11 communities on their urban growth boundaries (UGBs).

The process for expanding a UGB contains many steps, including determining residential, commercial, and industrial demand for development, inventorying buildable land inside an existing UGB, and analyzing the priority of locations when an expansion is needed.

In Eugene, we advocated for an urban reserve that prioritizes protecting farmland and utilizes areas that are already partially developed (rural residential areas) as much as possible for future urban development. After 22 months, the city — and Lane County — took a recommendation to protect over 400 acres of prime farmland from urban development for at least the next 50 years.

The City of Turner is another UGB expansion we've engaged with over the last year. Through our advocacy support, the city downsized their planned expansion from 70 to 49 acres and chose areas to expand that protect farmland. We also highlighted efficiency measures that would reduce Turner’s need for land and provide more affordable housing options to current and future residents while also underscoring ways to reduce infrastructure costs.

HB 2001, Oregon’s “middle housing” bill, passed in the 2019 legislative session — but that was just the first step. Its implementation includes two sets of requirements for cities, depending on their population size.

Since HB 2001 was enacted, we’ve been tracking each community’s progress toward compliance with the law and working with multiple large cities on their implementation of middle housing.

We’ve worked with planners and community members to advocate for the clearest and most flexible standards to support housing options. In addition, we have written letters to cities that are not carrying out the spirit, if not the letter, of HB 2001.

Between August and October 2021, we also hosted six community conversation advocacy trainings in large cities to generate turnout at planning and council meetings.

To date, all but three medium-sized cities have adequately updated their codes to comply with HB 2001 due to a lack of planning capacity and will apply a standard housing code decided by the Department of Land Conservation and Development.

Large cities have not yet passed their deadline in implementing HB 2001. The City of Bend is ahead of the curve and has already implemented their provisions in October 2021 — going above and beyond minimum compliance. We anticipate other communities will have challenges in getting a code adopted and we will be advocating and organizing in targeted communities to push for compliant implementation and bring legal challenges when necessary.

Oregon has 241 towns and cities, all with urban growth boundaries that need to be monitored.
Since 2012, our Land Use Leadership Initiative (LULI) program has trained over 125 emerging land use leaders.

Each LULI cohort is based around a specific geographic area and encompasses a customized curriculum designed to turn participants into the land use planning system’s best and most vocal advocates.

LULI graduates have been current and past mayors, city council members, and other elected officials: members of the community with a direct hand in shaping, promoting, and protecting Oregon’s land use system and its application within our communities.

2021 marked our best and biggest year for LULI yet. Two concurrent cohorts — one in the Southern Willamette Valley and one in the Portland metro area — resulted in 51 graduates, bringing the grand total up to 198.

“You and I shouldn't claim we love Oregon more than anyone else, but that we love Oregon as much as anyone. Our thoughts today, and our deliberations to come, must spring from our determination to keep Oregon lovable and to make it even more livable.” - Gov. Tom McCall, Co-founder of 1000 Friends of Oregon
Members of the Farmers Advisory Committee (FAC) are working lands professionals across Oregon, from blueberry farmers to cattle ranchers.

The 80 members engage in various ways — through attending town halls, submitting comments on proposed legislation, and representing working lands professionals in the effort to stop policies designed to slowly chip away at the land use planning system.

Much of the FAC’s recent focus has been on curbing non-farm activities allowed on farmland, a list that has ballooned from 6 to nearly 60 since the passage of SB 100, in 1973. These nonfarm activities contribute to the rising cost of farmland and make farming more difficult.

During the 2021 legislative session, FAC members met directly with 15 Oregon legislators to advocate for the land use planning program and submitted testimony in support of beneficial bills.

““The interests of Oregon for today and in the future must be protected from the grasping wastrels of the land. We must respect another truism - that unlimited and unregulated growth, leads inexorably to a lowered quality of life.” - Gov. Tom McCall, Co-founder of 1000 Friends of Oregon

### Oregon agriculture statistics:

- About 97% of Oregon farms are family-owned.
- 67% of Oregon farms are 49 acres or less.
- Oregon’s agriculture, food, and fiber industry is responsible for 9.1% of Oregon’s economy and 371,300 jobs.
- Oregon produces over 225 commodities.

### According to the Oregon Department of Agriculture, top 10 commodities by value for the 2020 crop year are:

1. Greenhouse & nursery, $1,188,911,000
2. Cattle & calves, $587,848,000
3. Hay, $569,160,000
4. Milk, $557,348,000
5. Grass seed, $458,367,000
6. Wheat, $273,760,000
7. Potatoes, $216,810,000
8. Grapes for wine, $157,900,000
9. Cherries, $133,826,000
10. Hazelnuts, $132,300,000
It's also important in some less obvious ways, such as ensuring we have adequate transportation systems to move food between the farm and the plate, and in designing our communities so that people have access to safe, nutritious, and culturally appropriate food.

Our work on food systems is a bridge-builder between urban and rural communities: urban Oregonians depend on the food that is grown by farmers in rural communities, rural communities depend on the income derived from urban purchases of their products, and all of this depends on an ample supply of the right types of farmland located in the correct places.

Oregon stopped its meat processing and inspection program in 1972. It’s one of 23 states that now rely completely on USDA inspection of any meat processed in the state before it can be sold into wholesale or retail markets.

In the years since, USDA facilities have undergone significant consolidation, to the point where there are very few left in Oregon that small or mid-sized ranchers can use to process their meat.

Ranchers must now transport live animals much farther — sometimes even out of state — for processing, adding significant cost. Oregon ranchers are at the mercy of these facilities as to whether or when they will be able to get their animals processed, and also have less say in the compensation they receive.

The problems have been mounting for years, but it was the bottleneck caused by worker illnesses during the early phases of the COVID-19 pandemic — and the resulting shortage of meat in grocery stores — that got the attention of the larger public and the Oregon legislature.

**Important food systems legislation:**

> House Bill 4206 came to be through a special session in 2020. The bill authorizes the Oregon Department of Agriculture to create a new state processing and meat inspection program.

> House Bill 2785 passed in the 2021 legislative session. It provides funding for a grant program to help upgrade existing facilities and build new facilities to operate under the program created by HB 4206.

1000 Friends played a significant supporting role in both bills and had conversations with groups as diverse as the Oregon Beef Council, the Oregon Cattlemen’s Association, the Oregon Food Bank, the Oregon Farm to School and School Garden Network, Friends of Family Farmers, the Oregon Farmers Market Association, the North Coast Food Web and even representatives of the Metro Regional Government.
By Brett Morgan, Metro and Transportation Policy Manager

Since 1000 Friends’ founding, we’ve understood that transportation has a unique role in shaping land-use patterns and growth for our region. Statewide land use planning Goal 12 spells it out pretty clearly: The goal aims to provide “a safe, convenient and economic transportation system.” It also asks for communities to address the needs of the “transportation disadvantaged.”

We’re no stranger to pushing for new ways of thinking on transportation policy. Many of Oregon’s most touted transportation successes are products of recognizing that land use and transportation policy are two sides of the same coin. This is true for the Mt. Hood Freeway, which after serious technical concerns and stark local opposition, was converted into a world-class light rail for the region.

This is why over the past two years, part of my job has been tracking, advocating, and collaborating within coalitions to ensure land use and planning impacts aren’t lost in transportation policy spaces.

By supporting and working in coalitions such as the Getting There Together Coalition, or the Clean and Just Transition Network, 1000 Friends is able to advance smart transportation planning and effective land use while also lifting up the concerns of our partners, such as having safe and connected routes to schools, providing accessible and safe public transit, and addressing climate change — all things that are at the heart of land use planning too. Transportation is a big policy arena with many stakeholders, and our coalition work helps 1000 Friends advance Goal 12 by amplifying the voices of communities that are most often very underserved and ignored in transportation, as outlined in statewide land use planning Goal 1, Civic Engagement.

1000 Friends serves in leadership positions within these coalitions, supporting day-to-day advocacy and operations, securing grants and funding, and cross-pollinating the transportation policy space with smart land use policy.

A wealth of research continues to reinforce that roadway expansion never actually provides congestion relief, and in the long run, nearly always makes traffic worse.

One of the basic understandings of Oregon’s land use system is that automotive-oriented sprawl is ineffective and costly, thus our focus on megaprojects and potential road expansion that comes along with it.

Recently, we’ve been involved with the ongoing federal infrastructure bills, working with organizations across the country to secure additional transit funding and create opportunities to advance community-led transportation planning. We’ve met directly with congressional staff and provided localized context for the packages.

It’s an exciting and important time for transportation — we still have so much to change on a system-wide level, but the opportunity outweighs that challenge, and there are so many ways to rethink what’s possible and improve equity for the most underserved by transportation underserved — saving our climate and building a better Oregon, nation, and planet at the same time.

Land use policy is climate policy, and Oregon’s unique land use system can be a national leader.

40% of Oregon’s greenhouse gas emissions come from transportation.
14,032 miles per year is how much the average Oregonian drives.
OUR MISSION

WORKING WITH OREGONIANS TO ENHANCE OUR QUALITY OF LIFE BY BUILDING LIVABLE URBAN AND RURAL COMMUNITIES, PROTECTING FAMILY FARMS AND FORESTS, AND CONSERVING NATURAL AREAS.
PROTECT THE OREGON YOU LOVE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

The 1000 Friends of Oregon Legacy Circle offers a unique opportunity to bring your philanthropic passions to life now and for years to come. By naming 1000 Friends of Oregon as a beneficiary of your will, trust, insurance policy, or retirement account, or by establishing a life-income gift, you will become a member of the Legacy Circle. This special group is recognized in publications and events throughout the year.

Learn more at friends.org/legacy or contact Chief Philanthropy Officer Sandy Wright at sandy@friends.org or (503) 783-8093.

CONSIDER THESE OTHER TAX-ADVANTAGED WAYS TO GIVE:

Contribute through your Donor Advised Fund
> Step one: transfer cash or other assets to a tax-exempt sponsoring organization, such as The Oregon Community Foundation, and qualify for a federal income tax charitable deduction for the full amount of your contribution. Step two: recommend how much and how often money is granted from that fund to 1000 Friends or other charities.

Make a gift of stocks or bonds
> Donating stocks, bonds, or mutual funds is quick and simple and may provide significant tax advantages.

Give through your IRA
> If you are 70 or older, you may be able to make an outright gift to 1000 Friends from your IRA that satisfies your required minimum distribution requirement.
Our fiscal year ended on March 31st, at a time of substantial market growth. Because of the performance of the market, we recorded substantial end-of-year investment gains which account for nearly all of the surplus you see here.

Our gains on investment impact the value of our invested endowments and do not impact our annual operating budget. To see our 990 and audited financials, please visit friends.org/financials.