

2022

# Legislative Power Brunch Event

58<sup>th</sup> Legislature – 2<sup>nd</sup> Session

Rachel Meinke | Public Information Director

January 27, 2022



# EVENT WRAP-UP

**VENUE: The Hamm Institute for American Energy at OSU**  
(formerly OSU Discovery Center | Baker Hughes)

**TOTAL ATTENDEES: 75**

70% of RSVP list (107) | 30% from guest list (250)

**LEGISLATORS: 13**

**BOARD MEMBERS: 14**

**GUESTS: 33**

**ACOG STAFF: 15**



# EVENT WRAP-UP







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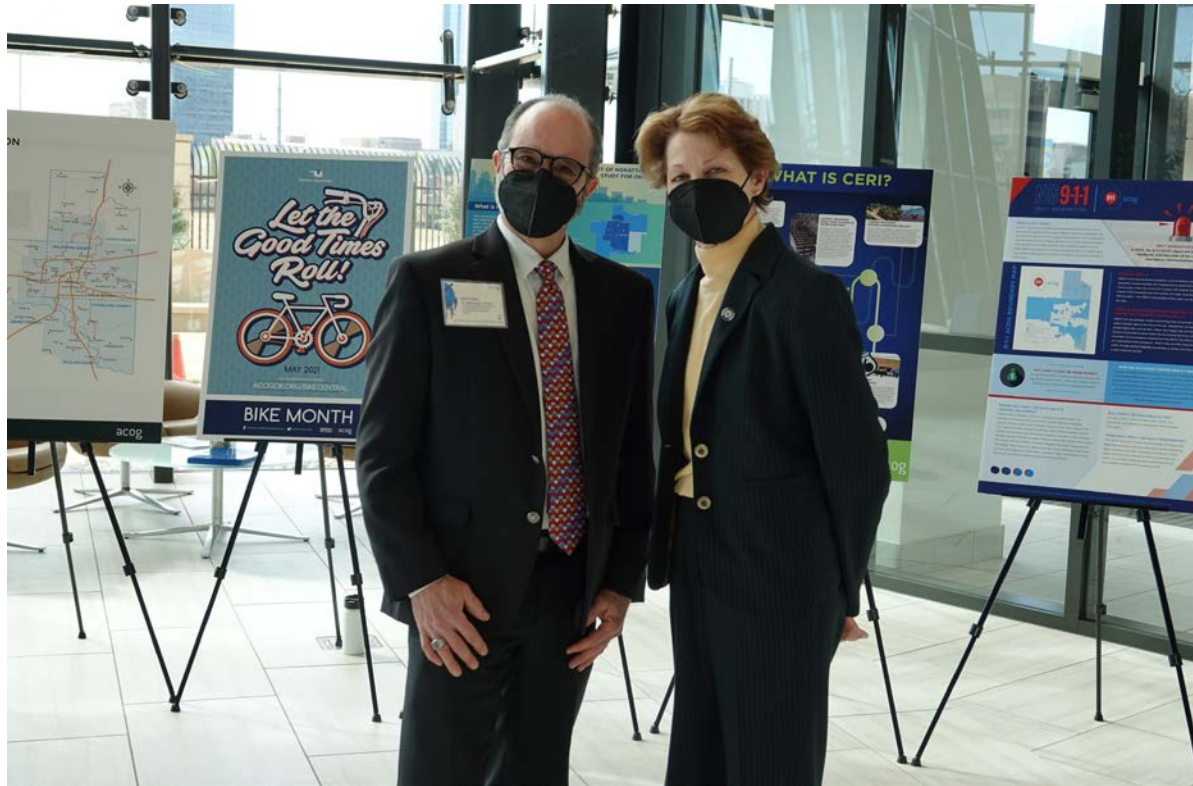
# EVENT WRAP-UP







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# 2022 ACOG LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



acog





# BILL TSUNAMI

## Over 5500 Bills Have Been Filed

- A large proportion are shell bills
- Some bills do not have a clear intent or purpose
- Rollover bills from the 2021 Session
- Numerous Bills Do Not Apply Directly to ACOG



# GUIDING LEGISLATIVE PRINCIPLES

1. **Preserve and Protect Local Government Authority and Autonomy**
2. **Protect Our Cities, Towns, and Counties from Unfunded Mandates and Promote User Friendly Regulatory Reform**
3. **Maintain, Enhance and Seek Out New Funding for Needed Programs and Projects that Improve the Quality of Life for the Citizens of Central Oklahoma**





# PRESERVE & PROTECT LOCAL GOVT. AUTHORITY & AUTONOMY

- **GUN LEGISLATION:** Along with our partners Oklahoma Municipal League (OML) and the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber (GOKCC), ACOG supports the rights of municipalities to determine legislation related to open/concealed carry of guns into city or municipal buildings or high-economic impact events
- **MEDICAL MARIJUANA LAND USE REGULATIONS:** ACOG supports medical marijuana legislation that allows enforcement of local codes and zoning requirements pertaining to the location of medical marijuana dispensaries, storage facilities and agricultural operations
- **OPEN MEETING ACT:** Amend the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act to allow boards, commissions, and other groups the flexibility to conduct meetings by teleconference or video conference to the extend authorized by state law



# PRESERVE & PROTECT LOCAL GOVT. AUTHORITY & AUTONOMY CONTINUED

- **COUNTY GOVERNMENT REFORM:** Pursue a strategic approach to County Government Reform in Oklahoma that does not encroach on municipal government authority and at the same time improves the efficiency of County Government operations
- **ENFORCEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE PLANS & ZONING REGULATIONS:** ACOG opposes any legislation that infringes on the legal status of a municipality's comprehensive plan and the rezoning of property and the enforcement of building codes and standards





# LOCAL GOVT. AUTHORITY & AUTONOMY

## LEGISLATION WATCHLIST

### GUN LEGISLATION

SB 1132 - Bergstrom  
SB 1378 - Paxton  
HB 3069 - Manger  
HB 3104 - Steagall  
HB 3157 - K. West  
HB3158 - K. West

### MEDICAL MARIJUANA LAND USE LEGISLATION

SB 1195 - Bergstrom  
SB 1543 - Treat  
HB 2987 - Olsen  
HB 3141 - Kindrix  
HB 4202 - Echols

### OPEN MEETING ACT

SB1804 - HOWARD  
HB 3415 - Pae  
HB 3708 - ROBERTS  
HB 3525 - VIRGIN

● SUPPORT  
● OPPOSE  
● MONITOR



# LOCAL GOVT. AUTHORITY & AUTONOMY

## LEGISLATION WATCHLIST

### COUNTY GOVERNMENT REFORM

HB 2990 – Bush  
SB1182 – Rader

### ENFORCEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE PLANS & ZONING REGULATIONS

HB3597 – McBride

### LIMITING LOCAL AUTHORITY & SOURCES OF REVENUE

SB 1381 – Standridge  
SB 1680 – Standridge  
HB 3621 – Virgin

● SUPPORT  
● OPPOSE  
● MONITOR





# PROTECT OUR CITIES, TOWNS, & COUNTIES FROM UNFUNDED MANDATES & PROMOTE USER FRIENDLY REGULATORY REFORM

ACOG pursues any type of legislation that advances the efficiency and effectiveness of local government.

- Promote legislation that would include 9-1-1 dispatchers under the title of First Responder
- Allow volunteer and reserve firefighters to promote to Fire Chief in their local communities, regardless of pension status
- Restore municipal control over the regulation of community design/building standards
- Continue to support the Oklahoma Film Rebate Program



# PROTECT OUR CITIES, TOWNS, & COUNTIES FROM UNFUNDED MANDATES & PROMOTE USER FRIENDLY REGULATORY REFORM

## LEGISLATIVE WATCHLIST

### 9-1-1 & PUBLIC SAFETY

HB 3278 - Humphrey  
HB1188 - Taylor

### COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

HB 2606 - Walke  
HB 3755 - Fetgetter

### WATER RESOURCES

HB1693 - Bergstrom

● SUPPORT  
● OPPOSE  
● MONITOR



# **MAINTAIN, ENHANCE & SEEK OUT NEW FUNDING FOR NEEDED PROGRAMS & PROJECTS THAT IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR THE CITIZENS OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA**

ACOG focuses on the Appropriations Component of the Legislative Session to protect funding of projects and initiatives that benefit our region.

- Hold harmless the funding of the County Improvements for Roads and Bridges (CIRB) Revolving Fund and Expand incrementally to previous funding levels
- Oppose efforts to reduce or eliminate state funding to operate the Heartland Flyer Amtrak service to Fort Worth, TX





# MAINTAIN, ENHANCE & SEEK OUT NEW FUNDING FOR NEEDED PROGRAMS & PROJECTS THAT IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR THE CITIZENS OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA

## LEGISLATIVE WATCHLIST

### TRANSPORTATION PLANNING SERVICES

HB 3318 – Miller

SB 1479 – Jech

SB1488 – Dahm

- SUPPORT
- OPPOSE
- MONITOR



# PRIMARY APPROPRIATIONS OBJECTIVES

## RURAL FIRE DEFENSE PROGRAM

The Rural Fire Defense Program supports and equips rural fire departments in protecting lives and property of rural Oklahomans. The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry (ODAFF) contracts through the Oklahoma Association of Regional Councils (OARC) for the Councils of Governments (COGs) to employ a Rural Fire Coordinator. Coordinators annually certify approximately 875 fire departments across Oklahoma for state operational funding. State funding for the Rural Fire Defense program has declined over the last decade from about \$75,000 per COG to \$61,000. Program costs now average \$90,000 per year and the COGs must absorb the deficits. Increasing state funding to reduce the funding gap is essential to ensure public safety and affordable insurance rates in rural Oklahoma.

**Recommend:** Increase Rural Fire Coordinator Contracts to \$90,000 per all 11 Oklahoma COGs and make it a line item in the State budget through the Oklahoma Dept. of Agriculture.

**Fiscal Impact:** Nominal (\$380,000 above current allocation of \$610,000)



# PRIMARY APPROPRIATIONS OBJECTIVES

## STATE SUPPORT OF COGs

Substate planning funding through the Oklahoma Department of Commerce (ODOC) allows COGs to leverage local funds to help COGs provide matching funds for federal and state grant programs through the Economic Development Administration (EDA) and Title III Older Americans Act to supplement local resources. Substate funding has declined by 86% over the last decade from \$50,000 to its current level of \$8,000.

**Recommend:** Increase Substate planning funding to \$75,000 per all 11 Oklahoma COGs and make it a line-item in the State budget through the Oklahoma Dept. of Commerce.

**Fiscal Impact:** Nominal (\$460,000 above current allocation of \$88,000)





# PRIMARY APPROPRIATIONS OBJECTIVES

## RURAL ECONOMIC ACTION PLAN (REAP)

REAP provides grants to small communities, towns, counties and other organizations serving populations under 7,000 that have little or no funding capabilities. REAP grants require no match, which is a necessity for small communities and organizations. There are currently 538 municipalities in Oklahoma under 7,000 in population (90% of all Oklahoma municipalities). State funding for REAP through the COGs reached a high in the last decade of \$17.9 million. For FY22 the REAP allocation was \$15.5 million. Increasing REAP funding will enable more small, rural communities to receive REAP grants to help sustain their economic viability.

**Recommend:** Increase REAP funding to \$20 million, which by statute will distribute equal REAP allocations to all 11 Oklahoma COGs.

**Fiscal Impact:** Low (\$4.5 million above current allocation of \$15.5 million)



# STATE ARPA FUNDING REQUESTS

## STATEWIDE CERI APPLICATION

As a potential future sub-awardee of the State of Oklahoma through allocation of ARPA funds, ACOG proposes to restructure CERI as a statewide program and:

- Provide funding for initial project implementation within each municipality
- Increase the number of CERI planning demonstration site projects from three (3) cities under the initial pilot program, to five (5) cities in a three (3) year statewide program
- Demonstration Planning Site Projects would begin July 2022 and end in June 2025
- With a state ARPA investment of **\$5.1M**, CERI has the potential to generate an estimated **\$27M** economic impact across the State of Oklahoma.



# STATE ARPA FUNDING REQUESTS

## WATER PLANNING APPLICATION

This project is a basin-wide approach for a wasteload allocation study on the North Canadian River in Canadian, Oklahoma, and Pottawatomie Counties in Central Oklahoma. The study will develop a mathematical model that will accurately simulate water quality in the streams under critical conditions. This model will then be used to generate simulations for the purpose of determining appropriate permit limits for point source discharges on the river.

The participants in the study will be the municipalities which are dischargers to the North Canadian River:

- Oklahoma City
- Midwest City
- Del City
- Choctaw
- Harrah
- El Reno
- Yukon
- Shawnee

The proposed budget will be **\$1.5 million**.






## NEXT STEPS

- Event Survey Results | Wrap-Up Meeting
- Monitor Bills
- Visit Legislators



# QUESTIONS?

2022 Legislative Power Brunch



association of central oklahoma governments  
2022 Legislative Power Brunch

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