



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Economic Development Administration
Washington, D.C. 20230

MAY 18 2006

Mr. Peter W. Thurston
Community and Economic Development Coordinator
Lane County Community and Economic Development
125 East Eighth Avenue
Eugene, Oregon 97401

Dear Mr. Thurston:

I am pleased to inform you that Lane County Community and Economic Development is a finalist for the Economic Development Administration's (EDA) Excellence in Economic Development Awards 2006 (Awards 2006) in the Enhancing Regional Competitiveness in Economic Development category for the specific program of Community and Economic Development.

Each category's top three nominations, as evaluated by the selection panel, advance as finalists for consideration by the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development. Using the published criteria, the Assistant Secretary selects the winners. If no finalist in an Award category achieves the level of excellence contemplated in this Award, the Assistant Secretary may decide not to make an award in that category.

By May 30, 2006, EDA will contact the winners in each category of Awards 2006 and will notify Congress, the press, and post the winners names on EDA's Web site. Award ceremonies will be held in the winners' respective communities during the summer months. Information about these award ceremonies will be announced following confirmation of the date and location.

On behalf of the Economic Development Administration, I extend my sincere congratulations on your nomination's selection as a finalist. If you have any questions please contact David T. Murray, Director of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs, at (202) 482-2900.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Haik Terrell
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for External Affairs and Communications



December 20, 2006

Ms. Heather Edwards
Community & Economic Development Program
125 E. 8th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97401

Re: Defendant Offender Management Center

Dear Ms. Edwards:

Thank you for applying for a 2007 Innovations in American Government Award. This year, Innovations received approximately 900 applications from jurisdictions across the country, encompassing a wide range of policy areas. It is gratifying to know that our nation's public sector continues to be so innovative and so effective. Accordingly, review teams struggled to select 100 semifinalists. Although your program was not chosen to advance we appreciate your impressive accomplishments.

The reviewers, however, specifically identified your program as being noteworthy and placed it among the top twenty percent of the applicant pool. Most often, this identification is the result of their belief that the program, while no longer innovative, implements established best practices. Noteworthy programs are, therefore, examples of government at its finest, and I congratulate you for your extraordinary efforts on behalf of citizens.

It is my hope that the Innovations program will serve as a resource for information not only about novel initiatives, but also about best practices. We must share the good work that so many public servants are doing across this nation and around the globe. As many past applicants have expressed interest in following the awards cycle and learning about the winning programs, Innovations staff will post information on the website as it becomes available. The website already contains information on the selection process and prior award winners. We encourage you to register on our Harvard Innovators website <http://www.innovations.harvard.edu/> where we present government innovations.

I greatly appreciate your committing the time and thought necessary to present a formidable application. On behalf of the reviewers, members of the Innovations staff, the Ford Foundation, and Harvard University, I wish you continued success in all of your endeavors and hope through the website and perhaps future applications you can stay in touch with us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Goldsmith", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Stephen Goldsmith
Director, Innovations in American Government

For more information on innovative practices, please register and join our community of government innovators: <http://www.innovations.harvard.edu/>