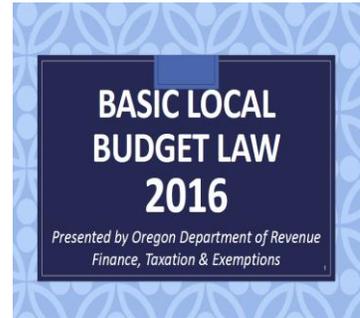


Friday April 22, 2016

Good Friday afternoon everyone. It appears we have returned to more moderate spring like weather after our brief stint in the 90's, so enjoy it while you can. Monday afternoon this week Ron Harker presented our annual "Local Budget Law 101" to Budget Committee member Jon Dyer and Councilor John McDonald. It gave Ron and me an opportunity to introduce in some detail the requirements of local budget law and also the authority and limitations provided by statute to the Budget Committee. We appreciate their attendance and look forward to handing out the budget and giving the budget message to the Budget Committee at your first meeting on Tuesday May 3rd.



Tuesday Brian Davis and I met with Steve Vincent and Allan Smith from AVISTA, our local natural gas franchisee representatives. We have worked closely with Steve and AVISTA through the Partnership on economic development opportunities in the region and Allan is the local gas operations manager. We meet annually with AVISTA representatives to review their annual operations, their financial impact on the region and also to chat about their operations in the City of Roseburg rights of way. AVISTA is our second largest utility franchise holder. In 2015 they served over 8,000 homes and almost 1,500 business, non-profit and public sector customers. They paid franchise fees in 2015 of just over \$375,000 to the City and paid over \$400,000 in property taxes in Douglas County.

Thursday I attended, along with Community Development Staff, a presentation made by the Meyer Memorial Trust on community impact grant funding. They have funding opportunities related to "Building Community", "Healthy Environment", "Housing Opportunities" and eventually "Meaningful Public Education for all". Folks from many of the local non-profit entities were in attendance. Based on my understanding of most their programs, we more likely would be supporting other grant applicants rather than applying directly. I spoke with many representatives from the community about the collective impact of "building community" and "healthy environment" concepts and we continue to work with UCAN and NeighborWorks around housing opportunities. Equity throughout Oregon is a primary concern as contained in both the Vision statement and Mission statement of the Meyer Memorial Trust.



The Airport Commission met on Thursday as well. While there was not a quorum in attendance, the four members present did unanimously endorse the land lease assignment from Pacific Housing Management (Bill Woods) to Marilyn Kittelman and John Kittelman relating to Aviation Suites which is on your Council agenda for Monday evening. Ms. Kittelman has been working with Mr. Woods to acquire ownership of the Aviation Suites building and needs to acquire the land lease interest as well. The building has been used primarily as a professional office for many years and we do not anticipate the primary use will change immediately. Ms. Kittelman has indicated that she is very interested in attracting aviation related businesses to the facility in addition to the office type tenants.

I am attaching the Employment Department's Labor Market Information one-pager for the second consecutive month as I think it is very important for us to recognize some of the information contained in this correspondence. It is very clear that the recession hit Douglas County harder than most parts of the State and that it took longer to come out of the recession as well. Steady job growth has been occurring since the third quarter of 2012, about eighteen months later than the rest of the State. To me, the most encouraging information contained in the report is that the March point in time data indicates that our civilian labor has grown by 1,085, the number of employed has grown by 2,852, and the number of unemployed has dropped by 1,767 between March of 2014 and March of 2016. More people in the work force, more people working and fewer unemployed is great news. However, a low unemployment rate does not tell the entire story. We have many positions available in the area that continue to go unfilled because there are skill set mismatches for highly skilled positions. The current unemployment rate of 6.2% is the lowest unemployment rate in Douglas County in over 15 years.

We continue to work with local schools, UCC, Umpqua Business Center and the Partnership for Economic Development to identify programs that will match employer needs with training programs that can provide local workers with the skills necessary to meet to the local manufacturing demand for workers. It is essential for our economy to provide family wage jobs and matching skills to ensure that our local folks have those opportunities right here in central Douglas County.

Have a great weekend everyone and we will see you all Monday night!

	March 2016	March 2015	March 2014
Civilian Labor Force	44,786	43,452	43,701
Employed	41,872	39,854	39,020
Unemployed	2,914	3,598	4,681
Unemployment Rates (seasonally adjusted)			
Douglas County	6.2%	7.6%	9.9%
State of Oregon	4.5%	5.7%	7.1%

March 2016 Gains & Losses:

Selected net, over-the-year gains:

- Private educational and health services: +190
- Leisure and hospitality: +120
- Manufacturing; Government: +90 (each)
- Trade, transportation, utilities: +70
- Construction: +60

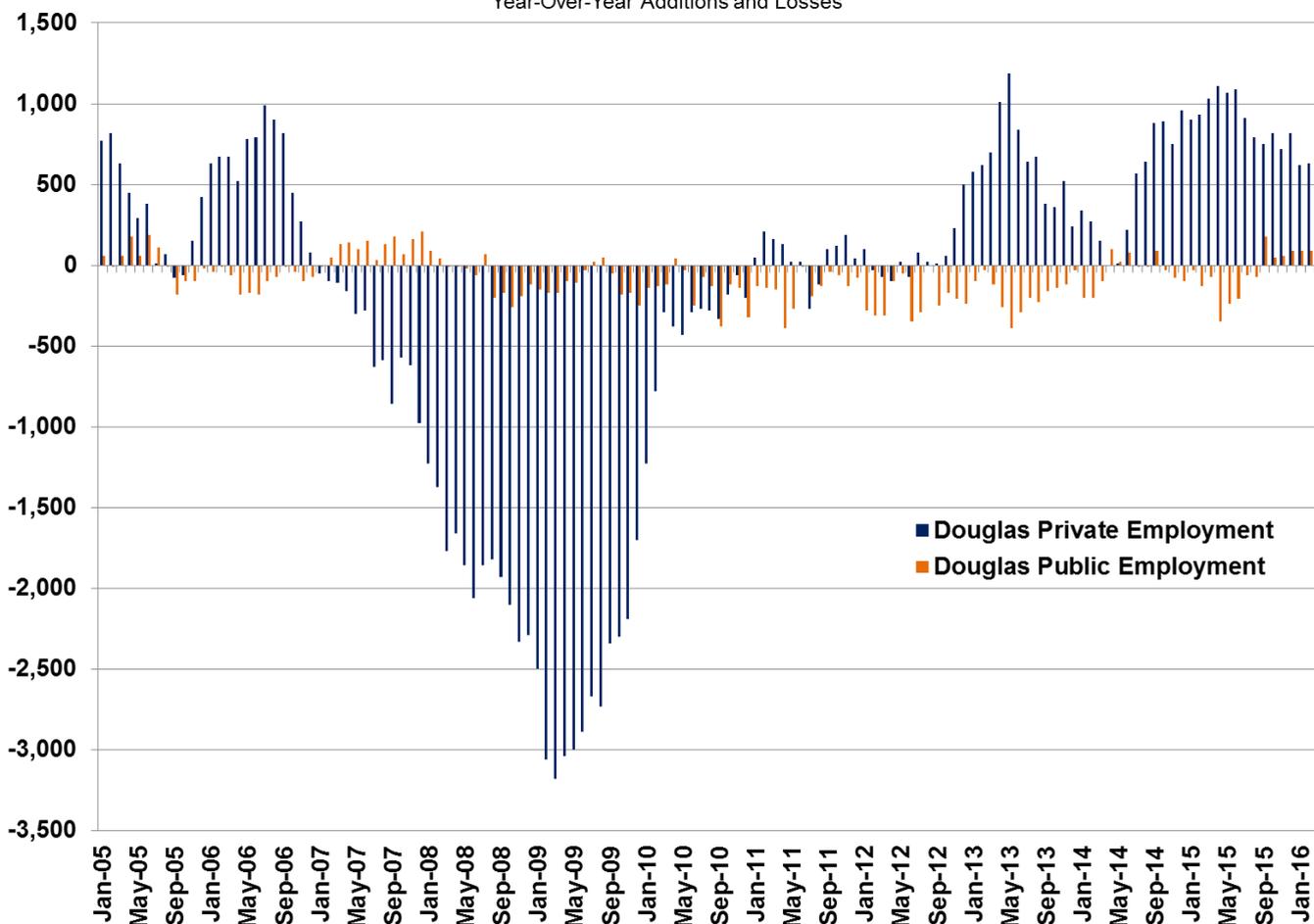
Selected net, over-the-year job losses:

- Mining and logging: -80



Douglas County Nonfarm Employment Change

Year-Over-Year Additions and Losses



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