



# Oregon

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **State Completes Review of City of Bend's Urban Growth Boundary**

SALEM – The City of Bend will need to do more work to document its decision to expand its urban growth boundary (UGB), according to the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD), which completed its review of Bend's UGB expansion proposal last Friday.

UGBs set where cities will grow for the next 20 years and are designed to assure that communities have enough land for needed housing and economic development.

According to DLCD's director, Richard Whitman:

“Bend is nationally recognized as a high-quality, desirable place to live and work. It's the seventh largest city in Oregon and one of the fastest growing in the state. Over the next 20 years, close to 40,000 new residents are expected in the city. Planning for the homes and jobs that current and future citizens will need is an important responsibility, and the decisions on Bend's UGB will have long-term consequences for the city and region.”

DLCD reviewed whether the UGB expansion complied with state land use laws. The decision to send the expansion back to the city and county for revisions contains specific guidance about what changes are needed. The report says:

“The director agrees with the city and county that a UGB expansion is needed, but the size of the expansion is over four square miles larger than the amount of land they determined is needed. The director also agrees with the city and county that they have appropriately shown a need for land for a new university site and for a large site general industrial area. However, state law requires the local governments need to complete technical work to document that sites for these important future uses can't be found within the existing city limits.”

DLCD also determined that more work is needed to plan for needed housing for current and future residents of Bend and the region. The city has documented a real need for more affordable housing and for housing for people who work in Bend – to reverse the trend of workers leaving the city to find affordable housing. However, the city's planning for future residential development needs to do more to lay the groundwork for these types of housing to be developed in Bend.

The DLCD decision may be appealed to the state Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC). Appeals must be filed no later than January 29, 2010. LCDC would likely hear any appeals in March.

For more information, please contact Cliff Voliva, DLCD Communications Officer, at (503) 373-0050, ext. 268, or via e-mail at: [cliff.voliva@state.or.us](mailto:cliff.voliva@state.or.us).

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