

Sustainable City Year Program University of Oregon

City of La Pine

2018 Press Book



Table of Contents

Small Cities Program to Launch in La Pine Sustainable Cities Initiative Fall 2017 Newsletter	1
La Pine to host University of Oregon community program Bend Bulletin, December 20, 2017	2
University of Oregon students, faculty arrive in La Pine Bend Bulletin, January 12, 2018	4
SCYP for All: Small City Pilot Expands Opportunities in Oregon Sustainable Cities Initiative Winter 2018 Newsletter	6
City of La Pine: First 'Small City Pilot' of Sustainable City Year Program Oregon City/County Management Association First Quarter 2018 Newsletter	7
Article for the <i>Newberry Eagle</i> By Payton Bruni	10
Article for the <i>Newberry Eagle</i> By Emily Poole	12
Sustainable Cities Initiative Press Release	15
Social Media from the Partnership	17
Report Covers	21

SCYP | Small Cities Program to Launch in La Pine

Oregon is home to more than 200 small cities, but small populations don't mean small ideas. This year the Sustainable City Year Program will pilot a new kind of partnership, the Small City Program, to apply the best elements of the SCYP model in smaller communities. The Small City Program pilot will connect UO students and faculty with La Pine, a Deschutes County town of about 1,800 residents.

As with the existing Sustainable City Year Program, the Small City Program will support city-identified priority projects through the work of student classes across the University. The partnership with La Pine will serve as a trial to see how this model, which has been previously implemented in larger Oregon cities, can translate on a smaller scale. Student efforts will focus on a variety of city needs ranging from economic development to bicycle and pedestrian connectivity, community engagement, and local nonprofit strategy. Funding is being provided by the City of La Pine and The Ford Family Foundation, with an in-kind match from the UO.



“Having SCYP work with cities and agencies across Oregon, regardless of their size, provides significant value to our state,” says SCYP Manager Megan Banks. “Thanks to the City of La Pine and The Ford Family Foundation, we can begin working with Oregon’s newest city.”

The UO-La Pine partnership will officially begin in January. Students, professors, and UO leadership will travel to La Pine for the kick-off, which will be held at La Pine City Hall during the first week of winter term classes.

Published Dec. 20, 2017 at 10:01PM

La Pine to host University of Oregon community program

Students provide economic development, community planning projects



In 2018, students with the University of Oregon's Sustainable City Year Program will be working with the City of La Pine. City officials hope the program will provide a framework to establish a real downtown for the city, along Huntington Road. (Ryan Brennecke/Bulletin photo)

[View larger image](#) | [Buy photo](#)



In 2018, La Pine will play host to a pilot program from the University of Oregon, designed to help the state's youngest city grow its urban infrastructure.

Beginning in January, La Pine will be a part of the university's Sustainable City Year Program, which will bring dozens of graduate and undergraduate students to La Pine to work on projects that range from leveraging the city's industrial land to developing regional standards for solar energy.

"Central Oregon is a pretty special place and anything we can do in La Pine and Deschutes County will make a difference," said Megan Banks, program manager for the Sustainable Cities Initiative, which produces the program.

The Sustainable City Year Program, begun in 2009, is designed to bring interdisciplinary community-focused projects from the classroom into urban centers across the state, according to Marc Schlossberg, co-manager of the Sustainable Cities Initiative. Schlossberg said the associated classes — which will focus on everything from economic development to bicycle transit — primarily take place in Eugene, but students will travel back and forth to La Pine, work with city officials, and develop projects designed to advance existing civic projects and kick-start new ones.

"The program really only exists to help communities move their own agendas forward," Schlossberg said.

This will be the program's second trip to Central Oregon; the Sustainable Cities Initiative brought around 450 graduate and undergraduate students to Redmond during 2015 and 2016.

Keith Witcosky, Redmond's city manager, said students worked on projects that ranged from designing a prototype of a new police station, to mapping parts of the city to improve walkability in certain neighborhoods.

"We found it to bring a lot of innovative thinking," Witcosky said of the program's impact on Redmond.

While the Sustainable City Year Program has mainly focused on larger cities, including Albany and Salem, Banks said La Pine is part of a pilot project designed to bring the program to Oregon's smaller cities.

"Small cities have just as many needs as large cities, but often lack the infrastructure to solve them," Banks said.

Cory Misley, city manager of La Pine, added that the city began looking for ways to bring the program to La Pine about two years ago, but an attempt to partner with the city of Sisters fell through. Misley said the city reached out to the Ford Family Foundation, a nonprofit foundation based in Roseburg, to help fund the pilot project.

The program is slated to span much of the year, with courses beginning after a kickoff meeting Jan. 12 and extending into the fall quarter. Schlossberg said the program will include between eight and 12 10-week courses throughout 2018, each bringing between 10 and 45 students to La Pine to complete various projects. Misley added that the classes will be designed to dovetail with the city's objectives.

"I'm really optimistic that these students are going to take a lot of pride in these projects," Misley said.

For La Pine, which incorporated in 2007 and lacks the resources of larger cities, the program could provide a framework to help the city develop a true downtown and solve some of its persistent problems, according to Misley.

"Things most cities take for granted, we have to look at with fresh eyes," he said.

For example, Misley said La Pine is working toward building a transit center in its downtown corridor along Huntington Road. He added that the program should provide a basic model for the project, that the city could then bring to a developer once they have funding in place.

Misley said some of the students taking an economic development course — one of four classes confirmed for the winter quarter — will focus on developing the city's industrial park, which has lots of undeveloped land relative to other Central Oregon cities, but has struggled to attract development. Other students taking the course will focus on what industries the small city is well-positioned to attract.

Additionally, La Pine will host a course on passive solar heating, where students are expected to develop a set of standards for solar in south Deschutes County's sunny-but-cold conditions that could be passed along to developers.

"(University of Oregon) faculty are very intrigued with Central Oregon, based on how much sun we get," Misley said.

The city will also host a class designed to bridge journalism and community involvement, as well as a public relations class that will document the experience. Each class will coordinate with a member of La Pine's staff, and members of the class will present their findings at the end of the course. Schlossberg said the University of Oregon will hire one student from each class to aggregate the projects and present them to the city.

"Our goal is that all these projects are catalysts," Misley added. "We're entering, to a degree, a new chapter of the city's existence."

—Reporter: 541-617-7818, shamway@bendbulletin.com

Published Jan. 12, 2018 at 06:23PM / Updated January 12, 2018 at 07:24PM

University of Oregon students, faculty arrive in La Pine

La Pine is the smallest city in the school's Sustainable City Year Program



In 2018, students with the University of Oregon's Sustainable City Year Program will be working with the City of La Pine. City officials hope the program will provide a framework to establish a real downtown for the city, along Huntington Road. (Ryan Brennecke/Bulletin photo)

[View larger image](#) | [Buy photo](#)

LA PINE — After more than two years of planning, La Pine welcomed dozens of University of Oregon students for a pilot program that will allow them to use Oregon's youngest city as a temporary classroom.

On Friday, La Pine residents and elected officials mingled with students and faculty during a kickoff event for the University of Oregon's Sustainable City Year Program, an interdisciplinary program that brings students to a different Oregon city each year.

Professors spoke about the classes that they will be teaching as part of the winter quarter of the program, ranging from a downtown revitalization course to a videography class titled "narrative storytelling," and the city's elected officials spoke about the potential impact on the community.

"The city of La Pine is building, so we need all the input we can get," said La Pine Mayor Dennis Scott after the meeting. "This is a perfect opportunity for the city."

While the Sustainable City Year Program has been in existence since 2009, the work with La Pine is considered a pilot program because the city is, by far, the smallest that the program has worked with.

Megan Banks, program manager for the Sustainable Cities Initiative, which manages the program, said this gives students a chance to apply concepts on a much smaller scale and address needs that smaller cities simply don't have the staffing capacity to meet.

"All the same perennial issues that (larger) cities are dealing with, places like La Pine have to deal with, whether it's infrastructure or just trying to figure out the city's needs."

Banks said those challenges are only amplified in La Pine, which incorporated in 2007 and lacks some of the infrastructure that more established cities take for granted.

“Questions that cities answered however many years ago they incorporated, La Pine is just having to deal with now,” Banks said.

The amount of time students spend in La Pine will vary among the seven classes confirmed for the school’s winter quarter. Classes will take sporadic field trips to La Pine, and each class will deliver a presentation, featuring a proposal or idea for the city that they’ve been working on, at the end of the quarter.

For example, for passive heating, a class offered jointly by the school’s architecture and environmental studies departments, students will produce designs for how best to heat parts of several public buildings, including a proposed transit center in downtown La Pine, using the power of the sun, according to professor Alexandra Rempel. Rempel added that the dry, cold climate of Central Oregon makes passive solar heating a different challenge than it is on the other side of the Cascades.

“La Pine has the perfect environment for passive solar,” Rempel said.

For the city, the program provides a chance to have new sets of eyes on city projects. And for the students, the program provides an opportunity to work in the type of client-consultant environment that they would see after graduation, according to Kerry Edinger, a graduate assistant for the program.

“As students, we have so many opportunities to do classwork, but it’s rare that we get to do classwork for a real client,” Edinger said. “It increases the stakes and really, really revs up our motivation.”

— Reporter: 541-617-7818, shamway@bendbulletin.com

SCYP for All: Small City Pilot Expands Opportunities in Oregon

A new era is underway at the Sustainable Cities Initiative. Since 2009, the Sustainable City Year Program has established a strong track record of serving Oregon communities including the cities of Salem, Redmond, Gresham, Albany, Springfield and Medford. With the January launch of the SCYP Small City Pilot in La Pine, Oregon’s rural communities are now on the map for getting the same incredible support from students and faculty at the University of Oregon to see their projects come to life.



The value of having an SCYP partnership is best understood by hearing from those who have seen the impact firsthand. “The City of Albany, like most local agencies I suspect, are challenged to dedicate enough human capital and financial resources to research, explore and just plain riff on possible solutions to many of the issues that face our communities,” says Ed Hodney, Parks and Recreation director for the City of Albany. “Most of our energy is typically spent on the most urgent and immediate. Students have the time, creativity and drive to do what city planners wanted to do, but could not.”

Larger cities aren't alone in facing limits on time and finances, but Oregon’s rural communities often lack the resources needed to take on a partnership with SCYP. After a two year effort to work out those details, SCYP and La Pine are able to pursue a partnership that not only puts students to work on La Pine projects, but also opens doors for future partnerships with rural communities throughout the state.

Students are tackling projects for workforce development, passive solar heating, and capturing the stories of La Pine this term. The work continues next term with active transportation planning, nonprofit coordination, and conceptualizing a downtown “hub” and transit center. At the same time, the SCYP TriMet partnership is helping to prepare for the Southwest Corridor Light Rail Expansion in Tualatin, Tigard, and the Southwest Portland region.

The University of Oregon has no shortage of students, faculty, and courses that can work to achieve the goals of communities large and small. Communities throughout the US and internationally have applied the SCYP model to achieve great success, and SCI looks forward to transforming Oregon’s small towns with the same guiding principles.





OCCMA

**Oregon City/County
Management Association**

A State Affiliate of **ICMA**

FIRST QUARTER 2018

City of La Pine:

First “Small City Pilot” of Sustainable City Year Program



INSIDE...

President's Message
2018 OCCMA Board of Directors
Save the Date - OCCMA
Summer Conference
2018 OCCMA Committees

ICMA West Coast Conference/
NW Regional Managers
Conference
Women's Leadership Academy
Career Compass
ICMA Ethics

LOC Grassroots Advocacy
ICMA Coaching Webinars
Save the Date - Fall Workshop
Senior Advisor Reports
Managers on the Move

First “Small City Pilot” through SCYP Launches in La Pine

By Cory Misley, City Manager, La Pine

It is a special feeling to have a unique and beneficial project, based on years of persistence, come to fruition for the community one serves. Last month the City of La Pine with the University of Oregon’s Sustainable Cities Initiative launched the first-ever Small City Pilot of their Sustainable City Year Program (SCYP). Over the coming year, approximately ten courses ranging in topics from planning and journalism to passive solar heating and landscape architecture design will focus their efforts to provide tangible recommendations to La Pine. The time and effort by both the city and SCYP to make this a reality has been extensive. Together we recognized that smaller cities have to balance the day-to-day needs while maintaining long-range planning and capital projects with limited (but dynamic) staff resources—making them prime candidates for an infusion of energy and ideas.

Megan Banks, SCYP Program Manager, and I first spoke in passing nearly two years ago. The quick takeaway for each of us was, “why doesn’t SCYP try to serve smaller public entities in Oregon?” and more importantly “how can we make that happen?” Through many conversations, consultation with the La Pine City Council, and coordinated planning we were able to find a path forward to get us to



this point. The process of making sure it was a good fit and a win-win for both the city and SCYP was crucial.

Some of the areas in need of creative approaches and planning included downtown redevelopment; bicycle and pedestrian connectivity; leveraging an urban renewal agency; community nonprofit assistance; implementation of complete streets; and specifically conceptual design of a publicly-owned parcel as a city center and transit location.



We were able to sync course outcomes to those needs while infusing broad public engagement and sustainability principles as the cherry on top. Many of the traditional downtown and multi-modal transportation elements seen in cities are missing from La Pine, as having only been incorporated for just over 10 years.

As with any project or program the question of funding had to be answered. We were fortunate for Megan Banks and SCYP to facilitate bringing The Ford Family Foundation as a partner into the equation. Their mission to support and foster Successful Citizens and Vital Rural Communities has roots in La Pine prior to incorporation, and it was a natural fit for them to assist in the development of student learning objectives coupled with supporting a growing rural community. It has been a pleasure to work with all involved, especially the faculty members who have experience with

SCYP and the process of fitting the outcomes wanted by the City with the necessary learning objectives. Furthermore, it has been a valuable learning experience and exercise for the city to think deeply about the status of projects and priorities, and to be ambitious but realistic with what we want to move forward in the next handful of years.

On January 12 over 50 students, faculty and SCYP staff joined by another 50 La Pine community members, elected officials and staff filled the La Pine Senior Center for the SCYP Kickoff Event. The energy in the room was palpable. We simultaneously launched the first-ever Small City Pilot while foreshadowing the next chapter of development within the city of La Pine. The process has been worthwhile, and yet we are more enthusiastic than ever as the best is yet to come with results around the corner.



SAVE THE DATE

July 10-13, 2018

OCCMA Summer Conference

Mt. Bachelor Village Resort in Bend

The OCCMA Professional Development Committee is putting together an excellent educational program. Watch the OCCMA website and future OCCMA newsletters for more information.

The Sustainable City Year Program and La Pine, Oregon; written for the *Newberry Eagle*

By Payton Bruni

Eugene, Oregon – When University of Oregon professors Marc Schlossberg and Dyana Mason chose the projects their students would work on with the city of La Pine, they wanted to prioritize not their own interests or the students' interests, but the community's.

"Everything we do is to add value to the community; that is our starting point," said Schlossberg. "If anything we do is totally counter to a community's desire, well, that's a waste of everyone's time."

Since spring term began in April, Schlossberg and Mason have collaborated through the university's Sustainable City Year Program to give students real-world learning experiences while benefiting the city.

Schlossberg's and Mason's courses, in addition to those taught in the previous winter term, have worked to produce plans and recommendations that the city can use.

La Pine City Manager Cory Misley said he is excited to review all of the projects once the academic year has been completed. "I do think there are kernels of usefulness in all of them," he said.

Mason's course on nonprofit consultancy focused on the La Pine Senior Center. Graduate student Jenn Casey, one of three students who has analyzed the senior center, said her group's project looked for ways to bring in more revenue, attract new members and increase the effectiveness of the center's board of directors. Casey said the last step of the project will be to present a "written document to the board that will provide recommendations."

In Schlossberg's class, students evaluated bicycle transportation in La Pine. Some student groups looked at bicycle tours and tourism, while others looked for ways to make biking safer within the city. Overall, the student projects were geared toward finding concrete ways to make biking in La Pine more desirable.

However, depending how difficult some of the projects are to implement, it may take time before the student ideas are given shape. Misley said, "I think it's less a matter of if they could be implemented, but more of when."

Primarily, the two constraints the La Pine city government will have to face are its staff size and budgeting.

Misley emphasized that although he was looking forward to seeing what the students have produced, it's important to realize that a small city doesn't have a planning department that is able to designate multiple project managers for one project. LaPine is limited in how many projects it can implement.

Misley stressed the importance of considering funding and how the city could budget around that aspect. Misley said, "We would need to look at the feasibility of the project -- look at how heavy of a lift it is and how much it is going to cost."

But in spite of the challenges the city government faces, UO students were still encouraged to pursue large-scale projects. Schlossberg, who has worked with seven other cities, said La Pine told his class to be the "least restrained in our thinking."

Schlossberg said he was told by the city, “Look, even the things that might be really expensive, don’t necessarily rule them out if they’re the right idea. Because we’re open to try and come up with the resources to do it.”

Schlossberg cited previous projects as evidence to his class’s potential. “A couple years ago when I worked with Redmond, collectively the students came up with 17 policy ideas, and the city adopted 15 of them almost instantly into local policy and code,” he said.

In Mason’s class, and Casey’s project, the end product was not only meant to be beneficial to the La Pine Senior Center, but feasible. Casey said, “We’re giving recommendations that are absolutely ready to be implemented, and giving them in a way that can be implemented now and as time moves on.”

As for his expectations from collaborating with SCYP, Misley said, “One thing that I had a hunch heading into winter term is that what we get out of these projects and out of these classes is really going to rely on largely what we put into it.”

Misley said he hasn’t had much time to digest some the details of the projects, but he was excited to look over the information in the summer after it has been distilled by SCYP staff members Megan Banks and Katie Fields.

“I would say that our hope is to take something away something from every single project in every single class,” Misley said. “It just kind of depends on what spin we put on it and how ready it is to move forward with next steps.”

Written for the *Newberry Eagle*

By Emily Poole

Tucked behind the cloudy gray skies of the Pacific Northwest shines an energy source rich in renewable capabilities: the sun. With up to six months of sunny days a year, the city of La Pine has sought to capitalize on the sun's renewable energy through passive solar heating technologies.

Passive solar heating technologies collect, store and release the energy from the sun in the form of heat to regulate building temperature without the use of mechanical systems, and La Pine's ample sun exposure make the city a prime candidate for incorporating passive solar heating technologies into future development.

On June 5, three University of Oregon students presented two conceptual site designs for the development of a city center to the Urban Renewal Board, which consists of three city council and four community members, and city staff including City Manager Cory Misley.

Both of the designs incorporated passive heating technology, which the students learned in an environmental studies and architecture class as part of the Sustainable City Year Program, in which the university partners with an Oregon community to collaborate on ideas for a more sustainable future.

"We have been working on this project for about a year and half, so it is really exciting to start to see some of the visual representations of what is possible and work towards actually getting something developed," Misley said.

The Urban Renewal Board reviewed the city center site designs and provided their feedback to the three students, who will continue to refine and incorporate feedback. The feedback included developing a city center that wouldn't encourage the homeless population to congregate there and blending the two site designs, enabling the preferred aspects from each option to be combined in a final design.

Once the three UO students incorporate the feedback from the Urban Renewal Board and develop one final site design, the city plans to share the design with the La Pine community.

“The next step in my mind is we want to get some public input,” Misley said. “We want to, in the next month or so, reach out to the public and invite them to comment on the designs and make sure that what we end up building will represent what they want to see.”

Both city center designs incorporated passive solar heating technologies, which promote sustainability by decreasing maintenance, energy and utility costs for the city of La Pine. Misley explained that the three UO students investigated site orientation and location, roof angles and building materials to develop designs that would maximize suitability and minimize cost.

“For example, the slope of the roof would be gradual enough to accumulate and retain snow in the winter, which would add an extra insulation layer,” Misley said.

Sustainable City Year Program Manager Megan Banks asked Alexandra Rempel, University of Oregon professor of renewable energy technologies, to teach the passive heating class for SCYP. Rempel had taught the same Passive Heating course for the 2016-2017 SCYP in Albany.

“La Pine has a great climate for solar passive heating,” Rempel said.

The class studied wind, sun and temperature patterns of La Pine and developed conceptual site designs for three development projects: a city center, a community greenhouse and balcony sunspaces.

“We learned quite a bit about the kinds of ways passive solar heating could be used,” Rempel said. The incorporation of passive heating technologies into the development designs will result in lower utility costs, she said, because the building will sustain its internal temperature without the use of fossil fuels.

With the students developing so many designs for each project, city officials had to decide which site design they would develop first. The city prioritized the city center design because La Pine is a new and emerging city.

That wasn't the only criteria. "We have to be very careful with cost," said Misley. "Incorporating certain passive solar principles, depending on the material and construction, could be a lot."

Misley has been pleased at how the students are continuing to incorporate feedback, maximize passive heating efficiency and minimize cost of construction.

"Overall, I am very encouraged and excited about the work that the students did and the role that their work is going to play in the city center project," he said.