



Sept, 17, 2015

Board of County Commissioners
Clackamas County

Members of the Board:

Presentation Announcing Graduation of 2015 Citizen Academy Participants

Purpose/Outcomes	This is the graduation ceremony of the the first cohort of the Clackamas County Citizen Academy, a group of 21 citizens who met monthly to learn more about Clackamas County Government.
Fiscal Impact	None
Funding Source	N/A
Safety Impact	N/A
Duration	N/A
Previous Action	None
Contact Person	Tracy Moreland, Community Relations Specialist – PGA 503-655-8520

BACKGROUND

In 2012 a group from the county’s Leadership Academy program created a proposal for a Citizen Academy as their group project and presented it to County Administration and Public and Government Affairs. The idea for a Citizen Academy grew from Leadership Academy discussions about the need to provide means for better understanding of county operations and services; provide a forum for individuals to ask questions and give feedback; and learn about ways they can get involved.

The first Clackamas County Citizen Academy was implemented in January 2015.

Public and Government Affairs created the online application, advertised for submissions and helped review the applicants with the Leadership Academy group and Deputy County Administrator Laurel Butman. The final cohort was a 21-member Citizen Academy group who attended sessions once a month for six months, focusing on different county departments and services. Each month, a county department or departments presented sessions about that department. Sessions consisted of presentations from staff, tours and select videos.

Session topics were:

- April: Introduction to County Government
- May: Department of Transportation and Development
- June: Water Environment Services
- July: Public Safety
- August: Tourism and Business and Community Services
- September: Health, Housing and Human Services



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The Leadership Academy members who created this proposal are Mike Bezner (Transportation and Development) Michelle Barrera (Juvenile), Marcus Mendoza (Sheriff's Office) and Mark Stotik (formerly from Employee Services).

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board recognize the Citizen Academy graduates and present them with certificates of graduation.

Respectfully submitted,

S/ Gary Schmidt

Gary Schmidt
Director, Public and Government Affairs