

Truly Doing **MORE** with Less!

By Don Newell, Operations Division Manager, Marion County Public Works

How does one public agency legally obtain services from another agency? Oregon law allows agencies to purchase services from each other by Intergovernmental Agreement or IGA. However the legal writing and maintenance of multiple agreements over time is very costly for everyone.



Now a new enhanced multiagency IGA called **MORE** is available to all public agencies and provides for a diversity of services. **MORE** is the acronym for **Managing Oregon Resources Efficiently**.

MORE replaces the very successful PMAT-IGA, which was used for 18 years by 32 agencies in Northwest Oregon for everything from fixing roads and bridges, engineering traffic lights, building speed humps, snow and ice removal, to moving large trees for fish habitat. **MORE** has broadened its scope in many dimensions over PMAT, including being a statewide IGA, which means any public agency in Oregon can obtain the services of another.

As described in the formal IGA, **MORE** allows public agencies to share resources including equipment, materials, and services for public works, municipal, transportation, engineering, construction, operations, maintenance, emergency management, and related activities.

We all understand that it is not fiscally feasible to have staff be experts in all areas, and specialized equipment is very expensive, such as road paint strippers at some \$450,000. **MORE** allows agencies to obtain these services from others, therefore truly *“Doing **MORE** With Less!”*

So what are some other advantages to **MORE**?

- **MORE has no expiration date.** Once an agency signs they remain a MORE member until they resign.
- **MORE has no financial caps.** One can do as little or as much as an agency likes.
- **MORE can be used in times of emergencies or urgency work.** FEMA requires that agencies have agreements in place to aid each other for cost reimbursements.
- **MORE is short and easy to exercise.** It is only two pages long, can be downloaded from the below website, and simply needs to sign by the agency and returned to Marion County. Being on the web allows the multi-agencies to exercise and maintain signed agreements at will, with virtually no administration cost.

So what else is on the **MORE** web page? The instructions of how to sign the IGA; PDF files of the signature pages of the **MORE**-IGA's agencies; and an electronic bulletin board to be used by agencies to post notices for everything from training announcements to equipment for sale. This is one page you will want to bookmark and visit often:

www.MOREoregon.com

So if you would like to do some common work or projects with another agency, save money by exchanging equipment, and/or share resources from everything to staff expertise to grader ice bits, take a look at the **MORE**-IGA, and discuss it with the your agency's decision makers. This may be the key tool to leverage your agency in truly *“Doing **MORE** with less”...or “Doing **MORE** “Yes!”*