

# City of Creswell

## Community Profile

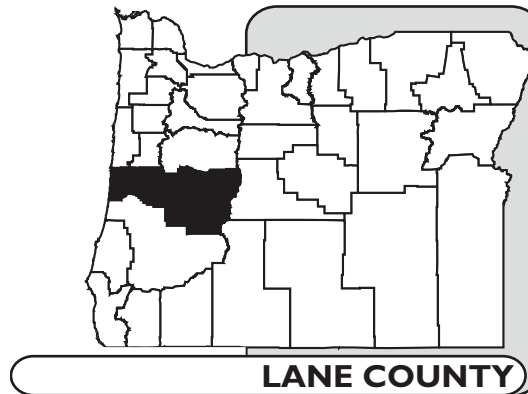
**Population** 4,650

**Location** Creswell

## Position Description

**Sponsor** City of Creswell

**Supervisor** Mark Shrives,  
City Administrator



**Assignment** The first project the RARE participant will work on is the Civic Center Visioning & Implementation Plan.

A building has been dedicated to the City for civic purposes. The City needs to determine the best use of the facility given a range of needs. Current ideas for the building include space for service providers such as Head Start or Story Time, sport court facility, recreation programs for pre-schoolers, or a facility for the South Lane Fire District. The City requires a visioning process to select the best fit for the site and the community. The RARE participant will conduct a visioning process and develop an implementation plan including the following tasks:

- Draft a public involvement program for the visioning process;
- Inventory existing civic/community programs and identify those with specific needs for a facility;
- Conduct a gaps analysis based on the inventory to identify services missing from the community;
- Perform a feasibility study to determine which program/service identified either in the inventory or the gaps analysis is the best fit for the community center;
- Work with staff and City groups to review, study and develop a vision for the civic center based on the findings and provide input on concept plan for the site;
- Draft site design concept plan (including any building refurbishments);
- Develop project schedule and preliminary budget;
- Identify potential funding sources and assist with fund acquisition (grant writing, for example);
- Present updates and findings to the City Council and Planning Commission.

The second project the RARE participant will work on is a Downtown Study. Creswell adopted a Downtown Plan in May 2001. The plan included a visioning process, established objectives and strategies, and identified a capital improvement list for the area. There is an opportunity to examine the linkages among the public facilities and services downtown (City Hall and Community Center) with the Civic Center to the north and with residential and commercial development in the east half of the City (literally across the railroad tracks). The RARE participant will evaluate progress to date on the implementation of the Downtown Plan, explore

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the role of civic uses in fulfilling the vision of the Downtown Plan and develop strategies and tasks for establishing downtown as the central hub connecting all areas of the City. The RARE participant will present updates and findings to the City Council and Planning Commission.

## RARE Participant



Raja Shah

Raj was born in Washington State, and raised near Orlando, Florida. In 2004 Raj received a Bachelor's degree from Georgia Tech in Mechanical Engineering, and then went on to work in the private sector. As an engineer, Raj worked to implement many green practices and to promote corporate sustainability.

Raj works for the City of Creswell on two main projects. First, Raj is working on the Civic Center Visioning & Implementation Plan. The City needs to determine the best use of a new city facility given a range of needs. Current ideas for the building include space for service providers such as Head Start or Story Time, sport court facility, recreation programs for pre-schoolers, or a facility for the South Lane Fire District. Raj is performing a visioning process to select the best fit for the site and the community, including a public involvement program, an inventory of existing civic and community programs with specific needs for a facility, a gaps analysis based on the inventory to identify services missing from the community, and a feasibility study to determine which program or service identified either in the inventory or the gaps analysis is the best fit for the community center.

Raj is also working with staff and City groups to review, study and develop a vision for the civic center based on the findings, as well as developing a draft site design concept plan, a project schedule and preliminary budget and identifying potential funding sources funding acquisition.

Creswell adopted a Downtown Plan in May 2001. The plan included a visioning process, established objectives and strategies, and identified a capital improvement list for the area. Raj is examining the linkages among the public facilities and services downtown (City Hall and Community Center) with the Civic Center to the north and with residential and commercial development in the east half of the City. Raj is working with the Planning Commission to assess progress to date on the implementation of the Downtown Plan, explore the role of civic uses in fulfilling the vision of the Downtown Plan and developing strategies and tasks for establishing downtown as the central hub connecting all areas of the City.