Cities of Nyssa and Vale

Community Profile

Population 3,210 (Nyssa)
2,080 (Vale)

Location Nyssa and Vale

Position Description

Sponsor Cities of Nyssa and Vale

Supervisor Roberta Donovan, City Manager

Assignment The City of Nyssa and the City of Vale currently have outdated zoning codes and comprehensive plans. The RARE participant is taking the lead updating the zoning codes and comprehensive plan for each city. Working with city managers, planning commissions, city attorneys and the public, the participant is reviewing the existing codes and comprehensive plans and identifying components of each that must be updated. The participant is responsible for presenting changes to city planning commissions and working with the city attorneys to craft effective ordinance language. Also, the participant is working with the Department of Land Conservation and Development to adhere to the legal process of zoning code changes and comprehensive plan amendments.

Additionally, the participant is working with the City of Nyssa on a number of special projects. Nyssa was recently awarded a grant to update the city code for “smart development.” The RARE participant is the primary contact and logistical coordinator of work sessions with private consultants and hearings with the public. The RARE participant is working with the parks committee to secure funding for the implementation of the master parks plan by identifying funding options and preparing grant applications. Finally, the RARE participant is acting as the City of Nyssa’s liaison to the Oregon Main Street Program as well as a local economic development group whose mission is to revitalize downtown and inspire economic development in the city.

RARE Participant

Jenny Blue grew up in Arizona and earned a BS in Public Planning with a focus on Land Use and Environmental Planning. She interned for a number of small cities in Arizona focusing on water resource management, community development, and accessory dwelling units. Jenny brings to her RARE position traditional planning skills as well as enthusiasm for new challenges.