

St. Helens, City of

Community Profile:

Population 8,505 (St. Helens)

Location North End of the Multnomah Channel of the Columbia River

Position Description:

Sponsor City of St. Helens

Supervisor Skip Baker, Planning Administrator

Assignment

The RARE participant is responsible for researching and implementing the update of Oregon Statewide Land Use Planning Goal 5 (open spaces scenic and historic areas and natural resources) and Goal 10 (housing). Goal 5 subtasks include inventorying and assessing wetlands, riparian corridors and fish and wildlife habitats within the St. Helens Urban Growth Boundary, and making presentations and reports explaining findings to citizens, the Planning Commission and the City Council. Goal 10 subtasks include researching housing stock in St. Helens, analyzing findings for affordability and availability, organizing a local chapter of Habitat for Humanity, organizing a citizens' advisory committee on affordable housing, and making presentations and reports explaining findings to citizens, the Planning Commission, and the City Council.

Required Skills

Good research skills, knowledge of Oregon's Land Use Planning laws, and ability to effectively communicate that knowledge to laypersons. Ability to schedule complex and interlocking projects.

RARE Member: *Jacob Brostoff - 1998-1999, Year 5 Participant*

Jacob received a Bachelor's of Arts in Linguistics from McGill University in Montreal, Canada in 1996. From there, he went to Poland to teach English. He is pursuing a Masters in Urban and Regional Planning at Portland State University. In his first year of RARE, Jacob worked on updating the natural resources and housing policies in the City of St. Helens Comprehensive Plan (Oregon Statewide Land Use Planning Goals 5 and 10). He also helped establish the Columbia County Habitat for Humanity affiliate and plan, organize volunteers and fundraise for a skateboard park. In addition, he worked with citizens to establish River Access goals and priorities for St. Helens. In his second year of RARE, Jacob is GIS Coordinator for St. Helens. In addition to implementing a city-wide GIS, he will continue to work with members of the community to strengthen and realize the goals of the skateboard park and Habitat for Humanity.