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**BUILDING CODES SYSTEM TO BE SCRUTINIZED AT PUBLIC
FORUMS IN OCTOBER**

(Salem) The Oregon Building Codes Division, the Association of Oregon Counties, and the League of Oregon Cities are hosting a series of public forums in October to look for ways to improve services and increase collaboration throughout the statewide building codes system.

“Oregon’s entire building codes system needs a tough inspection to make sure the structure is sound and the plumbing and electrical systems function as intended, so to speak,” said Joe Brewer, administrator of the Building Codes Division. “In the twenty-six years since it was established the statewide system has done much to ensure that buildings in Oregon are safe to use and occupy, but at the same time it has been a point of contention between state and local elected officials, building officials, the building industry, tradespeople, and consumers. That kind of conflict doesn’t serve anyone. We want these forums to be a starting point to identify problems and opportunities for improvement that we can do right now and that we can take to the next legislative session.”

The first forums are scheduled for:

Corvallis. Wednesday, **October 6** from 7 to 9 p.m. in the 1st Interstate Bank Room,
LaSells Stewart Center, 375 SW 26th Street.

Salem. Thursday, **October 7** from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Council Chambers,
Salem City Hall, 555 Liberty Street SE

Portland. Friday, **October 8** from 10 a.m. to noon in the Development Services Building,
1900 SW Fourth Avenue, Room C

More forums are scheduled for later in October in Bend, Ontario, Pendleton, Eugene, Grants Pass, and Coos Bay. Issues identified at the forums will be assigned to work groups to begin developing proposals for improvements.

Anyone with an interest in or experience with the building codes system is encouraged to attend.

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