



Director's Report for July & August 2026

Meeting Date: September 10, 2026
Department: Director's Office
lrapa-or.gov

Agenda Item No. 7
Staff Contact: Travis Knudsen
541-736-1056 ext. 217

I. EXECUTIVE HIGHLIGHTS

Key accomplishments, challenges, and priorities from the past month.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

July and August delivered the smoke season LRAPA spent the spring preparing for. July passed with no advisory. Then the first wildfire smoke intrusion hit first week of August. LRAPA issued an air quality advisory August 4 through August 6, and the Eugene-Springfield monitor peaked at an AQI of 195. It was the metro's worst smoke since 2020, and it occurred in front of a national audience while Eugene hosted the World Athletics U20 Championships. Staff joined 23 statewide smoke coordination calls from mid-July through early September.

Betty Nielsen, CPA, MBA, joined as Finance Manager on July 7, coming from Lane Council of Governments. Emma Lindemann started as Environmental Coordinator 1 on July 27. LRAPA now has 17.0 of 19.0 authorized FTE filled, with two positions held vacant. Staff also used the summer for technical training on control devices, dispersion modeling, fabric filters, asbestos inspection, and fugitive dust.

Community and partner work was a highlight. Matt Sorensen represented LRAPA and observed three Oregon Department of Forestry Smoke Management Rules Advisory Committee sessions, the Lane County Community Wildfire Protection Plan health workgroup, the regional public information officer social, and a Springfield Rotary presentation. LRAPA hosted the Rivers to Ridges ecological burn group as that coalition prepares for the 2026 prescribed burn season, and we installed a PurpleAir sensor at no cost at Eugene First United Methodist Church to support its work as a community resiliency hub. In early September we met with Representative Darin Harbick, Senator Floyd Prozanski, and Representative John Lively, with more scheduled through October. LRAPA has issued three Title V permits and 24 ACDPs year to date, and enforcement detail is in Attachment No. 3.

Internally, the agency worked on the systems that carry the daily load. Finance works to move payroll from semi-monthly to bi-weekly in October, staff published version 2.0 of the AI Use and Management Policy, and Lance Giles continued targeted fixes to LINFO while we build the case for real developer capacity. The FY26 audit with Pauly Rogers began August 1 with target completion December 31.

For September's Board meeting, the Board returns to ACDP program costs and fee structure, deferred from July. Board direction determines what staff write into the 2026 Permitting Rulemaking Package, which decides whether General Fund reserves hold above the four-month policy floor past FY31. The Board also reviews the local partner dues calculation for FY26-27. Both come back to the question the Board has been working since spring: what level of service Lane County wants from its air agency and how it is funded.

II. PROTECTING PUBLIC HEALTH & SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

Aligns with Customer/Stakeholder Perspective of the Balanced Scorecard framework and LRAPA's current goals 1, 2, and 5 which focus on public health protection, community engagement, and stakeholder relationships.

II.A. Air Quality Status & Trends for April 2026

*These metrics support **Goal 1 (Public Health Protection and Air Quality Education)** and **Goal 4 (Regional Air Monitoring and Analysis)**, tracking our performance against targets for "Good" and "Moderate" AQI days, data completeness, and timely reporting).*

August

Site	Date	Max AQI	Pollutant
Eug/Spfld	5-Aug-26	195	PM
Oak	6-Aug-26	160	PM
CottGrv	5-Aug-26	176	PM

AQI	Eug/Spfld	Oak	CottGrv	AQI Range	PM2.5 Range, ug/m3	Ozone Range, ppb
Good	21	23	21	0-50	0-9	0-54
Moderate	7	5	7	51-100	9.1-35.4	55-70
USG	0	1	1	101-150	35.5-55.4	71-85
Unhealthy	3	2	2	151-200	55.5-125.4	86-105
Very Unhealthy	0	0	0	201-300	125.5-225.4	106-200
Hazardous	0	0	0	301+	225.5+	201+

II.B. Community Response & Complaint Resolution

*This section supports **Goal 1 (Public Health Protection and Air Quality Education)** metrics for complaint response to demonstrates our commitment to addressing community concerns promptly and effectively.*

**Note: unique complaints in the (#)*

Category	Type	Count	July 2026 and August 2026						
Smoke Complaints: 40	Outdoor Burning (26)	32							
	Home Wood Heating	1							
	Recreational Fire (5)	5							
	Field Burn	2							
	Ecological Burn	0							
Industry: 8	Seneca Sawmill	0							
	International Paper	7							
	MWMC	0							
	Unspecified	1							
Asbestos: 0	Asbestos	0							
Notable: 23	Unknown	4							
	Fugitive Dust (2)	2							
	Other (17)	17							
TOTAL COMPLAINTS		71							

II.C. Smoke Management & Wildfire Resilience

This section aligns with **Goal 2 (Enhanced Wildfire Smoke Preparedness)**, tracking our smoke monitoring, advisory issuance, and coordination with state agencies, as well as smoke management activities for outdoor burning and home wood heating.

Outdoor Burning, 2026-2027 Season

LRAPA regulates outdoor burning in Lane County to protect air quality and public health. Under Title 47, LRAPA has authority to regulate open burning practices, including determining when burns can occur. LRAPA aims to allow burning whenever possible while preventing air quality deterioration. Outdoor burning is only curtailed when monitoring or forecasts show potential for unhealthy air quality impacts.

Periods of Curtailment				
Start	End	Areas	Curtailment	Reason
June 1, 2026	Oct. 2026	All Lane County	Full Prohibition	By Rule, Title 47-015(2)

Home Wood Heating, 2026-2027 Season

LRAPA regulates home wood heating under Title 16 to reduce PM2.5 emissions during periods of poor air quality. An advisory system (Yellow/Red Days) indicates when curtailment is needed. Yellow Day advisory request voluntary curtailment of wood burning except for those who depend on it as their primary heat source. Red Day advisories prohibit visible smoke from chimneys, with exemptions for economic hardship. Like outdoor burning, LRAPA only issues wood burning curtailment when air quality monitoring or forecasts indicate potential health impacts.

Periods of Curtailment		
Areas	Yellow Days	Red Days
Eugene/Springfield	0	0
Oakridge	0	0

The home wood heating season concluded in March and is closed for the summer months. It will reopen October 1.

Outdoor Burning Letter Permits, 2025-2026 Season

LRAPA has authority to issue outdoor burning letter permits under Title 47. These permits allow specified burning that would otherwise be prohibited. This program also supports ecological benefits of prescribed fire while protecting public health through strict oversight and timing. LRAPA coordinates closely with land managers to ensure burns are conducted with minimal air quality impacts.

Permit No.	Issue Date	Permittee	Location	Material	Volume
20B25-06-01	June 30, 2025	Rivers to Ridges Partnership	85 units in Lane County	Ecological Burning	1456 acres
20B25-11-01	November 17, 2025	Casey Jones	82578 Sprague Ln	Dexter	50 cubic yards
20B25-11-02	November 17, 2025	U.S. Fish & Wildlife	Hwy 36 & Alvadore Road	Ecological Burning	28 cubic yards
20B25-12-01	December 2, 2025	Scott Gielish	32960 Dillard Rd	Land-clearing	60 cubic yards
20B25-12-02	December 2, 2025	Scott Gielish	T18S R3W sec. 33 Next door to 32960 Dillard Rd	Forest type debris	500 cubic yards

Permit No.	Issue Date	Permittee	Location	Material	Volume
20B25-12-03	January 5, 2026	Willamalane Park & Rec District	205 Dorris Street, Springfield	Land-clearing	30 cubic yards
20B25-12-04	January 5, 2026	Port of Siuslaw	Map & Taxlot # 18-11-19-00-0011-00 (Rose Hill Rd), Florence	Land-clearing & demolition debris	69 cubic yards
20B26-01-02	January 26, 2026	Robbie Garcia	85393 Glenada Road	Land-clearing	60 cubic yards
20B26-03-01	March 24, 2026	Friends of Buford Park & Mt. Pisgah	Howard Buford Rec area - North Bottomlands, Meadowlark East	Forest slash debris	49 cubic yards
20B26-04-01	April 16, 2026	Chip Linn	82554 Siltcoos Station Road, Florence	Land-clearing debris	100 cubic yards
20B26-04-02	April 16, 2026	Clarence Dishner	T17S R12W Sec 25 TL 2604 on Ben Bunch Road, Florence	Land-clearing debris	70 cubic yards
20B26-04-03	April 27, 2026	Emerald Coalition	18707 Pataha Rd., Walton	Dimensional wood for a ceremonial burn	7 cubic yards
20B26-05-01	May 13, 2026	Nick Hong	80418 McKenzie Hwy, Springfield	Land clearing debris	26 cubic yards
20B26-05-02	May 19, 2026	Pete Carpani	Aspen Ridge Road, Veneta - Map and Tax Lot # 17-06-36-34-800	Forest slash/land clearing debris	10 cubic yards
20B26-06-01	June 30, 2026	Rivers to Ridges Partnership	Various locations in Lane County	Ecological Burning	1400 acres

Wildfire Smoke Intrusions & Air Quality Advisories

LRAPA participates in Oregon's Wildfire Response Protocol for Severe Smoke Episodes, a coordinated system that connects federal, state, and local agencies during significant smoke events. LRAPA's role includes issuing local air quality advisories, coordinating public health messaging, and representing Lane County's interests in state-level response planning.

Air Quality Advisories Issued

Start Date	End Date	Areas Affected	Primary Pollutant
08-4-2026	08-6-2026	Lane County	PM2.5/Wildfire

Oregon Wildfire Response Protocol for Severe Smoke Episodes Meetings

Date	Topic	Advisory Issued
05-07-2026	Prep for Wildfire Coordination Calls	n/a
07-16-2026	Statewide Wildfire Smoke & Ozone Call	No
07-17-2026	Statewide Wildfire Smoke & Ozone Call	No
07-20-2026	Statewide Wildfire Smoke Call	No
07-22-2026	Statewide Wildfire Smoke Call	No
07-24-2026	Statewide Wildfire Smoke Call	No
07-27-2026	Statewide Wildfire Smoke Call	No
07-29-2026	Statewide Wildfire Smoke Call	No

Oregon Wildfire Response Protocol for Severe Smoke Episodes Meetings

Date	Topic	Advisory Issued
07-31-2026	Statewide Wildfire Smoke Call	No
08-04-2026	Statewide Wildfire Smoke Call	Yes
08-06-2026	Statewide Wildfire Smoke Call	No
08-07-2026	Statewide Wildfire Smoke Call	No
08-10-2026	Statewide Wildfire Smoke Call	No
08-12-2026	Statewide Wildfire Smoke Call	No
08-14-2026	Statewide Wildfire Smoke Call	No
08-17-2026	Statewide Wildfire Smoke Call	No
08-19-2026	Statewide Wildfire Smoke Call	No
08-21-2026	Statewide Wildfire Smoke Call	No
08-24-2026	Statewide Wildfire Smoke Call	No
08-26-2026	Statewide Wildfire Smoke Call	No
08-28-2026	Statewide Wildfire Smoke Call	No
08-31-2026	Statewide Wildfire Smoke Call	No
09-02-2026	Statewide Wildfire Smoke Call	No
09-04-2026	Statewide Wildfire Smoke Call	No

II.D. Community Outreach, Education, & Building Partnerships

*This section supports **Goal 5 (Partnerships and Interagency Coordination)** metrics for partner engagement and stakeholder communication, strengthening relationships with stakeholders and enhancing public understanding of air quality issues.*

Media Log

Date	Media	Reporter	Topic
1-5-2026	Register Guard	Alan Torres	Amazon purchases \$2M lot for e-commerce LINK
1-6-2026	Lookout	Michael Zhang	Deed shows land owned by Amazon LINK
1-7-2026	DJC Oregon	Alan Torres	Amazon purchases \$2M lot LINK
1-9-2026	KEZI	News Staff	Air stagnation & Yellow HWH LINK
1-9-2026	KLCC	News Staff	Air stagnation & Yellow HWH LINK
1-13-2026	Prism News	Elena Rodriguez	Air stagnation & Yellow HWH LINK
1-16-2026	Register Guard	Alan Torres	Freezing Temps and AQ LINK
2-4-2026	Lookout	Ashli Blow	Tear-gas effects on Air Quality LINK
2-20-2026	Register Guard	Alan Torres	Eugene weighs 2 versions of industrial health standards LINK
3-19-2026	KEZI	News Staff	Mohawk Valley Fire Chief Urges Good Outdoor Burn Practices LINK
3-20-2026	Daily Dispatch	News Staff	Mohawk Valley Fire Chief Urges Good Outdoor Burn Practices LINK
4-22-2026	Lookout Eug-Spring	Ashli Blow	J.H. Baxter's pollution lingers near thousands in Bethel LINK
4-22-2026	Lookout Eug-Spring	Ashli Blow	Eugene-Springfield ranks No. 2 for worst air in U.S., lung association says LINK
4-22-2026	KEZI	Tayten Torgimson	Eugene-Springfield area ranks among worst U.S. cities for air pollution LINK
4-23-2026	KMTR	Tiffany Lewis	Air agency cites wildfire smoke as key factor in Lung Association F grade LINK
4-23-2026	KVAL	Tiffany Lewis	Air agency cites wildfire smoke as key factor in Lung Association F grade LINK
4-28-2026	KLCC	Brian Bull	Air Quality for Eug. Spring. Listed among worst in US LINK
5-29-2026	KEZI	News Staff	Burn ban starts May 31 in Lane County LINK

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<i>Date</i>	<i>Media</i>	<i>Reporter</i>	<i>Topic</i>
5-29-2026	KMTR	News Staff	Burn ban starts May 31 in Lane County LINK
5-29-2026	KLCC	News Staff	Burn ban starts May 31 in Lane County LINK
5-29-2026	KVAL	News Staff	Burn ban starts May 31 in Lane County LINK
6-1-2026	KVAL	News Staff	LRAPA urges prep for wildfire smoke LINK
6-1-2026	KEZI	News Staff	Wildfire Smoke prep week LINK
6-4-2026	KLCC	News Staff	Wildfire Smoke prep week LINK
6-17-2026	KVAL	News Staff	Air Quality Impacted by Wildfire Smoke LINK
6-17-2026	KMTR	News Staff	Air Quality Impacted by Wildfire Smoke LINK
7-6-26	Register Guard	Hannarose McGuinness	American Lung Association Report Breakdown LINK
7-14-26	KLCC	Michael Dunne	American Lung Assoc. Report Breakdown LINK
7-15-26	KMTR	Avery Elowitt	Wildfire smoke readiness LINK
7-15-26	KATU	Avery Elowitt	Wildfire Smoke Readiness LINK
7-15-26	KVAL	Avery Elowitt	Wildfire Smoke Readiness LINK
7-21-26	Lookout Eug-Spring	Ashli Blow	Air quality nears unhealthy range LINK
8-3-26	Lookout Eug-Spring	Ashli Blow	Weyerhaeuser Title V Permit Renewal / Cleaner Air Oregon questions and follow-up before publication.
8-3-26	Register Guard	Alan Torres	Weyerhaeuser Title V Permit #208256 inquiry regarding permit impacts, emissions, and public comments. Wildfire smoke intrusions.
8-3-26	KEZI	News Staff	Smoke and heat arrive in Lane County this week LINK
8-3-26	KVAL	News Staff	Wildfire Smoke Impacts Lane County AQ LINK
8-3-26	KLCC	Rachael McDonald	Smoke expected to creep into eastern Lane County LINK
8-4-26	Lookout Eug-Spring	Ashli Blow	Weyerhaeuser air permit renewal LINK
8-4-26	KEZI	Eli Kuhn	Lane County air advisory clouds World Athletics U20 Championships LINK
8-4-26	KLCC	KLCC Staff	Most of OR under AQ advisory LINK
8-4-26	KVAL	News Staff	AQ advisory for Lane County due to Wildfire LINK
8-5-26	Lookout Eug-Spring	Ashli Blow	Wildfire Smoke Traps 'unhealthy' air in region LINK
8-5-26	Lookout Eug-Spring	Owen Murray	World Athletics U20 Championships monitor wildfire smoke LINK
8-5-26	Register Guard	Alan Torres	Eug-Spring has 4 th worst AQ in Oregon LINK
8-5-26	Coast Radio	George Henry	Poor Air Quality LINK
8-5-26	Register Guard	Chris Hansen	Poor AQ, notable performances at World U20 LINK
8-6-26	KEZI	News Staff	Worst smoke since '20 in Lane County finally easing LINK
8-6-26	KLCC	KLCC Staff	Relief from smoky air coming to valley LINK
8-6-26	KXCR 90.7 FM	Larry Bloomfield	Interview request regarding Lane County wildfire smoke and air quality impacts. Responded with offers for interview, no response.
8-6-26	Register Guard	Alan Torres	Another day of poor AQI prompts cancellations LINK
8-7-26	KEZI	News Staff	Smoke and heat linger Fri. LINK
8-24-26	Lookout Eug-Spring	Leo Brown	Light smoke in valley 8/24 LINK
8-25-26	Register Guard	Bayla Orton	Light smoke intrusion 8/24. LINK
8-31-26	KMTR	News Staff	Wildfire smoke pushes into Valley LINK

Media Log

Date	Media	Reporter	Topic
8-31-26	Register Guard	Alan Torres	Wildfire smoke pushes into Valley LINK
8-31-26	KVAL	News Staff	Wildfire smoke pushes into valley LINK
8-31-26	Lookout Eug-Spring	Leo Brown	Mt. Hood Fire brings smoke LINK
9-1-26	Lookout Eug-Spring	Ashli Blow	What is in wildfire smoke? LINK

Lane County Public Information Officer Social (July 14th, Public House, Springfield)

Matt Sorensen, Public Affairs Manager, attended the Lane County Public Information Officer social. Well over 30 regional PIOs from across sectors attended. LRAPA was able to connect with representatives from Lane County, City of Eugene, City of Springfield, the University of Oregon, Dept. of Environmental Quality, and Springfield School District.

Oregon Dept. of Forestry Smoke Management Rules Advisory Committee (RAC) (July 15th, Online)

Matt Sorensen, Public Affairs Manager, attended the rule development meeting of the Oregon Department of Forestry's Smoke Management Rules Advisory Committee, led by Levi Hopkins (ODF). The RAC is reviewing and updating Oregon's Smoke Management rules, with meetings expected to continue through summer and into fall. LRAPA is monitoring this process closely, as ODF's smoke management rules directly intersect with LRAPA's own prescribed burning permit authority and regional air quality coordination.

Lane County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) (July 30th, Online)

Matt Sorensen, Public Affairs Manager, represented LRAPA at the Lane County CWPP public and environmental health workgroup session. This workgroup is focused on reviewing aspects of the CWPP that impact public and environmental health. The group reviewed ideas and action steps developed at the recent regional CWPP workshops.

PurpleAir Sensor Installation- Eugene First United Methodist Resiliency Hub (July 30th, Eugene)

LRAPA installed a PurpleAir sensor at Eugene First United Methodist Church at no cost, in response to a request from Jo Rodgers (Lane County Public Health, CAC member) to support its work to become a resiliency hub and emergency center for Lane County. The sensor's data will be publicly available. LRAPA continues to coordinate with Lane County Public Health and community partners on emergency preparedness and public access to air quality data.

Rivers to Ridges (R2R) Ecological Burn Group (August 5th, LRAPA Office)

LRAPA hosted the Rivers to Ridges ecological burn group, a coalition of more than 12 organizations across the lower Willamette Valley, led by Ian Appow (Upper Willamette Soil & Water Conservation District). R2R is preparing for the 2026 prescribed burn season. LRAPA's role in reviewing and permitting prescribed burns makes this an important touchpoint and partnership for coordinating smoke management and air quality considerations across the region.

Oregon Dept. of Forestry Smoke Management Rules Advisory Committee (RAC) (Aug. 12th, Online)

Matt Sorensen, Public Affairs Manager, attended the rule development meeting of the Oregon Department of Forestry's Smoke Management Rules Advisory Committee, led by Levi Hopkins (ODF).

Eugene Clean Energy Fund Policy Forum Breakfast (August 13th, Eugene Downtown Athletic Club)

Matt Sorensen, Public Affairs Manager, attended a Eugene Chamber policy forum on the proposed Eugene Clean Energy Fund/tax, featuring Andrew Hoan (Portland Metro Chamber), Preston Mann (Oregon Business & Industry), and Brent Laird (Baker Tilly, Eugene). The panel discussed the potential impacts on Eugene's business climate, lessons from Portland's comparable fund, and how similar policies have played out economically in

Portland. If approved, the measure could mean additional costs for some regulated businesses, as well as funding for local clean energy, energy efficiency, and green infrastructure projects.

Interview KXCR 90.7 FM (August 13th, Online)

Matt Sorensen, Public Affairs Manager, was interviewed by Larry Bloomfield from KXCR 90.7 to discuss air quality, how to interpret and understand the Air Quality Index, and the composition of the pollutants in our airshed.

Presentation to Springfield Rotary- LRAPA 101 (August 19th, Springfield Elks Club)

Matt Sorensen, Public Affairs Manager, presented "LRAPA 101" to 40 Springfield Rotarians, covering the agency's mission, authority, and organizational structure, along with an overview of air quality basics and how to interpret the Air Quality Index. The presentation also touched on the composition of pollutants in our local airshed and an introduction to asbestos regulation.

Oregon Dept. of Forestry Smoke Management Rules Advisory Committee (RAC) (Aug. 26th, Online)

Matt Sorensen, Public Affairs Manager, attended the rule development meeting of the Oregon Department of Forestry's Smoke Management Rules Advisory Committee, led by Levi Hopkins (ODF).

Beyond Toxics CleanLane Public Forum (August 27th, Online)

Matt Sorensen, Public Affairs Manager, attended the public forum hosted by Beyond Toxics, an advocacy organization supporting the proposed CleanLane waste processing facility in Lane County, to stay informed on public discussion and community perspectives regarding the project, independent of any organization's advocacy position. The forum covered the project's stated environmental and economic goals, noted opposition to the project from local haulers, and included information on public engagement opportunities, followed by audience Q&A.

Meetings with Regional Legislators (September 1st and 2nd, In-person & Online)

Travis Knudsen, Executive Director, and Matt Sorensen, Public Affairs Manager, met with regional legislators to build relationships, educate them about LRAPA, and discuss air quality or asbestos-related issues affecting their districts. Meetings included Rep. Darin Harbick (House District 12), Sen. Floyd Prozanski (Senate District 4), and Rep. John Lively (House District 7). Additional meetings with other elected officials are scheduled through October.

III. MAINTAINING REGULATORY EXCELLENCE

Aligns with Internal Process Perspective of the Balanced Scorecard framework and LRAPA's current goals 3 and 4—ensuring compliance with air quality standards through effective monitoring, permitting, and enforcement.

III.A. Stationary Source Permitting Progress & Efficiency

This section supports Goal 3 (Public Health Protection and Air Quality Education) metrics for permit issuance timeliness, permit backlog rate, and area NAAQS compliance.

Permitted Sources

- Currently 15 sources hold a Title V operating permit in Lane County.
- Currently approximately 275 sources hold an ACDP.

Permits in Queue			
Category of Permit Activity	Title V	ACDP	Total In Queue
New	-	2	2
Renewals	3	6	9
Modifications	1	1	2
Constructions	1	-	1
Terminated Permits	-	1	1

Stationary Sources Permits Issued, Year-to-Date

- Title V Operating Permits: 3
- Air Contaminant Discharge Permits: 24

Permits on public notice from July 1 to August 31, 2026		
Source Number and Name	Reason for Public Notice	Type of Permit
208893 Wildish Building Materials Co.	Renewal	Standard ACDP renewal on public notice July 15, 2026 through August 18, 2026
208256 Weyerhaeuser NR Company – Eugene EWP	Renewal	Title V Operating Permit renewal on public notice July 30, 2026 through September 3, 2026
200059 A&K Development Co/Pacific Metal Fab, LLC	Initial permit	New Simple ACDP proposed for a source already operating, including CAO risk limitations, on public notice August 28, 2026 through October 1, 2026

Permit Backlog as of September 1, 2026			
Permit Type	Permits by Type	Permits Extended Administratively	Percentage of Total (%)
Title V	15	3	20%
Standard	24	4	17%
Simple	25	2	8%
Total	64	9	15%

III.B. Asbestos Program Oversight

This section supports Goal 3 (Public Health Protection and Air Quality Education) initiatives related to operating the asbestos program, including inspections and rule updates. LRAPA protects public health from asbestos hazards through effective oversight and education.

LRAPA administers the asbestos program in Lane County under title 43. This program regulates the

handling, removal, and disposal of asbestos-containing materials to prevent public exposure to this hazardous substance. LRAPA reviews asbestos survey reports, processes abatement notifications, conducts inspections, and enforces compliance with asbestos regulations to protect workers and the public.

Asbestos Notices July 1, 2026 to August 31, 2026		Year-to-Date ↓					
Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Total Asbestos Abatement Notices	439	408	465	466	436	431	282

III.C. Enforcement

*This section supports **Goal 3 (Public Health Protection and Air Quality Education)** metrics for enforcement action resolution and evaluations completed. The enforcement program ensures that regulations are followed, and violations are addressed.*

LRAPA's compliance program ensures that air quality regulations are followed by stationary sources, asbestos contractors, and the general public. This section provides an overview of enforcement actions taken during the reporting period, including notices of non-compliance, civil penalties, and case resolutions.

Enforcement July 1, 2026 to August 31, 2026					
Category of Violation	New	Follow-Up Action	Pending	Closed	Total
Asbestos	-	-	2	3	5
Industrial	2	-	2	2	6
Outdoor Burning	-	-	5	1	6
Fugitive Dust	-	-	-	-	-
Home Wood Heating	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	2	-	9	6	17

Attachment No. 3: July and August 2026, Enforcement Actions Detail Report.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Notices of Non-compliance and Warnings	15	21	24	19	7	18	29
Notices of Violation with Civil Penalties	26	17	24	15	5	12	9

IV. STRENGTHENING ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY

Aligns with Learning & Growth Perspective of the Balanced Scorecard framework and LRAPA's current goal 6—developing staff capabilities and improving operational systems.

IV.A. Staff Development & Agency Growth

This section supports Goal 6 (Organizational Excellence and Operational Efficiency) metrics focused on staff retention, professional development, and employee satisfaction, essential for achieving operational excellence.

LRAPA maintains a skilled workforce to carry out our mission of protecting air quality in Lane County. This section provides an overview of our current staffing levels, vacancies, and professional development activities. Our commitment to staff development ensures we have the expertise needed to address complex air quality challenges effectively.

Department	FTE	Vacancies
Administration	5.0	0.0
Operations	10.0	2.0
Finance	2.0	0.0
Technical services	2.0	0.0
Total	19.0	2.0
<i>Agency at 89% of staffing capacity</i>		

LRAPA currently maintains 19.0 FTE across four departments. We presently have 17.0 FTE filled, representing 89% of our authorized staffing capacity.

The agency successfully completed recruitment for two key positions. Betty Nielsen joined LRAPA as Finance Manager on July 7th. Betty brings extensive financial management experience and comes to us from Lane Council of Governments (LCOG). She holds a CPA credential and will provide valuable expertise in strengthening LRAPA's financial operations and accounting functions.

Emma Lindemann began as Environmental Coordinator 1 on July 27th. Emma joins LRAPA from a background in office management and project coordination with a small regulatory-focused organization in Springfield, where she supervised staff and coordinated projects with state regulators including DEQ. Her experience in managing operations and stakeholder coordination will be a strong addition to our team.

Two positions continue to be held vacant as we navigate federal budget uncertainty and assess operational priorities. This cautious approach maintains financial flexibility while ensuring LRAPA can continue delivering essential air quality protection services to Lane County.

LRAPA remains committed to thoughtful workforce planning and staff development strategies that balance operational needs with fiscal responsibility during this period of budget uncertainty.

Staff Professional Development, Year-to-Date

Training	Participation	Completion Date	Provider
Introduction to Continuous Monitoring Systems	3	January	Air Knowledge
Observing Source Tests	1	January	Air Knowledge
Regulation of Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs) from Stationary Sources	3	January	Air Knowledge
Compliance Assurance Monitoring	4	February	WESTAR

Staff Professional Development, Year-to-Date

Training	Participation	Completion Date	Provider
Aggregate, Asphalt, & Concrete Batching Plants	2	February	WESTAR
Function of Common Air Pollution Control Devices	1	February	WESTAR
Wage & Service Record Submission	1	February	PERS
What's New in ASAP	1	February	US Department of Treasury
CIS Annual Conference	1	February	CIS
Effective Permit Writing	2	March	WESTAR
Particulate Matter Control Devices	5	March	WESTAR
Unused Sick Leave Reporting	1	March	PERS
CPR/AED/First Aid	8	April	
Air Toxics & Regulating Hazardous Air	2	April	WESTAR
Nox Control & Regulation	2	April	WESTAR
Northwest Communicators Conference: The High Ground-Reaching the Summit of PR Leadership	1	April	PRSA Oregon
Cascade Health Leadership Development Series	2	May (completed)	Cascade Health
Payroll – Overtime Categorization in Caselle	1	May	Caselle
Finance – Connect Online Accounts Payable	1	May	Caselle
Get Started with Revver AI + Caselle Invoice Processing	1	May	Caselle
Transitioning from Your 3 rd Party Payment Provider	1	May	Caselle
Landfill Gas Control Facilities	1	May	Air Knowledge
Stationary Gas Turbines	1	May	WESTAR
Industrial Boilers	2	May	WESTAR
Fugitive Volatile Organic Compounds	3	May	WESTAR
Payroll Refresher – Pay Codes	1	June	Caselle
Sources & Control of Volatile Organic Air Pollutants	2	June	WESTAR
ASAP.gov: How to Make Payment Requests	1	June	EPA
Advanced Inspector Training	1	June	WESTAR
Theory & Application of Air Pollution Control Devices	2	July	Air Knowledge
2026 Regional, State, and Local Dispersion Modelers' Workshop	1	July	EPA
Fabric Filters	2	July	WESTAR
Asbestos	2	July	WESTAR
How Local Governments Can Reduce Cyber Risk Without Increasing IT Headcount	1	July	Caselle
PERS Reporting for a Local Government	3	July	PERS
Payroll Refresher: Employee Profiles	1	July	Caselle
A/R Advanced Routines	1	July	Caselle
Picking Up the Slack and Filling Gaps: How Caselle back-office services help local governments	1	July	Caselle
Simplify Billing with Caselle Accounts Receivable	1	July	Caselle
Fugitive Dust	1	August	Air Knowledge

Theory & Application of Air Pollution Control Devices (July 7th-9th, virtual)

Staff completed this two-day course providing comprehensive overview of emissions control techniques for specific air pollutants. The training covered control methods for power plant emissions, nitrogen oxides (NOx), and particulate matter (PM), as well as volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and hazardous air pollutants (HAPs). The course included detailed instruction on specific control technologies including cyclones, baghouses, electrostatic precipitators (ESPs), scrubbers, particulate filters, and gas-fired internal combustion engine controls. This training strengthens staff's technical capacity to evaluate emission control systems, assess control device effectiveness, and conduct facility reviews involving pollution control equipment.

2026 Regional, State, and Local Dispersion Modelers' Workshop (July 14th-July 16th, virtual)

Staff attended this three-day EPA workshop for air quality dispersion modeling professionals, held in Bloomington, Minnesota. The workshop provided a forum for co-regulatory air permitting agencies to interface with EPA's Air Quality Modeling Group on air quality modeling practices, model development activities, and issues affecting air permitting regulators. The workshop covered current modeling approaches, technical updates, and best practices relevant to air quality planning and permitting. This training keeps LRAPA staff informed of current EPA modeling standards and approaches that inform air quality regulatory decisions and permit reviews.

Fabric Filters (July 28th, virtual)

Staff completed this one-day WESTAR course on baghouse (fabric filter) technology and operations. The training covered baghouse types, design principles, operational theory, and applicable regulations. The course addressed permit conditions for baghouses, inspection procedures, and troubleshooting and maintenance issues. Topics included fabric filtration principles, operation and maintenance problems, and inspection protocols. This training enables staff to effectively evaluate baghouse equipment, assess compliance, and incorporate appropriate permit conditions for facilities using fabric filter control devices.

Asbestos Training (July 29th, virtual)

Staff attended this one-day WESTAR course designed for air pollution inspectors addressing asbestos issues and compliance. The training covered health effects of asbestos exposure, demolition and renovation NESHAP requirements for asbestos-containing buildings, and inspector safety procedures. Topics included contamination prevention, containment practices, sampling procedures, chain of custody, and documentation requirements. The course emphasized inspector safety and effective inspection techniques for asbestos-related compliance determination and case development. This training strengthens inspection capabilities for assessing asbestos compliance and developing enforcement actions when violations are identified.

How Local Governments Can Reduce Cyber Risk without Increasing IT Headcount (July 7th, virtual)

Staff attended this Caselle webinar focused on cybersecurity strategies for local government agencies with limited IT resources. The training addressed best practices for identifying and managing cyber risks, implementing cost-effective security measures, and protecting critical government data and systems without requiring expanded IT staffing. This training supports LRAPA's efforts to maintain secure operations and protect sensitive agency and citizen information while managing operational costs.

Payroll Refresher: Employee Profiles (July 8th, virtual)

Staff completed this Caselle webinar providing refresher training on employee profile setup and management in the payroll system. The training covered how to maintain accurate employee records, configure employee profile fields, and ensure payroll processing accuracy through proper profile maintenance. This training ensures Finance staff can effectively manage employee information and support accurate payroll administration.

Accounts Receivable Advanced Routines (July 15th, virtual)

Staff attended this Caselle webinar on advanced accounts receivable functions and features. The training covered complex AR workflows, advanced routine procedures, reporting capabilities, and best practices for managing receivables. This training enhances Finance staff's ability to effectively manage revenue collection, apply advanced processing techniques, and utilize AR reporting for financial management.

Picking Up the Slack and Filling the Gaps: How Caselle Back-Office Services Help Local Governments (July 16th, virtual)

Staff attended this Caselle webinar on available back-office support services offered to local government agencies. The training covered services and support options available through Caselle to assist with accounting, payroll, and finance functions, and how agencies can leverage these services to address operational gaps and increase efficiency. This training informs staff of available resources and support options that can strengthen agency operations.

Simplify Billing with Caselle Accounts Receivable (July 21st, virtual)

Staff completed this Caselle webinar on streamlining billing and accounts receivable operations. The training covered features and functionality within Caselle AR modules designed to simplify and automate billing processes, reduce manual data entry, and improve billing accuracy and efficiency. This training enables Finance staff to optimize billing workflows and improve the effectiveness of revenue collection processes.

PERS Reporting Webinar (July 22nd, virtual)

Staff attended this Oregon PERS employer reporting webinar addressing current compliance requirements and reporting procedures. The training covered PERS reporting obligations for employers, EDX system updates and functionality, reporting deadlines and requirements, and resources available through the PERS Employer Service Center. This training ensures LRAPA staff remain current on PERS reporting compliance and can effectively manage employer reporting responsibilities.

Fugitive Dust (August 25th, virtual)

Staff completed this one-day planning course on fugitive dust control and management. The training covered the health effects of particulate matter (PM10) pollution, identification of fugitive dust sources, and dust control measures appropriate for various operations. The course addressed fugitive dust regulations and requirements, dust control plan development, and visible dust emission testing methods. This training strengthens staff's capacity to evaluate dust control measures for facilities, develop effective permit conditions addressing fugitive emissions, and assess compliance with fugitive dust regulations.

IV.B. Operational Improvements & Innovation

This section supports Goal 6 (Organizational Excellence and Operational Efficiency) metrics for technology adoption and systems modernization, enhancing our efficiency and effectiveness in serving Lane County.

LRAPA is working to improve our systems and processes to enhance efficiency and effectiveness. These improvements support our ability to fulfill our mission and provide better service to the public. Current initiatives focus on technology upgrades, document management, and standardized procedures.

Current activities underway:

LINFO Database Upgrade

Lance Giles, Technical Services Manager, continues to make small, achievable fixes to LINFO through AI-assisted development. Staff are documenting known bugs and user-interface improvements and are building the case for dedicated developer capacity, potentially including a direct hire. That need connects directly to the Systems and

Information Investment category in the ACDP fee structure before the Board today, which would fund an enforcement module within LINFO, broader data system work, and a refresh of aging hardware.

Payroll Conversion to Bi-Weekly

Finance is working to move the agency from semi-monthly to bi-weekly payroll in October. The work includes Caselle configuration, revised timesheet procedures, leave accrual adjustments, and reconciliation of pay periods across the transition. Staff were advised of the change in the first week of August to give employees time to plan for the shift in pay cadence. Bi-weekly periods align LRAPA with common practice among comparable Oregon public agencies and simplify overtime calculation. They also give the agency cleaner pay periods to allocate staff time across funds and grants, which supports the cost allocation work ahead.

Finance Operations and Resolution 26-01

Betty Nielsen, Finance Manager, started July 7 and has been building familiarity with LRAPA's setup of Caselle, the FY27 budget, and LRAPA's grant structure. With a Finance Manager in place, staff can reactivate the Caselle support ticket for the subsidiary ledger mapping correction committed to under Resolution 26-01. Progress has been made with more detailed report planned for the Board. The FY26 audit with Pauly Rogers began August 1.

Standard Operating Procedures and AI Practice

The AI Use and Management Policy (v2.0) is published and in effect. It grew out of April's Claude Club session, where staff described how their AI use had evolved and gave direct input on the policy, including its expanded treatment of skills. Staff continue to build agency-specific tools inside that policy, with current work supporting board minutes, staff reports, and standard operating procedures.

V. ENSURING FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

Aligns with Financial Stewardship Perspective of goal 7—managing financial resources effectively and transparently.

V.A. Budget Performance & Stability

This section supports Goal 7 (Financial Sustainability and Transparency) metrics for budget variance and maintaining adequate reserves (4 months of operating budget), ensuring LRAPA can fulfill its mission consistently.

Three financial updates accompany this report under Agenda item number 8. The June 2026 update closes FY26. The July and August 2026 updates open FY27. Percentages below follow the financial update convention, which measures actuals against the year-to-date budget target rather than the full annual budget.

FY26 Close, as of June 30, 2026

FY26 Line Items to Note: The following line items finished the year above 91% of the annual budget.

- **General Fund** Personnel Services finished at 93.28% of the annual budget.
- **Special Revenue Fund (Title V)** Personnel Services finished at 91.17% of our annual budget.

FY26 Summary of Expenditures: At the completion of the fiscal year, total spending finished below budget in each of the LRAPA funds:

- **General Fund** Total Actual Expenditures as a % of Budgeted Annual Expenditures: **80.57%**
- **Special Revenue Fund** Total Actual Expenditures as a % of Budgeted Annual Expenditures: **87.59%**
- **Grant Fund Total** Actual Expenditures as a % of Budgeted Annual Expenditures: **48.95%**
- **All Funds Consolidated** Actual Expenditures as a % of Budgeted Annual Expenditures: **68.56%**

Grant Fund Details:

- **Targeted Airshed Grant 2.0**
TAG 2.0 EPA reimbursement draws were paused through the fiscal year close while staff completed a reclassification batch and FY26 audit preparation. That pause held FY26 grant revenue at its March level and carried a negative Grant Fund balance of \$247,553 into FY27. Revenue catches up once draws resume.

FY27 to Date, as of August 31, 2026

The summary below reflects the August report. Two months into the fiscal year, the year-to-date budget target is 16.67% of the annual budget.

FY27 Line Items to Note: The following line items are above 91% of the year-to-date budget target.

- **General Fund** Capital Outlay is at 343% of our target amount of 17% the year-to-date target because of the purchase of a new truck. This is a timing item against an \$80,000 annual capital budget, of which \$45,796 has been spent.
- **Special Revenue Fund (Title V)**, nothing to report.
- **Grant Fund** Personnel Services line item is at 148% the year-to-date target, because of paying out five eligible employees 40 hours of their vacation banks through August.

General Fund Personnel Services is at 86.30% of the year-to-date target for the same vacation payout reason. Federal EPA revenue and most State DEQ revenue have not yet been received, which is normal timing at this point in the year.

FY27 Summary of Expenditures: As of August 31, 2026, spending is below the year-to-date budget target in each of the LRAPA funds.

- **General Fund** Total Actual Expenditures as a % of the year-to-date budget target: **81.28%**
- **Special Revenue Fund** Total Actual Expenditures as a % of Budgeted Annual Expenditures: **61.74%**

- **Grant Fund Total** Actual Expenditures as a % of Budgeted Annual Expenditures: **26.88%**
- **All Funds Consolidated** Actual Expenditures as a % of Budgeted Annual Expenditures: **61.90%**

Grant Fund Details

- **Targeted Airshed Grant TAG 2.0** (January 2022 – August 2027), as of June 30, 2026
 - Total grant amount: \$2,739,425
 - Spent to date: \$893,924
 - Remaining grant balance: \$1,845,501
 - Awaiting federal reimbursement: \$331,303
 - Percentage of grant awaiting reimbursement: 11.68%

EPA reimbursement draws are scheduled.

V.B. Financial Transparency & Reporting

*This section supports **Goal 7 (Financial Sustainability and Transparency)** metrics for financial reports provided to the Board (target: monthly) and timely audit completion (target: before December 31). Transparency in financial matters builds trust with our stakeholders and ensures accountability.*

	Status	Completion Date
Budget FY27	Adopted	May 2026
Interim Audit FY26	Complete	July 2026
Audit FY26 (Current Year)	Underway	December 31, 2026
Budget FY28	To be drafted	March 2027

Auditor Update

The FY26 audit with Pauly Rogers is underway. The Auditor's Team Lead has been working through beginning balance testing, which is standard when a new firm picks up an engagement and covers the FY2025 balances carried forward. Betty Nielsen completed a reconciliation of the accounts payable subsidiary ledger to the general ledger by fund, which let the auditors select their AP samples in July. Staff provided bank reconciliation evidence for the KeyBank operating account covering August 2025 through May 2026. Management responses on the final prep list items covering legal services, contracts, related party transactions, and non-federal grants were submitted August 12. Staff completed a capital assets review on August 31 that identified reclassifications in the building and building improvement lines, with an action plan provided to the auditors. Target completion remains December 31, 2026.

VI. LRAPA STRATEGIC GOALS REFERENCE SHEET

These ongoing and sustained goals are designed to ensure comprehensive performance management across four key perspectives. This reference sheet provides an overview of each strategic goal and its associated performance metrics.

MISSION: To protect public health, quality of life and the environment as a leader and advocate for the continuous improvement of air quality in Lane County.

VISION: Community partners working together to ensure clean air for everyone.

GOAL 1: Public Health Protection and Air Quality Education

Protect public health through air quality initiatives and foster community engagement via educational programs, prompt response to public concerns, and efforts to ensure equitable protection from air pollution for all communities.

Lag Indicators

- % of days in "Good" or "Moderate" AQI categories by monitoring location (target: 95% annually)
- Number of days with PM2.5 or PM10 exceeding NAAQS 24-hour standards (target: 0)
- % of complaints responded to (target: 95%)

Lead Indicators

- Number of educational events/programs conducted quarterly (target: 2 per quarter)
- Number of wood heating advisories issued (target: prior to 150 AQI in metro)
- Email listserv growth (target: >3% increase annually)

GOAL 2: Enhanced Wildfire Smoke Preparedness

Address the increasing threat of wildfire smoke intrusions to public health in Lane County through public education, collaboration with local jurisdictions, and enhanced monitoring and communication during wildfire events. In addition to seeking funding avenues which directly support this new and growing smoke management service need.

Lag Indicators

- Response time to publish smoke advisories during events (target: before 1pm on days needed)

Lead Indicators

- Maintain LRAPA supported commercial air sensors in Lane County (target: approximately 75)
- State smoke advisory engagement (target: 100% participation)

GOAL 3: Public Health Protection and Air Quality Education

Ensure compliance with National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and other health-based benchmarks, manage air quality permits for regulated sources, and implement best practices in emissions control, balancing economic development with environmental protection through rigorous permitting processes.

Lag Indicators

- % of area in compliance with NAAQS standards (target: 100%)
- % of permits issued within target timeframes (target: 90%)
- Permit backlog rate (target: <20%)

Lead Indicators

- Number of annual Full Compliance Evaluations completed vs. EPA committed (target: 100%)
- % of enforcement actions resolved within 6 months (target: 80%)

GOAL 4: Regional Air Monitoring and Analysis

Collect, analyze, and report comprehensive air quality data across Lane County to inform policy decisions, alert the public, and track long-term air quality trends.

Lag Indicators

- % data completeness for monitoring network (target: >95%)
- Timeliness of data reporting to the public and EPA (target: 100% on schedule)

Lead Indicators

- % of monitors calibrated on schedule (target: 100%)
- % uptime for real-time data systems (target: 98%)
- Number of monitoring site quality assurance audits completed vs. EPA committed (target: 100%)

GOAL 5: Partnerships and Interagency Coordination

Build and maintain strong relationships with various stakeholders, including industry, local jurisdictions, and community groups, to foster collaboration, improve communication, and ensure that LRAPA's work is responsive to community needs and concerns.

Lag Indicators

- Number of industry outreach initiatives completed annually (target: 1 per year)
- Number of community outreach initiatives completed annually (target: 1 per year)
- Number of partner outreach engagements completed annually (target: 5 per year)

Lead Indicators

- Diversity of inter-agency meetings attended (target: prioritize local, then state, then federal engagements)
- Number of monitoring site quality assurance audits completed vs. EPA committed (target: 100%)
- Communication frequency with key stakeholders (target: Quarterly communication)
- Number of council presentations delivered (target: 1 per jurisdiction annually)

GOAL 6: Organizational Excellence and Operational Efficiency

Strengthen LRAPA's internal systems, workflows, and operational capacity through technology integration, process improvement, and staff development to enhance organizational effectiveness and service delivery.

Lag Indicators

- Employee satisfaction/engagement scores (target: 85% satisfaction)
- Staff retention rate (target: >85% annually)
- % completion of internal systems modernization (target: 100% of planned upgrades, e.g. LINFO)

Lead Indicators

- Number of staff professional development training completed (Target: 2 per staff per year)
- Number of staff utilizing advancing technologies in workflows (target: > 50%)

GOAL 7: Financial Sustainability and Transparency

Ensure LRAPA's long-term financial stability and improve fiscal transparency through diversified funding sources, robust financial management practices, and clear communication of financial decisions to stakeholders.

Lag Indicators

- Reserve fund supporting annual operating budget (target: 4 months)
- Budget variance (target: within 10% of planned)

Lead Indicators

- Number of financial reports provided to Board & public (target: monthly to Board)
- Audit completed before state deadline (target: Dec. 31)