

## Keene Memo on land use planning contracted services

I interviewed Scott Fregonese & Cassandra Dobson of Fregonese & Associates via Zoom Conference on 10/1/2021 – 1:30 p.m. Sue Wainwright could not attend.

Fregonese & Associates is a land use planning consulting firm based in Kaiser. They offer services comparable to those the county currently outsources to a Eugene firm. (The Eugene firm's delayed responses and customer interactions were the subject of a significant contractor protest this summer.)

Fregonese's services include city official training on land use laws and procedures, advice and procedural work on ordinance updates and staff reports/presentations for land use appeal proceedings (appealed variance decisions, partitions, etc.). They are also experienced in assisting with the formulation of new or revised Comprehensive Plans.

They currently provide contracted services on an hourly basis (up to an agreed cap) to Bay City and Garibaldi. Their invoices generally run \$1500 - \$3000 per month for those cities up to a \$35,000 cap. This varies depending on the amount of frontline "counter" work the city staff does for itself. They very roughly estimate similar services for Oceanside would run \$20-30,000 per year. (The budget committee has included .5 FTE for in-house planning work in addition to an allotment for contracted services.) They indicated that they often informally provide advice on planning work that obviates more expensive consultations with legal counsel.

Fregonese and/or Cassandra regularly travel from Kaiser, Oregon to service their Tillamook County cities once a week but are likely to increase that if current talks with Rockaway prove fruitful. On applications, some decisions are made onsite, while more complicated issues may take a week or two.