

Community Action Plan

Bly, Oregon

Developed By:

The Bly Community Action Team,

In association with:

Klamath County Economic Development Association

Fremont-Winema National Forest

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Introduction

Bly is located on Highway 140 East midway between Klamath Falls and Lakeview on the eastern edge of Klamath County. Bly is a small-unincorporated community with a population of approximately 500. The census taken in 2000 revealed 486 persons living within the area considered being Bly. Because of the remote setting and easy going pace it has a growing population of retired residents.

The local economy is based chiefly on agriculture, timber and tourism. Major employers in the area include the U.S. Forest Service, Klamath County School District and local service businesses. A medical clinic, fire protection district, water and sewer service, vector control district, post office, county library, preschool and an elementary school for grades K-8 are provided locally. Businesses in 2003 consists of: one service station, one mini mart, one grocery store, a liquor store with a bait and tackle shop, one lounge, two antique shops, two restaurants, and a hardware and craft store. Faith Assembly of God, St. James Catholic and the Christian and Missionary Alliance are the churches located in Bly. Service clubs within the area are the Lion's Club, Grange, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and 4-H groups. Monthly pinochle and bunco parties are held at various homes during the winter season.

Bly is an attractive community for those that desire a rural lifestyle. The nearest large communities are Klamath Falls a distance of 53 miles west and Lakeview 43 miles to the east. Residents do the major portion of their shopping within the two towns. Bly is considered by residents to be a close community where neighbors can be counted on in times of need and where there is a genuine sense of community pride.

The Community Action Team

The 1990 Farm Bill (Chapter 2 Section 2375) authorized the U.S. Forest Service to provide assistance to certain rural communities. That assistance was to support formation of Community Action Teams, development of Community Action Plans and implementation of those plans. In Klamath County, the cities of Merrill, Malin, Bonanza, Chiloquin as well as the Klamath Tribes were eligible for this assistance. On October 26, 1993 President Clinton signed an amendment to this law that had the effect of making Klamath County as a whole, as well as unincorporated towns eligible for this assistance. The purpose of this was to improve the economic, social, and environmental well being of rural America. The Forest Service received a request from the community and assigned Nancy Rose, who was the district ranger at the time, as the Forest Service Advisor.

On March 21, 1994, Fremont National Forest Supervisor approved the formation of the Bly Community Action Team. On April 6, 1994, the Klamath County Board of Commissioners signed order #94-123 establishing the team and appointing Curt Allen, David Eitner, Leland Hunter, Keith Steward and Sharon Wessel to be members of the team.

Nancy Rose transferred in 1998 and Leda Hunter was assigned at that time as the team advisor. In 1999 the team decided to apply for nonprofit, 501 (c) (3) status, which would allow them to become an umbrella for community projects requiring grant funding. Articles of Incorporation and team by-laws were written and filed with the state of Oregon and forms were submitted to the IRS. In April of 2000 the IRS recognized the team as a nonprofit organization. Articles of Incorporation require officers to be elected before filing with the state. Officers were elected as follows: President; Leda Hunter, Vice President; Gordon Hevern, Secretary; Sharon Banta and Treasurer; Kathy Smith. Gordon Hevern was replaced, as Vice President, by Al Smith in 2003.

Each team also receives the aid of a Klamath County Commissioner, who helps the Forest Service Advisor through the process. CATs are recognized community groups across Klamath County and have more direct access to county, state, and federal experts who can provide information and suggest ways to resolve issues. The Bly CAT has had three commissioners assigned since inception in 1995. The first being Dave Henzel, second Bill Garrard and now John Elliott. John Elliott has been a huge asset to our team.

Meetings are held monthly on the fourth Thursday of each month and usually attended by 10 to 20 interested residents and/or visitors.

This document describes the process used to write this plan and the projects envisioned by the community of Bly to move toward the vision established in 1994. This plan is a result of the efforts of those attending meetings, responding to surveys and from their perspectives.

Relationship to Other Planning Activities

The Klamath County Commissioners have formed similar teams with the assistance of the Deschutes National Forest forming teams in Gilchrist, Crescent, and the Crescent Lakes area. The Fremont/Winema National Forest assisted the Central Klamath County Team that covers Chiloquin, Fort Klamath, Agency Lake and Modoc Point. Assistance is also provided to the Cloverleaf Action Team covering Bonanza, Bly Mtn., Langell Valley, Yonna Valley, and Dairy. The Midland Action Team covers the area from Falcon Heights to Wordon. Sprague River, Rocky Point, Beatty and Bly all have established teams that benefit from Forest Service assistance.

The results of the effort of writing community action plans will be reflected in the Klamath County Overall Economic Development Program (OEDP). Trey Senn of Klamath County Economic Development Association (KCEDA) coordinates with OEDP to ensure that all efforts in the county are recognized.

Klamath County is within the Ore-Cal Resource Conservation and Development area that includes Lake County in Oregon and part of Siskiyou and Modoc Counties in California. The Bly CAT was accepted as member and dues were paid in 2003.

Mission

The original members of the team established the mission in 1994 as follows: The mission of the Bly Community Action Team is to define and develop our human and natural resources in a manner that is environmentally sensitive and economically productive.

The following mission statement was used in the Articles of Incorporation (AOI): To acquire and hold real personal property, supplies and such assets as may be required to provide assistance to various groups and nonprofit organizations located within the service area and to provide economic development assistance to obtain and administer grant funding for the betterment of the town of Bly.

Vision of the Future

The original vision statement shown below indicates that employment is available within the area. Many residents are currently commuting to Klamath Falls or Lakeview for employment, as there are limited job opportunities in Bly.

The future we envision for the community of Bly is one with much of the same small town atmosphere that exists today. There is a wide range of public services available to local residents for their health, welfare and development. The economy is diverse and stable so that employment opportunities exist for working people of all age groups. The natural environment is stabilized and exists in a state that is very much like it has always been.

History of Bly

The name Bly was taken by early settlers from a Klamath Indian word meaning “up” or “high” and was applied to a town east of the Klamath Indian Reservation. The actual founding of Bly is somewhat clouded and the date cannot be positively determined but the assumption is that there was no settlement prior to 1870. Bly was first known as Sprague River when the original township site was platted and filed. At that time it was in Jackson County that later became Lake County and in 1882 finally became Klamath County.

On June 25, 1928 J.C. Edsall, May Edsall, and T.M. Edsall platted and filed the original town site of Bly, anticipating a “boom” due to the construction of the Oregon, California, and Eastern railroad extension from Sprague River to Bly. The growth of Bly had been relatively slow since the area was first settled sometime prior to 1873. With the arrival of the railroad two large logging operations, the Pelican Bay Lumber Company, south of Bly, and the Ewauna Box Company, on Quartz Mountain began operations. In 1931 a sawmill was built at Bly that contributed to growth of the town.

By July of 1929, Bly had grown into a prominent town with a population of approximately 300 people and residents were anticipating more within the next two

years. The completion of highway 140 along with the nearby logging camps, the railroad, and an already rich stock country attributed greatly to the growth. In 1929 it was reported in the Klamath News that several new buildings had gone up in the last month with others being planned and a number of newcomers had started businesses in Bly.

By 1941 the Crane Lumber Company, in Bly, employed 140 men and in 1939 produced more than nineteen million board feet of lumber. In 1940 a survey of the town found three grocery stores, five service stations, two beauty parlors, three barbershops, one bowling alley, one drug store, two garages, one variety and hardware store, one photo studio, one post office, and one church with a membership of about fifty. The combined grade and high school was a facility with nine rooms and a gymnasium, and a faculty of eleven. It was estimated in 1939 that the population of Bly was approximately 910.

Between 1928 and 1970 several sawmills operated at different times in Bly. Mills came and went and switched hands until July 1970, when Modoc Lumber Company sold their mill to Weyerhaeuser Company for \$400,000. Weyerhaeuser began construction of a new \$12,000,000 project in Bly on June 11, 1973. This plant was in operation until 1984.

Current Situation

Community specific economic information is not available for Bly. In general, the economic base of this community has been wood products and logging, agriculture and ranching with some small businesses in the service industry.

Closure of the Weyerhaeuser Mill in 1984 set off the rapid decline in the number of jobs available in Bly. Numerous families left the area after the mill closure that caused a ripple affect through the service industry and further depressed the area economy.

The drop in the enrollment in the local school system resulted in closure of the high school in 1969. Subsequently students in grades 9 through 12 are bussed to Bonanza, a distance of 40 miles. Students were originally given the choice of attending Lakeview or Bonanza. Paying out of county tuition to Lake County resulted in this in option being rescinded in about 1984. Gearhart Elementary School enrollment has dropped, in 2003, to 75 students. Klamath County School District prefers enrollment of approximately 100 to justify having a K-8th grade school in Bly. Closure of the school will result in more residents moving from the area.

Many of the remaining jobs in Bly are seasonal in nature working during the spring, summer and fall months. Unemployment is generally higher during the winter months. There are several ranches operating in the area that hire ranch hands although generally the same people each year. Small logging operators and contractors hire a few machine operators and logging trucks to haul timber. Many mills within Klamath, Lake, Modoc and Douglas counties have closed and logs are hauled a longer distance than in the past.

Improvements made to Bly

Many improvements have occurred in Bly since the Community Action Team (CAT) was formed. Projects include:

The **Bly Community Park** is located on the west end of town on property owned by the fire department. John and Kay Koehne donated a portion of the land to the fire department as an addition to the park. Klamath County awarded \$4,600 to pay for restroom construction material. A USDA Forest Service grant (\$22,040) was obtained to purchase the playground equipment. Grant funding from Regional Investment (\$17,500) and a generous donation of pavement from Webb Asphalt (\$9,000) enabled the paving of the parking area and the road through the park. Trees, shrubs, bench, and flagpole were donated in memory of deceased residents. Funding raised through target shoots, held by the CAT, was used to purchase the swing set. The restroom is open year round and cleaned by volunteers.

The **Sprague Valley Medical Center** originally opened in 1978 and by 1997 was badly in need of repairs. Outside renovations included a new roof, new windows and vinyl siding, handicapped ramp and sidewalk and were funded with Regional Investment Funding (\$10,800) and USDA Rural Development (\$25,000). Meyer Memorial Trust funding was used to purchase an x-ray machine (\$12,000) and medical equipment (\$9,300). An underground sprinkler system was installed in 2000 with Meyer Memorial Trust providing the \$3,500 funding. The clinic was featured in a special report in Meyer Memorial Trusts annual publication in the 1999-2000 issue.

The **Bly Rural Fire Protection District** was formed in 1979 as a taxing district. Prior to this time a fire alarm downtown was used to alert volunteers when a fire emergency occurred. The ISO rating dropped from 10 to 6 when the department was formed which reduced the price of insurance for those living within the seven square mile assigned area. Three grants were obtained from ODF (\$9,000) and (\$5,100) and (\$20,000) to use for fire fighting equipment.

The **community hall**, also owned by the fire department, has undergone renovations as well. Meyer Memorial Trust (MMT) provided funding (\$3,600) to purchase appliances for the kitchen and remodeling of the training room, MMT (\$7,500) to purchase tables, chairs and the outside announcement board, MMT (\$7,600) metal roof on hall and MMT (\$4,100) to replace the floor and carpeting in the training room and new carpeting in the dining room. Senior lunches are held, at the hall, on the second and fourth Wednesdays each month. The hall is rented by various organizations, the Forest Service and BLM to hold meetings.

The **Bly Little League Field** is located on school property but was built and maintained by volunteers. The original dugouts and concession stand were built in the 70s using volunteer labor and donated lumber. By the year 2000 the school district had condemned the facilities due to the unsafe condition. Grants from the Ford Family Foundation (\$3,500) and Jeld-Wen (\$3,500) and MMT (\$12,000) allowed the field to be rebuilt using

pumice stone blocks and volunteer labor and included a restroom that was never available before. The 7th and 8th grades students constructed a scoreboard and the field was named the John Koehne Park. John was instrumental in constructing the facility.

The **Bly CATeam** placed flowerpots and garbage receptacles throughout town beginning in approximately 1995. Grants of \$250 were obtained from SOLV annually and used to purchase flowers. Garbage is collected weekly from the containers and hauled to the local landfill. Dumping privileges were initiated and approved by the county commissioners. An annual town cleanup is held each year in May and the highway from the big corner to the top of the hill is cleaned. A riding lawnmower, purchased by the CATeam, is used for mowing the vacant lots around town. A shed built at the fire department is used to store the mower.

The CATeam was awarded grant funding from Regional Investment (\$3,700) and purchased a computer and locking cabinet that is located in the community hall and available for use by residents.

The CATeam wanted to capture memories from some of the old timers within the area and requested assistance through the Oregon Arts Commission. This request resulted in Eliza Buck spending a week training volunteers to do oral interviews. Many of the older folks that we interviewed have passed on and we are grateful to have the ones we have.

The local library needed a copy machine and requested assistance through the Bly CAT. A used machine was located and purchased by the team.

The team petitioned the telephone company to change the ESA that charged a long distance fee for calls from Bly to Klamath Falls. Although it became a fairly lengthy struggle the end result was worth the petitions, the calls made so that we qualified, and public meetings we attended to get the calls reduced to a local call for a nominal monthly fee.

The Bly CAT provides volunteers and lunch for “Fishing Day” each year for the 3rd and 4th grade classes of the elementary school. The Forest Service and the Lakeview Bass Masters Club sponsor this event.

The Bly CAT requested assistance from the Navy Seabees to survey the town and provide topographic information to improve the drainage within the town, estimated to be around 186 acres. This survey is being conducted in 2003.

A neighborhood watch team has been developed and open meetings are held monthly on the second Friday of each month.

The original Welcome to Bly sign was replaced in 2000 with a log, on the west end of town, which was constructed by John Koehne.

A newsletter is published quarterly and sent to all residents with a post office box in the area. This newsletter is aptly named the "Bly Bulletin". After the name was chosen we discovered the original Bly Bulletin was first written in 1929. Excerpts from the 1929 paper are occasionally used in the history section of the current addition. This newsletter provides residents updates of all projects involving the CATeam, meeting notices and pertinent information from other groups in Bly. Because of the Forest Service involvement we are not allowed to publish advertisements, promote religion or politics.

The CATeam in conjunction with the Faith Assembly of God Church have established a voucher program to be used for \$10.00 in gas at the Chevron Station or \$10.00 in food at the PitStop mini mart for those that get stranded in Bly.

An annual target shoot is held and funding used for various town projects. The family of Andy Todd Maddock, who was killed in a logging truck accident, originated the event in his memory. Funding, from the 2003 event, was used to purchase a color copy machine for the Bly Preschool.

The Klamath Basin Birding Trail is a concept that originated with the Wing-Watchers group out of Klamath Falls. The trail goes from Diamond Lake, Crater Lake, Fort Klamath, Chiloquin, Rocky Point, Bly, Bonanza, Beatty, Klamath Falls, Midland, Merrill, Tulelake, Newell, Klamath National Wildlife Refuges, Oregon and California State Wildlife areas, Lava Beds, Tionesta, Dorris and Macdoel. It includes 42 existing birding sites and it is hoped that by promoting the birding trail it will increase visitation to rural communities, provide an economic boost and create an opportunity for events and festivals focusing on birding in the area. The Bly CAT has agreed to support this project.

Klamath County, at the urging of Commissioner, John Elliott, installed yellow flashing lights on each end of town at the 30 MPH signs. The county also provided funding (\$126,000) to construct a bike and pedestrian path from the community park to the Forest Service office to provide safe access to the park for our children. The path was constructed in 2002, by ODOT, and the paving completed in 2003.

The **Bly Preschool** building was built in the 1930s to be used as mill housing for those employed at the Crane Mill. The preschool was allowed to use the building and subsequently purchased the building for \$1.00 in 1996. Prior to moving into the house the preschool was located in various apartments, church classrooms or anyplace large enough to hold 15 to 20 children.

The mill house lacks a foundation and does not have adequate lighting or plumbing to be used as a school. The decision was made to seek funding to replace the outdated building in 2000. A USDA Forest Service grant (\$7,200) was used to design a new facility large enough to hold 20 students and USDA Rural Development provided \$50,000 to the construction of a new facility. An additional \$50,000 is needed before beginning construction and grant funding is being actively pursued.

Gearhart Elementary School playground equipment was installed in 2003 using USDA Forest Service grant funding of \$15,000. Most of the equipment at the school is outdated and no longer in a child safe condition. The merry-go-round, installed by the Bly Lion's Club in the early 1970s, along with the slide will be removed.

SWOT Analysis

As an initial step in the planning process public meetings were held to discuss issues that were important to the citizens of Bly. During the community assessment a list of Bly's "strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats" was developed. Here are the results of the SWOT analysis conducted in 1996.

Strengths:

1. School. Kids get individual attention in the classroom. Youth sports programs. Provides jobs in the community. Sponsors community function. Facility used for community functions.
2. Closeness of the community. Neighbors help neighbors. Community support when help is needed.
3. Small town atmosphere.
4. Low crime rate.
5. Services provided locally include ambulance, fire, water and sewer district, library, post office, daily freight and passenger service, three churches and a medical clinic.
6. Weather, lots of sunshine, mild temperatures and four seasons.
7. Recreational opportunities and outdoor activities including fishing, hunting, hiking, wildlife watching, etc.
8. Low cost of living, real estate, housing and utilities.
9. Community pride. Welcome sign, community clean-up days, and well-kept homes.
10. Highway 140 access.
11. Remote setting with peace and quiet attractive to many residents.
12. Presence of Forest Service. Provide information and services, jobs for the community; focus on recreational and commercial use of public land.
13. Gearhart Mountain Wilderness provides opportunities for tourism and recreation.
14. Abundance of natural resources; chiefly forest products.
15. Community volunteerism, many people are enthusiastic and willing to get involved.
16. Support of Klamath County Commissioners in economic development.
17. Family ties.
18. Lack of major disasters; earthquakes, floods, tornadoes or hurricanes.
19. Senior citizen dinners held every two weeks.
20. Community activities recurrent.

21. Paul Melsness Community hall.

Weaknesses:

1. Lack of community services; law enforcement, day care, social service, banking, news coverage.
2. Lack of local job opportunities. Seasonal nature of work, youth jobs, long commutes seeking jobs elsewhere.
3. Lack of motel lodging. (Limited demand.)
4. Lack of housing, reluctance to build new houses with some older houses not habitable in present condition.
5. Lack of entertainment for older children.
6. Volunteer burnout, some important services provided only by volunteers.
7. Need more leaders in the community.
8. High property taxes, highest rates in Klamath County.

Opportunities:

1. Get a resident deputy.
2. Target tourism, information kiosk at park.
3. Volunteer of the month sign to promote community pride.
4. Day care center.
5. Small business incubator.
6. Expanded telephone service.
7. Activity center.
8. Forest product utilization.
9. Update library collection.
10. Target eyesores for removal.
11. Local news correspondent or local newspaper.
12. Ambulance barn.
13. Storage Units for rent.

Threats:

1. Loss of Gearhart School. Drop in enrollment? Unit cost to stay open?
2. Potential loss of medical clinic due to under use.
3. Dependence on timber.
4. Decrease in Forest Service hiring.
5. Lack of law enforcement makes area attractive for people of questionable character.
6. Loss of the library. Use levels? Cost of operation?
7. Volunteer burnout.
8. Loss of trained EMTs.

List of Brain Storm Projects

This is a list of project ideas that was generated in a brain storming session in May 1994 at an open meeting of the CAT.

Business Incubator Building	Roller skating rink
Paved Streets	Roping Arena
Sidewalks	Drag Strip
Motel	Hobby and Craft Shop
Repair tennis court or new court	Ranch supply store
Community Center	More police coverage
Restrooms at the Ball field	Daycare Center
Garbage Cans	Gym repairs
Street lights	Video Arcade
Neighborhood Watch	Bowling Alley
Mushroom Drying Facility	Golf Course
Micro Brewery	Development of winter recreation

Survey

Following the identification of the community strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats the Bly CAT developed a survey to assess the level of importance placed on various services and opportunities by Bly residents. Potential projects from the brainstormed list were incorporated in the survey.

Surveys were mailed to all box holders at the Bly Post Office. Of the 300 surveys mailed out 47 were returned. (16% return rate)

Because this is an update to the community action plan the survey will not be reconstructed. The following list is shown in order of importance to remain in the community and ability to enhance the quality of life:

Communities and Amenities

1. Water and Sewer System
2. Local Medical Center
3. Senior Center
4. Library Improvement
5. Improvement to Bly Airstrip
6. Health and Fitness Center
7. Emergency Services building and equipment
8. Sidewalks
9. Multiple Use Community Center

10. Community Parks
11. Police and Security
12. Paved streets and lighting

Community Facility/Business Needs

13. General Store/Mercantile
14. Full service auto truck repair
15. Cable TV service
16. Satellite Bank Office
17. Snowmobile rental/repairs
18. Mushroom/Forest products processing
19. Art Gallery
20. Full service Supermarket
21. RV Park/Campground
22. Truck Stop
23. Incubator for small business
24. Car/Truck wash
25. Hunting/Tackle Shop
26. Outdoor Winter Recreation Area
27. Secondary wood Products Production (Other than traditional logging)
28. Taxi or Shuttle Service
29. Fast Food Restaurant
30. Bakery/Butcher Shop
31. Motel/Bed and Breakfast
32. Community Copy/Fax Service

Recreation and Social Events

33. Cross Country Ski Trails/Races
34. Snowmobile Races
35. Chili Cook-off
36. Walking or Hiking Trails
37. Mountain/BMX Bike trails with races
38. Rodeo
39. Gun and Archery Meets
40. Golf Course

Workers, Residents, and Families

41. Youth Work Experience Training Center
42. Day Care Center
43. Drug & Alcohol Counseling Services/Hospice
44. Junior Fire Fighting Program (Ages 13-18)

45. Local Counseling Services (Youth, Marriage, Crisis Center)
46. Youth Groups (Scouts, Brownies, Etc.)
47. Library
48. Pre-school
49. Youth Center

General Education and Improvement Ideas

50. Community Marketing Plan
51. Community Work Projects
52. Special Clean-up days
53. Aquifer Survey
54. Forest By-Products Information Sharing Forums
55. Community Billboard with information and events calendar
56. Community Welcome Sign
57. Linkage to the Information Super Highway
58. Community Tourist Information Booth
59. Rehabilitate Sprague River

In February of 1995 a public meeting was held to present the results of the survey to the community and to generate priority areas to begin project work on. In each category (Communities and Amenities, Facility and Business Needs, Recreation and Social Events, Workers, Residents and Families, General Education and Improvement Ideas) the top responses were presented to community members.

A brain storming exercise was conducted to list potential projects within each category centered on those services or amenities that rated the highest in the survey. This process produced several project ideas supporting responses within the categories that were not the top responses for the category. The projects with the highest number of votes, by members at the meeting, moved into the development phase.

Top Responses from the survey for Communities and Amenities included:

1. Local Medical Center
2. Updated Emergency Services
3. Water and Sewer System
4. Police/Security

Community facilities and business needs top responses were:

1. Secondary wood products production
2. General Store/Mercantile
3. Full service Auto/Truck Repair

Recreation and Social Events top responses were:

1. Walking and hiking trails

Workers, Residents and Families:

1. Preschool
2. Day Care Center
3. Youth Center
4. Library
5. Youth Groups
- 6.

General Education and Improvement Ideas with responses as follows:

1. Special Cleanup Days
2. Community Work Projects
3. Rehabilitate Sprague River
4. Community Welcome Sign

The team recognized the need to focus on a few projects at a time. As projects are completed community sensing will occur and new projects added. As such this plan will remain fluid and based on community need as perceived by community members.

Projects Proposed in 1996 Action Plan

Police/Security- Resident Deputy: 2003 update, the sheriff's office has organized rural response teams within Klamath County. Bly currently has a deputy assigned to Bonanza, Beatty, Sprague River and Bly.

Small Business Incubator: 2003 update, this project was dropped due to lack of interest by the parties wishing to start a small business.

Youth and Daycare Center/Community Center: 2003 update, this project never got any momentum.

Rededication Ceremony for Mitchell Monument: This project was completed in 1995 with over 500 attending.

Community Park: This is an ongoing project with improvements being made constantly.

EMT's: 2003 update, Bly still has a shortage of EMTs and currently the ambulance is operating with four persons.

Sprague Valley Medical Center Renovations: 2003 update, this project has been completed. The BOD is currently seeking to fill the Family Nurse Practitioner position that was vacated by Phil Corcoran.

Community Action Plan Update 2000

The plan was updated in the year 2000 and the following project list was added:

Replace Bly Ambulance: 2003 update, a 1994- model ambulance was purchased from Fire District #1 in 2001 to replace the 1976 vehicle that had many miles on it.

Medical Center Equipment Needs: 2003 update, a grant was secured in 2000 and the equipment purchased.

Bly Bicycle and Pedestrian Path: 2003 update, Klamath County at the urging of County Commissioner, John Elliott, provided the funding to ODOT to build the ½ mile path from the Forest Service office to the community park. The construction was completed in 2002 and the paving is expected to be completed in 2003.

Flashing Yellow Lights on Highway 140: 2003 update, Klamath County installed yellow solar lights on the 30 MPH signs on each end of town.

Telecenter Equipment Needs: 2003 update, this project was completed in 1999.

Community Park Development Phase III: 2003 update, this phase was to install the basketball half court, horseshoe pits and etc. Accomplished during phase II.

Tennis Court Renovations: 2003 update, the existing tennis court is beyond repair. The CAT received permission from the school district to tear the fence down.

Community Hall Upgrade: 2003 update, this project was completed in 2000.

Library Building and Grounds Cleanup: 2003 update, the fence has been removed, the trees and bushes trimmed and the outside of the building has been painted using community service help. We are currently working with the Forest Service to move the library into the rock building that was the original office and built by the CCC's in 1936.

Downtown Streetscape: 2003 update, the CATeam has recently been meeting with ODOT on a streetscape project that will include sidewalks, streetlights, planters, and trash receptacles. ODOT has a paving project planned to go through Bly in 2006 or 07. They will do the paving and the county will pay for the sidewalks and lights. The team will be responsible for the cost of the planters, trees, trash receptacles and benches. Cost of the electricity, for the streetlights, remains a problem. The team is checking on the possibility of using windmill/solar to power the lights.

Art: 2003 update, the original thought behind this was to place a sculpture in the community park and paint murals on buildings throughout town. We applied for a grant

through the Oregon Arts Commission to fund painting of the murals and were turned down. We have not pursued it further.

Bly Cemetery: 2003 update, this project has been dropped from our list as we decided a private party rather than the team should pursue it.

Bly Little League Field Renovation: 2003 update, this project has been completed using volunteer labor and grant funding.

Bly Drainage: 2003 update, the Navy Seabees will do a topographic survey in 2003. This information can be used to develop a plan to improve drainage and prevent flooding in the area.

SCERT Process

Klamath County requests projects be submitted from the teams on an annual basis. The projects are rated by all of the teams from the county and presented to the county commissioners. The Commissioners have the opportunity to change the priorities if they so choose before compiling a countywide list. This is known as the SCERT process and the list is reflected as the Needs and Issues Inventory for Klamath County. Replies are due each year in November for the upcoming year.

Grant funding is easier to obtain if the project is shown in a community action plan and shown on the Needs and Issues inventory. Many projects are added for this reason and are not prioritized.

2002 Needs and Issues List for Bly projects

1. Playground equipment at the school (funded)
2. Bike Path to the Park (currently under construction)
3. Paving at the Preschool (wait until we construct new building)
4. Running track at the school
5. Underground sprinkler system at the school
6. Paving at medical center
7. Replace siding on the community hall
8. Aluminum bleachers for softball field
9. Paving at water & sanitary office (may be able to do this with the streetscape)
10. Painted murals on the buildings downtown

2003 Needs and Issues List for Bly Projects

1. Bly Preschool Building Replacement (Grant sent to CIF)
2. Bly Sanitary District Pavement
3. Community Hall replace siding
4. School Underground sprinkler system
5. School Running Track

6. School Playground Equipment (Funded in 2002 by F.S.)
7. Downtown Improvements
8. Medical center paving
9. Softball field aluminum bleachers

2004 Needs and Issues List

1. Bly Preschool Building Replacement
2. Streetscape Bly (Working with ODOT and Klamath County as 2006 project)
3. Design for Fire Department Building Addition
4. Aluminum Bleachers for softball field