**The Most Local of Local Governments**

When people think of local government, the first thing that comes to mind is probably a city or a county, but there is a third type of local government that is arguably the *most* local—a special district. Community-formed, owned, and governed, special districts provide highly specialized services, such as fire protection, water, sanitation, parks, healthcare, mosquito abatement, airports, harbors, and even cemeteries.

Special districts serve virtually every Oregonian with services that cities and counties don’t provide within their jurisdiction. [NAME OF DISTRICT] is an example of a special district. We are a public agency, with a public board of directors that is directly accountable to the residents we serve.

So, what makes special districts the most local of local governments? They have the flexibility to meet a specific need in a small community or to improve service across a large region in a cost-effective manner through specialization and economies of scale. In other words, they are nimble enough to focus in on the specific needs of each unique community. What can be more local than that?