

Measuring Oregon's future



The Oregon Benchmarks have gained a global reputation for assessing a region's economy, effective government and environment.

But in the Mid-Valley, are business and civic leaders making use of these benchmarks? County data give a mixed picture of the region.

Inside

- Rita Conrad with the Oregon Progress Board explains how the benchmarks affect businesses and residents.
 - Kim Dinan of Marion County Public Works praises local recycling numbers, but says firms can do more to cut trash while boosting their bottom line.
 - Sen. Kurt Schrader explains how the Oregon Benchmarks determine the state spending.
 - Cheryl Roberts of Chemeketa Community College says good-quality jobs and access to high-quality education go hand in hand.
- See these commentaries on **Pages 2, 3**.