

Rural County Stability and the Reality of Disinvestment

To celebrate the release of the Summer 2018 issue of *Metroscape*, we hosted a panel discussion about the effects of federal investment on rural county stability.

Skamania County, Washington draws plenty of visitors to the Gifford Pinchot National Forest and Columbia Gorge Scenic Area—but living there is more difficult. Covered in forest and timberland, the county draws regular property taxes from less than 2% of its land base. Local government has relied on inconsistent federal aid to provide essential services. This panel discussion will explore Skamania's challenges, its opportunities for economic development, and its place within the metro area.

Panelists:

Pat Albaugh Executive Director, Port of Skamania County
Scott Bailey Regional Economist, Employment Security Department, State of Washington
Kari Fagerness Executive Director, Skamania County Economic Development Council
Tom Lannen Skamania County Commissioner, District 2

Date: Wednesday, June 27 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Location: PSU Urban Center, 506 SW Mill St. Parsons gallery, 2nd Floor

To learn more about this event contact [Liza Morehead](#)