

**Agenda Item Number
12.
Supplemental
Advisory Council Reports**

Presenter: George Kloeppel

Action Recommended: None. Information Only

Background:

Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC)

March 13, 2003

The Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC) met on March 13 with representation from Lane County, Springfield, Eugene, LTD, Coburg and ODOT. The MPC:

- Authorized the Chair to sign a letter to Representative DeFazio supporting the appropriation of earmark funds for the completion of the downtown Springfield transfer station and the addition to the LTD bus maintenance facility. This letter of support was parallel to those approved by the MPC in February, which addressed other needed transportation improvements in the Central Lane MPO area. Funding is being sought through the federal TEA reauthorization legislation anticipated this year.
- Adopted Resolution 2003-1 designating Lane Transit District as the direct grant recipient for federal (FTA) urbanized area formula program funds. This designation was needed because of the designation of the Central Lane MPO area as a Transportation Management Area.
- Heard a detailed overview of the proposed Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) scheduled for adoption by the MPC in April. Tom Schwetz, LCOG, described the requirements of the MPO/TMA planning process (annually set forth in the UPWP) and the funding sources upon which that process depends. He also described a survey conducted among the other established MPOs in the Northwest with respect to financial magnitude of

the UPWP as compared to the regions' average annual TIP and their populations. It was noted that the WPWP costs, i.e. cost for MPO planning activities, were low in this area, either as a percentage of TIP or on a dollar per capita basis. All of the established MPOs in the Northwest were determined to utilize Surface Transportation Program (STP) resources in support of UPWP activities.

- Heard a report from staff and from Commissioner Bobby Green regarding the work of the subcommittee examining the State's public involvement guidelines (related elsewhere to area commissions on transportation). After two meetings, the committee had reviewed the current MPO and Lane County processes—the subject of a detailed process outline chart—and reviewed the public involvement models used by others. The subcommittee had also explored possible modifications to the existing process. Under discussion of the report, MPC members emphasized the importance of understanding the price tag on any public involvement process being considered. It was also informally agreed that the present process would be improved by streamlining and by affording “up front” or “early on” opportunities for public participation.
- Reviewed the calendar for upcoming MPC transportation-related activities, including the schedule for the federal TMA certification review scheduled for May.