

Agenda Item Number 5. Advisory Council Reports

Presenter: George Kloeppel

Action Recommended: None. Information Only

Background:

Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC)

March 9, 2006

The Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC) met on March 9 in the Springfield Library Meeting Room with representation from Lane County, Springfield, Eugene, Coburg, LTD, and ODOT. OTC Commissioner Randy Pape was also present and participating at the table. The MPC:

- Heard comments from one member of the public who asked about the LCOG Board's consideration of transportation planning responsibilities at its February 23 meeting, and also commented on the issue of integration of the local Transportation System Plans and the Regional Transportation Plan.
- Heard a report from the MPO's Citizen Advisory Committee, presented by Kathi Wiederhold, LCOG. She noted that the CAC had devoted substantial time at its last meeting to the proposed "e-MPO" concept.
- Heard a report from George Kloeppel, LCOG, on the February 23 discussion by the LCOG Board of Directors with Commissioner Bobby Green, MPC Chair, regarding the performance of the MPC in the transportation planning arena.
- Considered the draft Unified Planning Work Program (transportation) prepared by participating staff and scheduled for MPC approval on April 13.
- Heard a staff report by Tom Schwetz and Petra Schuetz, LCOG, related to the consideration of "integration of the Regional Transportation Plan and the jurisdictional Transportation Systems Plans. Staff presented a proposed project to develop an "e-MPO" by which public confusion regarding the different functions of the plans would be reduced and greater (more understandable and interactive) information on transportation plans and projects could be conveyed.

- Heard a report from Paul Thompson, LCOG, regarding the timing of the anticipated update of the Regional Transportation Plan; for reasons related to the adoption of the federal transportation bill and subsequent regulations, the staff has proposed adoption of the new RTP no later than March 2007.
- Heard a report from Eugene Mayor Kitty Piercy regarding the collaborative process being pursued to examine solutions to congestion in the west Eugene corridor; it was noted that the facilitators had been agreed upon by the participating jurisdictions.
- Heard a report regarding the “straw” priorities for State modernization projects in ODOT Region 2 from Jane Lee; Area 5 (Lane County) would receive approximately \$13.9 million under the proposal—total Region 2 modernization funding: \$47 million.
- Heard a report from Paul Thompson and George Kloeppe, LCOG, regarding the February 24-25 meeting of the Oregon Metropolitan Planning Organization Consortium (OMPOC) in Central Point; it was noted that OTC chair, Stuart Foster, had been present and shared the State’s challenges around the development of the update to the Oregon Transportation Plan; it was noted that the Central Lane MPO had agreed to host a one-day meeting of OMPOC on June 16 and that Bend would host a two-day workshop meeting of the Consortium September 22-23.
- Other Items: Noted the OTC meeting in Eugene on March 14-15; received a report on the Connect Oregon funding schedule; discussed the just-completed United Front trip to Washington D.C.; noted an administrative amendment to the current Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP); and received from staff a document compiled in 2004 describing the history of the Interstate Highway System in Oregon on the occasion of the system’s 50th anniversary.

Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC)

April 13, 2006

The Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC) met on April 13 in the Springfield Library Meeting Room with representation from Lane County, Springfield, Eugene, Coburg, LTD, and ODOT. The MPC:

- Heard comments from two members of the public, both expressing concerns about the Citizen Advisory Committee’s (CAC) role in the MPO process, and one expressing concerns about details of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP.)
- Heard a report on the CAC from Kathi Wiederhold of LCOG and MPC Chair Commissioner Green, outlining the CAC’s interest in meeting more frequently with the MPC; major workplan items for the upcoming year; and progress in recruitment of new CAC members.
- Heard a report from Tom Schwetz of LCOG on the proposed UPWP for 2006/2007 and unanimously adopted Resolution 2006-04 adopting the FY2006/07 UPWP.
- Heard of report from Tom Schwetz on three proposed Lane County projects being submitted to the Oregon Department of Transportation (OTC) for consideration as part of the ConnectOregon grant program. The MPC passed a motion to forward the proposed

projects to the State with a cover letter explaining the very close rankings of the projects, and also encouraging favorable review by the OTC of a fourth project being submitted by Union Pacific Railroad.

- Heard a report from Tom Schwetz concerning letters of support for the 2006 United Front Transportation Projects, and, by unanimous motion, approved the letters.
- Heard a report from Paul Thompson of LCOG concerning amending the FY05/07 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) to add in two new projects, the “Job Access/Reverse Commute” and “New Freedom” projects funded as part of SAFETEA-LU. The MPC unanimously approved Resolution 2006-05 to make the amendments.
- Heard a report from Eugene Mayor Piercy concerning the West Eugene Parkway (WEP) Collaborative Process. Mayor Piercy said that the Osprey Group had begun interviews with interested parties and stakeholders. The Osprey Group will be relating what they hear during the interviews and will give their opinion as to whether the community can reach resolution on the issue. Osprey Group will not be making a recommendation concerning the project itself. The Osprey Group report should be available in May, and will be simultaneously sent to all groups/individuals interviewed.
- Heard a report from Paul Thompson concerning the programming of STP-U funds. A draft will be brought to the MPC at their May meeting, with action scheduled for June.
- Heard a report from Tom Schwetz on the Alternative Mobility Standards (AMS) work being conducted by the MPO. Adopting AMS better allows local jurisdictions to encourage or discourage different traffic flows to achieve different aims. For example, the Pearl District in Portland uses a highly congested pattern to achieve the pedestrian and small retail friendly nature of the District. More information and recommendations will be brought to the MPC over the next several months.
- Jane Lee of ODOT reported that five projects have been received from Lane County under the Transportation Enhancement Program – three from Eugene, one from Springfield and one from Junction City. There will be \$5M for bike and pedestrian projects statewide. Jeff Schiek of ODOT said there would be 60 bridge projects in Lane County next year as part of OTIA III.

Disability Services Advisory Council (DSAC)

April 7, 2006

- The Council reviewed Bylaws changes as proposed by the Disability Services Nominating Committee. A motion was passed unanimously to adopt the Bylaws and recommend to the LCOG Executive Committee that they be ratified.
- Council members agreed to move forward on the recruiting process for new members.
- The Council received a presentation by Kay Metzger on the Area Plan Update for 2006-07. After a brief question and answer period, the Council moved to recommend to LCOG that the 2006-07 Update to the Area Plan be adopted and that S&DS staff be authorized to submit the Plan Update to the Oregon Department of Human Services.
- The Council heard reports from its Standing Committees and other pertinent information items as presented by Council members.

Senior Services Advisory Council (SSAC)

April 11, 2006

- The Senior Services Advisory Council received a presentation by Kay Metzger on the 2006-07 Update to the Senior & Disabled Services Area Plan on Aging and Disability Services. A motion was passed to recommend to LCOG that the 2006-07 Area Plan Update be adopted and that S&DS staff be authorized to submit the Plan Update to the Oregon Department of Human Services.
- The Council heard reports from its Standing Committees. In particular, the Nominating Committee reported on its progress towards recruitment of new members and made recommendations for next year's officers. The Council will elect its officers at the next meeting.

Lane Economic Committee (LEC)

March 20, 2006

- Discuss private sector perception of LCOG business loan program

April 17, 2006

- Review Needs & Issues process, Discuss Regional Investment Board projects