

Agenda Item Number 12.

Advisory Council Reports

Presenter: George Kloeppel

Action Recommended: None. Information Only

Background:

Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC)

Met June 13, 2002

The MPC met on Thursday, June 13, with Lane County, Eugene, Springfield, and Lane Transit District represented. OTC Commissioner Randy Pape was also present and participated in the discussion. Three members of the public presented comments related to transportation issues including South 42nd Street (Springfield), the West Eugene Parkway and an area commission on transportation.

The Committee considered a report from the Transportation Planning Committee regarding the proposed State “Bypass Policy.” The deadline for submission of comments to the State was established as June 17. The TPC had prepared a proposed 3-page letter to the Commission for consideration by the MPC. A number of issues were raised. Specifically, members of the MPC sought a clear distinction between an urban arterial (carrying local traffic) and a true bypass (allowing through traffic to avoid an urbanized area). In addition, members objected to the proposed imposition of “shall” and “must” language on local governments, and identified several elements of the proposed policy, which should be removed (notably within “Action 3” of the proposal which specified requirements that affected local governments “must” meet before new bypass funding would be approved). With a number of modifications made, authorization was given to the MPC Chair to sign a letter to Commissioner Steven Corey, chair of the OTC.

The Committee heard reports on several aspects of the State’s FY 04-07 STIP process, as well as the OTIA II funding process. Commissioner Pape provided some background related to the issue of “local match” for the I-5/Beltline

interchange project. Because of the OTC's expressed desire to have the local community (Springfield) contribute more than \$5 million to the project (\$15 million had been suggested at the Commission level), some confusion had arisen regarding the specific expectations of the State. Commissioner Pape agreed that a specific guideline related to match would be developed. Regarding the current consideration of alternatives for the use of OTIA II funding, the MPC formally expressed its preference for "Option 1" for ODOT Region 2 by which \$17 million would be applied to the I-5/Beltline project (in addition to the OTIA I allocation) in lieu of ten small projects within Region 2. It was agreed that Councilor Hatfield and Commissioner Green would present the case for Option 1 in communication with the other areas of the region.

Regarding the STIP for FY 04-07, the MPC heard a presentation by representatives of the Department of Transportation related to the proposed South 42nd Street project, which was given the number one priority among the area's "smaller roadway projects" and would utilize approximately \$2.5 million. Don Erich of ODOT noted that this was a "temporary" district highway with a lower priority for modernization funding than many other facilities in the area and the region. He explained the department's reasoning in requesting that a MOU be signed between the Department and the City of Springfield by which jurisdiction would be turned over to the City, if improvements were made. Councilor Hatfield explained the position of the City, noting that the project had been given its priority by the policy makers in the metro area and that the City would not enter into a unilateral transfer of jurisdiction as a condition for the State's improvements to South 42nd Street. Commissioner Pape indicated the State's willingness to negotiate, noting the Jasper Road project which, when completed, would address the State's needs and present an opportunity of a mutually acceptable trade of jurisdiction. By motion, the MPC adopted a resolution reaffirming its previously established prioritization of the South 42nd Street project and urging the favorable consideration of the project by the OTC.

Finally, note was taken of a May 6 letter from the Willamalane Park and Recreation District expressing the district's position regarding the options presented for the implementation of the Regional Park and Open Space Plan (currently underway with policy direction from the MPC).

Senior Services Advisory Council (SSAC)

met June 11, 2002

Presentation by Al Levine, Lane County Mental Health (LCMH)

The council was presented with an overview of the programs offered by LCMH, in partnership with LaneCare, with an emphasis on mental health services available to seniors.

Election of Officers

The council re-elected the following officers for the 2002-03 fiscal year:

Herb Ball, Chair
Nathan Garber, First Vice Chair
David Meisner, Second Vice Chair

Incoming Council Members

The council recommended to the LCOG Board of Directors that the following members be **reappointed** for a three-year term:

Carolee Smith
Jane Strasdas

The council recommended to the LCOG Board of Directors that the following individuals be **appointed as members** for a three-year term:

Jane Boren
Marion Esty
Jean Jordan
Marian Lahr
Murray Petitt

The council recommended to the LCOG Board of Directors that the following individuals be **appointed as community representatives** for a one-year term:

Rikki Rainey
Jonathan Ramey
Esther Sloan
Steven Tibbetts

Recognition of Outgoing Council Members

The following outgoing council members were honored for their contributions to the council:

Alice Dugan – 6 Years
July Kelly – 3 Years
Roberta Ronning-Fry – 6 Years

ElderHelp Proposal

The council (1) accepted the application submitted by Amy Raven to coordinate the Elder Help Volunteer Program for fiscal year 2002-03; (2) recommended to the LCOG Executive Director that Ms. Raven be awarded \$15,249 of Older Americans Act III-B funds for program operations in FY 2002-03, pursuant to her application; and, (3) Ms. Raven be reimbursed at the rate of \$24.00 per hour, not to exceed a total of 635 hours annually.

Committee Reports

The Advocacy Committee reported on its dialogue with low-income housing providers on the issue of “visitability”, and the creation of a work group to deliberate and possibly draft a visitability bill to be presented to the 2003 Legislative Session.

The Long-Term Care Committee reported on information it received regarding in-home services for seniors enrolled in the ElderCare Project and a residential facility that offers mental health services to seniors.

The Procurement & Monitoring Committee reported on its participation in a training video on elder abuse.

Staff Reports

Ted Stevens reported on the following:

- the results of the primary election;
- the announcement that the Governor has called a Special Legislative Session to begin on June 12, with a potential cigarette tax and additional human services program reductions slated for discussion;
- the announcement to the Cottage Grove staff that that office may be closed as a necessary cost-saving measure;

- the decision not to fill some positions left vacant by recent S&DS retirements;
- the noon closure of all S&DS offices, effective June 1, with no apparent negative responses from clients thus far.

Announcements

Audrey Rockwell, a Senior Meals Program Site Coordinator and exceptional community leader from the Oakridge area, recently passed away.

Ted Stevens will address the Governor's Commission on Senior Services on Wednesday, June 12.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at the Hilyard Center on Tuesday, July 9, at 1:30 p.m.

Disability Services Advisory Council

met June 14, 2002

Presentation on Blind Signs by Rob Cook

Rob Cook displayed and explained the advantages "blind signs" offer the sight-impaired community. Blind Signs are currently being tested at the Amazon Station and 28th & Marcola in Springfield.

Lane Transit District (LTD) Issues

The council received copies of letters sent to LTD and Advanced Vehicle Systems, Inc. (AVS) regarding unresolved design issues on the *Breeze* vehicle. It was reported that modified fare boxes have recently been installed in some *Breeze* vehicles.

Representatives of the council reported on its consultation with LTD regarding the interior design of the Bus Rapid Transit vehicle. They reported that, with their input, the placement of the doors has been determined

Election of Officers

The council **re-elected** the following officers for fiscal year 2002-03:

Ed Necker, Chair

Ellen Bombaro, Vice Chair

Incoming Council Members

The council recommended the following **reappointments** to the LCOG Board of Directors for fiscal year 2002-03:

Jeanne Barter
Luther Beecroft

The council recommended the following **appointments** to the LCOG Board of Directors for fiscal year 2002-03:

Dan Arkin
Mary Feldman
Joann Scheck

Recognition of Outgoing Officers

The council recognized the following outgoing members for their dedicated participation:

Kevin Angvick – 2 years
Tracy Callaghan – 2 years

Chair's Report

Ed Necker reported on the public hearing held by the State Rehabilitation Council on May 28. It was emphasized that the hearings should have been held *prior* to the reorganization of the Department of Human Services and its impact on Oregon's Vocational Rehabilitation Program. A representative of that agency and a council member urged that the disability community voice its concerns regarding service delivery directly to the agency.

Committee Reports

The council heard reports on the works of the Advocacy Committee and the Long Term Care Committee as noted in the SSAC report above.

Staff Reports

Ted Stevens reported on the results of the primary election and the Special Session as noted in the SSAC report above. Additionally, Ted announced that a page on Recreational Opportunities and Information on Accessibility has been added to the S&DS website.

Announcements

The following announcements were made:

Terry Parker, LTD, is reviewing the charter of accessible buses/vans by groups serving people who use wheelchairs for outings.

Lane Independent Living Alliance, Inc. (LILA) will hold its next meeting on Saturday, June 15.

Members are urged to contact the Legislature with the request that it make no additional cuts to human services programs.

SOWHAT Wheelchair Standards Meeting will be held on July 1, 2002, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America.

The City of Eugene's Human Rights Program Accessibility Committee will not meet in July.

Pride Day Celebration will be held at Alton Baker Park from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. on June 22.

Next Meeting

The council voted to cancel its July meeting. Its next meeting will be held on August 9.

Lane Economic Committee (LEC)

Met June 17, 2002

- Discussed LEC role in evaluating/rating requests for funding under Lane County's RFP for economic development projects.
- Discussed LEC priorities for economic development tasks/projects.
- Set next meeting date of July 15, 2002.