



June 22, 2006

Commissioner Bobby Green, Sr.
Lane County
125 E. 8th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97401

Dear Commissioner Green and Members of the Metropolitan Policy Committee:

The transportation system in the Central Lane Transportation Management Area is vital to the health, welfare and economic well-being of all citizens of Lane County. Our children go to school, our citizens travel to and from work and play, ambulances respond swiftly to emergencies, and goods travel from our factories and into our stores, across a vital web of highways and streets. Bike and pedestrian paths provide for alternate modes of transportation to meet federal and state requirements and afford recreational opportunities for our citizens. Transit services efficiently move people throughout the area.

Federal and state transportation funds provide ongoing support to this regional network of highways, streets, paths and transit. These road, path and bridge construction and maintenance projects bring millions of dollars into the county which create and sustain hundreds of jobs.

It is the responsibility of the MPO to ensure federal transportation requirements are met to ensure this system and the funds to support it continue. When the LCOG Board delegated its MPO responsibilities to the MPC, it was with the understanding that the MPC would diligently carry out its delegated tasks. To ensure the LCOG Board would not fail in its MPO responsibilities, it required on-going oversight and reporting of MPC actions on a regular basis.

Since November 2005, the LCOG Board has watched with concern as the MPC has failed to pass an FY06-09 MTIP. In February 2006, the LCOG Board asked the MPC Chair to personally report on MPC's situation. At each subsequent LCOG Board meeting, the LCOG Board has directed staff to bring it a report of MPC's progress, and to take a report of our concerns back to the MPC.

We still believe the MPC is the proper body to carry out the duties of the MPO, but we will not allow this region to lapse in federal funding. We owe that to the citizens we all serve.

Since November, the MPC has failed to find a way around its impasse. This puts the region at risk of losing federal funding. The MPC has many options available to keep the process moving. These options might include:

- Alter the FY06-09 MTIP to make it acceptable to the group; or

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- Negotiate a package agreement which provides for passage of the MTIP; or
- Alter the MPC bylaws to prevent a small minority from freezing your process indefinitely; or
- Request outside assistance to mediate your dispute; or
- Defer the question to the LCOG Board for final resolution.

And yet, the MPC has failed to move forward on its delegated MPO responsibilities.

Let us be clear, the LCOG Board is not taking a position for or against any project or series of projects. That is your responsibility. But the LCOG Board insists that the duties of the MPO be carried out in a responsible and timely manner. We owe the public nothing less.

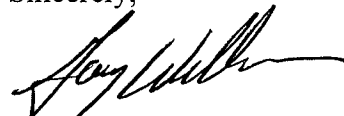
We have given the MPC sufficient time to find a solution without result. MPC is the designated conflict resolution body for the Metro Area. You are charged with the responsibility to find solutions to conflicts. The LCOG Board of Directors, as the designated MPO for the Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Area, requests that the MPC do the following:

- 1) At your July 13, 2006 meeting you will pass an FY06-09 MTIP. Its composition is left to MPC to decide; and
- 2) Not later than the January 2007 MPC meeting (6 months), the MPC will develop a dispute resolution process for delegated MPO duties which ensures MPO responsibilities will be met. This process and supporting changes to MPC bylaws must meet the approval of the LCOG Board.

Failure to comply with these two requirements will force the LCOG Board to take necessary intervention steps up to and including rescinding our delegation of MPO responsibilities to MPC.

In conclusion, the LCOG Board still believes the MPC is the proper body to discharge the duties of the MPO. We are willing to work with you to ensure your success, but will no longer sit idly by while the region's well being is put at risk.

Sincerely,



Gary Williams, Chair
Board of Directors