



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Department of Transportation

Region 2 Headquarters

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November 30, 2007

To: ACT Chairs and Vice Chairs
Shirley Kalkhoven, NWACT Chair Person
Don McDaniels, NWACT Vice Chair Person
Richard Bjelland, MWACT Chair
Ken Woods, MWACT Vice Chair
Linda Modrell, CWACT Chair
Don Lindly, CWACT Vice Chair
Faye Stewart, Lane County Commissioner
Bobby Green, Lane County Commissioner

Subject: 08-11 STIP Process and Program Funding Update

Dear ACT Chairs and Vice Chairs:

On November 21, 2007, I sent a letter describing the need to make over \$20 million in cuts to the '08 – '11 STIP as directed from the Oregon Transportation Commission. In that letter I also requested that your ACT/Lane County discuss what your proposed 2010 – 2013 STIP could look like with a minimum modernization program as well as considering what recommendations you would have if the Department received a funding increase to support a modernization program of \$140 million per year.

Since sending this letter, there has been some additional direction. My initial request was very close to the revised expectations from the Deputy Director, but there are a few modifications. Based upon these revised expectations, here are the Tasks and modified timelines that we need you to consider and provide recommendations to the Region.

Task 1

This Task is identical to the '08 – '11 STIP reduction Task from my previous letter. The Region still needs you to review the "straw proposal" document for cutting approximately \$20.5 million from the '08 – '11 STIP. Your comments are now due by January 25, 2008 to Erik Havig, Region 2 Planning and Development Manager at the address above. This shortened timeline requires we hold the All Area Meeting at the end of February instead of early March. This All Area Meeting will be in Salem, but will be an optional phone in meeting to help with travel.

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Task 2

This Task is similar to what I had asked you to consider with a minimum modernization program for 2010 – 2013 STIP. However, the revised expectation is to develop the recommended projects list to go into the 2010 – 2013 STIP. This Task is essentially our All Area Modernization STIP process. The ACTs/Lane County have already been working on priorities for funding within the current STIP update process. The final actual modernization funds available to Region 2 for the 2010 – 2013 STIP is \$29.63 million. Given that the department has asked you to engage in several other key funding issues, we are modifying the due date for your list of 2010 – 2013 STIP priorities. These were to be turned into the Region by mid December, but they are now due by January 25, 2008. Please send your priority lists to Erik Havig at the Region 2 office by that date. The Region will still send out a “straw proposal” by the middle of February for final comment by the ACTs/Lane County. Please send your comments on this “straw proposal” back to Erik Havig by April 30, 2008. We will be setting our normal All Area Meeting for the middle of May to gavel down on the project list for the 2010 – 2013 STIP update.

Task 3

Task 3 is again similar to my request for your consideration of a funding increase to support a \$140 million per year modernization program. However, the department is requesting that you develop a priority project list that could be implemented over the 2010 – 2015 STIPs. This means six years of modernization funding at \$140 million per year. The Regional split that I gave in my previous letter was not an exact calculation. The exact regional split for Region 2 is \$40.267 million per year. That means we need to develop a modernization priority list for funding \$241.602 million over the six year period beginning in 2010. We will develop this list in the same manner that we develop the STIP update for modernization. At the All Area Meeting in May, we will gavel down on a final list of projects to meet this increased funding scenario. We need you to submit your priority lists for your ACT/Lane County to Erik Havig at the Region 2 office no later than February 22, 2008 in order to meet the expected timelines. A “straw proposal” will be sent back to the ACTs/Lane County in early March 2008. We will need your comments on this “straw proposal” by April 30, 2008 in order to be ready for the All Area Meeting in May.

Task 4

Task 4 is new. As part of the exercise to develop a program assuming a substantial increase in modernization funds, it is clearly understood that the list of needs, especially very large projects will still be out of reach even with the potential increases assumed in Task 3. The ODOT leadership would like each ACT/Lane County to put together a list of large unfunded projects (defined as projects of \$100 million or more) that are not included in the Task 3 list above. These projects must however be identified in TSPs or RTPs. For purposes of RTPs for MPO's, the project must be in either the constrained or illustrative project lists. Please send your list of projects, again to Erik Havig at the Region 2 office no later than February 22, 2008 in order to meet the expected timelines. As with Tasks 2 and 3, we will go over and finalize this list at the All Area Meeting in May.

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Attached to this letter is the set of instructions from the Deputy Director. Included in the instructions is a standardized form that needs to be filled out for each project proposed with Task 3. The Area Planner/Area Manager will be available to work with your ACT/Lane County support staff to complete these forms.

Again, I want to thank each of you for your leadership and assistance with these important funding decisions and actions.

Sincerely,



Jeff Scheick

Northwest Region Manager

Cc: Erik Havig, ODOT Planning and Development Manager
Mike Long, ODOT Project Delivery Manager
Steve Cooley, ODOT Tech Center Manager
Larry McKinley, ODOT Area 1 Manager
Tim Potter, ODOT Area 3 Manager
Vivian Payne, ODOT Area 4 Manager
Sonny Chickering, ODOT Area 5 Manager
Terry Cole, ODOT Sr. Planner
Dan Fricke, ODOT Sr. Planner
Ingrid Weisenbach, ODOT Area 1 Planner
John DeTar, ODOT Area 4 Planner