

January 9, 2003

Pat Rogers Fisher  
ODOT Transportation Enhancement Program  
355 Capital Street, NE, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Salem, OR 97301-3871

Dear Ms. Fisher:

Representing the Eugene-Springfield MPO, the Metropolitan Policy Committee is writing to support of three Transportation Enhancement Program applications from this area:

- Glenwood Sidewalk Project – Springfield
- EWEB Bike Path Project – Springfield
- Spring Connector Bike Path - Eugene

All three projects support the implementation of TransPlan's goal of providing

*“an integrated transportation and land use system that supports choices in modes of travel and development patterns that will reduce reliance on the auto and enhance livability, economic opportunity, and the quality of life.”*

The Glenwood Sidewalks project is proposed for an area that is one of Springfield's priority nodal development areas and will soon have the first phase of LTD's BRT system running through it. Improving the sidewalks in the area of the proposed project is critical to the successful implementation of both nodal development and BRT in that area.

The City of Springfield in coordination with Willamalane Park and Recreation District and Lane County propose to make safety, accessibility and circulation improvements to the 2.5 mile long path that runs on EWEB right of way in northern Springfield between Pioneer Parkway and 31<sup>st</sup> Street. This 20 year old path is a key component of the City's bicycle and pedestrian network and, due to the length of its off-street segments, it functions like an arterial street for alternative modes. The path is surrounded by residential neighborhoods, two parks, three schools, and two shopping centers, and is heavily used. At the west terminus of the path, the path will be extended and curbs cut to cross Pioneer Parkway East to allow for a connection to the Pioneer Path which runs in the median between Pioneer Parkway East (northbound) and Pioneer Parkway West (southbound).

**Attachment 5b – 4 – Letter of Endorsement**

Eugene's Spring Connector project will provide Lane Community College students with a safer and more pleasant alternative to bicycling on the shoulder of 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue. This path would connect the intersection of 29<sup>th</sup> avenue at Spring Boulevard with the 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue interchange with Spring Boulevard. Additionally, access would be provided to the Ridgeline Trail System. This connector has been frequently requested by neighbors who bike and walk in this area and the approximate alignment of the proposed connector is marked by a well-worn dirt trail.

Again, we strongly endorse these projects for funding through the Transportation Enhancement Program.

Sincerely,

Bill Dwyer, Chair  
Metropolitan Policy Committee

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