



March 5, 2008

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee

From: Paul Thompson

Subject: MPC 5.c – ODOT Region 2 FY10-13 STIP Modernization Straw Proposal

Action Recommended: Respond to ODOT Region 2 Straw Proposal for FY2010-13 modernization funding.

Background:

At the January 10, 2008 MPC meeting, the Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC) took action to establish the Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO) funding priorities for FY2010-13 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) modernization funding. MPC unanimously established the following priorities:

1. Backfill the Beltline Highway (River Road to Coburg Road) preliminary engineering development work for \$2.5 million
- 2a. Backfill the Interstate 5 at Coburg interchange project for the acquisition of right-of-way or other project needs as scoped in an adopted phased strategy for \$3.4 million
- 2b. Provide funding for the Interstate 5 at Beltline project during Unit II for \$3.4 million

As requested, the priorities were transmitted to ODOT Region 2 staff. Upon receiving input from all of the Areas in the Region, ODOT Region 2 developed a straw proposal for FY2010-13 STIP modernization funding that allocates the anticipated funding for a "minimum modernization" program in the FY2010-13 STIP. The letter transmitting that straw proposal is included with this memo as Attachment 1.

The ODOT Region 2 letter asks for consideration of the straw proposal, and further states that "if you wish to make changes or modifications to the list of projects, please inform [Region 2]." The straw proposal, along with feedback on it from the four Areas in Region 2, will then be the basis of a final recommended project list which will be presented at an All Area ACT meeting on May 21, 2008.

Discussion

For Area 5 (Lane County), the straw proposal fully funds the MPO's first priority – \$2.5 million for Beltline Road preliminary engineering development work. However, the proposal only provides \$0.725 of the \$3.4 million priority request for the Interstate 5 at Coburg project, and provides no funding for the MPO's third priority. Originally the MPO was under the impression that approximately \$6 million in funding may be available for Area 5 priorities during this process, but the amount allocated in the ODOT straw proposal is just over \$3 million. Of the MPO's "150 percent" list totaling just over \$9 million in priorities for the anticipated \$6 million in funding, only \$3.225 in funding for Area 5 is included in the straw proposal.

The letter presents a proposal for fully programming the FY2010-13 STIP Region 2 modernization funding anticipated at this time for all four Areas. Any request for additional funding for Area 5 priorities must take into consideration that available funding in the straw proposal for all four Areas falls short of the requests submitted to Region 2. ODOT Region 2 staff indicated that the primary feedback being sought on the straw proposal was each Area's indication of whether the funding level proposed for that Area was appropriately targeted at the Area's top priorities.

The Transportation Planning Committee (TPC) considered the straw proposal at its February 28, 2008 meeting. While understanding the limitations of the current level of anticipated funding, discussions with ODOT staff present at the meeting led TPC to unanimously recommend that MPC respond to the straw proposal by requesting a funding level of \$1.6 million for the Interstate 5 at Coburg project, without reducing the straw proposal's \$2.5 million in funding for the Beltline Highway project. The increased level of funding for the Interstate 5 project would allow for an enhanced scope of work during Phase 1 of the project (Coburg and ODOT staff are prepared to provide further detail on this at the March 13th MPC meeting, if so desired).

Requested Action: Provide response to ODOT Region 2 on straw proposal for FY2010-13 STIP modernization funding.

Attachments: Attachment 1 – February 6, 2008 ODOT Letter: *2010 – 2013 STIP Update Region 2 Modernization Straw Proposal*