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Date: March 3, 2004

From: Rob Zako, Transportation Advocate

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee

Re: Draft 2006–2009 STIP Priorities

Dear Metropolitan Policy Committee,

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the Draft 2006–2009 STIP priorities.

I really don't have much to say, except that many of the projects you would like to see funded are on the TransPlan "Future" (Beyond 20 Years) list. As such, these projects really aren't eligible for funding. Aside from a handful of small projects, there are only two significant projects that are on the TransPlan "Financially-Constrained" list, and thus eligible for funding: the I-5/Beltline interchange and the West Eugene Parkway (WEP).

I don't think it is necessary for me to point out that when Eugene, Springfield, Lane County and LTD adopted the July 2002 amendments to TransPlan, which are now acknowledged or in the process of being acknowledged, they made a policy decision to favor two large projects over a larger number of small- and medium-sized projects. These smaller projects included improvements to West 11th, Beltline, and elsewhere.

Given the current funding realities, it will be interesting to see the effect of this policy decision.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rob Zako".

Rob Zako

Transportation Advocate

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