



April 2, 2008

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee

From: Susan Payne

Subject: Item 4.d: Programming Planning Activities with FFY09 STP-U funds

**Action Recommended:** Approve Resolution 2008-02 programming FFY09 STP-U funds in support of Unified Planning Work Program

### **Background**

When the MPO became a Transportation Management Area in 2003, it became a direct recipient of certain surface transportation program funds from the Federal Highways Administration: STP-U (“urban”) funds. The expenditure of these funds is directed by MPC subject to federal rules. The amount received each year is specified by a formula based on population and miles of roads eligible for federal aid. These amounts are specified in the federal Transportation Bill (currently, SAFETEA-LU) and are subject to yearly rescissions effected by the US Congress in the annual budget process. The Central Lane TMA receives approximately \$2.7 million per year in STP-U funds. (There is a similar funding stream from Federal Transit Administration: LTD was designated by the MPO as the direct recipient of Federal Transit 5307 funds, and receives approximately \$4.5 million per year for capital programming from Federal Transit Administration).

It has been the practice of the MPO to program these funds in three year “bundles”- a time interval within which the expected amount of funding is reasonably certain and within which the readiness of projects can be anticipated. MPO staff is currently working with ODOT finance office to finalize the STP-U balance sheets through FFY07. At this time, a total of \$8,304,000 in STP-U funds is available to the MPO for the period FFY07-FFY09 of which \$7,459,360 has already been programmed.

Under the process approved by MPC in July 2006, FFY07-09 STP-U funds were targeted for division into three parts:

- 10% for Transportation Demand Management (TDM) (“Commuter Solutions”)
- 25% for Planning, including baseline planning for MPO and local government transportation staff
- 65% for Preservation, Project Development and Modernization projects

A special consideration was made for the Household Survey Project. This project did not fit neatly into any of the above categories, and so was programmed “off-the-top” of the FFY07-09 funds.

Attachment 1 shows the status of the current completed programming together with the projects that have been programmed using STP-U funds since October 2003. For the FFY07-09 allocation of STP-U funds, projects were selected in August and October 2006, and in February 2007. To date, the following funding breakdown has been achieved for FFY07-09:

TDM :	Years programmed to date: FFY07, FFY08
	Status: 8.5% of total funds have been programmed
	Target: 10% of total funds
	<b>To do: Program FFY09 funds for Commuter Solutions</b>
Planning:	Years programmed to date: FFY07, FFY08
	Status: 18.3% of total funds have been programmed
	Target: 25% of total funds
	<b>To do: Program FFY09 funds for baseline planning for MPO and local government transportation staff</b>
Preservation, Project Development and Modernization:	
	Years programmed to date: FFY07, FFY08, FFY09
	Status: 62.7% of total funds have been programmed
	Target: 65% of total funds
	<b>To do: All years have been funded. Considered complete.</b>

Approximately \$845,000 of FFY07-09 STP-U funds remain available for allocation for FFY09 TDM and Planning projects to reach the targeted percentages.

### **Recommendations**

The Transportation Demand Management regional program “Commuter Solutions” has requested \$240,000 for FFY09. The Commuter Solutions program manager has indicated that with this amount and the carry-over from the previous year, the program will be fully staffed and funded. This proposal has been thoroughly discussed at the Transportation Options subcommittee to TPC, and has been approved and forwarded to TPC. Due solely to timing issues, TPC did not make a recommendation concerning the Commuter Solutions proposal at its March meeting. This is expected to be made in June. The requested amount of funds is effectively being set aside until MPC considers this proposal. If this amount is approved by MPC, TDM funding will constitute 11.5% of the FFY07-09 allocation, thus exceeding the target of 10%.

The draft Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) for FY09, reviewed by USDOT and ODOT in February 2008, and under current consideration by MPC, describes \$595,000 in STP-U funding to support the activities in the UPWP. These funds are distributed amongst the MPO and MPO partners as shown in Attachment 1 and in Table 1 of the work program. Approval by MPC will bring the FFY07-09 planning category to 25.6%, slightly above the targeted 25%.

After reviewing the draft UPWP at their meeting on March 27, 2008, and in consideration of the targets for fund distribution, TPC unanimously recommended that STP-U baseline planning funds be programmed as described in the draft UPWP Table 1 and as outlined in Attachment 1:

City of Eugene	\$40,000
City of Springfield	\$40,000
City of Coburg	\$15,000
Lane County	\$25,000
Lane Transit District	\$25,000
MPO/LCOG	\$450,000
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>\$595,000</u>

MPC action will result in amending the FFY08-11 MTIP by the addition of these funds.

**Action Recommended:** Approve Resolution 2008-02 programming FFY09 STP-U funds in support of Unified Planning Work Program

Attachment 1 – STP-U accounting

Attachment 2 – Resolution 2008-02 with Exhibit A