



April 10, 2008

Patricia Rogers Fisher
 ODOT Transportation Enhancement Program
 355 Capital Street, NE, Room 326
 Salem, OR 97301-3871

Dear Ms. Fisher,

Representing the Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization, the Metropolitan Policy Committee is writing to support three Transportation Enhancement Program applications from this area:

- **Westmoreland Park Path and Lighting – (Eugene):** This is Project # 181 in the Eugene/Springfield TSP and the 2031 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). This project particularly addresses students traveling to school, participants in Kidsports, and others attending events in the City-owned sports fields in Westmoreland Park. It also increases connectivity to the Fern Ridge path, a regional facility providing both commuting and recreational travel.
- **Amazon Path Lighting Project, 19th Avenue to 24th Avenue – (Eugene):** This project is called for in the City of Eugene's Amazon Park Master Plan, and is a direct outcome of public input into the recently adopted Eugene Pedestrian and Bicycle Strategic Plan, an MPO-supported product. The Amazon Path is an important component of the regional bikeway system.
- **West Bank Path Extension – (Eugene):** This is Project # 556 in the Eugene/Springfield TSP and in the 2031 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). It will fill an existing gap in the off-road multi-use West Bank Path thereby improving both the safety and aesthetic experience of travelers using this regional facility. The West Bank Path is an important alternative transport link between the fast growing River Rd area of Eugene and the downtown urban business district., and it supports both commuters and recreational users.

All three projects support the implementation of the Regional Transportation Plan'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 quality of life.”

Specifically, they also support:

RTP Objective #2 – Safety: *“Improve transportation system safety through design, operations and maintenance, system improvements, support facilities, public information, and law enforcement efforts.”*

and at least three RTP Policies:

Transportation System Improvement (TSI) System-wide Policy #2: Intermodal Connectivity –*“Develop or promote intermodal linkages for connectivity and ease of transfer among all transportation modes.”*

TSI Bicycle Policy #1: Bikeway System and Support Facilities – *“Construct and improve the region’s bikeway system and provide bicycle system support facilities for both new development and redevelopment/expansion”*

TSI Pedestrian Policy #1: Pedestrian Environment – *“Provide for a pedestrian environment that is well integrated with adjacent land uses and is designed to enhance the safety, comfort, and convenience of walking”.*

This area has a strong commitment to improving bicycle and pedestrian connectivity and in encouraging alternative modes of transport to expand travel choice, improve the quality of life and protect the environment. We see these three projects as important contributors to this vision.

We strongly endorse these projects for funding through the Transportation Enhancement Program

Sincerely,

Mayor Sid Leiken, Chair
Metropolitan Policy Committee