



May 31, 2006

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee
From: Paul Thompson
Subject: Item 4.d: Programming FY07 STP-U Baseline Planning Funds

Action Recommended: Approve Resolution 2006-09 programming STP-U funds for core MPO planning activities by the MPO and member jurisdictions.

Background

At the May 11, 2006 MPC meeting, staff presented a memo providing extensive background on the current federal Surface Transportation Program – Urban (STP-U) funds programming process. That memo included a draft proposal for programming a portion of the MPO’s Surface Transportation Program – Urban (STP-U) funds for baseline UPWP and planning activities conducted by the MPO and the member jurisdictions in FY07 (see May 2006 MPC packet agenda item 4.h, Figure 3 <http://www.lcog.org/meetings/mpc/0506/Visio-MPC4h-Figure3-ProgrammingSTP-UFundsforPlanningActivities.pdf>). At the time of the May meeting, staff had not completed its assessment of the specific baseline amounts to recommend for this purpose. Since the May meeting, the staff working group has only been able to meet once on the STP-U programming topic, completing the proposal for programming the FY07 baseline planning funds.

The remainder of this memo presents that proposal. The staff working group is scheduled to meet on June 1st (after the mail out of this memo) and staff will present an oral update at the June 8th MPC meeting.

Discussion

As contained in the May status report, staff is recommending programming a portion of the MPO’s STP-U funds for planning and other core activities carried out in support of the MPO’s core functions. The recommendation for programming this portion of the STP-U funds includes the following details:

- Establish twenty-five percent annual funding target for Planning activities
 - Establish a baseline level of funding for each jurisdiction’s staff involvement in the core MPO processes and meetings. Staff will develop a recommendation for an appropriate level of baseline planning funding for the five local MPO jurisdictions (Eugene, Springfield, Lane County, Lane Transit District and Coburg). The Oregon Department of Transportation would not utilize this funding stream. To accomplish this, staff will analyze

the time spent by each jurisdiction's staff that charges to the STP-U funding stream in MPO meetings (MPC, TPC, CAC, TASC, Transportation Options), as well as time spent in meeting preparation, internal jurisdiction briefings and process to deal with MPO activities, development and review of core MPO materials (such as MTIP amendments, etc.), the actual charge rates of the staff, the relative level of responsibility for local planning within the MPO and other factors. At this time, it is estimated that this baseline funding stream for the five jurisdictions would use approximately five percent of the anticipated STP-U funding for FY07.

- Formally establish a baseline level of funding for UPWP activities conducted by the MPO. This STP-U funding stream has been consistently programmed in every year STP-U funds have been programmed to date, at a level approximately equal to twelve percent of the anticipated STP-U funds for the year.
- Target discretionary STP-U funding for local jurisdiction planning to carry out activities in support of regional MPO priorities. After programming the baseline planning amounts for the five local jurisdictions and the MPO, this funding stream would program the balance of the total twenty-five percent targeted for planning, or approximately eight percent of the annual STP-U funds.

Attachment 1 presents an updated version of Figure 3, with the specific recommended baseline STP-U funding for partner jurisdiction participation in MPO planning and other core MPO activities.

Attachment 2 presents Resolution 2006-09, programming the recommended STP-U funds in the MPO's Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) for FY07 for the MPO and the five local partner jurisdictions.

Next Steps and Timeline

Attachment 3 presents the same STP-U programming timeline included in the May 2006 MPC packet.

Recommended Action: Approve Resolution 2006-09.

Attachments: Attachment 1 – Figure 3 – Programming STP-U Funds for Planning Activities
Attachment 2 – Resolution 2006-09
Attachment 3 – STP-U Programming Timeline