

June 12, 2008

Gail Achterman, Chair
Oregon Transportation Commission
355 Capitol Street NE, Room 135
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Achterman,

The Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization (CLMPO) appreciates this opportunity to comment on the draft Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) Policy on Public Involvement.

The Metropolitan Policy Committee endorses the proposed update on the OTC Policy on Public Involvement, including the following comments:

- Divide the 19 points on pages 3-5 into categories, such as Who We Are Going to Talk To, How We Are Going to Talk to Them, etc.
- Talk about the 19 points as some of the “potential ways to implement public involvement” and explicitly refer to the development of the Public Involvement Guide that the Oregon Department of Transportation plans to produce and what that Guide will do.
- Change the 45-day review period to a minimum 60-day, or preferably 90-day, review period to accommodate local and stakeholder processes.
- Add “special transportation needs” to the reference of groups traditionally underserved in item #5 on page 3.
- Add an item to reference explicitly taking advantage of existing stakeholder networks and local processes to seek input from appointed and elected officials and citizens, e.g. the MPO Citizen Advisory Committee, the Metropolitan Policy Committee, the Lane County Roads Advisory Committee, and the Lane Transit District Accessible Transportation Committee.
- Change item #19 on page 5 as follows:
 - “Regularly evaluate, using a standardized method, ~~Periodically review~~ the effectiveness of this public involvement policy and processes to ensure that they provide full, meaningful, and open access to all interested parties and revise the process, as appropriate.”
- Differentiate in the text of the Policy between the terms “public involvement policy” and “public outreach.” Public involvement policy directs the planning process. Public outreach is conducted when a project happens. Clear usage of these terms in the Policy on Public Involvement would be one way to help the public understand the difference between the two.

Letter to Gail Achterman
June 12, 2008
Page 2

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Sid Leiken, Chair
Metropolitan Policy Committee

cc: Sonny Chickering
Erik Havig
Jerri Bohard