

July 1, 2004

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee

From: Tom Schwetz

Subject: Item 4b: Central Lane MPO Environmental Justice Baseline Summary

Action Requested: None. Information Only

Issue Summary

Based on a 1994, Presidential Executive Order, every Federal agency is required to “make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations.”

In the final report from FHWA and FTA regarding the 2002 Central Lane MPO certification process, it was noted that the MPO needed to develop baseline environmental justice data for the MPO area. To address the environmental justice requirement, baseline data was prepared using 2000 Census data by place of residence. The geographic unit of analysis was census block groups which are aggregations of census blocks. Both minority population and low income population concentrations were identified and maps were created identifying block groups in which there was a concentration.

This baseline data will be used in reviewing the impacts of the MPO’s Regional Transportation plan and the Metropolitan Transportation improvement program on minority and low-income populations.

Attached is a summary of the baseline data including a description of the MPO’s role in implementing the environmental justice directive and a brief analysis of the findings of the baseline data. In addition, there are three maps which display the concentrations of low-income and minority populations.

Attachments:

Attachment 1: Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization Environmental Baseline Data Summary

Attachment 2: Central Lane MPO Environmental Justice Baseline Maps (3)