

Lane Council of Governments

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July 6, 2005

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee
Citizen Advisory Committee

From: Paul Thompson

Subject: Item 4.e: Evaluation Criteria and Process for Programming FY07-09
STP-U Funds; Schedule for FY06-09 MTIP Update

Action Recommended: None. Information only. Provide feedback to staff.

Discussion

The Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is currently in the process of programming additional Surface Transportation Program-Urban (STP-U) funds for projects scheduled to occur in FY06. This process is scheduled to wrap up with action at the July 14, 2005 Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC) meeting. This round of STP-U funding is the second time the MPO has engaged in the STP-U process, the first being the FY04-06 STP-U programming effort completed in October 2003. For the most part, the current process has followed the guidelines established in 2003.

Over the next six months, the MPO will engage in a new process to program STP-U funds for the FY07-09 period. This process is scheduled to result in STP-U programming decisions, and resulting amendments to the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP), prior to December 13, 2005. Again, at this time it is assumed that the upcoming process will generally be the same as that established in 2003. However, in order to evaluate lessons learned from the MPO's initial rounds of STP-U programming, and to recommend potential improvements in the process, MPO staff will engage the CAC in a review of both the established competitive funding process as well as the public involvement strategy used during the 2003 programming of STP-U funds.

Concurrent with the process to program FY07-09 STP-U funds, the MPO will engage in an overall update of the MTIP document to adjust the MTIP horizon from the current adopted FY05-07 to FY06-09. This will bring the Central Lane MPO MTIP into compliance with the federal requirement to reflect at least two years of programming in the MTIP, and will also align the MTIP with the pending FY06-09 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program currently scheduled for adoption by the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) in August, 2005.

At the July 6, 2005 CAC meeting staff will present information regarding STP-U funds, focusing on the federal guidelines for programming those funds for MPO activities and the MPO's prior experience with programming STP-U funds. At the July 14, 2005 joint MPC/CAC meeting, staff will present for discussion the proposed schedule shown in Attachment 1 for the upcoming process to update the MTIP and program STP-U funds for FY07-09. The proposed schedule lays out the role of the CAC and indicates opportunities for involving the public via workshops, a public comment period, a public hearing or other appropriate means.

In August, staff will involve both the MPC and the CAC (at their respective meetings) in more detailed discussions of the STP-U project evaluation process and criteria.

Attachments: Attachment 1: Proposed Schedule for FY06-09 MTIP Update and Programming of FY07-09 STP-U Funds