



August 6, 2008

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee
From: Paul Thompson
Subject: Item 5.d: Endorsement of Transportation Enhancement (TE)
Program Application Priorities

Action Recommended: Approve letter to ODOT Transportation Enhancement Program prioritizing projects.

Background

The Transportation Enhancement (TE) program provides federal highway funds for projects that strengthen the cultural, aesthetic, or environmental value of our transportation system. Typical projects include sidewalk and streetscape construction, bike lanes and shared-use paths, viewpoints and interpretive sites, and historic preservation of transportation-related structures and buildings.

In April 2008 the MPC voted to endorse the project list, which included three bicycle/pedestrian projects from the City of Eugene. These projects include:

1. Westmoreland Park Path and Lighting
2. Amazon Path Lighting
3. West Bank Path Extension and Lighting

The TE Program manager has invited MPC to submit a letter prioritizing these projects. This prioritization will be factored into the scoring by the TE Advisory Committee. The City of Eugene has provided a memo describing their projects and listing their preferred order of priority (Attachment 1).

ODOT has also provided an opportunity for the public to comment on the projects that have been submitted for funding. This input will have bearing on which projects advance to final selection. Information as to how to comment using ODOT's internet survey site and also through written comment is provided on the MPO's web site at <http://www.thempo.org/news/>.

Staff Recommendation

MPC is requested to consider the submitted projects and suggested prioritization order, and if in agreement, to approve the draft letter (Attachment 2).

Attachments

1. City of Eugene memo
2. DRAFT letter of prioritization.