

August 14, 2003

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee

From: Jeff Krueger, Lane Council of Governments (LCOG)

Subject: Item 4d: Walkable Community Workshops Grant Letter of Support

LCOG is in the process of applying for a *Walkable Community Workshop* grant, which is being offered by the National Center for Bicycling & Walking (NCBW), and is requesting a letter of support from the MPC to be included with the grant application. Additional support letters from the cities of Springfield, Eugene, and Coburg and from Oregon Department of Transportation, Lane Transit District, the University of Oregon, the Village School, LCOG Senior and Disabled Services, and the Friendly Area Neighbors will also be included.

The NCBW is offering Metropolitan Planning Organizations from around the county the opportunity to apply for approximately \$20,000 worth of technical assistance to hold a series of half-day workshops which will include participation by elected officials, local government staff, and citizens. The workshops will focus on developing bicycle and pedestrian safety solutions for eight selected focus areas in Springfield, Eugene, and Coburg. The tentative list of focus areas to be addressed include:

- LTD Station and vicinity (Downtown Eugene)
- University of Oregon (13th Avenue and Kincaid Street)
- Willamette Street , Eugene (24th Avenue to 29th Avenue)
- Gateway Boulevard, Springfield
- 5th Street and Q Street, Springfield
- Main Street, Springfield (28th Street to 42nd Street)
- Pearl Street, Coburg
- Barger Road and Echo Hollow Road, Eugene

The NCBW workshops were held in nine MPOs last year and have received excellent reviews. The workshops would be scheduled for spring 2004.

Action Requested:

Approval of attached letter of support for Walkable Community Workshop grant application

Attachment:

Proposed letter of support from the MPC Chair Bill Dwyer