

Lane Council of Governments

99 East Broadway, Suite 400, Eugene, Oregon 97401-3111 (541) 682-4283 Fax: (541) 682-4099 TTY: (541) 682-4567

August 3, 2005

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee

From: Paul Thompson

Subject: Item 4.b: Evaluation Criteria and Process for Programming FY07-09
Surface Transportation Program – Urban (STP-U) Funds;
Schedule for FY06-09 MTIP Update

Action Recommended: Review and discuss TPC recommendation for proceeding with programming of STP-U funds and update of MTIP. Provide feedback to staff.

Issue Summary

At the July 14, 2005 joint meeting of the MPC and the Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO) Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) staff presented an ambitious schedule for prioritizing and programming FY07-09 STP-U funds and updating the current FY05-07 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) to a new FY06-09 MTIP. MPC provided direction on the schedule and process which can be summarized as follows:

- At a minimum, program twenty percent of anticipated FY07 STP-U funds for FY07 Modernization projects with MPC action no later than November 10, 2005.
- Recommend revisions to the STP-U evaluation criteria and process, with particular focus on achieving more equitable scoring of different types of preservation projects across modes.
- If possible, attempt to achieve all of the goals outlined in the schedule, resulting in the programming of all FY07-09 STP-U funds in an updated FY06-09 MTIP with MPC action no later than November 10, 2005.

Since the July 14th meeting, MPO and partner jurisdiction staff have reviewed the STP-U evaluation criteria and process used in other MPO areas, have conducted several meetings on the topic, have discussed the goals associated with revision of the STP-U evaluation criteria and process, and have considered the time required to achieve those goals. As a result, Attachment 1 presents staffs' recommendation for a revised schedule and process. The MPO's Transportation Planning Committee (TPC) considered this schedule on August 2nd and unanimously passed three motions in the course of developing a recommendation to MPC. Attachment 1 reflects the intent of those motions, which were:

1. Program 20 percent of available STP-U funds for Modernization and Project Development projects in FY07 with MPC action no later than November 10, 2005.
2. For all three fiscal years (FY07-09), program 10 percent of available STP-U funds for Transportation Demand Management (TDM) and related activities through the Transportation Options (TO) program and 20 percent of available STP-U funds for Planning activities with MPC action no later than November 10, 2005.
3. Review and recommend revisions to the STP-U prioritization evaluation criteria and process, focusing first on the criteria for evaluating Preservation projects. Recommendations for revisions will be presented in a timely manner in order to allow for the programming of STP-U funds for FY07-09 Preservation projects and FY08-09 Modernization and Project Development projects in Spring 2006.

In addition to the three motions above, staff and TPC discussed and supported the following details:

- The MPO will accept applications for FY07 STP-U Modernization funding from August 11 through August 22, 2005
- FY07-09 STP-U funding for TDM/TO activities will not require a competitive application (historically, there has only been one application for these funds). The Transportation Options program shall submit a plan detailing the activities that will be funded with the annual programming of STP-U funds. Both the TPC and the MPC shall review and provide direction on that plan.
- Applications for STP-U funding for Project Development activities shall be considered in the Modernization category instead of the Planning category. This change recognizes that applications for Project Development funding are for work in support of the development of project scopes associated with modernization projects. The Planning category shall continue to fund work in support of the federally-required MPO's regional planning activities.
- Aside from the schedule for programming specific STP-U funds, the FY06-09 update of the MTIP shall proceed with MPC adopting action no later than November 10, 2005. The MTIP currently programs projects through FY07. This update will program all federally funded and regionally significant projects within the MPO through FY09. One result will be to synchronize the MTIP with the draft FY06-09 STIP scheduled for adoption in August, 2005.

Attachments:

Attachment 1 – *Revised* Draft Schedule for FY06-09 MTIP Update and FY07-09 STP-U Funding