

October 2, 2003

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee

From: Paul Thompson

Subject: Item 4a: Draft FY04-06 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) and Federal STP-Urban Allocations

## **Background**

At the July 10, 2003 MPC meeting staff presented a draft proposal for an evaluation process and criteria to prioritize competing demands for STP-U funding within the MPO. At that time, staff also presented the timeline for the current update of the Central Lane MPO Transportation Improvement Program. At that meeting, MPC opened a public comment period on the proposed STP-U fund allocation process and evaluation criteria.

At the August 9, 2003 MPC meeting staff presented input from the public comment period and staff recommendations for modifications to the STP-U evaluation process and criteria. At that meeting, MPC held a public hearing on the STP-U proposal and subsequently directed staff to prepare draft Federal STP-U fund allocations based on the modified staff proposal.

At the September 11, 2003 MPC meeting the draft MTIP and STP-U fund allocations were presented and MPC moved to open the public review process on the MTIP until October 9, 2003. The remainder of this memo reports on the results of the public review period and recommends adoption of the draft MTIP.

## **Public Comment**

The draft MTIP, including the proposed STP-U fund allocations, was published to the MPO's (LCOG) web site at the time of the September 11 MPC meeting. Also at that time, a public workshop was scheduled for September 25 to present information and collect public comment on the MTIP and STP-U allocations. In addition, MPO staff sent an email notice of the public comment period, the public workshop and the public hearing scheduled for October 9<sup>th</sup> to a distribution list of approximately one hundred interested parties.

To date, MPO staff has received three email submissions and one written letter regarding the draft MTIP. These public comments are included as attachments to this

memo. At the public workshop, eight citizens participated in discussions of the MTIP and STP-U allocations, as well as other regional transportation issues. While no written comments were submitted at the workshop, staff feels that the discussions were informative and useful for the citizens in attendance. Some of the specific oral comments heard from citizens at the workshop include:

- When will there be additional funding for nodal development implementation?
- Appreciate the expanded public outreach and information this time around
- In the future please clarify even more that a large percentage of the MTIP reflects transportation priority decisions already made at other points in local and state processes
- Support priority funding for preserving the existing transportation system
- Support the Chad Drive extension modernization project

Any additional comment provided between the date of the mail out and the date of the MPC meeting will be handed out at the meeting.

### **Modifications to the Draft MTIP Project List**

In addition to the corrections noted in a memo provided at the September 11 MPC meeting, the following modifications to the draft MTIP project list have been submitted by the Lane Transit District (LTD) and the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT).

- Add an LTD project, *Fleet Replacement and Expansion*, to FY03-04 using \$6,596,000 of Federal 5307 program funds and \$1,649,000 of LTD matching funds for a line-item total cost of \$8,245,000.
- Delete the FY04 ODOT *OR26, Willamette River-Pacific Hwy* “thick overlay” project. This project entry is redundant with the FY05 ODOT *I-105: Willamette River-Pacific Highway* “preservation” project.
- Delete the FY04 ODOT *I-5 @ Beltline Right-of-Way Purchase* project. This project and the associated costs are now incorporated in the *I-5 @ Beltline Interchange Phase One* project.
- Clarify the project description and geographic extents for the ODOT *OR-126/Franklin Blvd. Sidewalks* project.
- Add an ODOT project, *I-5 @ Beltline, Interchange Phase Two, Preliminary Engineering and Right-of-Way* to FY04
- Add two ODOT projects in FY05, *OR99: Garfield Street to Washington/Jefferson Street* and *OR99: Barger Avenue to Garfield Street*. Both are preliminary engineering for preservation projects.

None of the project list modifications noted above change either the recommended STP-U funding allocations or the overall MTIP financial constraint analysis. The modified *Table 1 Programmed Projects by Year* from the draft MTIP is attached to this memo.

A map of the majority of the projects included in the draft MTIP will be handed out at the October 9 MPC meeting.

### **Administrative Amendments**

As noted in prior MPC discussion, federal guidelines on the MTIP allow for certain changes to be made administratively. The scope of such changes should be reviewed and approved by MPC as part of the MTIP adoption. The draft MTIP includes the following language relating to modifications to the MTIP:

*The MTIP may be modified by the MPC. TPC may make specific changes determined to be administrative in nature. These include:*

- 1. Deletions of local projects which are provided for information purposes,*
- 2. Moving projects from one year to another year in the MTIP period or*
- 3. Minor cost estimate revisions that do not affect financial constraint of the MTIP or the MTIP's air quality conformity.*

*Proposals for additions or deletions of regionally significant or federally funded projects must be approved by MPC.*

Administrative changes would be formally approved by TPC and reported to MPC at the next meeting following TPC's action.

**Action Requested:** Review Public Comments on Draft MTIP and STP-U fund allocations. Conduct Public Hearing on Draft MTIP. Adopt FY04-06 MTIP.