



November 1, 2006

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee

From: Paul Thompson

Subject: Item 4.c: FTA JARC/New Freedom Designation

Action Recommended: Approve Resolution 2006-16 recommending designation of Lane Transit District as the direct recipient of Federal Transit Administration Job Access and Reverse Commute funds and New Freedom Program funds.

Background

In mid-August, 2006 the MPO and Lane Transit District (LTD) received a letter from the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) included with this memo as Attachment 1. The letter explains a requirement of SAFETEA-LU – that the Governor must designate a direct recipient within each Transportation Management Area (TMA) for Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) funds and New Freedom Program funds.

As described in the letter, the typical direct recipient of these funds is the transit district. At the April 13, 2006 MPC meeting, MPC unanimously approved Resolution 2006-05 adopting MTIP amendments 2006-06 and 2006-07 programming JARC and New Freedom Program funds in FY06 through FY09 for use by LTD under the SAFETEA-LU programs. As MPC heard at the April meeting, as a result of SAFETEA-LU the JARC and New Freedom funds are “formula” funds – that is, the funds are distributed to the direct recipient in each TMA by formula, and are not distributed on a discretionary or competitive basis.

This additional step of formally designating the JARC/New Freedom direct recipient is a requirement for the formula funds to be distributed as programmed. At its September 28, 2006 meeting, TPC unanimously recommended designation of LTD as the direct recipient.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of Resolution 2006-16 (Attachment 2), recommending designation of LTD as the direct recipient of FTA JARC funds and New Freedom Program funds within the Central Lane MPO Transportation Management Area.

Attachments: Attachment 1 – ODOT Letter
Attachment 2 – Resolution 2006-16