

November 10, 2004

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee

From: Paul Thompson

Subject: Item 4.a: Draft Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Public Review

Action Requested: Hold public hearing on *Preliminary Draft Regional Transportation Plan*

Issue Summary

At the October 14, 2004 MPC meeting staff presented a *Preliminary Draft RTP* and a status report on the RTP update in progress and scheduled for adoption at the December 9, 2004 MPC meeting. On October 14th, MPC released the *Preliminary Draft RTP* for public comment and scheduled the first public hearing on the document for the November 18th MPC meeting. This memo presents the November *Draft RTP* and describes the public review and adoption schedule for the update.

As indicated in October, this update of the RTP is a minor update, necessitated only by the federal requirement to keep the July 2002 adopted RTP current with respect to the planning horizon, the MPO geography and the financial constraint analysis. Federal legislation requires a minimum 20-year planning horizon for the RTP, thus this update presents a 2025 planning horizon. The expansion of the MPO geographic boundary since the 2002 adoption of the current RTP has brought the City of Coburg and additional unincorporated land within the RTP planning area. And, as part of the financial constraint analysis it is necessary to review the RTP project lists and bring them current with respect to completed projects, additional projects anticipated within the planning horizon, and updated information (such as scope and estimated cost) for projects in the adopted plan.

The *Draft RTP* document included with this memo is a slightly modified version of the *Preliminary Draft RTP* presented at the October 2004 MPC meeting. This *Draft RTP* includes a fully updated Chapter 4, improved readability and other minor corrections to the *Preliminary Draft* document. The October *Preliminary Draft* was published in full legislative format throughout, highlighting every modification to the adopted RTP. In response to MPC comments in October, the November *Draft RTP* has improved readability by removing the legislative format for minor housekeeping edits while retaining the legislative revision format for the primary changes. In addition, "callouts," or annotations, have been added throughout the document to bring attention to the primary edits and, most importantly, to provide embedded explanatory statements for those edits. The project lists in Chapter 3 now include explanations for changes to each of the projects.

A summary of the key changes to the plan adopted in 2001 is provided below. A more detailed chapter by chapter listing of modifications is provided in Table 1.

- No new policies are proposed for addition to the RTP.
- Three policies are proposed for deletion from the RTP. These three policies are either specific to Eugene, specific to the Metro Plan (TSP) or don't apply outside the Eugene-Springfield Metro Plan boundary for the rest of the MPO. These policies would remain in the Eugene-Springfield Transportation System Plan (TSP).
- The project lists have been fully updated, as follows:
 - Remove completed projects
 - Remove projects that are not anticipated to use federal funds and/or are not regionally specific – these projects would remain in the Eugene-Springfield TSP
 - All project cost estimates have been updated either through a new project-specific cost estimate or the application of an inflation factor to bring the cost estimate forward from 1997 dollars to 2004 dollars. Inflation alone accounts for a 25% increase in project costs since 1997.
 - 13 additional projects, as submitted by the individual jurisdictions, have been incorporated into the appropriate project list.
- All Revenue forecasts have been updated – this is described in more detail in the RTP text itself (*Part Two: Financial Plan* beginning on page 55)
 - An updated financial constraint analysis has been conducted. As required by federal MPO guidelines, the updated project costs included in the Draft RTP are constrained to those revenues (also updated) reasonably expected to be available through 2025.
- Part Two of Chapter 4 (Projected Plan Performance) has been updated based on the analysis of all plan strategies through the new 2025 planning horizon.
- Following federal guidelines that encourage reference of other related regional efforts in the RTP, three related documents have been referenced in this update:
 - New sections in Chapter 3 (Parts 5 and 7) have incorporated elements from the *Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Refinement Plan* and the *Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Operations and Implementation Plan*
 - A new *Part Four: Congestion Management System* has been added to Chapter 4 to integrate the *Congestion Management System Baseline Report* into the RTP.
 - MPC's adoption of the RTP is not an adoption of these plans.

Public Comment

The October *Preliminary Draft RTP* was available to the public at the November 4, 2004 open house. As directed by MPC in October, staff has been implementing a more aggressive outreach on the RTP update. MPO staff sent email and postal mail notices to a distribution list of over 400 interested parties, and published a display advertisement in the

newspaper, all describing the public comment period, the November 4th open house and the additional December 1st open house, as well as the public hearings scheduled for November 18th and December 9th. Staff has also been working to get time at the regular meetings of various groups and organizations. Staff has reached out to the Eugene Neighborhood Leaders Council and are currently scheduled to present to several neighborhood associations. A presentation has also been made to the Eugene Chamber's Governmental Affairs Committee. Staff is working with the Springfield Chamber to get time on one of their committee agendas.

Any specific groups that MPC members would like staff to meet with can be provided to staff at the meeting or by contacting Tom Schwetz (682-4044; tschwetz@lane.cog.or.us).

At the November 4th open house approximately fourteen citizens participated in discussions of the RTP, the MTIP and the air quality analysis, as well as other regional transportation issues. To date, MPO staff has received some public comments regarding the RTP update. Written and email comments received as of the date of this memo are attached. Any comments received between the date of this memo and the date of the MPC meeting will be handed out at the meeting.

Next Steps

The schedule calls for a public review and comment period running through a second public hearing on these matters scheduled for MPC's meeting on December 9, 2004. During this public comment period, staff will conduct a second public information open house on the draft RTP on December 1, 2004 as well as other public outreach activities.

The schedule for adoption of the RTP over the next month is as follows:

- November 18** *Draft RTP* presented to MPC; MPC holds first public hearing
- December 1** Second Public Workshop on RTP update
- December 9** MPC holds second public hearing, closes public comment period and adopts RTP

The necessary air quality conformity process will be conducted concurrent with the adoption of the RTP. The public notice, public workshop and public hearings are addressing both the RTP and the air quality conformity, providing the public with a coordinated one-stop process for learning about and providing comment on both elements of the update.

Attachment 1: November *Draft RTP*

Attachment 2: Public comments on the RTP update

Table 1
Chapter by Chapter Detail on Changes to
Central Lane MPO Regional Transportation Plan

- Chapter 1: Introduction
 - A description of the transition from the joint RTP/Eugene-Springfield TSP (*TransPlan*) to the stand-alone Central Lane MPO RTP is provided.
 - References to *TransPlan* as a functional plan of the *Eugene-Springfield Metropolitan Area General Plan* have been removed.
 - A section describing the RTP update process has been moved from Chapter 4 to Chapter 1.
 - Figures 1 & 2 have been updated, Figure 4 (the *TransPlan* update timeline from 1992 through 2001) has been removed.

- Chapter 2: Policy Element
 - No new policies are proposed for addition to the RTP.
 - Three policies are proposed for deletion from the RTP. These three policies (*Land Use Policy #5: Implementation of Nodal Development*, *TSI System-Wide Policy #5: TransPlan Project Lists* and *Finance Policy #6: Eugene-Specific Finance Policy*) are specific to Eugene, specific to the Metro Plan (TSP) or don't apply outside the Eugene-Springfield Metro Plan boundary for the rest of the MPO. These policies would remain in the Eugene-Springfield Transportation System Plan (TSP).

- Chapter 3: Plan Implementation
 - The project lists (financially constrained roadway, transit and bicycle projects lists, and illustrative roadway and bicycle projects lists) have been fully updated, as follows:
 - Remove completed projects
 - Remove projects that are not anticipated to use federal funds and/or are not regionally specific – these projects would remain in the Eugene-Springfield TSP
 - All project cost estimates have been updated either through a new project-specific cost estimate or the application of an inflation factor to bring the cost estimate forward from 1997 dollars to 2004 dollars
 - Additional projects as submitted by the individual jurisdictions have been incorporated into the appropriate project list
 - All operations, maintenance and preservation (OM&P) need estimates have been updated by adjusting the timeframe and inflation factors in the financial model used for the RTP
 - All Revenue forecasts have been updated – this is described in more detail in the RTP text itself (*Part Two: Financial Plan* beginning on page 55)
 - An updated financial constraint analysis has been conducted – the analysis and its results are described in more detail in the RTP text itself (*Part Two: Financial Plan* beginning on page 55)

- A new section (Part 3) has been added to Chapter 3 to describe the RTP amendment process and address consistency between local Transportation System Plans and the Regional Transportation Plan
- New sections in Chapter 3 (Parts 5 and 7) have incorporated elements from the *Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Refinement Plan* and the *Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Operations and Implementation Plan*
- Chapter 4: Plan Performance and Implementation Monitoring
 - Part Two (Projected Plan Performance) has been updated based on the analysis of projects through the new 2025 planning horizon.
 - The section titled *Development of TransPlan's Alternative Performance Measures* has been moved to a new Appendix F.
 - A new *Part Four: Congestion Management System* has been added to Chapter 4 to integrate the *Congestion Management System Baseline Report* into the RTP.
 - *Part Five: TransPlan Update Cycle* has been moved to Chapter 1.
- Appendices
 - Appendix A (*Maps*) has been updated with all new versions of the nine previous maps, and three new maps have been added (*Existing Lane Transit District System (within MPO)*, *Regional Transportation Demand Management: Commuter Solutions Regional Programs* and *Congestion Management System: Percent Change in Congestion 2002-2021*).
 - Appendix B (*Level of Service Standards*) has been updated with sections addressing *Alternative Mobility Standards* and *Lane County Level of Service Standards*.
 - The original Appendix C (*TransPlan Update Process Documentation*) has been removed.
 - The original Appendix D (*List of Supporting Documents*) is now Appendix C and has been updated.
 - The original Appendix E (*Glossary and Acronyms*) is now Appendix D and has been updated.
 - The original Appendix F (*Metro Plan Text Amendments*) has been removed.
 - The original Appendix G (*LCDC Order Approving Alternative Plan Performance Measures*) is now Appendix E.
 - A new Appendix F (*Development of TPR Alternative Measures*) has been added, consisting of text originally included in Chapter 4.
 - A new Appendix G (*Executive Summary: Regional ITS Operations & Implementation Plan for The Eugene-Springfield Metropolitan Area*) has been added.

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