

November 12, 2004

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee

From: Tom Schwetz

Subject: Item 4f (1)(i) – MPO Summit II Outcomes

**Action Recommended:** None. Information Only.

### **Issue Summary:**

The second MPO Summit was successfully completed on October 15<sup>th</sup>. The event, held at the Eugene Public Library, was well attended with 13 MPO policy makers from around the state and 23 other participants. Central Lane MPO representatives in attendance included Bonny Bettman, who chaired the meeting, Bobby Green, Anne Ballew, and Susan Ban. Mayor Torrey provided a welcoming address.

The primary topics covered during the meeting included a discussion of the possible formation of an Oregon MPO Association and discussion of possible issues for a state-level agenda, including both legislative and administrative issues. The final agenda and notes from the summit are attached.

The key outcomes from the summit are as follows:

#### Formation of Oregon MPO Association:

- MPO Staff will develop a decision package outlining proposals for an MPO Organization structure to include the purpose, constituency, and decision-making structure based on the summit discussion.

#### Legislative Strategy

Given their focus on regional collaboration of diverse interests, MPOs as a group are in a unique position to weave together the interests of counties, cities, transit agencies and others into a cohesive regional, broad based partnership. This partnership can make a compelling argument that can resonate with the Legislature for investing more resources into the transportation system.

Toward that end, summit participants agreed to consider adoption of a common resolution outlining key funding priorities for the legislative session and development of a letter to the Governor, OTC, and ODOT outlining key issues. A draft resolution from Metro's JPACT outlining legislative priorities is attached.

MPOs will also work with LOC and AOC to coordinate legislative strategies. Specific logistics discussed at the meeting include:

- Metro will provide a central contact point, a clearinghouse for legislative information, facilitate communication among MPOs, and coordinate activities;
- MPOs will provide direction to their staff once a legislative package has been developed;
- The Councils of Governments' email networks will be used to communicate among members;
- Each MPO will designate a contact person until a structure is agreed upon and two representatives from each MPO are identified;
- Staff will develop a decision package for the MPO organization structure;
- An MPO organization representative could testify at the December 14, 2004, OTC meeting pursuant to a letter circulated via email among MPOs and agreed upon.

Other Tasks over the Next Year:

- Work to clarify the roles of ACTs and MPOs;
- Seek an update of the Oregon Transportation Finance Study;
- Work to elevate urban issues at the state level;
- Rogue Valley and Metro will each send a representative to attend a meeting in Palo Alto, CA regarding the West Coast Corridor Coalition. They will report back to the group at the February meeting.

Third Summit

A third summit has been proposed for Salem in February to coincide with the beginning of the legislative session. A working proposal for the meeting includes a potential joint appearance of MPO officials before legislative transportation committees with a meeting prior to the legislative session to prepare for the Capitol visit, as well as a follow-up meeting to cover other MPO business.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Final Agenda for MPO Summit II
2. Notes from MPO Summit II
3. Draft JPACT Resolution on Legislative Priorities

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