

# Transportation Planning

In the Eugene-Springfield metropolitan area, planning our highway, rail, transit, bicycle, and pedestrian transportation system is a coordinated effort between a number of local, regional, state, and federal agencies, including:

- City of Eugene
- City of Springfield
- City of Coburg
- Lane County
- Lane Transit District
- Willamalane Park & Recreation District
- Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
- Oregon Department of Transportation
- Federal Highway Administration
- Federal Transit Administration

Working with a broad spectrum of stakeholders, these agencies are responsible for long-range planning, developing projects, and constructing improvements. Their activities are governed by a variety of transportation plans.

The **Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)** is required by the federal government for all metropolitan areas with populations over 50,000. It is a 20-year planning document identifying both long- and short-range policies, strategies, and actions that will inform federal requests for funding. It includes a list of all regionally significant projects and is updated every four years. The current Eugene-Springfield RTP was adopted by the Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC) in November 2007.

**TransPlan** is our local transportation plan required by the State of Oregon under the state's land use planning rules. It guides transportation system planning and development in the metropolitan area and establishes transportation policies in support of the Metro Plan, the region's comprehensive land use plan. TransPlan is adopted, updated and amended by the full governing bodies of Eugene, Springfield, and Lane County. TransPlan was most recently amended in July 2002.

## Current Activities

Currently the State-required TransPlan is not consistent with the federally required RTP. To comply with state law, a coordinated work plan is necessary. The work plan will illustrate the steps each agency will take to bring these plans into compliance.

Key work plan components will include:

- Key public involvement strategies and events
- Progress report on how we're meeting performance measures included in TransPlan
- Analysis related to removing the West Eugene Parkway project from regional transportation plans
- List of other plan inconsistencies
- Integration of Coburg and associated changes in recognition of the City of Coburg as a governing partner
- Overall transportation planning framework for individual jurisdictions and for the MPO
- Detailed task list for ongoing regional transportation planning activities

### What is the Metropolitan Policy Committee or MPC?

The MPC serves as the policy board for the Metropolitan Planning Organization. Committee members are responsible for approving the adoption, update and amendment of the Regional Transportation Plan. MPC is comprised of representatives from Coburg, Springfield and Eugene City Councils, the Lane County Board of Commissioners, the Lane Transit District Board and Oregon Department of Transportation.

### Why does the Metropolitan Area now include the City of Coburg?

The metropolitan area is designated based on census data from the US Census Bureau. Results of the 2000 census showed that the population of Coburg has increased such that it is now considered part of the metropolitan area to be covered by the Regional Transportation System Plan.

## Issues

A good transportation system is essential to our quality of life. As we discuss our options, a range of issues should be considered and addressed.



- How do we ensure that our transportation decisions result in improving the **livability** of this region?
- Does our transportation system make **safety** a priority—now and into the future?
- How will we change/adapt to **rising fuel costs** and decreasing supplies of oil?
- What can we do to make different transportation choices in support of Oregon's efforts to reduce **greenhouse gas emissions**?
- Will **adequate transportation system funding** continue to be available for our community?
- How can we preserve and maintain our **existing transportation assets**—our roads, bridges, bike paths, and rail lines—in a time of diminishing financial support?
- What transportation and land use strategies best support overall **public health** for our communities?
- How do we make sure that a **healthy, stable economy** is an outcome of our transportation and land use processes?

### What are Oregon's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Goals?

**By 2010** To arrest the growth of greenhouse gas emissions and begin to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

**By 2020** To achieve greenhouse gas levels that are 10 % below where they were in 1990.

**By 2050** To achieve greenhouse gas levels that are at least 75% below where they were in 1990.

Oregon Legislature's Global Warming Integration Act (HB 3543)

## For More Information

If you have questions, please contact one of the agency representatives below:

City of Eugene, Rob Inerfeld, Transportation Planning Manager, 541-682-5343

Lane County, Celia, Transportation Planning Planner, 541-682-3958

City of Springfield, Greg Mott, Community Planning Manager, 541-726-3774

Central Lane MPO, Andrea G. Riner, Transportation Program Manager 541-682-6512

Lane Transit District, Tom Schwetz, Director of Development Services, 541-682-6100

Or visit the Regional Coordination Website: [www.lcog.org/coordination](http://www.lcog.org/coordination)