



December 1, 2010

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee
From: Andrea Riner
Subject: Item 5.b.1: MPO Representation on Lane Area Commission on Transportation

Action Recommended: Appoint a Central Lane MPO representative and an MPO Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) representative to the Lane Area Commission on Transportation (Lane ACT).

Issue Statement

The Central Lane MPO is one of the twenty agency members of the new Lane ACT. This agenda item is to appoint a primary and alternate MPO representative to serve on the ACT and a primary and alternate MPO CAC representative to serve on the ACT.

Background

The purpose of an ACT is to improve communication and interaction between the OTC and stakeholders at the local level, to increase opportunities for local officials to advise OTC on policy issues, and to broaden the regional transportation perspective. Coordination with the MPO, along with OTC, other ACT's, ODOT, local governments, transit and port districts and stakeholder groups is one of the primary obligations of an ACT. Communication and coordination of regional priorities with other organizations is aimed at improving decision-making and coordination of projects

Lane ACT Membership

The Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) approved the formation of the Lane Area Commission on Transportation (Lane ACT) on November 9, 2010. The Lane ACT will include representatives of the following:

- Lane County;
- Each of the 12 incorporated cities in Lane County;
- Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Indians;
- Port of Siuslaw;
- Lane Transit District;
- Lane County Roads Advisory Committee;
- Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO);
- Central Lane MPO Citizen Advisory Committee; and
- ODOT.

The Lane ACT will appoint 8 to 10 citizens to represent diverse stakeholders, including trucking, rail, bicycle and pedestrian modes, and environmental land use interests. In addition, a citizen to represent the unincorporated communities along the Highway 126 corridor east of Springfield will be appointed by the Lane County Board of Commissioners.

MPO Representation

The approved bylaws of the Lane ACT provide the following guidance for selection of an MPO representative:

Central Lane MPO: Central Lane MPO is invited to designate a primary representative and an alternate representative to LACT. Such representatives need not be *elected officials*, but should be well versed in federal MPO requirements. (1 member)

In January, 2010, the MPC approved the appointment of the LCOG Executive Director or his designee to represent the MPO on the FACT-LC. Andrea Riner, LCOG Transportation Program Manager served on this committee. Continuing this appointment on the approved Lane ACT would maintain strong continuity of effort and meet the intent of the Lane ACT bylaws to identify a representative well versed in the federal requirements of MPOs.

LCOG Involvement

It should be understood that Lane Council of Governments has contracted with ODOT to support the ongoing operations of the Lane ACT. This work will include the facilitation of meetings, development of meeting agendas and informational packets, and assistance with the selection of citizen representatives to the ACT. It is also understood that the MPO representative to the Lane ACT will limit his or her activities to participation as an ACT member, and not to staff support activities for the ODOT contract.

CAC Representation

The approved bylaws of the Lane ACT provide the following guidance for selection of a CAC representative:

Transportation Advisory Committees: The Lane County Roads Advisory Committee (LCRAC) and the CLMPO Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC), with the approval of the CLMPO, are each invited to designate a primary representative and an alternate representative to LACT.

Furthermore, the CAC bylaws state that “the Metropolitan Policy Committee must approve any activities of the Committee beyond the charges listed in these bylaws.” Formally representing the MPO CAC citizen viewpoint on the Lane ACT is not within the CAC charges currently listed in the bylaws.

Dave Jacobson served as the MPO CAC Representative on the Forum to Create an ACT for Lane County, and Eleanor Mulder participated as an alternate. Dave also served on the Forum Subcommittee that met in between full Forum meetings to work out details for the draft bylaws.

CAC Recommendation

The Citizen Advisory Committee unanimously recommended at their November 18, 2010 meeting that the Metropolitan Policy Committee appoint Dave Jacobson to serve as the CAC representative to the Lane ACT and Eleanor Mulder to serve as the alternate.

Options

The options for the MPC to consider include the following:

1. Appoint the LCOG Executive Director or his designee to represent the MPO on the Lane ACT, and appoint Andrea Riner as an alternate.
2. Appoint a member of the Metropolitan Policy Committee to represent the MPO on the Lane ACT, and appoint an alternate.

Recommendations

Appoint the LCOG Executive Director or his designee to represent the MPO on the Lane ACT, and appoint Andrea Riner as an alternate.

Appoint Dave Jacobson to serve as the CAC representative to the Lane ACT and Eleanor Mulder to serve as the alternate.