



January 4, 2012

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee
From: Andrea Riner
Subject: Item 6.e: 2011 MPO Federal Certification Review Results

Action Recommended: None. For information only.

Issue Statement

Every four years the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) conduct a Federal Certification Review of the Central Lane MPO. The main purpose of the review is to certify that the MPO is satisfactorily meeting the planning requirements as defined in Federal laws and regulations. This process also provides FHWA and FTA the opportunity to add value to the MPO planning process through the sharing of best practices, techniques, and/or technology. This agenda item provides an overview of the recently completed certification review.

Background

Following is the Executive Summary of the Central Lane MPO Transportation Planning Certification Review Final Report:

The US Department of Transportation (USDOT) is required to review and evaluate the transportation planning processes of metropolitan areas with population over 200,000 persons, called transportation management areas (TMAs), no less than once every four years. The review is conducted by a team of representatives from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Upon completion of the review and evaluation, the results must support a joint certification by the FHWA and FTA that the transportation planning process substantially meets Federal planning requirements. The review consists of an examination of the Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO) documented practices, procedures, guidelines and activities followed by a field review that includes meetings with the MPO management and staff, a public input session, meeting with elected officials, and a follow-up session on the preliminary findings with the MPO management and staff.

In May 2011, the Review Team provided the Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization (CLMPO) with a preliminary list of questions and

documentation needs corresponding to the major topics of interest in the review. The CLMPO staff provided detailed written responses to the Review Team's questionnaire as well as hard copies and links to the requested documents. From June 6-8, 2011, the review team conducted an on-site visit with CLMPO, Lane Transit District, Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), elected officials, and the general public.

Findings

Again, from the Executive Summary of the Final Report:

The outcome of this review is that FHWA and FTA jointly certify that the planning process conducted by the Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization meets the requirements of 23 CFR 450, Section 334(b)(i) subject to the corrective actions identified in the body of this report.

The body of the Final Report contains the following:

- Findings are a statement of the conditions found on a given subject area.
- Corrective actions are areas of concern, in which the MPO currently lacks the intent of the Federal requirements, and which if left unaddressed, could result in restrictions being imposed on the MPO's program.
- Recommendations and comments are areas for further improvements and current best practices.

A summary of the findings are provided as Commendations, Recommendations, and Corrective Actions on the summary tables in Attachment 1.

Additional Information

A full copy of the certification report is available on the MPO website at <http://www.thempo.org/>.

Attachments

1. Tables of Commendations, Recommendations, and Corrective Actions