



November 2, 2011

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee
From: Paul Thompson
Subject: Item 5.c: Draft FY12-15 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program

Action Recommended: Hold public hearing for draft FY12-15 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program.
Discuss draft document and public involvement, and provide feedback to staff.

Issue Statement

This agenda item is to discuss the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) for the Central Lane MPO, and to conduct a public hearing as part of the overall draft MTIP public involvement process. At the MPC meeting on January 12, 2012, the FY12-15 MTIP will be presented for adoption.

Background

Federal legislation requires that the MPO adopt an updated MTIP at least every four years. MTIPs in Oregon are typically adopted every two years, keeping with the two-year cycle used by the Oregon Department of Transportation for the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO) Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) was last adopted in August, 2010. It describes short term transportation priorities funded and to be undertaken in FY10-13. The list of transportation projects included in the MTIP details project phases, funding, and timelines within the MPO over the four year horizon of the Program.

Under Federal law, the MTIP must be updated to be consistent with the planning period for the State's TIP (STIP). The FY12-15 STIP will be put in place in the Spring of 2012, and the FY10-13 STIP will be retired. Once the FY12-15 STIP is adopted, only those project phases that are included in the new STIP will be able to receive federal funding. The MPO must therefore develop a new four year MTIP covering federal fiscal years 2012-2015, and must ensure that the project list is provided to ODOT for inclusion in the new STIP. ODOT has requested that project list by the end of January, 2012. Project phases that are already under contract by the adoption of the new MTIP and STIP do not have to be included in the new MTIP or STIP.

Discussion

The draft FY12-15 MTIP is provided as Attachment 1.

A significant part of the update of the MTIP involves developing the new project list. It must be updated to reflect completed projects, projects no longer programmed within the MTIP horizon, new projects funded and programmed within the planning horizon, modifications to existing programmed project scopes, costs, etc., and other considerations.

The MTIP financial constraint analysis must also be updated to reflect committed revenue during the first two years of the new planning horizon, and reasonably expected revenue during the third and fourth years of the MTIP. The Draft MTIP contains a table that lists the expenditures expected by each jurisdiction over the four years of the MTIP.

It should be noted that the draft FY12-15 does not include any new funding commitments or decisions by the MPO. All of the projects contained in the draft project list either reflect prior funding decisions by the MPO (such as previously completed STP-U funding processes), or funding decisions that occur outside the MPO process (such as federal appropriations) that must be included in the MTIP.

Aside from the draft project list and accompanying maps and summary financial tables, the draft FY12-15 MTIP remains unchanged aside from updated references to dates, etc. as needed throughout the text. Furthermore, aside from carrying over existing projects already programmed in the currently adopted FY10-13 MTIP, the new draft FY12-15 MTIP contains only six new projects. This is mostly a result of uncertainty regarding future transportation funding levels due to the lack of a new federal transportation bill. Funding and programming decisions for FY14 and FY15 are mostly being deferred pending action on the federal level.

Four of the six new projects in the draft FY12-15 MTIP are Lane Transit District (LTD) projects, three of which are simply continuations of ongoing programmatic formula funding into the “new” FY14 and FY15 years in the draft MTIP. The fourth new LTD project will program money resulting from a federal funding process and must be included in the MTIP.

The other two new projects consist of one pavement restoration project and a cable median barrier project.

Air Quality Conformity Determination (AQCD)

Since the MPO area is a maintenance area for carbon monoxide (CO), a new MTIP must be shown to be in conformity with the CO budget applicable to this area. The air quality conformity determination (AQCD) for the FY12-15 MTIP will be made concurrent with the approval of the MTIP document in January 2012. The draft AQCD will be provided to MPC and the public in December. Based on prior analyses and measured

data, it is certain that the FY12-15 MTIP will be shown to be in conformity and the estimated CO emissions will be well below the allowable budget set by USEPA.

Public Involvement

The MPO's Public Participation Plan (PPP) calls for a public comment period, a public hearing, notice to interested parties, and web notice when considering the adoption of a new MTIP. The PPP also states that the use of newspaper display ads and/or an open house "varies" and involvement of the CAC in this particular process "varies."

A 67-day public comment period on the draft MTIP will be opened on November 4th and will run through January 9th. A public hearing will be held at the MPC meeting on November 10. Public notice of the availability of the draft MTIP, the public comment period, the open house, and the significant proposed changes in the new draft MTIP (the six new projects) will be distributed on November 4th to the MPO's 600+ interested parties email distribution list and posted to the internet.

Due to the minimal changes included in the new draft MTIP, and the lack of any MPO decision regarding MPO funds, staff is recommending no use of newspaper display ads and no open house during the public involvement period for the draft FY12-15 MTIP.

CAC Involvement

The CAC will receive the draft MTIP in their November meeting packet, with discussion and possible action by the CAC scheduled for their December meeting.

TPC Recommendation

The MPO's staff Transportation Planning Committee is scheduled to develop a recommendation regarding approval of the draft MTIP at their December meeting.

Attachment

1. Draft FY12-15 MTIP