



November 30, 2011

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee

From: Paul Thompson

Subject: Item 5.e: Letters of Support for Funding Applications to FHWA
Discretionary Grant Program

Action Recommended: Approve letters of support.

Background

In mid-November, the MPO and local jurisdictions received notice that the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) had officially announced their solicitation for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2012 grants under a number of discretionary funding programs.

Applications for these FHWA grants are submitted by eligible jurisdictions through the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT). ODOT has requested that draft applications be submitted by December 14, 2011.

Discussion

Three local jurisdictions – Eugene, Lane County, and Springfield – have indicated that they are each submitting one application for funding under the FHWA Transportation, Community, and System Preservation (TCSP) Program. The applications are:

- Eugene – Blair Active Transportation Corridor
- Lane County – 30th Avenue/Gonyea Road Interchange Improvements
- Springfield – Franklin Boulevard NEPA Analysis and Design

In brief, the TCSP program funds eligible projects that integrate transportation, community, and system preservation plans and practices that improve efficiency of the transportation system; reduce environmental impacts, reduce the need for costly future investment, and provide efficient access to jobs, services, and trade centers. Additional information on the TCSP program is available at <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/discretionary/>.

Each of the three jurisdictions has requested a letter of support for the grant application from the MPO. Descriptions of each of the projects are contained in the draft Letters of Support included with this memo as Attachment 1. Staff from the jurisdictions will be present at the December 8 MPC meeting to discuss the grant applications and answer any questions.

MPC is requested to approve Letters of Support for the three applications. These letters will be submitted with the grant applications.

Action Recommended: Approve Letters of Support.

Attachment 1: Draft Letters of Support