

March 2, 2009

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee

From: Savannah Crawford, ODOT Area 5 Planner

Subject: Item 5.b – MPO Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) member representative for Beltline Facility Plan Stakeholder Advisory Committee.

Action Recommended: Approve ODOT request for MPO CAC member to serve on Beltline Facility Plan Stakeholder Advisory Committee.

Background

At the July 10, 2008 Metropolitan Policy Committee meeting, the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) presented long-range planning activities in the Central Lane MPO region. Specifically discussed was the Beltline Facility Plan: River Road to Coburg Road, which will identify areas of concerns, evaluate alternatives, implement strategies, and develop recommendations for long-range improvements to the functionality of the Beltline Highway between River Road and Coburg Road.

To date, this process (Phase I) has completed existing conditions analysis, formed a Steering Committee and Project Management Team, held two community meetings, and completed stakeholder interviews. Upcoming tasks (Phase II) include, but are not limited to, the formation of a Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC), completion of future traffic analysis, alternative development, and alternative evaluation.

Discussion

Currently, ODOT is working with Lane County and City of Eugene staff to form the SAC before Phase II work begins. The Beltline Facility Plan SAC, comprised of approximately twenty (20) members, will include stakeholders from neighborhood associations, emergency services, bicycle/pedestrian interests, freight interests, and members from the business community. The purpose of this committee is to provide guidance to the Project Management Team regarding issues of importance to community members and other project stakeholders. SAC duties consist of:

- Serve as liaisons to constituents and represent community as a whole.
- Provide recommendations and advice as alternatives are developed and evaluated for the Beltline Facility Plan.

- Serve as a forum to identify and build consensus on alternatives that reflect a broad range of needs and interests.
- Attend 8-10 SAC meetings through summer 2010.

ODOT is suggesting a member from the MPO Citizen Advisory Committee serve as the MPO citizen representative for the SAC.

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 Beltline SAC is not within the CAC charges currently listed in the bylaws.

Recommended MPO Action

At this time, MPC is requested to approve the MPO Citizen Advisory Committee acting to select a representative to serve on the Beltline Facility Plan Stakeholder Advisory Committee.

Both the CAC and MPO staff have expressed support for this request.