



November 9, 2010

To: Citizen Advisory Committee

From: Paul Thompson

Subject: CAC Item 6: Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Project List Review

Action Recommended: None. Presentation & discussion only.

Issue Statement

This agenda item is part of a series to keep you informed on the update of the Regional Transportation Plan, which will be one of the key MPO work products over the next 12-18 months. This update concerns the RTP Project List, which is currently being reviewed.

Background

The MPC is beginning its review of the RTP Project List. The MPC has established a process for review of the project lists (see Attachment 1), which starts with Phase I, a review of staff recommended updates to the current RTP project lists to determine whether each of the projects listed should:

- Be deleted from the RTP because it is complete or in progress;
- Be deleted because it is no longer needed/planned;
- Be modified in some way (name, description, cost, limits); or
- Be left as is for the draft 2011-2035 RTP.

At the November meeting, the MPC began to identify those projects for which MPC requires additional information. This discussion will continue at the December MPC meeting and staff will provide the requested information at the January 2011 MPC meeting. The purpose of tonight's agenda item is to identify those existing projects for which the CAC requires additional information.

RTP Project List Context

As part of the federal long-range Regional Transportation Plan, lists of transportation projects are included detailing the anticipated transportation investments that will be required over the 20+ year horizon of the Plan to serve the transportation need of the existing community plus anticipated growth.

With respect to the project lists, federal regulations state that the plan:

- Shall provide for the development and integrated management and operation of transportation systems and facilities (including accessible pedestrian

walkways and bicycle transportation facilities) that will function as an intermodal transportation system for the metropolitan planning area and as an integral part of an intermodal transportation system for the State and the United States.

- Shall contain, at a minimum, the following:
 - (A) Identification of transportation facilities. An identification of transportation facilities (including major roadways, transit, multimodal and intermodal facilities, and intermodal connectors) that should function as an integrated metropolitan transportation system, giving emphasis to those facilities that serve important national and regional transportation functions. ...
 - ...
 - (E) Capital investment and other strategies. Capital investment and other strategies to preserve the existing and projected future metropolitan transportation infrastructure and provide for multimodal capacity increases based on regional priorities and needs.
 - (F) Transportation and transit enhancement activities. Proposed transportation and transit enhancement activities.

The Central Lane MPO's RTP divides the capital investment projects into three modes: Roadway Projects, Transit Projects, and Bicycle projects.

Each of the mode types are divided into two categories, as required by federal regulations to create a financially constrained list and an illustrative list. While the RTP is required to contain all of the anticipated investments per the guidance above, the financially constrained list contains only those projects for which a reasonable expectation exists that there will be sufficient funding over the 20-year RTP planning period. The illustrative list contains the remaining projects. Furthermore, financial constraint for each project list is analyzed *per jurisdiction*. For example, ODOT's capital investments in Roadway Projects are financially constrained by reasonably expected revenues *for that purpose*. Similarly, Eugene's capital investments in their identified Roadway Projects are financially constrained by the City of Eugene's assurance to the MPO that funds are reasonably expected to exist over the horizon period to fund that city's identified projects.

A significant part of the 2035 update of the RTP involves updating the project lists and the financial constraint analysis. The current RTP was adopted in 2007 and has a planning period of 2007-2031. The upcoming RTP update will result in a planning horizon of 2011-2035. The project lists must be updated to reflect completed projects, projects no longer planned within the RTP horizon, new projects, modifications to existing project scopes, costs, and other considerations. In addition, the financial constraint analysis must be updated to reflect reasonably expected revenue during the new planning horizon.

In past updates of the RTP, the review of the current adopted RTP project lists would begin at the staff level, resulting in a draft list of new or changed projects, by jurisdiction.

Proposals to add or modify projects have typically arisen from local planning efforts, much as the City of Eugene's Walnut Station planning work resulted recently in an amendment to add the Franklin Blvd multiway boulevard project to the RTP.

Staff also develops summary lists of projects proposed for *removal* from the RTP. These lists would indicate the status of each project as one of the following: Complete; In progress; Combined with Other projects; or Deleted. While the first three status indicators are self-explanatory, the "Deleted" status would typically indicate a project that is no longer planned or needed.

Each of the draft "new/change/removal" lists would initially be developed by each individual jurisdiction, in consultation with MPO staff. The MPO's Transportation Planning Committee (and its subcommittees), and the Citizen Advisory Committee, would also conduct initial reviews of the draft lists. In the past, proposed ODOT Roadway project list changes have involved regional decisions concerning long-range priorities for improvements to the state system in the MPO, while draft changes to the local jurisdictions' projects on the RTP project lists have been mostly, if not entirely, a reflection of local decision-making by each jurisdiction.

Draft Updates to Adopted Project Lists

In keeping with the process recommendations for this RTP update, staff from each of the MPO jurisdictions have reviewed the current adopted RTP project lists and provided draft recommendations for modifications to the adopted projects. The project lists, included the proposed modifications, are presented in Attachment 2. The first eight columns in the attached lists contain the project information as currently adopted. The remaining six columns are used to denote the proposed modifications.

The primary focus at the November CAC meeting is to begin the identification of projects requiring further information.

Action Recommended: None.

Attachments

1. Process Recommendations for Review of Current RTP Project List
2. 2007-2031 RTP Project Lists