February 25, 2020

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee
From: Daniel Callister
Subject: Item 6.b: Amendment to FFY 2018-2021 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP)

**Action Recommended**: Conduct Public Hearing

**Issue Statement**
Lane County requests an amendment to the MTIP that would replace $65,000 of programmed federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds with Surface Transportation Block Grant – Urban (STBG-U) funds that are currently not dedicated to a specific project.

**Background**
The Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC) at their March 5 meeting was requested to approve Resolution 2020-01, programming CMAQ funds to two Lane County projects. One of those projects, Howard Elementary & Colin Kelly MS Traffic Congestion Mitigation (STIP Key 21168) includes a mid-block crossing element that may be deemed an ineligible use of CMAQ funds by the ODOT CMAQ approver, due to its significant safety benefits. ODOT’s position on eligibility for use of CMAQ funds in Oregon relies on the benefits of these projects being primarily to reduce congestion and improve air quality. Projects that result primarily in safety or other benefits, according to ODOT’s policy, should be delivered using other, non-CMAQ funds.

**Discussion**
At the time of this memo, ODOT’s eligibility determination for the use of these funds is still pending. To reduce any delays in the event of the ineligibility of the mid-block crossing, Lane County proposes to exchange $65,000 of programmed CMAQ funds from this project with $65,000 of currently unprogrammed STBG-U funds which could be used to deliver the mid-block crossing element of this CMAQ project.

This amendment request is tentative, relying upon ODOT’s eligibility determination for the use of these CMAQ funds, and may be withdrawn before final action is to take place by MPC if the use is determined to be eligible. Should that be the case, no further action will be required of MPC.
Public Involvement
At their February 19, 2020 meeting, Transportation Planning Committee (TPC) reviewed the proposed amendment and recommended a Public Hearing to be held at the March 5, 2020 MPC meeting. A 30-day public comment period will be open through March 25, 2020. Action will (tentatively) be requested at the April 2, 2020 MPC meeting.

Action Recommended: Conduct Public Hearing