

January 24, 2023

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee

From: Daniel Callister

Subject: MPC 7.a Project Proposals for MPO Redistribution Funding

Action Recommended: Conduct Public Hearing

Issue Statement

The Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) has received \$2.4M of federal redistribution Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds and is reviewing proposals to utilize these funds. TPC is responsible for providing a funding recommendation to MPC (the MPO's policy committee).

Discussion

The MPO's discretionary federal funds for transportation projects are programmed roughly every three years through a formal project solicitation process. In October 2022, MPC approved \$22.8M of its anticipated annual funding allocations for projects as part of the development of the 2024-2027 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP). The MPO occasionally receives unanticipated federal discretionary funding outside of the typical MTIP development process, usually in the form of redistribution funding following the end of a federal fiscal year where the State has succeeded in obligating all of its federal funding. These are referred to as "off-cycle" funds, and usually are of a much smaller amount than the MPO's annual allocation.

Central Lane MPO has received \$2.4M of redistribution funding to be programmed for projects. An additional \$889k of federal funding has been reserved by the MPO for contingencies but is technically available for projects as well, making a total of \$3,288,835 in available federal funds. The Technical Advisory Sub-Committee (TASC) has discussed how these funds might be best used to serve the goals and objectives of the Regional Transportation Plan.

Five funding proposals were submitted for consideration. A one-page summary of each of these is provided as an attachment and the full applications are available on thempo.org as part of the public review process for this solicitation. The proposals are:

- -Bike Share Operations and Expansion (City of Eugene)
- -Clear Lake Rd: Lakeview Dr to Hwy 99 Pavement Preservation (Lane County)
- -Coburg Rd and Game Farm Rd (Lane County)
- -Hunsaker Lane: Daffodil Ct to Echo Lane (City of Eugene)
- -Mill Street: Reconstruct South A St to Centennial Blvd (City of Springfield)

The ultimate funding recommendation of the MPO's Transportation Planning Committee (TPC) will be based on how well each project supports the regional primary funding considerations (as approved by MPC on May 5, 2022), the federal performance targets, air quality conformity, environmental justice, Title VI, and other considerations.

TPC's recommendation will also consider whether it would be prudent to continue to retain a certain amount of unprogrammed funds for future contingencies. Typically, the MPO reserves 4% of its discretionary allocation for emergency off-cycle needs, to provide a funding buffer to protect against cancelation of projects in the event of an unexpectedly low federal limitation, to anticipate unforeseen costs on timely priority projects, and other reasons.

Public Involvement

MPO procedures require a public hearing for initial programming of MPO discretionary funding. TPC approved release of these proposals for public comment from January 19 to February 16, including the public hearing scheduled for this MPC meeting. TPC will have an opportunity to review any comments received before making a funding recommendation at their February 16 meeting. Materials were published January 19 on the MPO website and noticed on the MPO's social media. Final action is anticipated by MPC on March 2.

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Attachments:

1 – Funding Application Summaries