

MEMORANDUM

Date: July 6th, 2023

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee Members of Central Lane MPO

From: Rob Inerfeld, Transportation Planning Manager, City of Eugene, Public Works Engineering
Email: rinerfeld@eugene-or.gov

Subject: MPC 6.b Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Program Grant Application Letter of Support

The City of Eugene is applying for the [U.S. Department of Transportation's Safe and Roads for All Grant program \(SS4A\)](#) FY-23 and will submit a joint application with Lane Transit District (LTD) for this funding. This supplemental planning grant (if awarded) would cover a First and Last Mile Safety Study in Eugene. The study would include extensive data analysis, community engagement, project identification, and funds for certain pilot project activities. The purpose of this funding is to solicit applications to support planning, infrastructure, behavioral, and operational initiatives to prevent death and serious injury on roads and streets involving all roadway users, including pedestrians; bicyclists; public transportation, personal conveyance, and micro-mobility users; motorists; and commercial vehicle operators.

The scope of the grant application will include the following:

- Comprehensive geospatial data analysis that looks at sidewalk connectivity, curb ramps, crossing gaps, streetlighting status, bike facilities, and bicycle level of stress leading to and from all LTD transit stops in Eugene, as well as a small subset of high priority school bus stops
- Geospatial analysis to identify the number and severity of pedestrian and bicycle crashes within a specific buffer of every LTD stop in Eugene.
- AI-generated crosswalk inventory to inform the data analysis
- Equity data analysis
- Funding for road safety audits on select Vision Zero high crash corridors with transit service
- Consultant support for community engagement activities with LTD riders, potentially including surveys, tabling, and focus groups. This community engagement support will have greatest emphasis on working with vulnerable demographics, such as community members with disabilities and low-income community members
- Generating a list of recommended projects to improve the safety and comfort of walking and biking to transit stops based on the data analysis and community engagement
- Funds for "demonstration projects" (I.e., pilot projects that utilize low-cost temporary materials such as bolt-down curbing or flexible delineators)

For the Planning and Demonstration Grants, the USDOT expects the minimum award to be \$100,000 and the maximum for \$25,000,000.

Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) has also strongly supported the City of Eugene's SS4A grant application by providing a letter of support. LCOG has also consistently encouraged infrastructure, traffic congestion, and safety improvements throughout Lane County. The proposed improvements in the project scope are also identified as some of the priority investment projects in Central Lane MPO's Transportation System Plan. That said, supporting member agency multimodal activities help bring Central Lane MPO's goals to fruition.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the approval of a letter of support for the City of Eugene for the FY-23 Safe and Active Streets for All (SS4A) Grant Application.