



October 25, 2023

To: Metropolitan Policy Committee  
From: Paul Thompson  
Subject: Item 6.b: Draft MPO Boundary Adjustment

### **Background**

Federal legislation (*23 USC 134(c)*; *49 USC 53039(d)*) requires boundaries of a metropolitan planning area to be determined by agreement between the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) and the Governor of the state in which the MPO resides. By law, each metropolitan planning area shall encompass at least the existing urbanized area (UZA) as defined by the most recent U.S. Census, and the contiguous area expected to become urbanized within a 20-year forecast period; and may encompass the entire metropolitan statistical area or consolidated metropolitan statistical area, as defined by the Bureau of the Census. The boundary of the MPO may be adjusted and updated at any time.

The Central Lane MPO metropolitan planning area currently does not quite cover the UZA as defined by the Bureau of the Census after the 2020 Census. To comply with federal regulations, the MPO boundary must be expanded to include all of the UZA. Once approved by MPC, the new boundary recommendation will be forwarded to ODOT who is coordinating the Governor's approval of changes to MPO boundaries statewide.

### **Discussion**

The attached maps present the recommendation for establishing the updated boundary of the Central Lane MPO. In addition to meeting federal requirements for the minimum MPO boundary, the proposal incorporates other basic objectives – keeping the MPO boundary as consistent as possible with the Eugene-Springfield-Coburg Urban Growth Boundaries, ensuring that the boundary does not fall on the centerline of a road or in the middle of a bridge, interchange, or other similar transportation feature, and keeping the boundary as consistent as possible with established data boundaries such as census block group boundaries.

In large part the proposed MPO boundary is the same as the existing boundary established after the 2010 Census. The proposed MPO boundary has expanded

only slightly in two locations to accommodate the need to incorporate land defined by the Bureau of the Census as urbanized area based on the 2020 Census, at the eastern edge of Springfield and an area near the Interstate 5/Highway 58 interchange just south of Goshen. These two areas are shown in the attached map insets.

### **Public Involvement**

A public comment period on the proposed boundary change will be open from October 27 through November 30, 2023. A public hearing on the proposal is scheduled for the November 2, 2023 MPC meeting.

### **Next Steps**

The MPO's Transportation Planning Committee (TPC) will consider a recommendation for approval of the proposed boundary at its November meeting, taking into consideration public input to that date. MPC approval of a recommendation to the Governor to establish the new boundary is scheduled for the December MPC meeting.

**Action Requested:** Conduct Public Hearing. Provide feedback to staff on draft boundary.

### **Attachments:**

- Attachment 1: Map & Insets – *Proposed MPO Boundary for the Central Lane MPO*