



***Central Lane MPO
Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program
FY 2005 to FY 2007***

Public Comment and MPO Response

December 2004

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Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program
FY2005 to FY2007***

Public Comment and MPO Response

Published by
Lane Council of Governments
99 East Broadway, Suite 400
Eugene, Oregon 97401-3111
(541) 682-4283
www.lcog.org

This report was financed in part by the Oregon Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration, and the Federal Transit Administration.

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization
Sent: Wednesday, December 22, 2004 12:27 PM
To: Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

-----Original Message-----

From: SCHWETZ Tom B
Sent: Wednesday, December 22, 2004 12:21 PM
To: BETTMAN Bonny S; *Springfield Mayor; 'ccward3@comcast.net'; KLOEPPPEL George W; TAYLOR Dennis M; VANVACTOR William A; KELLY Michael (DOC); DWYER Bill J; GAYDOS Gerry (SMTP); VOLTA Judy; KENT Jamon (LCOG); PIERCY Kitty (SMTP); *Eugene Mayor and City Council; *Springfield City Councilors; GREEN Bobby; 'matthews@artifice.com'
Subject: Response to Questions

Kevin - I understand that you have asked the following questions:

- Are there some projects in the MTIP for which funding would be jeopardized if the proposal is not approved before the end of the calendar year?



TOM SCHWETZ
(Business Fax).vcf...

- If so, which projects are those?

My response is as follows:

In the short run, there are no projects in FY05-07 Draft MTIP that require action in December. However, some MPC members that we have heard from feel it is important to finalize the FY05-07 Draft MTIP process this year because all the work has been completed, the hearing was advertised, and all applicable federal requirements for MPC's adoption of the document have been met.

I'd also like to clarify a detail that we've seen discussed in recent e-mails. There is a state rule that requires that the MTIP be updated within 6 months of the adoption of a new Regional Transportation Plan. As it stands, the action MPC took on December 9th approving the Air Quality Conformity Determination reconformed the FY04-06 MTIP and effectively addressed the state rule. Thus, the 6-month timeline is a moot issue.

Finally, I would point out that management of the MTIP in an efficient and timely manner is one of the primary functions of the MPO process. MPC is frequently asked by its members to take action to amend or update the MTIP to ensure that it reflects the most current information on various projects, thereby meeting federal requirements for the use of funds and allowing projects to proceed. In fact, there are several of the member agencies (Eugene, Springfield, LTD, and ODOT) who have projects that need to be in an adopted FY05-07 MTIP no later than February. An MTIP adoption on December 30th would address the needs of those agencies.

Tom

Thomas Schwetz

Program Manager
Transportation and Public Infrastructure Finance
LCOG
99 E. Broadway, Suite 400
Eugene, OR 97401
voice - 541-682-4044
fax - 541-682-6523
tschwetz@lane.cog.or.us
<http://www.lcog.org/>

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: THOMPSON Paul E
Sent: Monday, December 27, 2004 1:09 AM
To: ZAKO Rob (SMTP); Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization
Cc: *LCOG TPC TASC; *Eugene Mayor and City Council; 'Springfield City Manager's Office'; *LC Board of County Commissioners; 'Lane Transit District Board of Directors'
Subject: RE: Public Meeting Invitation RE: MPO Transportation Planning

Rob -- Please see my initial responses to your comments and inquiries embedded in your message below. As it is a holiday weekend, and I am taking additional vacation time to be with my children, please understand that I am not in the office most of last week and this coming week, and I don't have my reference materials with me at home to fully respond at this time. I will be in attendance at the MPC meeting on December 30th.

Paul Thompson
Senior Planner
LCOG

-----Original Message-----

From: Rob Zako
To: Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization
Cc: *LCOG TPC TASC; Eugene Mayor & City Council; Springfield City Manager's Office; Lane County Board of Commissioners; Lane Transit District Board of Directors
Sent: 12/23/2004 12:01 PM
Subject: Re: Public Meeting Invitation RE: MPO Transportation Planning

Dear Members of the Central Lane MPO,

Yesterday (Wednesday 12/22), I received notice of a special MPC meeting on December 30 for the purposes of adopting the MTIP.

Today (Thursday 12/23), I called the LCOG main telephone number, 682-4283, several times for more information on this update. But all I got was a recorded message listing LCOG's hours. I called at times when LCOG should be open, and thus wondered if staff is away for the holidays. There was no message indicating that LCOG was closed. Then I called Tom Schwetz, Petra Schuetz and Paul Thompson directly. Paul's message indicated that LCOG is closed today (Thursday 12/23) and tomorrow (Friday 12/24). It is frustrating to be invited to a public meeting and then to have everyone go on vacation.

=====
<<RESPONSE>> The special MPC meeting was called by MPC (in accordance with the MPC bylaws) during the holiday period when the LCOG offices were previously scheduled to be closed on December 23, 24 and 31 for contractual employee holidays. LCOG did not determine the timing of the meeting.
=====

We hope that LCOG will be open during the week of December 27-31 in order to be available to answer questions about the MTIP update.
=====

<<RESPONSE>> LCOG will be open for normal business hours December 27 through December 30.
=====

In particular, my main questions are these:

* Of the projects listed in the Draft FY 2005-2007 MTIP, which have already been selected by other jurisdictions, needing only a "rubber stamp" from MPC?
=====

<<RESPONSE>> The proposed modifications to the MTIP must be adopted by MPC as the MPO Policy Board for those projects newly programmed or modified in the FY05-07 MTIP to move forward (this refers to projects not already programmed in the FY04-06 MTIP and for which

no further modifications are proposed in the draft FY05-07 MTIP). The draft FY05-07 MTIP project table available on the internet at the MPC web site (<http://www.lcog.org/meetings/mpc.html>) shows that modifications to approximately 22 projects would occur upon adoption of the FY05-07 MTIP by MPC. Of these 22 projects, approximately 4 of the modifications are deletions of an existing project that the individual responsible jurisdiction is no longer pursuing. Of the remaining 18 projects, modifications to approximately 6 projects involve only local funds over which MPC has no direct control. Federal regulations require the listing of these locally funded projects in the MTIP because the projects will occur on "regionally significant" portions of the transportation system. The remaining 12 projects involve the use of federal and/or state funds, but in no case do they involve the use of funds which MPC directly allocates or makes project-level funding decisions for. All 12 projects use funds for which funding decisions have already occurred (such as Federal Aviation Administration funding, Federal Transit Administration funding, or Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) Construction-STIP (C-STIP) or Development-STIP (D-STIP) funding decisions).

=====

* Which projects does MPC actually have discretion over funding or not?

=====

<<RESPONSE>> (See the previous response for additional information regarding specific proposed modifications to individual projects listed in the draft FY05-07 MTIP.) In general, MPC, acting as the MPO Policy Board, has direct funding discretion over the programming of Federal Surface Transportation Act Urban (STP-U) funds. Other MPO Policy Board discretion is at the "recommended priority-setting" level, such as when the MPO forwards its top priorities for STIP funding to the OTC for consideration by the OTC as it exercises its discretion to program STIP funds. Similarly, the Lane Transit District (LTD) Board exercises its discretion over the use of certain federal funds and sets priorities in determining what applications to submit for other federal funds, final discretion over which usually resides at the Federal Transit Administration or the United States Congress. The MPO must then take action so that the MPO's MTIP reflects those funding decisions.

=====

* What projects are NOT proposed for funding that could be funding in lieu of other projects?

=====

<<RESPONSE>> The recently adopted Central Lane 2025 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) lists all projects anticipated through the 2025 planning horizon that may use federal funds and/or will occur on regionally significant transportation facilities. It is generally from the long-range RTP that projects are selected for programming in the MTIP. All projects listed on the RTP's financially constrained project lists are reasonably expected to be funded within the planning horizon. Of those projects listed in the RTP, the MTIP reflects the actual programming of specific funds over the 3-year MTIP horizon. All other projects in the RTP have not yet received specific commitments of programmed funds.

=====

In brief, what choices does the Central Lane MPO have in this matter? In plain English, what are the issues, if any, to be considered by the Central Lane MPO on December 30 and why should the public care?

=====

<<RESPONSE>> The public should remain informed of and involved in all long-range planning and project funding/programming decisions for the region's transportation system. It is through this continued involvement that the public may build and maintain an understanding of both the long-range "big picture" inherent in the planning and other decisions by the MPO and other jurisdictions/authorities, and the short-range funding and priority-setting decisions. That said, the proposed adoption of the draft FY05-07 MTIP does not involve any primary direct funding decisions by the MPO Policy Board. While the Policy Board theoretically may at any time decline to program any project in the MPO's MTIP, the primary funding decisions for the proposed adoption on December 30 have occurred in other appropriate decision-making settings and the MPO's action in this case would be in fulfillment of the federal requirement to reflect those decisions in the MPO's MTIP.

=====

As I have done so many times before, I quote the Federal Highway

Administration's guidance on public involvement:

"It has long been a challenge to grab and hold people's interest in a project or plan, convince them that active involvement is worthwhile, and provide the means for them to have direct and meaningful impact on its decisions. The FHWA and FTA published the guide Public Involvement Techniques for Transportation Decisionmaking in September, 1996 to provide agencies with access to a wide variety of tools to involve the public in developing specific plans, programs, or projects through their public involvement processes. It discusses a wide variety of subjects, including Civic Advisory Committees, Public Meetings/Hearings, Negotiation & Mediation, and Improving Meeting Attendance."

<<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/pubinv2.htm>>

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=====

<<RESPONSE>> Note that the draft FY05-07 MTIP has been available for public review since November 4, 2004 and the MPO staff has been receiving on the record public comment on the draft since that date. Two open houses on the MTIP were held on November 4 and December 1. Multiple other public outreach efforts have occurred over the past two months, including direct mailings, newspaper advertisements and presentations to interested parties. The MTIP was on the MPC agenda, and discussed, on November 18, 2004. Although federal regulations do not require holding a public hearing on the adoption of the MTIP, one was scheduled for the December 9, 2004 MPC meeting. Due to a time overrun on another agenda item at that meeting, neither the public hearing nor the discussion of the MTIP occurred on that date. As a result, a call has been issued for a special MPC meeting on December 30 to address the MTIP. The Federal Highways Administration has already stated that all federal public involvement requirements for adoption of the MTIP have been met. Furthermore, MPO staff have determined that all other federal requirements for adoption of the FY05-07 MTIP have been met.

=====

1000 Friends would like to provide comments on matters on which MPC has a choice, but not waste our time and yours commenting on matters for which there is no choice.

Sincerely,
Rob

--

Rob Zako
Transportation Advocate
1000 Friends of Oregon
1280-B East 28th Ave., Eugene, OR 97403-1616 (home office)
(541) 343-5201 (home office)
(541) 683-6333 (fax)
rob@friends.org

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From: Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization
<MPO@lane.cog.or.us>
Date: Wed, 22 Dec 2004 16:11:42 -0800
To: Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization <MPO@lane.cog.or.us>
Cc: *LCOG TPC TASC <TPCTASC@lane.cog.or.us>
Subject: Public Meeting Invitation RE: MPO Transportation Planning

Central Lane MPO Interested Parties-

You are receiving this message because you have recently shown interest in transportation planning issues in the Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) area.

The Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC)-- the decision-making body for the Central Lane MPO-- invites the Public to a special meeting to consider the FY2005-2007 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) and Air Quality Conformity Determination. A public hearing will be held for the MTIP. Written testimony will be accepted through 5:00pm, December 28, 2004. You can review or download an electronic copy of the draft documents at:

* FY05-07 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program

<http://www.lcog.org/tip/default.htm>
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* Air Quality Conformity Determination

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Below is a PDF version of this announcement:

<<AD12_04_compressed.pdf>>

NOTE: The following letter from ODOT requesting an amendment to the I-5/Beltline project in the FY05-07 MTIP was received Wednesday, December 22nd and will be added to the MPC agenda for consideration. It will be posted to the MPC meetings website on Monday, December 27.

<<ODOT_i5_Beltline_request.pdf>>

Petra Schuetz
Assistant Planner
Lane Council of Governments
99 E Broadway, Ste. 400
Eugene, OR 97401
541-682-3639
www.theMPO.org <www.theMPO.org>

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization
Sent: Tuesday, December 28, 2004 8:42 AM
To: 'Chris Orsinger'
Cc: 'orsingerc@aol.com'
Subject: RE: Public Meeting Invitation RE: MPO Transportation Planning

Chris,

The MPC meeting is on Thursday, December 30, 11:30 am at the Springfield City Hall Library Meeting Room. The website <http://www.lcog.org/meetings/mpc.html>, listed below, gives the agenda, materials etc.

-----Original Message-----

From: Chris Orsinger [mailto:director@bufordpark.org]
Sent: Thursday, December 23, 2004 2:33 PM
To: Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization
Subject: Re: Public Meeting Invitation RE: MPO Transportation Planning

What is the date/time/place of the meeting? I hope it is after Jan 2, as many people will be on vacation the week after christmas.

Please cc your reply also to orsingerc@aol.com as I may not receive here in time.

Thank you,

Chris

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Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization
Sent: Wednesday, December 22, 2004 12:21 PM
To: Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization
Subject: Tricia Dunn

From: Tricia Duncan [mailto:TriciaD@jrca.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 22, 2004 11:06 AM
To: gkloepfel@lane.cog.or.us
Cc: Jim Torrey
Subject: FW: Special MPC Meeting

I support Mayor Torrey's recommendations regarding the transportation projects. I believe his position is important for the future of the Eugene-Springfield Metro Area.

Tricia Duncan

From: Jim Torrey [mailto:jimtorrey@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, December 22, 2004 10:49 AM
To: RiHansen@aol.com
Subject: Re: Special MPC Meeting

Nancy:

Chad Drive is the street that runs east and west from Coburg Rd. to the Register Guard Building. The project would extend Chad Drive east from the Register Guard to Game Farm Rd. This would allow for connections with Springfield, Lane County, L.T.D. and the City of Eugene. Bonny Bettman doesn't think we should build any new projects like this one but rather she would spend all monies to maintain existing roads in Eugene. The problem is that this pot of money is primarily for new projects in the entire Metro Area and not just Eugene and if we don't use it for this project we could easily lose it for Eugene all together.

The Airport Project is to move Airport Road to the south to allow the new runway to meet Federal Safety Standards (FAA). I believe Bonny is supportive of this project. By the way there are a number of other very important projects that will impact all of Lane County. The main reason for the opposition to passing this resolution now is the desire by the West Eugene Parkway opponents to try to have one more vote by the Eugene City Council in 2005 not 2004. They believe if they can have that vote they would be able to kill the West Eugene Parkway Project (WEP) .

I don't know if the WEP is ever going to be built but I do know that it is in the best interest of the City of Eugene that if the project is to die it should be at the hands of the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and not local government. The City of Eugene, Lane County, L.T.D. and the City Springfield have done everything required of them to move this project forward and it is now in the hands of ODOT, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the US Corp of Engineers.

I strongly believe that the local governments should allow ODOT and the Federal agencies to do their due diligence and decide to build or not build this important project. In the event they decide not to build the WEP it will be because they killed the project not Eugene. We will then be well positioned to demand funding for badly local transportation projects that have gone wanting while we have waited for this project to proceed. If the City of Eugene kills the project we will once again be placed at the end of the transportation funding line because we once again be viewed as the city can't be trusted to follow through on our end of the transportation planning process.

Nancy, I'm sorry to be so long winded but this is what is really going on.

Jim

----- Original Message -----

From: RiHansen@aol.com

To: jimtorrey@comcast.net

Sent: Wednesday, December 22, 2004 10:07 AM

Subject: Re: Special MPC Meeting

Dear Mayor Torrey:

I'm sorry that I haven't been following the Chad Dr. and airport plans. Where can I read about it to get up to speed?

Nancy Hansen

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: Rob Zako [rob@friends.org]
Sent: Thursday, December 23, 2004 12:01 PM
To: Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization
Cc: *LCOG TPC TASC; Eugene Mayor & City Council; Springfield City Manager's Office; Lane County Board of Commissioners; Lane Transit District Board of Directors
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- Of the projects listed in the Draft FY 2005-2007 MTIP, which have already been selected by other jurisdictions, needing only a "rubber stamp" from MPC?
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- What projects are **NOT** proposed for funding that could be funding in lieu of other projects?

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<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/pubinv2.htm>

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Sincerely,
Rob

--

Rob Zako
Transportation Advocate
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1280-B East 28th Ave., Eugene, OR 97403-1616 (home office)
(541) 343-5201 (home office)
(541) 683-6333 (fax)
rob@friends.org

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Petra Schuetz

Assistant Planner

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Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: Martin Falk [martinfalk@cmc.net]
Sent: Thursday, December 23, 2004 7:06 PM
To: mpo@LANE.COG.OR.US
Subject: Fw: Jim Torrey's Christmas Gift for Eugene - a lump of asphalt

- > 1. This meeting is only being driven by the fact of Mayor Torrey's
> retirement. There is no reason to ram through this semi-secret
> meeting without adequate public notice.
>
- > 2. MPC meets monthly on the second Thursday of the month, and that
> is when these issues should be discussed. Mayor Torrey chose not to
> run for re-election, and it is solely his responsibility that he is
> about to become a private citizen.
>
- > 3. LCOG, MPC and local governments need to investigate the lack of
> democracy involved in trying to sneak through a barely publicized
> "special meeting" to make large decisions about spending our money
> without bothering to tell people in advance. This contempt for
> citizen involvement is a more urgent problem than Jim Torrey's
> personal deadline to deliver more lumps of asphalt for his friends
> before January 3, 2005.
>
- > 4. The real transportation issues in the years to come will be how
> to cope technically and financially with Peak Oil, since reduced
> petroleum availability will reduce gas taxes (as people drive less)
> for highway maintenance. We will be lucky to be able to maintain
> what has already been built. For more about this, see
> <http://www.oilempire.us/peakoil.html> (great list of links to primary
> references on Peak Oil).
>
>
>

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: Josh Schlossberg [thombanjo@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, December 23, 2004 7:49 PM
To: mpo@lane.cog.or.us
Subject: politics as usual

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my dissatisfaction at the scheduling of a "special meeting" about the West Eugene Parkway. To my eyes, the meeting was scheduled for the sole purpose of Jim Torrey being able to throw his weight around in his few remaining hours as Mayor. As the Mayor Elect, Kitty Piercy is directly opposed to the parkway, I would think it important to abide by the wishes of the person who was chosen by the citizens of Eugene, not the one Eugene wants gone.

The Parkway will not be built.

Please stop giving democracy a bad name.

Josh Schlossberg
1220 W. 24th
Eugene, OR 97405

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Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: Michael Caprai [michaelcaprai@cmfsg.com]
Sent: Monday, December 27, 2004 11:51 AM
To: mpo@lane.cog.or.us
Cc: robert.pirrie@odot.state.or.us; mayorandcc@ci.eugene.or.us; mayor@ci.springfield.or.us; bobby.green@co.lane.or.us; ken.hamm@ltd.lane.or.us; mayor@ci.coburg.or.us
Subject: WEP

MPC Members:

Please approve Resolution 2004-08 Adopting the Central Lane FY2005-2007 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP).

Projects on the list such as the West Eugene Parkway, Airport Road realignment, I-5 Beltline Interchange, Courthouse District transportation improvements and LTD projects are important to our local, regional, and state transportation system as well as our local economy.

In particular, thank you for your continued support of the West Eugene Parkway and for honoring the vote of the people (twice) as well as the plan amendments adopted by the local jurisdictions to move this project forward toward construction.

Sincerely,

Michael Caprai
Managing Partner, Financial Consultant
Caprai-Mahalak Financial Strategies Group, LLC
541-349-9322
www.cmfsg.com

Securities and Advisory services offered through Commonwealth Financial Network, member NASD/SIPC, a Registered Investment Advisor

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: Barbara Wirtz [bwirtz@wirtzconsulting.com]
Sent: Monday, December 27, 2004 11:56 AM
To: mpo@lane.cog.or.us
Subject: West Eugene Parkway

Please support the West Eugene Parkway. The voters have chosen this and their wishes should be abided by.

Barbara Wirtz
Wirtz Consulting
860 W. 36th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97405
(541) 344-8213
bwirtz@wirtzconsulting.com
www.wirtzconsulting.com

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: Barbara Wirtz [bwirtz@wirtzconsulting.com]
Sent: Monday, December 27, 2004 12:04 PM
To: mpo@lane.cog.or.us
Cc: mayorandcc@ci.eugene.or.us; mayor@ci.springfield.or.us; 'bobby'; kenhamm@ltd.or.us; mayor@ci.coburg.or.us; robert.pirrie@odot.state.or.us
Subject: Resolution 2004-08

I urge you to approve Resolution 2004-08 Adopting the Central Lane FY2005-2007 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP).

Projects on the list such as the West Eugene Parkway, Airport Road realignment, I-5 Beltline Interchange, Courthouse District transportation improvements and LTD projects are important to our local, regional, and state transportation system.

Sincerely,

Barbara Wirtz

Barbara Wirtz
Wirtz Consulting
860 W. 36th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97405
(541) 344-8213
bwirtz@wirtzconsulting.com
www.wirtzconsulting.com

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: Sheryl Balthrop [Sheryl@gcbpc.com]
Sent: Monday, December 27, 2004 2:56 PM
To: mpo@lane.cog.or.us
Cc: mayorandcc@ci.eugene.or.us; mayor@ci.springfield.or.us; bobby.green@co.lane.or.us; ken.hamm@ltd.lane.or.us; mayor@ci.coburg.or.us; robbert.pirrie@odot.state.or.us
Subject: Please Approve MTIP

Dear MPC Members:

Please approve Resolution 2004-08 adopting the Central Lane FY2005-2007 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP).

Our transportation system is crucial to the well-being of our community. Projects such as the West Eugene Parkway, Airport Road realignment, I-5 / Beltline Interchange, Courthouse District improvements and LTD projects benefit our local, regional and state systems and should be implemented.

Also, thank you for your continued support of the West Eugene Parkway and for honoring the vote of the people in support of this important project.

Sincerely,
Sheryl Balthrop

Sheryl Balthrop

Gaydos, Churnside & Balthrop, P.C.

440 East Broadway, Suite 300

Eugene, Oregon 97401

(541) 343-8060 (telephone)

(541) 343-1599 (fax)

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Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: Mark Robinowitz [mark@oilempire.us]
Sent: Friday, December 24, 2004 12:35 AM
To: mpo@lane.cog.or.us
Subject: Regarding December 30 pseudo-hearing on "MTIP"

Dear MPO / LCOG:

I AM WRITING TO URGE LCOG TO RESCHEDULE THE MTIP HEARING ON DECEMBER 30, 2004 TO ITS NORMAL MEETING TIME ON THE SECOND THURSDAY IN JANUARY, 2005.

NO NOTICE WAS PROVIDED ON DECEMBER 9 TO THE 50 OR SO CITIZENS WHO SHOWED UP TO THE MPC "HEARING" AT THE LIBRARY, AND POSTING AN EMAIL NOTICE IMMEDIATELY BEFORE CHRISTMAS DOES NOT CONSTITUTE ADEQUATE NOTIFICATION TO THE COMMUNITY.

IF LCOG IS SO CONTEMPTUOUS OF PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT THAT IT GIVES PEOPLE ONE BUSINESS DAY FOR PEOPLE TO RESPOND TO REQUESTS FOR WRITTEN INPUT, THEN I URGE LCOG TO HOLD PRIVATE FUNDRAISERS FOR ITS BUDGET REQUESTS AND NOT MAKE ANY FURTHER REQUESTS FOR THE CITIZENS OF THE CITIES AND COUNTY TO PAY FOR YOUR HIGHWAY WISH LISTS.

On December 9, the regional "Metropolitan Policy Committee" -- a conglomeration of politicians from local governments and unelected bureaucrats -- met to make technical tweaks to the regional transportation plan to keep the West Eugene Parkway on life support. This event is described at <http://www.eugeneweekly.com/2004/12/16/news.html#news1>

Some of the MPC members were furious that citizens actually bothered to attend this public hearing. One sought to eliminate public input completely. But cooler heads prevailed, and the 180 seconds normally allotted for each citizen was whittled down to 120 seconds.

Since that meeting, the Lane Council of Governments has scheduled a "special meeting" for December 30 to ram through more highway proposals before Jim Torrey leaves the Mayorship on January 3. Public notice for this "special meeting" about the "Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program" was sent out after normal business hours on December 22, and December 23 and 24 are LCOG holidays (ie. you can't ask LCOG staff for details about why they've suddenly scheduled this semi-secret meeting to spend our money).

It seems that the MPC / LCOG staff have gotten their revenge on the public by sending out notice for this public hearing immediately before the Christmas holiday, which ensures that virtually no one will know about this unprecedented hearing. It's probably unprecedented for MPC to schedule a meeting of this importance without providing more than one business day's prior notice for receiving public comments, and violates legal and ethical requirements for providing at least the illusion of democratic participation by the citizens (who are forced to pay the bills for these projects).

Note that as of today (December 23) there is no notice of this meeting at the LCOG calendar <http://www.lcog.org/calen.html>

1. This meeting is only being driven by the fact of Mayor Torrey's retirement. There is no reason to ram through this semi-secret meeting without adequate public notice.

2. MPC meets monthly on the second Thursday of the month, and that is when these issues should be discussed. Mayor Torrey chose not to run for re-election, and it is solely his responsibility that he is about to become a private citizen.

3. LCOG, MPC and local governments need to investigate the lack of democracy involved in trying to sneak through a barely publicized "special meeting" to make large decisions about spending our money without bothering to tell people in advance. This contempt for citizen involvement is a more urgent problem than Jim Torrey's personal deadline to deliver more lumps of asphalt for his friends before January 3, 2005.

4. The real transportation issues in the years to come will be how to cope technically and financially with Peak Oil, since reduced petroleum availability will reduce gas taxes (as people drive less) for highway maintenance. We will be lucky to be able to maintain what has already been built. For more about this, see <http://www.oilempire.us/peakoil.html> (great list of links to primary references on Peak Oil).

For more information about the West Eugene Parkway, see

WETLANDS: West Eugene Transportation, Land and Neighborhood Design Solutions
<http://www.efn.org/~wep>

from the Eugene Weekly, December 23, 2004

<http://www.eugeneweekly.com/2004/12/23/news.html>

We hear of some last-minute politicking by Mayor Torrey as the calendar runs out on his tenure. He's pushing a Dec. 30 emergency meeting of the Metropolitan Policy Committee, the secretive "shadow government" we wrote about last week. It appears Torrey has in mind pushing some of his pet projects, such as improvements to Chad Drive, through the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program. The MTIP has an adoption deadline six months out, so it seems the only emergency is Torrey's time running out. The lame duck mayor's request contradicts an earlier MPC decision not to hold a special meeting before the end of the year, and it has a lot of people scrambling to organize a meeting and hearing during a time when many people are out of town or are otherwise occupied. Meanwhile, the MPC's vote Dec. 9 to include the West Eugene Parkway in the Regional Transportation Plan has thrown a wrench in local transportation planning. The Eugene City Council needs time to rehash priorities and give direction to its two members on the MPC. Sound complicated? You bet. Is this an open and public process? Not very. The "emergency" hearing, if it happens, will be at 11:30 am Dec. 30 at the Springfield Library.

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: BJ751@aol.com
Sent: Monday, December 27, 2004 10:41 PM
To: mpo@lane.cog.or.us
Cc: mayorandcc@ci.eugene.or.us; mayor@ci.springfield.or.us; bobby.green@co.lane.or.us; ken.hamm@ltd.lane.or.us; mayor@ci.coburg.or.us; and; Robert.Pirrie@odot.state.or.us
Subject: West Eugene Parkway

MPC Members:

Please approve Resolution 2004-08 Adopting the Central Lane FY2005-2007 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP).

Projects on the list such as the West Eugene Parkway, Airport Road realignment, I-5 Beltline Interchange, Courthouse District transportation improvements and LTD projects are important to our local, regional, and state transportation system.

In particular, thank you for your continued support of the West Eugene Parkway and for honoring the vote of the people as well as the plan amendments adopted by the local jurisdictions to move this project forward toward construction.

Sincerely,

Bob Johnson

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: Steve Cornacchia [scornacchia@hershnerhunter.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 28, 2004 9:41 AM
To: mpo@lane.cog.or.us
Cc: mayor@ci.coburg.or.us; mayorandcc@ci.eugene.or.us; mayor@ci.springfield.or.us; bobby.green@co.lane.or.us; ken.hamm@ltd.lane.or.us; robert.pirrie@odot.state.or.us
Subject: MPC Meeting

MPC Members:

Please approve Resolution 2004-08 Adopting the Central Lane FY2005-2007 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP).

Projects on the list such as the West Eugene Parkway, Airport Road realignment, I-5 Beltline Interchange, Courthouse District transportation improvements and LTD projects are important to our local, regional, and state transportation system.

Steve

P. Steven Cornacchia
Hershner Hunter, LLP
180 East 11th Avenue
Eugene OR 97401
Phone: (541) 686-8511
Fax: (541) 344-2025
E-mail: scornacchia@hershnerhunter.com

"Celebrating 60 years of service to our community."

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Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: Tim Clevenger [tclev@pape.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 28, 2004 11:13 AM
To: mpo@lane.cog.or.us
Cc: mayor@ci.eugene.or.us; Bobby Green; mayor@ci.springfield.or.us;
ken.hamm@fd.lane.or.us; robert.pirrie@odot.state.or.us
Subject: MPC Hearing, Support of MTIP

To: Members of the Metropolitan Policy Committee

Re: Support of Resolution 2004-08, adopting the FY 2005-07 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program

Our community has continued sound growth practices, and has expanded as a result. During the past decade or so, as our community has grown, our transportation infrastructure has not adequately kept up the pace necessary to support that growth. As you are aware, a well-planned, and maintained, transportation system is the backbone of a healthy community – benefiting everyone. We support the adoption of the MTIP because it is the first step in the right direction and will provide our community with some very well-needed transportation projects, including the I-5 Beltline Interchange, the Chad Drive extension, Airport Road relocation and the West Eugene Parkway construction.

The projects in the resolution adopting the MTIP are beneficial for a variety of reasons:

- They will increase the livability for the entire county;
- They are in compliance with Oregon's tradition of sound land use planning;
- They will help reduce traffic congestion;
- They will lay the foundation for continued, sustainable and well-managed growth;
- And they will increase the ability to control growth and mitigate its impact.

Our community needs the transportation projects of the MTIP to manage the population and development we already have, and to plan for future expansion. These projects are a critical element to aid in the improvement of the local economy and providing jobs.

As a community, let's not lose this opportunity. We support the adoption of the FY 2005-07 MTIP and encourage the Metropolitan Policy Committee to approve the necessary resolution to adopt it.

Tim Clevenger
Director, Corporate Development
The Papé Group, Inc.
(541) 334-3443
tclev@pape.com

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: RiHansen@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, December 28, 2004 1:20 PM
To: mpo@lane.cog.or.us
Subject: MTIP

To Whom it May Concern:

I would like to encourage you to adopt the FY 2005-2007 MTIP. There has already been an extensive and time consuming process completed, which asked the voters their opinion on the West Eugene Parkway. They approved it some time ago. Also, many people in various jurisdictions have worked hard to bring this project to fruition.

In addition, I realize that there are many other components to the MTIP, and think they would benefit our community. Chad Drive extension and the airport project are just a few that would help Eugene, Sprigfield, LTD and Lane County.

Thank you for your hard work and your time and attention on this important matter.

Respectfully,
Nancy Hansen

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: SAPRIAULX@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, December 28, 2004 1:26 PM
To: mpo@lane.cog.or.us
Subject: (no subject)

MPC Members:

Please approve Resolution 2004-08 Adopting the Central Lane FY2005-2007 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP).

Projects on the list such as the West Eugene Parkway, Airport Road realignment, I-5 Beltline Interchange, Courthouse District transportation improvements and LTD projects are important to our local, regional, and state transportation system.

In particular, thank you for your continued support of the West Eugene Parkway and for honoring the vote of the people as well as the plan amendments adopted by the local jurisdictions to move this project forward toward construction.

Sincerely,

Scot & Lisa Priaulx
3035 Skyview Ln.
Eugene 97405

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: PennRettig@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, December 28, 2004 3:03 PM
To: mpo@lane.cog.or.us
Subject: Please approve Res 2004-08 (MTIP)

MPC Members:

I would like to give my recommendation that you approve Resolution 2004-08 Adopting the Central Lane FY2005-2007 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP).

Projects on the list such as the West Eugene Parkway are important to our local, regional, and state transportation system.

In particular, thank you for your continued support of the West Eugene Parkway. I believe this shows that you are honoring the vote of the people as well as the plan amendments adopted by the local jurisdictions to move this project forward toward construction. It is important that Eugene be viewed by funding agencies as a community that can be trusted for larger long term improvement projects and not hijacked by vocal but parochial special interests.

I remember back when there was such a fuss about upgrading Mahlon Sweet airport. Now every time I come home to one of the nicest little airports in America, I wonder how we could have ever questioned the need. Like it or not, growth and change will happen. By your thoughtful actions, that change can be progress. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Penn Rettig, CFP, CFS, MBA
Registered Principal
Certified Financial Planner
Multi Financial Securities Corporation
1686 Pearl Street
Eugene, Oregon 97401

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: Debi Creager [dcreager@chambersconstruction.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 28, 2004 3:01 PM
To: mpo@lane.cog.or.us
Cc: mayorandcc@ci.eugene.or.us; mayor@ci.springfield.or.us; bobby.green@co.lane.or.us; ken.hamm@ltd.lane.or.us; mayor@ci.coburg.or.us; robert.pirrie@odot.state.or.us
Subject: West Eugene Parkway/MPC Meeting - please distribute to MPC Members at the 12/30 meeting

MPC Members:

Please approve Resolution 2004-08 adopting the Central Lane FY2005-2007 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program.

Projects on the list such as the West Eugene Parkway, Airport Road realignment, I-5 Beltline Interchange, Courthouse District transportation improvements and LTD projects are important to our local, regional, and state transportation system.

In particular, thank you for your continued support of the West Eugene Parkway and for honoring the vote of the people as well as the plan amendments adopted by the local jurisdictions to move this project forward toward construction.

Respectfully,

Debi Creager

(Concerned taxpayer and local resident)

Deborah K. Creager, Controller

Chambers Construction Co.

Phone 541.687.9445 Fax 541.687.9451

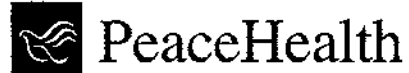
Cell 541.228.6281 Nextel ID 65225*24

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: Mark Kaveny [mkaveny@deltasg.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 28, 2004 4:25 PM
To: mpo@lane.cog.or.us
Subject: West Eugene Parkway

Please let this e-mail stand as my support for the West Eugene Parkway. As a Eugene citizen and voter, I demand to see this project constructed.

Thank you.



December 28, 2004

Metropolitan Policy Committee
c/o Paul Thompson, Lane Council of Governments
99 E. Broadway, Suite 400
Eugene, OR 97401

Re: FY 2005-07 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program

Dear Chair Bettman and MPC Members,

Please accept this letter as testimony on behalf of PeaceHealth in support of the proposed FY 2005-07 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP), and insert it in the record of the December 30, 2004 meeting of the Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC).

The draft MTIP includes the first two phases of the I-5/Beltline Interchange improvement project. Improvements to this interchange are of vital importance to the region's economy, and have been identified as the Eugene-Springfield area's highest priority transportation need since the 1986 TransPlan.

We understand that ODOT is requesting that the MTIP be revised to reflect combining the first two phases of this project in a single package. This would have the effect of constructing these needed improvements more quickly and efficiently, resulting in savings to Oregon taxpayers. We therefore urge the MPC to approve the requested amendment to the MTIP and complete the most important elements of this critical project.

Sincerely,

Philip Farrington, AICP
Director, Land Use Planning and Development
PeaceHealth Oregon Region

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: Kevin Matthews [matthews@artifice.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 28, 2004 4:24 PM
To: Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization
Subject: Testimony on MTIP re: December 30, 2004 hearing [part one]

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization <MPO@lane.cog.or.us>

Please accept the following transcript of correspondence for the record regarding MPO consideration of the MTIP update scheduled for hearing on December 30, 2004.

Acknowledgment of receipt would be appreciated.

Respectfully,

Kevin Matthews
President, Friends of Eugene
<http://www.FriendsofEugene.org>

----- Begin forwarded message -----

From: Kevin Matthews <matthews@artifice.com>
Date: Tue, 21 Dec 2004 14:46:39 -0800
To: BETTMAN Bonny S <bonny.s.bettman@ci.eugene.or.us>, *Springfield Mayor <mayor@ci.springfield.or.us>, ccward3@comcast.net, KLOEPPPEL George W <gkloeppe@lane.cog.or.us>, TAYLOR Dennis M <dennis.m.taylor@ci.eugene.or.us>, VANVACTOR William A <William.A.VANVACTOR@co.lane.or.us>, KELLY Mike <mkelly@ci.springfield.or.us>, DWYER Bill J <Bill.Dwyer@co.lane.or.us>, GAYDOS Gerry <Gerry.Gaydos@ltd.org>, VOLTA Judy <Mayor@ci.coburg.or.us>, KENT Jamon (LCOG) <jkent@lane.cog.or.us>, PIERCY Kitty (SMTP) <kitty.piercy@pphsso.org>, *Eugene Mayor and City Council <mayorandcc@ci.eugene.or.us>, *Springfield City Councilors <*SpringfieldCityCouncilors@ci.springfield.or.us>, GREEN Bobby <Bobby.Green@co.lane.or.us>
Subject: RE: Special MPC Meeting

Dear Staff, Elected Officials, and other friends,

I'm still wondering if someone could help pin down these points:

- Are there some projects in the MTIP for which funding would be jeopardized if the proposal is not approved before the end of the calendar year?
- If so, which projects are those?

Again, thanks for any clarifications on these! If there's going to be a public hearing soon on the MTIP, it would be helpful to have this basic background information.

best wishes,

Kevin Matthews
Friends of Eugene

PS: I'm sure LCOG will do their utmost to notice all interested parties, and the general public, for any public hearing attempted to be held at an emergency meeting (esp. considering the federal requirements involved). Mr. Kloeppe has expressed to us directly the sincerity of LCOG's commitment to substantive public involvement, and we do appreciate it.

On Tue, 21 Dec 2004 10:11:13 -0800, TORREY Jim D wrote:

> Kevin:
>
> This is an orderly way to complete the work that this group of MPO /
> MPC members have started and now want to finish before the end of
> this year.
>

> Respectfully,
>
>
> Mayor Jim Torrey
>
> P.S. There were only two people who signed up to speak at Public
> Hearing
> on
> the M-TIP and the LCOG folks will contact those two individuals and inform
> them of the special meeting so that they can either appear in person or
> submit testimony in writing.
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Kevin Matthews [mailto:matthews@artifice.com]
> Sent: Monday, December 20, 2004 2:51 PM
> To: TORREY Jim D; BETTMAN Bonny S; *Springfield Mayor; cward3@comcast.net;
> KLOEPPPEL George W; TAYLOR Dennis M; VANVACTOR William A; KELLY Mike; DWYER
> Bill J; GAYDOS Gerry; VOLTA Judy; KENT Jamon; PIERCY Kitty; *Eugene Mayor
> and City Council; *Springfield City Councilors; GREEN Bobby
> Subject: RE: Special MPC Meeting
>
> Dear Staff, Elected Officials, and other friends,
>
> This is an admirably forthright discussion. But it is starting to
> get a
> bit
> confusing, and if there really is going to be an emergency MTIP hearing
> held
> before the end of the year, I for one would sincerely like to be able to
> help
> involved citizens understand the issues. Could someone possibly help pin
> down a couple of points?
>
> - Are there some projects in the MTIP for which funding would be
> jeopardized
> if the proposal is not approved before the end of the calendar year?
>
> - If so, which projects are those?
>
> Thanks in advance very much for any clarifications on these!
>
> Best wishes,
>
> Kevin Matthews
> Friends of Eugene
>
>
> On Mon, 20 Dec 2004 13:08:36 -0800, TORREY Jim D wrote:
>> Bonny:
>>
>> It is important to understand that projects like Chad Drive and the
> Airport
>> are important to all of Lane County.
>>
>> Jim Torrey
>>
>> -----Original Message-----
>> From: Bonny Bettman [mailto:bonny.s.bettman@ci.eugene.or.us]
>> Sent: Monday, December 20, 2004 10:13 AM
>> To: 'Springfield Mayor'; 'TORREY Jim D'; cward3@comcast.net; 'KLOEPPPEL
>> George W'; 'TAYLOR Dennis M'; 'VANVACTOR William A'; 'KELLY
>> Michael';
> 'DWYER
>> Bill J'; 'GAYDOS Gerry'; 'VOLTA Judy'; 'KENT Jamon (LCOG)'
>> Cc: 'Kevin Matthews'; 'PIERCY Kitty (SMTP)'; '*Eugene Mayor and City
>> Council'; '*Springfield City Councilors'; 'GREEN Bobby'
>> Subject: RE: Special MPC Meeting

>> Importance: High

>>
>> Sid,
>> Springfield projects are not jeopardized by the current scheduling for
>> '05 which allows Eugene their opportunity to review the plan. MPC has
>> six months to adopt the MTIP after RTP adoption.
>> Advocating for a pre-emptive meeting IS getting involved in Eugene's
>> business, in a very political way.
>> -Bonny Bettman

>> -----Original Message-----

>> From: Springfield Mayor [mailto:mayor@ci.springfield.or.us]
>> Sent: Monday, December 20, 2004 8:47 AM
>> To: BETTMAN Bonny S; TORREY Jim D; ccward3@comcast.net; KLOEPPPEL George
>> W; TAYLOR Dennis M; VANVACTOR William A; KELLY Michael; DWYER Bill J;
>> GAYDOS Gerry; VOLTA Judy; KENT Jamon (LCOG)
>> Cc: Kevin Matthews; PIERCY Kitty (SMTP); *Eugene Mayor and City Council;
>> *Springfield City Councilors; GREEN Bobby
>> Subject: RE: Special MPC Meeting

>> I would like to remind all that these decision's at MPC is not just
>> about
>> Eugene and the WEP. There are some critical decisions that affect
>> Springfield as well. I did not hear objections to any of the
>> Springfield
>> projects at all. With that I would like to have a final meeting just to
>> complete the task we were empowered to do in the first place.

>> Thank you

>> Sid Leiken

>> _____
>> From: Bonny Bettman [mailto:bonny.s.bettman@ci.eugene.or.us]
>> Sent: Sat 12/18/2004 10:53 AM
>> To: TORREY Jim D; ccward3@comcast.net; KLOEPPPEL George W; TAYLOR Dennis
>> M;
>> VANVACTOR William A; KELLY Michael; DWYER Bill J; 'GAYDOS Gerry'; VOLTA
>> Judy; KENT Jamon (LCOG)
>> Cc: 'Kevin Matthews'; PIERCY Kitty (SMTP); *Eugene Mayor and City
>> Council;
>> *Springfield City Councilors; Springfield Mayor; GREEN Bobby
>> Subject: RE: Special MPC Meeting

>> Jim, George etc.,
>> Well since you, Jim Torrey, claim to know the minds of all the Eugene
>> City Councilors maybe you would conclude we don't need to meet and
>> deliberate in public at all. You could just "stage" decision making
>> opportunities with completely superficial public process, like you are
>> doing now. I don't know what form of government you do favor, but it
>> certainly does not resemble democracy - which is of the people, by the
>> people, and for the people. This RTP/MPC process has a stench to it
>> which is getting worse as we get closer to Torry's retirement. Coburg is
>> a perfect example of elected officials delegating their fiduciary
>> responsibility, for the public, to staff without the checks and balances
>> of meaningful public input, or deliberative oversight by elected
>> representatives. Is that what you want here?

>> For the record, if members of the MPC are overriding my decision to NOT
>> convene a "special meeting" then what is the public process to override?
>> Who are the members voting to override the decision of the chair?
>> For the record.

>> Bonny Bettman

>>
>>
>>
>> -----Original Message-----
>> From: TORREY Jim D [mailto:jim.d.torrey@ci.eugene.or.us
>> <mailto:jim.d.torrey@ci.eugene.or.us>]
>> Sent: Saturday, December 18, 2004 10:29 AM
>> To: 'ccward3@comcast.net'; KLOEPPEL George W; TAYLOR Dennis M; VANVACTOR
>> William A; KELLY Mike; DWYER Bill J; GAYDOS Gerry; VOLTA Judy; KENT
>> Jamon (LCOG)
>> Cc: Kevin Matthews; PIERCY Kitty (SMTP); *Eugene Mayor and City Council;
>> *Springfield City Councilors; *Springfield Mayor; GREEN Bobby
>> Subject: RE: Special MPC Meeting

>> David:

>>
>> There isn't any question in my mind that the Eugene City Council was
>> aware
>> of the various decisions that the MPO were going to make at the last MPO
>> /
>> MPC meeting which included this MTIP matter. In fact the City Council
>> tabled a motion the day before dealing with the very issue you bring up
>> in
>> your e-mail and the date certain to deal with this tabled motion is
>> beyond
>> even the next MPC meeting. There were over forty speakers who spoke to
>> some
>> of these issues. The public will have had ample opportunity to submit
>> comments in writing to us on this matter in addition the various public
>> hearing opportunities they have had to date.

>>
>> I would also point out that these projects are important to all areas of
>> Lane County and not just Eugene. If the objective is truly to allow the
>> public to heard the opportunity exists if there is some other objective
>> please let me know what that might be. I remain convinced that the best
>> option is to proceed with the special meeting on 12-30-04 and let the
>> officials who have heard the testimony and are knowledgeable about these
>> issues make their decision.

>> Respectfully,

>> Jim Torrey

>> -----Original Message-----
>> From: ccward3@comcast.net [mailto:ccward3@comcast.net
>> <mailto:ccward3@comcast.net>]
>> Sent: Saturday, December 18, 2004 9:59 AM
>> To: George Kloepfel - LCOG; dennis.m.taylor@ci.eugene.or.us
>> Cc: Kevin Matthews; Eugene Council
>> Subject: Re: Special MPC Meeting

>> George and Dennis --

>>
>> I'm dismayed to read that MPC is considering a meeting on 12/30
>> regarding
>> the MTIP, but I'm troubled for reasons unrelated to those raised by
>> Kevin
>> Matthews. The Eugene City Council adopted a policy earlier this year
>> that we
>> would review TPC-generated project lists prior to consideration by the
>> MPC,
>> so that the Council could convey our feelings to our MPC reps before
>> they
>> vote.

>>
>> We were scheduled to discuss the MTIP on 12/6 or 12/8 (don't recall
>> exactly,

>> and I'm out of town and don't have notes in front of me). However,
>> because
>> of an overcrowded agenda, we were unable to do so and voted to table the
>> matter until January (on a close to unanimous vote as I recall).

>>
>> If the MPC takes up the MTIP on 12/30, then, the Council will be unable
>> to
>> follow our own adopted policy and our MPC reps will not have the input
>> from
>> the Council as a whole. This strikes me as a very bad move, which would
>> have
>> the effect of excluding the opinions of a majority of Eugene's elected
>> officials.

>>
>> I'm told that the MTIP, unlike the RTP, does not have a critical
>> immediate
>> deadline for adoption. Therefore, in the interest of respecting Eugene's
>> elected officials, I would urge the MPC *not* to act on this item before
>> the
>> Eugene Council's scheduled January consideration of the MTIP.

>> Regards, and happy holidays --
>> David

>> --
>> David Kelly
>> Eugene City Councilor
>> david.s.kelly@ci.eugene.or.us
>> 541-686-3343

>>> Dear George,

>>> Just for background, I'd like to share my impression that there
>>> are

>> probably a
>>> number of citizens who would like to testify with regard to the
>>> MTIP,
>> now
>> that

>>> the RTP has been substantively amended. I thought you might want
>>> to
>> take
>> into

>>> account the possibility of some expansion in public
>>> participation. I

>> wonder
>> if
>>> elected officials would want to take that into account.

>>> In any case, I would sincerely appreciate it if you would
>>> consider

>> Friends
>> of

>>> Eugene an interested party with regard to the current MTIP
>>> proceedings, as

>> well

>>> as for any other MPC land use or transportation issues.

>>> Kevin Matthews
>>> Friends of Eugene
>>> PO Box 1588
>>> Eugene, OR 97440
>>> please email notices to: board@friendsofeugene.org

>>> Thanks very much,

>>> Kevin Matthews
>>> President, Friends of Eugene
>>> 514-4766 direct
>>> 345-7421 office
>>> 345-7438 fax
>>> matthews@artifice.com
>>>

>>>> It has been suggested that a special meeting of the MPC be
>>>> convened
>> yet
>>>> this month to attend to the one item of business for which
>>>> there
>> was
>>>> insufficient time last week--that is, the Metropolitan
>> Transportation
>>>> Improvement Program (MTIP). Under the Bylaws, the chair, the
>>>> vice
>> chair
>>>> or a majority of the MPC members from Eugene, Springfield and Lane
>>>> County (six voting members, a majority being four) can call a
>> special
>>>> meeting. When this suggestion was offered yesterday, I did
>>>> some
>> quick
>>>> checking of people's availability. I knew that you were going
>>>> to
>> be
>> out
>>>> of town and suspected that it would be true for others as well.
>>>> As
>> it
>>>> stands, I can say that we could get a quorum for a meeting on
>> Thursday,
>>>> December 30. If a meeting is called, the notice would include
>> notice
>> of
>>>> a public hearing on the FY 2005-07 MTIP. Two people signed up
>>>> to
>> speak
>>>> at the scheduled hearing on the proposed MTIP last Thursday,
>>>> but
>> that
>>>> hearing was not held. This message and my earlier telephone
>> message at
>>>> your home is to seek your decision on calling such a meeting.
>>>> If
>> one
>> is
>>>> to be held, we clearly need to make the arrangements as quickly as
>>>> possible and get appropriate public notice out. Please let me
>>>> know
>> your
>>>> judgment on this. Thanks. George
>>>>
>>>> George Kloeppe, Executive Director
>>>> Lane Council of Governments
>>>> 99 East Broadway, Suite 400
>>>> Eugene, Oregon 97401-3111
>>>> (541) 682-4395 Voice
>>>> (541) 682-4099 Fax
>>>> gkloeppe@lane.cog.or.us
>>>> <<http://www.lcog.org/>> <<http://www.lcog.org/>> >
>> <http://www.lcog.org/>
>> <<http://www.lcog.org/>>
>>
>>
>>
>>>> --

>>> Friends of Eugene grows with your membership and support!
>>> <http://www.FriendsofEugene.org> <<http://www.FriendsofEugene.org>>
>

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: Kevin Matthews [matthews@artifice.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 28, 2004 4:25 PM
To: Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization
Subject: Testimony on MTIP re: December 30, 2004 hearing [part two]



-HTML Message.html TOM SCHWETZ
(3 KB) (Business Fax).vcf...

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

<MPO@lane.cog.or.us>

Please accept the following transcript of correspondence for the record regarding MPO consideration of the MTIP update scheduled for hearing on December 30, 2004.

Acknowledgment of receipt would be appreciated.

Respectfully,

Kevin Matthews
President, Friends of Eugene
<http://www.FriendsofEugene.org>

----- Begin forwarded message -----

From: SCHWETZ Tom B <tschwetz@lane.cog.or.us>
Date: Wed, 22 Dec 2004 12:21:03 -0800
To: BETTMAN Bonny S <bonny.s.bettman@ci.eugene.or.us>, *Springfield Mayor <mayor@ci.springfield.or.us>, "'ccward3@comcast.net'" <ccward3@comcast.net>, KLOEPPPEL George W <gkloeppe@lane.cog.or.us>, TAYLOR Dennis M <dennis.m.taylor@ci.eugene.or.us>, VANVACTOR William A <William.A.VANVACTOR@co.lane.or.us>, KELLY Michael (DOC) <Michael.D.Kelly@doc.state.or.us>, DWYER Bill J <Bill.Dwyer@co.lane.or.us>, GAYDOS Gerry (SMTP) <gerry@gcbpc.com>, VOLTA Judy <Mayor@ci.coburg.or.us>, KENT Jamon (LCOG) <jkent@lane.cog.or.us>, PIERCY Kitty (SMTP) <kitty.piercy@pphssso.org>, *Eugene Mayor and City Council <mayorandcc@ci.eugene.or.us>, *Springfield City Councilors <*SpringfieldCityCouncilors@ci.springfield.or.us>, GREEN Bobby <Bobby.Green@co.lane.or.us>, "'matthews@artifice.com'" <matthews@artifice.com>
Subject: Response to Questions

Kevin - I understand that you have asked the following questions:

- Are there some projects in the MTIP for which funding would be jeopardized if the proposal is not approved before the end of the calendar year?

- If so, which projects are those?

My response is as follows:

In the short run, there are no projects in FY05-07 Draft MTIP that require action in December. However, some MPC members that we have heard from feel it is important to finalize the FY05-07 Draft MTIP process this year because all the work has been completed, the hearing was advertised, and all applicable federal requirements for MPC's adoption of the document have been met.

I'd also like to clarify a detail that we've seen discussed in recent e-mails. There is a state rule that requires that the MTIP be updated within 6 months of the adoption of a new Regional Transportation Plan. As it stands, the action MPC took on December 9th approving the Air Quality Conformity Determination reconformed the FY04-06 MTIP and effectively addressed the state rule. Thus, the 6-month timeline is a moot issue.

Finally, I would point out that management of the MTIP in an efficient and timely manner is one of the primary functions of the MPO process. MPC is frequently asked by its

members to take action to amend or update the MTIP to ensure that it reflects the most current information on various projects, thereby meeting federal requirements for the use of funds and allowing projects to proceed. In fact, there are several of the member agencies (Eugene, Springfield, LTD, and ODOT) who have projects that need to be in an adopted FY05-07 MTIP no later than February. An MTIP adoption on December 30th would address the needs of those agencies.

Tom

Thomas Schwetz
Program Manager
Transportation and Public Infrastructure Finance
LCOG
99 E. Broadway, Suite 400
Eugene, OR 97401
voice - 541-682-4044
fax - 541-682-6523
tschwetz@lane.cog.or.us
<http://www.lcog.org/> <<http://www.lcog.org/>>

<<TOM SCHWETZ (Business Fax).vcf>>

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: Kevin Matthews [matthews@artifice.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 28, 2004 4:27 PM
To: Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization
Subject: Testimony on MTIP re: December 30, 2004 hearing [part three]

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization <MPO@lane.cog.or.us>

Please accept the following transcript of correspondence for the record regarding MPO consideration of the MTIP update scheduled for hearing on December 30, 2004.

Acknowledgment of receipt would be appreciated.

Respectfully,

Kevin Matthews
President, Friends of Eugene
<http://www.FriendsofEugene.org>

----- Begin forwarded message -----

From: "David Kelly, Eugene City Councilor" <david.s.kelly@ci.eugene.or.us>
Date: Wed, 22 Dec 2004 16:21:52 -0800
To: SCHWETZ Tom B <tschwetz@lane.cog.or.us>
CC: BETTMAN Bonny S <bonny.s.bettman@ci.eugene.or.us>, *Springfield Mayor <mayor@ci.springfield.or.us>, KLOEPEL George W <gkloepfel@lane.cog.or.us>, TAYLOR Dennis M <dennis.m.taylor@ci.eugene.or.us>, VANVACTOR William A <William.A.VANVACTOR@co.lane.or.us>, KELLY Michael (DOC) <Michael.D.Kelly@doc.state.or.us>, DWYER Bill J <Bill.Dwyer@co.lane.or.us>, GAYDOS Gerry (SMTP) <gerry@gcbpc.com>, VOLTA Judy <Mayor@ci.coburg.or.us>, KENT Jamon (LCOG) <jkent@lane.cog.or.us>, PIERCY Kitty (SMTP) <kitty.piercy@pphssso.org>, *Eugene Mayor and City Council <mayorandcc@ci.eugene.or.us>, *Springfield City Councilors <*SpringfieldCityCouncilors@ci.springfield.or.us>, GREEN Bobby <Bobby.Green@co.lane.or.us>, "matthews@artifice.com" <matthews@artifice.com>
Subject: Re: Response to Questions

Tom --

I would note that NOBODY has responded to the concern I have raised already regarding the special meeting. I quote from my email of 12/18:

"The Eugene City Council adopted a policy earlier this year that we would review TPC-generated project lists prior to consideration by the MPC, so that the Council could convey our feelings to our MPC reps before they vote.

We were scheduled to discuss the MTIP on 12/6 or 12/8 (don't recall exactly, and I'm out of town and don't have notes in front of me). However, because of an overcrowded agenda, we were unable to do so and voted to table the matter until January (on a close to unanimous vote as I recall).

If the MPC takes up the MTIP on 12/30, then, the Council will be unable to follow our own adopted policy and our MPC reps will not have the input from the Council as a whole. This strikes me as a very bad move, which would have the effect of excluding the opinions of a majority of Eugene's elected officials."

This is extremely frustrating, and seems utterly unnecessary.

-- David

SCHWETZ Tom B wrote:

> Kevin - I understand that you have asked the following questions:

>

> - Are there some projects in the MTIP for which funding would be

> jeopardized if the proposal is not approved before the end of the calendar

> year?
>
> - If so, which projects are those?
>
> My response is as follows:
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> In the short run, there are no projects in FY05-07 Draft MTIP that
> require
> action in December. However, some MPC members that we have heard from feel
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> all applicable federal requirements for MPC's adoption of the document have
> been met.
> I'd also like to clarify a detail that we've seen discussed in recent
> e-mails. There is a state rule that requires that the MTIP be updated
> within 6 months of the adoption of a new Regional Transportation Plan. As
> it stands, the action MPC took on December 9th approving the Air Quality
> Conformity Determination reconformed the FY04-06 MTIP and effectively
> addressed the state rule. Thus, the 6-month timeline is a moot issue.
> Finally, I would point out that management of the MTIP in an efficient and
> timely manner is one of the primary functions of the MPO process. MPC is
> frequently asked by its members to take action to amend or update the MTIP
> to ensure that it reflects the most current information on various
> projects, thereby meeting federal requirements for the use of funds and
> allowing projects to proceed. In fact, there are several of the member
> agencies (Eugene, Springfield, LTD, and ODOT) who have projects that need
> to be in an adopted FY05-07 MTIP no later than February. An MTIP adoption
> on December 30th would address the needs of those agencies.
> Tom
>
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> Thomas Schwetz
> Program Manager
> Transportation and Public Infrastructure Finance
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> 99 E. Broadway, Suite 400
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> fax - 541-682-6523
> tschwetz@lane.cog.or.us
> <http://www.lcog.org/>
>
>
>
> <<TOM SCHWETZ (Business Fax).vcf>>
>

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: Kevin Matthews [matthews@artifice.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 28, 2004 4:28 PM
To: Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization
Subject: Testimony on MTIP re: December 30, 2004 hearing [part four]

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization <MPO@lane.cog.or.us>

Please accept the following transcript of correspondence for the record regarding MPO consideration of the MTIP update scheduled for hearing on December 30, 2004.

Acknowledgment of receipt would be appreciated.

Respectfully,

Kevin Matthews
President, Friends of Eugene
<http://www.FriendsofEugene.org>

----- Begin forwarded message -----

From: TORREY Jim D <jim.d.torrey@ci.eugene.or.us>
Date: Sun, 26 Dec 2004 09:39:08 -0800
To: 'Kevin Matthews' <matthews@artifice.com>, TORREY Jim D <jim.d.torrey@ci.eugene.or.us>, BETTMAN Bonny S <bonny.s.bettman@ci.eugene.or.us>, *Springfield Mayor <mayor@ci.springfield.or.us>, ccward3@comcast.net, KLOEPPPEL George W <gkloeppe@lane.cog.or.us>, TAYLOR Dennis M <dennis.m.taylor@ci.eugene.or.us>, VANVACTOR William A <William.A.VANVACTOR@co.lane.or.us>, KELLY Mike <mkelly@ci.springfield.or.us>, DWYER Bill J <Bill.Dwyer@co.lane.or.us>, GAYDOS Gerry <Gerry.Gaydos@ltd.org>, VOLTA Judy <Mayor@ci.coburg.or.us>, KENT Jamon (LCOG) <jkent@lane.cog.or.us>, PIERCY Kitty (SMTP) <kitty.piercy@pphssso.org>, *Eugene Mayor and City Council <mayorandcc@ci.eugene.or.us>, *Springfield City Councilors <*SpringfieldCityCouncilors@ci.springfield.or.us>, GREEN Bobby <Bobby.Green@co.lane.or.us>
Subject: RE: Special MPC Meeting

Kevin:

FYI - Please pass this information on to members of your organization and others who might be interested.

Respectfully,

Jim Torrey

As a courtesy, the Eugene City Council members inform each other and the Mayor in the event they intend to introduce a motion or motions other than those listed on the AGENDA for the day.

This is my notice to inform the members of the Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC) that I will be making the following motion as soon as possible at the start of the December 30, 2004 MPC meeting:

I move that the time for taking public comments, during the COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE segment at the December 30th 2004 meeting, be limited to ten minutes and that it be divided equally among those people who have signed up for this segment.

In addition, the FY 2005-07 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) Public Hearing should be limited to forty minutes equally divided among those who have signed up, however, the two speakers who signed up at the December 9th 2004 public hearing on this subject shall be given the first opportunity to speak if they are in attendance at today's meeting.

In addition, anyone wishing to give comments regarding the Air Quality Conformity Determination for the FY 2005-07 MTIP will be given ten minutes equally divided between

those who have signed up.

My purpose for informing the members of my intent to make this motion is to also inform the LCOG Staff and to ask them to inform all interested parties of my intent to make this motion. Given the limited amount of time available for the December 30th 2004 meeting and the previous opportunities the public has had to provide comment on these items, as well as the advance notice the public is now receiving, I believe the public has been provided ample opportunity to communicate with us on these matters. I also believe that interested individuals wishing to communicate with members of the MPC/MPO will now have sufficient notice to allow the public to communicate in writing or by e-mail if they wish to do so and they should be prepared to bring written comments in the event time for oral comments isn't sufficient. This will motion, if approved, will also allow the MPC members sufficient time to debate these action items.

Thank you for the courtesy of reading and distributing this information.

Respectfully,

Mayor Jim Torrey

-----Original Message-----

From: Kevin Matthews [mailto:matthews@artifice.com]

Sent: Monday, December 20, 2004 2:51 PM

To: TORREY Jim D; BETTMAN Bonny S; *Springfield Mayor; ccward3@comcast.net; KLOEPEL George W; TAYLOR Dennis M; VANVACTOR William A; KELLY Mike; DWYER Bill J; GAYDOS Gerry; VOLTA Judy; KENT Jamon; PIERCY Kitty; *Eugene Mayor and City Council; *Springfield City Councilors; GREEN Bobby

Subject: RE: Special MPC Meeting

Dear Staff, Elected Officials, and other friends,

This is an admirably forthright discussion. But it is starting to get a bit confusing, and if there really is going to be an emergency MTIP hearing held before the end of the year, I for one would sincerely like to be able to help involved citizens understand the issues. Could someone possibly help pin down a couple of points?

- Are there some projects in the MTIP for which funding would be jeopardized if the proposal is not approved before the end of the calendar year?

- If so, which projects are those?

Thanks in advance very much for any clarifications on these!

best wishes,

Kevin Matthews
Friends of Eugene

On Mon, 20 Dec 2004 13:08:36 -0800, TORREY Jim D wrote:

> Bonny:

>

> It is important to understand that projects like Chad Drive and the Airport

> are important to all of Lane County.

>

> Jim Torrey

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Bonny Bettman [mailto:bonny.s.bettman@ci.eugene.or.us]

> Sent: Monday, December 20, 2004 10:13 AM

> To: 'Springfield Mayor'; 'TORREY Jim D'; ccward3@comcast.net; 'KLOEPEL

> George W'; 'TAYLOR Dennis M'; 'VANVACTOR William A'; 'KELLY Michael';

'DWYER

> Bill J'; 'GAYDOS Gerry'; 'VOLTA Judy'; 'KENT Jamon (LCOG)'

> Cc: 'Kevin Matthews'; 'PIERCY Kitty (SMTP)'; '*Eugene Mayor and City

> Council'; '*Springfield City Councilors'; 'GREEN Bobby'

> Subject: RE: Special MPC Meeting
> Importance: High

> Sid,
> Springfield projects are not jeopardized by the current scheduling for
> '05 which allows Eugene their opportunity to review the plan. MPC has
> six months to adopt the MTIP after RTP adoption.
> Advocating for a pre-emptive meeting IS getting involved in Eugene's
> business, in a very political way.
> -Bonny Bettman

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Springfield Mayor [mailto:mayor@ci.springfield.or.us]
> Sent: Monday, December 20, 2004 8:47 AM
> To: BETTMAN Bonny S; TORREY Jim D; ccward3@comcast.net; KLOEPPPEL George
> W; TAYLOR Dennis M; VANVACTOR William A; KELLY Michael; DWYER Bill J;
> GAYDOS Gerry; VOLTA Judy; KENT Jamon (LCOG)
> Cc: Kevin Matthews; PIERCY Kitty (SMTP); *Eugene Mayor and City Council;
> *Springfield City Councilors; GREEN Bobby
> Subject: RE: Special MPC Meeting

> I would like to remind all that these decision's at MPC is not just
> about Eugene and the WEP. There are some critical decisions that
> affect Springfield as well. I did not hear objections to any of the
> Springfield
> projects at all. With that I would like to have a final meeting just to
> complete the task we were empowered to do in the first place.

> Thank you

> Sid Leiken

> _____
> From: Bonny Bettman [mailto:bonny.s.bettman@ci.eugene.or.us]
> Sent: Sat 12/18/2004 10:53 AM
> To: TORREY Jim D; ccward3@comcast.net; KLOEPPPEL George W; TAYLOR
> Dennis M; VANVACTOR William A; KELLY Michael; DWYER Bill J; 'GAYDOS
> Gerry'; VOLTA Judy; KENT Jamon (LCOG)
> Cc: 'Kevin Matthews'; PIERCY Kitty (SMTP); *Eugene Mayor and City
> Council;
> *Springfield City Councilors; Springfield Mayor; GREEN Bobby
> Subject: RE: Special MPC Meeting

> Jim, George etc.,
> Well since you, Jim Torrey, claim to know the minds of all the Eugene
> City Councilors maybe you would conclude we don't need to meet and
> deliberate in public at all. You could just "stage" decision making
> opportunities with completely superficial public process, like you are
> doing now. I don't know what form of government you do favor, but it
> certainly does not resemble democracy - which is of the people, by the
> people, and for the people. This RTP/MPC process has a stench to it
> which is getting worse as we get closer to Torry's retirement. Coburg
> is a perfect example of elected officials delegating their fiduciary
> responsibility, for the public, to staff without the checks and
> balances of meaningful public input, or deliberative oversight by
> elected representatives. Is that what you want here?

> For the record, if members of the MPC are overriding my decision to
> NOT convene a "special meeting" then what is the public process to
> override? Who are the members voting to override the decision of the
> chair? For the record.

> Bonny Bettman

>
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: TORREY Jim D [mailto:jim.d.torrey@ci.eugene.or.us
> <mailto:jim.d.torrey@ci.eugene.or.us>]
> Sent: Saturday, December 18, 2004 10:29 AM
> To: 'ccward3@comcast.net'; KLOEPEL George W; TAYLOR Dennis M;
> VANVACTOR William A; KELLY Mike; DWYER Bill J; GAYDOS Gerry; VOLTA
> Judy; KENT Jamon (LCOG)
> Cc: Kevin Matthews; PIERCY Kitty (SMTP); *Eugene Mayor and City
> Council; *Springfield City Councilors; *Springfield Mayor; GREEN
> Bobby
> Subject: RE: Special MPC Meeting

> David:

>
> There isn't any question in my mind that the Eugene City Council was
> aware of the various decisions that the MPO were going to make at the
> last MPO /
> MPC meeting which included this MTIP matter. In fact the City Council
> tabled a motion the day before dealing with the very issue you bring up
> in
> your e-mail and the date certain to deal with this tabled motion is
> beyond
> even the next MPC meeting. There were over forty speakers who spoke to
> some
> of these issues. The public will have had ample opportunity to submit
> comments in writing to us on this matter in addition the various public
> hearing opportunities they have had to date.

>
> I would also point out that these projects are important to all areas
> of Lane County and not just Eugene. If the objective is truly to
> allow the public to heard the opportunity exists if there is some
> other objective please let me know what that might be. I remain
> convinced that the best option is to proceed with the special meeting
> on 12-30-04 and let the officials who have heard the testimony and
> are knowledgeable about these issues make their decision.

> Respectfully,

> Jim Torrey

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> Sent: Saturday, December 18, 2004 9:59 AM
> To: George Kloeppe - LCOG; dennis.m.taylor@ci.eugene.or.us
> Cc: Kevin Matthews; Eugene Council
> Subject: Re: Special MPC Meeting

> George and Dennis --

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> I'm dismayed to read that MPC is considering a meeting on 12/30
> regarding the MTIP, but I'm troubled for reasons unrelated to those
> raised by Kevin
> Matthews. The Eugene City Council adopted a policy earlier this year
> that we
> would review TPC-generated project lists prior to consideration by the
> MPC,
> so that the Council could convey our feelings to our MPC reps before
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> vote.

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> officials.
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> I'm told that the MTIP, unlike the RTP, does not have a critical
> immediate deadline for adoption. Therefore, in the interest of
> respecting Eugene's elected officials, I would urge the MPC *not* to
> act on this item before the
> Eugene Council's scheduled January consideration of the MTIP.
>
> Regards, and happy holidays --
> David
> --
> David Kelly
> Eugene City Councilor
> david.s.kelly@ci.eugene.or.us
> 541-686-3343
>
>

>> Dear George,
>>
>> Just for background, I'd like to share my impression that there are
> probably a
>> number of citizens who would like to testify with regard to the
>> MTIP,
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> that
>> the RTP has been substantively amended. I thought you might want
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>> account the possibility of some expansion in public participation.
>> I
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>> elected officials would want to take that into account.
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>> In any case, I would sincerely appreciate it if you would consider
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>> Eugene an interested party with regard to the current MTIP
> proceedings, as
>
> well
>> as for any other MPC land use or transportation issues.
>>

>> Kevin Matthews
>> Friends of Eugene
>> PO Box 1588
>> Eugene, OR 97440
>> please email notices to: board@friendsofeugene.org
>>

>> Thanks very much,
>>

>> Kevin Matthews
>> President, Friends of Eugene
>> 514-4766 direct
>> 345-7421 office
>> 345-7438 fax
>> matthews@artifice.com
>>

>>>> It has been suggested that a special meeting of the MPC be
>>>> convened
> yet
>>>> this month to attend to the one item of business for which there
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>>>> insufficient time last week--that is, the Metropolitan
> Transportation
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>>>> County (six voting members, a majority being four) can call a
> special
>>>> meeting. When this suggestion was offered yesterday, I did some
> quick
>>>> checking of people's availability. I knew that you were going to
> be
> out
>>>> of town and suspected that it would be true for others as well.
>>>> As
> it
>>>> stands, I can say that we could get a quorum for a meeting on
> Thursday,
>>>> December 30. If a meeting is called, the notice would include
> notice
> of
>>>> a public hearing on the FY 2005-07 MTIP. Two people signed up to
> speak
>>>> at the scheduled hearing on the proposed MTIP last Thursday, but
> that
>>>> hearing was not held. This message and my earlier telephone
> message at
>>>> your home is to seek your decision on calling such a meeting. If
> one
> is
>>>> to be held, we clearly need to make the arrangements as quickly as
>>>> possible and get appropriate public notice out. Please let me
>>>> know
> your
>>>> judgment on this. Thanks. George
>>>>
>>>> George Kloeppe, Executive Director
>>>> Lane Council of Governments
>>>> 99 East Broadway, Suite 400
>>>> Eugene, Oregon 97401-3111
>>>> (541) 682-4395 Voice
>>>> (541) 682-4099 Fax
>>>> gkloeppe@lane.cog.or.us
>>>> <<http://www.lcog.org/>> <<http://www.lcog.org/>> >
> <http://www.lcog.org/>
> <<http://www.lcog.org/>>
>>
>>
>> --
>> Friends of Eugene grows with your membership and support!
>> <http://www.FriendsofEugene.org> <<http://www.FriendsofEugene.org>>

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: Kevin Matthews [matthews@artifice.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 28, 2004 4:57 PM
To: Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization
Subject: Testimony on MTIP re: December 30, 2004 hearing [part five]

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization <MPO@lane.cog.or.us>

Please accept the following comments for the record regarding MPO consideration of the MTIP update scheduled for hearing on December 30, 2004. I have also submitted four transcripts of related correspondence.

This testimony is submitted prior to the stated deadline of 5pm on Tuesday, December 28, 2004. However, I believe that it would be contrary to well-established case law to refuse to accept written testimony submitted at the public hearing itself, and I reserve the right to submit additional written testimony at that time.

Correspondence submitted as testimony part one documents some general discussion among several parties about the possibility of holding an emergency meeting of the MPC to consider the MTIP during the holiday dead week, just before Eugene's outgoing major leaves office. Opposition to holding such an emergency meeting by several parties, including the MPC chair, is noted.

Correspondence submitted as testimony part two documents comments from LCOG staff concluding that there is no specific regulatory or fiscal need to hold an emergency meeting before the end of the year.

Correspondence submitted as testimony part three documents established policy of the Eugene City Council (ECC) to the effect that ECC representatives shall not vote on the MTIP at MPC until after the ECC has had a chance to discuss the matter, which was postponed due to prior instances of schedule-packing and has not yet happened.

Correspondence submitted as testimony part four documents an attempt by outgoing Eugene mayor Jim Torrey to reduce public participation at the Dec. 30 emergency hearing to unprecedented low levels. By specifically seeking broad distribution of this unprecedented statement of intent to minimize public input time, and to prevent any expectation of a known time to speak for preparation of remarks, Mayor Torrey was attempting to suppress and discourage public participation in the hearing to be held during that meeting.

At its last public meeting on December 9, the MPC heard approximately 50 speakers unanimously against approval of the draft RTP, but voted to pass with the RTP without any significant consideration of that public input.

For the MPC to go ahead and pass the MTIP at its December 30, 2005 special meeting under these circumstances, would represent such a profound and reckless disregard of public process and citizen input, as to not only render the decision ripe for challenge, but perhaps to justify piercing of the standing immunity of public officials for individual responsibility. For under these conditions, it might well be argued that the voting members of the MPC would no longer be legitimately conducting public business.

Please stop this travesty. Please allow us to believe that there is still some level of respect for orderly public process among a majority of voting members of the MPC.

Acknowledgment of receipt would be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Kevin Matthews
President, Friends of Eugene
<http://www.FriendsofEugene.org>

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: Steve Crippen [scrippen@deltasg.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 28, 2004 5:07 PM
To: mpo@lane.cog.or.us
Cc: mayor@ci.springfield.or.us; mayorandcc@ci.eugene.or.us
Subject: West Eugene Parkway / MPC Meeting

MPC Members:

The West Eugene Parkway project is important to our local, regional and state transportation system as well as to our economy. This cannot be put off any longer.

Therefore, please approve Resolution 2004-08 Adopting the Central Lane FY2005-2007 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP).

Sincerely,

Steven Crippen

Delta Sand & Gravel Co.

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: Kevin Matthews [matthews@artifice.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 28, 2004 5:15 PM
To: Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization
Subject: Fwd: Testimony on MTIP re: December 30, 2004 hearing [part five]

Dear Petra,

Here's exactly the same thing with a few pure typos corrected - easier to read, if you can use it. If not, c'est la vie.

Thanks! - K

----- Begin forwarded message -----

From: Kevin Matthews <matthews@artifice.com>
Date: Tue, 28 Dec 2004 16:57:25 -0800
To: Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization <MPO@lane.cog.or.us>
Subject: Testimony on MTIP re: December 30, 2004 hearing [part five]

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization <MPO@lane.cog.or.us>

Please accept the following comments for the record regarding MPO consideration of the

MTIP update scheduled for hearing on December 30, 2004. I have also submitted four transcripts of related correspondence.

This testimony is submitted prior to the stated deadline of 5pm on Tuesday, December 28, 2004. However, I believe that it would be contrary to well-established case law to refuse to accept written testimony submitted at the public hearing itself, and I reserve the right to submit additional written testimony at that time.

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Please stop this travesty. Please allow us to believe that there is still some level of respect for orderly public process among a majority of voting members of the MPC.

Acknowledgment of receipt would be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Kevin Matthews
President, Friends of Eugene
<http://www.FriendsofEugene.org>

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: KLOEPPEL George W
Sent: Wednesday, December 29, 2004 9:45 AM
To: Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization
Subject: FW: MTIP testimony

-----Original Message-----

From: julum [mailto:julum@ulum.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 28, 2004 3:17 PM
To: gkloeppe@lane.cog.or.us
Subject: MTIP testimony

Hello:

I wanted to add my support to the Metropolitan Policy Committee's adoption of the Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP). These projects have been in the works for some time and are much needed – both to improve our transportation infrastructure and to stimulate our local economy. I urge the MPC to move forward with adoption.

Thank you for accepting this testimony in support of the MTIP.

Jenny Ulum
2493 Panorama Dr.
Eugene, OR 97405
683-0957

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: Gary Wildish [gwildish@chambersconstruction.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 29, 2004 2:20 PM
To: Jim Torrey; Bobby Green (Bobby Green); mayor@ci.springfield.or.us;
ken.hamm@ltd.lane.or.us; mayor@ci.coburg.or.us; Robert.Pirrie@odot.state.or.us;
mpo@lane.cog.or.us
Subject: MPC meeting 12/30/04

Dear Public Officials,

Thank you for your willingness to meet before the end of the year to adopt the Central Lane FY2005-2007 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program. Thanks to those that have the courage to make this happen. I have been involved in one of these projects since the early 1980's. I can't believe that is true but so be-it. This local area needs the support of our elected officials to follow thru with projects that the public has voted to move ahead. All of these projects are needed and the sooner we accomplish them the sooner we will get to add those projects that are also needed but are not on this list. This community can not afford the continued delays that we have experienced too often.

Thank you,

Gary Wildish

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: Bob Freeman [freemanr@darkwing.uoregon.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, December 29, 2004 10:03 PM
To: mpo@lane.cog.or.us
Subject: MTIP mtg

Calling and MTIP meeting at this time is a very bad plan and suggests ethical lapses.

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: Nancy Ellen Locke [n_e_locke@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, December 30, 2004 8:13 AM
To: mpo@lane.cog.or.us
Subject: Special Meeting = FOUL!!

Calling a special meeting because Mayor Torrey's retirement will change the mix on the board??
Please remember that the up coming changes to the board reflect the public's vote in the last election and that this vote wasn't just a "recommendation" - it was a full fledged election!! The good people of the City of Eugene VOTED to change the folks at the Helm of City Government!!

Staff has acknowledged that there is no reason the MTIP needs to be approved now.

Staff continues to insist they want an inclusive, responsible public involvement process that residents can understand.

Ok, So why the rush and the special meeting - are you shopping for a lawsuit??

Nancy Ellen Locke
1130 West 25th Avenue
Skinner's Mud Hole, Oregon
97405-2223

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: ronisimone [purplesimone@earthlink.net]
Sent: Thursday, December 30, 2004 8:24 AM
To: mpo@lane.cog.or.us
Subject: re: meeting with Jim Torrey

Why is Jim Torrey holding this meeting at the 11th hour of his reign. I think it is outrageous and one more "Run, Jim, Run" stunt. I did not always agree with his politics but I respected the man, now I am and have lost a tremendous amount of respect for all of the antics that have gone on since Kitty Piercy won the election for Mayor of Eugene.

Sincerely
Roni Simone

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: Douglas Curry [ingecurry@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, December 30, 2004 9:30 AM
To: mpo@lane.cog.or.us
Subject: Sneaky

and corrupt. Two words that well describe the process Mr. Torrey has used to push through his pork trough road project in west Eugene. You should be ashamed of yourselves for colluding on this project, misleading from the start, and true to course today.

Sincerely,
Doug Curry
833 West 27th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97405

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: whtagy [chspks@mindspring.com]
Sent: Thursday, December 30, 2004 9:33 AM
To: gary.d.pape@ci.eugene.or.us; mayorandcc@ci.eugene.or.us; lcbcccom@co.lane.or.us; cmo@ci.springfield.or.us; ltd@ltd.org; judyvolta@yahoo.com; mpo@lane.cog.or.us; Fred.Patron@fhwa.dot.gov
Subject: RE: RTP Hearings/ WEP

RE: Mr Pape' wrote:

"First of all the 51 or 52% of the Eugene voters who supported the WEP in the last vote were not all 'good old boys'. Their opinions and desires are just as valid as yours. Second, the local jurisdictions (Eugene, Springfield and Lane County do not control the \$17 million, the Oregon Transportation Commission does, and they would be inclined to reallocate it to Region 2 projects that meet OTC goals for state connectivity of state roads.

Sincerely, Gary Pape', City Concilor, Ward 5"

Dear Mr. Pape':

You are correct in your assertion that the Eugene voters who approved spending \$88 M of

regional roadway funds for a parkway were not all "good old boys". But perhaps the political powers that be in Eugene that are driving the now \$169M WEP are. Ten years ago, when working as a magazine journalist, I was shown a major design plan for the West Eugene Parkway by city staff who told me that the completion of the WEP "was set in stone". When simply, and innocently asked how that was so, staff replied that "the powers that be in Eugene", "the good old boys" who are the movers and shakers of public policy in the city had decided so, and that "they and ODOT have too much invested in it's completion".

At that time the WEP was not a primary topic of my work, but now, as a citizen and Social Studies teacher, I find those decade old remarks quite telling as we witness the machinations and faulty assertions of those attempting to insure WEP construction in spite of substantial valid scientific objections, and arguably majority opposition.

Also(in reply to other aspects of your "first" assertion) the 646 vote majority (of 35 thousand total votes) in 2001 for an \$88M project does not translate into approval of an \$169M version of the same project. To assert so is malarkey and you know it.

That in our most recent election voters approved school funding by a 72% /28% majority, but rejected the Civic Center project by a 60%/40% majority does demonstrate that citizens are quite concerned and deliberate in their judgment of what merits funding. It is far more valid to assert that the recent vote implies a questionable or lack of support for a \$169M version of what was three years ago an \$88M parkway.

Furthermore, it is also valid to assert that the 646 voter majority for a parkway that impacted 35 acres of wetlands does NOT translate into voter approval for a parkway that impacts 74 acres of wetlands. This more significant in light of the exponential rate of decay we have witnessed in the meantime from the toxic industrial impact generically labeled as Global Warming, but more accurately understood as Toxic Shock Syndrome or Global Fever.

As to your second point, although ODOT controls ODOT expenditures, it is an agency responsible to responding to Region 2 projects in accord with the priority wishes of regional residents. Given that the WEP would neither actually improve West 11th, nor the much more immediate and pressing problems on Beltline and Delta Highway(now spreading to Coburg and Crescent), and only dump further congestion onto 7th Avenue (which is daily backed up past Chambers), it just may be their duty as responsive trustees of regional taxpayers' funds to apply those funds to remedy the more obvious, immediate and pressing roadway needs than to fund the windfall wishes of real estate investors or other commercial interests.

Finally, in the five years you have represented my neighborhood on City Council I have contacted your office regarding local street pavement conditions, speeding and parking issues;and vandalism, illegal drinking/partying and drug dealing in the neighborhood park next to my residence. The response from your office on all those matters has been zip, zero, nothing. It is my understanding that several other neighbors are as frustrated as I in getting our neighborhood issues addressed by the city. It is interesting to note what issue does prompt your quick argumentative attention. I respectfully suggest you pay as timely and energetic service to your constituents' neighborhood issues as you do to those who so much want the WEP built at, apparently, any cost.

Sincerely, Yuri Samer, resident, Ward 5

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: G RINGER [gregringer@msn.com]
Sent: Thursday, December 30, 2004 10:00 AM
To: mpo@lane.cog.or.us; Register-Guard Editor
Cc: Bonny Bettman; Jim Torrey
Subject: Special MPC meeting today

Importance: High

Dear MPC members (and RG Editor),

I write today because the hurried manner of scheduling this meeting clearly succeeded in its intent to minimize public attendance and participation before the Mayor-elect Piercy and councilors take office on Monday.

As a long-time resident and professional community planner and administrator, I know both Eugene and Oregon have long profited from the guidelines and processes prescribed in our comprehensive transportation and land use program. For this reason, I believe it critical that our planning decisions more completely acknowledge and appreciate the holistic nature of our community, and the socioeconomic and ecological challenges and opportunities which transportation development and urban growth represent in both the short- and long-term. We can no longer afford to subsidize business relocations or new construction that degrade our neighborhoods and the green spaces which surround them.

Consequently, I believe it is time to kill the West Eugene Parkway and to dedicate our limited fiscal resources instead to those road improvements, such as the Beltline, that truly benefit local residents and businesses in terms of access and safety, and help direct infrastructure and housing away from agriculturally rich farmlands and biologically sensitive wetlands and prairies.

It is also time to take seriously the public's right to be involved in this decision-making, however problematic or inconvenient it may be to those few individuals who clearly wish otherwise. The WEP involves considerable public money, and it is our right to ensure that those funds are appropriately used to sustain both our human and our biotic communities.

We can certainly do better than the secrecy and selfishness which Mayor Torrey practiced in pushing for this meeting today. As a voter, I will be watching carefully.

Respectfully submitted,
Greg Ringer, Ph.D.
872 Polk St.
Eugene, OR 97402

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: Heiken [heiken@efn.org]
Sent: Thursday, December 30, 2004 10:32 AM
To: mpo@lane.cog.or.us
Subject: MTIP "special" meeting

Dear MTIP:

There is no need for a semi-secret, last-minute meeting to green-light boondoggle transportation projects just before Jim Torrey leaves office. You should least open the process to public comment, allow time for the various jurisdictions to work through the proposals (Eugene has a work session scheduled in January) and let the Citizens Advisory Committee meet and make recommendations. Finally, the boondoggle WEP is not even in Eugene's CIP!

The people care about public process and this meeting does not meet our standards. Please stop this travesty of public process.

Respectfully,

Doug Heiken
909 W. 10th
Eugene

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: Ann Tattersall [tattersa@bossig.com]
Sent: Thursday, December 30, 2004 11:37 AM
To: mpo@lane.cog.or.us
Subject: Wetlands Freeway Blitzkreig

THIS LAST MINUTE SECRET MEETING IS A GESTAPO TACTIC. WE WILL RESPOND APPROPRIATELY. THAT DOESNT MEAN GIVING UP OUR JOBS TO SHOW UP AT YOUR DOG AND PONY SHOW. IT DOES MEAN STOPPING YOU BASTARDS BY ANY MEANS AVAILABLE.

ann tattersall
tattersa@bossig.com

Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization

From: Methanol S. Balmier [outputted@barukh.com]
Sent: Sunday, January 02, 2005 4:05 AM
To: Mpo
Subject: IM-SPAM[ESP25]::theologians

Caesarean