

January 17, 2023

To: Transportation Planning Committee

From: Daniel Callister

Subject: Project Proposals for MPO Redistribution Funding

# Action Recommended: Approve Release of Materials for Public Review; Request Public Hearing at MPC

#### **Issue Statement**

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

#### Discussion

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

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

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

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

### **Public Involvement**

Federal regulations require a minimum of 14 days for public review for MTIP amendments, such as would be necessitated by programming of these redistribution funds. MPO procedures require a public hearing for initial programming of MPO discretionary funding. MPO staff recommends TPC approve the release of these proposals for a 30-day public review period and request a public hearing to be held at MPC on February 2. TPC would have an opportunity to review any comments received before making a funding recommendation at their February 16 meeting. Final action would then be scheduled for MPC on March 2.

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#### Attachments:

1 – Funding Application Summaries