

CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Policy Session Worksheet

Presentation Date: June 27, 2017 **Approx Start Time:** 10:30 am

Approx Length: 60 mins

Presentation Title: 2018 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Project List

Department: Department of Transportation and Development (DTD) – Long Range Planning Program

Presenters: Karen Buehrig, Transportation Planning Supervisor; Steve Williams, Principal Transportation Planner

Other Invitees: Mike Bezner, Deputy Director of Transportation, DTD

WHAT ACTION ARE YOU REQUESTING FROM THE BOARD?

Input into draft 2018 RTP project list of regionally significant transportation projects in urban unincorporated Clackamas County.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Currently, the 2018 RTP “Call for Projects” is underway. Attachment 1 is an overview prepared by Metro of the process of refining the regional transportation priorities. The RTP includes regionally significant priority highway, road, transit, biking and walking projects that are anticipated to be needed in the next 20 years.

The “Call for Projects” involves the following steps:

1. Individual jurisdictions reviewing the projects currently in the 2014 RTP, and determining if they should be moved forward into the 2018 RTP, or if they should be removed. In addition, new projects can be added.
2. Within each sub-region, the proposed projects must be balanced to the amount of funds anticipated to be available in the near and long term time periods. In addition, projects are to be identified for the strategic project list, which are priority projects that should be funded if additional funds become available.
3. Finally, each sub-regional coordinating committee is asked to endorse the full project list for the sub-region that balance to the funding targets.

Some things to keep in mind about the “Call for Projects:”

1. The project list is a required aspect of the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan under federal regulations and is intended to illustrate the improvement in the operation of the region’s transportation that could occur over the 20+ year based on policies proposed in the RTP. There is no commitment by Metro, ODOT, TriMet, SMART, or the cities and counties to actually build the projects that are included in the project list.
2. There is also no commitment of funding implied by the project list. The project list will include projects with a total cost of approximately \$250 million in unincorporated Clackamas County, but that does not suggest that there is actually a commitment by Clackamas County to expend that amount on the

projects on the list. Similarly, there is no commitment by Metro, ODOT, TriMet or SMART to provide funding for projects proposed in Clackamas County.

3. The RTP and “Call for Projects” does not have any impact on the status of projects in the county Transportation System Plan (TSP). The highest priority projects in the TSP will remain our highest priorities, whether or not those projects are included in the RTP.
4. The RTP and the project list is updated every four years. If priorities change in the next four years, Clackamas County will have the opportunity to change the project list.
5. The main benefit for the local governments of including projects in the “Call for Projects” is that the major transportation grant funding sources provide points when scoring grant applications for projects that are in the RTP project list. So, the local governments often put forward projects in the “Call for Projects” that they anticipate submitting for grant funding.
6. The “Call for Projects” provides an opportunity for local governments to put forward their highest priorities and coordinate with all the local and regional partners to work together to move those priority projects forward.

Clackamas County staff has begun the process of reviewing the projects that are recommended to be included in the 2018 RTP. All of the projects to be included are already on the Clackamas County Transportation System Plan (TSP). Since the funding forecast anticipates less revenue available for projects in the 2018 RTP than was forecasted for the 2014 RTP, Clackamas County will need to not include some of the projects that were in the past RTP project lists. Staff is identifying the projects that are of the most regional significance, and are using the priority system outlined in the Transportation System Plan, as well as from discussions with impacted project partners to narrow down the projects.

Staff is also working with the other jurisdictions located in the Metro Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) in Clackamas County to create a complete list of 2018 RTP projects. This list will contain:

- An update of the current constrained priority projects that address the highest public priorities and most immediate regional transportation challenges. This list of projects will include projects for which funding has been committed and projects that can be implemented with funding the region currently expects to have available.
- The projects included as additional strategic priority projects that the region should work together to develop funding for and construct. This list of projects includes priorities for which funding is not currently anticipated.

Finally, the C4 Metro Subcommittee will discuss and provide input into the full Clackamas County 2018 RTP project list on July 19th. The Clackamas County Coordinating Committees (C4) will be asked to endorse the updated 2018 RTP project list for urban Clackamas County during their August retreat.

2018 RTP “Call for Projects” Key Milestones

- July 19th, 2017 – C4 Metro Subcommittee review and input into Clackamas County sub regional 2018 project list

- July 21st, 2017 – Individual jurisdictions submit their 2018 RTP projects using an on-line submittal tool.
- August 11, 2017 – Endorsement by the Clackamas County Coordinating Committee (C4) of the sub-regional 2018 RTP project list.

Staff will be working with other local jurisdictions to update the RTP project list to ensure projects reflect local priorities and that total project costs are within the financial forecast target produced by Metro.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (current year and ongoing): None

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

- How does this item align with your Department’s Strategic Business Plan goals?

Provides Plan development coordination to County decision makers so they can plan and invest based on a coordinated set of goals and policies that guide future development.

- How does this item align with the County’s Performance Clackamas goals?
Build strong Infrastructure

LEGAL/POLICY REQUIREMENTS: None

PUBLIC/GOVERNMENTAL PARTICIPATION:

Staff is coordinating with other jurisdictions in Clackamas County through the Clackamas Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC), a staff committee organized to provide technical input to the Clackamas County Coordinating Committee (C4).

OPTIONS:

- 1) Schedule an additional BCC Policy Session on July 18th 2017 to review the projects in unincorporated Clackamas County to be included in the 2018 RTP.
- 2) Direct staff to continue to coordinate with local partners to identify appropriate projects for the 2018 RTP without further input from the BCC.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff respectfully recommends the Board direct staff to schedule an additional BCC Policy Session on July 18th 2017 to review the projects in unincorporated Clackamas County to be included in the 2018 RTP.

ATTACHMENT:

Attachment 1: 2018 RTP: Refining Regional Transportation Priorities

SUBMITTED BY:

Division Director/Head Approval _____

Department Director/Head Approval _____

County Administrator Approval _____



Refining regional transportation priorities

An overview for agencies and jurisdictions for Metro's call for projects

The Regional Transportation Plan brings city, county, regional and state priority transportation projects together to create a coordinated 23-year regional transportation priority list for the period from 2018 to 2040. It is a key step for these projects to qualify for potential regional, state, and federal funding.

All types of projects are included in the Regional Transportation Plan list – highways, key roads, transit, freight, biking and walking as well as planning and special studies. The current list includes more than 1,200 projects region-wide. An updated revenue forecast shows the region will have less funding available than in 2014.

Throughout the summer, Metro and its regional partners will be updating the region's transportation investment priorities.

The information that follows is to assist project sponsors as they respond to the 2018 Regional Transportation Plan call for projects.

Why is the update to the project list important?

Much has changed in the region since adoption of the Regional Transportation Plan and Regional Active Transportation Plan in 2014: Several projects have been completed (e.g., Sellwood Bridge replacement, Portland-Milwaukie MAX extension, the Sunrise expressway was built); TriMet completed plans for expanding local and regional transit service; and the Metro Council and the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation adopted an ambitious strategy – called the Climate Smart Strategy – for reducing greenhouse gas emissions that calls for increased system and demand management strategies and a significant expansion of transit service throughout the greater Portland region. In addition, the federal and state transportation-funding landscape continues to change, requiring the region to play a more active role in funding and financing priority regional projects.

Call for projects through July 21

During the past year, RTP work focused on understanding the region's transportation challenges and public priorities for investment, documenting in the amount of funding expected to be available to pay for the region's transportation needs and updating the region's vision for the transportation system.

Now it is time to pull the pieces together as we work together to address regional challenges, reflect public priorities, and maximize progress toward the region's shared vision and goals for the future transportation system.

This call for projects asks regional partners to submit priority lists for the 2018 RTP that:

- update the current *constrained* priority projects that address the highest public priorities and most immediate regional transportation challenges.
This list of projects will include projects for which funding has been committed and projects that can be implemented with funding the region currently expects to have available.
- identify additional *strategic* priority projects that the region should work together to develop funding for and construct.
This list of projects includes priorities for which funding is not currently anticipated.

Project submittals are due to Metro no later than July 21, 2017

The projects will undergo evaluation through the fall. The public will be asked to review and comment on the draft priority projects and key evaluation findings in January 2018. The evaluation findings, updated policy and funding information, and public input will inform decision-makers as they work together to identify and recommend refinements to the draft investment strategy in Spring 2018.

Who submits projects or programs to the RTP?

- the 24 cities of the Portland metropolitan region
- Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties
- Metro
- South Metro Area Regional Transit (SMART) district
- TriMet
- Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)
- Port of Portland in coordination with transportation agencies and county coordinating committees
- Portland Streetcar, Inc. in coordination with the City of Portland and TriMet
- transportation management associations in coordination with transportation agencies, county coordinating committees and transit providers
- special districts (e.g., Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation, Clackamas Parks & Recreation District)
- railroad operators in coordination with the Port of Portland, transportation agencies and county coordinating committees

What projects can be submitted?

Projects must be located on the designated regional transportation system and be inside the federally-recognized metropolitan planning area boundary, and:

1. projects must help achieve regional vision, goals and policies for the transportation system
2. projects must cost at least \$1 million or be bundled with similar projects to meet the cost threshold
3. projects must come from adopted plans or strategies developed through a planning process that identified the project to address a transportation need on the regional transportation system
4. projects must demonstrate the planning process met the appropriate requirements for public involvement, including having provided opportunities for public comment, with specific efforts to engage communities of color, people with low-income and people who don't speak English well.

How will project submittals be recommended?

All of the project priorities that will be submitted to the RTP will come from local, regional or state planning efforts that included opportunities for public input. Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties and cities within each county will recommend priority projects for their jurisdictions at county coordinating committees. The City of Portland will recommend

projects after reviewing priorities with its community advisory committees. ODOT, the Port of Portland, TriMet, SMART and other agencies will work with county coordinating committees and the City of Portland to recommend priority projects. These meetings are open to the public.

In addition, each county coordinating committee, the City of Portland, TriMet, ODOT, SMART and the Port of Portland will submit endorsement letters indicating their recommended projects are priorities for the 2018 RTP.

When can the public weigh in?

Throughout the development of the Regional Transportation Plan, Metro conducts online surveys and other outreach efforts. Several opportunities for public input have already been provided and more are planned:

- In January 2018, Metro will ask the public for input on a draft project list and initial findings on how the system would perform with those improvements in place. The public input received in January along with the technical findings and policy discussions by the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation, the Metro Policy Advisory Committee and the Metro Council will result in additional direction to staff on further updating the draft project list.
- In summer 2018, Metro will ask the public for input on the discussion drafts of the Regional Transportation Plan, the revised project list and supporting strategies for safety, freight and transit. The public input received will be considered by the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation, the Metro Policy Advisory Committee and the Metro Council as part of the adoption process in Fall 2018.

Sign up for updates on future opportunities for input at oregonmetro.gov/subscribe.

Resources for agencies

Several resources will be available for agencies as they update their project lists. Additionally, Metro staff liaisons to each county and city can assist agencies and participate in meetings.

Find more information and online resources at oregonmetro.gov/2018projects.

