

CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Study Session Worksheet

Presentation Date: June 14, 2011 **Time:** 10:30 a.m. **Length:** 1 hour

Presentation Title: Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail Funding Agreement Review

Department: Transportation and Development

Presenters: Cam Gilmour, Director
Dan Johnson, Development Agency Supervisor
Scot Sideras, Legal Counsel, Senior

POLICY QUESTION

What alternatives does the Board wish to pursue in its assessment of the Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail Funding Agreement?

ISSUE & BACKGROUND

In July 2008 the region adopted a revised Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) for the Portland Milwaukie Light Rail (PMLR) project, the second phase of Metro's South Corridor Light Rail Transit plan.

The PMLR line will provide direct connection from the Oak Grove area of unincorporated Clackamas County to the heart of the City of Portland with service to Portland's Central City, Portland State University, South Waterfront, OMSI District, SE Portland and the Milwaukie Town Center. The alignment will consist of 7.3 miles of double track light rail, stations, park and ride lots, and other necessary capital elements and amenities necessary to support the project and promote multimodal connectivity throughout the region. Current plans illustrate the line terminating in unincorporated Clackamas County at SE Park Avenue. Improvements in this area will include station improvements, a new park and ride facility providing up to 1,000 new parking spaces and emphasis on connection to other regional amenities such as the Trolley Trail.

Funding for a project of this nature is a regional effort. The Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail Project will apply for a 60 percent match to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA); and regional partners such as Clackamas County, City of Milwaukie, City of Portland, TriMet and Metro will provide a 40 percent local share to fund the current budget of \$1.417 billion.

In order for TriMet make its New Starts submittal to the FTA it was necessary to include funding agreements from all local partners memorializing a commitment to achieve the 40 percent local share currently called out in the project budget. Staff worked closely with TriMet to craft a PMLR Funding Agreement committing Clackamas County to a financial contribution of \$25 million dollars, the County's portion of the projects local match. The Funding Agreement was executed by the County on February 4, 2010. A copy is attached, and includes as part of its Exhibits the proposed Project budget, scope, and finance plan.

Clackamas County and the Development Agency are listed as parties to the agreement to allow flexibility for the Board to determine the most appropriate method to fund the local match contribution. North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District was also identified as a participant as there may be some in-kind contributions associated with the Trolley Trail that should be captured when determining the local match from the County.

QUESTION(S) PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION

What are the salient points of the Funding Agreement, and what alternatives are available to the County?

RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff respectfully recommends that the Board delegate staff to investigate and report to the Board of Commissioners the County's obligations under the Funding Agreement and the alternatives available.

SCHEDULE FOR STUDY SESSION

Department Director/Head Approval

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County Administrator Approval _____

For information on this issue, please contact Dan Johnson at 503-353-4325 or
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