



Oregon

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DATE: August 18, 2011
TO: TPR Rules Advisory Committee
FROM: Michael Rock, ODOT Staff
SUBJECT: Status Report on Draft Oregon Highway Plan (OHP) Policy 1F Revisions

Attached is a track changes version of draft revisions to OHP Policy 1F (Highway Mobility Standards), which has been the focus of ODOT's work implementing the recommendations of the Joint Subcommittee on the TPR and OHP and Senate Bill 795. This memo provides an overview of the project's progress and a summary of key policy elements that we plan to highlight at the August 29th TPR Rules Advisory Committee (RAC) Meeting. Please note that this document is still a work in progress and you may notice issues with formatting, structure and location of some text. However, the main policy elements have been fleshed out for further conversation. The draft policy is based on the "Draft Framework for OHP Policy Revisions" (Matrix) that was discussed at the June RAC Meeting.

Summary of Key Elements in Draft OHP Policy Revisions

- The OHP serves as the document establishing state highway planning targets and objectives that not only implement other OHP policies, but also considers the policy objectives in the multimodal Oregon Transportation Plan (OTP). *(Provides a Framework to Address Joint Subcommittee Recommendations)*
- Draft policy language being considered changes the term "mobility standards" to "mobility targets" as a way to enhance the conversation and mind set around flexibility of the mobility policies and balancing other state, regional and local objectives. *(Provides a Framework for Enhanced Flexibility in Policy)*
- Mobility targets are considered the start of the discussion rather than a required end result or solution during system and facility planning efforts. *(Provides a Framework for Enhanced Flexibility in Policy)*
- Policies incorporate OHP Policy Intent Statements previously initiated by the Department (and shared with the RAC) that provide less stringent requirements for plan amendments that have a small increase in traffic where a facility is already operating over mobility targets and that expand flexibility for determining mitigation requirements in some TPR applications. *(Addresses Joint Subcommittee Item B1 – Small Increase in Traffic)*
- Policy changes call for consideration of "planned development," consistent with the community's comprehensive plan, rather than "full development" assumptions. Coordination

with TPR work may be needed to address this issue further (*Addresses Joint Subcommittee Item B2 – Average Trip Generation*)

- Policies begin to streamline development of alternative mobility targets and require further streamlining efforts as a specific action item. ODOT is considering other streamlining concepts outside of policy revisions. (*Addresses Joint Subcommittee Item B3 – Streamlining Alternative Mobility Standard Development*)
- While the initial mobility targets remain volume to capacity ratio (v/c) based, policy revisions allow consideration of measures outside of v/c, encourage broader consideration of mobility across modes, and more clearly allow corridor or area mobility targets. This is in addition to options for changing v/c-based target levels and/or methodologies such as changing hour of the day measured or considering multiple hour measures. (*Addresses Joint Subcommittee Item B4 – Corridor and Area Mobility Standards and Item B5 – Policy Framework for Measures Outside of V/C*)
- OHP mobility targets continue to play a role in transportation system planning, plan amendment and development review analyses, and guiding operational decisions, although this role will evolve to consider mobility more broadly. Refined policies and new action statements clarify the roles and applicability of OHP mobility targets across different application areas. (*Carries Policy Direction Across Application Areas*)
- Policies enhance coordination and consistency between planning and design expectations and incorporate practical design principles. (*Carries Policy Direction Across Application Areas*)

Project Schedule and Outreach

Initial draft OHP policies will be revised through the beginning of September. The proposed policy amendments will be reviewed by the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) in September and ODOT plans to request the Commission release the policies for a formal public review and outreach period at that time. A public hearing before the OTC is likely in November. Ultimately the Department expects to request the Commission adopt the revised changes based on public input in December.

During the public review period, ODOT will make the draft policies available for broad public input. Some of the efforts will be focused on Area Commissions on Transportation and other OTC-appointed advisory committees with interest in this policy area. ODOT will also provide information to other key regional groups, local government interests and stakeholder advisory groups.

Comments and Project Contact Information

ODOT plans to provide a summary of this work at the August 29th RAC Meeting; although time constraints will keep us from discussing many of the items in great detail. Committee members who are interested in additional detail on the OHP work or who would like to provide detailed comments on the draft policy are encouraged to send information to me directly. Additional

TPR Rules Advisory Committee
August 18, 2011

opportunities for comments and input will be available throughout the formal public review period this Fall.

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Project Website: <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TD/TP/OHP2011.shtml>