



September 29, 2008

John VanLandingham, Chair  
Land Conservation and Development Commission  
635 Capitol Street NE, Suite 150  
Salem, OR 97301-2540

Subject: Approval of Central Lane MPO Regional Transportation System Plan  
Work Program per OAR 660-012-0016(2)(b)

Dear Mr. VanLandingham:

On behalf of the elected officials of Eugene, Springfield, Coburg, and Lane County we appreciate the Commission's review and approval of the attached work program.

The Transportation Planning Rule requires applicable provisions of adopted regional and local transportation system plans to be consistent with federal Regional Transportation Plans (RTP). The November 2007 adoption of the latest Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization's RTP includes a planning horizon year and a project list that does not match these same elements in TransPlan (the Eugene-Springfield local Transportation System Plan). These inconsistencies can only be reconciled by making corresponding amendments to TransPlan and developing a new Regional Transportation System Plan (RTSP). The attached work plan, a requirement of the Transportation Planning Rule, identifies the tasks and timelines that will be undertaken to comply with the consistency requirements of the rule.

Representatives from Eugene, Springfield, Coburg, Lane County, Lane Council of Governments, ODOT, and DLCD worked diligently to prepare the proposed work plan to satisfy state rules and local needs and efficiently coordinate other state and federal requirements. On September 15, 2008 the elected officials of Eugene, Springfield, and Lane County unanimously endorsed this work program

The members of the Central Lane MPO will undertake several significant planning obligations over the next few years. The RTSP update must be carefully integrated with the other work to effectively comply with statewide land use goals and ensure coordination of land use and transportation planning.

At the same time, HB 3337 (now ORS 197.304) requires the cities of Eugene and Springfield to modify their longstanding regional planning system by separating the two cities with a new Urban Growth Boundary. Both cities have initiated comprehensive buildable lands inventories, housing needs analyses, and economic opportunity analyses. These studies will lead to updated land use components to these cities' comprehensive and refinement plans. The inventories are scheduled to be completed by January 2010 pursuant to ORS 197.304. The proposed RTSP work plan provides short-term progress followed by an ambitious two-year window to achieve full integration of the cities' updated transportation and land use plans in year 2012. The proposed work plan also provides time for policy discussions about the future structure of our regional plans, Lane County's coordinated population forecasts and exploration of rural reserves.

While the work plan provides an estimated timeline for completion, the work plan must remain flexible in order to respond to data and policy direction derived from local activities. For example, the results of the buildable lands analysis projects currently underway in Eugene and Springfield are necessary for the preparation of local transportation system plans. Therefore, the completion dates for these buildable lands projects will influence the completion dates for the local TSPs.

We hope you agree that the proposed work plan represents a logical process, and we thank you in advance for your approval.

Very Truly Yours,

Greg Mott, City of Springfield

Lisa Gardner, City of Eugene

Celia Barry, Lane County

Attachments

1. Proposed RTSP Work Program

2. September 15, 2008 Joint Elected Official Materials

- Agenda
- Agenda Item Summary
- Attachment A