



METRO

November 13, 2007

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

Subject: Request for Periodic Review of Update to Metro's Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)

Dear Mr. VanLandingham:

As you know from our briefing to you last June, Metro is updating the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) for the Portland metropolitan region. This is a major undertaking for the region and will be a significant step toward accomplishment of the goals of Metro's 2040 Growth Concept. It is important for the region and the state - given the critical role that transportation facilities in the region play in the state's economy - that this effort succeed.

The Metro Council has considered the two options available for achieving compliance with state planning laws for the updated RTP. One option is to treat the amendments to the RTP as "post-acknowledgement plan amendments," in which case review is by the Land Use Board of Appeals upon appeal. The second option is review by the Commission in the periodic review process. Periodic review is available by way of ORS 197.274(2), which authorizes the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) to accept Metro's RTP Update into the periodic review process, upon Metro's request.

Metro has found the periodic review process - in which LCDC acknowledged the 2000 RTP and a series of amendments to the Regional Framework Plan and urban growth boundary (UGB) - to be a much better process for a decision of the magnitude, importance and complexity of the current RTP Update. Metro found the department to be a very helpful partner in addressing and resolving the many issues that arose in development of the 2000 RTP.

For these reasons, on behalf of the Metro Council, I ask the Commission to accept Metro's 2035 RTP Update into periodic review. The region is already hard at work on the update. Department staff - Bob Cortright, Meg Fernekees and others - have already been helpful in advising Metro

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since the beginning of the current update process. Metro is committed to providing periodic briefings of the Commission as you see fit. Our current schedule calls for completion of the state component of the RTP update in Fall 2008. If the Commission agrees to accept the update into the periodic review process, we will work with the department to establish a work program and schedule for the review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Jordan", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Michael Jordan
Metro Chief Operating Officer

cc: Cora Parker
Metro Council
Rob Halliburton
Meg Fernekees