



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Oregon Transportation Commission

Office of the Director, MS 11

355 Capitol St NE

Salem, OR 97301-3871

DATE: September 10, 2018
TO: Oregon Transportation Commission

[Original signature on file]

FROM: Matthew L. Garrett
Director

SUBJECT: **Agenda I** – Connect Oregon Project Plan for the Port of Morrow

Requested Action:

Request approval of the Connect Oregon Port of Morrow dedicated project and approval for the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) staff to enter into a Connect Oregon construction intergovernmental agreement with the Port of Morrow.

Background:

When the 2017 Legislature adopted House Bill 2017 (2017 Transportation Funding), the legislation included four Connect Oregon dedicated projects. These projects were specially named within the law and subsequent implementing rules and are not subject to the competitive processes that typified the six previous rounds of Connect Oregon funding. In order to fund the four projects, the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) must review and approve project plans which are to be developed and submitted by the sponsoring entities.

The agency has received the project plan for the rail expansion in East Beach Industrial Park at the Port of Morrow. This is the first of the four projects to complete and submit a project plan for OTC action. Each project has a pre-determined funding amount, which in the case of the Port of Morrow is \$6.55 million. Review of the three other dedicated projects will occur upon formal submission of the project plans from the respective sponsoring entities.

The Port of Morrow project team formally submitted their project plan documents to the agency on July 3, 2018. ODOT staff, which includes freight planning, economic and rail staff as well as staff from Oregon Business Development Department (OBDD), reviewed the project plan for completeness and feasibility. After adding minor clarifications to the project plans as a result of the staff review, the project was forwarded to the Oregon Freight Advisory Committee (OFAC) to act as the Final Review Committee. The OFAC held a special meeting on August 28, 2018 and the attending members agreed to formally recommend approval of funding the project based upon the materials submitted.

The recommendation of the Final Review Committee, along with letters of recommendation from both the ODOT and OBDD directors, are included in the materials for OTC consideration. According to statute, the OTC must take a formal action to approve the project plan and authorize staff to enter into a construction agreement. If the OTC approves the project plan, ODOT Connect Oregon staff will

work with the Port of Morrow to complete the construction agreement pursuant to Connect Oregon administrative rules. The final recommendation letters and project plans have been posted on the Connect Oregon website at <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TD/TP/pages/connector.aspx>.

Attachments:

- Attachment 1 – Project Plan for East Beach Industrial Park Rail Expansion at the Port of Morrow
- Attachment 2 – Final ODOT and OBDD Director Recommendation letters
- Attachment 3 – OFAC Final Review Committee Funding Recommendation

Copies to:

Jerri Bohard	Travis Brouwer	Tom Fuller	Bob Gebhardt
Lynn Averbeck	Hal Gard	John Saris	Erik Havig
John Boren	Ray Drake	Lindsay Baker	