



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Oregon Transportation Commission

Office of the Director, MS 11

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Salem, OR 97301-3871

DATE: December 4, 2025

TO: Oregon Transportation Commission

FROM: Kristopher W. Strickler
Director

SUBJECT: **Consent Item 06** – Pre-Approval of Connect Oregon Federal Grant Match Applications for Amtrak Willbridge Crossovers Upgrade and Amtrak Eugene Station Layover Track

Requested Action:

Pre-approval of the Connect Oregon Federal Grant Match applications for \$954,913 for the Amtrak Willbridge Crossovers Upgrade and \$1,838,574 for the Amtrak Eugene Station Layover Track.

Background:

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) is seeking a total of \$2,793,487 from the Connect Oregon federal grant match option to act as match for grants from the Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail (FSP) Grant Program managed by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA). ODOT's federal grant request for the Amtrak Willbridge Crossovers Upgrade and the Amtrak Eugene Station Layover Track and applications are due January 7, 2026. These applications have independent utility and either project can proceed if only one is selected by the FRA.

The Administrative Rule for the Connect Oregon grant match program requires that applications be reviewed by the relevant Area Commission on Transportation, Modal Review Committee and a Federal Grant Match Recommendation Panel prior to selection by the OTC. Unfortunately, it is not feasible to convene those review bodies prior to the December OTC meeting.

To meet the review requirements for the Connect Oregon program, and to facilitate ODOT's on-time applications for the FSP grant, staff proposes that the OTC pre-approve the request at the December meeting, contingent upon positive recommendations for funding from the applicable Area Commission on Transportations, Modal Review Committee and from the Federal Grant Match Recommendation Panel prior to the January meeting. Should these review bodies provide a recommendation for funding, the OTC would have the information necessary to make a final approval at the January meeting, after the application is submitted.

Outcomes:

Pre-approval of the application at the December OTC meeting provides ODOT with the necessary documentation that there is an intent for commitment from the state that local matching funds will be made available subject to the final approval at the January meeting.

Without pre-approval, the ODOT would have nothing from the OTC that formally indicates that the local matching funds are committed to this project at the time of the federal grant deadline and would likely be determined to be ineligible for FSP funding due to lack of match.

Attachments:

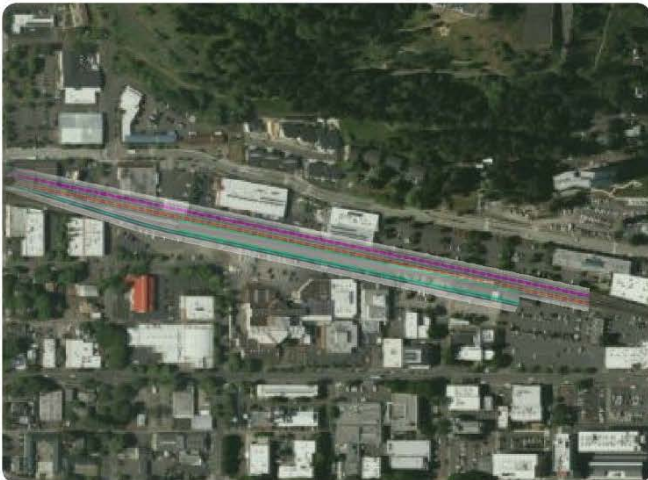
- Attachment 01 – Willbridge Crossovers Vicinity Map
- Attachment 02 – Eugene Station Layover Vicinity Map



Union Pacific
Yard



Amtrak Depot



- UPRR main track to remain in place
- UPRR track 103 (to be realigned and resurfaced)
- Proposed layover track at the station (new construction)